

Jessica's Big Little World - Outline

"Sleepover"

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Description: Jessica has a sleepover at her grandparents house and must survive the night without her plush toy, Small Uncle.

ACT I

INT. JESSICA'S BEDROOM - DAY

We open in JESSICA's room as she prepares for a sleepover at her grandparents house and summons SMALL UNCLE to life. "Small Uncle, I'm so excited." Small Uncle pops to life. He's sooo excited too! "Wait, what are we doing?"

"I asked and asked and today we're going to grandma and grandpa's for a sleepover!"

Small Uncle looves to sleep! He dives on the bed and pretends to snooze. Jessica giggles. Then Small Uncle sits straight up: But how are they gonna sleep if they're not in Jessica's bed? And not in her room with all of her stuff? Jessica assures him Grandma Jojo and Grandpa Earl will have a room for them to sleep in, AND best of all she gets to pack things from home to take there: She points to the backpack before her. *Whew, good!* Small Uncle starts picking up lots of items from around the room! He's gonna take everything! And the window. Does she think they can fit the window into her backpack? He's gonna try! Jessica giggles, they probably won't be able to fit *everything* in her bag.

Just then, Nicole enters to help Jessica get ready as Small Uncle returns to toy form.

Nicole checks in: This will be Jessica's first time sleeping over at her grandparents without her brothers – is she sure she'll be ok? Jessica says she's a big kid. It's going to be great! *Plus*, she never has a problem falling asleep because she's got Small Uncle with her. Nicole is impressed that it looks like Jessica has already picked out some items to take with her – "Oh and just one shoe?" Jessica admits Small Uncle picked that one. Jessica and Nicole finish packing things away — adding another shoe — just as Duane calls that it's time to go.

"Coming, Daddy!" Jessica shouts as she packs one last item into her bag. "Ready?" Nicole asks. "I've got EVERYTHING! I am ready... to... go!!" Jessica dances. She exits...and accidentally leaves Small Uncle, sitting on her bed in toy form.

ACT II

INT. GRANDMA JOJO AND GRANDPA EARL'S - DAY

Jessica arrives at her grandparent's house: "Grandma JoJo, Grandpa Earl! I'm here for my sleepover!" Grandma JoJo and Grandpa Earl rush over to give her shuga shuga's – their versions of hugs and kisses – and she giggles. "Oh and guess what? Small Uncle's here too!" She reaches into her overnight bag, "I know he's in here...somewhere!"

Jessica tosses items high up (travel pouch, pajamas, hairbrush, socks!) as her grandparents hustle to catch them, before turning the bag upside down and...suddenly realizing she forgot Small Uncle! She panics!

IMAGINATION SEQUENCE: She imagines him in her bedroom, sitting with the other toys, and playing a card game of Go Fishies. Small Uncle suddenly realizes "Oh no, Jessica forgot me!"

Nicole offers to go back to get him, but Jessica thinks she'll be fine on her own - she is a big kid, after all. Nicole assures Jessica she'll make sure Small Uncle is okay.

INT. GRANDMA JOJO AND GRANDPA EARL'S - DAY - VARIOUS

Jessica spends the day with Grandma and Granddad. She manages to have lots of fun, even without Small Uncle. In the living room, she picks up a funny-looking old record, with an elaborately dressed band on the cover. Grandma Jojo says it's The FUNK-A-RELICS, one of her favorite bands from back in her day. Grandma Jojo puts the record on and dances with Jessica to the music. "Get funky, Jessica!" Jessica does a funky chicken dance that cracks Grandma Jojo up. Grandma Jojo does Jessica's dance, too.

In the backyard, Jessica does some gardening with Grandpa Earl. She pulls weeds, but then spots a grasshopper. She tries to catch it, but it hops onto Earl's face, and he falls over and laughs. Then they both hunt for it and Earl manages to nab it, and they get a chance to look at it before setting it free. Next, she plays hide and seek with her grandparents -- hiding in their closet before yelling out "GAH! I'm stuck in the suits!" Grandma Jojo and Grandpa Earl come to rescue her from the assortment of jackets, ties and hats—her arms are tangled in a blazer— and chuckle at her predicament.

Throughout the day, Jessica misses Small Uncle a little, but she's distracted enough by the fun to not worry much. As she helps Grandma Jojo plate a jello mold cake from the refrigerator – which squishes around when she touches it – Jessica says Small Uncle loves squishy things. Jessica wonders aloud what he might be doing.

IMAGINATION SEQUENCE: Small Uncle sits at the tea table in Jessica's room with the other toys, sipping tea and sighing wistfully, "Ohhh, Jessica loves tea. I wonder what she's doing."

Jessica tells Grandma Jojo that she hopes Small Uncle isn't missing her too much, as they put the wiggly jello cake slices on plates. "How about we save Small Uncle a slice for when you see him tomorrow?" Jessica smiles, "He'd like that! The wiggliest piece!"

INT. GRANDMA JOJO AND GRANDPA EARL'S GUEST ROOM - NIGHT

Then it's time for bed. Grandma Jojo and Grandpa Earl say goodnight, and leave Jessica alone. She has trouble getting comfortable in the guest bed with all of its frilly embellishments including all manner of bed pillows (Euro, standard, boudoir, and neckroll pillows!), shams, duvets, even a bedscarf! Jessica sinks into the bed, claws herself out, and tosses and turns in a series of comedic ways before finally calling out for Grandma Jojo, who removes a few pillows and gives her a softer blanket. Jessica sighs. She wonders if Small Uncle has gotten ready for bed yet.

IMAGINATION SEQUENCE: Small Uncle slips under the covers beside a few other plushies, crowded in the bed. "Guys, move over. Thank you! I sure hope Jessica's sleeping okay."

In the guest bedroom, Jessica hears some strange noises that startle her (*Sweeep, tick-tick-tick and creaaak*), "Heeeey! Quiet, please, whatever you are! I'm trying to get some sleep!" She eventually calls Grandpa Earl in. Grandpa Earl wiggles his ears, then Jessica's, who giggles. He helps her listen to discover that the sounds the house makes aren't so scary at all. The sweeping sound against the house turns out to be the branches of the Oak Tree blowing against the house! The tick-tick-tick is just the sound of an old water heater. And the creak, creak, creak is the sound of the wooden floors at night. Jessica says Small Uncle usually helps her fall asleep when she hears sounds.

Just then, Grandma Jojo returns with someone who she thinks might help Jessica fall asleep. Jessica is hopeful as Grandma Jojo pulls a raggedy looking plush toy from behind her back. It's Duane's old plush toy, "Big Cousin." She might not be Small Uncle, but maybe she can help? Grandma Jojo makes Big Cousin do a little flip as Jessica giggles. She belonged to Duane when he was around her age. Big Cousin's definitely not as soft as Small Uncle, but she'll do. Jessica thanks Grandma Jojo as she exits the room.

BIG COUSIN pops to life and talks to Jessica using old vernacular "Hey! What a Funky Fresh day!" Jessica says she sounds like her dad and thanks her for trying to help but she's definitely not Small Uncle. Big cousin pops back to toy form "Okay! Peace out!" .

Jessica looks around the guest room and gets sad. She misses her room and most of all, she misses Small Uncle!

ACT III

INT. GRANDMA JOJO AND GRANDPA EARL'S GUEST ROOM - NIGHT

Grandma Jojo and Grandpa Earl come in to check on Jessica and find her still awake and with a case of the 'saddies.' She's missing Small Uncle so much that she can't go to sleep. They stay and talk to Jessica. They sympathize with her having trouble. It's not easy sleeping in a new place, especially when you're missing your best buddy. They decide to talk about the good things they did today like dancing to music, gardening and playing hide and seek. And talk about some nice things they could do tomorrow. And as Jessica thinks good thoughts, she gets sleepy and falls asleep. Grandma Jojo and Grandpa Earl smile, turn out the lights, and exit.

EXT. GRANDMA JOJO AND GRANDPA EARL'S HOME - DAY

The next morning, Jessica is feeling well rested and happy. When Nicole returns to pick her up, she's now a little sad to be leaving Grandma and Grandpa's. She had so much fun and her grandparents did, too. They want her to come back for a sleepover anytime and give her some shuga-shuga's to go!

INT. JESSICA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Jessica returns home to Small Uncle who is happy to see her. He had a little trouble sleeping himself. But Jessica says she can help him with that! And she saved him some of Grandma Jojo's yummy gelatin cake. "Oooh squishy!" Small Uncle pokes at the jiggly dessert, thrilled!