

This Massive Universe Hannah Kennedy

When Juno is abducted by aliens and shown the wonders of the Universe, their mind is blown. Back on Earth, Juno struggles to adjust to normal life. In this speech, Juno explains their feelings to their best friend, who is worried about their behaviour.

JUNO: I know I've been acting weird! I know! I'm not... I'm not stupid. Okay? I know sometimes I seem like I'm mentally on another planet. And I know you probably want to know why. You're my best friend. I get it. If you were acting like this, I would want to know why too. But... I don't think you would believe me if I did tell you.

And don't say you would! Because this is a big one, this is a massive one. This one is, honestly, genuinely off the scale. And I'm not just saying that, I promise. I'm not just being vague for the fun of it to create some sort of air of mystery around me because, truthfully, and I really, really mean this, if I thought you would believe me, I would tell you.

Come on. Don't look at me like that. Don't you roll your eyes at me! I have been friends with you since we were six years old, do you really think I'd be trying to pull the wool over your eyes?

Fine! Fine. Fine, I'll tell you. But you can't tell anyone.

Okay. So... You know how I disappeared for a couple of weeks over the summer? And everyone thought I'd been kidnapped. And then I turned up in the woods just a couple of miles outside of town? And I told everyone I couldn't remember where I went? Well, I do remember. And I was kidnapped. I was abducted. I was abducted by aliens.

And yeah, I know that sounds... well, it sounds... It sounds like I've completely let my imagination run away, but it's the truth. I was abducted by aliens, and the things I saw... They, these aliens, they showed me the universe. They showed me how amazing and different and scary and...massive this universe is. Things that I don't think I will ever truly understand.

And then they brought me home. Back here. To my normal life, with my normal family, where I go to my normal school, and I hang out with my normal friends.

And nobody understands, nobody gets it. I know so much, and I feel so, so alone. I look up at the night sky and see all those stars. And I feel so tiny.

So, I'm sorry if I seem a little out of sorts. I'm trying to... I don't know. I'm trying to find meaning again when I'm so insignificant, and this universe is so big.