

Dead at Christmas



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It's December, 1937...around Christmas time. All people decorate and prepare their houses for Christmas but...a group of children decided to solve the mystery of Jonson's house. The myth says that a girl and her father lived in this house. The girl was unhappy and sad because her dad became very distant when his wife died in the house while she was sleeping. Even to this day we don't know what happened on the night when Miss Rose Jonson was found dead in her bed with strange marks on her neck.

Some people claim that the house was built on a graveyard and for that reason it was cursed.

The girl begged her dad to let her go out but he didn't so she began to cry and started screaming. Her dad got angry, grasped her hand and pushed her. She stumbled and fell onto the lit fireplace. After that full of remorse he committed suicide.

Every night... at 12 o'clock a sparking fire appears in the fireplace and at the same time you can hear screams and cries. For this reason the people of this area are scared so much because they believe that the girl's spirit haunts the house.

The story begins like that... The children decided to get in the house and spend here the whole night. Spyros, Stefan, Lilian and Lydia broke the lock and went in. Their faces looked terrified.



The furniture was covered with white sheets and ash was scattered around the fireplace. As the children were stepping inside, the door closed behind them as if something had pushed it. The children tried to open the door but they couldn't. Their efforts were futile. They tried to find another exit but suddenly, their attention was attracted by the fireplace which was now alight. The little girl appeared, coming out of fire with her back turned. The children were white with terror especially when the girl turned around and looked at them. The view was appalling, the girl was burned, she wore a white dress and the most disgusting of all was that one of the girl's eyes was missing. The children started screaming and ran to every possible direction. Lillian, the youngest of the group, completely panicked, thought that she could see her friends running upstairs. So without any hesitation, she runs upstairs too. At that moment, she heard a voice say :<< you will suffer as much as I did, you won't leave this place alive...>>

Lillian opened the door of every room in an effort to find her friends... When she opened the last door, she saw something shocking Stefan was pinned with a knife on one of the walls of the room. Above him there was a letter written in blood:<<No one will leave this place alive...>>.....Frightened, Lillian ran down the stairs in an attempt to find her friends as quickly as possible. Looking around she saw Lydia looking for Stefan. Lillian explained her what had happened.

The girls split into different directions to find Spyros... While searching, Lydia walked into a room, filled with pictures of a girl. Puzzled she looks around and a rocking chair caught her attention. She reluctantly approached

it listening at a soft voice call her name. Then she saw the chair turn back to front and she realized where the voice was coming from. It was the little girl in the form of a porcelain doll. Closing her eyes, she screamed so loud so that Spyros could hear her from the next room. He opened the door and left the room. Then he enters the room where Lydia was in tears. She tried to explain what had happened...

Spyros looked around the room carefully but saw nothing strange. So at first he doubted Lydia's words. He knew her so well...he thought she couldn't have lied.

However there was no way that such strange things could be happening. He took her by the hand and went into the kitchen where they had arranged to meet in order to find Lilian. But instead of her, they saw a knife covered with blood nailed on the kitchen counter. Spyros was finally convinced of Lydia's words. Terrified by what might be happening to Lilian they began to look for her.

As they were searching, they saw a door at the end of the corridor. Without a second thought they opened the door where they saw a staircase leading to the basement.

As they didn't know where the stairs were leading they started running downstairs and looking for their friend anxiously.

When they got to the bottom of the stairs they heard a familiar voice yell for help. Knowing what fate had in store for them and with terror overwhelming their hearts, they tried to understand where the voice was coming from. As it

was dark, Spyros lit a candle that he had found upstairs. Searching he came across a large iron cage where Lilian was begging for help. Without thinking they started looking for ways to set her free but all they found were skeletons of people and then they remembered another story they heard in the village, that the girl's father was crazy. He used to kidnapper children and



trapped them in the basement where he made them suffer by hitting them with whips and purposely locking them in chests. Thinking about the story, they forgot why they were searching for the tools and when they

remembered they ran back to Lilian. She was completely terrified and she was sitting on the floor looking down. When she looked up, her head was full of scars and scratches from a knife...

When we asked her how it happened, she answered that it had all happened too fast when she just saw a figure with a knife in her hand.

Finally the children found something to open the cage. Climbing the stairs fast the girl's ghost appeared, grabbed Lilian from her hand and killed her. Lydia and Spyros started screaming and closed their eyes but...when they opened their eyes, Lilian's body was missing and in its position there was a letter written with blood which said again: <<No one will leave this place alive...>>

The two children desperate sat down and waited for their turn as there wasn't other solution..... But Lydia said to Spyros that they would make it and nothing would stop them.....

The hours passed and the children were now convinced that nobody would save them. Their efforts to escape were in vain and there was no communication with the outside world. You could only see fear and despair on the children's faces and nothing could change that. Or could it.....???...something white looking like a half open door seemed like an exit so the children began to hope that their suffering was about to end. Without thinking about the consequences they ran towards that door that seemed to be their only way out.

When they got at the door they grabbed their hands full of optimism and they embraced each other because they didn't know what would happen and they went inside. As they were walking, they felt strange but none of the two spoke a word, they just kept going. But suddenly this white light ceased to exist and darkness flooded the room. Totally terrified they looked for a torch in their bag, but in vain because they had left it in the basement. After that their only choice was to be brave enough and go back to take it.

The basement was not far, so they got there quite quickly with the help of a candle they found on their way which unfortunately melted. As they were going down they heard noises and voices which made them feel panicked. But what could they do? They were locked in a house that had no way out. They only option they had to was to hope no matter how difficult it was. They managed to find the torch but they encountered something shocking which made their hearts ache and they realized what awaited them. The spectacle was ghostly.

Their two best friends who they had known for years were lying there murdered by a spirit. Their bodies were cut by knife and they were covered with blood. The most shocking thing was what was written on the wall, it was

written with their friend's blood and wrote: << You will also end up like this- even worse >>. This was the final blow for the children. These words stuck in their minds and it was like a knife in their heart. There was no way of escape.



Everything that had happened till then was the spirit's trick to get the kids there. They were curled up in a corner, crying and waiting for their turn. At that moment they heard voices call their name. It was their parents telling them to go upstairs where they would find them on the balcony where the only way out was. This woke up the children from their desperation and a slight smile was drawn on their lips. Without thinking much the children ran upstairs. But they couldn't imagine what would happen.... Nobody in their position would have done it! When they got upstairs, they looked around to find where the sounds were coming from. They checked almost every room without caring what was going to happen, but they found nobody! There weren't any parents calling their children and this made them anxious. While they were looking around, they found a room at the end of the corridor and they run towards it. The children went inside the room, it was dark and empty. Lydia went in first and began to investigate the room to see if there was a balcony. She saw a light out of the window and she thought that outside was a parent who was looking for them. Lydia looked around her but she saw only darkness. Suddenly she heard the window close and she felt that someone was pushing her. Cold sweat overwhelmed her... Lydia panic-stricken turned her head but she saw nothing. That relieved her but in the next

minute she felt her hand burning. Lydia started crying. She knocked on the window screaming for help. Spyros already upset with Lydia's absence he directed hesitantly to the window, where he found his friend lying on the floor. He immediately woke her up and tried to help her. She was whispering something that he couldn't understand. Finally he managed to bring her round. Lydia, in tears, looked terrified at her hand which she thought it was burning and she felt horror. But was she whispering when she was unconscious? She kept thinking about it until she understood everything. Everything connected with each other and the nightmare she had before Spyros woke her up, connected with her words. Finally she decided to tell Spyros: << I will have the same end with the spirit, I'll die like it died>> said Lydia and Spyros was speechless! Then she narrated everything that had happened... He told him about her arm burning and about her nightmare, in which she was surrounded by flames and her flesh was burning... But how could she scream the words << You will die like me...>> while she was unconscious? What if someone who had lit the fire was standing there watching her with pleasure? At that exact moment she understood that the spirit was revealing them their near future.

After Spyros realized that this might be the last time they saw each other, he decided to reveal his secret love which he had cherished since he was a young boy. He held her hand lovingly and, in tears she hugged him. Without saying anything he gave her a big hug. But what romantic moment for someone who is ready to fall off the "cliff" of death? They leaned against each other's forehead and he whispered in her ear that he



loves her..... Suddenly he felt as if she was getting away from his hands. He could see her but he couldn't touch her. Lost in their thoughts about what was happening Lydia felt a hot wind surrounding her. She turned around and saw the whole room wrapped up in flames. She approached Spyro but something pulled her away from him. Spyros tried to save her but as he made his first step the fire grew and surrounded the young helpless girl. He, with tears in his eyes, saw his girl, who taught him what love means, sighing and listening to Lydia's last screams of despair. At that moment he collapsed. Terror and panic overwhelmed Spyros's innocent heart.....Appalled by the sight he saw a few seconds ago, he ran hastily to the door which was locked. He tried to open it but he couldn't make it. He started looking desperately for another way out. A half-open window which was above the door caught his attention. Then without many thoughts he grabbed a chair and tried to climb but his efforts were in vain because he couldn't reach his only way out.

Ever since he was a little kid, Spyros had had a problem with his heart, because he had suffered a great shock after his mother's death. Since that moment when he is under pressure in stressful situations, his heart beats much faster and he falls into a coma unless he receives the right medication prescribed by his doctor.

He felt a sharp pain in the heart, not like all the previous times. He rushed to find his medications but he realized that he hadn't brought them with him.....

At 23:15 the phone rang at the police station. There was a strange voice asking desperately for help through the receiver. The police officers indentified the location directly from the signal and went there.

After a while the police officers arrived at the house from where the unknown call was made. They opened the door with difficulty and went in. The view they saw shocked them. Spyros was lying dead on the floor and near him there was a letter which wrote :<< those who dare trespass my house will suffer...>> In the basement there is a dead girl, in the last room on the first floor there is a boy who is stabbed to death and in the next room there is a burned girl and.....the last person of the company Well, I think that you have already found it..... Don't look for me, I will reveal to you who I am.....the unknown call.....>>

The police officers understood what had happened in the house and ran far away from that cursed house as fast as possible.....

It's Christmas daybreak and there is nobody left