

SISTERS IN SPIRIT

by Ken Bradbury



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A short play for five girls: Lydia, Jodi, Nadene, Opal, and Paula

- LYDIA:** (*entering with Jodi*) I don't like this.
- JODI:** It was your idea.
- LYDIA:** We all agreed.
- JODI:** You insisted. You dared us, Lydia.
- LYDIA:** It'll be okay ... really. It's just one night. Where's everybody else?
- JODI:** They're afraid to come in. They're still standing in the yard.
- NADENE:** (*running in, breathlessly*) I'm scared!
- LYDIA:** Then why'd you come in?
- NADENE:** 'Cause it was spooky standing out there in the dark.
- LYDIA:** Where's everybody else?
- NADENE:** Outside. They're afraid to come in.
- LYDIA:** Look, it's just one night. Jo-Ellen dared us to spend just one night in her grandma's old abandoned house. She said we'd be chicken if we didn't do it. It's not going to kill us.
- JODI:** If my folks find out, I'm dead anyway. We told them we'd be staying at your house tonight.
- LYDIA:** They'll never know. We'll just go to sleep, then creep back in my bedroom window in the morning.
- OPAL:** (*running in with Paula*) I wanna go home!
- LYDIA:** Go ahead.
- OPAL:** By myself?
- LYDIA:** Sure. It's midnight, the streets are dark, the wind's howling and I just heard a vampire on the roof. What could possibly stop you?
- PAULA:** You're no help.
- LYDIA:** Look ladies, we can do this! It's just an old abandoned house. Jo-Ellen said her grandmother

lived here all her life and now the house is just sitting here.

JODI: Is her grandma still here?

LYDIA: She died. When you die you have to move. It's a law. Come on, let's look around.

OPAL: (*grabbing Lydia*) No! Can't we just stand here?

LYDIA: All night? You want to stand right here in this spot all night?

OPAL: This spot is good. I know this spot. I'm standing here. I don't know what's in the other spots.

NADENE: Opal, one spot's just like another spot. We might as well die in the next room as right here.

OPAL: Something just grabbed me.

PAULA: That was you, Opal. You're grabbing yourself.

OPAL: (*looking to see she's wrapped her arms around herself*) Oh.

JODI: They say that when a person dies, the spirit stays in the house.

LYDIA: Where'd you hear that?

JODI: It was in a movie ... a movie where everybody died at the end.

OPAL: (*covering her ears*) Stop talking! Stop talking!

PAULA: Jo-Ellen's grandma was a weird old lady.

NADENE: Really?

PAULA: She said her grandma used to do things like raise chickens and make her own butter.

NADENE: Gross!

PAULA: And she'd go to bed real early ... like ten o'clock ... and she had clocks that you had to wind up to make them go and she didn't even have a microwave!

JODI: Now that's weird. I wonder if her spirit's still around.

LYDIA: Want to try another room? We can't stand in this one place all night. Our feet will get tired.

OPAL: But at least our feet will be alive. I like live feet. I've had them since I was born.

PAULA: Hold it!

NADENE: What?

PAULA: Did you hear that?

NADENE: What? Did I hear what?

PAULA: Then you didn't hear it.

NADENE: I don't know what I didn't hear if I didn't hear it so tell me what I didn't hear! (*the others slowly turn to look at her, then*) ... You know what I mean.

LYDIA: What did you hear?

NADENE: That moan ... sort of a low groan ... a low moaning groan.

OPAL: (*moans*)

NADENE: Like that.

JODI: That was Opal. Opal, the low groaning moaner.

OPAL: (*moans again*)

JODI: Stop moaning, Opal. You're scaring Nadene.

PAULA: Let's go.

LYDIA: Where?

PAULA: Anywhere. Just name a place. I'll go there.

NADENE: Opal, would you stop moaning!

OPAL: That wasn't me that time.

PAULA: It wasn't?

OPAL: I'm not even breathing. How could I moan?

NADENE: There it goes again!

JODI: (*moving to the door*) I'm getting out of here. (*stops*) It's stuck. The door's stuck. We're locked in!

NADENE: It's getting closer!

(*The girls form a panicked huddle on the floor, desperately clutching each other.*)

OPAL: We're gonna die!

LYDIA: Be quiet, Opal!

OPAL: We're gonna die in a big bloody clump on the floor of a strange house with a dead woman.

PAULA: Would somebody gag her?

JODI: What do you think it was?

NADENE: The wind.

JODI: There isn't any wind.

PAULA: The floorboards.

JODI: We're not walking around.



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