

or because she just wanted to go home without having her brother's monster making any more purchases.

"Chastity!" said Elaine's voice. After all that looking, Elaine finally found her daughter. "You have a lot of explaining to do, young lady!"

As we know, she DID have a lot of explaining to do.

"So that's when I took out my last disk and sealed the chocothrash." Elaine's mood didn't change any more from hearing the story.

"So you hoarded a bunch of music monsters generated from computer files in our basement?" Chastity didn't want to say the "y" word, but she had to.

"Yes."

"I guess I have no choice but to ground you for two weeks." Chastity stood there ashamed with her foolish decisions. Elaine turned around as she headed toward the door. She had one more thing to say.

"Oh, and honey?"

"Yeah?"

"I'm glad you found your true partner." Chastity was quite devastated at the punishment she received, but was glad that her mother acknowledged that she found a new friend. She was glad she didn't seal Lucia up because she never wanted to part with her new friend. Lucia the jellyfish.midi stared up at Chastity with her shiny eyes. She didn't want to part with her either.

Though she couldn't leave the house for a few weeks for anything except school, Chastity had a grand old time with Lucia the jellyfish.midi. The other midi monsters were stored in the computer room in a handy case, not to be unleashed unless someone really wanted them. While she was at home, she decided to enjoy the simple pleasures with Lucia that she used to share with Kelly, which included pretending to drive the old *Chevrolet* hatchback.

*But I would walk 500 miles
And I would walk 500 more
Just to be the man who walks 1000 miles
To fall down at your door*

“Children’s cough medicine?” she asked, “That’s all?”

“This formula puts people to sleep right away.”

“This isn’t a child we’re talking about! This is a hungry mass of cookie dough! I thought you were smart.” Kelly felt crushed when she heard the statement of distrust, but she had a more optimistic attitude.

“It’s worth a try.” Chastity took the cough medicine from Kelly’s nub and aimed it as best she could at Dashiell’s huge mouth, which was engulfing a mini fridge.

“Here goes...” Being as precise as she could be, she threw the bottle toward Dashiell.

Success! The bottle went into Dashiell’s mouth. Because it was instinctive for him to do so, he swallowed the bottle. Chastity and Kelly waited a couple of seconds, but Dashiell’s system hadn’t responded in any way.

“I told you this wouldn’t work!” said Chastity. Just then, Dashiell the chocothrash started feeling woozy; he stumbled a bit like a drunk on the street at midnight. He finally groaned and collapsed on the floor. He had swallowed the entire refrigerator, though that might also be a good thing because if he had only halfway swallowed it, he would’ve choked to death. Chastity and Kelly looked in awe. “Wow... brought down by only one measly bottle of children’s cough syrup.”

“And a couple of cow tranquilizers!” Kelly held up a humongous pill that she somehow hid behind her back all this time.

“I can’t buy cough medicine but you can buy cow tranquilizers?”

“Yeah. Isn’t this country great?” Chastity whipped out her last micro disk and touched the sleeping mound of cookie dough while he was out cold. His huge body glowed bright blue as he was being sucked into the skinny rectangle. They didn’t think such a big thing could fit inside such a small thing, but it did.

“Success!” Chastity held up the micro disk for all to see. All was well, though the teenage boys were pretty bummed to see their entertainment disappear as if it were a TV shutting off.

Chastity decided to spend the rest of the night dancing with the high school students in their colorful costumes. She had a pretty good time.

Hours later, she hung out in the kitchen where the madness took place. She felt like reflecting the night with her brother’s music monster.

“What a crazy night,” said Chastity holding Kelly in her arms, “I thought I’d never succeed in catching all those pesky midi monsters. If it weren’t for you and my mom’s credit card, we’d be completely lost.” Just then, a little jellyfish creature came crawling in. It was lost in the crowd of young people and it could finally find its way now that they were all gone.

“I think someone wants to see you,” said Kelly the pelbo. Chastity looked down and saw the one monster that wasn’t sealed inside any disk.

“That must be the monster whose disk was eaten by Dashiell.”

“Do you want me to buy another micro disk? It won’t be any trouble.” Chastity thought for a second and knew that what she originally intended was to have ONE monster as a partner.

“No. I’ve decided that I want this one to be my partner.” She picked the jellyfish up off the linoleum and held it next to Kelly. She most likely made the decision because she didn’t actually witness any mischief and crude behavior associated with the monster,



“Eat! Eat! Eat!” they chanted. Dashiell was eating everything that could be swallowed – mixing bowls, chairs, you name it. He had a seemingly bottomless stomach that could digest anything except itself.

“Dashiell!” said Chastity, “What on earth are you doing?” She then turned to the boys with a stern look. “You should be ashamed of yourselves! You’re encouraging a monster who doesn’t know any better to deface public property!”

“No, little chica,” said one of the boys, “He’s not defacing it, he’s totally eating it!”

“Whatever.” Dashiell kept gorging on all of the objects he could find without having the least bit of trouble swallowing them. In the nick of time, she took out one of her last micro disks.

“Your fun is about to be over!” As she was about to touch to disk to Dashiell’s thick, squishy skin, he grabbed it and popped it into his mouth like an M&M. He then proceeded to swallow it whole. That was her second to last disk, and she was saving it for him.

“What do we do, Kelly?”

“I may have to go back to the store for this one,” said Kelly the pelbo, “Can I have that credit card back?” Chastity sighed, since there was a catch.

“Fine.” She then took the credit card from her pocket and gave it to Kelly. Kelly happily grabbed it and ran off as fast as a baby slug monster could. “Harry back!”

Fifteen minutes later...

After the teenage boys cheered Dashiell the chocothrash on some more, Chastity was relieved to see that her friend was finally back.

“Thank God you’re back!” said Chastity, “What did you get?”

“This!” said Kelly the pelbo. In her tiny hand (if you call it that) was a bottle of children-strength cough medicine. Chastity was less than impressed and expected better of her.

“I’ll pay for this using my credit card,” said Kelly the pelbo. She handed the young man a credit card with Elaine McGirk’s signature on the back. She grabbed the skinny disks with her mouth and ran out of the store with the receipt.

“Kelly!” called Chastity, “Kelly!” The last thing she wanted was ANOTHER monster getting lost. Luckily, Kelly dashed around the corner of the building with the disks. Chastity was less than amused. “Why didn’t you tell me where you were going?!”

“I got these disks,” she said, “they should make catching the monsters much easier.” Chastity all of a sudden didn’t feel like yelling at Kelly anymore. After all Kelly was doing something extremely helpful in the shortest amount of time possible.

Chastity then opened the door once again and walked onto the dance floor. Amidst the loud music, she went searching for the monsters.

“There’s one!” said Kelly the Pelbo. About twelve feet away was Zippy the s’more. He looked up at the disco ball was spinning around and sparkling from the reflection of the moon. He thought it was a big, fat ball of candy coated in sugar, just waiting to be eaten. Stars appeared in Zippy’s eyes, as his mind was filled with ecstasy. Using his somewhat sticky nubs, he climbed the folded basketball seats.

“We’ve got to stop him!” said Chastity. She didn’t know how to climb very well, but she dug her fingers into the thin spaces that separated the other seats. Zippy, being a young and versatile monster, reached the top before Chastity even got three feet above the ground. With all the bravery in his heart, he bent down and jumped. Chastity and Kelly watched in horror, but didn’t let out a gasp.

Unfortunately, Zippy missed the candy... er... disco ball and plummeted to the ground. When he hit the ground, SPLAT! Chocolate and marshmallow were splattered everywhere and his graham cracker was the only thing remaining. Chastity screamed in terror, for she had witnessed a sweet, chocolaty end to an innocent monster.

“This is terrible!” she said. She then wiped some chocolate off her cheek and licked it. “...yet delicious at the same time.” Just as all seemed lost, Zippy started assembling himself by summoning all the chocolate and marshmallow to the center of the graham cracker. After that, he was good as new, as if nothing happened. “Don’t you make me worry like that again!” Chastity picked Zippy up like a baby. With a sigh of relief, she grabbed a micro disk from Kelly the pelbo’s mouth and touched Zippy with it. He glowed brightly and disappeared into the tiny, efficient disk. “Now, on to the other ones.”

One by one, Chastity and Kelly managed to find the monsters and zap them back into their disks (we’d tell you about where each monster was and what he was doing, but we’d rather cut to the finale).

The two had encased seven of the nine monsters into their disks and were on a roll.

“We have two disks left,” said Chastity, “This is going to get a little harder.” Then, they heard something from the kitchen, which was conveniently right next to them. It sounded like chanting. Chastity barged into the room without warning and witnessed something so disgusting and immoral it made her almost sick to her stomach. Dashiell the chocothrash was swallowing things whole and two teenage boys were cheering him on.

“What’s wrong, sweetie?” asked Elaine, “You usually love when I make chicken and rice.” Just then, a shaking was felt. Lots of little voices were heard and they kept getting quieter and quieter as the milliseconds ticked.

“What on earth...” said the father.

“That must be an earthquake,” said Chastity, “California is only 2,000 miles away.” Chastity knew something was amiss from the strange sensation that ensued. She didn’t want to leave abruptly, though.

“May I please be excused?” she asked.

“Sure,” said Elaine. After she made her parents well aware of her leaving, she dashed to the basement.

With her heart racing, she ran down the stairs until she reached the halfway step. She feasted her eyes on the worst thing that could possibly happen.

“Sweet mother of crud!” she exclaimed. Kelly the pelbo sat at the top of the stairs. She couldn’t have been there at a better time.

“What’s going on?” she asked.

“They’re... gone!!!” Sure enough, the basement was empty and the basement door leading to the outside was wide open. “What are we going to do? Where could they have possibly gone?” Kelly thought for a moment.

“The high school is near here,” she said.

“So? What’s your point?”

“They’re having an autumn dance tonight. The monsters could’ve detected the bass from the speakers with their extremely well-developed hearing and followed it. Monsters that aren’t well-trained don’t know the concept of constraint.” Chastity was so thankful of Kelly’s reasoning that she wanted to hug her affectionately. She ran up the stairs to do just that.

“Kelly, have I told you that I love you yet?” Kelly, overcome by such emotion, was suffocating from her hug.

“I appreciate it. Really.”

Without telling her family, Chastity sped out the basement door and ran into the brisk night. The high school was many blocks away, but they continued nonetheless.

When she got to the high school, the lights were on in the gym. Music could be heard from the outside and the pumpkins on the stoop were ablaze with funny faces. With all her might, she pulled open the heavy door, which revealed young people dressed in costumes and dancing to techno.

“Do we know you?” asked a girl in a black cat costume, “Do you have an invitation?”

“My monsters ran away from my house and they might be at this party. Can I search the perimeters?”

“Sure, whatever.”

“Kelly, we’re just one step away from finding the monsters... Kelly?” Chastity then noticed that Kelly had disappeared and was probably gone for a while now.

“Kelly?”

Meanwhile, Kelly the pelbo was at the electronics’ shop paying for some micro-disks (three steps up from scan disks). We don’t know how she got on the counter, but she managed to do so and let the cashier scan them.

“That’ll be 10.95, please,” he said.



“Oh, jeez! He’s not doing what I think he’s doing!” When he was done, there was a small, purple pile of feces with data coming off of it right in the middle of the living room. Zippy slid away happily now that he relieved himself. Chastity could do nothing but stare at the lovely little pile he made.



“Since when has television lied to us?” asked Kelly the pelbo.

It took them a while, but Chastity got all the monsters down to the basement. They were making a racket because they didn’t know why they couldn’t stay in the decent-looking haven that was the upstairs. She carried the last monster, Bob the kerny, to the bottom of the stairs and set him there, never to see his potato again.

“That’s all of them,” she said.

“Are you sure it’s a good idea to hoard them in the basement like this?” asked Kelly.

“Don’t think of it as hoarding,” said Chastity, “Think of it as storage.”

“But they’re living creatures. They need food and fresh air.”

“They won’t stay down here for long. Now let’s clean up the house.”

After a half an hour, most of the living room and kitchen was spick-span. The vacuum cleaner and mop and dustpan were used, along with all the other cleaning implements in the house. Kelly couldn’t do much; just push a wet, soapy sponge across the kitchen counter. Anyway, after all that was done, they both collapsed.

“Mom won’t suspect ANYTHING,” she said. Kelly the pelbo couldn’t get a word in edgewise until her tiny lungs were through catching her breath.

“If you say so,” she said.

Elaine inserted the key and opened the front door just in time along with Aaron, who came back from the doctor. Being the polite woman she was, she greeted Chastity

“How was everything? Did anything go wrong?” Chastity, who was used to telling the truth, almost let the cat out of the bag, but stopped to think about what she was saying. Luckily, her lie was short and sweet.

“Everything was fine,” she said, “Just fine.”

“That’s good. If you’re not busy, you should help me with dinner.”

Later, Chastity and Aaron’s dad came home from work and helped his wife and daughter cook the meal. Chastity added water to the pot and kept looking at the basement door. Her hand was shaking to the point where she nearly dropped the measuring cup into the pot.

The family sat down to a nice chicken dinner and proceeded to eat, but Chastity wasn’t hungry. She found it difficult to eat when she was nervous.

the food and shoveled it into his mouth as if it was the last meal he was ever going to have.

“Get out of the fridge!” scolded Chastity as she entered the kitchen. Dashiell didn’t listen; he kept eating the food that wasn’t his. Angered, Chastity tried pulling him away from the fridge. Dashiell reacted by roaring in her face. Chastity was as frozen as a popsicle when she was finished witnessing his rage. “Okay... have the food... please don’t hurt me...”

In the living room, Elroy the fluffball and Pembroke the furcupine were at each other’s throats. They viciously bit each other while growling like rabid beasts.



“This is the last straw!” shouted Chastity when she arrived, “You two stop right now!” She picked Elroy up to prevent further harm, but since he was too far away for Pembroke to bite him, he used his fiery breath to blow cinders which missed Elroy, but got the curtain. Within seconds, the beautiful curtains that were purchased in Tallahassee some years ago were ablaze. Without hesitation, Chastity grabbed the futuristic, tiny fire extinguisher from the basement stairs. She pulled the little lever, expecting foam to come out. Like so many cartoon characters before her, she looked inside the nozzle to eye the problem. When she squeezed again, the foam came blasting out right into her face. “AAAAHHH!!!” She quickly aimed the nozzle at the fire and extinguished it in a short amount of time.

Exhausted, she put the extinguisher down and breathed a sigh of relief. Foam was all over the place, including in her hair.

“Well, at least-”

“Chastity, no!” interrupted Kelly the pelbo.

“What?”

“If television has taught us anything, it’s that if anyone says ‘things can’t possibly get any worse,’ they automatically do!”

“Kelly, you’re the smartest infant-level music monster I know. You can’t possibly believe television. Television isn’t real life.”

“Oh, you’d be surprised.” Chastity wanted to argue some more, but she just as much wanted to get back to the point she was trying to make.

“Well, anyway, things can’t possibly get any worse.” Right then, Zippy the s’more stopped moving across the carpet. Feeling a cramp in his little gut, he started straining himself while lifting the back end of his body up.

“Kelly,” said Chastity, “Stop being a worrywart. I’ll manage these guys juuuuust fine.”

Oh, how wrong she was.

As soon as the monsters were moved downstairs, chaos ensued. The computer-generated life forms were wreaking havoc on the household like little puppies. Apparently, Kelly the pelbo was right. Elvis the caterpillar and Dr. Chuckles the glow worm were chasing each other around the living room.



Dr. Chuckles eventually hit his head against a desk leg and started crying. Chastity picked him up and gave him a hug.

“Aww...” she said, “Don’t cry. It’s okay.” As she was comforting the little one, she immediately noticed Siegfried the snow goose playing inside a bag of flour.

“Siegfried, get outta there!” Siegfried was making a white, dusty mess in the corner of the kitchen. As soon as he saw Chastity, he was covered in flour, though it was hardly noticeable because white was his natural color. He shook the flour off his body, making more of a mess.

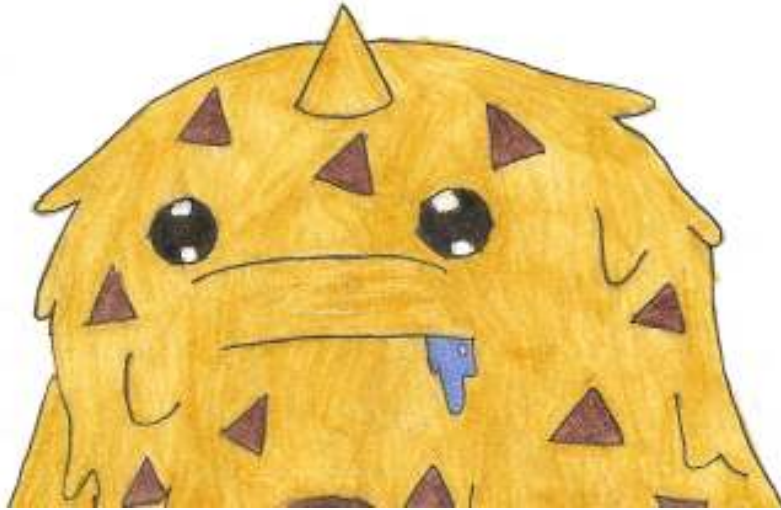
Chastity soon noticed that there were other monsters that disappeared from site. With this in mind, she ran upstairs and stepped into her room, where the door was already ajar. Dirt was all over the carpet while Bob the kerny was bouncing a potato on his head. All the while, the light that was keeping the potato warm was still on.



“Oh no!” said Chastity, “My science project! Now I’ll never know the effects of diet soda on starchy vegetables.” She quickly grabbed a mini vacuum and sucked up the bits of dirt from the carpet. That is, until she was interrupted.

“Chastity!” called Kelly the Pelbo from downstairs, “I think you should settle this!” With a sigh, she put down the vacuum and rushed downstairs to see what ELSE was the matter.

Dashiell the chocothrash was spelunking the refrigerator for morsels to eat. Since his species could gorge on anything at any time, his search wasn’t that hard. He grabbed



Name: Dashiell (or, rather, the top part of his body)
Species/Default File Name: Chocothrash.mid

Chastity was a little ashamed of the number of monsters she downloaded, but she wasn't as startled as Kelly the Pelbo. She was the smartest infant-leveled monster on the block and she knew when trouble was about to brew.

"How could you do this, Chastity?" asked Kelly the pelbo, "You should put them back right away!" To show that she deeply cared for the monsters, Chastity picked Zippy the smore.mid up and held him like a baby.

"Kelly," she said, "These monsters deserve to be in a loving home. Do we really want to keep exposing them to online predators, pop-up ads and porn? The internet can be a real bitch, ya know?"

"Chastity, you're a twelve-year-old human. You shouldn't be talking like that." Zippy the smore.midi was waving his arms around and cooing like a little baby. Chastity's mothering instinct knew that he wanted something.

"I think this little guy is hungry."

"I read that midi monsters can eat human food once in a while, but what they really need is food made from data."

"You know what this means: back to the internet!" Chastity sat back in her chair and searched the web once more for websites where you could download midi food. She soon stumbled upon a reliable site. "Midisupermarket.com..." As soon as she clicked another link, it took her to a page with all sorts of food choices for a famished monster. "This site has everything! Techno-spaghetti, techno-broccoli... even techno-toast with techno-butter!" She decided to pick Zippy up and show him the computer screen. "Would you like any of the ones I mentioned?" Zippy shook his head. "How about... a techno-burger?" When Zippy heard the words he excitedly nodded his head, showing that he wanted the computerized version of the all-American treat. With a right click, she downloaded it onto her PC. After typing the intricate code and pressing enter, the burger appeared in real life right before their eyes.

As Zippy indulged in his culinary delight, Chastity and Kelly the pelbo got back to the issue they were originally discussing.

"Chastity, I still don't think you can take care of all these monsters," said Kelly the pelbo.



Name: Siegfried
Species/Default File Name: Snowgoose.mid



Name: Pembroke
Species/Default File Name: Furcupine.mid



Name: Elvis
Species/Default File Name: Catapillar.mid



Name: Bob
Species/Default File Name: Kerny.mid



Name: Lucia
Species/Default File Name: Jellyfish.mid



Name: Elroy
Species/Default File Name: Fluffball.midi



Name: Earnest
Species/Default File Name: Troll.mid



Name: Zippy
Species/Default File Name: Smore.mid

“We’ll see you at dinnertime.” With that, Elaine and Aaron left to do their errands. Kelly was too short to figure out what Chastity was doing, so Chastity picked her up and held her.

“What are you doing?” she asked. She was quite curious for an infant-level monster. Monsters her age usually didn’t talk.

“I’m looking for a website where you can download midi files.”

“Are you looking for your favorite song?”

“No. I want to have a midi monster.” Kelly was flabbergasted.

“Chastity, shouldn’t you consult your parents first? I mean, didn’t a midi monster try to destroy the world once?”

“That all worked out in the end. Besides, I’m trying not to steal you from my brother anymore.”

“You shouldn’t. Your brother is a sickly boy and the last thing he needs is someone stealing his pride and joy.”

“Whatever.” Chastity browsed through the search engine looking for a site that didn’t look suspicious or lacking. She finally stumbled upon a website called “Midimeister.” It had message boards, a chatroom, and best of all, all the midi music files you could download. “This site is perfect.” She typed in the title of a song and a page appeared that had all sorts of midi versions of the song. She right-clicked the title and downloaded it onto her desktop.

“Now that you’ve got the midi file, do you know how to convert it to its monster form?” Chastity didn’t know anything beyond how to download a file and put it on a desktop. Like all of life’s problems, she looked in the search engine for an answer.

“Here’s a site that explains it.” She clicked on the link and it brought her to a page with instructions. She began reading them out loud to better understand it. “First, you right click on the midi file...”

Some time had passed and she followed all the instructions on the webpage. Out of the holographic screen came a ball of light. The light stopped moving as soon as it got three inches away from Chastity’s chest. The ball of light transformed into a fluffball.midi, a cute, little blob that resembled a music note with creepy, glowing eyes. It opened its mouth and let out a sigh. Chastity adored the monster, so she decided to keep it.

“This one is adorable!” she said. “I’m keeping it!”

“That’s good,” said Kelly the pelbo, who was right beside the chair, “But what do we do with the rest of these?” In the middle of the room was a menagerie of midi monsters, all of whom were downloaded by Chastity. She looked behind her and got a closer look at what she did.

“I guess I did get a little carried away, didn’t I?” she said as a sweat drop emerged from the side of her face.



Name: Dr. Chuckles

Species/Default File Name: Glowworm.mid

“I guess Adlai wasn’t lying when he said that Saul was the biggest idiot on the face of the earth AND the universe.”

Aaron opened the door of the passengers’ side and discovered his monster sitting there on the seat. He was a bit irate at how his sister “stole” her from him once again.

“There you are, Kelly,” he said, “You know you’re not allowed in dad’s antique car.”

“Chastity brought me here,” Kelly the pelbo said in her more innocent voice. Aaron gave an angry glare at Chastity as he picked Kelly up.



“Get your own monster, will you?” he asked. The words were few, but they expressed a lot. He slammed the car door and left his sister to think. She was mentally hurt when Kelly, a monster that liked her just fine, was taken away by her true human owner. A monster of her own would’ve been perfect for her.

Since she was alone, she decided to go over someone’s house and talk to them about her predicament.

“I don’t know what to do,” she said, “I don’t want to play an instrument, but I want a music monster anyway. Does that make me selfish?” Baby Ferdinand just stared at Chastity while sucking on his plastic donut. He had no idea what she was talking about, yet she was treating him like a psychiatrist. “What should I do? My parents say that I can’t get a pet.” Ferdie’s developing baby mind focused on the computer in the room. He waved his hand at it as if he was trying to grab it. “That’s it! I’ll simply download a monster off the internet... I’ll get a midi monster!” Then, Emmett came into the room, surprised that he had an uninvited guest.

“Chastity,” he said, “How did you get into my living room?”

“Emmett, your baby brother is a genius!”

“Y... you think Ferdie is a genius?”

“Yes! They say babies have good listening skills. Now should I pay him in cash or pacifiers?”

“Get outta my house!”

Later, Chastity was at her futuristic computer, which looked like a bar with a holographic screen projecting upwards from it (like something out of *Star Wars*).

“Chastity,” said Elaine, “I’m taking your brother to the doctor. Be good, okay?”

“I will, mom,” said Chastity. Elaine looked down at her son, who was holding his monster partner.

“I’m sorry, Aaron,” she said, “But you can’t bring Kelly with you.”

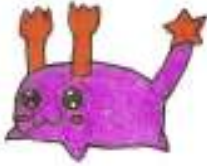
“All right.” Aaron set Kelly the Pelbo down and she crawled over to Chastity.

Meet Chastity Butterfly McGirk. She is the one of the children of Elaine, the little girl who watched over Owen's monster egg the night Relteron attacked Earth. She was jealous of her younger brother Aaron because he had a music monster. This was because he played an instrument and she didn't.

One crisp fall day, Chastity took Aaron's monster, Kelly the pelbo (a small, purple monster with fork-like ears), into a car with her. It was a 1987 *Chevrolet* hatchback and it was parked proportionately in front of the garage. Chastity was glad to escape from the cold air outside and to sit inside a metal sanctuary. As soon as she sat down in the drivers' seat, she placed little Kelly onto the passengers' seat and started playing pretend.



"Vroom," said Chastity pretending to drive the car, "It's a beautiful day, Kelly." Kelly the pelbo could barely see out the front window due to her size, but that was nothing make-believe couldn't solve.



"Yep," she said, "Nothing but garage door for miles."

"How about some tunes?" Chastity inserted an old cassette tape (things that have long since been phased out) labeled *Benny and Joon* into the old cassette tape player. As soon as she pressed play, the song "I'm Gonna be (500 Miles)" by The Proclaimers started playing on the stereo.

*But I would walk 500 miles
And I would walk 500 more
Just to be the man who walks 1000 miles
To fall down at yo-*

Before the song could continue, the tape stopped playing and film from the cassette flew out everywhere. Chastity ejected the cassette only to find moist, pink matter on it.

"What the heck?" she remarked, "Why is there pink stuff on the tape?"

"That's pre-chewed bologna," said Kelly the pelbo. Chastity's obvious reaction to the answer caused her to throw the cassette toward the back seat. "Adlai's monster, Saul, came by earlier and tried to feed the cassette player."

"Why?"

"Because he said it looked deprived."