

DAVID: That's not what I mean. It's very well thought out

EVE: Is it?

DAVID: For something that's supposed to be spontaneous

EVE: I mean this is what you all do, isn't it?

ROBERT: It's what we *used* to do, yes

DAVID: But yours seems a little rehearsed

SAMIRA: It is pretty detailed

EVE: Is it?

DAVID: Yes...you're a little *too* good at this if you know what I mean

*Pause*

EVE: Okay you got me! (*Playful*) Busted! I'm a writer. Well...a struggling writer

*EVE laughs but no one else does*

EVE: Tough crowd

ROBERT: And the plot thickens

EVE: Now where was I?

DAVID: Hang on...so you're not just making this up?

EVE: Let's just say...elements of it are a story I'm working on, yes. Is that cheating? I'm sorry

SAMIRA: Interesting

**ROBERT:** Very

**EVE:** Maybe if you let me finish the story, everything will make sense

**SAMIRA:** What's supposed to make sense? It is just a story

**EVE:** Is it just a story, Robert?

*Pause; ROBERT is looking at her suspiciously*

**ROBERT:** So you're a writer

**EVE:** Well...struggling...yeah

**DAVID:** We don't even know where you live

**EVE:** Boston

**DAVID:** Boston

**EVE:** Yep

**SAMIRA:** Beautiful city

**EVE:** It is

**DAVID:** Whereabouts in Boston?

**EVE:** Do you know Boston?

**DAVID:** No

**EVE:** Then me telling you won't mean anything

**DAVID:** Not really

**EVE:** I live downtown

**DAVID:** Downtown...nice

**EVE:** You've never been

**DAVID:** I've seen pictures

**EVE:** Ah

*ROBERT has been deep in thought and not really paying attention*

**ROBERT:** Boston?

**EVE:** Yes Boston

**ROBERT:** Sorry, what's in Boston?

**EVE:** Me, when I'm there

**ROBERT:** Paul had mentioned that you had lived in Vancouver

**EVE:** I thought Paul never mentioned me

**ROBERT:** Not never...just rarely

**EVE:** I did live in Vancouver for a few years but recently moved to Boston for work, I have dual citizenship

**DAVID:** Lucky you. What do you do? Besides struggle

**EVE:** I work in a bookstore, it's small but I love it

**ROBERT:** Oh what's it called?

**EVE:** Octopus Books. Okay, which one of you is the bad cop and which is the good cop?

**SAMIRA:** I was about to ask the same question

**ROBERT:** I was just...

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**EVE:** Relax I'm just joking

**DAVID:** We're just chatting, Sam

**EVE:** Chatting. (*Quietly*) Chatting, chatting, chatting...

**DAVID:** Yeah

**EVE:** Honestly I don't mind. I get it, I came out of nowhere and you're curious about me. You want to know where I came from and why I'm here. So, go ahead...ask away

**ROBERT:** Okay, why *are* you here?

**EVE:** How about I tell the story first

**DAVID:** Hang on, you moved across the country for a job in a bookstore?

**EVE:** What?

**DAVID:** You said you moved from Vancouver to Boston for work

**EVE:** You asked me where I worked, but you didn't ask me what I want to do with my life, they are usually two very different things

**ROBERT:** I take it you want us to ask you what you want to do with your life

**EVE:** Sure. Ask

**ROBERT:** You told us you're a struggling writer, so I'm going to go out on a limb here and say you want to be a writer

**EVE:** Yes but not *just* a writer...a famous writer of modern horror just like...

**ROBERT:** ...My wife

**EVE:** Yes. Just like your wife

**ROBERT:** You certainly have the imagination for it

**EVE:** Do I?

**ROBERT:** I would say so

**EVE:** So you like my story?

**ROBERT:** It's just a story

**EVE:** But you know a good story when you hear it, surely you must have given your wife feedback

**ROBERT:** My wife didn't need feedback, she was a very...

**EVE/ROBERT:** *(At the same time)* Talented writer

**ROBERT:** Yes

**EVE:** *(To SAMIRA)* Do you think I should do something with this story? Try to get it published?

**SAMIRA:** *(Realizing something is going on)* I think so far it's interesting *(Looks around)* but it isn't really a story...just part of a story about a hermit who...

**EVE:** *(Interrupting)* But I haven't told you the best part yet

**DAVID:** Ah

**EVE:** What kind of ghost story would it be without the horror?

**SAMIRA:** Is it a ghost story or a horror story?

**EVE:** Horror story, ghost story...what's the difference?

**ROBERT:** A ghost story doesn't have to be scary, it can simply be emotional

**EVE:** But a horror story is about blood and death...killing

**ROBERT:** Yes, often

**EVE:** And a ghost story is more...psychological

**ROBERT:** Can be

**EVE:** Like if you saw a dead relative, you might not be scared...you might just get emotional at the experience...

**ROBERT:** ...Yes

**EVE:** Of seeing someone you love who's dead

*Pause in the room*

**ROBERT:** Maybe

**EVE:** At the door or on the phone

**ROBERT:** So where is your ghost?

**EVE:** Where is yours?

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ing something?

*r the story*) For two teenagers growing up in  
enhurst, there isn't a lot to do during the long  
and hearing stories of the crazy old hermit who  
lived only miles away deep in the woods, was too tempting to pass  
up. One July morning the boys set off first thing in the morning and  
after biking as far as they could, hid their bikes under branches and