

# *A SCARY NIGHT*

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I was on my way to see my best friend John who lived about two hours away in the mountains where he had a nice cabin he had built himself. I didn't get to visit him very often because I didn't like driving so far.

It was a foggy night so normally, on a night like this, I would have stayed home and read a book by the fireplace, but it was my best friend John's birthday, so I didn't want to miss his party.

It was very difficult to see where I was going because the fog was so thick. Even though I was driving very slowly, I could barely see the road in front of me.

When I was about an hour from home, I suddenly heard a loud thud. Then I saw the blur of something slide past me, and then it disappeared.

Surprised at what had just happened, I stopped my car, got my umbrella, and walked to the back of my car to see what I had hit. There was nothing there.

I went down the road a few meters to see if what I had hit might be lying on the ground; there was nothing.

As I returned to my car, I found that the headlight on the right front side was broken, and there was blood on the door. I looked around again. I saw nothing.

I yelled into the fog, "Is anyone there? Are you OK?"

There was no response. As I went around my car to get back in, something jumped up in front of me, stood still for a second, and then ran away. It was huge. There were no

other sounds; just the rustling of something really big running into the fog. I was getting scared.

“What was this thing?” I thought to myself.

I got into my car and tried to start the engine. Nothing happened. I tried again, still nothing. I sat for a moment trying to think of why the car would not start. I tried to turn on the radio, but it didn’t work either.

Just then, right in front of my car, that big thing appeared, stopped and looked at me, and then disappeared into the fog again.

Now I was getting even more frightened. I went to get my cellphone. I looked everywhere, but I couldn’t find it. I always put the phone on the charger in the car so I would not get a low battery display. I looked and looked. I couldn’t find my cellphone. I must have left it at home.

It began to rain. I looked around to see where I was, but I couldn’t see anything familiar. I didn’t know how far I was from my home or how far it was to John’s house.

Suddenly, my car started to move up and down. I looked in my mirror. Something was climbing onto the back. It was big. I locked the doors and sank down into my seat trying to hide.

What was happening! When I looked in my mirror again, there was blood dripping down the back window where the thing had been, but whatever it was, it was now gone.

Everything went quiet. I looked out the windows around the outside of the car, but I couldn’t see anything.

I looked around inside the car to find something I could use to defend myself against this monster. I picked up my wet umbrella to use as a weapon.

“Ah ha!” I said aloud.

It had a point on it. I could use it as a sword and stab the thing that was lurking outside of my car.

Just then, my car started to rock back and forth. I could not see what was doing this. The car rocked harder and harder, and just as suddenly as it had started, it stopped.

This thing was playing with me. If it wanted me to be scared, it was working. I was scared to death.

Things got very quiet again. It was so frightening. I had never been in a situation like this before.

The headlights of another car came into view. I tried to honk my horn and flash my headlights at them, but they didn't work. I watched the lights disappear as the car sped by.

Before the car passed me, I thought about getting out of my car to get their attention, but if I got out, I was afraid of what might happen to me.

Now I was sitting in my car trying not to panic. I looked in the glove box, and I found my flashlight. I turned it on, but the batteries were dead. Just one week before I had thought about checking the flashlight, but I put it off until a later time. I will never do that again.

I was nervous just sitting in my car, so I thought it might be a good idea to run to safety. I started to open the door, but just as I did, the car began to bounce again. It bounced higher than before. Since the door was partially open, I almost fell out. I was getting dizzy from the car bouncing and bouncing. There were no other noises than the tires of my car bouncing on the pavement.

Then suddenly, everything went silent again.

It seemed like it had been a very long time I had been sitting there. I looked at my watch. It was midnight. I had been stuck there for three hours. I still had no idea what to do. I reasoned that I would wait until the sun came up. Then I would be able to escape.

My thoughts turned to my family, 'How would they survive if I were gone?'

I thought about my two small children and their mother all alone with no one to take care of them. I needed to find a solution to this problem. I needed to find a way out.

I started to get sleepy. I couldn't keep my eyes open. I lay down on the seat and started to fall asleep. I didn't want to, but I was just so tired.

When I awoke, it was daylight. The fog was still very thick, but at least it was light

out. I looked around and didn't see anything, so I picked up my umbrella and slowly got out of the car. The silence was deafening. I squinted my eyes trying to see through the fog.

After getting out of the car, I started to walk slowly. I found the white line on the side of the road, followed it, and began to walk. I could see the trees on either side of the road. I was in the middle of the forest, but I knew there was a gas station and convenience store close by where I could get to a phone and ask for help. I just needed to get there safely.

As I walked, and when I was about one hundred meters from my car, the hair on the back of my neck stood up. Something was watching me.

Because of the strange feeling, I started to walk faster, but I still felt as if something was following me. I began to run. Then I heard the sound of something getting closer and closer to me.

I turned my head, and the big monster that had been playing with my car was behind me and it was running. It was coming after me! I could only make out the outline of his shape. It looked like a giant bear. I had heard stories about large grizzly bears in the forest, but it had been a very long time since a report of a grizzly in this area.

Knowing that I could not outrun the monster, I turned and faced the animal. As I looked closer, I realized it wasn't a grizzly bear. It was something completely different. I had never seen anything like it before. It was covered in fur, and it stood on two legs like a human. I think it was about three meters tall. It had big eyes and even bigger feet. The smell of the animal was terrible. There was blood on its leg where I had hit it with my car. It appeared that the injury had not slowed it down very much. It still was moving fast, and it was running right at me.

I decided that if I was going to die, I was going to die fighting. I pointed my umbrella at the monster and set my feet to defend myself.

Suddenly the beast came to a stop. It just looked at me. I made the most threatening face I could make. The monster didn't move. It just stared at me.

“Get back!” I yelled, as I pointed my umbrella at it.

It did not move. It just stood there looking at me.

Someone told me in order to stop an attacking dog; staring into its eyes was a way to make it stop. I stood in front of the monster staring it in the eyes.

I do not know how long we were there staring at each other, when a big truck came down the road. This scared the animal, so it turned and ran into the woods. I tried to get the attention of the truck driver, but he didn't see me. The truck flew past me and continued down the road.

I thought it would be a good time to start running again. The gas station couldn't be that far away.

As I ran and I began to get tired, but at least I didn't see the beast anymore. I slowed to a jog. Then I stopped and began to take long breaths. I was feeling a bit more relaxed, but I still could not see the gas station. I had my hands on my knees trying to get enough air so I could continue. Running in the mountains where the air is thin makes it hard to run for a long time.

I looked back behind me and it was clear. Nothing was there.

When I turned around to continue to the gas station, right in front of me was the monster. I took my umbrella and thrust it at the animal, but the beast hit the umbrella out of my hand, and it flew away. I was now defenseless.

The big monster picked me up, put me over its shoulder, and carried me into the woods. I was bouncing up and down like a rag doll as it carried me deeper into the forest.

It was getting darker and darker because of the thick trees. Then it took me into a cave.

Once inside the cave, it put me onto the ground. It was completely dark inside. I could smell the awful odor of the animal, but I didn't know where it was. I heard noises like something moving around deeper in the cave. In my mind, I thought that I was going to be dinner for this monster.

I looked around the cave and saw the dim light from the entrance to the cave. I

began to move slowly toward the mouth of the cave, hoping to make an escape. The animal seemed distracted. It did not notice me moving slowly out of the cave.

I managed to get away without being seen, but for how long. I was getting desperate.

I heard some voices talking close by. I yelled out for help.

A voice yelled back, "Where are you?"

"Over here, by the mouth of the cave!" I responded.

I heard the breaking of branches as two men approached me. They were hunters looking for deer.

"What happened to you? How did you get here?" they asked.

"I'll tell you later. We need to get out of here fast!" I yelled as I ran down the hill toward them.

Not really knowing why I was in such a panic, they followed my directions. Then we ran through the forest until we found their pickup truck.

I jumped into the back of the pickup. I was completely out of breath. When I looked up, I saw it was coming after us. It was the behemoth.

The hunters got inside of the truck and started the engine. Just before the animal got to us, we got away. It was a very narrow escape.

The men took me to the gas station. It turned out that it was not very far from where the monster had picked me up.

We sat down at a small table in order to calm down. While I drank a cup of coffee, I told the men about what had happened since the night before.

"We wouldn't have believed you if we hadn't seen the monster ourselves," the two men commented.

After I had a chance to call John and my family, to let them know I was OK, they took me back to my car. The fog was now gone.

There was blood all over my car, and there was hair from the animal I had hit in the headlight.

While we waited for the police, the men told me the story of an animal found in these woods that only a handful of people had ever seen. They said it was called Sasquatch in the local native American language or Bigfoot in English. They told me I was very lucky to be alive.

I told my story to the authorities. They searched the area where I said the cave was at, but they found nothing. They did find some strange hair in the bark of a tree, but nothing else. It matched the hair that was on my car.

To this day, no one else has seen Sasquatch nor are there any photos. To most people, Sasquatch is just a legend that can't be proven.

**VOCABULARY** (*Match the word to its definition*)

- |                  |                              |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. foggy _____   | a. comfortable               |
| 2. cabin _____   | b. small sharp knife         |
| 3. lurking _____ | c. a small amount, few       |
| 4. dagger _____  | d. hazy, misty               |
| 5. panic _____   | e. small house in the forest |
| 6. monster _____ | f. afraid, fear              |
| 7. relaxed _____ | g. large scary creature      |
| 8. handful _____ | h. compare, the same         |
| 9. mouth _____   | i. opening to a cave         |
| 10. match _____  | j. linger, stalking          |

**TRUE OR FALSE**

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| 1. The night was cold and it was snowing.      | T / F |
| 2. My radio worked when I tried to turn it on. | T / F |
| 3. It was my birthday.                         | T / F |
| 4. A car went by, but didn't stop.             | T / F |
| 5. I fell asleep in the car.                   | T / F |
| 6. My car hit a large deer.                    | T / F |
| 7. I met Bigfoot in the woods.                 | T / F |
| 8. I was carried into a cave.                  | T / F |
| 9. The men shot Bigfoot.                       | T / F |
| 10. I was going to be Bigfoots' dinner.        | T / F |



## MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. Who was I going to visit? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) John
  - b) Jim
  - c) Sam
  - d) Sasquatch
  
2. Where was I going when I left the car? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) gas station
  - b) police station
  - c) birthday party
  - d) cave
  
3. How long was I in the car? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) two hours
  - b) all day
  - c) a week
  - d) all night
  
4. Where did the monster take me? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) pickup truck
  - b) John's house
  - c) cave
  - d) gas station

**COMPREHENSION:** *(Write a complete sentence to answer the question.)*

1. Where was I going on the scary night?

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2. How long was I in my car?

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3. What woke me up in the morning?

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4. How many men were hunting in the woods?

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5. What kind of vehicle did the men have?

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6. Where did the men take me in their truck?

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7. What was wrong with my flashlight?

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8. Why didn't I get out of my car when another car passed?

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9. What was all over my car?

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10. What happened when the truck went by?

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