ENTER MUNCH

QUINN

(hands folded on her bed, eyes closed)

Do you ever wish for something so much it hurts? Because that's what I do. I wish for a friend. Not just any friend though, a magical one. A friend who knows the stories in my head before I do, who sees the magic like I do. I've heard before that friends are like stars, brightening up the darker nights. Maybe tonight my magical friend is on their way.

(She lays down gets under the covers and then quickly goes back to sitting)

Oh and Amen. I think.

(She's back under the covers and it's quiet until there's a sound of heavy breathing and a crash that happens from inside her closet.)

(QUINN slowly gets out of bed, hesitant and whispering to herself)

Okay, Quinn, it's just a closet. Nothing to be afraid of.

(as QUINN slides open the closet door only to reveal a furry, wide eyed monster about her height, huddled in the corner. The monster, MUNCH, looks pretty frightened.)

MUNCH

Oh, uh. Hi!

(QUINN opens her mouth to scream. MUNCH throws a shoe at her shin.)

QUINN

Ow! What was that for?

MUNCH

You were gonna scream! Please don't scream, I'm not here to scare you.

QUINN

So you chucked a shoe at my shin?!

MUNCH

I'm not a quick thinker!

QUINN

That hurt!

MUNCH

Don't yell at me!

QUINN

I'm sorry! *(collecting herself)* I'm sorry. I guess you don't *look* like a scary monster.

MUNCH

Phew! Thank you, that's a relief. I was afraid you'd think I was some kind of Closet Monster.

you don't look like a scary human either.

QUINN

Thanks. Well wait, why were you growling from the closet if you're not scary?

MUNCH

I wasn't growling, I was breathing.

(she stares at him in disbelief)

I have asthma! And a deviated septum.

QUINN

*(joining him on the floor of the closet)*Oh. Okay then, I'm Quinn.

MUNCH

(extending a hand) Hi Quinn, the name's Munch.

QUINN

Okay, Munch…why are you in my closet if you're not a Closet Monster?

MUNCH

Well, I'm a Wish Monster-in-training right now and one of the Under-The-Bed Monsters dared me to accept a wish and so the wish I accepted was yours.

QUINN

What wish?

MUNCH

Are you sure you want me to say?

QUINN

Yes, Munch, what wish?

MUNCH

Well, it might be embarrassing for you/

QUINN

/embarrassing how? It's just us/

MUNCH

/You wished for a friend.

QUINN

Oh…that wish.

MUNCH

Yeah, but long story short, I accepted your wish and entered the wrong portal and ended up in your closet instead of as an IF, Imaginary Friend, and that's why I'm here!

QUINN

Okay. *(Beat for her to process).* Well, maybe you'd wanna go on an adventure with me tomorrow?

MUNCH

Yes! Let's go right now!

QUINN

Not so fast there, I have to sleep first.

MUNCH

Oh. Tomorrow then!

QUINN

Ok, goodnight then, Munch!

MUNCH

Hey, Quinn? Mind if I just hang in your closet for the night? Your world is kind of a lot and it would be nice to get my paws on the ground for a second first.

QUINN

(giggling) Sure, Munch. Sleep tight in there.

MUNCH

Goodnight, Quinn!

QUINN

(happily to herself as she gets into bed)

I have a friend.

“What’s The Best Language To Use With A Friend” (MUNCH)

(The next morning. QUINN is fast asleep, snoring, lying awkwardly as she’s all wrapped up in her blankets. MUNCH quietly creaks open the closet door and scoots out.)

MUNCH

(Whispering)

Quinn?

(Beat as he scooches closer.)

Quinnnnn?

(He lightly shakes her bed frame. She moves around and he leans forward hoping she’s waking up but then she lets out a huge snore.)

MUNCH

Maybe it’s for the better. I don’t even know what I’d say yet.

(licking his paw and combing the top of his head back) “Hey, ya know that furry monster in your closet last night? That was me and it’s morning now so let’s go for an adventure!” No, no, no!

MUNCH

WHEN YOU MAKE A FRIEND,

IT HELPS TO KNOW HOW TO SAY “HELLO”

SOMEONE TO DEPEND…ON

TO PULL YOU UP WHEN YOU’RE DOWN BELOW

I JUST HOPE I DON’T MESS IT UP,

STUMBLED UPON TRUE LUCK,

WISH I COULD KNOW JUST WHAT TO SAY

“HEY!” /

/No.

Public speakers and improv performers, I commend.

WHAT’S THE BEST LANGUAGE TO USE WITH A FRIEND?

WHEN YOU BECOME A *‘PAL’*,

YOU CAN GREET THEM IN NEW AND EXCITING WAYS

ON OUR FRIENDSHIP CANAL

I’LL USE A NEW LANGUAGE EVERY DAY

“BUENOS DÍAS” “BUONGIORNO”

“NI HAO” “PRIVET” “HALO”

“BONJOUR” “KONNICHIWA” “MARHABAN”

It’s dawn!

And I still don’t know…

WHAT’S THE BEST LANGUAGE TO USE WITH A ‘PENGYOU’ ?

(QUINN starts to wake up. MUNCH doesn’t notice.)

I DON’T KNOW! NO SE! JE NE SE PAS!

SHOULD I GO FAR AWAY?

THE STRESS IS “TROP BAS”

I JUST FEEL LIKE A WARMTH WHENEVER SHE’S NEAR

I JUST GO BACK AND FORTH

I’M JUST SO UNCLEAR

WHEN YOU BECOME A “CHUM”,

IT’S HARD TO BE SELFISH, YOU’RE NOT ALONE

NO MORE LONELY BUM

SOMEONE’S ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE PHONE

I CALL AND SHE PICKS UP

I “BLESS YOU” HER HICCUPS

NO ONE COULD PULL ME AWAY. I’LL STAY.

All that matters is that my hand and heart extend.

CAUSE LOVE’S THE BEST LANGUAGE TO USE WITH A FRIEND.

(QUINN sneaks up behind him, echoing)

QUINN

Yes, LOVE’S THE BEST LANGUAGE TO USE WITH A FRIEND.

MUNCH

(*startled*)

Good mortentag, hal-hola, kinnichi-ciao?

QUINN

Bless you!

MUNCH & QUINN

LOVE’S THE BEST LANGUAGE TO USE WITH A FRIEND.