

A GHOST STORY

A husband and his wife called Angela had just bought a new house and were putting their furniture in it. Some workmen were helping them put the furniture into the house. Angela was upstairs in the bedroom looking out of the window when she saw two men carrying a coffin across the garden. Their faces were absolutely white and they **5]** were dressed in black suits. She thought this was very strange and asked the workmen who the men were and what they were doing carrying a coffin across her garden! The workmen didn't know these men and had never seen them. They laughed at her thinking she was either mad or was joking!

Two years later, Angela was doing her Christmas shopping in a big department store. **10]** She had just finished her shopping and was on the top floor. She called a lift to go down. The lift came and its doors opened; it was full of people, but the liftman said: "There's room for one more". She was about to get in the lift, when suddenly a shiver went down her spine and she felt cold and afraid. She didn't want to get into the lift, but she didn't know why. So, while the lift doors were closing, she started to go down the **15]** stairs.

While she was walking down the stairs, she suddenly understood what had frightened her: the face of the liftman was absolutely white and she recognized him as one of the men who had been carrying the coffin across her garden two years before! She felt she had seen a ghost!

20] When she got down to the ground floor, she heard screaming and shouting and saw lots of people running about in all directions. She asked someone what had happened and he told her that the lift had crashed, killing everyone who was in it!

I] **Match the words in A with their meanings in B.**

A	B
1] a coffin	a) the spirit of a dead person
2] furniture	b) saying something to make somebody laugh
3] shiver	c) shouting in a very loud and high-pitched voice
4] joking	d) when a person's body shakes with fear or cold.
5] absolutely	e) tables, chairs, cupboards etc.
6] recognized	f) A box in which dead people are put
7] ghost	g) To know someone when you see their face
8] screaming	h) completely

II] Are the sentences below TRUE or FALSE?

- 1] The men carrying the coffin were not workmen. _____
- 2] The workmen laughed at Angela because they didn't believe her. _____
- 3] When the liftman spoke Angela knew the lift was going to crash. _____
- 4] Two years before the liftman had helped the workmen put furniture in Angela's house. _____
- 5] When Angela heard people screaming, she knew immediately that the lift had crashed. _____

III]

- 1] When Angela saw the men carrying the coffin, she
 - a) knew who they were
 - b) didn't know who they were
 - c) thought they were ghosts
- 2] Angela didn't get in the lift because
 - a) she had a cold and was feeling sick
 - b) she had a bad feeling about getting into the lift
 - c) she always used the stairs, not the lift
- 3] When Angela was walking down the stairs, she
 - a) saw a ghost carrying a coffin
 - b) remembered where she'd seen the liftman before
 - c) heard screaming and shouting from the ground floor
- 4] The lift crashed
 - a) while Angela was walking down the stairs.
 - b) before Angela started to walk down the stairs.
 - c) after Angela reached the ground floor.

DISCUSSION

Do you believe in ghosts? Have you ever seen a ghost? Do you know anyone who says they have seen a ghost? Some Christians and all Muslims believe in ghosts, Muslims call them 'djinn'. What's your opinion about this?