

Madeline K Mahoney, Age 10

Life as an Ant

When Maddie woke up one morning from a night filled with strange dreams, she looked down at herself lying in bed and saw that she was changed into a tiny little ant.

Maddie tried to gasp, but nothing came out because she was a little tiny ant. And little tiny ants obviously couldn't make human noises.

Maddie got out of bed and as she did so, her pajamas fell off of her. They were way too big now and besides, ants didn't wear clothes. As Maddie started to walk toward her bedroom door, she realized that she wouldn't be able to get out of her room. The door handle would be way too hard to reach. She thought that maybe she could squeeze under the door though. So that's what she did. When Maddie had gotten out from under the door, she reached the hallway. As she was approaching the staircase, a horrible thought came to her, there's no way I'll be able to get down the stairs. This is so scary. How do ants live this way?

Luckily, Maddie's dad was coming out of his room and Maddie hitched a ride perched on his foot.

As Maddie was walking through the kitchen she was almost crushed by her sister. But Maddie jumped out of the way just in time.

"This is terrible," Maddie thought. "It's so hard being an ant. There must be a way to turn human again."

Then she remembered something: "In my dream last night I was an ant. Maybe if I daydream about being a human, I'll turn into a person again."

So Maddie thought and thought about being human and the thoughts turned into a daydream. She was awakened by her mom shaking her.

Maddie was standing on all fours on the kitchen floor. She was human.

"Yes!" Maddie exclaimed. "It's so nice to be able to walk again."

"What happened?" Maddie's sister said. "One minute there was an ant on the floor, the next minute, it was YOU!"

"You'll find out later," Maddie said. "I have a long story to tell."