

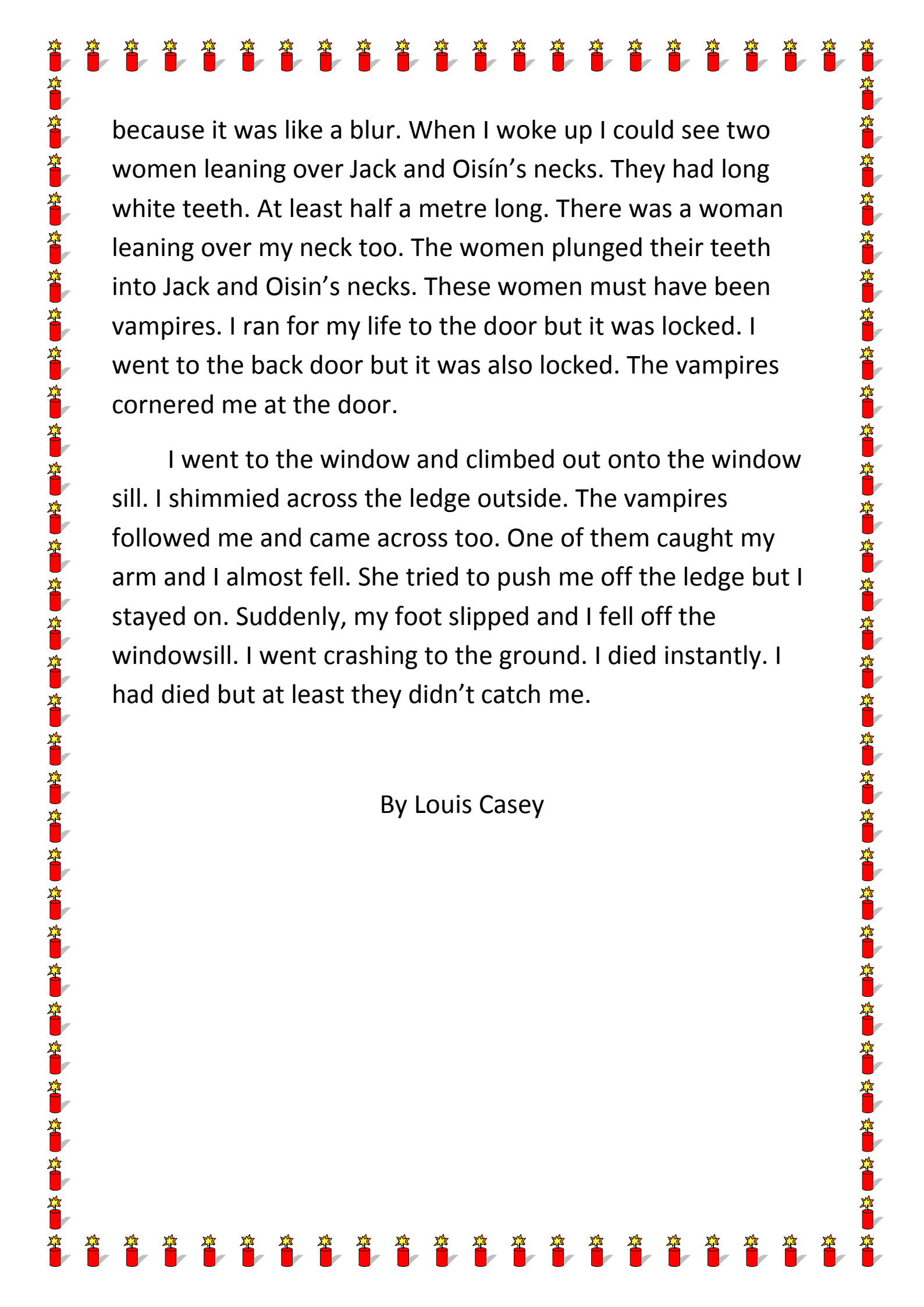
The Things

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.

When we had reached the castle we knocked on the door. A pale man dressed all in black with hair as white as snow came to the door. We asked him where we could find the main road. He said he didn't know but he did ask us to come inside for a while. We said no but he insisted so we went in. When we were inside, we entered an enormous room. The room had blacked out windows with long black curtains, an enormous fire place and several large paintings from around the eighteen hundreds. After a while we started to feel quite tired. Eventually we all fell asleep.



I dreamt that I was being chased by a horrible creature. I can't remember exactly what the creature looked like



because it was like a blur. When I woke up I could see two women leaning over Jack and Oisín's necks. They had long white teeth. At least half a metre long. There was a woman leaning over my neck too. The women plunged their teeth into Jack and Oisín's necks. These women must have been vampires. I ran for my life to the door but it was locked. I went to the back door but it was also locked. The vampires cornered me at the door.

I went to the window and climbed out onto the window sill. I shimmied across the ledge outside. The vampires followed me and came across too. One of them caught my arm and I almost fell. She tried to push me off the ledge but I stayed on. Suddenly, my foot slipped and I fell off the windowsill. I went crashing to the ground. I died instantly. I had died but at least they didn't catch me.

By Louis Casey