Avery Brinker
Grade: 07 Age: 12
Mail: W
Phone 3

Taste of the Tormented

The mansion was adorned in fashionable vines, with an admirable front lawn, filled to the brim with multicolored flowers and fountains. A golden fence surrounded the exterior of it, beautiful swirls engraved into the metal, seemingly done by a professional. Zara had adjusted the bridge of her glasses, silently inspecting the aspect of the mansion before her. "Is this the place?" she had asked, looking over at her friend Zoe. Zoe's mouth was slightly agape, the mansion looking way bigger than it did in the listing pictures. "I.. Think so?" Zoe replied, shifting her weight to her other foot before continuing, glancing at the multiple cars parked around theirs. "It looks like a lot more people got here before us." she silently added, turning her attention back to Zara.

"Do you think the food's still hot?" she had asked desperately. "How would you expect me to know that?" Zoe replied harshly, but quickly changed up her tone afterwards. "Let's just go inside." She had prompted, leading Zara by the hand towards the front gates. The front gates were very large in size, coated in a glossy-material which caused the sun to reflect off of it. With one swift motion, Zoe had pushed open the gates, and began dragging Zara along the path that led to the mansion. Zara's gaze had shifted to the finely-cut grass, each blade being verdant, full of color and life. In certain proportions of the yard, were colorful batches of flowers. There wasn't a specific color-scheme, being a wide variety of kaleidoscopic colors. It was appealing at first glance, but the more and more you looked at them, the stranger they seemed to become.

Zara and Zoe eventually made it to the front doors, which were still open. They both glanced inside, seeing how the interior of the mansion was precisely, but beautifully decorated. Many people were herded inside, most of them looking foreign, having fancy dresses and suits. Zara was the first one to notice the long tables that were adorned with food. Most of the food was surprisingly meat, but there were some desserts on the side. "Look! They have a chocolate fountain!" Zoe yelled immaturely, like a child when they saw a toy they wanted. She quickly ran, and disappeared into the crowd, supposedly going to the fountain, leaving Zara by herself at the front doors. She had let out a long, strained sigh once she had lost Zoe in the crowd of people. Right before she was about to walk in the

mansion, a tall masculine figure had greeted her. The man was wearing a regular suit and tie with dress-shoes. His short, brunette hair was neatly combed back, most likely with the help of hair gel.

"Good morning, guest." He said softly, the words sliding out from his mouth like butter. She quickly replied. "Good morning." she said, taking a moment to find her own voice. Something about the man seemed very odd to her, but she couldn't exactly place her finger on it. "I'm assuming you're here because of our house listing?" He had asked, Zara silently nodding at the question. "Yes. I originally came with another person.." she had paused before continuing. "But, they already went to explore the house." The man seemed to understand, silently listening to Zara's words. "Ah, I'm sorry to hear that." He started, his voice laced with fake-pity. "I hope you have a *wonderful* time here." He said in a more sly tone, dissipating in the crowd of people behind him. The man's words had put Zara on edge, completely frozen for a second or so before she walked into the crowd herself.

She somehow managed to squeeze her way to the food table, getting shoved by many other attendees of the house listing. She had glanced at the large variety of meats, some of which she'd never seen before. She was never a really big meat person to begin with. However, a certain section caught her attention. It was a large, neatly-stacked pile of pastries, filled to the brim with some kind of red paste. Zara reached out one of her hands to the pile, hesitantly grabbing the pastry at the top of the stack. She had examined it for a moment, squeezing it slightly with her index and middle finger. She brought it up to her lips, before taking a small bite out of it. A sudden burst of flavor had filled her mouth, feeling the chunky-paste slide down her throat. The meat inside the pastry was unlike any other meat(s) she'd had before, having an extremely sweet and soft texture to it, easy to bite into.

She pulled the small meat-pastry away from her lips, staring down at it with a mixture of confusion and curiosity. "..What kind of meat even is this?" Zara silently muttered to herself, now not wanting to finish it due to the odd and chunky texture of the paste. She had glanced around with the bun in hand, making sure no one was watching her. She had quickly dropped the paste-filled pastry on the tiled floor, kicking it with her shoe so that it would slide underneath the pearly-white tablecloth. She used the back of her hand, wiping off the strange paste from her lips. She looked back up at the pile of pastries, slightly grimacing at the sight of it, remembering the bittersweet taste it had. It made her wonder if the other food they had to offer tasted the same. Another odd detail she had noticed was the fact that all of the other guests weren't taking any of the meat.

Zara had finally turned her attention away from the odd meat-pastries, trying to find Zoe amongst the crowds of people. She pushed her way towards the dessert-section, but more specifically heading towards the chocolate fountain. She had eventually spotted Zoe, sticking out like a sore thumb within the crowd. She had chocolate adorning her lips and chin, causing some eyebrows of the people around her to raise. Zara had anxiously walked up to her, her

cheeks stuffed completely with strawberries and marshmallows. "Hey Zoe.. I think something's off about this place." She had muttered, Zoe seemingly not caring. Once she had swallowed the food in her mouth, she turned her head to Zara. "Why do you say that? You're always such a worry-wart." she nagged, somewhat as a joke, though some words were serious. "You should just relax and have a good time," she started. "It is free food." Zara had sighed once more after hearing Zoe's words.

"You're.." she had gone silent, her gaze going to the tiles that enhanced the flooring. "You're right." Zara had eventually murmured, not finding a point to argue with Zoe. She didn't want to ruin her experience with her uneasiness, she figured it would be selfish of her. "I'll just try to enjoy it." Zara said, before turning her gaze away from Zoe for a moment. She kept shoving chocolate-covered sweets into her mouth, acting as if it were the best thing in the world. "That's the spirit!" she said confidently, though her speech was somewhat unintelligible since of the food currently in her mouth. Zara had slowly slid away from Zoe's presence, not wanting to watch her shove food in her mouth any longer. She would probably complain to her over text the next day about how much weight she had gained.

Zara had glanced at the other desserts that were displayed on the table, she saw cakes, cookies, biscuits, puddings... Her mouth had begun to water, but she quickly suppressed the feeling. If she gave into it, she'd probably end up eating too much and getting an upset stomach. It was then when she had turned her head away from the desserts, realizing that it was raining outside. The thick raindrops danced violently on the wide assortment of window-panes, each drop making a loud ping against the glass. A look of defeat washed over her expression, she had just gotten her hair done. Now, it was going to get drenched and ruined when she stepped outside. "I didn't know it was supposed to storm.." she had whined in despair. The previously opened doors were now shut, probably to keep the rain out. Or at least that's what Zara had thought. There were two visible padlocks on the doors, both of which being a dark shade of cerulean. It was an odd color for a padlock, since they were usually a dull gray.

She figured she could just stay inside until the rain stopped, the hosters of the open house listing probably wouldn't mind. Zara glanced at Zoe once more, seeing how she somehow didn't notice it was raining yet. She was about to go back over to her to inform her about it, until her phone began to buzz in her pocket, which had caused Zara to jump due to the sudden vibration. She took it out, and stared at the bold font on her screen. [The National Weather Service has issued a FLASH FLOOD WARNING for the following counties or areas: Geneva County, AL; at 10:14 AM. On FEB 7, 2025. Effective until 1:00 PM.] She had sighed, tapping the "close" button on the warning so it would go away, not paying much attention to it. She slid her phone back in her hoodie pocket, making sure she shut it down fully so it wouldn't go off again.

Zara began to push through the crowd of people, going to explore the house more. The mansion had two curved staircases, leading to the second floor. The railings were adorned in yellow paint, flower designs chiseled into the sides of it. She had held on to the railing to ensure she didn't fall or slip while she climbed, each individual stair having thick red carpet on it, making Zara feel luxurious while she walked over it. She had eventually made it to the second floor of the mansion. Surprisingly, there was rarely anyone on the second floor. Did no one notice the staircases? It would be hard not to, since they took up a large portion of the mansion. Zara tried her best to ignore it, remembering Zoe's words from earlier. The second floor mainly consisted of what seemed to be bedrooms, each in which being ornamented with fancy sofas and beds. However, one room in particular caught her attention. It was at the end of the Northwest hallway, a singular, closed door, a different contrast from all of the others.

There weren't any other rooms in that specific hallway except for that one, being drenched in an unwelcoming feeling, as if mentally screaming "run away" to Zara. She took a few steps towards the door, despite her gut feeling not to. There were a few portraits in the hallway, each person strangely being from World War II. Zara didn't pay much attention to the portraits, however, she could feel many holes being burned through her head as if they were all watching her. She was a few feet away from the door, right before she was about to take another appalled step, a hand had firmly gripped her shoulder, causing her to jump. She slowly turned her head around, seeing the man from earlier. His expression was more stern, staring down at Zara with a deafening expression.

The man then spoke, his grip subconsciously tightening on her shoulder. "Guests aren't allowed in this area." he said firmly, spinning Zara around to face the other direction before she could manage to spout a word in reply, shoving her gently but managing a surging force at the same time. "Bye-bye now." He added before Zara could speak. Zara had gotten frustrated since the man was pushing her around, turning back to face his direction, matching up her expression to his stern one. "Why can't I go in that specific room?" she had asked the man, her eyes slightly narrowing in suspicion. "All of the other doors are open except for this one." The man didn't seem to take her tone well, taking a threatening step towards her. "Because I said so." he retorted with a poker-face, his tone unwavering.

Zara's eyes narrowed further, staring up at the man. The atmosphere was so thick you could probably cut it with a knife. Zara was the one to speak first, attempting to keep her tone firm but failing. "You're not intimidating me, so stop trying." She replied, her tone dripping with uneasiness. The man let out a dull laugh, coated in sarcasm. "Who said I was trying to intimidate you?" he replied, his stern tone softening but still evident in his voice. "I just don't. Want you. Near that door." With that one sentence, the man's tone returned. "Why don't you want me near the door?" Zara sneered, asking the question again. "Why can't you just listen?" He disputed, giving Zara another shove, this time near her chest, causing her to stumble back. Taking a deep breath, she calmed herself, not wanting to make a scene.

"My apologies." she eventually said in response, taking a step back from the man before walking away, and back down the stairs. As she held the railing, she felt more uncomfortable than she did before.

Mrs. Mathias was sitting silently on the edge of the bed, watching as her husband combed back his hair. "Everything's going according to plan, dear." she said in an angeletic tone, the words sliding off of her tongue elegantly. Mr. Mathias let out a soft sigh, "Yes, dear." he replied in a strained voice. Her feet were dangling off of the bed, swiftly moving from side to side. "I believe they already put out a warning for the storm.." she began, opening the drawer in her nightstand, taking out a small makeup-pallet with a wide assortment of colors. "I wonder if Mr. Munthu has locked the doors yet?" Mrs. Mathias then gently opened the pallet, grabbing the small, pink beauty-blender and began applying some of the makeup to her face. She glanced in the nearby mirror, seeing how her blonde hair rested on her shoulders. "He's usually good at keeping the guests inside until the storm arrives. I wouldn't worry about anything, dear." Mr. Mathias replied reassuringly, hoping to put his wife's worries at ease.

Suddenly, a faint knock on the bedroom door rang through the room, which had caught Mr. Mathias off guard. However, he had quickly realized the knock was from Mr. Munthu, since it was so soft and light. Each resident in the household had a certain knocking-style. Mr. Mathias knocked on the door twice, one soft, while the other was more rough. Mrs. Mathias knocked on the door three times, all of them being light. While Mr. Munthu only did one, soft knock. "Come in." Mr. Mathias said in response to the knocking, Mrs. Mathias was too focused on her makeup to really care about anything. Then, the door opened, revealing a concerned Mr. Munthu on the other side. He walked in the room with a few strides, making sure to shut and lock the door behind himself.

"One of the..." Mr. Munthu started, speaking with hesitance. "One of the guests almost got into the butchering room." He eventually said, his voice laced with professionalism. Mrs. Mathias was the one who replied first, in a loud and sharp tone. "What?!" She shrieked in surprise. "What do you mean one of the guests almost got in the butchering room?!" Mr. Mathias had glanced over at his fuming wife, having a shocked expression on his face. "Calm down, honey." He tried to reassure, his eyes still glued on her to make sure she didn't yell anymore. He didn't want her to accidentally concern some of the guests and make more come upstairs. Mrs. Mathias had just sighed, continuing to apply makeup to her face. Mr. Munthu interfered before either of them could speak. "I made sure they went downstairs. No worries." His words seemed to calm Mrs. Mathias down a little, her expression softening.

"Just—" Mr. Mathias started, running a hand down his face. "Please don't let it happen again." The bedroom had gone silent, Mr. Munthu took a few moments to process his words. "Understood." He simply replied, before

walking out, giving one final glance to Mrs. and Mr. Mathias before exiting. Now, the only sounds audible in the room was the rusting fan and Mrs. Mathia's beauty brush gently hitting against her cheeks. Mr. Mathias continued to comb and straighten his hair, adding a bit more gel for the final touches. "When shall we start cutting the power?" He had asked, his head turning to glance at Mrs. Mathias. "When the time is right.." Mrs. Mathias replied mysteriously, though Mr. Mathias chiming in and ruining it. "When you finish applying your makeup?" He asked bluntly. "I... Yes." Mrs. Mathias said in defeat, letting an annoyed sigh escape her lips.

Zara was still exploring the house, still frustrated with the events from before. Curiosity of what was behind that door coursed through her mind, never able to get over it. She attempted to tell herself that it was probably just a bedroom of some sort behind the door... But, why was the man so desperate to get her away from it to the point of shoving her? "Who even is that man anyways?..." Zara grumbled to herself as she made her way back to the main plaza, where the food was displayed. There were still two padlocks on the front door, not looking like they would come off with a simple tug. "Are they keeping us inside?" she silently thought to herself, her gaze fixated on the padlocks. There were too many red flags, red flags that Zara couldn't ignore anymore. Why were there locks on the door? Why did the man from before stop her? There were just too many unanswered questions.

She exhaled hard, her gaze going off of the padlocks, but to the door itself. She began walking to the doors, shoving some of the guests that were in her way. She usually wasn't one to act like this, but she wanted out of this house. Everything just seemed so.. Sketchy? She felt as if she was being watched in that house every second, but not necessarily by the guests. As she walked, the lights had suddenly flickered, causing her to temporarily stop. The whole room went dark for a few moments, before the lights turned on again. "Is the weather that bad outside?" she muttered to herself, silently thinking. The lights continued to flicker, until eventually, they didn't flicker back on, leaving Zara and all of the other guests in a pitch black darkness. It was obvious that it had sent the other guests into a panicked-state, due to all of the shuffling and complaints.

"Who turned off the lights?" One of the guests complained, while some others had let out a soft gasp. "Oh, goodness!" One moaned. Zara's eyes were wide, still frantically trying to make it to the exit. She desperately shoved guests, trying to feel for any kind of wall of signs of the doors. She was eventually met with a wall, firmly being shoved against it by another guest in the darkness. She took another deep breath, still attempting to make it to the door, pushing herself against the wall. Surprisingly, her hand had managed to find, and grip onto the door–frame. A look of relief appeared on her face, until she realized that there were still two padlocks on the door. She was about to

let out a loud sigh... But then she heard something. The usual contrast of the guests complaining soon turned into screams of terror, as the movement around her got more violent and hysterical.

Zara had just gotten her hands on one of the padlocks, although freezing at the screams. She felt her muscles tense up, the hairs on her arms beginning to stand. Her eyes went wide just with the screaming, turning her head around to try and see the situation, only to be met with pitch black darkness. Something was obviously going on. Zara had snapped her head back to the padlocks, trying to somehow get them off with her now sweaty hands. Her hands kept slipping off of the slick metal, internally cursing at herself. "Come on... Come off!–Come off...!" she loudly whispered, a few beads of sweat running off her forehead and soaking into the red carpet. No matter how hard she tried, the locks wouldn't come off. She was in a state of pure panic, listening as the people screamed bloody-murder around her. Until eventually... The screaming came to a sudden stop.

The whole room went silent, the only sounds now audible were Zara's ragged breaths. Her hands were violently shaking, grasping the handle of the padlock. The silence was deafening, ringing over and over in Zara's ears in a loop, unending. The padlock kept on slipping out of her sweaty palms whenever she tried to break it. As a last resort, Zara used her foot to attempt to kick the door down, but still to no avail. She let out a strained grunt, her eyes widened while her chest rose and fell frantically. She quickly realized that she couldn't get the doors open, no matter how hard she tried. Her hands held on to the padlocks firmly, silently thinking on what to do in the moment... There was definitely something occurring, since people were screaming earlier, followed by the violent movements.

While she was lost in thought, she felt someone's presence behind her. Zara almost immediately snapped her head around to see who it was... It was the man she'd seen earlier. The man who had shooed her away when she tried to get into the room. His large figure towered over her, looking extremely intimidating now, especially since they were in the dark. Zara's gaze was focused on the man's pale, blue eyes, before it had shifted down to his hand. A large, bloodied butcher's knife was firmly held in his grasp, dripping with the metallic, crimson-colored blood. The veins in his wrists were bulging out as well, which had nearly caused a gag to escape her. Her eyes somehow managed to widen further, being pushed up against the wall, cornered.

"You thought that you were safe in the light," The man started, his tone cold and lifeless. "But I've come to turn it off." With those words, he suddenly lunged forward without warning, plunging the knife deep within Zara's upper-abdomen. A loud cry of pain escaped her lips, watching as the man brought the knife down in one swift motion and slashed her lower-intestines open, blood spewing out from the deep wound. Zara could feel herself falling into unconsciousness, her eyesight fading drastically. Her knees had then buckled below herself, falling on the now

drenched carpet. She had eventually given up, letting her eyelids close, her loud pained shrieks coming to a stop. The last thing she managed to see was the man's gaze watching over her as she wailed in pain.

"Do you have the meat?" Mrs. Mathias asked, her hands gripping the slick fabric of the apron.
"Yes." Mr. Munthu replied, turning his head to look over at her.
"Do you have flour and salt?" She asked again.
Simply, he replied with another "Yes". Then, turning his head back to the stove.
"What about the eggs and sugar?"
"Yes." He replied once more, his voice more strained than before as he turned the stove off.
"Make sure to produce this batch fast and fresh, Munthu. We have more 'guests' coming over soon."

Jade had been lounging on her couch, mindlessly scrolling through her phone. Her apartment was dirtied, the faucets dripped, while the ceiling was rotting. She had then, surprisingly, come across a post. More specifically, a post of a house listing. Her finger gently grazed the screen, before eventually tapping it, scrolling through the pictures of the house that had been taken. "This place is huge.." She silently muttered to herself. It was a mansion, way bigger than her apartment. It was really cheap as well, too cheap. However, the post had many likes and comments, causing her to believe that it was real. Her gaze lingered on the comments for a moment, before going back up to the pictures attached. Most of the comments were positive, one saying "Nice house!" while another said "That's really cheap!".
"Wow.." She muttered silently to herself. "I might just have to go check this out myself." She said with a smirk.

"How bad could it possibly be?"

The Mimic by: Jacen A. King-age 12 my grade is 7th grade and my address is [redacted] my phone number is

Once there was a man named Jake who was moving to a small town named Baratown from Florida he had gotten evicted from his apartment in Florida, Baratown was a very small town filled with old, big houses these houses aren't what you would think their paint was torn and the wood was grey. He was driving down the street looking for the house he bought, at last, he turned into his new driveway and parked. He got out and circled the house for a second to check it out. But he saw a pale hand on the window for a second but it disappeared right in front of him. "I am going inside that might be the owner," Jake said so he walked inside and he creaked open the door revealing the torn and scratched wallpaper. He thought to himself "Why are there scratches on the wallpaper?" he turned on the light and he saw blood on the floor and he almost barfed. He jumped over the huge spill and he continued checking out the house he saw the torn carpet but the only thing that wasn't torn up was the old-looking rocking chair with a maroon cushion. But then he heard a clatter from the kitchen it sounded like plates shattering. He went to check it out and his suspicions were correct there were plates broken and shattered. Then he went to go sit down in the rocking chair but he was thrown out of the chair once he sat by an invisible force then the chair started to rock by itself and the TV turned on. Then it all stopped and the door slammed and locked. Jake slammed himself against the door unsuccessfully then when he stood up he got thrown to the floor and something made his back bleed. Then he heard a voice coming from upstairs saying "Jake come here you got to see this" It sounded like his dead mom's voice he reluctantly went up there and opened the door only to reveal a pale figure with long arms and a mouth with sharp teeth and an eerie smile and it had sharp claws. Once it saw Jake in ran after him on all fours while Jake ran, the creature slammed against walls. It spoke in a distorted voice "Stop running prey" While Jake still ran he eventually found a place to hide in a closed cabinet he could hear the mimic scuffling around the living room then suddenly it stopped until he felt long cold fingers wrapping around his face he screamed and got out of that cabinet there was the mimic inside but it looked different it was almost like his sister then it disappeared but he heard the mimic coming down the stairs so he hid in another cabinet when this mimic came down the stairs another mimic jumped out of the cabinet that Jake had just run from they started to circle each other and growl and they swiped and bit at each other until they charged at each other they bit and tore the flesh of one another blood splattered everywhere while Jake watched in horror of the sight that was unfolding in front of him. Then one suddenly went limp and died but the other was very torn and scarred and he was now limping that's when Jake saw the door wide open he ran towards it he managed to make it outside and he slammed the door but the mimic wouldn't relent it managed to crawl out a window and continued to chase him until it stopped almost in fear and it ran away but when Jake turned around there was this huge seven foot mimic right behind him he screamed but it was too late the mimic bit down on his head and he died.

The Doll Maker

Chance Vanpelt, 7th grade, 12 years old, [redacted]

Once upon a time, there was a kid named Sam. Sam was an ordinary kid. He was an okay student in school, he loved his family and did chores around the house. Sam loved many things like hockey, chess, poker, games, and music. He had one huge fear, dolls. Dolls were his enemy and he stayed as far away from them as he could. Little did he know that these dolls would ruin his life and everything he loved.

It was a regular day until after school Sam was walking home when he saw a doll. When he thought it was just an ordinary doll it moved and stared at him. He screamed and his closest friend, Bob, asked him, "What is it?" Sam pointed at the doll, but when Bob looked he didn't see anything. He said, "There is nothing there." Sam replied, "The doll. It is looking straight at me. Don't you see that?" Bob was confused and continued walking. Sam followed, looking back every few seconds, watching for the doll.

He woke up the next day confused about the doll. Sam got dressed, packed up, and went to eat breakfast. He ate breakfast and when he looked up to tell his parents goodbye but their faces were different. They looked just like the doll he saw yesterday. He ran over to Bob's house scared. He knocked on the door. Bob opened the door and his face looked like the doll too. This didn't stop there. During hockey, poker, and games he couldn't stop seeing dolls. He woke up again and just got used to this and didn't say anything. Today was the day for chess club. Finally, something to get his mind off dolls. Everyone looked normal and Sam thought everything was fine, but then when he was playing he saw the pieces were all different types of dolls. He stopped playing chess and went home.

That night he was listening to music and it was fine until the music switched to eerie music and he heard strange laughter. He looked up and sitting on the end of his bed were a row of dolls staring at him, their eyes bleeding black ink on the bed. He was getting tired of the dolls and everything he was learning and hearing about were dolls.

He woke up the next morning and everything was back to normal. He took this opportunity to tell his parents, teachers, and Bob about the dolls and the noises. His teachers didn't listen and didn't care. Bob thought he was paranoid or trying to scare him. His parents were scared and called for a therapist. Sam's worst nightmare was coming back.

His therapist was a therapist, teacher, music lover, and doll maker. All the dolls were in the background and Sam was scared to look at them. He didn't and everything seemed fine. He will have another meeting next week. The week was fine and there were no dolls in sight. This is where things would go wrong for Sam.

He was in his therapy session and something stood out to Sam. In the background, there was one particular doll that he would never forget. It was the doll that started everything. He asked the therapist about it and the therapist said, "One day I noticed it was possessed and I threw it onto a road. It would be able to haunt someone else, but it came back to me a few days later." The doll started to move and grabbed a hidden knife. It stabbed the therapist and had a note saying, "You are next." That was the last time Sam and his therapist were seen.

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My life before going under

"Come on, come on!" I was thinking to myself. It was almost the end of the school day, and I was counting down the seconds until that bell would ring and we could be free for another couple of hours. "And so what you do to find the quadratic formula is to multiply the x variable by the a variable and then you-" the bell had rung. We all practically cheered. Well not all of us, Nerdy Nathan as almost everyone called him immediately said. "Mr. Diago" in his scrawny voice. "Isn't there homework tonight?" Mr. Diago sighed "no Nathan, I would personally not like to have to grade homework at my daughters marriage, you know i'm going to that marriage the rest of this week and all of next week right?" Mr. Diago sighed. You could even see HE was fed up with nerdy Nathan's antics. You know you deserve the title "Nerdy Nathan" when you even got the teacher fed up about you asking about homework. "W-well I can grade it for you!" "isn't that illegal?" He quit after that. I met up with my friend group after school. They were a very exorbitant group, Tyler, or Lil Tyla as he liked to go by wanting to be a famous rapper. Buddy, who was one of the smartest yet stupidest person I knew. And there is Tim who is my best friend though he was a little unorthodox at times.

The plunge

So we got sent into some experiment or government fetch quest I don't know but all I know is that I had just gotten out of school and I saw someone in the bushes and heard a weird noise and now I'm here. And...I...Don't really know where "here" is, I had almost forgotten to talk but then I asked everyone "w-where are we" I said somewhat groggily" no one answered I looked next to me and I saw Buddy and I saw that he was sitting in a chair and he was strapped into it with what looked like a baby car seat but with hard metal and that's when I realized I was trapped in there to. I started aggressively Shaking Buddy's arm. No response. I started screaming into his ear. No response. I started panicking but what made me even more scared was the fact that right across from me I saw Tyler, and Tim. in the exact same straps that I was in and they all looked unconscious. And then I heard something. Almost like static and then "you and all of your friends have been kidnaped for a government experiment. You need to go to the mariana trench to receive a [redacted] and bring it back to this sub failure. Doing so in 24 hrs will cause your execution. Now There are a bunch of living organisms in the mariana trench that the public does not know about. We have supplied you with a waterproof bestiary to help you deal with all of them." I then saw a book come out from some hatch of the submarine. And I got too curious and decided to open the book and read it.

The bestiary

The Scallia: These creatures look like giant sea bears. Though they have about 1 mile long antenna. They are normally non violent and like to live in groups of 6-600. The only recorded incident of them killing someone was when a pack of about 6,000 (the largest pack found in the wild) was in a Famish and the scientist named [redacted] went up to study the pack. He then got eaten fully by the entire pack of 6,000. They seem to also have bone dissolving sylvia. We think that Scallias are scavengers. If a pack is in a famish and you just so happen to walk into a famished pack then pick a god and swim. On a rare occasion they have accepted a human into their pack.

Snipes: These are long eel like creatures. Though we have only found juveniles, the longest one we have found is about 100 miles long. Based on the fact that their eyes are on the side of their head and are about as big as a plate they are prey creatures. Though they have been known to eat Scallia's and ones that are at least 50 miles long are prone to eat humans. Though these creatures are sensitive to light. Which is why you will be supplied with a complementary flashlight. [redacted] almost got eaten by a snipe once he got to see that they had about 5 rows of teeth and its incisors were incredibly sharp and the rest of its teeth are flat almost like a herbivore proving the theory that they are omnivores. Maybe there flat teeth are to crush bones as well we do not know

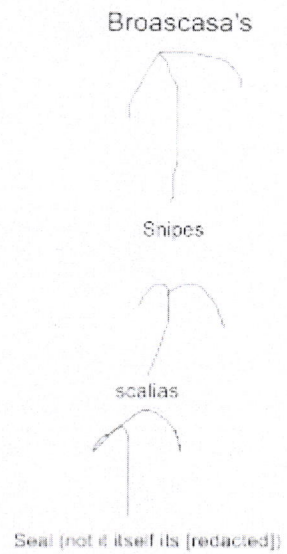
Broascasa: these are cousins of the anglerfish. The only similarity they share is their unhinged jaw and the bulb. The smallest one that we have found weighs about as much as an 18-wheeler, and is the size of a medium sized house. They are very active though as they are at the top of the mariana food chain so if you see the light DO NOT go towards it no matter how much it's alluring you if you go within 3 meters of the bulb and you WILL get devoured. [redacted] was the first to learn about Broascasa's, and the first one to learn that they were predators he wanted within 3 meters of the bulb and then it almost got him. Thank god he used to be a [redacted]. The only way to get away from these things if they chase you is to...pick a god and hope you've opposed them, or go into the [redacted].

Deep sea kelp: This is what its name implies kelp that can somehow grow in the mariana trench. We still don't fully know how they do this but our best theories suggest that in there

seedling stage they go on the back of a Broascasa to consume the bulbs light and then when it has enough energy to grow 100ds of feet it jumps off of the Broascasa and then grows Just enough so it can get a little bit of sunlight to grow more and spread seedling around the mariana trench another bonus of being so tall is that the seed have a higher chance of grabbing onto a Broascasa. Though we have not seen any deep kelp on a Broascasa specimen. So it's just a theory.

[redacted]: this creature is the reason we built the [redacted] down in this hell hole. All it does all day is [redacted] and then we take the [redacted] and [redacted]. If we're lucky it makes enough [redacted] for us to last another week. And the organisms down here…they seem to have gotten more aggressive ever science we [redacted] I don't think that this is a good idea…i-is that? Is that banging on the roof of the [redacted]? Oh no, is that a leek? That's the 3rd time this week…Wait is that a [redacted]

This is a food chain of these creatures:



The instructions!!

You are all supplied with a complementary flashlight (it's also waterproof) now it does not have infinite battery so use it wisely. Your goal is to get the [redacted] witch is a seal like looking thing. That should have a [redacted] cloud around it that is safe to breathe in. Speaking about breathing you have about 24 hours worth of oxygen. If you decide it's a good idea to stay in the sub for more than an hour then your back tank will be detonated (don't worry it won't happen

until you leave the sub for the first time). *Have fun!* Also we have a page empty for you in case you find any other creatures.

I was having a panic attack halfway through the bestiary but something that calmed me down was the fact that we have a flashlight. And all of my friends started waking up and having the same sort-of initial panic I had. Wondering things like "where are we?" "what happened?" "Are we alive?" that sort of stuff. I filled them in on everything. All about what I heard the intercom recording say and all about what I had read in the "guide book" as we started calling it. And then about an hour later the intercom recording came back but...it didn't feel like it was on a recording, it felt like it was a person talking to us live. "The area you are landing in is...*covered* in Scallia's, I guess be lucky that it's not inhabited by Broascasa's." The intercom said. Almost 1 minute after the intercom person said that we heard and felt a lot of what felt like light smacking on the bottom and then we heard a light crash and then steam and the person on the intercom started talking again. "If you open the door the water will stay out of the sub so you can come back here for short intervals no longer than an hour as you have probably read. Now listen carefully, your diving helmet is in front of you. When your seats get unlocked twist the helmet to the right and pick it up. When you have it in your hands, put it over your head and make sure that there is NO hair covering your face, these diving helmets have complementary hair ties underneath the place you take them out, and make sure all of your hair is in the diving helmet. When you have covered your head fully with the helmet you should hear a clicking sound that means it's fully covered your head then turn it around your helmet 5 times to the right, then the helmet is now locked on fully and it is safe to go outside the sub. If you need to take it off, do the steps I have just described to you opposite and backwards. Now go out there and find...it." As soon as the intercom person was done speaking I felt the strappings on our bodies release and then they went up fully so we could get out. Sort of like an amusement park ride. And as we followed the steps we realized that we could not talk to each other in the diving helmet so we said what might have been our final goodbyes to each other. Tyler started singing his new song

that he had made up on the fly, Buddy gave everyone a hug and said that he was welcome for giving us his homework answers for 4 years, Tim gave an actual good bye speech. And I started talking about the times we had together. All the mischief we got ourselves into over the years, All the days we had faked being sick in middle school, All the crappy homemade birthday presents we made for each other in elementary, And everything else we had done together, I told a story of our lives and I would probably never hear their voices again. We all put on our diving helmets and then we heard the person from the intercom laughing hysterically as he had said "y-you know there are microphones in these things? D-did I forget to tell you?" he then began to continue to laugh hysterically. We all got really embarrassed. "It's nice to know that you know that you are all dead men walking." and so we hyped ourselves up and we jumped out into the ocean.

The depths

Well I found out why the intercom person said that the area was covered in Scallia's. I walked around with the flashlight turned on and was still bumping into them as we walked. Buddy had forgotten the name of them and started to call them "silly's". There was one that kept on following us I knew because he grabbed on my leg. I think that it was a group of about 180 of them. As soon as we swam through the first group we were able to see another group. The other one that had grabbed onto my leg WAS STILL grabbed by the Scallia. We thought that if he would follow us we could name him and keep him as a pet. The guy on the intercom informed us that because they are used to being in high pressure environments it would surely die before even getting up to the surface. Even though we were incredibly worried about the unknown to the public creatures, the creatures that lived in the mariana trench were also something to worry about. The "xenophyophores" as the intercom person called them or "shower hats" as we called them. We could almost feel them whenever our METAL diving suits brushed up on one. The scallia's were fun to be around. Most of them would get scared when

we got close but some of them enjoyed our company. And one of them, enough to constantly follow us, and grab onto my left leg. He was pretty heavy too, it was genuinely slowing me down. It was about 30 lbs I'd say. Buddy and Tyler were really scared that they would run into a Broascasa. The intercom person was constantly assuring them that science the Broascasa hunt Scallia's they naturally move away from where the Broascasa's live so you would be fine for a while. We were walking for a while but after 1hr 2min and 38 seconds or as we called it about an hour we basically stopped seeing groups of more than 10 Scallias and the intercom person told us we were out of the Scallia covered zone. And there will be a drop very soon that will lead to the deepest part of the challenger deep, the "Abyssal depths." "Why couldn't we just land the sub there?" I asked. "There is a lot of salt concentrated there, we think its the reason the oceans are salty, and it would be too pressured to land the sub there it would just collapse in on itself. This is where our site is. But be warned there has been an overabundance of deep sea kelp on our base recently and we have just discovered that full grown snipes become camouflaged with deep sea kelp, and they are really big as well about 100 miles long so be careful." we didn't want to just jump down there. We were afraid about what would happen if we just jumped and the person on the intercom told us that Scallias don't have any nerve receptors in their head and antenna, so we could use the antenna as a ladder. We made it to the ledge and looked down (obviously we couldn't see anything). I took the Scallia off of my leg and held him in my hands. Just to test if he was right I tugged at its antenna and I didn't see any reaction from the Scallia so I thought it would work out ok. I walked up to the edge and flipped the Scallia upside down. It took about a minute for all of the antennas to follow. In the meantime Buddy, Tim, and Tyler were all talking about what we should name him. Tim really wanted to name him step ladder, Buddy wanted to call him willy...because of silly willy, and Tyler wanted to name him bob. I felt like any of those names would work but I liked Willy the best. And when I was pretty sure that Willys antennas were straight I asked who wanted to go down first. None of them wanted to go down at all and they had the bright idea that they could all 3 go down at the same time and I said that I would prefer if 2 of you went down first and then you guys could hold the antenna at the bottom and then me and someone else could go down. They agreed. Tyler and Buddy would go down first and Tim and I would go down second. They agreed to shake the antenna when they reached the bottom and then we would go down. After about 3 minutes of waiting we felt the shake. We couldn't talk to them through the intercoms because they were too far away. As we were sliding down we were constantly worried about if they were ok or not. And we saw the deep sea kelp. It was massive. I felt sort of like I was in the Kelp forest from Spongebob. As I was traveling down I heard Something on our intercom. It was Tyler. Him and buddy were just talking to each other like they were crazy. Genuinely talking about the weather, and current actors. I said Hello or something and I could hear them get happy "praise be" they said. It sounded like they were hugging each other. As we got to the bottom I could see the joy on their faces. Then we had to get willy down. What we decided to do was pull his antenna and that should pull him down and so we did that for like 3 minutes.and then he jumped on my back and started shaking. Then I got scared as well because in the bestiary it explicitly mentioned that Snipes were known to eat Scallia's and so maybe It saw a Snipe on the way down. I told my friends that we should hurry up. I didn't tell them why I thought so, I didn't want to worry them. As we walked into the kelp we could barely see anything. Our flashlights "light" just kept getting caught on the kelp. And a little compas flashed to life on our diving helmets. And the person on

the intercom told us that the blacksite was south west. As we were swimming throughout the kelp forest we kept on hearing screaming. To make matters worse we saw kelp move not naturally in front of us. I started rolling Willys antenna into a circle to make it harder to spot us. As I was doing that I saw something staring at me from the kelp. I froze. And I felt Willy start to squirm around. I was in the middle of a sentence when I froze and so my friends looked back to check on me and they saw me frozen, Willy squirming, and the Snipe staring at me. They almost immediately kicked into action, shaking me violently until I could move again. And we started running. I think that the thing was following us because of Willys antenna (when I started running I let go of Willys antenna). As we started to run I could hear the Snipe scream through my diving helmet. I was a little farther behind as I was holding Willy to my chest and so Buddy had the idea that we could all grab onto Willys antenna to make it so that if anyone was lagging behind we could pull them closer with Willys antenna. And we could hold it so we don't lose each other. We also discovered something about the Scallia's. They can swim incredibly fast. I don't know why but I think it's because it makes them lose energy quickly and most of the time they dont know something is attacking them before it does so that's why it's never been observed. I was able to outswim the Snipe, and it even got enough momentum to escape the kelp forest. We saw the snipe at the end of the forest just looking at us. I think that it didn't want to leave the forest because it had camouflage in the forest. And then as we were swimming away we bumped into something and as we looked over we saw a light.

The end of a long journey

We all felt our hearts drop as we bumped into a Broascasa. We immediately swam away and hoped to god that we wouldn't get eaten. Even though we bumped into it pretty hard I think that its sheer size made it so that it couldn't feel it. And then the person on the intercom Had told us that we were almost there and that now we need to continue south-west and after about an hour we will be at the blacksite. And so we started swimming. Regarding the Broascasa encounter at the beginning we couldn't see almost anything out there. No life, no building's, no light. It felt pretty baron; it was only a handful of scared humans and a Scallia. Speaking of Scallias Willy started to get tired and he hoped on my back and curled his antenna up around my waist and went to sleep. It felt like we were swimming for hours. In complete silence, too scared to talk. We didn't know a lot about the Mariana trench but we knew right now that we, are prey. I was pretty happy to have Willy near me. After his save in the kelp forest I felt like he could protect me even though he was just barely half as tall as me. It felt like we were walking for an eternity but I eventually stepped on something metal. And we looked down and saw a bent up sheet of metal. And we looked up and we saw a completely destroyed, somewhat base that we found. The person on the intercom started talking. "This area is inhabited by a Broascasa so be careful and get the seal." We started having a panic attack. We were deathly afraid of the Broascasa. But we knew that we had to go there or else we would suffocate at the bottom of the ocean. So we went down and started searching. After a while we saw a moving light. We had found the Broascasa, and it seemed to be on the hunt. So we swam in the opposite direction for a while but the intercom person told us that we were going the right way. So we swam back and went into the creature's hunting spot. We couldn't see the light so we were searching cautiously. The only upside from seeing the light was that at least we knew it was over there or close by. But not being able to see it was more scarry. It could be right behind me for all I know. Right as I thought that Bobby turned around and screamed. I sighed and said "It's right behind me, isn't it?" He nodded and I started swimming away for my life and it was swimming so hard that I could hear it swimming to try to catch up to me. But then we saw an orange circle. And in the middle of it a spot. Then we heard the person on the intercom tell us that we had found it and now you need to get back to the sub. We still had to get out of this Broascasa's hunting spree. We were able to out swim it with the help of Willy, and we were just able to grab the seal. Before we got a cloud of...something exploded onto our diving helmets and it made it so that we could barely see. But We just kept swimming and after a couple of seconds we couldn't hear the Broascasa anymore. And we turned around and I assume because he didn't want to wait that long for us to walk all the way back to the cliff and he swam us to the kelp forest. And after a while we got through the kelp forest and at the cliff. We couldn't figure out how to get above the cliff. We didn't think that we could use Willy to get up to the top of the cliff. But it turned out he could. And as we got to

the top of the cliff we started walking back to the sub we started somewhat reminiscing about the time we were down here. And we spent our last time here spending time with Willy. As the intercom person had told us before, we couldn't take him to the surface. And as we saw the sub in the distance we thanked Willy for all of the saves and we headed back to the sub with tears in our eyes as we waved goodbye to Willy and got on the sub and put the seal in some container. And went back to the surface. "Ahh, the sunlight HURTS SO BADLY!" Buddy had said as soon as we got to the surface. "Not even like "oh the sun hurts my eyes" but it hurts my skin." And it also took us a while to walk normally again. And then they just threw us back into our normal lives. After giving us all Thalassophobia. Why did they do that? Well I guess we can't change the past. And we can't talk about this ever...i'm just happy we got out alive.

10/23/24

The Ice Cream Truck

Samiya Kirtley
Colorado Springs CO
80911
Age: 12

There was a family that moved into a new house. There was a wife named Jenny, a husband named Mike, and their little boy named Janson. As they walked into the house, you can smell the fresh paint from the white walls. As it was getting dark outside, Jenny was making dinner, she made chicken noodle soup. "Something Snaells good", said Mike while coming down the stairs with Janson in his arms. After dinner, Janson went to go play in his room while Jenny and Mike had some wine. "I'm so glad that we moved here", said Jenny. Mike smiles and looks at the time, and it's 9:00 pm Janson's bedtime. "I should probably put Janson to bed", said Mike.

As Mike reached Janson's room, he said, "It's time for bed." Mike tucked Janson in and gave him a kiss on the forehead and said good night. When everyone was asleep, all you could hear was silence. It was so silent that you could hear the night owls, but there was one sound that woke Mike up from his sleep. It sounded like the ice cream truck. Mike looked at the time, and it said 12:00 pm. He looked back at the window, and the ice cream truck was in front of their house. Mike went downstairs as fast as he could, but when he got downstairs Janson was almost down to the porch. Mike grabbed Janson as fast as he could and ran back inside the house.

Jenny came running down the stairs to see what was happening. "What is going on", said Jenny, sounding so scared. "Take Janson upstairs!" Mike yelled. Janson looked sad and said that he wanted ice cream and had a 30 minute conversation with Janso how he can get ice cream another day.

As Janson was being put back in his bed, Mike looked back at the window. The ice cream truck was gone!

After that day, the ice cream truck started coming every night, and Mike decided that he was going to stay up until the ice cream truck came to confront him, but Mike had a hard day at work and fell asleep. Mike had this dream where the ice cream truck was there, and there was a voice where he was telling Janson to come to the ice cream truck. It sounded like it was saying, "Janson, Janson come closer." Mike woke up as fast as he could, and saw the front door open.

Mike ran to the front door, and saw Janson walking to the ice cream truck. Janson was almost to the ice cream truck, and Mike ran to grab Janson and ran back to the house. As Mike shut the door, Jenny ran down the stairs in fear and said, "Is everything okay? What happened?" Mike just looked back to see if the ice cream was there, but it was gone.

After that night, Mike was so terrified that he couldn't sleep for days. Jenny thought it would be a good idea for the family to walk around the neighborhood and meet new people. As they were walking, one of their neighbors ran into them. "Well hello neighbors. My name is Cynthia, and this is my husband, James," said Cynthia. "Hi, my name is Jenny, and this is my husband Mike and my son Janson. It's nice to meet you," said Jenny.

"Well, I see you live in 144," nervously said Cynthia. "Yes, we do", Mike said confused. "I hear that an ice cream truck comes at 12:00pm. Do you know why it's coming to our house?" said Mike. "They say that there was an old man that lived in 144, and he liked to sell ice cream to children. That's when children started to go missing, and the police started to investigate. They found out that the old man was putting them in his house and just feeding them ice cream. He went to jail for 12 years and is coming for your son next."

When Cynthia was done telling them what happend, Mike was in fear while Jenny was almost about to cry. Mike said "We need to get out of here!" They ran to the house as fast as they could and packed all their belongings and got in their car.

A year goes by, and they moved to California and their life was going good. They moved into a different neighborhood, and they stopped hearing about the ice cream truck at night, but Mike still fears if he didn't wake up in time, and if Janson would have gotten too close to the ice cream truck.

The Pokaco Experiment

Adrian G. McIntyre

7th Grade /

Prologue

Patience, the opposite of panic. Panic doesn't wait for anybody, patience waits for everybody. People who inherit the skill and knowledge of being patient, later become one of the most professional kinds of homo-sapiens. Everybody has some quality of patience, but the Pokaco Experiment explores the test of patience, kindness, and overall human quality. Now, are you ready for what humanity could do with the human brain?

Chapter 1

Cars begin to arrive and slowly rise into the Pokaco building, the building is an office building, where everybody is tasked to stock, stock trading, etc. Everybody seems to notice the new security, which the security guards seem to make an extra careful search of everything and anything that's in the cars arriving.
"What is going on?!" One of the workers yelled.
"Stop talking." The guard says coldly and soulessly.
Once everybody is in the building and beginning to work, a voice comes over the intercom,
"There will only be 5 people coming out of the building alive. The rest of the 95 people will most likely be dead. That's a 5% chance of living. Now, the challenge is to kill at least 3 people or else, 27 more will be killed with our own methods." Everybody looks around in confusion, all looking at each other similar to pawns, advancing on the checkerboard, knowing their demise is most likely going to be as soon as the opening.
"Well, I th-" *BAM!* One of the workers, Jerome, was just cut off to the sound of a gunshot, everybody looked around and started to panic and scream. More snaps and pops come out of everywhere, with everybody's head getting blown off and exploded into multiple pieces. Each and every one of the workers left, which is now 70, were all scared due to the amount of blood that was in their offices.

Chapter 2

The workers decide to head downstairs, to regroup and get ready for that weird voice to come on to the intercom and tell them their next challenge. 5 workers, under the names

of, Teresa, Jerome, Ginny, Sarah, and Vinny. Since they had an extensive background of being good friends, they decided to make an alliance and try to leave, but right as they get to the exit, the metal barricade slams down and everything goes into lockdown, a voice comes over the intercom again,
"Stop trying to leave, it's gonna work out if you want your head blown up."
"Oh..." Teresa says in unison with Vinny. The group decides to head to the basement,
"There's some guns and weapons down there, but the engineer group down there must've already got there so arm yourselves with an office supply that seems lethal."
Vinny grabbed a stapler, Teresa was armed with a staple gun, Jerome just grabbed the gun from the dude that shot the office manager, because he was blown up by the rampage of explosions. Ginny got a pencil, and Sarah just grabbed a keyboard.

Chapter 3

"Is everybody ready?" Ginny asked.
"Yes." Everybody said in unison. The group goes downstairs and pounces on the workers, Ginny stabs the first engineer with the pencil, in the right eye. The engineer seems to let a couple laugh out in his last couple of breaths, seemingly like he knew that the group would sooner or later break apart. Jerome shot the second engineer, and whispered in the engineer's ear,
"I'm sorry for this." The group finally got the assault rifles, pistols, and knives.
"I am really surprised I'm here, with blood all over my hands, all over this gun, and I wish this *little* ***tiny*** game would never be even thought of." Jerome said, while walking upstairs.
"Honestly, I just want to live and finally live in peace. I have not always wanted to be a stock trade worker. I have always wanted to work with kids, while teaching, and it warms my heart to know kids would be learning and growing up, not to be killing and murdering, like us." Sarah said with a certain smile that would normally remind you of your mother's oh, so sweet smile. Even after killing, they still have a heart for those who need it. They come upstairs to the lavatory, completely shut out dark, not a single soul could see a light of hope. Thankfully though, Sarah had a flashlight from the desk of the keyboard. After turning on the light and bringing the light to the floor, they all began to see the soulless bodies of their co-workers, which brung the group to tears, everybody dead, but due to who? Due to the manager, everybody was shot and killed, due to the anger built up in one dude's body. If a visual interpretation was needed to be made, all I would say is, "He's the real life devil man, who will do anything to continue his legacy of controlling people in treacherous ways, and mind this, ***legally.*** Labor is legal, but this man made labor, absolute ***hell,*** and it was legal too.
"Why did you do this?!" Teresa and Jerome yell at the manager, Billy.
"I did this, because all of your stupid decisions while working at this company, all you guys did was, COMPLAIN, *COMPLAIN,* ***AND COMPLAIN!*** You guys never did a single

thing right, all you did was just ask for help, ASK FOR THINGS I ALREADY TOLD YOU HOW TO DO!!" Bobby seems very stern, like this has been pent up, over this nice blanket of a person. *BAM!* Everything goes silent, the group hears Sarah crying.
"What did you do to her, you hellish monster!?" Jerome yells with such a voice, it rumbles the building, similar to an earthquake. Bobby says with such enthusiasm,
"I shot her! Isn't that just so amazing?"
"You really are demented..." Ginny and Vinny agree.
Br-br-br-br-bram! Jerome, who grabbed an assault rifle, lets off the magazine's bullets, all onto Bobby's face and body. Everybody could practically read the daily New York Times' paper with how much holes were in his body. The shutters rise up and everybody walks out with bruises, and Jerome carries Sarah with her leg injury.

Chapter 4

The group finally makes it outside, to where the guards threaten them into this tent of some sort. The tent had multiple screens, about 125 screens all having cameras all throughout the building. That's probably why the voice over the intercom knew everything. The Voice, or the person behind the microphone, appears and asked the group,
"Wow, you really survived Billy? And, you killed that living monster." He begins to slow clap while all this camera equipment and seems like some sort of experiment.
"Do you guys wish to be interviewed by me, and the guards?" The Voice asked.
"No?! Are you sick? Why are you even doing this? Are you mentally hurt?" Sarah asked, she seems to be the most offended by her leg that got shot whilst fighting Billy.
"Well, there isn't really a choi-" The Voice was cut off by Jerome running with Sarah up to the board that looks like a bunch of switches that were the kill switches to the bombs in people's heads, that's why they were blowing up. Jerome starts clicking everything, and somehow, someway, the guards blew up. It was then later figured out that the guards actually used to work at Pokaco, and they had those similar, "tags" that were inserted in their head. Then, Jerome took out his switchblade, and stabbed the soul out of the Voice. The group walks out and looks up at the clouds, knowing that this life of killing will not be over.

Epilogue

The group's screen pans out and the table of screens pulls out to all of these companies, all with the similar problem of the Pokaco company. Everybody, getting killed all watched down by the leader, announcing,
"Experiment Stage 2, commence!" The screens turn off, and people's blood is in the air.

The Unknown Town

The mystery of the unknown town that no one knew until someone named Asher decided to explore it. It was a town that people say was haunted by ghosts that destroyed it and people were killed there by mystery creatures. The journey continues with the mystery of the town that will try to kill Asher or hurt him till he dies but when he gets his friends with him will they still hurt him or will they find the mystery if it's haunted? The journey will end when he and his friends get out alive and find the strange mystery. But will they get out after they get captured by the evil people? That may be the whole problem of the mystery of the unknown town and will they make it better again after all this time?

Information: By- Sarah Al-Hilali, Age 13, grade 7, a
Springs Colorado, phone numbe

Once upon a time, there was a big town that was called the Unknown, it was called that because it didn't have a name and no one was there. One day someone named Asher heard of its stories. The other day of hearing about it he wanted to explore it. He packed his stuff but then his parents walked in. They told him to be careful. Some people went to explore it but never came back. Asher didn't care, he just wanted to know the real mystery because he didn't believe that it was haunted, maybe just people were trying to scare others. His family knew he was a brave young boy. So they weren't that worried and he said bye to them and went on his journey.

It took him a little while to go to that Unknown Town and he had to stop constantly to rest. When he arrived he saw the place all destroyed " I wonder what happened here and why is it destroyed are the stories true " he wondered. He kept hearing strange noises everywhere, " Is this some kind of trap or trick? And why is this place a mess? " he continued.

After a little while he saw a bloody person who looked like he was dead and was eaten by something " What happened to him did he fall or did he get eaten by something like a dog or something? But wait If he got eaten then by who there's no one this place is just a big mess "

The boy kept wondering and wondering even though he thought if that guy was dead then there must be more people dead or survivors. Suddenly he thought "I should get my friends, what if I die and no one will know the mystery and we can explore it and find out together." He went back to his town, He went to find where his friends were. He went to knock at the first friend's door, whose name was Max. " Hey Max, I want you and the others to come with me to the Unknown Town. I saw some guy that looked like he was eating and I kept hearing strange noises" said Asher. "Ummm sure I guess I'll pack up and I'll call the others to meet at my house so we all can go together," said Max.

Asher knew Max was scared of that town from the stories that he heard about it but Max wanted to still go with them. Now the four of them Asher, Max, Adam, and Mike went to the town together. "You right this place is so destroyed I know now why people call it the Unknown Town," said Adam, " You guys have to see that dead body I found," said Asher, " Wait dead body I don't think it's a good idea to go see a dead body," said Max, " Don't worry the body is dead it's not like its gonna move or anything right guys?" asked Mike, Yeah! Said all of them except Max.

Asher took them to the place where he found the body but the body was gone. " Wait guys where did the body go I swear it was right here I remember and it looked like it was eating or something, " said Asher, " Asher if you're sure then where is the body you said it looked like it was eating so how could it disappear from nowhere?" asked Mike, " I'm sure and look can't you guys see the blood on the dust I'm sure it's his blood" said Asher. The boys looked and were thinking how the body had disappeared but there was blood on the dusty ground. The boys then heard a sound like someone or something was walking near them, the steps got closer and closer.

" Guys I know you're hearing this but should we run or wait till that thing gets to us?" said Adam nervously. The boys didn't answer then Asher said " The steps are getting very near so we don't have time to run away if we want we should just get up and see who it is". They all got up and saw a person that looked like a teenager like them. The boys thought he was here from the stories like them.

" Hi, what are you guys doing here? Have you guys not heard that it was haunted or something?" asked the boy. " Yes we have but we just wanted to explore it and find the true mystery of it. By the way, I'm Asher and these are my 3 friends Adam, Max, and Mike. What's your name?" asked Asher. " Same here, and my name is James, it's nice meeting you all so we all can explore it together". Asher asked James if he had seen the dead body but James said he had but not anymore. " There must be a reason why the body is gone or maybe someone alive took the body," said Adam. " But guys this place is destroyed and why would anyone come here to take a body?" Asked James.

The boys said he's right but the body can't disappear out of thin air. All 5 of them continued their walk and kept wondering what happened and who did this and why did they destroy it.

" Was that person sick or something that did this to this place?" asked Max. " Guys think this can't be one person's fault to do this and one person can't destroy a whole town by themselves and also it's impossible for that person to know everyone in this place to have a reason to kill them all," said James.

The boys knew he was right but at the same time, they were still wondering about that dead guy's body mystery. They then found a broken tower. "Guy do you think there are people in that broken tower or are they all dead but I think it's a business place because it's a very big tower, " said James. " I think you're right, this may be a business place and there must be at least 3 survivors," said Mike. They all got closer to the tower and found a way to climb inside it.

The place was so destroyed that they had to get on top of bricks and other things to get farther. But still, there was no movement or a little sound from anyone. " Guys I don't think we should get inside any farther or up any farther, what if the place gets down on us?" asked Max. Adam and Asher did agree but James and Mike didn't. They said that the place is big even though it's so destroyed there's no way it will fall unless someone breaks everything at the bottom or does something to get it down then it will break even more and get down on them all.

Asher, Adam, and Max thought about it for a while, " You guys are right and we are on just the first floor. What if the survivors are on the other floors? We should still keep on going up" said Adam. They all continued their search and got farther but they all still were worried that the building would break down on them. The boys kept hearing cracks, and then suddenly they saw a person that looked sick then a brick out of nowhere got down on them," WATCH OUT!!!!" yelled James. Mike moved quickly before it hit him. " Thanks, that was very close, it almost hit me, " said Mike. Then the person was getting close to them then more bricks kept falling and the tower was shaking like it was gonna fall on them all. " WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE, NOW" yelled Asher. The boys all ran quickly,

" Guys wait, I'm trapped! " yelled Max. Max got trapped under a broken-down desk. The person got closer and closer every bit. The four boys tried to free him fast and freed him. They ran as fast as they could and when they got out the whole tower collapsed with the guy inside behind them.

It was very close for them to dying inside if Max was trapped by a bigger thing that was in broken pieces or the guy could have done something to them. But at least they got out safely. " Guys I'm bleeding" Said Max. " Oh shoot, what should we do? Does any of you have a medic or something to put on his leg so it won't bleed?" said James. None of the boys have anything to stop Max's leg from bleeding.

Then Asher ripped a long piece off his shirt, and James helped tie it on Max" 's leg, then Mike took off his belt and wrapped it around Max's leg as well. He wasn't bleeding a lot anymore but just little by little. " I think the blood is stopping a little. I don't feel that much pain any more than I did first " said Max. " That's good to hear, " said the others. Then the sun was going down and it was almost night. " Let's rest here till there's light and hopefully Max gets better in the morning," said Adam. They all sat down with their stuff and lay down and fell asleep. Then it was sunrise so they woke up and had to eat something before continuing their journey.

They searched their bags for something to eat but forgot to pack themselves food. They had to move and search for food but on the other hand, Max couldn't walk from his leg, " One of us or 2 have to stay with Max " said Mike. (silence). " I guess I can stay with him and I think there will be some stores near here you guys go search for water and food I'll be here waiting with Max," said Adam." Okay you guys stay safe till we come back," said Asher. The 3 boys went to search for food and water, so they walked and walked and walked but still couldn't find anything. On the other hand, the 2 other boys had a problem Max was in pain again and started bleeding again, Adam couldn't do anything because he had nothing to help him with.

A few minutes later the 3 boys found a place that wasn't as destroyed as the other places, " Finally. This place may have things that we need" said James. They all went inside the store and as usual, it was broken and stuff was everywhere like a whole mess. " There must be a lot of food somewhere we should split up and each one of us goes in a different direction, " said Asher. Asher went to the west side of the store, James went to the east side and Mike to the south side.

They all started searching in their direction and found a lot of stuff that was everywhere. Asher found food so he packed it in his bag and waited for James and Mike to get out. James found lots of water and he packed it in his bag as well and he also got out and waited with Asher. Mike found a lot of stuff but he was mostly packing medic and other stuff just in case another one of them got injured. Mike got out to James and Asher, " I think we got everything we needed " they said. Then they all headed to Adam and Max, The 2 boys were still waiting patiently for the 3 other boys to come back with the stuff they needed. " Hey guys, are you all okay? We got everything we need: food, water, and medicine, " said Mike.

"We are okay but Max is still bleeding so we have to get the medic out fast and put bleedstop spray on his leg, " said Adam. Mike got the medic out of his bag and they put the bleedstop spray on Max's leg. The boys had to keep moving and 2 of them had to carry Max with them. The boys walked a few miles and found more and more destroyed buildings but no sign of people, not even bodies.

The boy's thought that maybe no one stayed in this town after they heard it was haunted or maybe they all left when they heard the stories. " I think we can get in the middle of the town, then we can take a break there, " said James. The boys said it was a good idea and didn't waste any time and kept going. Minutes later when they got in the middle of the town, they needed to rest so they fell asleep.

They suddenly woke up from shooting noises. They got up and saw people holding guns and shooting at people without guns, the guys with guns and their sniper saw the 5 boys so he shot but missed them. " Guys their sniper saw us, 2 of us have to take Max and the other 2 have to stay behind, " said Asher. Asher and James held Max while Adam and Mike stayed behind them. Suddenly Adam and Mike got caught by them. They were about to get shot but the gun guy's sniper got down and told them they were 5 and the other 3 ran away.

So the gun guys didn't shoot them, they kept them so Adam and Mike could tell them where the other 3 were. The 3 boys ran and didn't get caught but they did see that the other 2 did get caught. The gun guys took the 2 boys to a place where they were taking and killing people. The 2 boys were scared because they couldn't get out and there were a lot of gunned people. They were worried about the other 3 boys and hoped they wouldn't get caught.

" We should help them but I don't know how, " said Asher. James then said " We need more people to help us " but Asher and Max said, " We can't leave them alone, we can do this by ourselves together ". The boy's agreed and Max's leg was getting better which was good because he could walk by himself. The 3 boys searched for stuff to protect themselves with and found some bats and other stuff and took them so they could protect themselves with them but they didn't find armor or anything that they needed, mostly also like guns, so they all were getting ready. On the other hand with Adam and Mike, the mean gunned men kept asking where the other 3 went but they didn't say anything, so the gunned men kept hitting them so they could say a word or clue about them but still couldn't.

(I hope you guys come for us. I hate these guys) said Mike in his head and looked at Adam silently. Adam was worried as well about them and the people that wanted to kill them.

The 3 boys then were ready to go and rescue the 2 boys. They went to the same place but didn't find them, " I think they took them somewhere so no one knows about them. We should search more, maybe there's a secret place or they're probably underground, " said Asher. The boys kept searching and then saw some gunned people one of them said " Do you think they will say where their friends are " and the other said, " I don't think so their friends so they won't say anything about them We should show them the hard way so they say something or we have to go and search for them ". Asher, Max, and James were worried about what they meant by the hard way. Did they mean they would kill them or something else not that dangerous? James suddenly shouted out " MOVE!!!!! "

The 2 boys were confused about what he meant but suddenly the 2 gunned guys were coming. The boys lost hope and thought they were going to be ended. But then the gunned men heard their leader saying " You boys, what are you guys doing, come inside, don't be so crazy and just stand there, there's no one here so come inside! ". When they left, the boys almost had a heart attack because of what happened, and when the gunned guys came they were worried and scared.

They watched as the guys got inside, " We should follow them, they might be hiding Mike and Adam there and you guys think they're okay? " said Asher. The boys then started worrying even more but still followed them. Seconds later the gunned boys stopped and one of them said to their boss " Wait, I think we should go outside. What if they come and we don't know and our sniper should find them if they come near? " Their boss agreed so they got their sniper guy and were ready to go outside.

The boys had to hide but there was nothing to hide behind so they just got down hoping they wouldn't see them if they were down. The men got closer to the exit and didn't see them because there was no sound, not even a breathing sound, the boys were covering their mouths so that's why they didn't hear any breathing noises.

When they got out the boy's got up and saw 4 doors. They wondered which door the boys were at, they were about to go to door 3 but then suddenly heard Adam and Max's voices. " We don't know where they are they left us and I don't think they ever coming back even if they are coming they won't be in the same spot, " they both said and then one of the men said okay then you guys want the hard way then they got gas and said we will pour this gas on you guy's and put fire on you so this is the last time I'm going to say tell us where they are.

The 2 boys couldn't do anything but they still wanted to help their friends so they went inside with their hands on top of their heads. "We're here don't do anything to them or you will regret it," they said. The leader smirked and then said, "That was very easy I wasn't expecting this but oh well you guys made it so easy". Then they let the leader take their hands and tie them onto each other with the rest. "What do you want from us?" asked Asher, "You know I can do a lot of things to you all, I can kill you, burn you, and my favorite let the zombies eat you" smirked the leader.

"Zombies?! What do you mean? You will kill people" said Max, the leader laughed then said "Killing them? You guys are so funny, I shoot then give them a chemical to turn them". While the leader was about done talking James had a knife in his pocket and he got free so he went straight to hold the leader's throat. "Let go!" shouted the leader, then his men came down and saw what was happening. "If you guys get even closer to us you will regret it and your leader will die," said James, they got back then James freed his friends but still was holding the leader.

The boys then took the leader and left the place they went fair and told the leader's men to not follow or else he would die. They took him to a place far away and sat him on a chair then talked to him "Why do you do this?" asked Mike, but the leader didn't answer and didn't even look at them. Then finally the leader spoke "I had to", "What do you mean had to" asked Adam. The leader didn't answer the question but then started talking and the boys became silent.

(A long time ago the town was called Shining Rose Town. It was so big and filled with people, the people were happy and filled with laughter.) The leader was about to continue but the boy interrupted " So you're saying the town was happy and you just turned all of them into zombies? ", the leader said just let me finish and you will understand. He continued (I and my family were happy as well, we lived in a big house and my family had great jobs. But when my mom was pregnant with my brother she had to stop working, so my dad was the only one working for the family. The family was still okay but then my mom got sick and we thought she was going to get better but she kept getting worse and worse, so my dad had to stop working and stay home because me and my younger sister couldn't take care of her.

The family then started to not have much money and my mom was getting worse day by day, my dad kept trying to get her to doctors but they couldn't do anything. They say she may need to travel somewhere else and maybe they will know something about her sickness.) " Wait but why didn't you and your little sister not go to someone in your family or tell someone to at least help you guys? " asked James, the leader said," You will know why in a bit because I don't want to tell you guys now until I finish my story ".

He continued (My dad had to travel to a different place and see a different doctor for her so when that day came he said he had to take my mom to a different place but we couldn't go with them. So they took us to our grandparent's house, our grandparents were old and couldn't watch us all the time. We did all the cleaning at their house but they didn't have much money. I would go to buy a few groceries and come back and cook for them. I had to also watch my sister and do all the work.

On the other hand, a few weeks later my dad came to our grandparent's house holding a baby, we all were surprised and asked where mom was and who that baby was. My dad looked sad and said mom didn't make it through the surgery but she did give birth to this beautiful baby, and before she died she said to name the baby Mark.

Me and my sister and grandparents were so sad to hear that terrible news, but we loved our new baby brother. A few months passed and we grew but dad got sick, and a few days later we lost our home because we couldn't pay the bills anymore and our other family traveled to different states. We had to get on the streets and tried asking for help from people but no one helped. Our life got harder and harder and Dad kept getting worse then a few days later Dad had a feeling he was going to die so he told me to take care of my siblings and leave his body but I didn't want to leave his body I wanted to ask people to bury him but no one wanted to do anything)

" I'm sorry for your loss. It must be very hard, " said Asher and the other boys " But where are your siblings now? And it still doesn't make sense my you turned people, " asked James. (Silence)

Asher and the boys were silent and staring at each other but the leader's head was staring at the ground with a sad face. Without saying anything he continued with a nervous voice. (My dad kept coughing. He needed water and something to eat but there was no use everyone was ignoring. I gave up. I did what my dad told me and left his body on the streets. I took my siblings and went along. We all were sad and weak from not drinking anything and not eating) he suddenly stopped talking. Then he said " Let me go I don't want to be here with you guys anymore "Then he yelled, " LET ME GO RIGHT NOW OR ELSE ". Suddenly there was a sound that sounded like some people were coming close.

His team was coming to them, so the boys left the leader by himself and ran away. " Boss, where did they go? " One of his men said. The leader didn't say anything, he just pointed. Some men stayed and opened him up, and others went after the boys. The men didn't catch them because they were far away already when they ran off. The men got back and told their leader the boys were gone.

While the boys were running they saw some zombies coming their way, "GUYS RUN!!!!" said Asher, they all ran even further and couldn't see them anymore. "I still don't understand why he did that he could die from them. Guy's what if he is controlling them?" said Max. The boys agreed but they won't know the truth until the leader tells them it.

After the boys walked more through the town they saw some people grouped but were looking in a different direction. "Guy's I think they are people exploring the town just like us," said Max, the boys got closer then while getting closer they heard weird noises. When the people turned around they were not

normal, "GUYS RUN THEY ARE ZOMBIES" shouted Asher. The boys ran as fast as they could and lucky they got out safely. Sadly there were still some zombies chasing after them, but luckily the boys were fast and the zombies lost them.

After a while, the boys stopped to get some rest, "Why did they do things?! We also died because of that guy! We need to stop him RIGHT NOW!" said James. "You're right but there are so many of them and the zombies, we can't fight them all they will win and kill us," said Asher. The boys didn't know what to do and they were just 5 so they couldn't win against thousands of zombies and the leader with his grew. The boys then had an idea "What if we go fight the leader so he doesn't make more zombies and then we can see what the zombie's weakness is" said Adam. "That may work but to get to the leader we have to kill his grew one by one carefully," said Max.

The boys then started to pack their stuff and got out the weapons they found in the store, now they were on their way. When they got there they saw some of the leader's men, they got closer to them and the boys went in different directions to different people. The boys then killed the men that were outside which they found out was easy the boys then signaled that they were ready to go inside. The boys then got down the place carefully and found the leader all by himself, they looked around to see if it was a trap but there was no one. So they got inside and closed the door behind them, "What are you guys doing here and how did my men not see you?" said the leader. "We killed them and we will kill you if you don't tell us how to kill the zombies," said Asher.

"There is no way to kill them, I just know how to turn them into zombies," said the leader softly, "What do you mean?! So there is no way to kill them and so they will be alive forever?!" shouted James, the leader nodded. James almost hit the leader but Max pulled him back "STOP IT JAMES THAT'S NOT THE RIGHT WAY TO DO IT" said Max, James then sat down with tears in his eyes. "We are all gonna die because of this nonsense work for you!" he said, Asher sat by him looking down "I understand James but we have to act smart and not do anything dumb". "There is a way we could kill them," said the leader, "What is it?" said Max, "We could burn the whole town," said the leader. The boys laughed thinking it was a stupid idea because they couldn't burn a whole town.

But then Asher said "That will work but we will need a lot of gasoline", "I have a lot of it in the back about 20 buckets," said the leader. The boys then followed the leader when they saw it they knew it would fill the town, "Let's go guys it's about to be night hurry up" said Mike. The boys hurried but they realized they didn't have much time because of the time till night. They then saw a construction truck so they had the idea to stick the gasoline buckets into the truck and then let it spill all over the town.

After a while the truck had done its job now they just had to light up the gas so the fire could start. "I'll turn the fire on, you guys go this is my fault and I have to fix this even if it means that I have to die in it," said the leader. The boys didn't say anything they just walked away, the leader got ready to turn the fire on and shouted for the boys to run out. They started running and the fire started behind them, then an explosion happened and the zombies were burned, and so was the leader.

Sophia Carrillo

Watson Junior High

8th Grade

13 years old

October 15, 2024

Slime

As I exited the vehicle, the sound of my heels clicking resonated in the air. My mission, with my partner, was to investigate this dense forest. The towering trees covered any clear view of what lay hidden inside. Multiple cases of missing women had occurred, and their bodies were discovered in this forest.

Turning to my partner, I asked, "Richard, can you remember the common denominators I mentioned that were found in all the victims?"

Richard responded hesitantly, "Yes, they were all female, between the ages of eighteen and thirty, and they all had some form of connection to one another."

Nodding in agreement, we proceeded to the scene where the first woman had gone missing. Medical examiners and police officers were examining the area. I knelt to inspect the victim and noticed traces of an unusual green substance and burn marks on her. As my

eyes scanned her face I felt like I knew this girl before she died. Richard also noticed my focus and joined me on the ground.

"The team is still uncertain about the identity of this substance that seems to be on all the victims," he told me.

As I attempted to stand up, some of the substance accidentally got onto my shoes. I brushed it off and my partner and I continued our investigation throughout the forest, examining each crime scene. Returning to the office we started a thorough discussion of our theories and findings. Despite our investigation being concluded for today, my mind remained preoccupied with the victims and the mysterious green substance. As I lay in bed that night, staring at the ceiling, sleep couldn't reach me. My thoughts returned to the victims and the peculiar goo that seemed to be a common denominator in these cases.

The slimy green goo was so fascinating. My body pulled itself out of bed and rushed to my car. I turn the vehicle on and drive to the first victim. The forest looks scarier at night. I ran inside and eventually reached her body. I immediately grab the goo and feel my head clear up. Something under my sleeve slides out and mixes with the goo. I watch in fear as the goo combines and turns into a monster. I shriek and try running away but it wraps around my shoes and brings me to the floor.

"AAAH NO!" I shriek and grab a tree's root to avoid the slime getting to me. I pull my feet out of the shoes and start running away. The rocks and spikes dig into my feet and I cry in pain. I trip and fall off a ledge. I scream out and lay on the ground in misery. It felt like I broke my leg and I

sobbed harder. The slime slowly consumed me and burned my skin. When my head is completely submerged I start to suffocate. I slowly and painfully pass away.

Library, Security Public <spl@wsd3.org>

.s is my entry of the Scary story Contest my name is Nicholas Enyeart na My phone number is

4 messages

Enyeart, Nicholas <en[redacted]> Tue, Oct 15, 2024 at 10:29 AM
To: Security Public Library <spl@wsd3.org>

The Goop from the Alleyway

By Nicholas Enyeart

It was a cold and dark night, and Brison couldn't sleep. He tried everything, including warm milk, and melatonin but nothing worked. So he decided to take a night walk to get his mind off of everything. While he was running he saw a weird black cloth. He lifted the fabric and saw a jar, filled with black goop with a note. *To whom this may concern, this is not an ordinary jar it's filled with a substance, a substance too dangerous to be released to this Earth, this goop has abilities that can take over the simple human mind, taking the human body and making it theirs eating until it is nothing but dust.* Of course, Brison laughed it off as a stupid joke, without a thought he took off the bright yellow fabric and grabbed the black glowing goop. He held it for a good minute before it started to burn. He quickly threw it into the empty alleyway that was nearby. Brison looked at his palm still aching from the weird unknown goop it had a hole in it. Brison looked back at the note relaxing there on the back. *To whom this may concern I know that people aren't the greatest at listening if you ever touched the goop call this number 123-32-12. Brison decided that his situation might be worse than he thought. He took out his phone and dialed the number.* After a while of waiting for the other line to pick up Brison decided that this was just a stupid prank.

Brison decided to just go home and figure out everything. Tomorrow he took the jar, the cloth, and the note but not the goop. He didn't think anything of it after all this was just a prank set by a kid for Halloween next week he kept on telling himself. Everything was going smoothly Brison was walking back his footsteps echoing getting louder the more he went down the alleyway. He's been down the alleyway many times. It was the quickest way to get back home. It was dark and quiet; he was alone, or at least he thought. *AHHHHHH!* Brison suddenly heard the most blood-curdling scream. Brison couldn't move after hearing it, his legs just locked where he was in the middle of a barely-lit alleyway. After a few hours of being unable to walk James finally was able to where he heard the scream a few hours ağo. When he got there still trying to catch his breath from running he looked up and became deathly pale. He saw the blob and a skeleton. He ran to the skeleton while trembling his phone trying to call the police, he bent down to see if he could identify the corpse. He finally found an ID that read Samantha Brown. Brison lost it Samamtha was his sister. He looked at the blob and remembered the note saying it eats humans until it's a skelton. Brison decided that he needed a way to stop this monstrous blob. And he had to find it fast.

He took out the letter and realized on the bottom of the letter there were weird letters and symbols he knew that was how to destroy it. He didn't know what these mysterious symbols meant or what they even were. He pulled out his phone and decoded the symbols *!yv^췲.*

(^jǩz^jəy^護yrwk+hujƶjwmlx+a~□驶{ɯql* he goes the decoded message which said, If you released the goop please please please defeat there is only one way to defeat it and that's to burn it with fire temperature exactly 66 degrees celsius. Brison grabbed the jar knowing the police weren't coming,he ran home turned on his fireplace to exactly 150 degrees fahrenheit. And threw the goo in. The goop started melting, leaving a black liquid all over his floor. After a few weeks of no one hearing from Brison they kicked his door down only to see a corpse covered in black goop.

Grade

The Haunted Shed

Written by Ian Spataro

In 2001 when I was only five years old with the name Ian, there was a shed in my backyard. It was a pretty small shed with a worn out greenish color. The shed sat in the corner of our yard. My dad said there was an old door, a lawnmower, and some rusty metal. I was alway to scared to go even next to the shed let alone go in the shed. One night my friends came over and we were going to have a sleepover in tents that night in my backyard.

That night when my friends came over we played some baseball, football, and wrestling. Then we started a fire at about 10:00 PM. We were telling scary stories. My friend Timmy was telling a story. His story was about" Once upon a time there was a monster that lived in another world that was in that shed. The monster was the average size of a man but he had massive hands. The monster would come and take you to the other world. Nobody knew what would happen after he took you to the other world.

After we told our scary/funny story we all went to our tents. It was a very long time till any of us fell asleep. My other friend, Wil Coop,said whoever falls asleep first gets taken by the monster. I think all of my friends believed it but I didn't care and I just wanted to go to bed. Once I fell asleep everyone else did. I woke up at about 2 o'clock in the morning to go get water inside of my house.

Once I walked outside the shed door was open. I was a little scared but I decided to just go to my tent. I couldn't really fall asleep because I knew that the shed door was open. I decided to just hide under my blankets to make me feel safe and hopefully I could fall asleep. When I was hiding under my blanket it sounded like my tent door unzipped. I was too scared to look but then I felt huge hands grab me and when I opened my eyes it looked like we were running towards the shed. The monster took me into the shed and he opened the door. I thought he just didn't know where he was going. But, when he opened the door it was another world. It had a ton of different colors.

The monster jumped into the other world. It felt like we were free falling for twenty minutes. Eventually we saw the ground. I thought we were going to hit the ground and pass away. But, when we hit the ground it felt like we landed on a marshmallow. Every step the monster took, the ground would sink like a trampoline. The buildings were shaped all weird. The monster still had me in his hands and he walked in his house. His house was very empty. There was a bedroom with a bed and a bathroom. In the main area there was a couch. The monster took me up a set of stairs...

At the top of the stairs there was nothing but a window and a room. The monster put me in the room and locked it. I was scared to death. All there was, was a window. I was going to jump but when I looked out the window there was a pool full of some green stuff. So, I waited for the monster to come back and open the door. The moment he opened the door I ran outside to the street and when I was running all I heard was a faint voice yelling," Ian,Ian,Ian". I didn't know what to do. After running for what felt like forever. I ran off a cliff. I thought I was going to die. When I hit the ground all I saw was, I was in a tent and my friends were standing over me. They said I was moving and screaming and screaming in my sleep. I told them I just had a crazy dream. We all laughed. I was still pretty scared. I was only five years old. It was so scary. Eventually I started to laugh with them but that was a mistake. I should have gone inside. I should never have told them.

I was terrified because the shed just exploded. Everyone was in shock they didn't know what to do. But then four monsters with massive hands grabbed my friend and went into the remains of the shed and disappeared. I ran into the house where my parents weren't home. I was going to get the house phone but it was smashed. I decided to run to the police station. After running for what felt like forever I made it there. When I told them they all got in their cars and drove to my house. I sat in the back of a cop car. There were about 5 cop cars with big guns and swat gear. I was in the first car when it pulled up. I saw the shed was fine and there were only my tents there. I felt like I went through a dream. It felt so weird.

I told the cops that they were in the shed. I was so sure of it this time. They surrounded the shed. When they opened the shed door. All they saw was the lawn mower and other lawn tools. They were mad at me and went to my front doors to tell my parents. I told them they weren't there but when they knocked my mom opened the door she was shocked. The cops told my mom that I have been lying to them all day. My parents were so mad it felt like they yelled at me forever.

Once they stopped yelling at me I decided to deal with this on my own. I went to my room and got my nerf guns. I was ready to have a big fight with these monsters. I went to my shed and when I opened the door there was a portal. I jumped in and took a long fall. I went into every house and I couldn't find anything. I heard a loud yell. It sounded like Wil Coop. I took off running as fast as I could. The monsters and my friends were on a diving board towering over a pool full of acid. There were some bones and other remains in the pool. When they saw me they held Wil Coop over the edge of the diving board and threatened to drop him if I shot. I still aimed at the monster. I took the shot and it bounced off of its massive hands and hit the other one and the monster fell off but missed the pool.

I was scared. I thought he would drop Wil Coop. Just the monster and Wil Coop are up there. The monster was talking to the other monster in a weird language. I went up the stairs to the diving board. I made it up there and the monster realized me and threw Wil Coop off the

edge. I was devastated he was gone forever. I felt so bad. I went to swing on the monster. I was so mad and ready to kill this guy. When I charged at him he threw me in the pool....

-in Davis
7th Grade

This is a story about a man—not just any man, but James Henderson, a former marine, famous author, and family man. This story is about his writing career. He mostly writes horror and thriller novels that are very popular. Everyone loved how, in all of his books, he described the events in great detail.

He woke up one early fall morning. There was a nice breezy wind, and the sky was painted in bright reds and oranges. He woke up and made some eggs and bacon. He made food for the kids, dropped them off at school, and picked them up from school. In the gaps between those events in the day, he wrote and wrote.

The first person who wakes up is his wife, Margaret, she loves the smell of the sizzling bacon and can't wait to eat the delicious omelet her husband prepared for her.

"Good morning", she says happily but in a sleepy tone.

He repeats in the same way. Michael and Hannah wake up and come at the same time thanks to their alarm clocks. Michael is a popular jock and is known by everyone at Sierras High School. Hannah isn't very athletic but she has a close-knit group of friends and she gets good grades.

Once James drops the kids off at school and Margaret heads to her job as a psychiatrist, James prepares himself for the silence. The sound of kids not running around, the sound of a vacuum running through the nicely knit carpet, he will finally have a quiet house. The only sounds that are heard are the sounds of the outside world. These sounds include airplanes, cars driving by, and sirens which are never a good sign. James hates crime with a passion. Even though he writes books about crime, murder, and evil he hates it.

He starts to write his new novel. There is a thing James likes to do as he starts a new novel. He locks himself in his room with the door closed. He likes to think of him closing the door from the real world and making the world that he is making on his computer, in his bedroom become the real world. He lays down on the bed and starts typing.

Lately, he has had this fear of being the author that his fans don't want him to be. He is also afraid that that fear will cause him to not write the way he is supposed to. This has caused him to stay up lately and in some cases have insomnia. He has been needing to take various pills that include buspirone, propranolol, and alprazolam. Luckily he has been doing better lately due to the medicine.

He gets a couple of pages on his laptop typed up then a couple of his books fall from his bookshelf. These are the books that he has written, exactly 5

fell. These all are the ones that didn't sit in the reader's mind well. These were the ones readers didn't like.

One of James' biggest worries is that people will not like his books. He has many different phobias and fears which is surprising coming from a famous horror writer. He's afraid of the dark even as an adult, he is afraid of spiders, getting buried alive, and many other things. These fears help develop his writing and cause him to make really dark and twisted works for his readers.

At night, when the kids are home from school and are already in bed his wife is just settling down from a long day of work. She explains how her day went with talking to patients with ADHD, OCD, PTSD, etc. He listens and is able to read Crime and Punishment by Fyodor Dostoevsky and listen to her explaining her most troubling patients and her more pleasant patients.

Marge finally goes to bed and James turns off the lamp. The world goes quiet. The room feels darker than it already was. His wife isn't next to him anymore. He looks at the door. The only visible part of it was the knob. It was a rusty shade of yellow. It was jiggling and turning slowly but loudly at the same time. It made a high-pitched creeky sound that went Eeeh oo, Eeeh oo, Eeeh oo, each creek getting louder and louder. Until it all stopped. The door opened quickly. There was a big shadowy figure in the door frame entering the room. It moved to him slowly. He thought this was a dream. Wake up, wake up, wake up. He told himself repeatedly. He couldn't move he was stuck. The creature was right next to him it climbed up onto the ceiling like a large creepy spider. Then he woke up.

He had the urge to go to the bathroom. He was going to vomit. He hurried and just in time threw up in the toilet. A loud ghastly noise escaped him causing Margaret to wake up. She hurried over to him.

"Are you okay", she said.

" I'm fine he said", he replied, and shortly after he vomited a little more.

"Just go back to bed it's nothing serious". She went back into the room and went to bed. He was finally relaxed. He went to look at his wife and she wasn't there. That was odd, she was just right next to him. There was a force that pushed James up to the ceiling. He knew that this wasn't a dream anymore. It felt too real. The bookshelf was right in front of him. The books that fell, levitated right next to him. They exploded a dark-colored ooze on his face and tiny pieces of paper spread across his face and left multiple small cuts that stung across his face, arms, and legs. The force then pushed him

near the closet. The closet opened up. The closet was a big endless pit of darkness. He was screaming and he was pushed into the dark endless pit.

He stumbled and fell until he hit what felt like a casket, it was sealed shut, and he felt claustrophobic. There were holes in the casket. It was quickly filling up with a dark black liquid. There were strips of pieces of paper with scary terms he used in each of his novels. The casket was quickly filling up with the mysterious black liquid. There was a thought running through his head *he was going to die.*

Then an even bigger thought appeared in his head he couldn't die. James had too much to live for his beautiful wife, his kids, and his career. He knew he had to make a move. He also knew had to move quickly. He kicked and kicked the door to the casket. It was filling up with the streams of words and the black liquid. He made one final kick and the coffin flew open with the liquid. He was falling from the casket. He fell into a room. It was a room he knew very well. It was the room he was sleeping in. He saw himself and his wife right next to him. He touched his sleeping body. He awoke and a large yell escaped him. The screech woke Marge just like in the dream. How did he know that this wasn't just another sick part of his imagination? He knew that he was back.

He realized that since he had been so stressed about being the author other people wanted him to be. The stress probably fueled that nightmare. The words in the casket the books on the wall with the ooze that exploded from the books, they were all signs. The monster was the embodiment of his stress. He has been so scared of having writer's block and worried his readers wouldn't like his new book. Well, I guess James won't have to worry about what his next book will be about. He is going to turn his nightmare into the best horror novel the world has ever read.

Hospital horror

I slowly opened my eyes to see a bright white light. I turned my head to see a clock saying the time and date. It's 3:15 am on Friday October 13th. I'm laying down on a bed covered in a blanket but it still feels cold.All I know is my stomach hurts but I can't remember. I can't remember anything else as well as my head feels fuzzy. So I don't know my name, my age, how I got here, and where I really even am. I turned to the other side and saw I was hooked up to a machine. I woke up when I heard a beeping noise. I saw a card next to me so I picked it up. It looked as if it were a birthday card.

It read,"Happy 17th birthday Zoe!" So I can assume that I am Zoe and I just turned 17. I hate the fact that I didn't understand. I feel as though there are things I should know, but when I try to remember all I see is like static. I don't understand anything about myself and it's difficult. I know that I am in a hospital, but for what?

I got pulled from my thoughts when I heard a noise. It sounded as if something metal had fallen making the hallway echo in response. I turned around quickly to see where the noise had come from. There was nothing there but it looked as if something had rushed past the door to another room. I decided to try and go see what was happening. When I opened the door I felt my heart stop for a second.

The hallway looked as if someone had broken in. There was glass and papers everywhere. There had been a trail of blood going down the hall passing the doorway to enter another. The lights were still on but some started to flicker and dim. There was an awkward smell when I opened the door. I didn;t want to know what it was and I didnt want to figure out the source either.

I decided that I shouldn't just stay in the room. It was oddly quiet to the point you would think it was abandoned. How could it be abandoned if I was still in here though? These are some of the thoughts running in my head. Another thought that I had is where did the noise come from. If I'm here all by myself then how was there noise? My mind started running to different answers but mostly all negative. What if I wasn't alone?

I didn't want to think about that possibility so I started walking down the hall. That's when I saw that one of the rooms had been open. The door looked as if it were broken down. There were metal tools all around the room. I stepped into the room trying to see if there was anything or anyone. On the bedside table I found a news article.

It said," News about the hospital break ins and murders!" My mouth went dry. There was a lump in my throat not allowing me to speak or to make noise. Then I heard something behind me. It sounded like someone was talking.

"There's nothing here anymore. Why can't we just head to the next?" One of the voices had said. This sounded like a male voice. The voice sent shivers down my spine as I started to piece together all the clues. What scared me even more was that I didn't know who he was talking to.

"This is because we can't go too soon as people would start to suspect and figure out our pattern. Plus we can stay here for a little while like a camp." Another voice had said. This one sounded more like a female voice. She spoke with such power that it made me stop for a little while.

Then I started to realize just exactly what they meant.they were going to stay here. What will I do? What if I run into them? Will they kill me? These are only some of the questions that came up when I had processed. That's when I realized. I am still out in the open in a room that has almost no hiding spots, and they are almost right outside the room.

I was slowly panicking as I could hear them walking. They were walking right towards the door!

"I mean this place isn't too bad so we can get food and drinks without paying." The male voice had said trying to agree with the female voice.

"We don't pay for our food anyways." The female voice said with some sarcasm in her voice. This time when I heard them they were walking closer to the room. They were probably around 6 steps from the door. I tried to hide under the bed but had accidentally knocked down the bedside table.

"What was that!" I heard the male whisper to the other voice.

"I don't know. But who would be here? We..." I could only hear her say half of what she said but I could feel the pain in my stomach worsen. The woman opened the door and I froze. The woman looked confused as the man walked up behind her.

"Why did you stop? Is someone there?" The man asked as he walked behind her. I froze with fear. I don't know what to do.

"What? I don't see anyone. So how? How did that noise happen?" The woman said as her face was turning pale. They can't see me? I thought to myself. I walked closer to them but they didn't react. They really can't see me. But how?

I decided I didn't want to really know so I decided to go back to the room I woke up in. They didn't react when I left either. They said some other things but I didn't hear. When I got to the room I noticed that it looked as if something was still in the bed. When I got closer I could see blood on the blanket. I uncovered whatever was on the bed and saw... myself?

All I could see was me sitting on the bed with a stab wound covering the white sheets and blanket in blood and the machine beeping to show my heart rate. I can't believe it.

All this time I was dead.

The Boy Who Walked Between

By: Anberlin Fillinger

Prologue

One year ago, in Veilwood, where tall buildings loomed and a castle stood guard over the kingdom ruled by King Elias and Queen Clara, I awoke in an abandoned gas station with its thick fog around, its dusty tinted glass, its tore-up white roof, and its holes in the walls seeming through and the stars blinked overhead like distant watchers. My vision blurred as I pushed myself upright, a raspy voice cutting through the haze.

"Get up slowly, lad. Steady."

My head felt fuzzy, and a dull ache throbbed behind my eyes. As I steadied myself, a strange tickling sensation coursed through my body. When my sight cleared, I saw him—a old man shimmering like mist, his smile warm but unsettling. He wore a beret, scruffy hairs sprouted from his chin, and he had a tattered jacket over dusty brown pants. Kneeling beside me, he studied my bewilderment with a hand on his scruffy chin.

"Where am I?" I asked, my voice barely a whisper.

"Welcome to my humble abode and shop," he replied. "I call it Albert's Spook Station."

I looked around at shelves lined with bizarre bottles and snacks, shimmering like holograms but distinctly ghostly. An unsettling creak from the roof sent chills down my spine. Suddenly, I noticed the old mattress beneath me and shot a fearful glance at the man. "Who are you?!"

"Don't be afraid; I'm Albert," he said, his tone gentle, like an old man comforting a child.

Before I could process his name, panic surged through me. I scrambled to my feet, but as I stepped forward, my foot plunged through the rotting floorboards! I took another step to see if I was imagining it, and my other foot fell through too, the splintering wood sending a jolt of panic through me.

"Woah, woah, lad, take it easy. I mean no harm," Albert said.

"But you're a ghost!" I stammered, struggling to free my legs.

Albert stepped closer, his gaze steady. "I am a ghost, but you might want to check yourself, lad."

My eyes widened as I slowly put my hands up, flipping them over and over. The outlines of the floorboards shimmered through them, and a gasp escaped my lips. I felt nothing but the freezing air through my body, but I could feel my clothes a ruffled ocean-blue jacket, a white

shirt, and black shorts. Beside me, a puddle reflected the moonlight filtering through a hole in the roof. My messy black hair, light teal eyes, and bright white skin stared back at me, my body just as shimmery as Albert's. I quickly put my hands to my face and gasped. My voice was lost, and my heart raced, palms clammy. Overwhelmed, I huffed and grabbed my shirt over my heart, trying to soothe its pounding.

"Did I really die?" I whispered.

Albert chuckled lightly. "Well, at least you're not all ghost."

"What do you mean?" I asked, spinning to him.

Albert pointed at my left leg, wrapped in a bandage, blood seeping through. "So did I die, or is this just a dream?"

I cringed from the pain in my leg. *This couldn't be a dream* I told myself.

"Well, you almost died," Albert assured me.

"Almost?"

"I saved you by putting part of my spirit in you—a ghost trick. You wouldn't have survived that fire accident otherwise lad."

I gasped. "What fire accident?"

"You don't remember?" He raised an eyebrow, a hint of surprise in his voice. "Huh, I thought you'd remember. To be honest, I saved you because I believe not all humans are bad. In my time, I've seen kindness amidst the chaos.

I thought it was worth showing the other ghosts that we don't need to go to war with humans, just over how you young folks changed the city."

His words resonated with me but fear still gripped my heart.

Albert added, "Although you did hit your head pretty hard."

That explained the worst headache in the world. Albert moved towards me and helped me back to sitting on the mattress. I felt a grumble in my stomach like a roaring lion.

"Do you remember your own name?" he asked.

My eyes widened, my headache like a giant blur. The words were in the back of my mind but wouldn't come out. After a long pause, I winced, trying to find them.

"Malcolm, my name is Malcolm," I said slowly. A glass bottle filled with a white glowing liquid and a plate of goopy light blue sludge appeared in my lap, I didn't even notice the old geezer put in my lap.

"Eat up, Malcom. You need to drink that."

He pointed at the bottle, and I slowly grabbed it. The label read "Phantom Fuel." "What is this?" I asked.

"Phantom Fuel," he answered, his voice warm like a hearth on a winter's night. "It's what we ghosts drink for energy. Keeps us able to do stuff in this world."

"What if we drink too much?" I could hardly believe I was referring to myself as one of them.

Albert chuckled, his eyes twinkling. "If we drink more than three-quarters, we go what we ghosts call Frenzy Spirited. It's like too much coffee for us. We float all over the place, causing chaos. That's what humans believe is haunting—the truth is, it's just a ghost on a caffeine rush!"

He grinned. "Not a great way to make friends."

"But in your case, you should drink it, so my ghost part stays with you. It's still incomplete. Better to be half alive than a pile of ash." He chuckled again.

"Huh."

I looked at the Phantom Fuel, cringing. "I really have to drink this?"

"Oh yeah, you do. Twice a day."

I winced, searching in his expression for any sign of jest, but he simply smiled, waiting for me to drink. I opened the lid, hesitated, then took a deep breath. *Just get over it with* I thought. I drank the Phantom Fuel. It tasted like nasty medicine—raisin mush blended into an awful smoothie. I fought not to spit it out, I was tempted to get my revenge by spitting it back at Albert. After swallowing, I shivered, sticking my tongue out to rid myself of the taste.

"You'll learn to love it," Albert said with a grin.

"I doubt that."

I hesitated again before sampling the glowing blue sludge on the plate with the rusted spoon Albert had retrieved for

me. *Maybe, this would taste better.* I thought to myself. I took a bite.

Nope.

I was wrong.

It tasted terrible! Like moldy bread and mud mixed with expired milk. I raised my hands, tongue out, patting my mouth in desperation to cleanse it.

Albert laughed wickedly. "I guess you don't appreciate a fine meal, eh? You kids don't realize a perfectly good meal when it's right in front of you."

"I'd rather have human food." I protested and mumbled.

"I could go get some from the human shops," he offered, a twinkle in his eye. "But that could take some time, and you might find that you have to get used to ghost cuisine!"

On the Haunted Railroad, all roads lead to McPherson's Manor. Abandoned it lay, in the darkness of fog it stayed. Old residents claim it to be haunted by an individual who would pop out of nowhere, in the middle of the night. Woosh! It always goes fast, so nobody can see him. One day, Richard decided to explore without his parents knowing. He walked up to the entrance and opened the door.

Waiting for him, the figure, who looked as tall as a giant, greeted him. "WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!" shouted the ever so eerily figure. The boy screamed, "I-I-I'm s-sorry...AHHHHHH", as the boy ran away, his footsteps getting louder, And Louder, AND LOUDER. Then it stopped. He stopped. The boy stopped. He.. just couldn't move. He wasn't too weak, but there was something... holding on for dear life. He screamed," AHHHH GET OFF MEEEEE", but no one heard.

What he thought to be a fun adventure turned into a nightmare in disguise. As he wailed and cried and begged for help, just hoping someone would save him, it seemed hopeless. As the creature bit into his skin, he wailed out one last time. But it was too late. As he drifted in and out of consciousness, he felt something... he looked at his skin and it was pitch black. He looked at his wound and it was healed. He had become his worst nightmare.

We never knew what happened to the boy after that day. Rumors that his spirit remains at the manor were never fully proven. All we did know was that he was never the same ever again.

2 YEARS LATER

Welp, here's some news. Local police are investigating the incident at McPherson Manor. Lets hope they don't suffer the same fate as the boy. As the police approached the manor, they started hearing things in the distance. Not loud sounds, but loud enough to hear them.

They walked up the steps, a group of around 4 people. The point man yelled as they got ready to breach the door. "Stafford County Sheriff's Department! Open up right now!". They breached the door and they heard a crying sound. The sound came from upstairs, so SGT. Evans and LT. Daniels went up while the other two stayed downstairs. As they ascended the stairs, they heard screams from the other two officers.

They immediately went downstairs and saw the most horrifying sight imaginable. Those two officers lay on the floor, disconfigured, with no blood or sight of who did it. As they went to examine the bodies, Evans was grabbed by an

opaque spirit, black in color. "Help me!!!", the officer pleaded. All Daniels could do was watch as the spirit held on and started flinging Evans across the room. By the time the rampage was over, Evans lay upon the pile of bodies, dead.

Before the last officer had time to react, the spirit broke his arms and legs, rendering him unconscious. As he woke up, He saw the spirit laying over him. Looking around, he saw he had no arms or legs, but no pain. As he fell dead, the story of the McPherson Manor grew national. First responders everywhere, hoping nobody would make the same mistake the 5 others did.

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.naiti Way

.ne Orphanage

A group of 5 teenagers decided to spend the night on Halloween in an old burnt-down orphanage that everyone claimed to be haunted. They intended to prove them wrong. As they approached the gate, it creaked open by itself. One of the group members remarked, "This isn't even haunted or scary. Let's go explore." As they were exploring, one of them got lost, causing the group to panic and search for her.

They find the girl scrunched up and they decide to leave the orphanage but as they try to open the door it doesn't open and they are now trapped in the place. They all get scared but one of the group members stands up saying that they should just wait until the morning. So the group agrees and they start telling scary stories. As they tell their stories one of them leaves to find a bathroom and after a while, they notice that their friend hasn't come back and seconds later they hear screaming.

They ran to check it out only to find their poor friend's hair clip. They look around looking for their friend but can't find her. So they make desperate attempts to leave the orphanage but nothing works. They get even more scared when they hear a child's voice and one of them decides to check it out. As he goes he's a dripping noise he goes and finds out that the dripping noise... It's their friend and before he can scream he is grabbed and he also goes missing. The group noticed that it had been 15 minutes since he left to check out the screaming and he had not returned.

They decide to go look for him but there are only three of them left as they go look for him one of them falls through a board hurting themselves but tells the other two "Go keep looking for them. I'll be fine". As she says that she hears something eerie and gets scared calling for the others but her screams are not heard. She is also talking like the other two. Two friends can't find them so they go back to the hole calling the girl's name. "Becky, Becky! Where are you, where did you go," they said but then the boy slipped on something and he got up and looked at his hand only seeing blood. The two then realize that the reason no one comes into the orphanage is because no one gets out.

They then recall the story the teacher had read to them about the Abyss. They heard it was a monster that took, killed, and stuck to ceilings for a meal later. They then realize that they aren't safe splitting up because the abyss attacks when you are alone and it is always watching you and always knows what you are going to do. The two are scared to realize that the monster is real. They think back to the story forgetting the main thing about the abyss but can't remember.

As they walk back one of them remembers something about the abyss he then says "The abyss eats the bones of its victims so it can fit in their body". The girl then reveals that she is in the abyss and only revealed it because he was close to finding out. The boy then realizes that he is the last victim and everyone is already dead. He ran like hell when the abyss showed its dark goopy body and chased him. The abyss knew the halls better than anyone and the abyss caught its prey right as morning came, the abyss already had killed and eaten the 5 teens. You may be wondering how the Abyss got the first girl. Well, it all happened when her bullies chased her into the orphanage and it didn't take long before the girl I mean the Abyss walked out, luring more teens to their demise.

This is a student email account monitored by Widefield School District. The contents of this email are governed by state laws and the board policies of the school district.

Allen, Zuriel Mon, Oct 28, 2024 at 1:47 PM

To: Ashley Tabrum <duleyashley@wsd3.org>, Security Public Library <spl@wsd3.org>

Grade 8th
Phone Numb[redacted]
Sproul Junior High

[Quoted text hidden]

THE HAUNTED STREET

ON THE NIGHT OF OCTOBER 18TH IN THE TOWN OF COLORADO SPRINGS MARLEY AND HIS FRIENDS PAUL, AND JORDAN WERE RIDING THEIR BIKES NEAR THE SKATEPARK. ITS NOT COMMON TO FIND AN ABANDONED STREET IN THE MIDDLE OF SUBURBAN COLORADO SPRINGS SINCE ITS SO MODERN NOW. BUT PAUL FOUND THE STREET AND TOLD MARLEY AND JORDAN TO GO EXPLORE IT WITH THEM. MARLEY TURNED THE OPPORTUNITY DOWN BECAUSE HES A BIG BABY. JORDAN ALSO TURNED IT DOWN BUT IT WAS NOT BECAUSE HES A BABY ITS BECAUSE HE ISN'T PREPARED. SEVERAL DAYS LATER ON OCTOBER 31ST MARLEY AND HIS FRIENDS DECIDED TO GO ONTO THE HAUNTED STREET. THE STREET WAS CALLED APPALACIAN STREET. THEY DROVE FROM SECURITY WIDEFIELD TO EASTERN COLORADO SPRINGS WHICH TOOK 12 MINS. IMMEDIATELY GOING ONTO THE STREET THEY COULD SEE AN OLD ABANDONED MCDONALDS AND COSTCO WAREHOUSE WHERE THERE WAS OLD TORN UP SIGNS AND BLOOD ON THE DRIVEWAY. JORDAN DIDN'T LIKE THAT SO HE STAYED IN THE CAR WHILE WE WENT INTO THE COSTCO. ONCE MARLEY AND PAUL ENTERED THE COSTCO ALREADY SOMETHING SEEMED VERY FISHY. THERE WAS STOCKED SHELVES AND THE CHECKOUT WAS WORKING BUT THERE WAS NO LIGHT FOR SOME REASON. BUT THINGS GOT EVEN WORSE WHEN THEY WENT TOWARDS THE BACK OF THE STORE. THERE WAS LITERAL BONES ON THE GROUND FROM HUMANS WITH RATS EATING AWAY AT THE MEAT. AT THIS POINT THEY ARE TRAUMITIZED AND QUICKLY RAN OUT THE COSTCO. THEY WENT BACK INTO THE CAR AND WENT TO THE MCDONALDS. THIS TIME JORDAN JOINED IN. ONCE EVERYONE GOT INSIDE IT WAS A WAY DIFFERENT STORY THAN

COSTCO. ON THE WALLS IT LOOKED LIKE BIG MAC SAUCE WAS SPLASHED ONTO IT AND THE SPIDERS WAS AT LEAST 15 POUNDS AND RUNNING EVERYWHERE THE CREW WENT TO. MARLEY FOUND A BIG MAC BOX AND HE OPENED IT TO FIND A MOLDY BIGMAC THAT WAS COMPLETELY GREEN AND REEKED OF OLD DRYWALL. PAUL FOUND A CHICKEN NUGGET BOX AND IT WAS FULL OF CRUSHED UP RAT TAILS. JORDAN FOUND A MC FLURRY CUP FULL OF BLOOD. BUT THATS NOT EVEN THE WORST PART BECAUSE THEY HEARD A SHREEEEEEEEEEEEIIIIIIK SOUND WHICH MADE PAUL SOIL HIS PANTS A BIT. MARLEY SAW A SHADOW AND WAS READY TO THROW THE MC FLURRY MACHINE AT THE SHADOW. AN OLD MAN ABOUT 55-63 YEARS OLD CAME RUNNING OUT AND THANK GOODNESS MARLEY MISSED. THE OLD MAN SAID WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING HERE PAUL SAID WE ARE EXPLORING THE STREET AND SO FAR ITS SUPER SCARY. IVE LIVED IN THIS MCDONALDS FOR 55 YEARS AND NO ONE HAS EVER VISITED HERE. HOW OLD ARE YOU KIDS SAID THE OLD MAN. 14 SAID JORDAN. 15 SAID MARLEY. 16 SAID PAUL. WELL IM 64 YEARS OLD SAID THE OLD MAN. SO YOU'VE BEEN LIVING HERE SINCE YOU WERE 9 YEARS OLD? YUP SAID THE OLD MAN. WE WERE GONNA GO EXPLORE THE APARTMENT BUILDING AFTER THIS. CAN I JOIN SAID THE OLD MAN. SURE EVERYONE SAID. 10 MINS LATER THEY ARRIVED AT THE OLD APARTMENT BUILDING. DANG HOW OLD IS THIS BUILDING SAID MARLEY. IT WAS BUILT IN 1972 AND WAS ABANDONED IN 2005 SAID THE OLD MAN. WOW THAT'S A LONG TIME. ANYWAYS READY TO GO IN SAID THE OLD MAN. ONCE THEY ENTERED THE BUILDING THEY SMELLED VERY ODD AMMONIA FROM THE APPLE JUICE ON THE LOBBY DESK. THE OLD MAN OPENED THE DOOR ON THE FIFTH FLOOR AND NOTHING HAPPENED UNTIL HE OPENED THE BEDROOM DOOR. BATS FLEW OUT WHEN HE OPENED THE DOOR. NO ONE

ELSE KNEW ABOUT THIS BESIDES THE OLD MAN. WHEN MARLEY OPENED THE PANTRY HE FOUND FOOD THAT SURPRISINGLY DIDN'T LOOK OR SMELL EXPIRED BUT WHEN HE OPENED A CAN OF PINEAPPLE HE FOUND SPIDER EYES. PAUL WENT TO THE LAUNDRY ROOM AND FOUND OLD CLOTHES BUT IN THE DRYER HE FOUND A WHOLE BODY STUFFED IN THERE. JORDAN WENT TO THE BATHROOM AND FOUND TOOLS UNDERNEATH THE SINK SO HE FIGURED THEY WERE DOING OLD PLUMBING PRACTICE. EVERYONE WENT UP TO THE SEVENTEENTH FLOOR AND FOUND JUST ONE APARTMENT WHICH HAD LIGHTS ON AFTER 19 YEARS. BUT THEN ONCE THEY OPENED THE DOOR A BIG BLACK SHADOW APPERED AND MADE EVERYONE BLACK OUT."

TO BE CONTINUED.....

The revenge of the spirit

4 messages

Pascua, Izabel >
To: Security Public Library <spl@wsd3.org>

Wed, Oct 30, 2024 at 2:42 PM

The revenge of the spirits

By. Izabel Pascua

In 1982, an old orphanage closed due to bankruptcy and they were forced to leave everything behind. Over time, nature reclaimed the abandoned building and became home to various wildlife, including bears and wolves.

On a foggy and brisk Halloween morning on Kodiak Island, a little girl wandered off into the woods, unaware of the dangers posed by the bears and wolves that now call the area home. A wolf pack lurks in the shadows of the forest hunting for prey in their new home. At the same time, the bears eat leftover food in the orphanage.

A police station had a Halloween party in the morning in 1983. The police station gets a call about a little girl who wanders off into the woods. 18 people rush to get into their search and rescue uniforms and take their walkmans, flash flashlights, and a gun just in case.

"Do you think she's still alive?" Elijah mutters.

"There's a possibility that she might be alive," Jake responds.

"Well let's hope you are right, this is your first mission as a caption," Elijah said

"Let's hope I made the right call," Jake responded with a worried voice thinking about her worried parents. The 18 people head out, then they follow the girl's muddy footsteps to the orphanage that was abandoned because kids went missing in the care of that orphanage. As they approached the orphanage one of them spotted six crows sitting on a spiked metal fence.

" Wow, I've never seen six crows before," one of them said. 17 of them looked at the six crows except for Jake, who thought it was ridiculous that they were surprised that six crows were sitting on the fence.

"When my grandma died she also spotted six crows," said a guy next to the man who spotted the six crows. Then they felt a gust of wind blow, sounding like a voice talking. It said *get out of here NOW.*

"Ummm I going crazy or did I just hear a voice," a man said

"I hear it too," said a woman all of them agreed

"Let's keep going," Jake said as he rolled his eyes, thinking that the wind was howling. As they entered they all turned on their flashlights and they all saw black goo on the floor and ceiling, they also saw all of the stuff was still there.

"What is all of this," said Eilah

" Is sticky," said one of the men as he picked up the black goo and squashed it between his fingers.

"Let's watch out for bears, I don't feel like dying today," Jake said. The group moved into the next room. A group of bears and wolves emerged from the shadows. The wolves climbed into a broken window. As if they were planning an attack on the group and the bears lurked outside in the shadows.

"Hey, Let's try to split up so you can find her quicker" Jake suggested,

"There will be 6 groups," he said, and they all agreed.

.nber 1 Your group will get the bedrooms, number 2 You will get the kitchen And we will get the , oh and remember if you see a bear or a wolf pull the trigger and we will come running to you guys, Jake said.

Group 1 went to the bedrooms, and looked around.

"I wonder why they left all the things here," said one of the men

"Maybe because they saw bears and left, there are more bear sightings" responded a woman

"I guess so," the man said

"Umm, guys, am I seeing things because there's a pair of eyes staring at me" a guy said pointing a flashlight under the bed.

" Don't be so freaked out man it's probably just a wild animal or something, I can't believe you're that scared of some wild animal, you know what let me prove you scaredy-cat" The man said, sounding off. As he got closer and closer to the under-the-bed the others were trying to convince him not to stick his arm under the bed.

"Come on guys, you can't tell that you're all scared of some animal," said the man confidently. The man lay down and slowly stuck his arm under the bed.

"See-" Suddenly, something snatched his arm, and before he could react, his body was violently pulled under the bed, leaving everyone in shock. Then something behind them growled in an einstein, and the wolves attacked them.

They regroup not noticing that some of them are missing. Suddenly they hear something growling at them. They slowly look behind them and see a pack of bears and wolves but something looks off about them. They look like they have black goo coming from their eyes and salivating from their mouth...immediately the wolves and bears attack them, and they all run for their lives. Hearing the screams Jake, Elijah, and Olivia run for their lives and into the basement. A pack of wolves follows them but gets lost, hungry for revenge. The basement looked old and worn out, it was also pitch black a hint of light came from the window.

"Wha-what happened, " said Jake with shaky hands and teary eyes

"I-I don't know, there-they're all dead a-all of them" replied Elijah also with teary eyes and shaky hands.

"' I'm scared" Olivia replied Jake comforts Olivia by hugging her

"Shh is ok will be ok," jest as Jake said that they heard a little girl laugh. It was coming from the corner of the basement.

"Umm does anyone have a flashlight" Jake said

"Yeah-yeah I do, here," said Olivia Jake grabbed the flashlight from the shaky hands of Olivia. Jake shined the Flashlight.

"What is this place?" said Elijah feeling sick seeing the cages and the dead kids corps in it. Then the laugh grew louder, and the three slowly walked to the laughter. They looked at the corner and saw a little girl standing in the corner facing the wall wearing an old white gown, having long thick black messy hair that looked like I touched her butt and You could barely see her arms.

"Hey, are you lost... I don't think you should be here. There are bears and wolves here. It's not safe here," Elijah said sacredly.

"Oh I'm not lost oh no," said an echoing voice that sounded like it was coming from the girl.

"Who-who are you," Elijah responded with a frightened voice

"I'm the girl you were looking for" replied the girl

"We need you to come with us, we...will try to get you back safely" Jake replied as he remembered all the people that got slaughtered by the bears and wolves.

'"Hahaha, you're pretty silly, you still want to save me after what happened," the girl said.

"What do you mean" Jake replied confused.

"Oh, you know... all the people that died or should I say slaughtered," said the girl.

.v-how do you know that," Jake said while the other two looked in shock.

Hahaha, oh poor you, I meant all the friends that died and the blood you owe them for trying to save .ıe girl all alone in the forest and maybe a little more blood you owe but I'll save that for you to figure ut," the girl said to Jake, Olvila and, Elija was shocked at what she said.

"What do you mean?" said Jake

"This," said the little girl then they heard footsteps followed by a growl coming from upstairs.

"Your times running out Jake," said the girl

"WHAT DO YOU MEAN ?" Jake shouted, covering his mouth in shock at what he had done.

"Wow, you do have a death wish, well I guess it's my turn" She slowly turned around...

"What the frick," Jack said as he looked at the girl. She looked like a rotting corpse; she had one arm missing and an eye dangling from her head.

"I forgot to introduce myself, my name is Lily I was a prisoner in the orphanage they kept me here in this cage rotting for years," Lily said still with an echoing voice.

Before Jake could speak she started again

"I was the one who brought your group here, you poor things followed a corpse all the way here then we possessed all the bears and wolves in the forest," Lily said smiling at them.

"It's a shame I have to say goodbye to my new "friends"...but it's for a good cost bye-bye "friends," that was Lily's last words as her body instantly fell to the ground. Jake and the others felt something pass them. Then they heard growling coming closer, the wolves went down the stairs and into the basement.

"RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!" Jake's panicked voice echoed through the abandoned hall as they all sprinted for the exit. The sound of snarling grew louder as the wolves closed in. With a surge of desperation, Jake lunged for the door, his trembling hand gripping the handle as he threw his weight against it. The door creaked open just in time, Jake waited for the other as they ran out Jake slammed the door closed Elija and Oliva helped keep the door closed as the wolves slammed their body trying to open the door.

"Do you think will make it if we run," Jake said

"No, the wolves are fast we won't make it," Elija said

"So what's the plan," Oliva said

"one of us needs to hold them back," Elija said before anyone could say something Elija said "I'll do it," he said boldly.

"What are you insane? Why would you do that," said Jake, the door almost unattached from the building.

"There's no time for that go," Elija said

"NO I WON'T DO IT," Jake yelled

"JAKE LOOK AT ME," Elija yelled back, Jake turned his head around

"Listen I love you and you know that I would kill myself if I ever see you die and I know you would to... I don't want you to die so please let me do this for you," Jake was too shocked to say anything his eyes watered so did Oliva and Elija's eyes.

" I love you, brother," Elija pushed Jake and Oliva back as the door opened and the ravaged wolves went in for the kill. They stumbled out into the night, the wolves' hungry growls fading into the distance. "Aaaaa," Elijah screamed bloody murder as Jake and Olilva ran for their lives. Red eyes stared at them from the trees.

"We should be good for now," said Jake out of breath

"Ok," said Olilva of breath to

"Hey do you feel like something is watching you or stalking you," Oliva said in a scared voice "your right I do, umm but we're so close to the town," Jake said still with tears in his eyes. Suddenly a bear popped up out of nowhere and grabbed Oliva by the shoulder and threw her to the ground.

,V...I LOVE YOU" Oliva said with tears in his eyes as gasping for breath, instinctively Jake ran he ,ant to but he still kept running and running. Until he reached the town. He realized that the town ,ilent.

A pack of wolves and bears sneakily followed from behind him. "Help anyone Help me please..." Jake screamed and cried at the top of his lungs, then he heard a laugh not a normal laugh but an echoing laugh like the one in the basement. It was coming from his house Jake ran to his house unhinging the door when Jake got in he saw a streak of blood coming from the bedroom. Jake darted to the kitchen to grab a knife and ran to his mother's and father's room, when he went to the room he saw the same girl from the basement. Lily turned around, staring Jake dead in the eyes. He didn't realize the blood on her arm, gown and the knife in her hand. She looked the same as she did in the basement. Jake was too focused on Lily so he forgot about his parents.

"What are you doing here," Jake said

"Well you came here faster than I thought," said Lily

"What do you want from us," Jake said

"Well I don't think "us" is a good word to use after all you are alone, in this cruel and dark world," Lily said

"What do you mean" Jake replied

Remember what I said in the basement

" Maybe a little more blood you owe but I'll save that for you to figure out," Lily repeated.

"Well I meant you Jake, Williams, you killed everyone in your group and in your town, even your brother, fiance, and, oh and don't forget your lovely parents," Lily said. She went to the side. Jake almost dropped his knife seeing his parents covered in blood and everything around it.

"What did you do," Jake said shocked

"Are you blind ?" said Lily

"I killed them" Lily replied

"No, Aaaaaah" Lily screamed. Jake woke up from the shock, he saw Lily's body on the ground. Then he felt something behind him. He quickly turned around so hard he fell down. He saw a bright light that looks the shape of an angel, It was so bright he couldn't see anything the angel said

"Go to the bay, you will be safe there." got up and sprinted outside the broken door he wasted no time and headed for the bay then he heard something chasing him but he didn't care. After a while of running me into the bay, he saw a big ship. He saw a glimpse of the words on the side of the boat that said navy seal. He smiled thinking he was safe then a bear came out and bit him on the shoulder then he heard shots firing and one got the bear.

"COME HERE, "said an army guy Jake ran to the safe place

"Are you ok?" said one of the military guy

"Is there anyone else alive ?" the military guy said

"No...it's just me, " said Jake

"Ok, " said the military guy

"LET'S RETREAT" shouted the military guy.

ne years have rolled on, Jake has cultivated a warm and loving family, surrounded by the laughter of his wife and children. Each day, he finds delight in the little moments—family dinners where yone shares stories, weekend adventures that spark excitement, and quiet evenings filled with tender nversations. Despite the happiness that envelops him, the shadows of his past linger, sometimes emerging in quiet moments of reflection. Memories he thought he had buried resurface, reminding him of the struggles and heartaches he once faced. However, with each passing day, he is gradually discovering a sense of peace amidst the turmoil. He is learning to navigate his emotions, using them as stepping stones toward a brighter future. The journey is not always easy, but Jake is committed to moving forward, embracing both the present and the hope that lies ahead.

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Library, Security Public <spl@wsd3.org> Wed, Oct 30, 2024 at 3:25 PM
To: "Pascua, Izabel" <

Hello! Please include your age, grade, and a phone number so we may enter you into our contest.
Thank you!
[Quoted text hidden]

Pascua, Izabel Thu, Oct 31, 2024 at 7:44 AM
To: "Library, Security Public" <spl@wsd3.org>

age:13
Grade: 7
phone numbe
[Quoted text hidden]

Library, Security Public <spl@wsd3.org> Thu, Oct 31, 2024 at 12:46 PM
To: "Pascua, Izabel" >

Thank you for your submission! We look forward to reading it. Winners will be announced in early November. Good luck!
[Quoted text hidden]

Mike was leaving school and hopped on the train, but nobody was on the train. When he got home he opened the door and walked in his house, he then slammed the door. The house shook and he saw something in the kitchen. As Mike walked in the kitchen he black out. He woke up tied up in a train. He got up and ran. Death himself was after him. Mike's heart was beating so fast he could not breathe.

He could not see too dark fog everywhere, one light in the dark, the train fading away. Footsteps DEATH was after him. The scythe dragging on the ground trees falling. Mike knew and said "I'm being watched" In a dark and cold voice. He lived close to a dock. He ran as fast as he could and got in the boat. The engine sputtered and stopped again and again, boom smoke and fire he hopped on the next boat and started the boat, death close, the ocean smoth, the engine stopped, the bright moon the howling wind all he could do was paddle the boat slow but steady.

The next morning when he woke up he walked to the front of the boat look and there death on the shore standing there he disappears and day becomes night i becomes cold the sky red Mike started the boat and got it to run and rode away into the dark red moon he hit land the sky still red and dark the sees a fishing house and lokes in and sees a man but he h seen noone at all he know it is death so he walks for hours he hears a tree fall a dragging sound he runs he knows that sound but it all around him death has called in help. "There's no running" death says but Mike says proudly "There is only one death". Death comated " YOU ARE WRONG" Mike can't think or breathe his heart pumping.

Scary Story

One day a companionless girl ran away from her home because of how abusive her father was toward her. She ran and ran as far away as she could get away from her house. She was very worried that something horrendous was going to happen to her, but she thought that anything that happens could not ever be worse than her father. Once she stopped to take a break because she was out of breath, she looked up and saw this huge looking house with a yellow-ish light shining out of a window. She thought to herself, it was very cold and tiring running what felt like hours, even days to get away, so she at least had to take a break so she decided to start walking towards the house. She felt like something was following her, she heard footsteps behind her, she kept looking back to see what was there but found nothing. She continued to walk, the footsteps got louder, faster as if they or them could be getting closer to me, she looked back frightened by what she heard.

It's almost as if someone was breaking down trees by how loud they walked, almost as if it was something huge, taller than anything she has ever heard before. She kept walking, the sound had stopped for a while. Then she heard someone yell

"GET IN THE HOUSE FAST, RUN GIRL RUN AS FAST AS YOU CAN."

She started running as fast as she could but it was as if her legs were jello unable to move fast enough, she kept falling down and was almost walking.

" RUN RUN RUNNNNNN" she heard yelling again, she kept running but the house was not moving nor coming toward her. It was almost as if she was stuck and was moving in one place the whole time. She was stuck, she looked behind her and saw a guy with a gas mask on, almost as if it was glued to his face and had no way of coming off. He grabbed her arm very tightly and took her into the woods, the trees and the thorns left deep cuts all throughout her arms and legs.

They finally arrived at a shack with blood all over the wooden walls that had heads poking out of the walls as if they were hammered onto the house. She screamed at the top of her lungs but nothing could be heard. She thought to herself

"I am trapped forever, I'm going to die all alone, all the sudden she couldn't see anything, as if she was stuck in a tunnel with no light, just pure darkness. She heard the old wood creaking as if it had been there for centuries. The girl felt around to try and find a light switch or something that could help her. She found something it was pointy, almost like it had a sharp end. She moved it up and down left and right to see if it was a way out, but when she pressed it a light turned on she was in a clear box that seemed to be in the sky. All of a sudden spiders and bats started to swarm the box, then snakes, and then the same guy with the mask appeared with his gas mask on. He said to me

" I have been watching you for years, since you were a baby."

I gave him an unconvinced look,

" Then what's my name stranger?"
I said
" Your name is Elizabeth..... Elizabeth Garner, you live on Rosewood street 90345.he said" H-h-how did you know that" I stuttered.

He looked at me and started to take his mask off, his smile was horrifying not to mention his eyes were droopy and his face had all sorts of cuts in it almost as if someone came at him with a knife and slashed his face. He took a knife out of his pocket and started to come at me with it. I tried to escape " DON'T KILL ME PLEASE DONT" but he didnt stop, I had died. The last thing that I saw was him eating my legs, my arms, my whole body and then walking away never to be seen again.

There once was a forest. For the last centuries, anyone who went in never came out, and was rumored to be haunted. A brave teenage boy, Jacob, had always scoffed at the idea that it was haunted. He decided to see what was really in the forest.

Late at night, while everyone was trick-or-treating, he crept out of bed and slowly down his creaky stairs, flinching only once as a loud sound had erupted from the splintered stair. Inside the woods, it was dark and foggy. The ground was damp and the air was as cold as ice. As he walked, he took in all of the sounds: the crickets chirping happily, his camera humming softly, and the soft crunch beneath his feet. All at once the sounds stopped. Not even his camera could be heard through the crushing silence. He stopped suddenly, eyes focused, silently looking around. To his left, almost hidden in the fog, he could make out a pitch black figure with a sun-baked deer skull on it's head, two tiny, bright lights shone between the spooky mask, giant bony claws reaching out of its hands, and long strong legs, locked into running position. Jacob yelped in fright but recovered quickly.

"N-nice costume!" he yelled. But the creature didn't move. It kept staring at him, through those tiny, chilling white eyes. He shrugged, and turned away. He heard a loud CRUNCH and snapped attention back to the creature, who-with blinding speed-was now sprinting straight towards him. With his heart beat frantically, he started running for the exit of the woods: two tall rocks with a branch hanging over them, forming a entrance. As he ran, he felt like a gazelle running from a cheetah, impossible to escape. He turned around to see the creature, but twisted his foot on a loosened tree root with a loud SNAP. He face-planted int to now-frozen ground, blood dripping from his mouth and nose. The Creature had sensed the injury and had slowed, whistling a ear-splitting tune that sounded like screeching laughter. Jacob held his hands in front of his bloody face, pleading,

"LET ME GO! P-please!" But the chattering creature's bony face formed a ugly, cracked sneer and laughed a horrible blood curdling screech. In it's scratchy voice it yelled,

"Free you! FREE YOU! How *dare* you suggest such a thing! Why would I do that? YOU'RE INVADING MY TERRITORY! All you scum ever do is come to my woods and destroy, taking the lives of every creature here for your own excitement, and I am only here to protect these great woods, from YOU!"

A long, scarred bone-clawed hand began to reach up ready to strike.

"Wait! W-what are you?" Jacob stuttered, buying him more time.

"ME? I am the vengeful spirits of every creature ever destroyed by humans ignorance, and fused together by all the hatred and sadness into the creature I am: A DEMON, A GHOST, YOUR GREATEST NIGHTMARE!" Jacob began stalling frantically.

"WAIT! Maybe I can help! I could... warn people to stay away from the woods! Or-"

He never finished his sentence. No one knows what happened after that. The recording a had been cut off after that. The camera was found near the entrance, battered and scratched, looking almost teared in two. The only working thing was the most important: evidence. The shocking evidence that this... creature existed had scared most people from going near the woods. Some people had even moved away, thinking that the town was next to be cursed. Some people tried bargaining with the creature, but they never return, either. When they bring camera's with them, they are never found either. They were... lucky, to find this evidence.

The night before Sam's birthday he lays in bed looking up at his ceiling fan. He watches the blades go round and round and round until he closes his eyes and falls asleep. In his dream he sees a blue, dusty, old, big book on the floor. He picks it up wondering what it is. As he exams by flipping it in his hands and as he turns the book. It opens. The smell of the yellow, old, dusty, pages hits him in the face like a punch. He closes the blue book and blows off the dust and he reads the label. He reads aloud "Book of Dreams and Desires"

He opens the old book and flips to the first page. The whole page is full of names and then a wish. They seem to fade in and out and his eyes hurt looking at the page. He wakes up the next morning and he smells a smell that shot cold up Sam's spine. It was the smell of that blue, dusty, old book. He shoots out of bed and rummages through every part of his room but he never located the smell. He was puzzled and a little creeped out but he had school so he had to get ready.

In his math class he is doing his work and once again he smells the smell he hated. It was the blue, dusty, old book he had smelled in his dream the night before. He looked around but he had no luck finding the smell but it lingered all class. After school he was on his way home and once again that same smell he disgusted the blue, dusty, old, book.

He looked around and he was angry and he was yelling in frustration and worry. As yells he throws his bag down an alleyway. He suddenly doesn't smell it anymore he runs to the bag and rips apart and there it was the blue, dusty, old, big book in his bag. He puts the book in his hands and opens the book slowly. There was a long list of names but this was different.

There was a second list. It had wishes. They were small like I wish to be taller or I want $1000 dollars but as he flipped the pages the wishes got creepy and horrifying. One wish was can you kill my neighbor or can I have a weapon. Sam threw the book in the dumpster in front of him and he ran like a bat out of hell. He ran straight home and he thought he was safe. But later that night in his dream a smell. The same smell of that blue, dusty, old book. He looked around in his dream but it was dark. He felt around in the dark, his hands scraping against the floor. As his hand hits a book and once again it was the blue, dusty, old book he opens it and he rips the book apart. Paper by paper one by one the dusty paper falls to the floor. As he rips the last page out he wakes up in his bed drenched in sweat. He looks around his room and he doesn't smell the book and he does not see the book.

Many years later Sam is mentally ill and has lost his mind because he had been plagued with the dreams for the rest of his life. He is in a mental hospital and he is a threat to everyone there so he is alone and there is no one to help but himself. As the days become weeks into months into years he loses his mind and the only thing that he says is “the book is here The book is here!!!!” He died in his bed the next morning. Too this day we will never know what the book is or what's inside.

Spooky Story
5 messages

Skinner, Alison
To: Security Public Library <spl@wsd3.org>

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 1:10 PM

The Killings

Characters:jackson,evelyn

Setting:home in the forest late at night.

On a dark scary night Jackson and Evelyn are heading to their home in the woods that they rented for the night."Jackson are we there yet we've been driving for hours"said Evelyn "not yet just wait have the life skill of patience"said Jackson while they were driving they saw a sign that read "don't stay here you will regret it" "oh it's probably a prank,right?"said Evelyn "yeah im pretty sure it said 'jackson' ". They got in the house "this is really cozy for that weird sign"said Evelyn "yeah it's really weird, also have you noticed that weird smell?"said Jackson "yeah actually do you know what's that smell"said Evelyn.They check if it's the garbage "yeah it's the trash we REALLY should take it out"said Evelyn. "Were you being sarcastic?" questioned Jackson, "no, I was actually saying 'we should really take the trash out."They checked inside the trash to find a dead body "OMG is that a real body"screamed Evelyn. "AHHHHHHHHHHH" screamed jackson,they started going to a town that's close to their rental home and start asking questions "hello mayor we just found a dead body in our trash do you know anything about that"said jackson "yeah do you or are you the one that did the murder"said Evelyn (jackson slaps his forehead).

elyn stop, this is the person i got the house from"said Jackson oh that the person you got the house from"said Evelyn "yes moron"said Jackson, they start going to question the neighborhood."do you know anything about the house deep in the woods that you can rent?"asked Jackson "don't lay it on to hard"said Evelyn "ok ok geese don't need to do all that could've pulled me out and told me quietly"said Jackson "Would've been nice"said Jackson "oh quit whining your such a crybaby now stop it"said Evelyn. They start going back home to find the front door is opened "umm jackson did you leave the door open"said Evelyn "nope i even made sure i locked it"said Jackson "jackson you pranking me because i'm pretty sure you got me"said Evelyn "nope not pranking you but you should go first because you know the rule ladies first"said Jackson "really gotta bring up the rule again you tried that last time we heard a noise when we were home alone"said Evelyn "ok fine i'll go but tell my mom i love her"said Jackson "oh i'll tell your mom something"said Evelyn.

The end...?
by Alison Skinner and Carter Ooka

This is a student email account monitored by Widefield School District. The contents of this email are governed by state laws and the board policies of the school district.

Library, Security Public <spl@wsd3.org> Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 8:17 AM
To: "Skinner, Alison"

Hello! To enter our contest, you'll need to provide your age and grade.
Thank you!
[Quoted text hidden]

Skinner, Alison Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 1:32 PM
To: "Library, Security Public" <spl@wsd3.org>

Alison skinner : 6th Grade and 11
Carter Ooka : 6th grade and 11
[Quoted text hidden]

Up on the hill sat a mansion, town below. The house had been there as long as anyone could remember. No one knew who used to live in it, but people who, go up there rarely come back. When they do, When never the same; they go insane.; The townspeople warn others never to go up tnever tot some just, don't listen.

A group of teens had the brightest idea to go up there and they instantly regretted it.
Sam said enthusiastically " We should go up to the old house on the hill for Halloween."
"But isn't that like haunted? Didn't that one guy go up there and he never came back?" Said Sadie
"Yea, that place gives me the chills and I heard the house ate his soul and he was never the same again." Said, James.
"Oh come on guys, it's just for one night we'll go in and come right back out. Please guys". Said Sam " Fine but this is the last time I do anything for free." Sadie stated.
" Then I guess I'm in if Sadie's going," James said.
Taylor piped up "Ya'll are crazy when you guys disappear I'll know where to look for you"
"Then it's settled we'll go up to the house on Halloween, we should meet at my house," Sam said

October 31, 1984

All of the teens met at Sam's house as planned except Taylor.
"Does everybody have a flashlight and a radio?"
Everybody said yes and they all proceeded to go up to the house.
When they get there they all notice the crumbling walls then Sadie pipes up and says
"What's that smell it smells like something's rotting."
"Yeah smells like something died in here," Sam said.
The teens then proceeded to go further into the house and in the middle of the dimly lit room sat a fireplace and what looked to be a pile of old wood or do they thought.
"We should light a fire it's getting dark," Sam said
The rest of the teens nodded in agreement.
Then Sam reached for what looked like a piece of wood. Then when he picked it up a loud *"Squelch"*
His hand sunk into the piece of wood but then he realized it wasn't a piece of wood it was a piece of meat. He let out a loud screech and pulled his hand out and tried to run out of the house. He was running at full speed and he ran straight into the door and he fell backward.
"Is he dead?" James said
"No, I think he's just knocked out"
"So then what do we do with him"
"Bring him with us."
"But the question is what is that, that looks like a human body?"
"I'm gonna puke. This is too much I'm leaving."
Said Sadie. She then tried to pry the door open with no luck she fell backward onto the hard tile floor and then she somehow got knocked out. The remaining teens went and investigated the pile of meat then they heard a voice coming from the fireplace.
"Can you please help me I seem to have lost my body." The voice echoed throughout the house and nobody knew who was talking but then James looked at the fireplace where the voice came

from and there it was. A human head sitting there half-rotted talking. But then they smelled something burning. It was coming from upstairs.
James got up grabbed his flashlight and shone it on the fireplace. And there it sat watching him the head was motionless then he said
"So is that a no then"
"Alright guys you can come out, where are you guys," James said as he proceeded to look around the house.
"Alright, you guys got me." James reached into the fireplace and touched the head
"The detail on this head is amazing."
When James reached for the head in the fireplace he grabbed the head by the mouth the head bit him.
"Wait this is real," James said
The head continued to bite his hand while James was flailing his arms around trying to get the head off he heard a knock then the door hinges creaked. It was Taylor she came after all.
"Help! Help!" James screamed and she could hear the terror in his voice she ran to him and tried to pry the head off of him and the head finally let go and rolled away.
"Stay here I'm going after it," Taylor said
James nodded in agreement
Taykor ran off in the direction the head rolled to. A dark room awaited her and she heard it speak.
"You shouldn't have done that"
She could hear the floorboards creak as the head rolled around. She heard loud squelching. Then as she walked into the dark room everything fell silent. Then out of nowhere, she heard a scream a familiar scream coming from upstairs. As she ran up the stairs she had a feeling that something was watching her. She felt something emitting from upstairs, something evil. She pushed on anyway but little did she know what that would do to her.

As she ran up the stairs at the top was a door she opened it and entered the room. As she entered the room the door behind her slammed shut, she tried to open the door but she had no luck and it was too late. There it was a pile of flesh and bones all mushed up into one ball but in the middle was the head. A familiar head the one that she had seen downstairs.
"Well we meet again, for the last time I'll make sure of it." Said the pile of flesh
"I've got nothing left to live for so take me," Taylor said
She fell to the ground curled up into a ball and started weeping. With no hesitation, the pile of flesh knocked her out and dragged her into the house's hidden basement, and there a shadow figure stood, the pile of flesh threw Taylor on its back and gathered the others. It was then that all of them thought silently that they would take their last breaths. The shadow man sucked them up one by one until nobody was left.

After nobody in town went looking for them. It had seemed as if everybody had completely forgotten about them.

The Sewer Monster

Caleb Bowker Age: 12 7th grade

I just woke up and I couldn't see anything. I could hear dripping in the distance. I was halfway submerged in water but I started to see a light in the distance. I wandered toward the light and it seemed like I was in a sewer. On the I got to the edge near the wall where there wasn't water and near the light I saw a container of almond water on the other edge. I took the almond water and it seemed to be unopened and it looked untouched except for the black goo splattered on the back. Then I heard what sounded like someone talking but I couldn't understand them.

I could see someone far in the darkness but I could barely see them. I walked toward them and there seemed to be the same black goo spread across the floor it seemed to go as far as I could see. Another light just flickered on above the person but right when it flickered on they ran away and turned into a different tunnel. I barely saw him but he seemed to be covered in that same black goo I found earlier. I followed the trail of goo he left behind but I could not find him, he was too fast. I tried to catch up to him but it was no use I couldn't catch him. I found some more almond water along the path, and I tried it, but it wasn't that good.

I found a fishing rod and I saw some fish in the water. I tried to catch one but I couldn't. They were all too fast. The fish looked like they were just bones their skin was stretched across their ribs and body like a bat's wings. So I stopped trying to fish and I heard the person again. The tone was different they sounded higher pitched than the other person. I saw their shadow and this person seemed smaller and shorter. They were also covered in the same goo. It almost looked like a child but its head looked like it had a bite taken out of it, the child seemed to be missing half of its arm.

The child started to grow, and it started to run up to me and I started to run. I could hear it behind me, it seemed to be catching up to me. I ran as fast as I could, and I could still hear it it was getting louder and louder it sounded like 10 children screaming all at the same time. I could feel the warmth of the figure. It started to get hotter, and hotter. It caught up to me it felt like I was being consumed by a thousand suns. I could see an eruption of bright light that was blinding I could hear a very loud ringing sound. I could feel my body dissolving and I could not feel half of my body and I started to feel tired. Then it all went black...

It was a cold winter night, me and my friend Caleb were in my room watching scary videos at night while my parents were at Walmart, halfway through the video my door opened then closed then opened then slammed shut. then we heard banging above us, and that's where the attic was so me and Caleb hid by each other and the door opened and my TV and LED lights turned off then the door slammed shut so me and Caleb went under the bed and went to sleep. The next morning when it was still dark, we woke up we saw that my window was open so we looked outside and saw 2 little girls with balloons so we ran and made sure the doors were locked when we thought we were ok we looked to my back door and it was open. Me and Caleb looked at each other and ran into my room and we heard footsteps we hid in my closet and climbed to the top we heard the door open and we heard a voice say "Where are you? I just want to play." In a little high-pitched voice, she walked in slowly looking around, Caleb farted then we jumped down and pushed the ghost girl and ran out of the room and locked the door we thought we were good but realized that there were two of them we looked around and saw her floating in the air we ran outside and around the town and no one is there. So we returned to the house, hopped on my dirtbike, and rode around town. Me and Caleb saw a bunch of people but they were walking funny, we realized they were zombies. Caleb and I rode to my friend Grant's house and went to the kitchen in his house to grab snacks and water. Then we saw it, the 2 girls waiting by the front door. Caleb explained to Grant what was happening and then we heard the girls banging on the glass, so we went out the back door and ran out front. We all hopped on the dirtbikes and rode to the park. When we got to the park, we set up a fort. After we set up the fort, we all headed to Walmart

but no one was there. We all headed inside the Walmart and grabbed as much food as we could to survive the 2 girls and the apocalypse. We went to the sliding doors to head out but they were locked. We all started to talk about what to do, but then all of a sudden, ALL of the lights in walmart turned off. They turned back on but they were red. We all assumed that it was the 2 girls. We all heard something weird, it was like glass breaking. We looked around and noticed that the zombies were trying to break in. We were surrounded. Then we saw them, the 2 girls.

Name: Silas McElroy

Address:

Phone Numb

Age: 12

Grade: 7th

WIDEFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT 3

Library, Security Public <spl@wsd3.org>

Ding??

Library, Security Public <spl@wsd3.org>
To: Security Public Library <spl@wsd3.org>

Thu, Oct 31, 2024 at 12:28 PM

Ilyse Spalding
12 -7th grade

Ding??

Beclaham was on his way to see the church to see if he got the job to do the day or night shift. And after being there listening to the priest Beclaham was about to fall asleep but then the priest said
"you got the job to do the night shift to do the night shift only"
,and Beclaham was happy because he was new to the area and every other place didn't take him because they had to much people or they just don't want him but he was just happy to have it but then the priest mention that there was a girl that past away on this land and she haunts the church at night but Beclaham was acting brave to keep the job but the priest wanted to mention one more thing
"oh yeah the girl that haunts the church at night her name is Tialik and how did she die you might ask is that the building before the church was a children center and a shooter went in there and was not happy so the shooter entered and was going to shoot her little sister but she blocked it then that place was closed was for good and stayed haunted by that girl oh and one more thing is that she will want to play Hide And Seek with you"
,Beclaham was paying more attention to that because he remember his grandma being here and herd a shoot when she was younger so he had to pay very close attention and when he was done with that shift and ofc the priest wanted to say one more thing "and when Tialik comes out and wants to play Hide And Seek don't ever let her touch you!" Beclaham was wondering why "Why can't I let her touch me?" the priest was starting to get scared
"because she can turn into a human and you can turn into a ghost"
,the priest looked around if Tialik heard Beclaham saw the priest look around
"why are you looking around father priest"
,the priest turned his head around and whispered "Tialik is asleep during the day but when she hears her name during the day she can wake up or stay asleep" Beclaham was shocked that now he needs to be careful when it happens.

The day goes by Beclaham comes back ready for the shift and exits the security room ready to survive the night Beclaham turned on the flashlight and started to walk around the church but then he heard a crash a loud crash it was louder than he have ever heard in his whole life but then he heard someone singing it sounded like
"ding dong i you can hear me open up the door, i only wanna play a little Ding Dong, you cant keep me waiting its already too late for you to try and run away I see you through the window our eyes are locked together I can sense your horror though, I'D like to see it closer Ding Dong, here i come to find you"

Beclaham was so scared by hearing that noise so he dropped the flash light and run to hide from Tialik, but Tialik can go through the walls and see where he is going so Tialik started to sing the song again but kept on going and then when Tialik found Beclaham she would surround him and keep on singing until the I see you through the window she looks down at Beclaham with the creepy smile when Beclaham saw that he ran out of there in the dark and with Tialik being a very bright blue and purple he can tell that Tialik found him but just trying to scare Beclaham.

Beclaham was getting tired of running around from Tialik but he turned around and saw that Tialik disappeared then he looked outside the window on the door he saw the sunrise coming but as soon as he was getting to the door to unlock it he got touched by Tialik then he looked at Tialik turn into a human and him into a ghost as soon as Tialik was about to leave Beclaham touched Tialik right away and ran out of the doors and saw the priest walking up to the doors but the priest only saw Tialik come out of the doors the priest screamed and got back in his car and drove off and Beclaham was wondering and turned around and saw Tialik exit the doors then Beclaham looked back at him and saw that he was transparent Beclaham was so mad that he was slower that Tialik. Beclaham touched Tialik and he didn't turn back into a human now he is wondering if the ghost that touched you and turned into a human and you ghost that you can't touch them?

It was a few year before the church got open again and Beclaham was waiting until it got opened again then he saw someone coming up it was Tialik and Beclaham was wondering why Tialik came here at night then he saw Tialik hold out her hand and wanted Beclaham to touch it, so he did it but he didnt turn back into a human so he got mad again but then he heard Tialik sing the Hide And Seek song so then his emotions turned into scared and then he turned into a human again he was finally free but now he was wondering why Tialik did that?

[Quoted text hidden]



M =-

By Kyra Cullison 12 7th grade

Scary story

The boy who won't listen

Once upon a time, there lived a boy who wouldn't listen. Everyone told him about a house that was haunted and old and how people never came back once they went to the house The boy told everyone he was going to go to the house everyone told him it was a bad idea to go to the house. But he didn't listen. So that very night he packed a bag and set off to the house. He planned to spend the night and show everyone that nothing would happen to him. When he got to the house he went inside and set up camp. After he set up camp he went exploring the house. He walked into what he thought was a kitchen and when he turned around he saw a figure he screamed and ran into another room. he found what he thought was a little puppy but when he touched it. It moved its head and its head twitched and fell off. The head hit the ground with a thud. He runs away screaming as the black figure follows him closely from behind... After a lot of running, he stopped and turned around to the black figure right behind him staring at him. When he saw the figure he fainted and he fell to the ground...When he woke up his head was throbbing and he winced in pain he couldn't remember anything all he could remember was that he was running from something. He got up and he fell to the floor in pain. He winced in pain as he tried to get up again. But he couldn't be heard screaming in the distance. He crawled into a hole in a tree and he sat in it and he saw something run passed him in a rush. He jumped back in the tree in

fear and he thought he was going to die. He crawled out of the tree and he crawled back to the house in extreme pain. When he got to the house he got his stuff and he got up and walked out of the forest into a highway. He collapses onto the ground he passes out. He found himself in a dark room with nothing in it. He tried to get out of the faze he was in but he couldn't get out of it. He screamed he yelled but he couldn't get out he was stuck in a faze... When he got out of the faze in woke up in the house again covered in blood. He got up and he washed his clothes with water he had in his backpack. He hung his clothes on a rake he made and he put on the other pair of clothes he had in his bag. He started walking back to the highway looking around terrified. When he gets to the highway again he sits down on the side of the road and watches the cars drive by, One of the cars driving by throws something at him. He gets up and picks it up and he looks at it. He opens the box and he empties the box. He finds a pen and a piece of paper. He opens the piece of paper and reads it. It says Help me written in blood and he realizes the pen disappeared and so did the paper. He looked around nervously the air and gone cold and the trees were blowing hard in the wind he started to walk across the road and he walked for hours...He found a city and he walked the streets of the city he found the car that the paper came out of. And he knocked on the door And no one answered the door. He walked to a window and

looked in the window. When he looks out the window nothing is in the house he hears screaming in the basement. He goes to the back of the house and looks in the basement window and sees a girl tied to the wall. He sees a man hitting her and the man leaves he grabs a rock and smashes the window and he jumps down into the basement. He untied the girl and helped her through the window And he dragged her away from the house. He looks at the girl. And the girl had disappeared. He looks around confused, He runs back to the house. He looked back into the window and saw nothing. And the window wasn't broken anymore. He was confused about what was happening he walked away from the window he walked down the street and walked all the way to a different city and he kept walking and found himself at the house again and the figure came up behind him and they ate him . THE END

Scary Story
1 message

Harbert, Juliana <
To: Security Public Library <spl@wsd3.org>

Mon, Oct 28, 2024 at 1:46 PM

Hellscreaming haunted house

Chapter one,
On Friday the 13th at 7:30 pm my mom and I are going to a haunted house we got tickets and we are both scared for tonight because it looks really scary. The people at the haunted house. Before we walk in the actors are on the floor crawling around and knocking on the fence with a bat. Somepeople are on the roof saying to go in but they are weird because they are in all black so we can't see them at all. When we first go in there is a person at the being and it is a green suit and he has black and white on his face. Then after that, there is a person in an all black wig with black and white on his face. The after that I have I went into the manor room and it was scary because people were hiding in a dark dark place and then they jumped and scared me because they had to scream at me but it was ok because I was ready for anything that would happen. But then it is the elevator and I have to go in an elevator and there will be people inside and I am very very scared. Lasted was the pin and the pin is about how there are people in all of these cages and they have fake things and they

y scary because I am not good with scary things and I am y excited but then at the same time I think I will be fine and I will have so much fun with my family and friends so that is what it is about for so parts in the haunted house and it will be so fun. I am excited by scared but it is ok. But then my little brother was really scared but I am going to have a fun time and then they have people have fake blood on them and they have a fake knife with blood on it and it shows how they do things and people follow you everywhere you but they on there all 4 and I am very scared because we get chased every room we go in to and they all give you up scared. I am going to make so good friends with everyone who is working and they will be my friends no matter what because we all need new friends. The place is called Escape the Hellscream haunted house and if you don't escape then you have to keep doing it until your escape and I am very scared because my brother likes to be scared and doesn't like it when he does that so I am going to be scared and my mom will get mad because I will punch him in his face and then if someone touches me I will punch them to because they no rights to do that what so ever and my mom will get mad.

Juliana Harbert
Eighth grade

Sproul Junior High

This is a student email account monitored by Widefield School District. The contents of this email are governed by state laws and the board policies of the school district.

Disordered

"Only certain people knew about my disorder. It always seemed so odd to me that people actually notice I have one. It always seemed to me that it wasn't even visible to others, but I was wrong. The only thing is that recently I've been having thoughts about doing something crazy. Do you think that I would be crazy if I-"
Naya Sandre's diary, June 15th, 2020.

"She was my daughter! She would never do such a thing! Please believe me! Naya wouldn't do that please!" My neighbor cried to the police. Her name was Mrs. Sandre, or I called her Sally. She loved her daughter, but I couldn't understand why her daughter was trying to be protected from the things she does to herself. Naya Sandre, Mrs. Sandre's daughter, was the only 12 year old girl that I knew like a sister. Genuinely, from what I knew of her, she was perfect.

Although, what I saw was not the true daughter that Naya was. Naya hated herself and others. She never truly loved me, not like I loved her. I always thought we were gonna be like sisters forever, but she started to change in about sixth grade. She started bringing up murder cases from years and years ago. It always seemed to me like she was planning something. I never knew what it was, but there was always something off about her.

I used to think she had a crush on this one boy from her school named Jacob, but I now know that it was not the case. She had bipolar disorder, so she was never the same person that she was the day before. She wasn't just having a crush, she was genuinely stalking people. It was so scary for me to realize her true personality. She wanted to be the next murderer of the town. "Lila, get over here!", Mrs. Sandre's called to me.

"He wasn't a "crush" like Lila thought. He was my first victim. So Lila was wrong, she was going to be the victim after him. There was no way for her to run."
-Naya Sandre's diary, June 17th, 2020.

"It's okay," I told Mrs. Sandre.
"BUT SHE WAS MY DAUGHTER AND THEN SHE WAS PUT IN JAIL AND-AND THEN SHE BRUTALLY PASSED AWAY!" Mrs. Sandre cried.

"She was a murderer and she tried to end my life. She was the only reason I kept going each day. She ruined that for me, she was such a bad soul. I need you to realize this." I stated to Mrs. Sandre

"I remembered that Jacob didn't take the bus everyday after school, so I decided to wait for Wednesday. Wednesday he would wait for his mom to pick him up, or so he thought." **-Naya Sandre's Diary, June 18th, 2020**

"It's Wednesday today, so it's time for me to take Jaco-"

"Well it seems as if she took him to the abandoned house up in Hillowville. We should go check it out. Mrs. Sandre, I need you to stay, Lila? Would you come with me?" Mr. Chase had asked me. He was the main police officer in the town, I think he's a sheriff too.
"Uh, yeah sure, but why me?" I asked.
"You were her victim, right? Why wouldn't I want you with me? You survived her. We don't know if Jacob did yet, okay? We need your help."
"Oh, okay."

"Well, we're here Lila. How are you feeling?" Mr. Chase asked me as we pulled into the driveway of the house in Hillowville.
"Yeah I am, let's hurry."

As I got out of the car, I got the chills. I looked around the cold and deserted town of Hillowville. The shadows curled and twisted in the dark around me. We hadn't made it to Hillowville until 11:00 PM.
"Hey, are you okay?" He asked me.
"Yeah, it's just hard being back here after almost dying here a couple weeks ago."
"I see that, but we should head inside to check the place out."

The door creaked open as I slightly pushed on it. It seemed like the place had been ransacked. I checked under the couch cushions. That's where I left notes for when I was struck there for two days. Luckily, Naya never found them. They were gone.
"Huh that's weird." I whispered to myself.
"UH LILA COME HERE RIGHT NOW!" Mr. Chase called me. I ran over to him as fast as I could. I felt my heartbeat as I ran through the house unable to find him. Suddenly, I bumped into something and tripped over it.

"Hey, Lila. Are you feeling less dizzy?" Mr. Chase was lifting me off the ground to stand up.
"What happened?"
"You tripped and fell over something, I just don't know what it was."
"I think I fell over by the hallway, go check over there." I told Mr. Chase as I rubbed my forehead from the dizziness.
"Hey, Lila, what is this place? I think there's a- AHHHHH!" Mr. Chase screamed.
"MR. CHASE? WHAT'S WRONG? ARE YOU ALRIGHT?" I cried.
I turned around to see a room full of bodies and Naya, with Jacob standing next to her. "Naya? What is this?" I whimpered as I spoke.
"A setup you could say, or a frame? I don't really know because I framed myself for the truth! HA! I am a murderer. Well, I would let you go, but for once Jacob wants to have his own opinion today. He wants you to be *his* victim."
I looked around for any way to escape, but my airways were cut off. I looked at my feet and then the next thing I knew everything was black. No lights. No sound. Just my thoughts. Forever and ever, just me, myself, and I. And, there was no escape.

3 a.m

By: Hazel Dunn, Age 12, 7th grade,

It was a cold October night like any other. I was gonna stay up all night so I could get all my work done. I was half way through with my work when I glanced at the clock. I realized what time it was so in confusion I said, " Is it really 2:59 a.m" I decided to ignore the time and just keep working. While I was working the time hit 3am and that is when it all began.

At first I thought nothing of it until I thought I saw something in the dark. When I saw it I just told myself that I was seeing things but then I saw it again. I was so terrified but I told myself that I was going to check the house. I walked around saying "Hello, is someone there, hello" but I didn't find anything. I finished my work right before I saw it again. This time I knew that I wasn't seeing things.

I went around the house again this time checking every place, big and small. I didn't find anything again so I just decided to go to bed. I looked at the time and it was still 3am. I thought that my clock was broken until I remembered my friend telling me that weird things happen at 3am so I ran to the safe room in my house and locked the door. While I was in there I just tried to fall asleep so that the time would change but it is really hard to sleep when you think a monster is trying to attack you. Just as I was starting to fall asleep I heard a huge sound stomping down the hall.

All of a sudden it just stopped. I was so confused until I started hearing banging on the door. It sounded like a "Bang, bang, bang... bang, bang, bang" it started getting louder and louder with each bang. I was fearing for my life as I looked at the

door in terror hearing the sound of the "Bang, bang, bang..." But all of a sudden the sound stopped so I was worried about what was happening. I sat there in silence thinking about my life and if I would live or die that very night. I glanced at the time and it was still 3am. I looked at the door and heard one last huge "BANG" as it opened.

All of the sudden I woke up covered in sweat laying on my desk. The sky still dark. My dim desk light, still on from that night. I looked around and my work was done and my computer was still open. When I thought that it was just a nightmare the whole time. I looked at the time on my clock just in case and it said 3am. I ran around the house one last time and all of a sudden something grabbed me from behind.

I tried to scream but I knew no one would hear me. I tried to escape but it was too strong. I was so scared and sleep deprived that I passed out. When I woke again I knew that I probably would never see my family again. I was the most terrified I had ever been in my life. It wasn't anyone I had ever seen before or would know. When I was looking at them I felt a combination of every fear I had ever had in my life. I looked away from them for one second and they were gone.

I was screaming as loud as I could trying to get someone, anyone to help me. I looked up one more time and I saw a clock that said "3:01" All of a sudden the room went black and I woke up in my bed. I looked around and everything looked normal. The sun wasjust rising over the mountain side. I looked at the time just to make sure it wasn't another trick and the time was 9 a.m. I went around the house to see if there was anything that made me think what happened was real. When I looked in one of the rooms all I saw was scratches on the floor, and a piece of paper.

I grabbed the note, my hands shaking faster than the speed of light. I opened it and it said " Always remember 3am or next time you might not be so lucky" I threw the note, and ran as far away from my house as possible.

WIDEFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT 3

Library, Security Public <spl@wsd3.org>

Hello
1 message

Williams, Travawn <[redacted]>
To: Security Public L[redacted]ary <spl@wsd3.org>

Tue, Oct 15, 2024 at 10:16 AM

Name: Travawn Williams
Address [redacted]
Phone Number: [redacted]
Age/Grade: 12 years old, 7th Grade

Here is my story

The Dissapraence

I woke up one morning to find a strange note on my front door. It was from my friend, Sarah, saying she had to leave town for a while. I thought it was odd, but I shrugged it off and went about my day. A few days later, another friend, Alex, also disappeared without a word. When I asked around, no one seemed to have noticed their absence. It was as if they had never existed.

I started to get worried and decided to talk to my remaining friends about it. As I brought it up, they all seemed confused and didn't remember Sarah or Alex at all. My friend Jenny said, "Who is Alex and Sarah." It was like they had been erased from everyone's memory except mine. I felt like I was going crazy.

I decided to investigate on my own. I went to Sarah's house, but it seemed like no one had lived there for years. I tried to find any trace of Alex, but there was nothing. I was starting to feel scared and alone.

The next day, I was sitting in a cafe, trying to gather my thoughts, when I overheard a group of people talking about a new technology that was being tested in our town. It was a memory-altering device that could erase specific memories from people's minds. I couldn't believe what I was hearing. It all started to make sense. Someone was using this technology to make my friends disappear from everyone's memory except mine.

I knew I had to find a way to stop this. I reached out to a friend who worked as an engineer I explained everything to him. He was skeptical at first, but he agreed to help me investigate. We spent days looking for any evidence of the memory-altering device being used in our town.

Finally, we found a hidden lab in the abandoned forest outside our little town where the device was being tested. We confronted the scientists behind it and demanded they stop using it. They were shocked that we had discovered their secret and tried to deny everything. But we were determined to expose them.

With the help of my friend at the tech company, we gathered enough evidence to bring the issue to everyone's attention. The scientists were forced to shut down their operation, and the memory-altering device was destroyed by government officials.

Slowly but surely, my friends started to reappear in their houses with their families. It was a huge relief to see them again, and we all vowed never to let something like that happen again.

It was a terrifying and surreal experience, but it taught me the importance of standing up for what's right and protecting the ones we care about. I'm just glad that I was able to bring my friends back and put an end to the sinister plot to erase their existence.

This is a student email account monitored by Widefield School District. The contents of this email are governed by state laws and the board policies of the school district.

WIDEFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT 3

Library, Security Public <spl@wsd3.org>

Scary story

1 message

Roach, Easton Tue, Oct 15, 2024 at 10:03 AM
To: Security Public Library <spl@wsd3.org>

Hello, I'm Easton Roach. I'm 13 years old and I'm in 7th grade.
and this is my story.

There were five kids: Easton, a practical football maniac; Baylee, a total metalhead; Haven; Tra, the class clown; and Bella, Haven's friend.

It was a Friday afternoon, and they had just gotten out of school, so they thought going to the park was a good idea. When they got there, they started to talk about school and do dumb stuff like what any other 13-year-old would do. At the park there was this big forest so they went in it. When they got into the forest, Tra ran away. Why, they don't know. They were walking around the forest and found an abandoned cabin. They thought Tra would be there, so they went in.

Tra was not in the cabin. Instead, they were met with a rotten smell... The smell of rotting flesh. As they looked around, there were thick cobwebs all over the place. So dense that they could barely see through the door. So, they got the bright idea to dust through the cobwebs and head inside. The door slammed behind them with a loud boom. As they looked around, everyone's heart dropped as Haven discovered Tra's phone. Easton picked it up, sounding horrified, "We should leave..." But the door didn't budge. Then, with a sudden creak in the floorboards and followed by a loud crash, they got hit by something or someone.

They are woken up next to Tra inside an old nasty prison cell that looks ratchet and rusty. Baylee was losing her mind, Bela was trying to get service on her phone to call for help, and Tra was looking for food after constantly complaining about how hungry he was. Meanwhile, Haven and Easton were trying to find a way out. Baylee was running in circles, freaking out, when she tripped over a rock and fell on a faulty tile which opened a door.

They all freeze and look over at the creaky sound of the door opening as Baylee fumbles, landing flat on her stomach as dust and grime get kicked up. "Should we go in?" Haven asked intently while Baylee scrambled back up to her feet and brushed herself off.

Easton doesn't think and steps out of the room. When he does, he sees a 6-foot man with a clown mask down the hallway. He started to walk down the hallway. He was going faster and faster. Easton says something, runs back into the room, and shuts the prison-like door. Everybody asked what had happened when they had seen him. He was standing in

front of the prison-like cell and chucked a thing of gas; we think because, after that, we all don't remember what happened.

They woke up and were in the same cell. Baylee was losing her mind, Haven was trying to open the cell, Tra was looking for food, and Easton was standing there looking at the wall like something was on there. Haven turned around and started to yell at Tra. We would never be here if you never ran in the woods. Tra asked why you guys had come looking for me then. Bela told both of them to shut it. Then, there was a creaking sound coming down the hall. Then there is the same person we saw earlier before we fell asleep.

Haven asked right away why we were there. The person in the mask said you're the next victim. Easton said what do you mean? The guy in the mask said you figure it out. Then he walks away. Baylee asked them if they saw what was on his arm. It was the same scar that the dude who took those kids had a couple of years ago, and no one found them. Dude with a big scar on his arm, but the cops didn't believe him. Tra looked around and saw a hat. This is the same hat one of the kids wore before they went missing. Bela said he was right; one of the missing kids was Bella's older brother.

Baylee looked around the room and saw a hole in the corner. Baylee went to it and saw what looked like a door. She called them over, and they looked at it. Haven kicked the door open, and inside of the room was a body. They went into the room. The walls were yellow and with a bad smell. When they fully entered the room, they saw no one body five. They were all freaked out. Bela started to cry because she saw her older brother dead on the ground laying there.

Haven said that we needed to leave before we were next, so they tried to go to bed. The next morning, they woke up, and there was the man in the mask standing in front of the cell. He was giving them breakfast like a peach offering. Haven said, "Why are you being all nice now? Now there are dead bodies in the other room, and you trapped us in a cell." The masked man left the plate of food in front of the cell and left.

Easton said we have to leave now. So they sat in the cell all day, thinking of a plan. Then, they heard a sound coming down the hall. It was a grown man. He looked at us for a minute and asked if we were the kids that went missing. Baylee said ya. The dude said, "Why are you guys in my dad's basement?" Next thing you know, the person was dead. The masked man came back and took an ax to his neck, and killed him. The masked man said, Look what you made me do. You made me kill my son.

The man in the mask went crazy. He grabbed the ax and opened the cell the kids were stuck in. He started to chase them around until Easton tackled him to the ground and took the ax. While that was happening, Bela, Baylee, and Tra were looking for a way out. Easton got up, and the man in the mask blended in. Haven said when Easton tackled him, he hit his head on the ground so hard it started to bleed. Tra yelled for Haven and Easton. We found a way out. Haven and Easton rushed over there. Then they went up the stairs.

Me and my friend Caleb were in my room watching scary videos at night while my parents were at Walmart, halfway through the video my door opened then closed then opened then slammed shut. then we heard banging above us, and that's where the attic was so me and Caleb hid by each other and the door opened and my TV and LED lights turned off then the door slammed shut so me and Caleb went under the bed and went to sleep. The next morning when it was still dark, we woke up we saw that my window was open so we looked outside and saw 2 little girls with balloons so we ran and made sure the doors were locked when we thought we were ok we looked to my back door and it was open. Me and Caleb looked at each other and ran into my room and we heard footsteps we hid in my closet and climbed to the top we heard the door open and we heard a voice say "Where are you? I just want to play." In a little high-pitched voice, she walked in slowly looking around, Caleb farted then we jumped down and pushed the ghost girl and ran out of the room and locked the door we thought we were good but realized that there were two of them we looked around and saw her floating in the air we ran outside and around the town and no one is there. So we returned to the house, hopped on my dirtbike, and rode around town. Me and Caleb saw a bunch of people but they were walking funny, we realized they were zombies. Me and Caleb rode to my friend Grant's house and we all went to the kitchen in his house to grab snacks and water. Then we saw it, the 2 girls waiting by the front door. Caleb explained to Grant what was happening and then we heard the girls banging on the glass, so we went out the back door and ran out front. We all hopped on the dirtbikes and rode to the park. When we got to the park, we set up a fort. After we set up the fort, we all headed to Walmart but no one was there. We all headed inside the Walmart and grabbed as much food as we could to survive the 2 girls and the apocalypse. We went to the sliding doors to head out but they were locked. We all started to talk about what to do, but then all of a sudden, ALL of the lights in walmart turned off. They turned back on but they were red. We all assumed that it was the 2 girls. We all heard something weird, it was like glass breaking. We looked around and noticed that the zombies were trying to break in. We were surrounded. Then we saw them, the 2 girls.

Name: Silas McElroy

Address: [redacted]

Phone Number [redacted]

Age: 12

Grade: 7th

One Halloween Me and my friends were about to go trick or treating but we realized we were 16 why would we go trick or treating when we are 16 we are too old for that. Me and my two friends (John and Emerson) went to my room to figure out what we were going to do. Then I came up with an idea. There was this huge abandoned house on the street next to ours. Hey guys how about we go to the abandoned house on the next street. Everyone yells yes excited that we will have something to do for Halloween. We get the ghost equipment we have in the closet so we can find some ghosts in the house and we sprint out the door excitedly. Me and my friends walk over to the next street looking at the glorious decorations everyone has up. We get to the next street and we spot the abandoned house.

We sprint to the house excited to see what we will find and maybe find some ghosts. We get to the house. We open the creaking door into the house and we all walk into cobwebs. We shake it off and walk more into the house. We looked around and there were double wooden stairs that were broken up and old. Everywhere we step I hear "creak" Shall we put down some ghost equipment? Everyone shouts yes so I reach into my backpack I had brought and took out a rem pod. (A big block device that detects movement).

I set it down in the middle of the floor so it is most likely to detect if there is movement and we walked on. It was dark so we decide to turn on the lights. We flipped up the light switch and the lights didn't turn on. Maybe there is no power Emerson said. Well, it's a good thing I brought a flashlight John said. He turns on the flashlight so we can see because it is pitch black. We flash the flashlight upstairs and we see something in the corner of our eyes.

A figure standing in the door frame. Dark red eyes and tall. He sprints across the hallway to the other side and we run to the kitchen. The floor was creaky anywhere we went he would hear us. We looked to the side of us and there he was again same dark red eyes and tall. This time we said whatever and we went toward it. Once we got closer we can start to see his face more and more. The closer we got the whiter his face was. We got a bit closer and just as soon as I was going to see his face he ran away. I try to run after him but he was too fast he ran back upstairs into the room and locked the door.

We went back into the kitchen to get the bags we left. Then we hear the doorbell. Ding Dong We all looked at each other with a frightened face and we cautiously went to the door to open it. We opened it and. Trick Or Treat! Oh sorry kids John said we don't have any candy with us sorry guys. It's ok guys let's go to the next house. Their voices slowly fade away. We decided it was a good idea to go upstairs because we hadn't gone up there yet so we decided to go up there without eyes everywhere to make sure nothing attacked us.

We decided that we were going to go into the room where the mysterious guy had gone and we creaked open the door and went in. We see the mysterious guy sitting down on the ground turning around and standing up. AHHHHH. To be Continued

Age - 12
Grade 7th
Phone number [redacted]
Addre[redacted]

Once upon a time, there was a girl,but she was no ordinary girl. She was a demon girl. She was often lonely because she lived in the demon realm, and could not go up to earth, except for one night a year. On Halloween night. Now, she was glad that that was the day chosen for her to be able to leave the demon realm because people would think that she just had a very realistic costume. This made it so she could interact with the humans without them being scared. But sometimes she doesn't fool people well enough, and they find out and flee in terror.

The demon girl's name was Teardrop, and her little sister's name was Blood drop. Sometimes, on halloween, Teardrop would sometimes take Blood drop along with her. But this came at a cost. She would have to watch Blood drop and take care of her. But it was very difficult to keep her under control because she was a very troublesome child.
Sometimes Blood drop would scare humans her age and they would run and cry to their parents.

But every halloween, Teardrop would go and get candy for her sister if Blood drop could not come. Even though Blood drop could go every two years, she still wanted candy every year. After every Halloween, she would go through a portal back to the land down under. Then she would Give half of her candy to Blood drop. And they would wait 'till the next year to go back up.

Veronica Lewis

6th Grade

Blake + Lilly

One day in a high school class before Halloween night, the teacher had her class go on a field trip to the Midnight Forest. Everyone had a partner for the field trip except Blake, Blake was a boy who had messy long blonde hair and bright blue eyes. Blake was a neurotic person (a tendency to experience anxiety, depression, self-doubt, and other negative feelings), he was a timid person and just wanted to go home. Five minutes before the field trip a new kid named Lilly ran into the class almost knocking over the teacher. " When she got to the class she said "Sorry for being late teach, I'm new here" but the teacher was not happy and said, "Next time you run into my classroom YOU WILL HAVE TO WRITE ME A 500-WORD ESSAY ABOUT NOT RUNNING IN SCHOOL AND YOU WILL STAY IN THIS CLASSROOM ON HALLOWEEN NIGHT TO WRITE IT!". "Now go be Blake's partner, he's the blonde wearing the hoodie in the back. As soon as Blake saw Lilly his heart started to beat faster "Hi I'm Lilly, the teacher said that I'll be your partner for the field trip to the forest" "By the way I like your hoodie it looks great with your hair and eyes". "I'm going to be a black cat for Halloween, what will you be" "I-I'm dressing as a white bat for Halloween". The bus was running late so the teacher let the class play on their computers and learn more about each other, but Blake and Lily found out that they liked similar things and became closer to each other, it was like they were soulmates. Finally, the bus arrived, and the partners sat next to each other. "Blake the Midnight Forest is a forest where werewolves are, but if we find a werewolf I'll make sure it won't hurt us, so be strong there's no need to be scared when I'm here. "What we just met 30 minutes ago and she talks to me like I'm her boyfriend". Hours later the class arrived at the Midnight Forest and the teacher gave out places where two partners to explore, but Blake and Lilly had to explore the Werewolf Caves where werewolves were thought to be. Blake knowing he could die in the caves got really really scared and started shaking but Lilly could see that Blake needed someone to comfort him "Hey hey calm down Blake, It's ok I'm here" "If a werewolf tries to kill us, I'll make sure the werewolf never attacks anyone again" "You will be ok I promise" "Lets walk holding hands so we won't get lost ok?. Blake got up still scared but felt safe around Lilly, the two walked hand and hand through the forest but then Blake started to feel a pain in his stomach but just ignored it thinking it was just normal stomach pain. The sun went down and the full moon came up, Blake felt a sharp pain inside his chest, stumbling back and letting go of Lilly's hand in pain. "Blake what's wrong you look like you are in a lot of pain" Blake wanted to answer her but he couldn't find the words. His vision blurred and he felt his bones shifting, his muscles stretching and moving in ways they shouldn't. "L-Lilly you need to go...NOW" he managed to gasp out in pain but Lilly didn't move "I'm not going anywhere Blake. What's happening" Blake tried to push her away but the transformation had already begun. His body convulsed and he let out a guttural growl as his spine arched, forcing him onto all fours. His clothes tore as his muscles expanded and blonde fur sprouted across his skin. His hands and feet elongated turning into powerful claws and his face twisted into a snout filled with sharp gleaming teeth. Lilly watched in horror as the boy she cared for had transformed into a monster but Lilly couldn't bring herself to run, she was frozen in place with her eyes locked on Blake as his transformation had finished. Blake howled at the moon, where Blake once had stood there was now a massive red-eyed werewolf. "Blake?" The werewolf, unlike other werewolves was nice as it recognized her. The werewolf looked scared and started whimpering like a sad dog. "Hey, Blake it's ok I'm not scared of you and I'm not leaving you " "I'm here Blake and I'm not going anywhere". The werewolf hugged Lilly with tears in his eyes. Lilly started to pet the werewolf comforting him "There you go" "Easy

easy" The werewolf was like a big puppy letting Lilly pet him. "It's ok you can sleep" "The teacher said were not going back to school till 10 in the morning so get some rest, the werewolf slept like a puppy. Lilly decided to explore the werewolf caves because they couldn't come back with nothing. While exploring the werewolf caves a werewolf saw Lilly and attacked her. Lilly thought she could beat the werewolf easily with no scars but she got bit by the werewolf on her arm before the werewolf went after a big bear. "Ha I knew I could beat a werewolf" "But the bite really hurts ow" Lilly forgetting that the full moon was out went outside in the moonlight and just like Blake she transformed into a werewolf too. When the transformation ended Lilly howled at the moon waking up Blake. Lilly looked at her new brown-colored werewolf form when Blake found her. When Blake saw Lilly, he thought he lost control, hurting Lilly and making her become a werewolf. Blake started whimpering again and ran away. Lilly walked over to Blake with a smile on her face, she sat next to Blake and then kissed him on his cheek. Lilly rested her head against Blake which made him smile. The two werewolves (Blake and Lilly) slept by each other until morning when Lilly woke up a human again to find something to give to the teacher about the werewolf caves. Then Lilly woke Blake up "Hey you awake, we have 2 more hours until we go home". "L-Lilly did I hurt you last night" "No, I just got attacked by another werewolf and kept his tooth" "Y-You're not scared of me?" "Of course I'm not scared of you, you looked like a big puppy when you were a werewolf" "I'm sorry I couldn't protect you" "It's ok, I still love you". The two explored the werewolf caves more finding cool things like a werewolf skull. 2 hours later the bus came back and picked up the class, when they got back before they left they had to show the things that they found the whole class found something interesting about a place in the forest. Lilly and Blake showed off what they found in the Werewolf Caves which gave them both an A+ for the field trip and the assignment. When the class went home Lilly asked Blake if he wanted to go trick or treating together. Blake said yes and on Halloween night the two went trick-or-treating together and started dating each other. The end :)

Here are the YouTube links to the two videos I based the story on (there both from my YouTube channel)

- Werewolf transformation

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RSaVUjbra_0

THE SECRETS...

ACT I

WE START TO WALK UP TO PAM'S HOUSE (PAM IS A CLOSE FRIEND OF MY SISTER). IT SEEMED NORMAL AT FIRST BUT THEN THE DOOR WAS LOCKED (MOST TIMES PAM LEAVES HER DOOR UNLOCKED I THOUGHT TO MYSELF) AND THERE WAS A GRAVESTONE AT THE SIDE OF THE HOUSE SO ME AND MY SISTER WENT TO INSPECT THE GRAVE STONE AND WE SAW A KEY. WE TOOK IT WITH US JUST IN CASE WE NEEDED TO USE IT FOR SOMETHING LOCKED. WE START TO ENTER THE BACKYARD. WE TAKE CAREFUL STEPS SLOWLY LOOKING AROUND LEFT AND RIGHT AND WE START TO SEE A SHAPE IN THE DISTANCE MAKING OUT AN OMINOUS FIGURE. WE THINK NOTHING OF IT BECAUSE WE ARE ALREADY TIRED FROM WALKING THIS FAR. WE SOON FIGURE OUT THAT THE KEY WAS FOR THE FRONT DOOR WE GO TO UNLOCK THE DOOR WE SEE THAT PAM IS SITTING IN THE KITCHEN WE WALK UP TO PAM AND SEE THAT SHE IS SOBBING SAYING " HELP MY LITTLE BOY TIMMY I THINK HE HAS SOME SORT OF SICKNESS" MY SISTER SAYS WILL COMFORTING PAM " WE'LL HELP TIMMY FROM HIS SICKNESS I PROMISE" PAM SAYS " HE'S LOCKED DOWN IN THE BASEMENT I HID THE KEY SO MY HUSBAND MARK SO HE DIDN'T LET HIM OUT". OK MY SISTER REPLIED " LET'S FIND THAT KEY" I SAY, SO WE WENT LOOKING FOR THE KEY WE LOOKED AT SOME OF THE MORE OBVIOUS PLACES BUT WE DIDN'T FIND IT SO WE LOOKED BEHIND BOOKSHELVES, LAMPS ETC. ME AND MY SISTER FINALLY FOUND THE KEY IN MARKS ROOM ODDLY ENOUGH MARK DID KNOW IT WAS THERE SO WE TOLD HIM AND HE SAID "TO TAKE THE KEY AND HELP OUR SON PLEASE" I SAY "WE WILL HELP TIMMY". WE GO BACK DOWNSTAIRS AND SEE PAM WAITING FOR US AT THE BOTTOM OF THE STAIRS LOOKING WORRIED. SHE FOLLOWS US DOWN INTO THE BASEMENT AND WE SEE TIMMY IN A LARGE CAGE CONNECTED TO THE WALL.. MY SISTER ASKS " H-HEY BUD HOW ARE YOU FEELING" I START TO ENTER THROUGH THE DOOR CAREFULLY MY SISTER DROPS HER BAG AND GRAPES TWO CROSSES OUT FROM HER BAG AND FOLLOWS IN SHORTLY AND HANDS ME THE OTHER CROSS I START TO WALK UP TO TIMMY THE LIGHTS START TO FLICKER AND GO OUT FOR A SPLIT SECOND THEN THE LIGHTS COME BACK ON HE'S NOT THERE THE LIGHT FLICKER ONE LAST TIME BEFORE !

ACT II

THE LIGHT TURNED BACK ON AND WHEN WE SAW WHAT I THOUGHT TO BE A MONSTER BUT WAS ACTUALLY A DEMON ! I HAVE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT. MY SISTER STARTS TO WALK UP TO THE MONSTER AND SHE WHISPERS TO HERSELF " WHY DOES IT LOOK LIKE SOME SORT OF CREATURE? " IT HAS SHINY WHITE EYES WHITE, TEETH AND THE REST OF HIS BODY IS BLACK. I SAY TO " STOP WALKING UP TO THAT THING ! " MY SISTER SAYS " IT'S OK I WILL HELP HIM " SHE WALKS CLOSER THEN THE DEMON TURNS AROUND LOOKING AT HER WITH A GRIN.

THE DEMON LOOKS AT HER AND SAYS " ARE YOU GOING TO HELP ME OR NOT HAHA ! " I SAY " W-W- WE ARE TRYING TO HELP YOU JUST TO SAY A SIMPLE CHANT WITH US OK. " THE DEMON SAYS IN A CROOKED TONE " WHAT IS THIS CHANT. "" I SAY NERVOUSLY " IT'S UMM CALLED T- THE SCHWIFTY SONG YOU'LL LOVE IT. " THE DEMON SAYS " NO IT'S A TRICK " I WALK CLOSER TO THE DEMON AND THE LIGHT FLICKERS AND THEN HE ISN'T IN THE BASEMENT WE ARE IN SOME SORT OF ROOM. IT IS DARK WITH DARK RED CANDLES AND LOT'S OF SATANIC SYMBOLS. MY SISTER LOOKS AT ME WITH SUCH CONFUSION SAYING " WHERE ARE WE " I RESPOND WITH " I DON'T KNOW. "WE LEAVE THE ROOM AND THERE'S A HALLWAY WITH SEVEN DOORS, ONE OF THE DOORS HAVING A LOCK ON THE DOOR. WE LOOK TO FIND THE KEY AND WE FIND NOTHING BUT A BLACK SHADOW WITH WHITE EYE'S. WE TRIED TO ASK SOME QUESTIONS BUT THE SHADOW DIDN'T ANSWER. WE TRIED TO USE THE CROSS AND IT JUST DISAPPEARED. WE LOOKED IN THE ROOM ACROSS FROM THE ROOM WE WERE IN. WE DO THE SAME THING TO EACH DOOR WE OPEN UNTIL WE KNOW IT'S IN THE LAST ROOM AND WHEN WE GO TO OPEN THE DOOR MY SISTER IS SO SCARED SHE IS SHAKING OUT OF CONTROL, SHE DROPS THE KEY. WE START TO WALK TOWARDS THE LOCKED DOOR.....

FINAL ACT

WE WALK WITH CAUTION TOWARDS THE LAST DOOR AND WE UNLOCK IT. TO OUR SURPRISE WE SEE A BUNCH OF PEOPLE AROUND A GOBLET. THERE WAS A BLACK LIQUID IN THE GOBLET. THE PEOPLE WEREN'T SAYING ANYTHING SO WE HAVE TO PUT THE CROSS IN THE GOBLET! BUT BEFORE WE DID THAT, TIMMY CAME OUT OF THE GROUND AND STARTED TO RISE. WE STARTED TO PRAY AND IT SEEMED TO HELP BUT WITHOUT THE CROSS IT WOULD DO NOTHING THEN I REALIZED THAT I HAD MY BIBLE ON ME SO I CURSED IT TO HELL. WE FINALLY DEFEATED IT MY SISTER YELLED BUT TIMMY CAME UP ONCE MORE AND SAID TO MY SISTER YOU WILL BE CURSE TILL DEATH.

THE SECRETS PART II

IT'S BEEN 7 YEARS SINCE THE INCIDENT PAM WAS PUT IN A MENTAL HOSPITAL AND MY SISTER IS STILL GETTING BETTER FROM WHAT HAPPENED AT PAM'S HOUSE. LATER THIS WEEK I HAVE TO PICK MY SISTER UP FROM THE HOSPITAL. I HOPE SHE OK WELL, I GUESS I'M HERE. THE NURSE " JUST TO YOUR LEFT" ME " THANKS ". I WALK INTO THE ROOM TO SEE MY SISTER DEAD. AAAAAAAA HELP SOME ONE HELP MY SISTER IS DEAD. WHY WHY IS IT ALWAYS MY LOVED ONES? I TRY AND TRY TO STOP THIS CURSE BUT I WON'T STOP. SO THAT MEANS THAT I HAVE TO GO BACK TO PAM'S HOUSE TO END THIS STUPID CURSE. TWO WEEKS LATER I'M FINALLY PREPARED FOR

IT THIS TIME. I HAD 3 CROSSES, 2 BIBLES AND SOME HOLY WATER. WHEN I GET TO PAM'S HOUSE I LOOKS TEN TIMES AS CREEPY AS IT WAS BEFORE.

TO BE CONTINUED

The Oak Inn

By: Aubrey Graves

Lauren, Jemma, and I were all sitting in homeroom as we began to talk about our plans for the upcoming Halloween weekend. Jemma began talking about how excited she was and how she wanted to do something scary to kick off Halloween.

"I really want to do something scary this weekend! It would be sooooo much fun to do something that's exciting for once in this boring old town!"

"I heard there's lots of kids going missing and I think it might have something to do with the oak inn" Lauren says enthusiastically "Maybe that's what we can do this weekend!"

"ooo that sounds really fun, maybe we could even try to spend the night!" I boldly state

Jemma begins to light up with excitement. "We should go this Friday! Everyone meet at my place after school!"

"Sounds good to me!" Lauren and I say in unison

That night I was filled with excitement and planning in detail exactly what we should do tomorrow night at the oak inn, I soon drifted off to sleep listening to the sound of the light rain tapping my window.

When I woke up the next morning, I was frozen with fear and sweat was rolling down my face as I recalled the terrifying dream I had just encountered. There were monsters, flashes of red, ghosts, and worst of all my friends were in danger. I thought a little bit deeper into it, realizing this could have been a very clear sign of not to go to the Oak. I rolled out of bed with eyes wide still thinking and went to get ready for school. I got dressed, in my favorite hoodie and jeans and boy was I feeling myself! I headed downstairs and saw that my mom had made me breakfast before she headed to work, and right by the stack of golden-brown pancakes smothered in pure maple syrup, laid a note signed by my mom in which it stated, " working the night shift today. Have a good day, love u lots!" After I read the note, I thought this is the perfect night to sneak out to the Oak, especially because moms working the night shift and dads out on a business trip. I scarfed down my food and grabbed my backpack off the couch to head to school.

It was a rainy day, and the sky was full of gray clouds. The air had a very bold smell. I just couldn't tell you exactly what it was, but it almost smelled like mystery. You know, if mystery had a smell. I turned the corner and met up with Lauren so we could walk to school together like we do every day.

"Good morning she said!" full of joy

"Morning". I bluntly replied

"You, ok?" she asked with a mouth full of toast

"Yea... I just had a pretty scary dream last night about the Oak Inn"

" What was it about?" she asked in a very concerned voice moving closer to me

" I don't really remember everything I do know something happened with Jemma though and there was some kind of creature. I'm sure it's nothing though."

"That's kind of scary" Lauren whispered

"Yea I'm sure it's nothing" I shrugged

As we arrived at school, I heard the sophomores talking about how one of their classmates Mary went to the Oak last night and didn't come out. "She's only one year older than me" I thought to myself. Lauren and I headed to class and sat down in our assigned seats. Which weren't assigned but chosen even though every single student in that class had a clear understanding of not to sit in anyone's else's seat not even if they were absent. We met with Jemma at the circle table in the back of class, the one we always sat at. I began to zone out until the morning announcements came on. They were relatively normal except when Mrs. Herring began to talk about Mary's disappearance. She had said something about how last night police had searched the entire Oak and its surrounding forest and found nothing but her backpack, her scarf, and footprints of something unknown.

"ooooo maybe a shapeshifter" Jemma said mockingly

"Yeah right!" I said jokingly

" I don't think those things even exist" added Lauren "But who really knows I guess"

Jemma and I both nodded our heads in agreement because honestly, who really does know if any of these hoax's are true? Probably no one.

Our homeroom teacher, Ms. Riley began to talk about our math lesson for that day.

"Alright class, today we will be learning about decimals and how to divide integers!!!!" WOHOOOO

"Ugh I hate this class!" Jemma said boldly

"Same here" added Lauren raising her fingers up in agreement

"Me three!" I added in a very monotone voice.

"Well, I don't really care about your opinions on my class. And if there is an issue, I would be more than happy to send you to the office." Ms. Riley said in a passive aggressive tone.

" No ma'am we apologize" We all said with our heads down, as the class snickered and giggled at us.

That class for the next 45 minutes seemed to go by slower than a snail in a race.

Once lunch hit the day seemed to go by a little bit faster. We made it through the day, and as our last period bell was about to ring, I bubbled with joy and excitement about the Oak. I couldn't wait to see what was inside and the mysteries we would uncover.

The bell rang and Jemma, Lauren and I all met up at our lockers because they were surprisingly directly next to each other. I had let them know that I had to run home and pack my bag so I had everything I could possibly need, and I mean EVERYTHING.

"Okay, sounds good, just meet back at my place when you're done." Jemma added

"Alright" I replied

I had walked home a different way than I usually do because I wanted to get a closer look at the Oak. As I was looking at one of the windows, I swore I had seen Mary inside crying. I looked a little bit closer and mainly focused on that window, but as I looked back, I saw nothing but dark loneliness.

I had made it home and packed my pink duffle bag full of stuff. I packed hoodies, flashlights, a phone charger, water, food, sleeping bags, bug spray, and pajamas. I headed out of my bedroom window by creating a long line of sheets and blankets then throwing it out of the window to climb down because we have a ring doorbell, and I didn't want either of my parents to know I had snuck out. I made it down safely and started walking to Jemma's house. Good thing it was only about two blocks away because it was cold, and I had felt as if the darkness was enclosing me.

I made it to Jemma's house and rang the doorbell. After a couple of seconds, her mom answered the door and welcomed me in. I walked up stairs to Jemma's room and saw Lauren and Jemma packing a bag.

"Heyyyy" I said

"Aubrey" They shouted running towards me to give me a hug.

"We have to go when my parents are asleep by the way. They usually go to sleep early though so we should be good" Jemma added

"Sounds good!" I spoke

Later that night we all went to see if Jemma's parents were sleeping. We got confirmation that they were, so we snuck out of the back door and walked our way towards the Oak.

"Dang it's really cold tonight." Lauren said shivering

"I agree!" I said clenching my teeth and rubbing my arms

We had arrived at the Oak Inn with our bags in hand and a mind full of optimism. We headed up the long driveway and almost tripped over the crumbling pavement. We opened the rusted gate with a loud "Screech" and walked inside the hotel full of dark memories and cold feelings.

" This is huge!" Lauren said with a smile on her face

" I know right" Jemma added in shock

We all grabbed our flashlights out of our bags and headed for the dark mysterious hallways. I kept getting a cold feeling and I swore I had seen something dash across the floor of a room.

"Guys...?" I said uncertainty

"Yea?" Lauren and Jemma said concerningly

"Is it just me or have you guys sworn to see something dart across the halls and inside rooms?" I asked

"It's not just you. I looked over to one of the rooms and swore to have seen something with a gray shadow." Jemma stated

We continued to walk the halls as we made our way to the most haunted place in the hotel. The place with the coldest feeling. The dining hall.

"The history behind this place is unlike any other." Lauren added as if it wasn't scary enough.

"What is it?" Jemma and I both asked trembling

" I was doing my research on this place last night and I was reading a couple of articles and newspapers dating all the way back to the 1960's. When it all started... the great massacre."

"I think I've heard of this but tell me more" I said

Lauren began again, " Almost all of the evidence on this place is covered up due to the public fear. So, I had to do a little bit of digging and I found one article posted by an anonymous user stating that he in fact was a survivor of the oak massacre. It began

with him talking about how during breakfast time, almost all the 235 visitors of the Oak were downstairs eating breakfast as he headed out to explore the town. He said he was doing some shopping for his wife and 3 kids as they were still inside the hotel when he had left. He went to a couple of stores, and he had found the perfect new ring for his wife and some small little toys for his children, but he said that when he walked back into the hotel... every... single... person...had been lying dead right where they sat."

" Every single person?" I asked with sympathy

" Every single one and all of the doors had been busted open even with some residents lying dead in their beds with their children as none of them had woken up yet." Lauren added

"That's really sad...and scary" Jemma added

" Did they ever find who did it?" I asked

"Nope but they still believe he roams these very halls..." Lauren replied

"Oh, my g-" I went to say

BANG! We all turned around with our hearts racing and our palms sweaty.

"What was that" I slightly whispered

"I don't know" Lauren said trembling

As we turned our flashlights to check, their batteries went dead, and the hotel went silent and dark. I felt as if we were being watched by hundreds of eyes surrounding us almost like we were being trapped. We quickly turned to each other and reached for our spare flashlights. I was able to turn mine on and I pointed it to my right side, relieved to see Lauren, but as I pointed it to my left, nothing but pitch-black darkness.

"Where's Jemma?!" Lauren and I both said with fear on our faces.

We began to search everywhere. We were running up and down halls, looking into rooms, shouting Jemma's name, but all we heard back was the echoes of our own voices. I was getting tired, and I was running low on the flashlight battery, Lauren and I entered the last room with no hope of finding Jemma. We pointed our flashlights in the room and in the corner stood a rocking chair with who appeared to be Jemma sitting in it.

" Jemma!" Lauren and I said relieved

" I thought we had for sure lost you!" I spoke

The chair was still rocking as the pace stayed the same. We got no response, so we walked up to the chair and saw that whatever was sitting in it wasn't our friend.

Jemma's eyes aren't red, her skin isn't pale and she's certainly not that tall. Lauren and I looked at each other like we were thinking the same thing. Our eyes widened as the figure began to stand up. We quickly sprinted down the halls reaching multiple flights of stairs, and we had to sprint down those two while still being chased. We ran as fast as our bodies could ignoring how tired we were because this was a matter of life or death. We headed out of the back exit and ran upon a small gray shed. We walked inside it astonished to see Jemma and the missing classmate Mary, tied down with duct tape over their mouths.

"Oh my god!" I spoke

We unraveled both and took the duct tape off of their mouths. As soon as the duct tape was off Mary's mouth, she urgently said,

" We have to leave right now, and we can never come back. It is after us and it needs a body to leave the hotel with. It's the only way for it to get out!"

She grabbed us by our wrist before we could even say anything back, and we sprinted through the pouring rain as we followed the line of trees until we saw the main road to our neighborhood.

"You have to PROMISE me you will NEVER go back there." Mary shouted

"We promise" We all said softly with tears flowing down our faces

Mary headed back to her house to see her parents again after being gone for 2 days. Lauren, Jemma and I walked back to Jemma's house just to see all our parents sitting on her porch crying.

"Mom?" I asked

She picked her head out of her hands and spoke

"Where were you?" In a more concerned voice than an angry one.

All I could do was stutter. She told me to not even answer that and ran up for a long tight hug. While on the other hand Lauren and Jemma were being scolded. The long car ride home consisted of a list of punishments, but I was grateful that I was even alive. My mom and I had made it home, and I ate my dinner which was now cold. Afterwards, I headed to my room. I laid in bed, and I couldn't stop thinking about the Oak. I snuggled up with my blanket and I eventually fell asleep to the sound of the leaves being blown across the road and the wind flowing through my open window pooling in my room.

I looked outside my window the next morning and was surprisingly happy to see the Oak Inn being demolished because they needed new space for an apartment complex. I thought to myself, " You can erase the Oak, but you can't erase its history."