2015

The Little Shop of Monsters

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Review

The Little Shop of Monsters is the best place to buy a monster. They growl at you when you walk in, but it’s their way of saying hello. There are lots of different monsters, including monsters that like to eat snacks, monsters that smell bad, some that are sticky, and some that are sleepy. Visitors can take a monster home, but there’s something visitors might not know. You don’t choose a monster. A monster chooses you!

R.L. Stine, the creator of the Goosebumps series, and Marc Brown, the creator of the Arthur series, teamed up to create this picture book that is a mixture between scary and cute. The illustrations, created with colored pencils, watercolor, spray paint, and gouache, depict monsters that are strange looking but still cute. The words are more menacing in both content and appearance, but not so much that most children would be too frightened by them. Still, adults might want to be aware that the book does talk about monsters eating friends, hiding under beds, and other monsterlike activities if their child is afraid of monsters.