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ЖАХЛИВІ ІСТОРІЇ

(Англійською та українською мовами)

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Whether the occasion is a camp fire, a sleepover*, or a Halloween party, a scary story sets the stage for a fun time. Turn off the lights, use your creepiest voice, and be prepared for a late night with little sleep!

THE BABYSITTER AND THE CLOWN STATUE

One night, a girl was looking after a little boy and a little girl. The parents liked clowns and had a big collection of them. They even had a special room for their collection. That night, the children were playing in this very room. Many of the clowns were just statues, and some were life-size. The biggest clown sat in a small rocking chair.

The babysitter started to feel more and more uneasy about this statue. She felt as

^{*} a sleeping at another person's house

though the eyes were looking at her all the time. She decided to call the parents.

"I'm so sorry to bother you," she said, "but may I move this clown in the rocking chair. It's starting to scare the kids and me."

"What clown are you talking about? I don't remember a big clown in the chair. Are you sure?" the mother asked hurriedly.

"Yes, I'm sure," said the girl. "It's sitting right here. I'm looking at it right now."

"Take the kids and get out of the house, now. Run to our neighbours. Call me immediately when you get there."

Frightened and confused, the babysitter took the kids and ran out. When she and the kids came to the neighbours, she called the mother.

"What's wrong? Did anything happen? Are you all okay?" the girl asked.

"Yes, we are fine, but you were in danger. It happened again. Soon we will be there with the police, I'll explain everything when we get there," said the mother.

Later, the parents explained to the girl that for some time the next door there lived a neighbour who gave them problems. He was mentally ill. He heard voices. For many times he sneaked into their house and tried to kidnap the children. This time, he dressed up in a clown suit, painted

his face, and waited quietly until he had the opportunity to take the children away.

The parents informed the police many times. But they didn't have any proof. Now, it happened again. They thanked the girl, paid her, and drove her home.

EXERCISES

I. Change the underlined words with the words from the box.

chance uncomfortable as big as a human frightened got into steal

- 1) Some clowns were life-size.
- The babysitter started to feel more and more <u>uneasy</u> about this statue.
- 3) The biggest clown scared the kids.
- 4) The mentally ill man <u>sneaked into</u> the house and tried to <u>kidnap</u> the children.
- 5) The man looked for the opportunity to take the children away.
- II. If the information isn't true, make necessary changes.
 - The girl was looking after her brother and sister.

- There were many clowns all around the house.
- The parents' favourite clown sat in a chair.
- 4) The children liked to play with the clowns.
- 5) The babysitter called the police.
- 6) The police didn't come because they didn't believe the mother.

III. Complete the sentences with the prepositions from the box.

out up at out of after away about

- 1) A girl was looking ... little children.
- 2) The babysitter started to feel uneasy ... this statue.
- 3) The clown's eyes were looking ... her all the time.
- 4) The girl took the kids and got the house.
- 5) The babysitter took the kids and ran
- The strange man dressed ... in a clown suit.
- 7) He wanted to take the children

THREE WELLS OF AMELIA JAMES

Once there was a small family living in the woods. The family was very rich. The daughter, Amelia James, was a beautiful singer and her mother was always jealous of her. When the father went to war, they quickly began to lose money. The mother, who was very greedy and did not want to spend the money on her daughter, told her daughter to go down the hill and find three wells.

She told her daughter to get water from the farthest well. The girl did as she was told and walked till she came to the wells. She looked into the first well and saw perfectly clear cold water. She walked to the middle well, looked inside and again saw perfectly clear cold water. She continued on and finally, the girl came to the last well. When she looked into, the water was clean and cold. But the well was very deep and she couldn't reach the water.

While she bent into the well to get some water, her mother jumped from the bush and pushed her into the well. The girl did not know that her mother planned to kill her.

Several years later, two friends of mine and I were walking near the woods, we heard distant singing - la-la, la-la, la-la. As we continued it got louder. Suddenly, the singing stopped, and we saw three wells. The youngest of my friends walked toward the closest well and looked into it. My other friend, who was older than I, started walking toward the middle well. I ran past her and realized that as I was slowly walking towards the last well, I could hear la-la, la-la-la singing. When I came closer to the well, I could smell something. There was no singing but gurgling. I took one more step and looked down into the well, and the water was dirty and green. I saw hair on the surface and painted finger nails visible under the water. I stretched my hand down towards the water. When I almost reached the drowning hands, I felt as someone pulled me back away from the well. I saw crying faces of my parents and police officers which helped me.

Later I discovered that my friends jumped into the wells. When hunters heard their screams, they called the police. Later, the police inspected the wells. The two wells were dry and filled with the bones of animals and children. The third well was still filled with

dirty water where they found the bodies of fourteen drowned girls and remains of the forgotten singer, Amelia James.

EXERCISES

who or what in the story was
a. beautiful?
b. jealous?
c. greedy?
d. clear and cold?
e. deep?
f. drowning?
g. forgotten?

II. Complete the sentences with the words from the box and translate them.

pulled visible surface bent stretched wells distant gurgling lose farthest reach

- 1) The family quickly began to ... money.
- 2) Mother told her daughter to find three

- 3) She told her daughter to get water from the ... well.
- The well was very deep and Amelia couldn't ... the water.
- 5) She ... into the well to get some water.
- 6) We heard ... singing
- 7) There was no singing but
- 8) I saw hair on the ... and painted finger nails ... under the water.
- 9) I ... my hand down towards the water.
- Someone ... me back away from the well.

III. Answer the questions.

- 1) What was Amelia?
- 2) Why did Amelia's mother want her death?
- 3) What did the mother order Amelia?
- 4) What happened to Amelia?
- 5) What did girls hear walking near the woods?
- 6) What could happen to them?
- 7) What did the police find in the well?



THE DEMONIN ASHLYNN

"Ashlynn! Time to go!" cried Ashlynn's mother.

Ashlynn sighed and went out of her bedroom, unwilling to go to this "sleepover birthday party".

She climbed into her father's car and watched her mother walk out the door to the car. She climbed into the front seat and sat, waiting for her father. In 10 minutes, her father came out, and they took off.

Ashlynn arrived at Lucille's house at 5:37 p.m.