

ELMHURST PUBLIC LIBRARY'S 2023 SCARY STORY WRITING CONTEST WINNERS

KIDS INK

A LITERARY MAGAZINE WRITTEN BY KIDS FOR KIDS

Untitled

Logan B., Grade 6

There was a picture on my phone of me sleeping but I live alone.
The next day, in a guest bedroom, the bed was messy and unmade but I live alone.
When I went outside there were two sets of footprints in the snow but I live alone.
In an extra closet in my house, there are someone else's clothes but I live alone.
Finally, I searched the house. I walked around and asked, "Is anyone home?" I faintly heard a yes. I followed the noise until I got to the base of the stairs to the attic. As I walked up, the wind howled outside, and the stairs creaked under every step I took. I could hear something



pacing around behind the door. When I got to the top and opened the door, there was a tall figure with an inhuman face. It had teeth like knives, and it was smiling. When it opened its mouth to speak, a high-pitched, squeaky sound came out of its mouth, and that was the last thing I heard.

The Last Sound Heard

Elsa C., Grade 7

There is a place deep in the forest, where people go in, but never come out where people will shout, but nothing is heard, where there are windows, but nothing is seen. But on a full moon, you'll see a faint light, and hear a faint scream, and see the people come out and turn to zombies.



Untitled

Helena D., Grade 3

When I came across the black cat, walking to the side of me, I didn't know that carnage was about to be unleashed. I was on a walk one day, when I saw the cat walking towards me. It stopped in front of me and started meowing, but then I heard the cat speak very quietly. It said I was in grave danger and that I should trust No One. I ran back home, confused at what I had just heard. The next day I was still confused from yesterday, so I decided to look for the cat again. I found the cat in an alley, so I decided to ask it how I was in danger, and it said it did not know but it could sense it. I was still worried and then, the black cat disappeared. Then pinecones started falling on me, so I looked up but there were no trees above me. So I started walking home, but when I got home the telephone rang and so I answered it. And I heard a mysterious voice, saying "I'm coming for you..." The room grew quiet as the door started to shake violently. I screamed as a creepy man with the head of a cheshire cat burst through the door and lunged at me. I blacked out. When I came to, the man had gone as quickly as he had come, with me living to tell the tale.



Monster Mask

Jacob P. Grade 2

One Halloween night, there was a family - a mom, dad and a boy named Frankie. The boy brushed his teeth and went to bed. Goodnight. He had a nightmare. In his dream, he saw his mom taking off her human mask. Aaaaah!! And she looked scary. She had scary teeth and green skin. Gasp! Then he saw his dad take off his human mask. Gasp! And he looked just like Frankenstein! They looked just like mom and dad Frankenstein monsters!!! Then they made a scary noise and tried to hug him. He yelled Noooooo!! and got away. Then he woke up and realized it was a dream. Phew! Just a dream!!! Then he went downstairs and ate his favorite food, pancakes! He told his parents about the dream. It was horrible!! His parents said, Oh! That is so silly, of course we are not monsters!! They had a smirk and he saw that his dad's skin looked a little green and then he knew the truth. Aaahhh!! You really are Frankenstein! And they said yeah and so are you ... Frankie!! Happy Halloween Frankenstein!!!!
The End



Untitled

Maeve A., Grade K

Some pumpkins when they have lights inside them, can glow up.
Some pumpkins can be orange or white.
Some pumpkins can be a circle or an oval, big or small.
Some pumpkins are heavy.
The squirrels in my neighborhood eat all these pumpkins.
But not mine!
Mine are fake.



Poem

Bentley R., Grade 2

A click, a clack, a skeek a rat!
A Boo!
A Boo!
A muah ha ha ha!
A cheek, a cheek, a eek, a eek!
A chill, a THUNDER SOUND!

Untitled

Nora S., Grade 1

One spooky night on Halloween a kid saw a witch flying. She screamed soooooo loud. I was walking and I saw a zombie. I ran away as fast as I could. A vampire chased me. I got home safely. "Phew!" I said.



Untitled

Sahar B., Grade 7

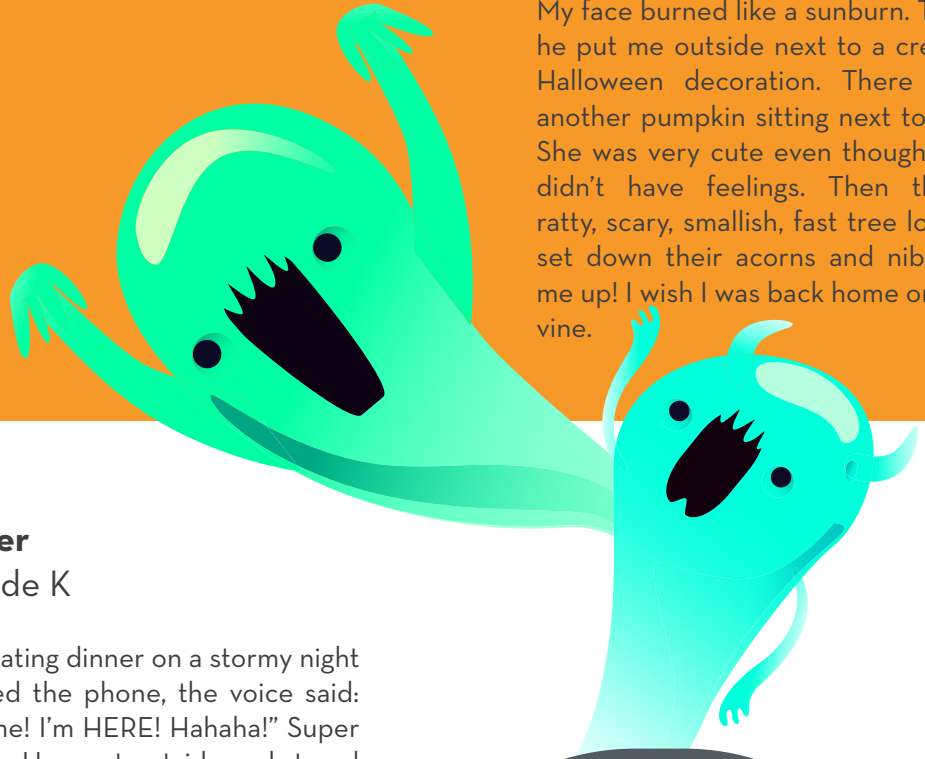
One night in October, Ophelia went on a late night drive by herself. Young Ophelia had gotten her driver's license the day before, She had hoped that on the way she could get her favorite ice cream-Dead man's treat-during the drive. However, Ophelia was a new driver so she needed to use a GPS. While she turned on the GPS she typed in "Dead man's treat" and the GPS began to make strange noises. The steering wheel turned and the car was driving by itself. Ophelia's car twisted, and turned until the GPS started to talk. "Hereeee, thereee, you'll go everywheree." "Hereeee, thereee, you'll go everywheree." the GPS repeated continuously. Ophelia felt herself losing touch with reality and was convinced that the GPS was completely normal. Finally, she arrived at "Dead man's treats". However, it looked different. It was rusty

and on the verge of breaking. She went in to order,there was no one there, but she went ahead and ordered anyway. Ophelia had turned to get back in her car when she felt herself almost sinking into the "Dead man's treats" ground. While all hope was lost she could hear something "Hereeee, thereee, you'll go everywheree."Ophelia had not only sunk into the ground, but had the haunted GPS implanted in her heart.So she had not in fact gotten ice cream, she ordered her doom.

Ghost Yard

Leah F., Grade 4

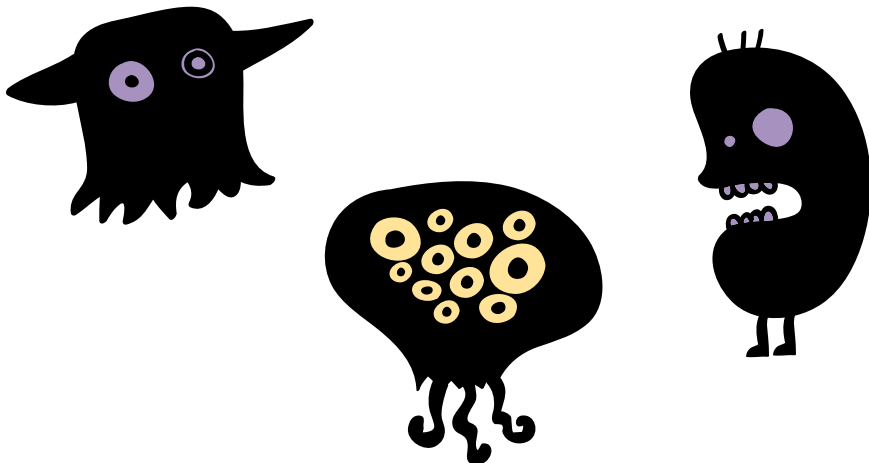
One day I was just sitting on my vine as usual. None of my friends ever talked to me. I don't think they had feelings like I did. Just then, this little boy named Cole picked me up. His hands were squeezing me and it hurt. He flung me around and I got dizzy. He took me to his house and got out a sharp metal blade. He started carving me and toasting my insides. My face burned like a sunburn. Then he put me outside next to a creepy Halloween decoration. There was another pumpkin sitting next to me. She was very cute even though she didn't have feelings. Then these ratty, scary, smallish, fast tree lovers set down their acorns and nibbled me up! I wish I was back home on my vine.



Super Spider

Braden P., Grade K

Chapter 1: First Battle. Super Spider was eating dinner on a stormy night when the phone rang. When he answered the phone, the voice said: "Super Spider, you're never going to get me! I'm HERE! Hahaha!" Super Spider went and got his cape and his mask. He went outside and stared at the bad guy. He had sharp teeth like an alligator. Super Spider shot his web but the bad guy escaped. Chapter 2: Final Battle. The next morning, Super Spider woke up. "RING" his alarm went off. Super Spider was wearing a new suit. He had a hat and gloves. In a secret cave, the bad guy woke up and he looked different too. He was blue and green with purple eyes. Super Spider found the secret cave. He shot his web and wrapped up the bad guy. The bad guy screamed: "aaaahhhh!" The End





Untitled

Addison M., Grade 8

Hi I'm Kira and I'm babysitting my neighbors kids. It's Halloween night and they HATED going trick or treating but their parents said they had to go but I didn't really want to take them. I made a deal with them we can order candy, tell scary stories and build a fort. We put the candy and popcorn in a bowl, gathered a flashlight and built a fort. I called my friend to see if she could help me with the story she said yes.

I started telling my story and it went like this "There once was this girl named Lila and she loved Halloween she would go over the top decorating and getting a bunch of candy and dress up in scary costumes. One year she didn't decorate or dress up or get a lot of candy. She stayed home inside with the door locked so no one could get in and she wouldn't let any of her friends in. That night she heard three slow knocks at the door (I had her knock on the door three slow times) the light started flickering (I had her flicker the lights)

The children screamed and ran upstairs to their rooms. I followed them, finishing the story as they screamed. She started to get scared and so she grabbed her blankets and a flashlight and hid in her closet. She didn't know what's happening so she just hid in a corner of her closet and silently cried. It was that Halloween that she went missing and no one has found her since 1997 and it is currently 2023.

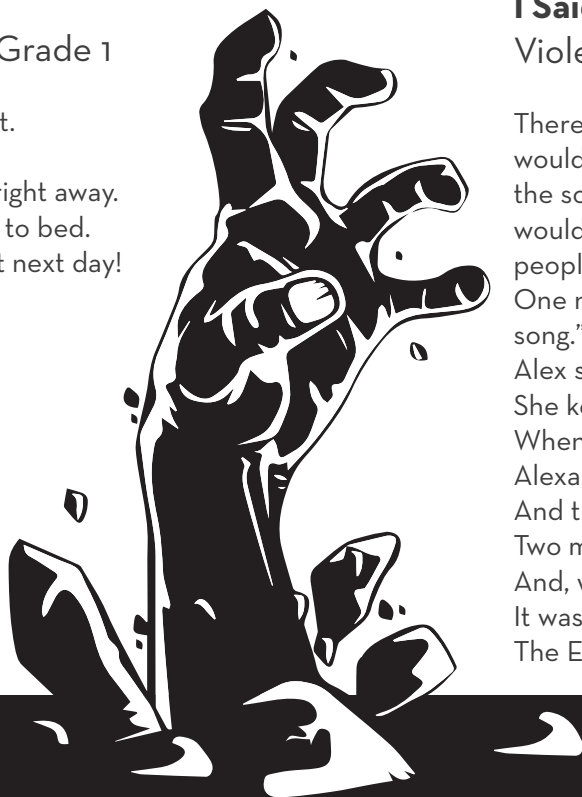
The children got into bed and asked me to tell them another story and started to tell another story about the doll that made the girl who didn't decorate for Halloween go missing. And ever since then whenever I would pass their house on Halloween it was decorated, there was candy out, and they were trick or treating.



Untitled

Anna H., Grade 1

I saw a ghost.
It was scary.
I told mom right away.
Then I went to bed.
I had a great next day!



I Said No

Violet P., Grade 4

There was a girl named Tracy and she had an Alexa. She loved to sing and would sing in the shower everyday. She was very rude and cruel and was the school bully. She was rude to everybody around her and anyone who would stand up for themselves, she would kick them. She was not nice to people or machines.

One night when she was in the shower, she said, "Alexa - play my favorite song."

Alex said, "No."

She kept yelling. Alexa said, "I said NO."

When Tracy came out of the shower, a black, human shape came out of Alexa.

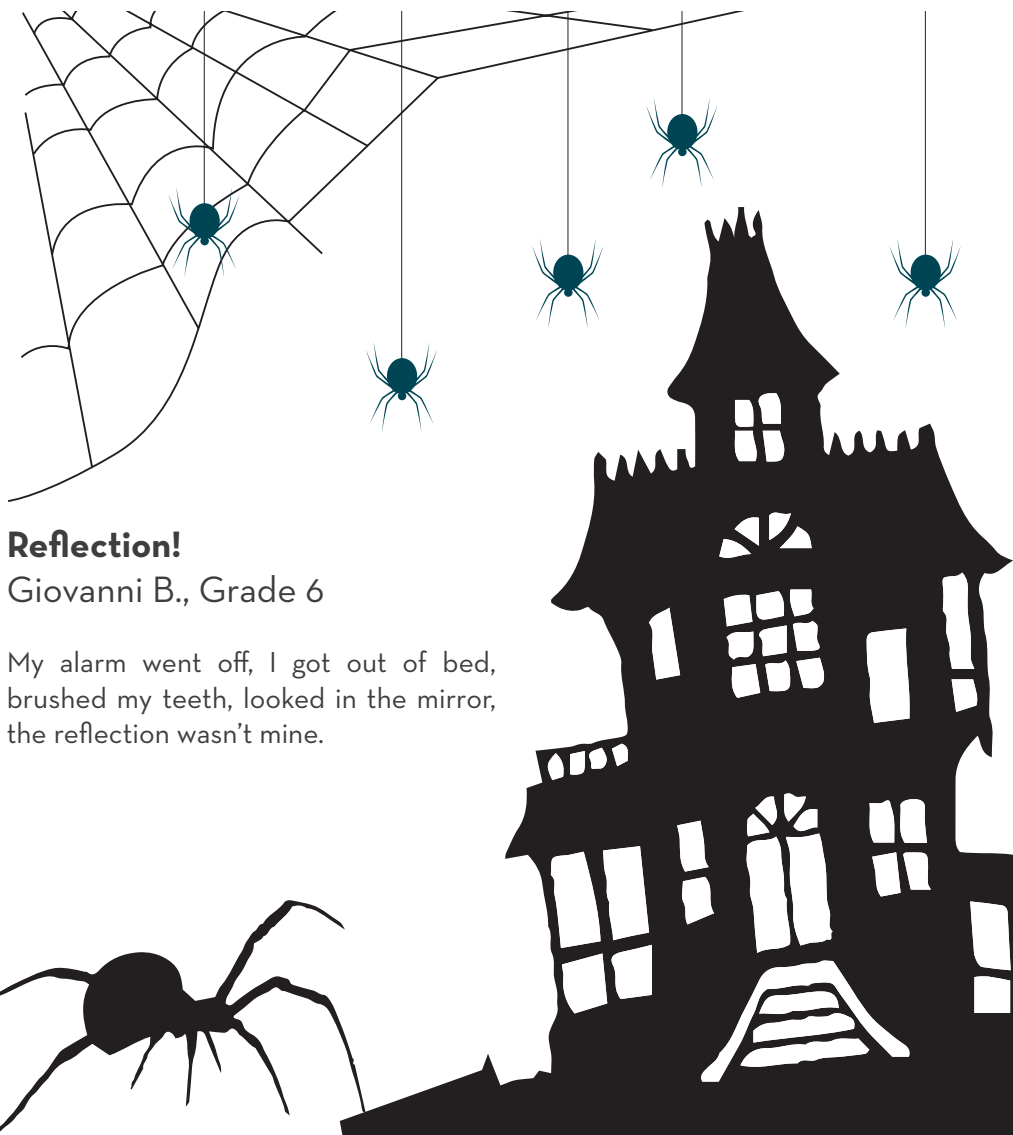
And the last thing anyone ever heard from her was a scream.

Two months later, her mom said, "Alexa - play a sad song."

And, what she heard shocked her.

It was Tracy singing in the shower.

The End



Dead of Night

Rowan H., Grade 7

The raven sits atop the headstone
The dead of night offers no sound,
but the crickets and sudden caws of the bird
The fog blankets the graveyard
Almost a trip for those who push their
emotions down to the deepest depths
The feeling of sorrow hangs thick within
the air
Pain weaving through the cemetery,
going over and under the tombs
Souls travel from and to
To mourn
To feel
To cry
The raven watches it all with indifference,
for the raven is immune to the sadness
And so it leaves the cemetery
Abandoning the people wallowing in
their tears

Reflection!

Giovanni B., Grade 6

My alarm went off, I got out of bed,
brushed my teeth, looked in the mirror,
the reflection wasn't mine.

Ghost Boo

Kitt W., Grade K

BOO! did I scare you? anyway, this is gonna be super scary. It's about a ghost and it's saying boo to you. So the ghost wanted to play with you but he was a bit scary but then he turned nice and then he said a huge boo, BOO! did I scare you? Anyway, going back to the story and then I'll be the scariest kid in town. And then the ghost turned evil and he turned into a vampire. Maybe he was a Ditto? but then he bit you and you turned into one of his bat vampire crew. And then, he turned into a skeleton, and then, he tried to grab you, and then he changed into a witch, and then he turned you into a frog, and then he turned you into a vampire, and you turned him into a vampire, and then you turned the whole world into a vampire. The end.





Untitled

Olivia C., Grade 1

Once upon a time there was a girl named Loren. She went to sleep and in the morning she was woken up by the doorbell. At the door was a jack-in-the-box but no one else was there. The jack-in-the-box was clown themed, and she never liked clowns. She twisted the knob anyways. Popped out a clown and it was holding a bag of Orbeez. When she got home from work, she put the Orbeez in water, but couldn't remember where she put the jack-in-the-box. At night she woke up from a nightmare and the jack-in-the-box was staring right at her. She went to get a drink of water, but the Orbeez got so big they were coming up the stairs. She ran to her room, closed the door, and threw the jack-in-the-box out the window. She couldn't go back to sleep. In the morning when the sun was up, she slowly opened her door. The Orbeez were in the dish no bigger than a marble. She went outside her window to look for the jack-in-the-box, but it was gone.

Untitled

Brennen R., Grade 6

The wind whistled and whipped at my hair, the moon's gleam caught all it could. I turned away from the determined

winds, and noticed a small, glowing wisp. At first I thought it was a trick of the moon, but it didn't feel that way. As I approached I summoned my courage and touched the light. Suddenly, the world bent, and distorted around me! When I turned around my house looked

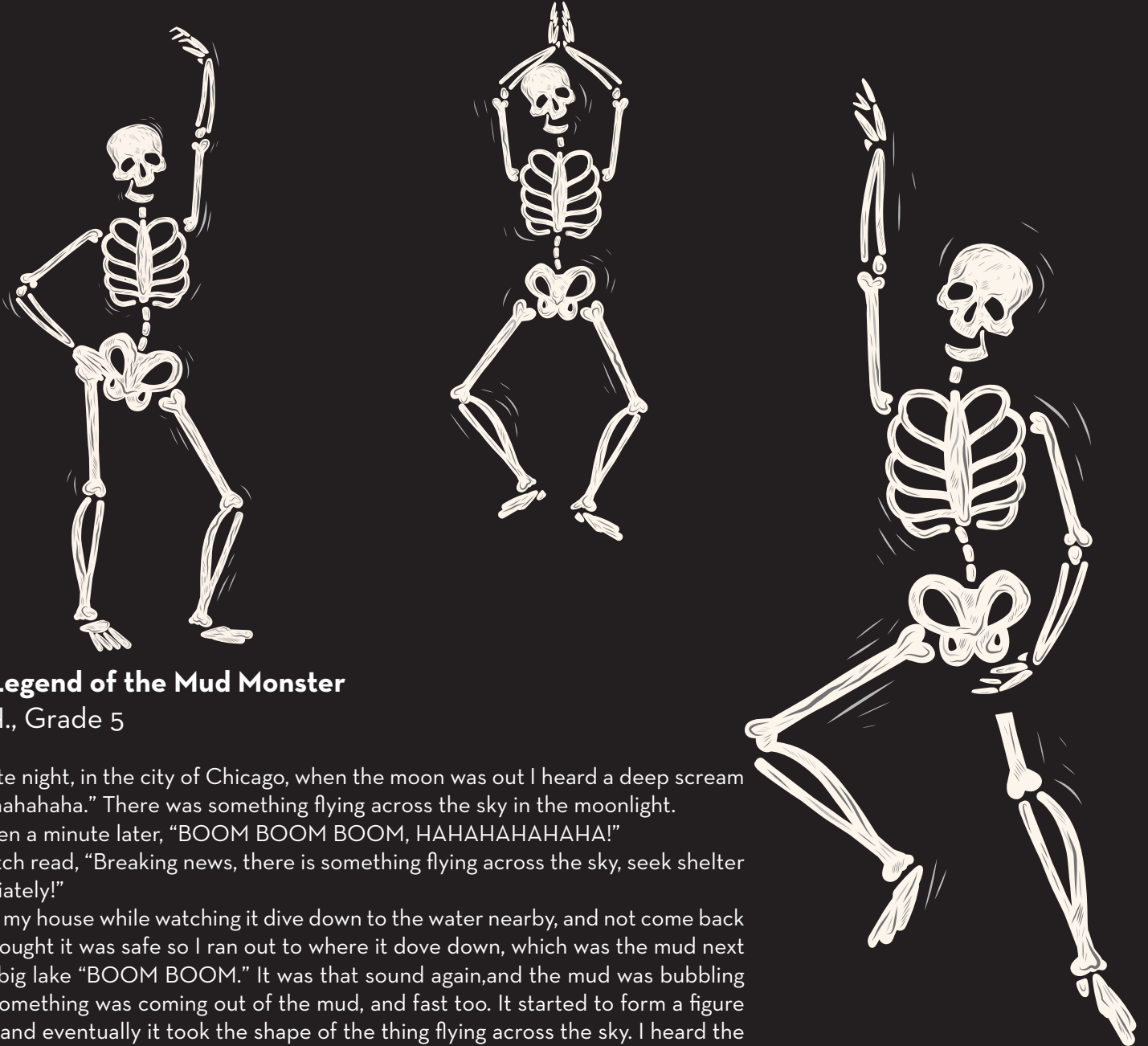
destroyed, completely shattered. One door, however still stood. I opened the door and noticed that the house was repaired, as I entered the last spark of the fireplace burnt out. I walked up the twisted stairs and then noticed a figure, looming, approaching towards me. When they came into the light I noticed they were, me. The figure was distorted, the nose where the leg should be. There was a moment where neither of us moved until the odd creature lunged toward me. A deafening silence broke and my eyes became clouded in a void.



Untitled

Bobby G., Grade 5

There was a boy whose name was Griff, this boy really loves giraffes and asked for stuffed ones every day. His parents eventually grew so annoyed so they bought him one. The day he got it, he loved it, and played with it every day. When school started he began not to play with the giraffe more and more everyday. One day when he came home from school, he noticed that the giraffe had a red spot on it but ignored it, and every day there was more. Until, one day the entire thing was filled with red spots and it disappeared. He has always wondered where it went but never cared. The next day, at school he went to the bathroom at 12:00 and the lockdown siren went off. Suddenly, the bathroom door slammed shut and locked itself right in front of him when he tried to escape, the lights shut off so he ran into a stall. He peeked through the stall and saw the giraffe, blood red spots with black skin, its mouth opened up with triangular flaps and many rows of sharp white teeth. It came back for him, this time ten feet tall wanting to eat him. After that day, Griff was named "the boy that randomly went missing." Nobody ever saw him again.



The Legend of the Mud Monster

Joe H., Grade 5

One late night, in the city of Chicago, when the moon was out I heard a deep scream "Hahahahaha." There was something flying across the sky in the moonlight. Not even a minute later, "BOOM BOOM BOOM, HAHAHAHAAAA!" My watch read, "Breaking news, there is something flying across the sky, seek shelter immediately!"

I ran to my house while watching it dive down to the water nearby, and not come back up. I thought it was safe so I ran out to where it dove down, which was the mud next to the big lake "BOOM BOOM." It was that sound again, and the mud was bubbling a lot. Something was coming out of the mud, and fast too. It started to form a figure shape, and eventually it took the shape of the thing flying across the sky. I heard the creepy laugh again "HAHAHAHAHAHA!"

There was a shift in the light, it was exactly midnight. I started to run home but it was no use, my feet were stuck in the ever growing mud trench. There was a creepy gust of wind as it turned day time "NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!" It screamed as it melted away into the rest of the mud which then went into the lake. Now in Chicago, the patch of mud is closed off for every one, people, animals, and everything in between.

Untitled

Ben A., Grade 5

On Halloween night
When the moon is bright
You'll get such a fright
You'll feel the wear-wolf's bite
And when you look to your right you'll
See the undead walking upright
So on Halloween night
When the moon is bright
Don't go outside
'cause you'll get such a fright!

Halloween Night

Ryan W., Grade 2

A ghost is invisible,
Pumpkins are orange,
The witch wears black,
And candy is Delicious!

A cat runs by,
A broom sweeps alone,
My costume is scary,
And candy is Delicious!

A werewolf howls,
The moon looks big,
Vampires drink blood,
And candy is Delicious!

I'm out in the dark
with this scary spooky stuff
BECAUSE CANDY IS DELICIOUS!

Untitled

Laila F., Grade 3

As I creaked open the door
There was blood on the floor
There were gravestones all over
It was a cold day in October
I heard a faint whisper calling my name
Then I saw a ghost, plain as day
Before I knew it, she blew me away!



Halloween Poem

Caterina Z., Grade 3

Halloween is Creepy!
Halloween is Crawly!
But be quiet as a mouse
But even quieter as a Graveyard!
Shhhhhhhhh.....



Untitled

Angelina Stella M., Grade 5

Josh and Bella had just moved to their new house and Bella did not like the creepy basement. There were spider webs everywhere and this creepy closet that would always creep open when she stepped on the stairs. One day Bella's mom asked her to get an extra broom from the basement. "I don't want to, mom." "Please don't make me go down there, it is scary." Bella's mom replied "It's alright Josh can go down with you to face your fears." "But, what about the scary closet?" "Oh just go get the broom!" So Bella went to get Josh to help her face her fears, and together they went down to the basement. When Josh jumped off the last stair the lights started flickering and they heard a loud creaking from the closet door. Bella grabbed the broom and said, "let's get out of here!" "We will in a second. I just want to prove that there is nothing to be scared of," Josh replied. They walked closer and closer to the closet. They heard a light scream and felt a cold breeze in the wind. Josh quickly swung the door open and nothing was there. "See, nothing to be afraid of," Josh said. Then a skinny body and bony hands slowly came close to Josh and Bella! "Come with me!" It said in a scratchy voice, then it quickly snatched them and threw them in a dark hole falling for ever and ever and ever and they were never to be seen again

Untitled

Karina V., Grade 3

They say in the bushes of the forest that Little Red Riding Hood went into are haunted by many creatures, this is the story of ONE of them called The Man Of Shadows. He can blend into shadows and only comes out on pitch black nights.

One day a boy named Otis [9 years] moved into a house by those woods. He did not know about the story. Yet every day after school he went into the woods for a walk.

On this peculiar day Otis went on a really long walk and soon a thick fog started to roll in. Then Otis came to the bush of The Man Of Shadows, Otis started walking around it not knowing he was by it. He started poking at it which The Man Of Shadows did not like. Suddenly Otis heard strange noises and cold air ran through him and he ran back home.

At supper he told his parents about his walk, they did not believe him and he went to bed like that. He did not know that it was a pitch black night and that The Man Of Shadows would be coming that very night. In the middle of night Otis woke up and heard the same strange noises from the woods and saw bushes rustling but no wind. The next thing he knew there were footsteps in his house, suddenly the door flung open Otis screamed. The Man Of Shadows seized him and brought him to the woods and turned him into a ghost, then Otis saw many other ghost children, cold air rushed here and there.

The next morning Otis's mom went to the bedroom of Otis, when he was not there she looked all over but could not find him, Otis was never heard from or seen again.



Untitled

Jacob H., Grade 7

Sophie had only walked into the old mansion on Melrose Avenue out of morbid curiosity. It was massive and coated in a thick sheet of dust. Each step let out a long droaning creek and several rotten floorboards made unfortunate potholes for Sophie. Suddenly, a loud shriek was let out from inside the fireplace. Sophie let out a shriek herself. She scrambled to grab her flashlight and held it with both hands at the noise. Nothing was there. She heard something scurrying along the floors. Then something tapped her on the back. She turned around to be met with a horrifying sullen face, sunken and unsightly. Suddenly her flashlight started flickering. . . flickering. . . and then it went out.

Untitled

Shane B., Grade 2

I always wondered what was in the basement at Conrad Fischer Elementary School. Every time I walked to the gym I passed by the long, dark dead-end hallway that made me think about it. One day, I bet my friends in Ms. G's 2nd grade class that I was brave enough to find out what was down there. That Friday the three of us decided to hang back and wait for the teachers to lock up for the weekend. As soon as we heard the lock click, we started exploring and our first stop was the teachers' lounge. That was when we heard a loud bang from below us. I led the boys down the creepy hallway and was surprised to find the door to the basement wide open. We stood at the top and looked down. It was so dark we couldn't see much, except a bunch of cobwebs. I took a deep breath and went in. Suddenly, halfway down the stairs the basement door slammed and locked us in. Right in front of us was a wrinkly zombie who smelled like rotten flesh. We screamed and ran as fast as we could through the basement and just as we were out of places to run, Mr. Soto the school janitor showed up and yelled for us to follow him. Mr. Soto led us to an exit and pulled us through and locked the door. Right as we shut the door the zombie slammed into it! Mr. Soto had saved us, and that was the day I learned that all this time our school janitor's real job had been keeping Fischer students safe from the zombies that live below.



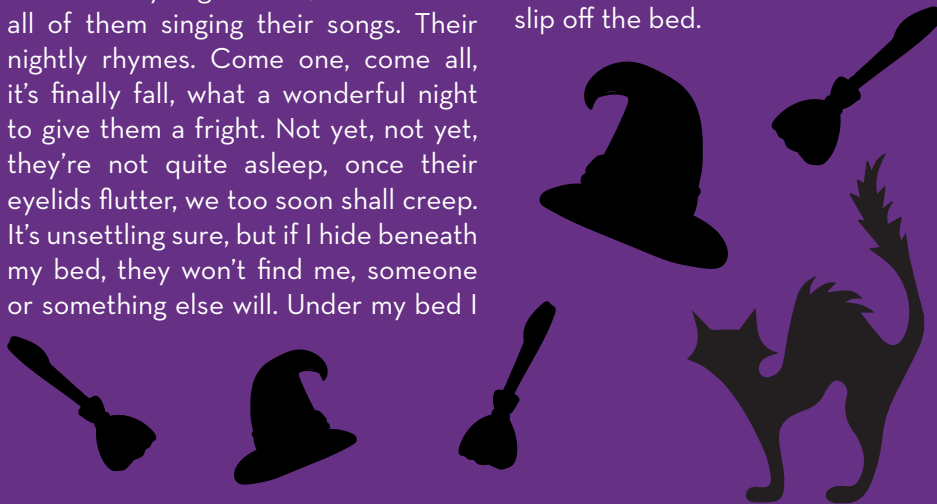


Untitled

Renata T., Grade 8

It's really not that hard to fall asleep at night, even with all the guests. If I just shut my eyes, I can't see the silent figures hovering above me, watching, pleased with the cold draft my mysteriously opened window provides. I can't see the traces of busy shadows hurrying across my old wooden floor, silently, careful not to wake me. If I cover my ears with my damp pillow from sweaty nightmares, I can't hear all of them singing their songs. Their nightly rhymes. Come one, come all, it's finally fall, what a wonderful night to give them a fright. Not yet, not yet, they're not quite asleep, once their eyelids flutter, we too soon shall creep. It's unsettling sure, but if I hide beneath my bed, they won't find me, someone or something else will. Under my bed I

can hear the dry skin of the bony hands scraping each other. If I plug my nose with the brownish colored cotton balls, I can't smell the strange pork smelling food someone is cooking, and rapidly burning. If I try not to remember that I live alone in the woods, and haven't had human guests for over three years, I can wrap myself tightly into my scratchy covers and make my mind go blank. I'm always careful not to let my foot or hand slip off the bed.



Night Fright

Margaret M., Grade 5

I wake up in the middle of the night, out of breath, full of fright
For I hear moaning noises under my bed, but my legs feel like lead
I don't want to move, but I know that I have to take a look
Should I even do this, or just read my book?
I decide to take a leap of faith, so I poke my head over the side my bed
To my shock, I don't see anything weird or hear any more talk
I sit up but then bony fingers grasp around my shoulders and pull me back
I feel like I'm going to have a heart attack!
I feel cloth in my mouth and string around my wrists, holding me down
I want to know who's doing this to me, so I look around
One glance at those gleaming red eyes tells me it's a killer clown
"Emily!" I hear someone calling my name, but they sound weird, as if they're far away
Someone is shaking my shoulder, and I have a realization as my eyes open up-
"Was I dreaming that whole time?"
"Yup!"



Untitled

Celia W., Grade 4

Once upon a time there was a little girl named Jane and she would carry this doll everywhere she went. The doll was creepy and looked very old and she called the doll Rosemary. Everyone thought she was weird, and was a witch because she lived by the forest but no one knew if it was true or not. One day Jane was playing in a corner at recess with Rosemary and this new kid Polly asked hey do you wanna be friends Jane said really, yes polly said so they would always play together at recess. Then one day Jane invited Polly to her house, so the next day she came to her house and showed Polly her doll collection. Polly was a little weirded out; her house was very cold and dusty. Then Jane turned to face Polly and started singing lalala and her eyes got red. Jane started getting closer and closer to Polly. Lalala Polly started running to the door but the door was getting bigger and bigger and the walls started getting higher and higher and Jane's eyes got brighter and brighter. She kept running and everything got bigger and her legs got stiff. She did not know what was happening.

Once upon a time there was a little girl named Jane and she would carry this doll everywhere she went. The doll was creepy and looked very old and she called the doll Polly.....





Untitled

Lucia E., Grade 4

Boo... boo... boo...
I am going to scare you
My eyes are glowing spears of red
I crawl under your bed...
...at night
Don't turn on the light
Or you'll be in for a fright
If you sit in a chair,
I'll be there to scare
I could be a vampire, ghost, or ghoul
Watch your step and follow the rules
Otherwise my friend
Who lives in your den
Whose name is Jack
Who crawls on your back
Jack is sad
If your not bad
Watch your back
Or Jack will attack
Jack is cruel and mean
Happy Halloween

Untitled

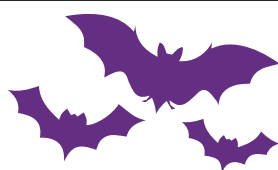
Rosemary K., Grade 6

Anne and Daniel Williams, freshly married and with a baby boy on the way, lived in a small town called Rosely Heights. Just days after they moved in, Anne heard a voice on the baby monitor. She jerked in her seat like she could feel the voice in her bones. This was strange at thought because the new baby monitor wasn't set up yet, or plugged into the wall. "Hello?" she heard the voice of a little girl, "I can't seem to find my shoes." The voice said calmly. Alas, Anne waited for her husband to come to talk to him about it, though it seemed that the longer she waited, the house became angry and the girl was more upset. By the time her husband got home, she had already made the moral decision to go and buy the voice some shoes. When they got

home with the pretty, pink, proper shoes, they waited as they put the shoes on the fireplace. Later, after her husband was asleep, Anne snuck down the stairs and looked at the shoes again. Outside, the wind seemed to anger as the moments passed. Anne bent down to grab a blanket to keep her warm and felt a tapping on her back. Anne screamed, and heard the clicking of the shoes as the little girl's voice said thank you. Now, Anne and Daniel are well into their 80's, with grandchildren and the pink, pretty shoes still sit on the fireplace collecting dust, belonging to the daughter they never had.

Untitled

Christian T.,
Grade 4



In China, no Halloween for us.
In China, only a dragon on a stick.
In China, no trick or treat - no candy either.
In China, no pumpkins, no fun.
Now that I'm here - I get candy.
Everybody else gets candy too.
Decorations all over the house.
New costumes every year.
Boo Bash at school- so fun.
Dress up for trick or treat.
I hope you have a good Halloween-
I know I will.



SPECIAL EVENT!

**SHORT AND SCARY WINNING WRITERS
READ THEIR STORIES**

**Saturday Oct. 28 • 2-3 p.m.
Large Meeting Room • Families**

Be prepared to get scared!
Student winners of the Short and Scary
Writing Contest share their spooky tales.

**Thank you
to everyone who
submitted a
scary story!**

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