

Scary Stories

We all love being told scary stories, legends and superstitions. Horror books and movies are our favorite. We enjoy being scared. It's a way to face dangers and fight our fears.

Tell me a scary story!

Do you know the urban legend: *Bloody Mary*? It's an old legend from the 13th century. It is said that young girls were vanishing from several villages and people accused an old woman living in the forest. She was said to be a witch. She was burnt, and while the wood was burning, she cursed the villagers. From that day on, if you say "Bloody Mary" three times in front of a mirror at night while holding a candle, the old woman comes out of the mirror and takes her revenge!!! Will you dare say her name?

Did you know?

Urban legends are passed from person to person. Some urban legends are spread either as fact or as a story. For example, New York sewers are said to be populated by giant alligators!

Alone with a horror book

We don't need mirrors and candles to be frightened! You can be alone in your bedroom and read a novel by Stephen King. One of the scariest is probably '*It*'. It's the story of seven friends who grew up in a small town in Maine, called Derry. When they were just kids, they faced a cruel monster dressed up as a clown.

It killed children, believed only children believed their fears. They thought they had killed *It*. They were wrong.

30 years later, *It* is killing children again and the friends decide to reunite in order to destroy it.

Did you know?

Stephen King is an American novelist who has lots of fears: of the dark, of insects, especially spiders, flies, beetles, closed-in-places, rats and snakes!

Frightening movies

You don't like *Friday the 13th*? You're not a horror movie addict. But, have you ever seen *The Village*? It's awesome! You won't see any gory details but the atmosphere is really frightening.

It tells the story of a quiet, isolated village. The villagers have made an agreement with dangerous creatures living in the surrounding woods: if they don't enter the woods, the creatures won't enter the village. The inhabitants are very superstitious and no one dares to venture beyond the borders of the village. But one day, Lucius Hunt decides to leave and to cross the border...

Comic strips

Let's read horror comics! *Tales from the Crypt* were the first horror comic books to be published. The Crypt-Keeper was the host. He was sitting in a lightless crypt and he was really frightening. His character changed and evolved into something comic. He was a horror host, making us laugh as well as scaring us!

What are you afraid of? (Detail in an academic paragraph: use good vocabulary words and structures)

Name:

- a- The perfect time and place to be frightened
- b- Two scary characters
- c- The elements of a spooky atmosphere
- d- a superstition