

A Spooky Night

by Katie Clark

Underline the instances of personification within the story.

Kyle and Jasmine rode their bikes up the hill toward the Old Hickory Town mansion. They had been dared by their neighbor Trenton to go inside the gates and look around. Thunder rumbled in the distance, but Kyle didn't see any lightning. He and his sister should be safe.



"What if it rains?"

"I guess we'll go," Kyle said. They pedaled up the steep hill.

The mansion appeared to have been abandoned for a hundred years. No one lived there and it had become a part of people's dreams and nightmares. Buckets of rain downed the mansion.

"Hurry!" Kyle said. They were at the top of the hill. They sought shelter under a huge tree.

"How will we get inside?"

Jasmine pointed to the gate.

After a few minutes, the rain softened to a mist. They left the shelter of the tree and rode to the gate. Two giant pillars stood on either side of the gate. On top of the pillars were statues shaped like lions. The eyes of the lions followed them as they approached.

Kyle shivered.

"I guess it won't be hard to sneak in," Jasmine said. She pushed open the gate and

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they walked their bikes onto the property. Vines and overgrown grass covered everything, even parts of the old mansion. Kyle and Jasmine rode to the front door. The rain had stopped, but they were still wet. The front door was huge. It towered over them angrily, as if it didn't want them there. Kyle gulped.

"We don't have to go inside," he said. "Trenton only said we had to get inside the gates. We've already completed the dare."

Jasmine shrugged. "I'm a little curious. If the door is locked, we won't go in. But what if it's open?"

Kyle wasn't excited. He wanted to seem like a chicken. He left his bike and walked to the door handle, and it turned. The darkness greeted them.

"Did you bring a flashlight?"

They stepped into the darkness. Scratching sounds echoed from the shadows.

"I think we better go back."

Jasmine bolted. She ran to the door, a giant creature appeared. Kyle then he was covered in a dark shadow.

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He wanted to seem like a chicken. He tried the door handle, and the door opened. The darkness greeted them.

the darkness.

sped up.

he could close the door.

and closed his eyes, but he was still there.

Jasmine laughed, and Kyle opened his eyes. A giant dog sat on his chest. Its tongue hung out and its tail wagged.

Kyle laughed nervously. "I think we should go home now," he said.

Jasmine grinned. "I think so too."

They said goodbye to the dog, and they grabbed their bikes and rode home.

It had been a spooky night, but at least they had won the dare!

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