

Johnny and the Monsters

Johnny walked home from school everyday through some very big woods. The tree trunks were so huge that he could not put his arms even part way around them. He liked the trees, and sometimes he would pretend that they were giant monsters. Then he would run away from them and pretend that they were chasing him because they wanted to hurt him. Other times, he would just walk along looking for birds and squirrels. He liked to listen to the different songs that birds would sing as he walked by.

One day, Johnny's teacher at school noticed that he seemed to be quite ill so she sent him to the school nurse. The nurse had him lie down on a lounge while she called his mother. Since his mother was a Christian Scientist, she decided that she would not accept any false beliefs about him. She asked the nurse to please let him walk home and she would meet him on the way.

Mother saw Johnny coming slowly along the path through the woods. Just before he reached her, he fell to the ground and was unable to get up. She knelt down beside him and spoke to him of God's love. She declared the truth concerning him and all other children, that they were God's perfect representatives, created and cared for by Him.

As Johnny was lying on the ground, he could look up into the trees. "Look at the trees," his mother said. "Are they monsters or are they big, beautiful trees?" Johnny said that, of course, they were trees. Calling them monsters was just his make-believe game. Then Mother said that if God is good and is All, then this error that was talking to him was just make-believe, like the monsters. She told him that he was really the child of God, who is divine Love. That was who he was right now. He had never been anything else, and he would never be anything else.

She said that it was time that he got up so that they could start home. Johnny jumped to his feet. He and mother walked hand-in-hand through the trees. All the way home, they sang hymns and thanked God for his constant care. The next morning, Johnny went back to school, smiling and happy.



S&H 582:29 Children: "The spiritual thoughts and representatives of Life, Truth, and Love."