Where The Wild Things Are

Maurice Sendak

The night wore his wolf suit and made mischief of one kind

and another

his mother called him "WILD THING!" and Max said "I'LL EAT YOU UP!" so he was sent to bed without eating anything.

That very night in Max's room a forest grew

and grew-

and grew until his ceiling hung with vines and the walls became the world all ground

and an ocean tumbled by with a private boat for Max and he sailed off through night and day

and in and out of weeks and almost over a year to where the wild things are.

And when he came to the place where the wild things are they roared their terrible roars and gnashed their terrible teeth

and rolled their terrible eyes and showed their terrible claws

till Max said "BE STILL!" and tamed with the magic trick

of staring into all their yellow eyes without blinking once and they were frightened and called him the most wild thing of all

and made him king of all wild things.

"And now," cried Max, "let the wild rumpus start!"

"Now stop!" Max said and sent the wild things off to bed without their supper. And Max the king of all wild things was lonely and wanted to be where someone loved him best of all.

Then all around from far away across the world he smelled good things to eat so he gave up being king of where the wild things are.

But the wild things cried, "Oh please don't gowe'll eat you up-we love you so!" And Max said, "No!"

The wild things roared their terrible roars and gnashed their terrible teeth and rolled their terrible eyes and showed their terrible claws but Max stepped into his private boat and waved good-bye

and sailed back over a year and in and out of weeks and through a day

and into the night of his very own room where he found his supper waiting for him

and it was still hot.