"OSCAR'S MONSTER"

by

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FADE IN:

INT. OSCAR’S APARTMENT – DAY

Light streams through the window into the dingy apartment. Boxes marked HEIRLOOMS, KITCHEN, and SKULLS are piled around the apartment. Ancient furniture wrapped in plastic decorates the room.

OSCAR, a reptilian swamp monster, slumps at the dining table. He glares at his plate of bloody chicken.

Oscar pushes the plate across the table to MEREDITH, a beautiful vampire wearing a long silk gown.

OSCAR
You can finish this. I’m not hungry.

MR. SMITH, 30s, a stern man, sips coffee.

MR. SMITH
Are you listening to me? This is a serious matter Oscar.

Oscar grunts.

MR. SMITH (CONT’D)
The agency has already moved you three times this year.

OSCAR
So? Isn’t that what you guys are for?

Mr. Smith slams the cup on the table.

MR. SMITH
Next time we might not be able to help, and then it’s only a matter of time before monster hunters come calling.

Meredith gasps.

MEREDITH
Monster hunters. We would never be able to stop moving. Oscar, please listen to Mr. Smith and take this seriously.

OSCAR
I’m not talking to him while he is wearing that stupid thing.
MEREDITH
Mr. Smith, could you please remove the bracelet? Just long enough for this hard headed creature to listen.

Oscar glares at his wife. Mr. Smith removes a bracelet from his wrist. He DISAPPEARS.

MR. SMITH
Better?

OSCAR
Yes. Monsters shouldn’t hide their true form. Not from other monsters at least.

MR. SMITH
As I was saying, you need to keep a low profile. No more killing.

Oscar grunts again. Meredith glares at him.

OSCAR
Fine. I’ll be good.

MR. SMITH
Don’t forget to wear your bracelet when you go outside. People aren’t used to seeing lizard men.

OSCAR
I hate those things.

MR. SMITH
I don’t care if you like them, they are necessary for our kind these days.

A chair slides away from the table.

MR. SMITH (CONT’D)
The bracelet is imbued with magic. It will make you appear human.

OSCAR
What respectable monster would want to appear human?

MEREDITH
Oscar.

FOOTSTEPS head to the door. Mr. Smith REAPPEARS, tightening his bracelet to his wrist.
MR. SMITH
The Monster Protection Agency has better things to do than cleaning up after you. Remember, no killing.

Mr. Smith exits. Meredith glides to the couch.

OSCAR
I don’t like him. Why even wear a bracelet when you are invisible anyway?

MEREDITH
Mr. Smith is trying to help us. At least he found us a nice, peaceful place.

LOUD DRUMMING breaks the silence.

Oscar jumps out of his chair.

OSCAR
We live above a musician?

MEREDITH
Now dear, it isn’t that bad.

DRUMMING becomes louder. Oscar glares at his wife.

MEREDITH (CONT’D)
You promised.

Oscar deflates.

OSCAR
For you, my dear, I will leave the human alone.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT
The street is empty. The only sound is LOUD DRUMMING.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - THE NEXT MORNING
Still DRUMMING

INT. OSCAR’S APARTMENT - DAY
Exhausted, Oscar stands at the oven. Meredith enters.

MEREDITH
Darling, what are you doing?
Oscar opens the oven. Pulls out a pan of cookies. He places the cookies on a plate.

**OSCAR**
I am going to give cookies to the human downstairs and try to befriend them. Maybe then they will be quiet.

Meredith reaches in her handbag and pulls out a bracelet, placing it on her wrist. She SHIMMERS momentarily.

**OSCAR (CONT’D)**
Why do you need a bracelet? You can pass for human already.

**MEREDITH**
Mine protect me from the sun. I am going shopping. Be back in an hour.

Meredith exits the apartment.

Oscar grabs his bracelet from the end table and puts it on his wrist. He TRANSFORMS into a HEAVY OSCAR, late 40s, a heavyset man with thinning hair.

Heavy Oscar looks in the mirror.

**HEAVY OSCAR**
Eww.

**INT. HALLWAY - DAY**

The hallway is poorly lit and the paint is chipping. Heavy Oscar descends the stairs and strides to the apartment below his, plate of cookies in hand.

On the door, a sign reads IF IT’S TOO LOUD, YOU’RE TOO OLD.

Heavy Oscar knocks on the door and waits. HEATHER BENNET, early 20s, opens the door. She wears heavy amounts of dark makeup and a band T-shirt.

**HEATHER**
Make it quick.

Heavy Oscar holds out the plate of cookies. Heather eyes them, then Heavy Oscar.

**HEATHER (CONT’D)**
What do you want.

Heavy Oscar pulls the cookies back and clears his throat.
HEAVY OSCAR
Good day to you. I am called Oscar, and it is groovy to meet you. It would be ever so nice if we could be friends and get along.

Heather stares at Heavy Oscar. He forces the plate into Heather’s hands.

HEATHER
You’re a little special aren’t you.

HEAVY OSCAR
Yes, now that we are friends it would be super neato if you could keep the noise down a bit. It is harshing my vibe.

Heather slams the door.

INT. OSCAR’S APARTMENT – NIGHT

Oscar crushes a cookie. He paces.
Meredith enters and puts grocery bags on counter.

MEREDITH
I brought dinner.

Oscar grunts. He crosses to the table and sits.

MEREDITH (CONT’D)
I got us more beef this time. I know you are getting tired of chicken.

Oscar grunts again. Meredith puts groceries away.

MEREDITH (CONT’D)
So I take it things did not go well with our neighbor?

OSCAR
I was nice. I gave her cookies. I even talked the stupid way that humans talk..

Meredith glides over to Oscar.

OSCAR (CONT’D)
It’s just one human. Surely that wouldn’t hurt anything.

Meredith crosses her arms.

DRUMS sound from downstairs.
The other neighbors would probably be happy she was gone anyway.

Meredith hovers over her husband, a dangerous look in her eyes.

For you my dear, I will leave the human alone.

Meredith kisses Oscar on the cheek and sits opposite her husband with a smile. DRUMS beat a rhythm.

INT. OSCAR’S APARTMENT - DAY

Oscar beats a rhythm on a plate with a fork as he places dirty dishes in the sink. Meredith glides into the room.

Please stop that Oscar. That beat is driving me crazy.

Oscar stops the beat. He puts soap in the water.

I can’t help it. The stupid human plays it day and night. If you would just let me --

You heard Mr. Smith. The agency might not be able to help us this time. The monster hunters would come.

Oscar squeezes water out of a sponge.

Running from monster hunters might be better than this.

What was that.

I said you were beautiful and then I quit talking.

Meredith smiles and grabs her bracelet from her handbag.

I will only be gone a couple of hours. Please be good.
Meredith slips on the bracelet, SHIMMERS, and exits.

Oscar hums to himself. He scrubs a plate. DRUMS sound from downstairs.

OSCAR
    Two can play at that game human.

Oscar drops the plate back into the sink. He stomps on the floor. The drumming stops.

Oscar stands at the sink smiling. POUNDING sounds from down below.

Oscar stomps. Heather pounds. The stomping and pounding become rhythmic.

Oscar roars. From below, a door is SLAMMED. STOMPING comes from the stairwell.

Oscar grabs his bracelet. Thrusts it on.

Oscar TRANSFORMS into Heavy Oscar

A POUND at the door. Heavy Oscar throws the door open.

Heather pushes Heavy Oscar. He falls to the floor. The bracelet flies from his wrist.

Heavy Oscar TRANSFORMS into Oscar.

Oscar stands. He notices the bracelet on the floor. Heather backs away. Oscar closes the door.

INT. OSCAR’S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Meredith glides in. Surveys the room.


MEREDITH
    What happened?

OSCAR
    For you my dear, I left the best part of the human.

Oscar uncovers the plate. He pushed it across the table to Meredith. Upon it is Heather’s heart.

THE END.