



# A Walk <sup>in the</sup> Dark and Other Scary Stories

WRITTEN BY  
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 **ACORN**™  
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For my dad. Thank you! —MB

To my love Cristoforo, who always supports me and believes in magic. —LR

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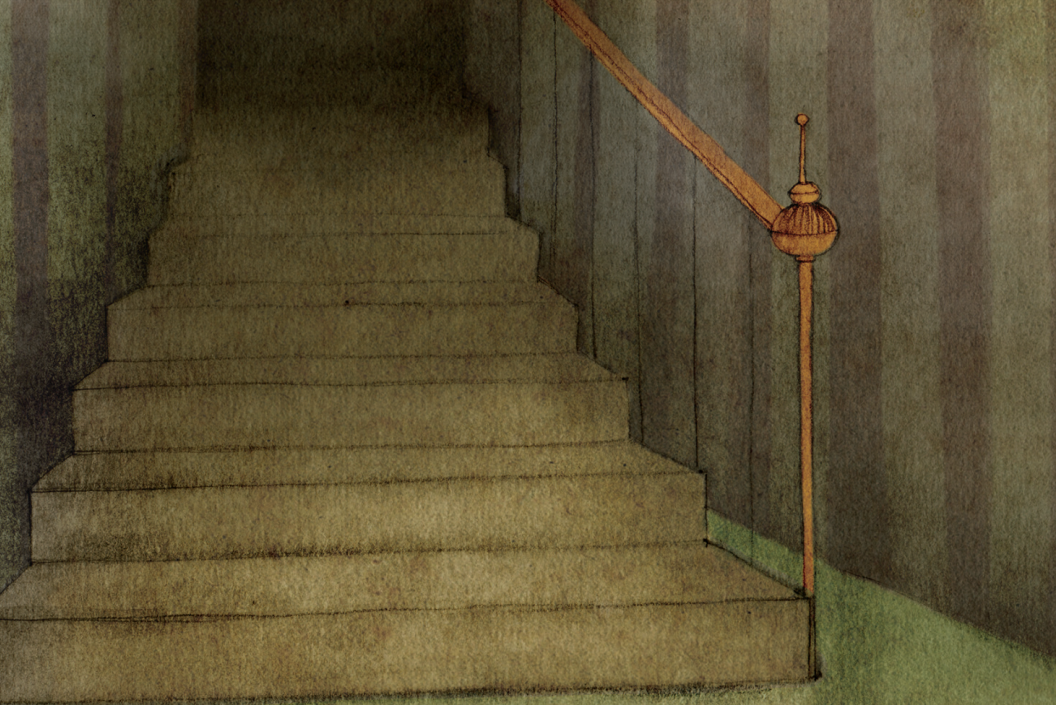
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# A WALK IN THE DARK





**J**ason was staying at his uncle's house. The house was big and full of shadows. It smelled like rotten fruit.

Jason did not want to be there. The only good thing was that Jason's uncle let him drink soda.

Jason opened another can of soda  
and looked at the long,  
dark staircase.

A painting of an old woman hung  
above the stairs. The woman had  
long white hair and a pale face.  
Her eyes seemed to watch him.



Jason finished his soda  
and opened another.



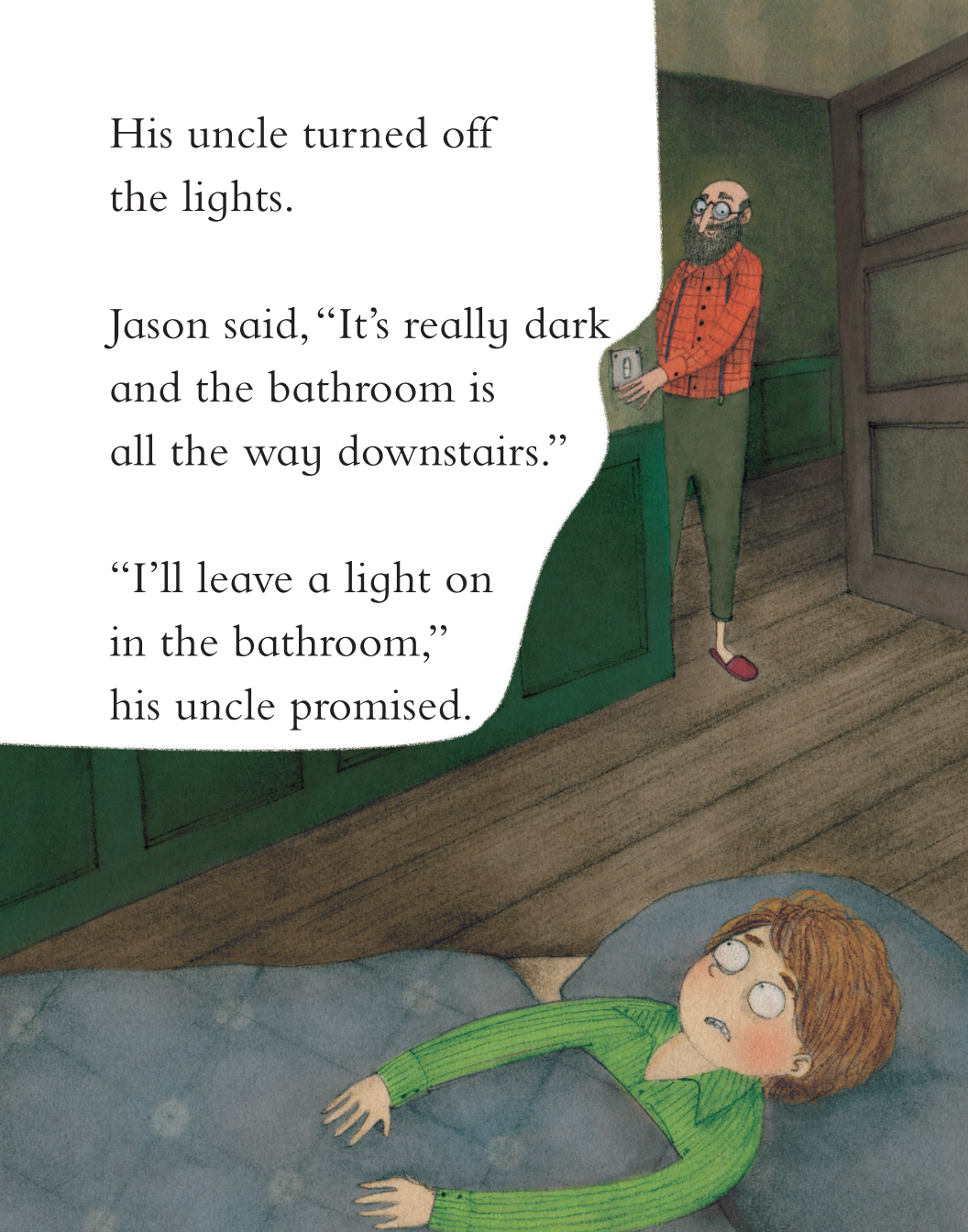
When Jason went to bed, he rushed  
by the painting.



His uncle turned off  
the lights.

Jason said, “It’s really dark  
and the bathroom is  
all the way downstairs.”

“I’ll leave a light on  
in the bathroom,”  
his uncle promised.





Jason fell asleep.

But he woke up when the old clock struck midnight.

**DING. DING. DING.  
DING. DING. DING.  
DING. DING. DING.  
DING. DING. DING.**

It rang so loudly the house seemed to shake.

Jason had to pee—**badly**.