Stacy didn’t stew in her own anger for long, but today was an exception. Her roommate Ellen had taken her mischief a step too far and put Stacy into an awkward position.

Ellen is a witch and Stacy learned that the hard way. Her fur covered arms were sprawled out in front of her, adorned by dark seams that ran up their entire length. Although she couldn't see it, her entire body looked much the same. To an outsider, Stacy was merely a teddy bear on Ellen's bed, laying on it's stomach. Stacy was completely immobile in this form, unable to communicate her dissatisfaction. “Not that Ellen would listen anyway…”, she thought to herself.

The other half of Stacy's situation was Ellen's unpredictability and terrible timing. When they first met, Ellen was more careful about turning Stacy into a toy, usually giving her some sort of heads up. As Ellen grew more comfortable, however, she began changing Stacy whenever she chose, much to Stacy's detriment. She stopped giving Stacy warnings because her need for a toy was more important.

While Stacy usually enjoys her time as a toy, being alienated from her friends hasn’t been easy. Very few people know magic exists, so when Stacy misses plans, she can't just say she was turned into a toy. Without a proper job, her pool of excuses has become pretty barren. Unfortunately, her friends know something's up, and they don't really appreciate it.

Stacy was so focused on her anger that she didn't notice she could move again. At some point, Ellen turned her back. And there the witch was, satisfied with her play time.

"Did you have fun, toy?" Ellen asked, a smirk creeping up on her face.

Stacy looked at Ellen with bewilderment. Was she just a toy to Ellen? Does she even have a life of her own anymore?

With these thoughts racing through her head, Stacy raised her voice.

“I’m not your toy!”

Ellen had a confused smile on her face, unsure of how to react. Stacy continued on.

“I love you Ellen, but this has gone too far! You keep taking charge of my time, turning me into your little toy whenever you feel like it. It feels like I don’t have my own life anymore…”

Ellen shifted her gaze downwards.

“I thought you were okay with it…”

Stacy spoke a little lower. “I usually am… it does feel pretty nice.” She paused and looked at Ellen with a stern look. “But I have other friends Ellen and they’re not happy about my disappearances. I mean, how many times can I cancel my plans before they stop wanting to be around me…”

“Well, they should be more lenient! It’s not your fault,” Ellen said, trying to reassure Stacy.

“You’re right, it’s yours,” Stacy said coldly. “You know just as well as I do that I can’t tell them the truth… not even I believe it sometimes, and I’m the toy!”

Ellen looked upset, realizing the holes in her suggestion. “I’m sorry…”

Stacy sighed and looked at her roommate. “It’s okay, Ellen. Just… try to be a little more careful, please.”

With that, the awkward conversation came to an end. Stacy left Ellen’s room, leaving the witch to sulk. Ellen had gone too far and hurt Stacy in the process. She needed to find a solution to this, one where both of them could be happy.

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A week has passed since that awkward conversation, and Stacy's doing great. She’s been super productive, played some new games, and even scheduled a day out with her two closest friends, which happened to be today. Things were finally going her way.

While prepping for her hangout, Stacy decided to take a peek out her door. On the couch, Ellen was slouched, messing with a teddy bear in her arms. She wasn’t sure if that bear was a person or not, but she was happy it wasn’t her. Well, mostly happy. The hugs she got as a toy were to die for, so she couldn’t help but miss it, even if she wouldn’t admit it.

Shaking the soft thoughts off, Stacy’s gaze moved to Ellen’s face. Her roommate looked excited, and oddly relaxed. The whole week, Ellen has been polite, but slightly downtrodden. It was obvious that she really wanted to turn Stacy into a toy, but was doing her best to keep her roommate happy. Stacy felt a bit bad about how harsh she was, but seeing the witch finally relaxing calmed her nerves. “I’m glad she’s doing better…” she thought to herself.

Ellen, on the other hand, was struggling. Despite doing her best to control herself, her need for her toy was getting worse. She’s spent all week doing anything to fill the void. She’s changed her other friends into toys, borrowed some of Haley’s dolls, and even gotten random strangers involved in her fun. The teddy bear wrapped tightly between her arms was a jogger she bumped into earlier that morning. She unintentionally turned the poor girl into a toy when they collided. Ellen planned on changing her back, but really needed a cuddle session. So she scooped the toy up and ran home. She’ll turn the girl back… sooner or later.

Thankfully, Ellen’s suffering won’t go on for much longer. After her conversation with Stacy, she spent some time mulling over how to make them both happy. Eventually, she came up with an ingenious plan! And today was the perfect day to execute it! Squeezing her new bear, Ellen sat up and watched TV.

As if on cue, Stacy walked out of her room, car keys in hand.

“Okay Ellen, I’m heading to the mall now, “ Stacy said. “I should be back in a few hours.”

“Actually, I was hoping you could give me a ride there,” replied Ellen, jumping out of her seat. “I’m going to meet Haley for some lunch!”

Stacy looked through Ellen, suspicious of her intent. Ellen simply smiled, holding her bear up to Stacy and nodding its head. Stacy winced a bit, trying to ignore the bear pressure. But, despite her better judgement, she decided to take Ellen along.

Satisfied, Ellen walked to the couch as Stacy went to start the car. She kissed her bear on the snout, placing her down gently.

“I’ll be back soon, my little toy,” she said. “And I’ll be back with friends.” Ellen smirked as she walked to the car. Stacy drove off, blissfully unaware of what Ellen really had planned for the day.

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Stacy parked the car and the two girls entered the mall together. Ellen waved goodbye and left for the food court, surprising Stacy.

“Huh, I guess she really did have plans.” Stacy sighed In relief. “I bet they’re dastardly...” she thought, chuckling to herself.

She refocused her attention to the escalator in front of her, riding it up to the second floor. She sat on a public bench right next to it; her friends always met at this bench, so it was a pretty reliable place to be. Within a few minutes, two girls walked up to Stacy, waving. She jumped up in excitement and walked towards them.

The first girl to speak was Jade.

"Wow, you actually got here before us,” she said, with a grin on her face. “I'm impressed."

Jade towered over Stacy, who was already a relatively tall person to begin with. With her bright pink hair, black dress, and biker jacket, she quickly established herself as an imposing presence in the mall.

"Y-yeah, I am too, to be honest…" replied Stacy, with a nervous smile. Despite Jade's demeanor, Stacy knew just how much of a softy she was on the inside, and really loved that contrasting aspect of her.

A smaller figure came rushing towards Stacy, practically tackling her with a hug.

"I missed you so much!!" yelled Ruby, holding onto Stacy for dear life.

Ruby was a smaller girl, coming in at 4'9". Her head was covered in a mess of curly brown hair, just slightly covering the tops of her eyes. She wore a purple and white striped sweater that was a few sizes too big, completely covering her hands. She played into her cutesy appearance with the plush pup backpack she was carrying, refusing to let anyone know that she was actually 26, not that they'd believe her anyway.

"I-I missed you too, Ruby…" Stacy blushed, a bit embarrassed but happy to see her friends again.

As she calmed down, Stacy felt something brush her shoulder. Shuddering, she turned to see her roommate standing behind her.

"E-Ellen… what happened to your plans with Haley?" Stacy said, surprised at her sudden appearance.

"Yeah, Haley called and cancelled at the last second. Something about work," Ellen replied, pretending to be disappointed. "Oh, are these your friends?"

Jade and Ruby looked at each other with quizzical expressions, then turned to Stacy.

"Hey Stace," Jade said. "Who's this girl?"

Ellen chuckled a bit. "I'm Ellen. Me and Stacy are roommates."

Ruby smiled wide. "Ah!! Stacy's roommate is so cute!!" She ran to hug Ellen. "Come hang out with us!!"

Ellen blushed a bit. The unexpected hug and the girl's adorable appearance almost made Ellen lose control of her magic. She took a breath and refocused herself, leaving the girl unchanged for now.

"Hm," Jade began. "I wouldn't mind getting to know Ellen a bit. I mean, she is your roommate, so it's probably best we meet her."

Ellen turned to Stacy. "Is that okay, roomie?" She had a knowing grin on her face, which heightened Stacy's paranoia.

Before she could say no, Stacy thought it over. "If Ellen spends time with us, maybe she'll calm down… this could be good!"

Smiling at the possibility, Stacy agreed.

"Great! I know the perfect spot!" Ellen exclaimed.

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The group stood outside a closed store that was tucked in the corner of the mall. Ellen walked to the door and motioned the other girls over.

“Is this your special place?” remarked Jade. “It seems a bit abandoned.”

Ellen chuckled. “That’s why it’s perfect!” She tapped the door and it slowly swung open, amazing Jade and Ruby, but worrying Stacy.

“How did you do that?!” Ruby said in awe.

“A little magic goes a long way.” Ellen winked at Stacy, immediately raising her roommate’s suspicions. Ruby just kind of stared at Ellen, unsure of what the girl was on about.

Ellen propped the door open and egged the girls on. “Come on, let’s go inside.”

“Breaking and entering… I like it.” Jade nodded in approval.

Stacy looked at her friends in disbelief. “Please don’t encourage her…” she thought as they walked into the store.

The inside of the store was barren. There were shelves and counters, but nothing to line them with. Black out curtains blocked the windows, adding to the creepy ambience of the abandoned retail space.

“This place is… nice, I think?” Ruby said, a bit creeped out.

“Dark and brooding,” Jade said with a smirk. “You’re 2 for 2 here, miss.”

Ellen smiled. “Thank you, thank you.” she said with a jovial tone. “We won’t be here long. This place is more like a pit stop than a destination.”

Stacy’s suspicions heightened. Ellen wasn’t thinking of doing anything too stupid, was she? Before she could say anything, Stacy felt a finger brush up against her shoulder, freezing her in place.

Ellen whispered in her ear, “stand here and watch… it’s about to get fun.”

Stacy couldn’t protest as Ellen walked back over to the other two girls.

“So,” Ellen began. “I wanted to apologize to you two.”

Both girls looked at Ellen in confusion.

“Apologize for what?” Jade said. “The worst you did was break into this place, and that’s pretty metal.”

“I’d like an apology for that,” Ruby interrupted. “This place is really creepy…”

Ellen grinned. “No, not that.” She walked over to the girls. “I want to apologize for stealing Stacy all the time.”

Even Stacy was confused now.

“I know Stacy hasn’t been able to hang out with you at all recently, and she keeps making up excuses…” Ellen continued. “But it’s actually my fault.”

Jade chuckled. “How is it your fault? What’s so weird about you that she couldn’t tell us?”

“Well, it’s complicated…” Ellen smiled and brushed Jade’s shoulder, freezing the taller girl in place. “I think I’m just going to show you.”

Jade struggled to move but couldn’t, becoming immediately worried.

“What did you do to her?” Ruby asked, noticing Jade had become silent. She glanced over and noticed Stacy was also immobile. “This is getting so weird!”

Ruby felt Ellen’s arms wrap around her abdomen as she was lifted off the ground in a bear hug. She tried to squirm out, but became just as immobile as her friends.

“I’ve been waiting to do this since I met you,” Ellen whispered in Ruby’s ear. “I hope you enjoy it, toy.”

With that, Ruby began to feel itchy. Unbeknownst to her, black fur was rapidly spreading all over her body. She felt as her fingers receded into her hands, becoming rounded stumps at the ends of her arms. The same happened to her legs as she felt a long, black tail protrude out from her back, stitches running along it. Ellen’s grasp tightened as Ruby’s insides began changing to fluff, her stomach giving way to the hug.

Her fascination with this new sensation was short-lived as she felt the fur reaching her head. Her face grew a snout, her nose replaced with a tiny black triangle and her mouth being stitched into a little frown. Her ears moved to the top of her head, molding into black cloth triangles on either side. Her eyes became stitched on slants, which she could somehow still see out of. As the changes slowed, she felt her body begin to get smaller. She started shrinking down, her clothes slipping off in the process. Her already oversized sweater covered her entire body now, to Ellen’s amusement. Once Ruby reached a foot or so tall, Ellen released her hug and moved the newly made plush to her hands.

Staring at the little cat, Ellen smiled. “Somehow, you’re even cuter than when I met you.”

Ellen pulled off the rest of Ruby’s clothes and shrunk them down, stuffing them in the backpack Ruby originally had on.

Ruby was protesting in her head. What happened? Why is Ellen so big and why can’t she move?! Was Ellen's comment about magic real?! Ellen flipped her around and hugged her from behind, letting Ruby get a close up view of the witch’s next victim.

Jade watched the whole scene in horror. She’d just witnessed her best friend reduced to a mere plushie in Ellen’s arms. She wanted to do something, but couldn’t even move. Her fears heightened as Ellen made her way over.

“You’re such an intimidating girl, Jade,” Ellen said with a smirk. “But I bet you’re just a little softy on the inside.”

Ellen held her toy up to Jade and booped the girl on the nose, passing her magic through the doll. Immediately, Jade witnessed the whole world grow giant around her as she diminished in size. Her clothes slid off of her, burying her under them. As she began to panic, she felt pink fur spread all over her body. Her arms and legs became little stubs as her ears rounded off at the top of her head. She grew a snout, her nose becoming a little plastic heart and her mouth stitched into a smile. As the changes subsided, her legs gave out and she softly landed face first onto the ground.

Ellen gently put Ruby down and pulled Jade’s leather jacket up. Under the jacket was an adorable pink teddy bear, a stark contrast from the girl who had just been wearing those clothes. Ellen scooped Jade up and pulled her into a tight hug.

“AHH, you came out even cuter than I was hoping!” Ellen said excitedly.

Ellen bent down and shrunk Jade’s clothes, stuffing all but her leather jacket into the backpack. She put the tiny jacket on the bear, completing her toy.

As Ellen pushed Jade’s plush arms through the holes of the jacket, Jade realized just how little control she had of the situation; she really had just become this witch’s toy and couldn’t do anything about it! She was completely flabbergasted. Everything was so big, and soft, and so weird! She had no idea what to think, surprised she could even do that in her current form.

Ellen picked Ruby up from the floor, and with both of her new toys in hand, walked over to Stacy. She grinned at her helpless roommate and showed the dolls off.

“They came out pretty great,” Ellen began. “Who would have guessed you had such cute friends just waiting to join in on the fun!” She laughed a bit and touched Stacy, letting the immobile girl talk.

“W-why them?” Stacy said. “Why did you have to get my friends involved in your game?” Stacy was visibly upset. She’d just watched her two closest friends get turned into plushies, and she knew she was next.

“Well, I thought about what you said…” Ellen began as she stared at her new toys. “And I realized that you were right. If you couldn’t tell your friends what was happening, you could lose them…” Ellen seemed a little more serious than usual.

“How does turning them into toys help?!” Stacy yelled.

“If they experience what you’ve been experiencing, then you can be honest with them!” Ellen replied. “You get to be honest with your friends and I get to keep my favorite toy! It’s a win-win!”

“... How does that work out for me, exactly?” Stacy said, dumbfounded. “Isn’t it hard to hang out if we’re all dolls?”

“Well I’m not gonna keep you like this forever, silly!” Ellen chuckled a bit.

“... I guess if they like the experience, I could start inviting them over…” Stacy thought. She looked at Ellen with resignation. “Fine, I guess I can’t really argue with a witch…”

Ellen smiled. “I’ll turn you into a toy less often, if that helps!”

For Stacy, that oddly did. Ellen’s priorities are twisted and it’s obvious the witch isn’t really sure what friends are, but she tried to do something nice for Stacy in her own way. Whether it was selfishly motivated or not is a question for another time, as Stacy felt Ellen brush her cheek.

“One more toy, and then we can have some fun tonight” Ellen whispered in Stacy’s ear as she began changing.

Unlike the other two, Stacy’s transformation was almost instant. With a poof of smoke, a plush bunny appeared in Stacy’s place, floating a few feet off of the ground. After a moment, the she fell to the ground, surrounded by her old clothes. Ellen shrunk them, put them away, and picked up her newly stuffed roommate.

“That went quicker than usual…” Ellen chuckled. “Guess I really missed you, huh?”

Ellen pulled Stacy into a tight hug, and despite her internal protesting, Stacy was content. This wasn’t the way she thought today was going to turn out, but at least her friends were there to experience Ellen’s weirdness too.

Just as Ellen started walking out the store, she stopped.

“WAIT!” Ellen yelled, pulling Stacy up to her face with tears in her eyes. “You were my ride home…”

Stacy internally sighed. Hard to believe such a powerful girl is this careless...