

A Tale of Mystery

By: Deanna Alexander

SFX: Intro Music

Father: Hey Katie, Max, have you finished moving all your boxes into your room from the garage?

Katie: Yes Dad.

Max: Yeah, but I do not like the color of my room, it's yellow.

Mother: Max, tomorrow we can go buy paint and change it. However, now your father and I have to leave, we a meeting tonight at your new school to go to. We are going to find out who your teachers are and so on.

Katie: Well just make sure Max leaves me alone and we'll be fine.

Father: No worries, I had the cable person set-up both TVs so you will be fine. There is food in the fridge, and you met Mr. and Mrs. Fernder earlier, if you get scared.

Max: I do not like them.

Katie: Wait who are Mr. and Mrs. Fernder?

Max: The creepy neighbors with the old shaggy dog.

Katie: Oh right.

Mother: Well if you need us just call your father's cell phone.

Father: Here is your jacket. We should get going. We wouldn't want to make a bad impression at our first meeting.

Mother: Okay hugs and kisses, and make sure you are both in bed by 9:30 pm. And Max, no scary movies otherwise you will never go to sleep.

Max: Okay mom! Here is an umbrella too.

Father: Okay bye! Love you!

SFX: Footsteps, doors, and car engine.

Max: I call the TV in the den. I am watching the Ring.

Katie: Whatever, I do not care what you do, just stay far away from me. Besides, I've already seen the Ring; I don't know why everyone thinks it's so scary.

SFX: Foot steps, power on electronic noises, TV, phone conversation between Katie and friend.

SFX: Phone rings, footsteps.

Katie: I got it, Hello?

SILENCE

Katie: Hello? Anyone there?

SFX: Phone hanged up

Max: Katie, who was it?

Katie: No one

Max: What do you mean “no one”? The phone rang, someone must have called.

Katie: Seriously Max, no one was there.

Max: Fine don’t tell me.

Katie: Max, just watch the TV.

Max: You aren’t the boss of me.

SFX: Phone rings

Max: My turn! Hello, Max speaking.

SILENCE

Max: Hello! Max speaking!

SILENCE

SFX: Phone hanged up

Katie: See Max, I told you no one was there.

Max: Yeah, you probably scared them away.

SFX: Storm, Electricity, more storm noises

Max and Katie: Scream

Katie: Max stop screaming, all that happened was the electricity just went out.

Max: You started screaming first... Ouch.

Katie: Oh, Where are you?

Max: You just stepped on my hand.

Katie: No I didn’t.

Max: Ya you did.

Katie: Anyways I didn’t think this could get any worse. First, I was stuck home with you, and now I can’t even instant message my friends.

Max: Well I didn't even get to finish my movie. What am I going to do now? And what do you think made our electricity go out? I bet it was one of those creepy neighbors, yep I bet they are actually serial killers.

Katie: Max, shut up! I'm sure it was just the storm. As for seeing where we are going, there's got to be candles in one of the boxes in the dining room. But I don't know where there are any flashlights.

Max: Katie, use your cell phone light. Duh!

Katie: Fine.

SFX: Footsteps. Cardboard boxes being opened, stuff being moved around.

Max: Hey share the light. I can't see anything.

Katie: Well if you would get out of my way, maybe we could share the stupid cell phone light.

Max: Found a candle.

Katie: Only one?

Max: Yep. Just our luck. One candle. Two of us.

Katie: Okay, here are the matches.

SFX: lighting match, small fire.

Max: Look you did step on my hand. See these marks on my hand match the bottom of your shoe.

Katie: Oh, cry me a river. I couldn't even see where I was going. Remember the electricity is out. It was your fault for sitting on the floor.

Max: Where else was I supposed to sit? On the couch?

Katie: Yeah of course.

Max: Well the furniture is still in the garage. So there wasn't a couch to sit on while I watched the Ring.

SILENCE

Max: Well what are we going to do now?

Katie: Let's go to my room.

Max: No, let's go to mine. I have all the board games in my room anyways.

Katie: Okay fine.

SFX: footsteps

Katie: Ow. Why'd you stop walking for? You really shouldn't do that you know. You really could have hurt me.

(whispering)

Max: Shh. Look.

Katie: Don't Shh me.

Max: Fine then. Look.

Katie: At what? This candle doesn't give off very much light. All I see is the back of your head.

Max: Look on your left. Something in your room is glowing.

Katie: That's not my room, that's Dad's office.

Max: Oh, right. I knew that.

Katie: Uh huh. I'm sure you did. Now let's go find the board games.

Max: No, I want to know what's glowing.

Katie: Fine go, I'll wait here.

Max: Okay give me the candle.

Katie: No way.

Max: Fine!

SFX: Footsteps scream

Katie: Max are you okay?

SILENCE

Katie: MAX?!?

(regular speaking)

Max: laughing: ha-ha, I got you so bad.

Katie: That wasn't funny.

Max: Yeah it was. Come in here.

SFX foot steps

Katie: Oh it's only Dad's laptop. That makes sense, because it runs on a battery.

Max: But the wireless needs power, so we don't have any internet connection.

Katie: Well at least there's music on it.

Max: My choice! I found the laptop.

Katie: Okay, but I get to choose the board game, and I want to play monopoly.

Max: Deal! Get the game and I'll meet you back here.

Katie: Okay, but I'm taking the candle.

Max: Why? Is my big sister afraid of the dark? Ooh.

Katie: I'm not afraid of the dark, I need it to...

SFX: phone ringing

Max: Oh let me answer it.

Katie: No way, it's my cell phone. Hello?

SILENCE

Katie: This is getting really annoying.

Max: Was anyone there?

Katie: No, there wasn't anyone there.

Max: It's probably the ghost of Christmas past.

Katie: In the middle of October, I don't think so.

Max: Okay, okay... go get the game.

Katie: Fine, and I'll even leave the candle here, I forgot I had my phone to use as a light.

SFX: Footsteps going away, foot steps coming back.

Katie: I couldn't find monopoly, so I brought Clue instead.

Max: Okay start setting up I'm almost done making a playlist to listen to.

SFX: board game getting set up, clicks on a computer mouse, a sound fades on.

Max: I want to be Mr. Green, you should be Mrs. White, you look so much like her. (Sarcastically)

Katie: Ha Ha, very funny. I'm going to be Miss Scarlet.

SFX: More chatter about game, music going (time passing)

SFX: Phone rings

Katie: Okay, I'm not answering it anymore.

Max: Fine let me.

Katie: No way, it's my cell phone.

Max: Are you just going to let it ring then?

Katie: Fine, answer MY stupid cell phone.

Max: Hello?

SFX: crackling- bad connection

Father: Hello, Katie?

Max: Oh hey Dad!

Father: Max, does your sister know you answered her phone.

Katie: Max give me back my phone.

Katie: Dad!

Father: Hey Katie, your mother and I tried calling the home phone number but no one answered.

Katie: Yeah, the electricity is out.

Father: Well are you both okay?

Katie: Uh huh, we are both fine. Just playing Clue and listening to music.

Father: Okay well we should be home in a little more than a half hour; we just went to get coffee and dessert with some of the other parents. It's just about 8:45 pm right now, so you and your brother should start getting ready for bed in the next 20 minutes or so.

Katie: No problem Dad.

Father: Okay goodnight.

Katie: Love you.

Father: Love you.

SFX: Phone hangs up.

Max: What'd Dad say?

Katie: They'll be home at around 9:25, I'm guessing, and we should start getting ready for bed in about 20 minutes.

Max: Well my play list is about to end, so let's finish this game and then head off to bed. My turn right?

SFX: Music fades out

Katie: Yeah there goes the music. I'm about to win anyways, so no worries

Max: Yeah right.

SFX: More chatter about game (time passing)

Max: Okay I'm about to win. I know who, where, and with what the murder occurred.

Katie: Fine, make your accusation and then lose because you are wrong.

Max: I KNOW it was Miss Scarlet, in the study, with the candlestick. Pass the cards and let me check.

Katie: Oh so you are accusing me of being the murderer. Prepare yourself to lose.

Max: Well actually, I was half-right. It was you, but as Mrs. White, not Miss Scarlet. I got the rest right too.

Katie: It doesn't matter I still won because you guessed wrong.

Max: Okay, fine you won.

Katie: As your punishment, you have to clean the game up.

Max: As you wish, Mrs. White.

SFX: board game getting cleaned up

Max: Okay, done. I need the candle to get ready for bed, because you have your cell phone.

Katie: Fine. Let's go get ready for bed.

SFX: Footsteps leaving room

Raspy Voice: There's someone in your house.

Katie: Max cut it out.

Raspy Voice: There's someone in your house right now.

(whispering)

Max: That's not me Katie. It's coming from Dad's office.

SFX: Raspy Voice, weird radio tuning

Katie: Okay. Umm, why don't you go check what it is?

Max: No! How about you go? I went last time anyways... so now it's your turn!

Katie: No. If there's someone in there I'm not going in there. Do you think I want to get attacked by it?

Max: Well No! But why then would you send me?

SFX: (stops)

Max: Look it stopped. You go in.

Katie: No, how about we go finish cleaning up the kitchen?

Max: Okay as long as I'm not going in there...

SFX: footsteps

SFX: TV comes on- electronic noises The Ring- horror movie noises etc.

Max and Katie: SCREAM

SFX: Heart beat, heavy breathing, running

Katie: In here Max...

SFX: heart beats- hard breathing

Max: (whisper) what was that?

Katie: I don't think I want to know.

SFX: more noises from TV

Katie: What sound we do?

Max: Let's wait for mom and dad. Then they can...

Katie: Shh... I hear something.

Raspy Voice: There's someone in your house right now!

Max: Where is that voice coming from? What if there is someone in the house?

Katie: Hold on I'm going to call mom and dad. Where'd the phone?

Max: Umm... I don't know. Where's the candle? We need some light.

Katie: I blew out the candle; I was worried whoever in the house would find us.

Max: Okay. How are we going to find it?

Katie: Wait, I found it. It was in my pocket.

Max: Why didn't you know where it is?

Katie: My cell phone isn't the first thing I think of when I feel like I'm in the twilight zone. Personally, I would run and hide, just as any normal human would.

Max: Okay, hurry up and dial.

SFX: Phone dialing. "We are sorry the number you are dialing is not available at this moment, please hang up and try again."

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SFX: Phone dialing. “We are sorry the number you are dialing is not available at this moment, please hang up and try again.”

Katie: Stupid phone. I keep getting a stupid recording.

Max: Here let me try...

SFX: Phone dialing. “We are sorry the number you are dialing is not available at this moment, please hang up and try again.”

Max: Same thing. What are we going to do?

Katie: Well if there’s really someone else in our house we should call 911.

SFX: Phone dialing. Low battery beep.

Katie: Oh no, I’m low on battery. Please hurry up and answer the phone. What’s the house address?

Max: I don’t know we just moved here... wait don’t cell phone has that GPS tracking thing?

Katie: I sure hope so.

SFX: ringing. Low battery beep.

Katie: Please, please, please hurry up and answer the phone!

SFX: ringing. Low battery beep.

SILENCE

Katie: Oh no... it died.

Max: Now I really wish I was anywhere but here.

Katie: I hate storms, I hate new houses, I hate being left home alone.

Max: I wish you were home alone, because then I wouldn’t be here.

SILENCE

Katie: Max stop moving!

Max: I can’t I’m shaking.

Katie: Then calm down.

Max: Why don’t you calm down? I’ll calm down when I don’t think I’m going to be killed in a house I haven’t even slept in. I mean seriously- I can’t stop shaking, and I’m too young to die...

SFX: Electronic growling noise

Katie: What was that?

SFX: Door open and shut, Storm noises, foot steps

Max: Ahh... there's more of them?

SFX: TV noises

SILENCE

SFX voices getting closer (not understandable)

Max: I'm going to die, there are people in my house, I'm going to die.

SFX footsteps getting closer opening and closing of doors

Voices: I don't know where they are, they aren't in their rooms. Well they've got to be here somewhere...

V1: I'll check in the closet.

V2: Why would they be in there?

V1: We'll I want to hang up my coat.

V2: Okay, here is mine.

SFX: Door opens

Katie and Max: SCREAM

V1: Max, Katie! Stop screaming, what's going on? Someone turn on the lights.

Katie: Oh mom, dad thank god you are home. The electricity is out don't bother.

Father: Really, because I just used the garage door, and that runs on electricity. Max, try the light switch.

SFX: footsteps, light flick, electricity.

Max: Wait, the electricity does work. Katie, what if there is someone still in the house?

Father: What! Why would there be anyone in the house?

Mother: If you didn't let anyone in, there's no one in here but us.

Katie: But there were noises in your office dad!

Father: Fine, I'll go check. You stay here and explain to your mother.

SFX: footsteps

Katie: Okay so I was on my computer, and Max was on the computer.

Max: Yeah, that's when the electricity went out. So we found some candles and decided to play a game. We were going to play in my room, but we found dad's laptop in his office.

Katie: Since I chose the game, Max got to choose what music we were going to listen to. Then dad called, we finished the game, the play list ended, and we were getting ready for bed.

Max: But then we heard a raspy voice telling us there was someone in the house. So we got freaked out, and then the TV was making noises but the electricity was still off.

Mother: I'm sure that's when the electricity came back on. But all the lights were off because the electricity went off during the day so there was no need for lights yet. That is the only thing that makes sense because the TV doesn't work without electricity.

Katie: Oh. Well that doesn't explain the weird voice, and I didn't imagine we both heard it.

SFX: footsteps

Raspy voice: There's someone in your house.

(whispering)

Max: There it is again!

(normal voice)

Father: Ha-ha that's the end of the song. Apparently you left the laptop on, and the play list wasn't over. My guess would be the band decided to have some fun after the song was over, and see if they could scare anyone who didn't know the song kept going.

Katie and Max: Oh... that makes some sort of sense.

Mother: Okay, now can we all go get ready for bed?

SFX: phone ringing

Max: Wait Katie I thought your cell phone was out of battery.

Katie: It was out of battery I don't know how it can be ringing. --- Hello?

SILENCE