

A watercolor illustration of a young child with blonde hair, wearing a yellow long-sleeved shirt, sitting up in bed. The child is looking towards the left with a concerned expression. A white sheet is pulled up over their head like a cape. To the left of the child, on a blue patterned blanket, sits a small brown teddy bear. Further left, on a yellow and brown chest of drawers, is a blue bag. On the wall above the chest of drawers, a small black spider is visible. In the background, there is a window with blue curtains and a white mosquito net hanging over the bed. A glass of water sits on a surface near the window. The overall scene is dimly lit, suggesting nighttime.

PM⁺

A Spider in My Bedroom

Story by
Leone Peguero

Illustrations by
Sharyn Madder

One morning, when Alex woke up,
she saw something on the wall
at the end of her bed.
She stared at it.

“Oh, no!” she whispered.
“It’s a great big spider!”

Alex told herself
she was going to be brave.
After all,
it wasn’t very close to her.
But was it far enough away?

“Stay right where you are!”
she said to the spider.



For teachers' inspection ONLY



Alex leaped out of bed
and hurried into the kitchen.

“Mum!” she cried.

“There’s an enormous spider
in my bedroom.”

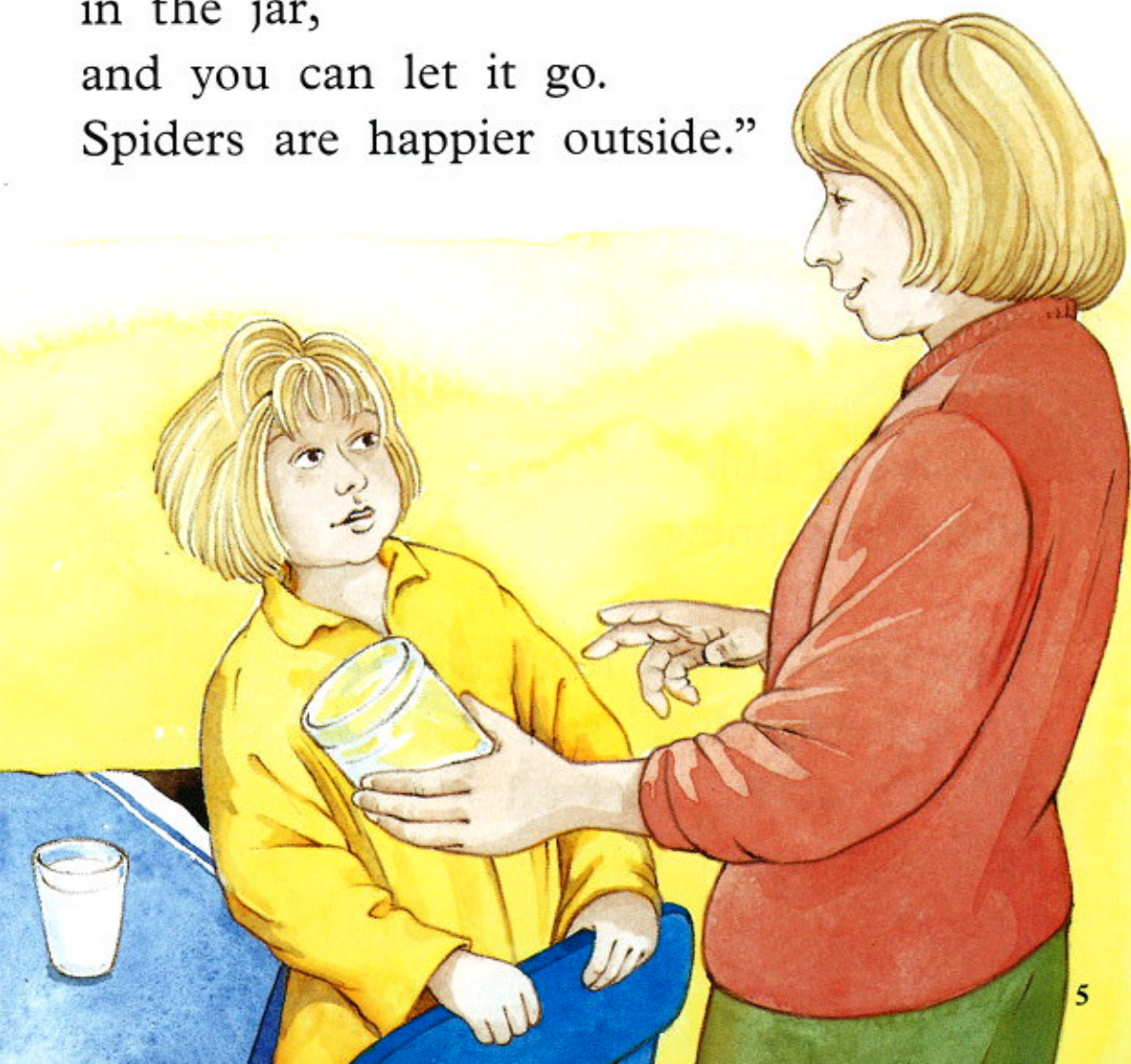
“Most spiders won’t hurt you, Alex,”
said Mum.

“Take a plastic jar and catch it.”

“Oh, I couldn’t do that!” said Alex.



Mum said, "All you have to do
is put a jar over it,
and slide some paper underneath.
Then the spider will be caught
in the jar,
and you can let it go.
Spiders are happier outside."



Mum and Alex
went into the bedroom,
but the spider had gone.

"It was right there," said Alex,
pointing to the spot.

They looked everywhere for it.

"Where could it be?" Alex wondered.
It was scary
not being able to find a spider
when you knew it was really there.

"It's time to get ready
for school, Alex," said Mum.
"Don't worry. I'll find it
before you get home."