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## **A Spooky Night**

by Katie Clark

## Underline the instances of personification within the story.

Kyle and Jasmine rode their bikes up the hill toward the Old Hickory Town mansion. They had been dared by their neighbor Trenton to go inside the gates and look around. Thunder rumbled in the distance, but Kyle didn't see any lightning. He and his sister should be safe.

"What if it rain

"I guess we'll ç steep hill.

The mansion a one lived there and a people's dreams and buckets of rain down

"Hurry!" Kyle s were at the top of th shelter under a huge

"How will we q mansion.

Jasmine point

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pedaled up the

er a hundred years. No ne mansion crept into The clouds cried

ept up, and soon they les, and they found

ron fence around the

After a few minutes, the rain softened to a mist. They left the shelter of the tree and rode to the gate. Two giant pillars stood on either side of the gate. On top of the pillars were statues shaped like lions. The eyes of the lions followed them as they approached.

Kyle shivered.

"I guess it won't be hard to sneak in," Jasmine said. She pushed open the gate and

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they walked their bikes onto the property. Vines and overgrown grass covered everything, even parts of the old mansion. Kyle and Jasmine rode to the front door. The rain had stopped, but they were still wet. The front door was huge. It towered over them angrily, as if it didn't want them there. Kyle gulped.

"We don't have to go inside," he said. "Trenton only said we had to get inside the gates. We've already completed the dare."

Jasmine shrugged. "I'm a little curious. If the door is locked, we won't go in. But what if it's open?"

Kyle wasn't exc chicken. He left his b handle, and it turnec darkness greeted the

"Did you bring

They stepped i

"I think we bet

Jasmine bolted door, a giant creature then he was covered

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: want to seem like a e tried the door

oor opened. The

the darkness.

ped up.

he could close the

d closed his eyes, but

Jasmine laughed, and Kyle opened his eyes. A giant dog sat on his chest. Its tongue hung out and its tail wagged.

Kyle laughed nervously. "I think we should go home now," he said.

Jasmine grinned. "I think so too."

They said goodbye to the dog, and they grabbed their bikes and rode home. It had been a spooky night, but at least they had won the dare!