

Protist
by Josie Doefer

The house smelled of rotten eggs and burnt toasties. I really feared for my life at this point. Really, I hadn't meant for it to get this far. There appeared to be glob creatures in every corner. They were hanging from the ceiling and leaking their musk. They were gliding slowly across the floor leaking more musk. They were in every room and on every floor in the entire house.

My parents are so going to kill me, I thought to myself.

It had started as a simple experiment. I was only trying to prove the possibility of creating macrobiotic organisms with harmless aerobic bacterium. Yeah, I suppose I might have been overreaching my means a little. Now I had foot-long single celled organisms everywhere in the house leaving rancid bodily fluids all over the carpet. My parents are *so* going to kill me.

I started gathering all the jars and empty boxes I could find. I piled them up in the middle of the kitchen. I started plopping the little buggers into the jars with a pair of tongs. They were rather disgusting little creatures. They were essentially little balls of mucus with phalanges. There were a great many massive little germs running loose around the house. I was trying very hard not to harm any of them because they were my first big breakthrough since I had started. They were the largest bacteria I had as of yet created. They were the culmination of months of testing and research. They were starting to eat my dog's food.

I hadn't told my parents what I was doing. I didn't think they would approve. So I suppose I was lucky in the sense that my parents were out for the day and would not see this horrifying mess.

I wasn't exactly sure what I would do now that I had collected all the creatures as far as I could figure. They reproduced exceedingly fast so their population had to be constantly monitored especially at their size. I had slept in, thus the population had grown out of their enclosures and had escaped.

I started my cleanup by studying the specimens and then eliminating the excess population. I put the rest of the creatures back into the tanks and went back upstairs. The house was covered in musk slime and smelled awful. I had a lot of work ahead of me before my parents got home. At least none of the creatures got out of the house. . . I hope.