

THE HAUNTED BOOK

CHAPTER 3



“Hey, where’d our stuff go?” Jermaine said a little louder than he really wanted to.

“I don’t know, but now I’m getting creeped out. If this is a prank those guys are doing, they sure put a lot of time and effort into making us want to leave,” Tyrone said softly and almost to himself.

It felt like someone was living in the house. Now he was feeling really uncomfortable.

“Let’s go downstairs. I don’t like this room. It is giving me the chills,” Tyrone continued.

“I’m with you, let’s go downstairs. That way we can get out of here quickly if we need to,” Jermaine agreed.

They cautiously opened the door, and looked around before they entered the hallway. As they moved past the bathroom they noticed that the window at the far end of the room let the light of the moon shine in.

“Now I’m really freaking out!” Tyrone uttered.

Jermaine answered, “I told you I didn’t think this was such a good idea.”

“No you didn’t.” Tyrone responded.

“Well, at first I said I wasn’t so sure about this,” Jermaine defended himself.

“Whatever,” Tyrone said under his breath.

The moon’s light was bright as it came in from the window on the landing which

had been dark and dirty before.

Looking down at the bottom of the stairs they saw the shadows of a light. They walked very slowly down the stairs. The steps no longer creaked when they stepped on one.

When they got down to the landing, they notice that the light was coming from the dining room, and they heard voices.

“I wonder what those guys are up to now,” Tyrone said softly to Jermaine.

“Your guess is as good as mine,” Jermaine replied.

“Do you think we should go down the stairs?” Tyrone asked.

“I don’t know what else to do. We can’t stay here. All of our stuff is gone. Maybe we should just give up and run out the door!” Jermaine offered.

“OK, but be real quiet. We don’t want to disturb those people in the dining room.” Tyrone responded.

The boys moved slowly down the stairs being as quiet as possible. They used the light coming from the dining room to see their way.

The closer they got to the dining room the louder the voices became. There was laughter and conversation.

This was beginning to really scare the boys.

Tyrone whispered as softly as he could to Jermaine, “What do you think we should do?”

“I don’t know, you’re the one who has all of the ideas,” Jermaine whispered back. “Maybe we should hide somewhere.”

Tyrone crept to the bottom of the stairs and went toward the kitchen door when suddenly he heard a voice behind him.

“We’ve been expecting you. Are you hungry?” the voice asked.

Tyrone spun around and saw a nice looking man with a big smile on his face standing behind him. He had never seen him before. Tyrone thought he knew everyone in this town. So, who could this be?

“Come on into the dining room, dinner is waiting. By the way where is your friend?” the man asked.

“I’m right here,” Jermaine said as he stood up on the stairs.

“Good, come on in,” the man said as he waved for the boys to follow him.

The boys did as they were told. In front of them was the same table, only now the chandelier was above the table. It illuminated the entire room.

On the table they saw a wonderful dinner. Each seat had a place setting. The man pointed to where the boys were to sit. They sat down and looked around the room. It was very warm and homey.

Across from them were a girl about their age and her younger brother.

Just then a woman came through the door from the kitchen. She was carrying a platter with a large ham on it. She set it on the table in front of the man. She smiled at the boys and then sat down.

The man said a prayer over the meal, and then began to cut the ham.

“Oh, I forgot to introduce my family. I’m Jack Johnson, this is my wife Carol, and these are our children, Trixie and Buddy,” Jack introduced his family.

Mr. Johnson had brown hair combed back neatly. He was still wearing his dark blue business suit, white shirt and red striped tie.

Carol was wearing a light yellow dress with a red belt. Her hair came down to her shoulders and curled upwards.

Trixie had on a pink blouse with a dark blue sweater that buttoned down the front. She had on a light blue skirt, white socks and black shoes. Her hair was past her shoulders with bangs. It was light brown and she had a red headband pulling her hair away from her face.

Buddy had short red hair and freckles. He was wearing a blue, red and white plaid button down shirt and dark blue pants. He also had on brown loafers.

“We are eating a little late tonight. Being that it’s Halloween, we gave out all of our candy. It’s always fun to give out the candy to the children,” said Jack.

“Here, look at all of my candy,” Buddy said while he opened his bag to show it to the boys.

“What’s that?” Tyrone said pointing to a large candy bar.

“This? It’s a Hershey bar!” Buddy said with a smile on his face.

“I’ve never seen such a big Hershey bar,” Jermaine said amazed at the size of the candy bar.

The dinner was delicious. It consisted of ham, mashed potatoes, green beans, and sweet corn.

After dinner Trixie asked the boys if they wanted to watch TV.

“Dad just got us a brand new color T.V. We’re going to watch Mission Impossible!” Trixie said excitedly.

“Do you have the DVD?” Tyrone asked.

“DVD? What’s a DVD?” Buddy responded not knowing what he was talking about.

“You know, a recording of the movie,” Tyrone said.

“Mission Impossible is a T.V. show,” Buddy stated.

“Do you have classic TV?” Jermaine asked.

“What’s that? Classic TV?” Trixie asked.

“You know, old TV shows,” Jermaine tried to explain.

“No, we have NBC, CBS and ABC,” Buddy answered.

They went to the living room. The painting over the fireplace was clean and looked just like Carol.

The boys sat down on the couch next to Trixie and Buddy.

“Where’s the remote?” Tyrone asked.

“Remote? What’s that?” Trixie acted confused.

“You know, you use it to change the channel,” Tyrone said surprised that they didn’t know what a remote was.

Tyrone and Jermaine were both puzzled by all of this.

“What’s the date today?” Jermaine asked Trixie.

“Halloween, October 31st, of course,” Trixie smiled.

“I mean what year?” Jermaine continued.

“1967,” Trixie answered curious about the question.

“1967!” the boys said together.

“Shush,” Carol said, “We are trying to watch the show.”

The boys sat quietly watching the TV show. Wondering how they got there and how they would get home.

“I have popcorn for everyone,” Jack said as he walked in with a large bowl of popcorn. “Does anyone want a Fresca?”

“Fresca? What’s a Fresca?” Jermaine said just as he was about to put popcorn into his mouth.

“You’ve never had a Fresca?” Trixie said very surprised.

“Nope, I have never had a Fresca, but I’ll try one,” Tyrone interjected.

While they were sitting in the living room, suddenly the front door opened and two men ran in with guns.

“Everyone get down. This is a robbery!” one of the men yelled.

Everyone was shocked.

“I said get down!” the man yelled again.

They all fell to the ground. Carol and Trixie screamed. Tyrone and Jermaine also lay down on the carpet.

“What do you want?” Jack asked.

“Give us your wallet. Do you have any jewelry in the house?” the second man asked.

“Upstairs in our room. Please don’t hurt us,” Jack begged.

The first man went upstairs. Tyrone whispered something over to Jermaine. Jermaine nodded that he understood.

As soon as the man turned his back to look up to see if his partner was coming

back, Jermaine and Tyrone jumped up and tackled him. They pulled him into the living room where Jack held him down. Trixie put one of her socks into his mouth.

His friend heard the noise and came down the stairs.

“Hey Joey, is everything OK?” he yelled out.

When he entered the living room Jermaine grabbed his legs and Tyrone hit his arm, knocking the gun to the floor. Then Jack jumped on top of him. Buddy pulled the extension cord out of the wall and they tied him up.

Both of the bad guys were tied up and sitting on the floor. The family was shaken and upset, but they were OK.

Carol went to the phone to call the police.

“Thank you for your help. Where did you learn how to do that,” Jack asked.

“We play a lot of video games,” Tyrone answered.

“Video games?” Jack asked.

“Never mind, I’m just glad we were able to help.” Tyrone answered.

“You saved us. We don’t know how to thank you,” Jack said. “We have been waiting for you for a long time.”

“What do you mean you have been waiting for us?” Jermaine asked.

“You’ll see,” Jack answered.

Jack left the room. When he returned he had an old book in his hands.

“This is a history of this house that goes back at least a century,” he informed the boys as he opened the pages of the book. The story of what happened here tonight was already written in this book. We have been waiting a long time for the story to be finished.

Soon another story will be written in this book and the person who reads it will know what is going to happen in the future,” Jack told the boys as he opened the book to a new story that had not been there before.

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Jermaine woke up. He looked over at Tyrone who was snoring loudly. He got out of bed and walked over to the window. He looked out at the morning sun. It was going to be a wonderful day!

“Hey Tyrone wake up! We have many things to do today,” Jermaine said as he shook Tyrone’s bed.

“Huh? What? Are you kidding? Do you see what time it is?” Tyrone rubbed his eyes and looked over at the clock. “It’s ten o’clock, are you serious?” Tyrone said and lay back on his bed looking up at the ceiling.

“Come on. We’ve got a lot of things to do today. Those guy from school aren’t going to wait for us forever you know,” Jermaine said while he got changed into his play clothes.

“OK, OK. I’ll get up. I hope my mom has made us a good breakfast,” Tyrone said.

He rolled out of bed onto the floor making Jermaine laugh.

“What’s so funny?” Tyrone asked while rubbing his shoulder.

“Nothing, let’s go,” Jermaine responded.

The boys went down to the kitchen. Tyrone’s mother had prepared eggs and toast.

The boys ate and ran out of the house. They went to the house on the corner of Main Street and Second Avenue. They knocked on the door and a man answered.

“Hi Mr. Johnson, can Mike and Sam go trick-or-treating with us tonight?”

My Name is Buddy Johnson. My son now lives in this house with his family. The next story in the book is about to come true.

VOCABULARY (*Match the word to its definition*)

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. cautious _____ | a. bother, disrupt |
| 2. freaking out _____ | b. close quickly and loudly |
| 3. wonder _____ | c. very comfortable |
| 4. disturb _____ | d. going a little crazy |
| 5. scare _____ | e. very tasty, yummy |
| 6. spun around _____ | f. turn around quickly |
| 7. homey _____ | g. careful, wary |
| 8. platter _____ | h. large plate for serving food |
| 9. loafers _____ | i. frighten, shock |
| 10. delicious _____ | j. slip on shoes |

TRUE / FALSE

- | | |
|--|-------|
| 1. The window on the landing was dirty. | T / F |
| 2. The light below was coming from the kitchen. | T / F |
| 3. They could hear voices coming from the living room. | T / F |
| 4. The man's name was John Johnson. | T / F |
| 5. They had turkey and rice soup for dinner. | T / F |
| 6. The door to the second bedroom opened easily. | T / F |
| 7. Carol had on a yellow dress with a red belt. | T / F |
| 8. They watched "Bonanza" on T.V. | T / F |
| 9. Trixie put her shoe in the robber's mouth. | T / F |
| 10. The writer of the story was named Buddy Johnson. | T / F |

MULTIPLE CHOICE:

1. Who turned on the light in the second room? _____
 - a) Jermaine
 - b) Tyrone
 - c) Jack
 - d) Trixie

2. What color was Buddy's hair? _____
 - a) red
 - b) black
 - c) brown
 - d) blonde

3. What did Trixie put into the robber's mouth? _____
 - a) shirt
 - b) pillow
 - c) sock
 - d) extension cord

4. What did Jermaine ask about that could be used with the TV? _____
 - a) power cord
 - b) cable box
 - c) DVD
 - d) remote

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

1. What was missing from the bedroom?

2. Who invited us to dinner?

3. What was the boy's name?

4. What color was Trixie's hair?

5. What television show did we watch?

6. What did Jack bring to us in the living room?

7. What was the name of one of the robbers?

8. What kind of TV were we watching?

9. What did Buddy get to tie up the robber?

10. With whom did Tyrone and Jermaine ask to play?
