

The haunted house

I walked the dog after dinner last night and when it was time to return home, I decided to take a shortcut through the woods. On the edge of the wood stood a deserted house. When I walked past the house, I heard a strange noise. Suddenly, I heard a high pitched scream. I instantly froze; there was only my dog and me, standing in the dark, not knowing what's happening. At that moment I didn't know what to do, to run away or to check what's happening in that house. My dog, Sky was barking and jumping like crazy, he wanted to get off the leash, at one point I realised that I can't hold him anymore so I let go of him. He ran straight for the house, I knew something bad was going to happen because now I had to get in there to get Sky. I started walking slowly towards the house, step by step; there were all kinds of traps set up near the path that led to the house. I successfully outflanked them. Now I was standing eye to eye with the doors and with what's inside. Death could be behind them, I thought.

I grabbed the door handle and opened the door slowly; it was pitch black and very quiet. I stepped in, the old wooden floor started creaking, it seemed to get louder and louder with every step I made. I came up to what looked like a window, but when I came closer, I realised it was an opening for something like a tunnel. I didn't know where it was leading but I heard my dog whining, so I got in that tunnel and started crawling to get to the end. I had to make a choice, should I go left or right, I had to make a decision because every second was important. I thought I heard Sky again, sounds were coming from the left side, but my instincts were telling me to go right so I decided to listen to them. I knew that I was getting closer and closer to the end of the tunnel because of the light I saw, but there was less and less space, I could barely breathe now. Finally I came to an end and carefully got out, I looked around the room and I was disturbed by what I witnessed. A white room completely covered with red stains on the walls, doll heads hanging off the ceiling, pins stuck in some of the heads, eyes missing from the others, and the floor...the worst scene was on the floor, dead animals and their parts ripped off. I almost threw up, but in the corner of the room, I saw my dog, his legs caught in a bear trap, I ran towards him, I hugged him and slowly opened the trap and took him in my hands. He was licking me, he was so happy to see me, and I was relieved to find him so I said to him: "Now we only need to find an exit from this house." But just then I felt something grab my shoulder and heard a deep voice say: "Not so fast."

Shaking in fear, with my eyes closed, fearing what I will see when I turn around, I made a turn and saw an old man with two girls looking at me. They looked awful, like someone or something was holding them there for ages. He was unshaved; they were all dirty and covered in bruises with ripped clothes. The man fell on his knees and said: "Please, you have to get us out of here, we saw some crazy stuff. This place is haunted. We tried to get out, but you can't run away from him, he'll find a way to catch you, and then you'll be punished so that you would never try that again."

I said: "Who did this to you? Who is he?"

„He is the devil, he wants us to call him Lucifer.“

„Are you sure?“ I said, because I was shocked by what I heard.

„We're sure, we've never questioned anything about him, the things, awful things he has done are the confirmation that he really is the devil.“

“At the beginning we were a group of ten campers, we were all friends that would do everything for each other, but the first time we got to this house I felt something weird, like some strange force was around us. That day everyone started arguing so we got divided in two groups. Late at night a storm began, the wind was blowing so strongly that it almost blew our tents away. I fell asleep for an hour or so, but just around dawn I was awoken by the screams. At first I thought a bear or some other animal was attacking us, but when I came out of my tent I saw broken tents, and blood near them. But,... what freaked me out were seven of my friends hanging from the trees just like the dolls in this room. Then, in the distance I saw a creature dragging the two girls with him, I started running after him, but then I felt something hit me on the head and I passed out. The last thing I remember was waking up in chains in this house.“

I was really shocked and I didn't know what to say, should I believe them or should I run. I asked him why they are unchained now, and he said it was a prize for not running away after they saw what had happened to their friends.

They said they were planning an escape for a long time, and that it should be easier now when there were four of us. I asked him what about my dog, since he **was injured**. He gave me his camping bag and we put him in it. Since he was a small dog, he wasn't too heavy to carry. We were planning an escape when all of a sudden; we heard an evil laughter and something being dragged. I quickly hid in a tunnel where I came from. Just at that moment, I heard the doors unlocking and someone entering the room. I was scared, what if he saw me? But he only said: „You're not getting dinner tonight. From now on, you'll either starve or you'll eat each other!“ and left the room. I got chills from those last two words, I couldn't

believe my ears...Who could be that psycho? Or is it really the devil? I went up to them and said: „We’re going away from here as fast as we can.“

We all got in the tunnel and started crawling towards the place where I came from. We got out and the only thing keeping us away from freedom was an old creaking floor and old doors. We started walking step by step being as quiet as we could. We walked up to the doors and I pulled the door handle, but it was locked. What now!?! On our left there was another room with some cages and weird gadgetry, but behind all of that was a small closet. I walked up towards it and opened its doors; a flock of bats came flying out significantly disturbed by my visit. In there was an axe, a crowbar and a few other, not so useful things for us, but also body parts of the dolls that were hanging in the room where those three were locked. I took the axe and the crowbar and came up to them and said: „When we kick this door down, follow me, and keep running without looking back.“

I hit the doors a few times with the axe and broke the lock with the crowbar. We got out, and it was still night. I warned them about the traps on the path. Then we heard screams behind us, so I told them: ”Just run and never, ever look back. I know it’s hard, but we’ll be safe shortly, I know my family is surely looking for me.“ Suddenly, a thunderstorm began, a lightning struck the tree and it fell right in front of us, it almost trapped us, but we managed to get away. We heard people calling my name and the police sirens so I knew we were close, but just then we stopped because we heard one of the two girls screaming for help. She tiptoed and fell over, but it was already too late, it grabbed her. At this moment I saw Lucifer very clearly. He was very big and muscular, his face was enraged, and while I was looking at him our eyes met and I felt like he was staring directly into my soul, like he was trying to suck it out of my body. It lasted for a few seconds, but then my friend pulled me away and we continued running. We finally reached the police car, tired and screaming, trying to tell everyone what has just happened. After a few minutes of explaining what has happened, the police finally understood what was going on and that we were talking about the ten campers reported missing a few months ago.

We led them to the place where that old house was. It looked just the same as it did when we left, only when we got in there, walls were covered with demon symbols and above all of that it was written: „I’ll be back, this **is not over!**“ All of that, written with human blood, and in the next room, eight lifeless bodies arranged to create a David’s star. It was a horrific scene for all of us that witnessed it. Now, three months later, everyone is still recovering from that, psychologically and physically. The only thing that worries me is the message: “I’ll be back!”

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