



# VIKING RUNES

Viewmont High School's Literary Magazine — Bountiful, Utah — October 2020

READERS BEWARE—YOU'RE IN FOR A SCARE! FEATURING AMAZING ARTWORK BY AYUMI DURRANT!

## TWO-SENTENCE HORROR STORIES

While on the phone with the dad of the children I'm babysitting I say, "The clown statue in their room is really unsettling." The dad stops and says, "We don't own a clown statue..."

— TIERNAN LYNN

The little girl skipped down the sidewalk singing, "Step on a crack and you'll break your mama's back; step on a line and you'll break your father's spine!" The father watched his wife's back break, then his neighbor Phil's.

— JAMES RAWLINS



The freezer door wouldn't open, it seemed like the handle was jammed, no matter how hard she kicked. Her body was found one week later by the opening shift employee.

She woke up from her long nap in the late evening. The essay was due in 10 minutes.

After finishing the first season of his new favorite show he went to watch the second. The show had been canceled last year.

He cut the red wire on the bomb, and the timer stopped. You could see the fire and smoke from miles away.



Running late to his interview, he accidentally spilled coffee on a man on the street. The manager was wiping his brown-stained shirt off when he walked in the door.

– JANE O'BERRY

While I was on a work trip alone, the calls between me and my wife seemed strange, so I decided to ask her how our son was doing, and she said he was doing fine. We don't have a son.

I saw a bug on the wall and ran to grab my shoe from the other room. When I got back, the bug was gone.

– MEGAN STEPHENS

Lately, I wake up screaming to horrible nightmares. They keep getting worse; last night it was cannibal clowns and tonight it was the College Board.

– STELLA WADSWORTH



I always wondered what the gate kept out, what terrible creatures it was protecting us from. I never once thought that it was keeping us from escaping.

Ballet was something I always loved doing, so when I received a free pair of pointe shoes, I was excited. Now the pointe shoes were red with my blood.

My mother said that ghosts couldn't be touched but humans could. I went to give her a hug and my arms went right through her.

– LINA ZEH

Searching for my daughter was beginning to be a lost cause. I will just have to pick up a new one ahead of schedule.

– SYDNEY DORRANCE

I laid in my bed thinking it was plugged in. Then woke up, and there it was—dead.

– BENJAMIN HARRIS



I smiled for the man taking my picture. Then he cursed, turning to his partner, saying that there was a distortion in his photograph of the cemetery.

She smiled, and when she did, an odd thing happened. Everyone realized they were dead, and had been for some time.

It had been a pleasant enough day. I set out to change that.

– **SOPHIA SPENCER**

“I was in electrical the entire ti—”

“I *saw* you vent!”

I woke up that morning to the scariest sound I’ve ever heard. The honking of the school bus outside.

– **EMMA BAXTER**

I felt the wind in my hair and the speed of falling. With a loud gasp I hit the floor and found myself looking up next to my bed.

– **EVA BILLS**

I sat on the bench watching my children play. Too bad they can’t see me.

I’m a fool for not stopping the microwave a second early. I can hear my dad’s door opening.

They kept telling him he was under six feet. He didn’t think they meant dirt.

– **IAN BADGER**

Since I was trying to overcome my fear, I smashed the spider with my bare hand. That’s when the babies came pouring out.

I poured out the last of the Lucky Charms, then added milk. I didn’t realize until after the first bite that the milk had gone bad.

– **ANONYMOUS**





