

A Monster Calls

Summary

his father refused saying there isn't enough room.

Conor is bullied

because it was actually the prince that did it

The evil queen wants to marry the prince

began to treat him differently

In a present-day English town, thirteen-year-old Conor O'Malley is having a recurring nightmare. Conor completes his daily routine. His mother is sick with cancer, so his mother has invited his grandmother to visit and help take care of him, and to take care of her.

At school, _____ by a classmate named Harry, alongside his cronies Anton and Sully. All of Conor's friends and teachers _____ – mostly by leaving him alone.

The monster's first story centers on an evil queen and a handsome young prince. _____, but the prince decides to run away with his lover, a farmer's daughter, instead. But one day, the prince awakens to find the farmer's daughter murdered, and assume that the queen committed the crime. The people believe the prince and attempt to burn the queen at the stake. The monster, however, saved the queen from this fate, _____.

Conor wonders who the "good guy" is in the story—the monster explains that life does not always have a good guy and bad guy.

Conor isn't exactly comfortable at his grandmother's house. Conor would rather live with his father in the States than stay with his grandmother, but _____.

needed to let her go

which was full of priceless antiques.

The apothecary could not help, and the parson's daughters died.

I no longer see you

And so the monster made the other people see the man.

Conor tries to argue that the monster did it

with Conor hugging her

humans are complicated beasts

At 12:07 at night the monster arrives to tell the boy a second tale. One hundred and fifty years ago, there lived an apothecary and a parson. The apothecary dealt in the "old ways of medicine" and was greedy. The apothecary asked the parson to cut down the yew tree because yew trees have healing properties, but the parson refused. One day, the parson's daughters fell ill with an infection, and the parson begged the apothecary to help.

----- The monster then destroyed the parson's house, because the parson was not truly a man of belief and Conor aids in the destruction, but when the monster leaves, Conor can see that he has actually destroyed every inch of his grandmother's sitting room, -----.

At school, Conor goes several days without speaking to anyone. One day at lunch, Harry simply says to Conor, "-----." Conor is outraged, feeling completely helpless and invisible. Then the monster arrives at school to tell the third tale. The third tale is about a man who was invisible because people had become used to not seeing him. -----

As the monster narrates this story, it beats Harry up, breaking his arm, nose, and several teeth. When it is finished, it tells Conor that "there are harder things than being invisible." -----, but Miss Kwan says that many people saw Conor beating Harry up. Conor wasn't punished because of his mother's illness.

The monster says it is time for Conor himself to tell the fourth tale. Conor confronts the yew tree in the graveyard and demands to know why it didn't heal her. The tree says it is there to heal Conor, not his mother. The tree makes Conor enter the space of his nightmare and admit the truth of how he could have held onto his mother's hands longer but -----. Conor can want his mother to go and at the same time want to save her, because "-----".
Conor, comforted, falls asleep in the monster's nest.

The novel ends ----- as a means of finally letting her go.