

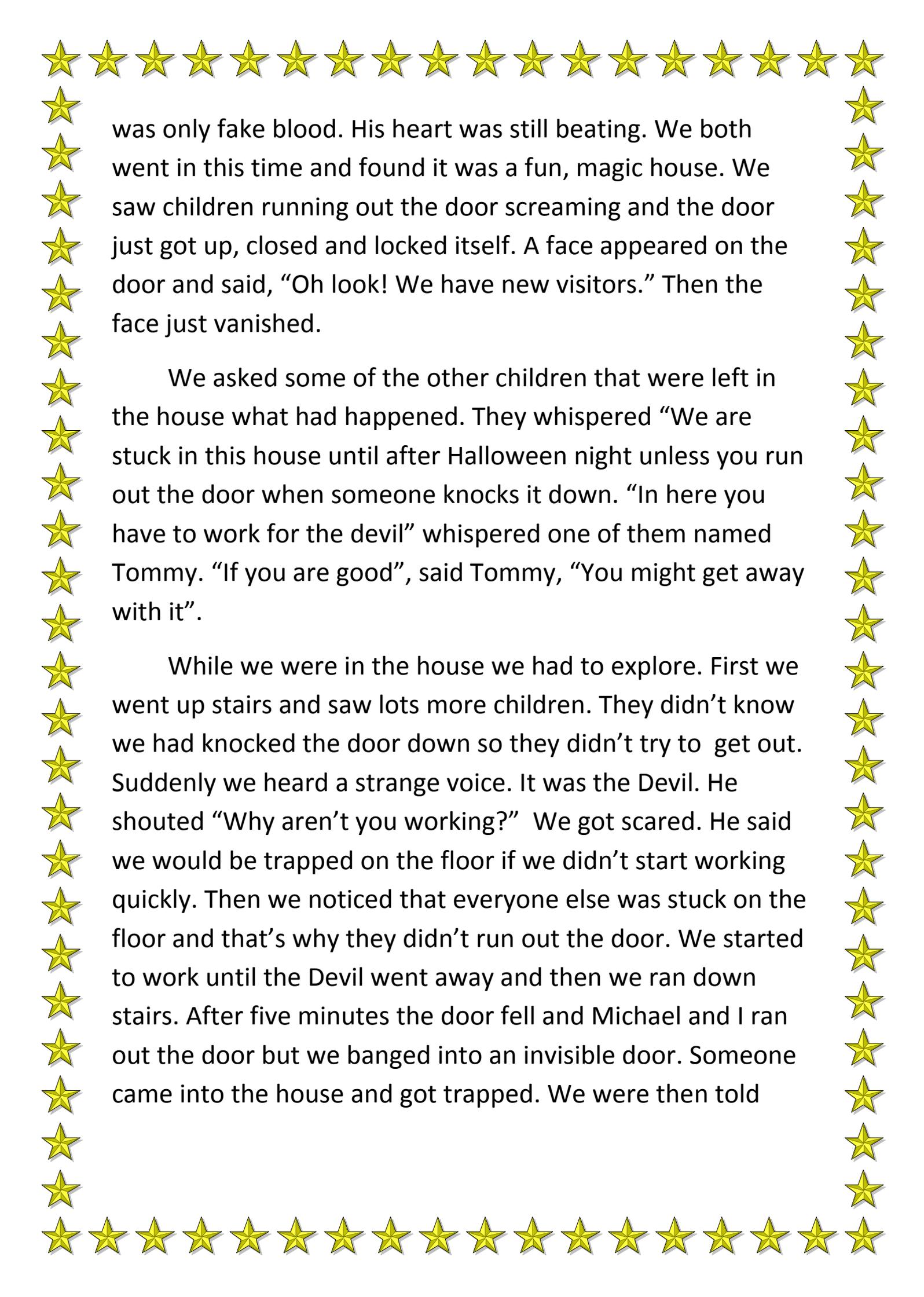
## The House of the Devil

From where we stood in the woods, it looked like a castle rising out of the mist at the top of the hill. We couldn't make out from this distance just how many windows we could see but there seemed to be a thousand. There was only one cure for our curiosity... We had to go and explore.



Michael and I were out trick or treating when we saw the house through some woods. We headed off into the woods to get to the house. While we were walking through the woods we heard many sounds. We thought there were other people going to the house, but we were wrong. We were trying to get to the house but it kept moving into the distance. We were determined to get to the house but there were loads of trees getting in our way. While we were running to the house a bear ran out in front of us and started running after us.

We finally got to the house and knocked on the door. It was big and scary looking. Then the door fell off. I was the first one to go into the house. I saw fake blood in a costume box so I decided to scare Michael. I put it on my arm and face and made a lot of noise. Then I came running out screaming, "AHH! AHH!" Michael got a huge fright, but then I told him it



was only fake blood. His heart was still beating. We both went in this time and found it was a fun, magic house. We saw children running out the door screaming and the door just got up, closed and locked itself. A face appeared on the door and said, "Oh look! We have new visitors." Then the face just vanished.

We asked some of the other children that were left in the house what had happened. They whispered "We are stuck in this house until after Halloween night unless you run out the door when someone knocks it down. "In here you have to work for the devil" whispered one of them named Tommy. "If you are good", said Tommy, "You might get away with it".

While we were in the house we had to explore. First we went up stairs and saw lots more children. They didn't know we had knocked the door down so they didn't try to get out. Suddenly we heard a strange voice. It was the Devil. He shouted "Why aren't you working?" We got scared. He said we would be trapped on the floor if we didn't start working quickly. Then we noticed that everyone else was stuck on the floor and that's why they didn't run out the door. We started to work until the Devil went away and then we ran down stairs. After five minutes the door fell and Michael and I ran out the door but we banged into an invisible door. Someone came into the house and got trapped. We were then told

that someone had to come into the house before we were able to get out. It was a bit confusing but we understood.

We were there for two hours before someone came and knocked on the door. We forgot that someone had to come into the house before we were able to get out and when we tried to get out we hit the invisible door again. An hour went by before someone else knocked on the door. We waited for them to come into the house before we tried to get out again and this time it worked. We were outside.

We started to count the windows and there were hundreds. Then the house moved into the distance again. We walked for one minute and then we were safely out of the woods. The house must have moved again. We went home and told our parents what had happened. The next day we went back to the house in the woods. We saw that the house was empty. It really was a huge house. We went home and told everyone our story.

By Rioghan Lowry



