

Autumn B

12<sup>th</sup> grade

My slumber comes and plunges

The walls were ivory-ivory!

My slumber comes and plunges, lurching around the corners are dreadful creatures, whispering in my ear in their attempt to make me lose my slumber.

Sleeping only makes them taunt me more like five-year-olds trying to get candy from their mothers but instead, they're trying to make me an insomniac.

“Those cacodemons”

The walls were once an ivory color but now we're an inky poison. Screams were increasing and so was my insomnia. I just wanted to sleep. If they stop tormenting me, maybe I could get some sleep. They always make me rock back and forth until I dare to scream back but I never do.

“Shut up, don't get any closer, I'll- I'll hurt you this time!”

I could only say it quietly or else they would enjoy it too much and taunt me further. Their goal is to always make me go insane in this ivory-colored room especially when the walls turn an inky poison. The footprints on the floor appeared again and every time that horrific thing walks it starts to sound like it's stepping on piles of bones. They feel no sympathy that's why they scream and laugh-laugh in my face and all around me.

That cacodemon appears after the screams and laughs. Those vermilion bumps, with scaly fingers, contorted fangs, and that breath that dreadful breath! I can always smell it miles away, its tongue was always lined with white flakes. The walls were once ivory-ivory colored now they are black with blood oozing out of the crack. Again? It's getting closer. Always closer.

"Go, Go back to hell you-you cacodemon!"

Most of the time that thing tries to talk back to me but it just sounds like a high-pitched scream and mumbles. I often wonder why they attack me, and what I do to get an inordinate amount of insomnia. While I rock in the corner of my bed it always stands on top of me looking down screaming, laughing, and taunting me. All I want to do is sleep but instead, that thing is trying to snatch my soul. If I look into its eyes then my soul is gone.

"Quiet be quiet!" .

Silence? Finally? It finally stopped after months of torturing me. Then, that cacodemon seized my forearm with its scaly fingers. Screams and laughs were getting louder-louder as I realized the cacodemon was pulling me forward. Again? That was a mistake. Tonight is the night that I will kill that cacodemon. Stab it in the heart with the fork I got to keep at breakfast, and bits of shards of glass I slowly collected and put together, I sharpened it into a knife a month ago. If I couldn't get it to stop taunting me then I would have to kill it with something sharp-sharp! I could only sharpen a fork so much with my nail file and put together small shards of glass.

As I picked up my loose hand I started stabbing the cacodemon. I knew I had to do it over and over again until I could feel its blood oozing down my makeshift knife.

“Die, Die, Die!”

The walls were once an ivory color! My insomnia was making me part ways with my sanity and so were the screams and laughs. All I could do was scream once the cacodemon was on the floor with the inky blood smothered on my hands. I felt joy as I played in it while the cacodemon lay lifeless on the floor.

“I finally dared to kill you, after making me lose my slumber.”

However, the screams were not stopping. Why! Was it my screams? If I were a cacodemon then I would have to kill myself to make the screams stop. Before I could pick up my DIY knife again to make my ending decision I heard the noise of something, like something was stepping on bones but instead, it sounded like they were falling down a pile of bones. There were more of those cacodemon and they grabbed me all at once making my skin crawl. At that moment I was in the air not able to move my legs or arms. Screams flushed my mind trying to make me deaf.

The room was gone, the walls were inky, not ivory. What happened to the ivory color!? Around every corner were cacodemon putting their scaly fingers on the walls and slithering behind me like they were all going to take my soul.

Screams got louder, My screams? No, it was theirs, the laughs and the taunting made me want to kill them all.

“I’ll kill all of you demons, I’ll make you regret all of the time you’ve opened your mouths!”.

Another room? The walls were ivory, not black. It was a chair? Do they want to snatch my soul? The chair had straps on it, they were going to trap me. I was placed in the chair and my arms and legs were buckled. I could taste their coffee-like breath. I couldn’t let this happen to me. The workers usually put me into the silent room at night but these cacodemons took me out and trapped me onto a chair with my arms and feet tied down. I felt a sharp pain go into my arm making my skin crawl and shiver.

The screams slowly got quieter. My soul? My eyes started slowly closing... fading into the darkness.

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“What are we going to do with her now? She’s already in this psychiatric hospital so what more can we do? She just injured one of our workers, No! She tried to kill her.” Daina said.

“I know, the ambulance is here and they will take care of Jena, don’t be so surprised. I mean she did kill her brother because she thought he was a so-called cacodemon. We also restrained her in that chair and sedated her so she would calm down.” Stephanie said.

“Yeah, it’s terrifying, Jena was just trying to give her medicine, we should’ve paid more attention to her storytelling and her screams that keep the other patients awake at night”. She pocketed all of her medications. Diana said.