An Unforgettable Night

| 1. | Animal |
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| 2. | Noun |
| | Occupation |
| 4. | Food Plural |
| 5. | Verb Ending In Ing |
| 6. | Beverage |
| 7. | Body Part |
| 8. | Present Tense Verb |
| 9. | Your Name |
| 10. | Adjective |
| 11. | Verb Ending In Ing |
| 12. | Verb Ending In Ing |
| 13. | Prescription Drug |
| 14. | Your Town |
| 15. | Illness |

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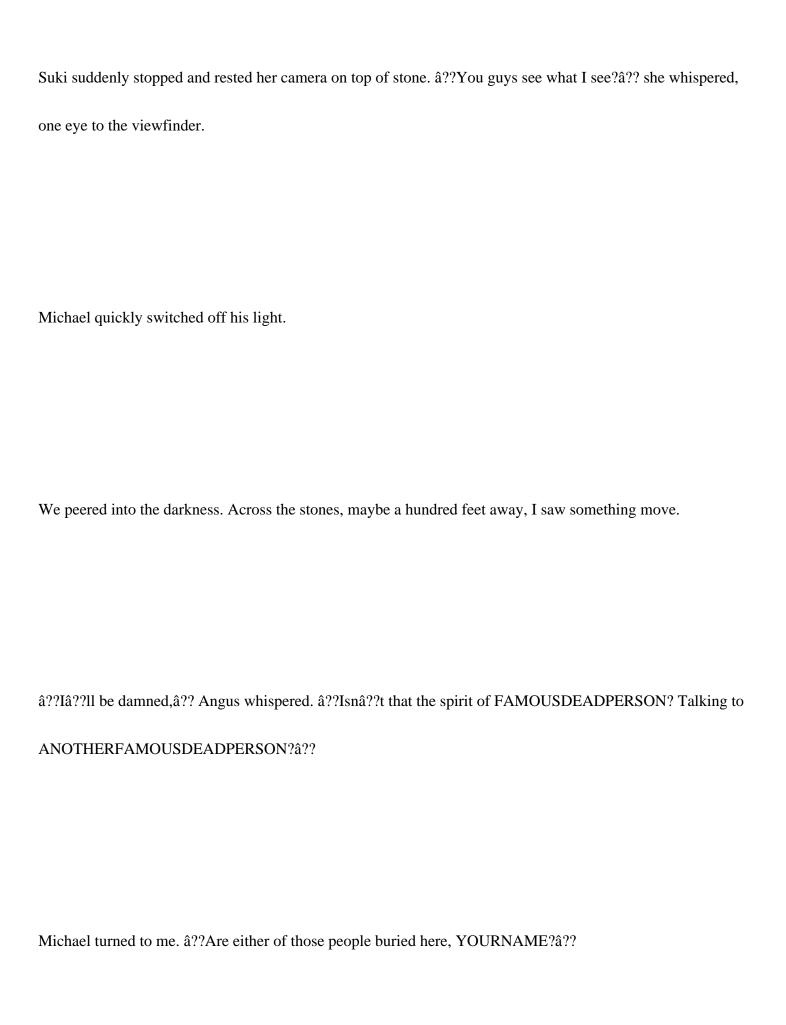
| When I entered Tripping Magazineâ??s writing contest for My Spookiest Ghost Story, I had hoped to win |
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| Second Prize, a free one year subscription. So I was a dismayed to find that I had won First Prize, which was |
| going on assignment with the staff to the cemetery of my choice. |
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| I chose a small graveyard in my town of Your Town. It had always seemed sort of friendly to me. My favorite |
| combstone showed a kindly looking man with his petlying on his feet. Here Lies Thomas |
| Noun fine Occupation and lover of Food plural . He will be Verb ending in ing in |
| death as he was in life.â?? |
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| Of course they wanted to do this after dark. Angus MacGregor, Trippingâ??s editor, told me to meet them at the |
| entrance at 10 PM. â??And bring a thermos ofheâ??d said on the phone. â??Not only does it |
| give you something to drink, but you can splash some on theof any ghost that gets uppity. |
| Makes them Present tense verb right away.â?? |
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| They were already there when I arrived. |
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| â??Hi,â?? I said. â??Iâ??m Your name and I might be a little Adjective about being in a graveyard |
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| â??Thatâ??s not something we hear every day,â?? Michael, the head writer said. â??But I wouldnâ??t worry |
| about being here. In my experience, dead people stay dead. They donâ??t get up and start |
| every which way.â?? |
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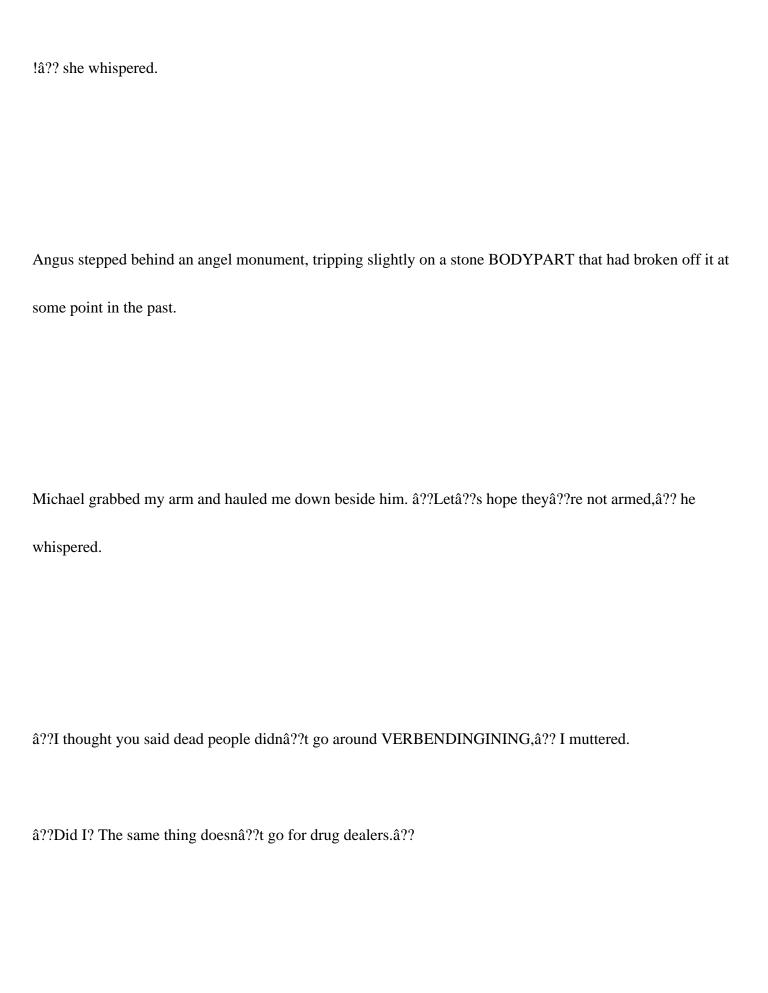
Suki

| Oota, Trippingâ??s gorgeous photographer, pointed her digital camera at me. â??Smile.â?? The flash went off. |
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| While I tried to blink the white spots out of my eyes, Suki looked at the photo sheâ??d just taken. â??Maybe |
| smiling wasnâ??t the way to go. Tryverb_ending in inginstead.â?? |
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| â??Excuse me?â?? Had the flash affected my hearing, as well? |
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| â??Never mind,â?? Angus said. â??Iâ??m sure itâ??s a fine picture. Letâ??s get going, but first, maybe you |
| should take off that jacket. It makes you a little obvious.â?? |
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| I looked down at my windbreaker. It was white, withembroidered across the chest in red. |
| â??Sorry. |

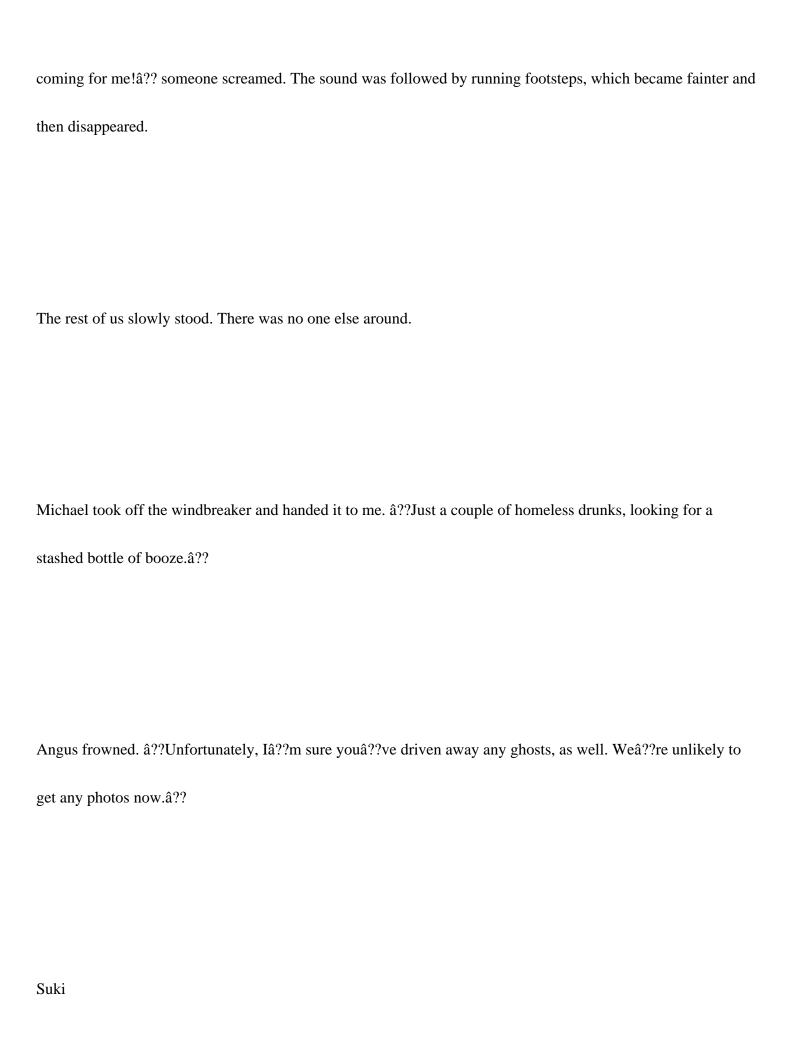
| I got it from a | friend whoâ??s a pharmaceutical rep.â?? I took it off and draped it over my arm. |
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| We walked do | wn gravel paths, Michael shining his flashlight onto stones as we passed. â??I see a lot of people |
| died in 1857. <i>A</i> | Any idea what happened then?â?? |
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| Your town | had a big outbreak ofthen,â?? I said. â??It was written up in the papers, and |
| quack doctors | came from all over the country, promising to cure it. Martin VEGETABLE bottom sold |
| NUMBER bot | tles of Old NAMEOFSOMEONEYOUKNOWâ??s Sovereign Remedy. Turned out it was made of |
| NOUN and NO | OUN. That, and a lot of TYPEOFBOOZE. The townspeople chased him out of town with flaming |
| NOUNS.â?? | |
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| â??Thatâ??s or | ne way to do it,â?? Michael said. |
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| â??Um, I donâ??t think so.â?? I stared harder. The two figures appeared to be struggling very slowly, as if they |
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| were underwater. |
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| â??They donâ??t have to be buried here, Michael,â?? Angus said. â??Spirits can travel at will.â?? |
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| â??Sort of an afterlife version of a senior bus pass?â?? Michael asked. â??I guess AARP has to really jack up the |
| perks when members reach 120.â?? |
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| Suki suddenly pulled her camera off the stone and ducked behind it. â??Whoever it is, theyâ??re coming this |
| way |



| I heard uneven footsteps, then a male voice. â??I swear I hid it around here somewhere,â?? it slurred. |
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| â??You probably dreamed it.â?? The second male voice spoke with a slight whistle, as though the person were |
| missing some teeth. â??Did I tell you I had a dream where ADJECTIVE white PLURALNOUNTHATISWHITE |
| chased me into a CHAINRESTAURANT? They said they wanted to VERB my PLURALNOUN.â?? |
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| â??Huh,â?? slurred voice said. â??Iâ??ve been chased out of that restaurant a few times, but never into it.â?? |
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| Michael sighed. Then he pulled the white windbreaker from my grasp and put it on backwards, so the hood |
| covered his face. He stood and waved his arms. â??Iâ??m going to VERB your PLURALNOUN!â?? he moaned. |
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| â??Theyâ??re |



| handed him her camera, digital screen facing up. â??I did get a nice picture of Michael waving his arms in that |
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| windbreaker. His legs are hidden, so it looks like heâ??s coming right out of the tombstone. And look â?? the |
| back of the embroidered drug name looks like a splotch of blood over his heart.â?? |
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| Angus studied the camera for a long moment. Then he looked from it to me. |
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| â??I wonâ??t tell anyone,â?? I said. |
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| He pursed his lips in thought. â??Since weâ??re cutting this expedition short, perhaps we should also give you a |
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| free year of Tripping Magazine.â?? |
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| â??Great. |

| Can we just get out of here?â?? I took my windbreaker from Michael. |
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| As we walked back to the cemeteryâ??s entrance, Suki said, â??Can we stop and get some food? For some |
| reason, I kind of want to go to a SAMECHAINRESTAURANT.â?? |
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