



MICHAEL DAHL'S REALLY SCARY STORIES

The Goblin in the Grass
and Other Scary Tales



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REALLY SCARY STORIES

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THE GOBLIN
IN THE GRASS
AND OTHER SCARY TALES

By Michael Dahl

Illustrated by
Xavier Bonet

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Vinny rushed out of the living room first. He had a plan. He didn't care what his mother had said; scaring people was fun. Especially around Halloween time.

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The tent flap suddenly snapped shut. The walls of the tent swiftly collapsed on the two boys, trapping them inside.

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I had just picked up the comic from my bed when I heard the scream. I ran downstairs. Kyle was standing inside the doorway, panting, his face white.

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Once more Iris reached out, but then she quickly drew her hand back. The floating face smiled at her. The thin pale mouth actually moved.

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The boy was not there. His bed sheets were rumped as if he had been lying there only a moment before. His slippers lay on the floor.

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Something was knocking against the round glass window of the furnace. I walked over and looked inside. A man's face stared back at me.

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Lisa froze as she saw two hairy green arms burst out from the leaves and reach for her throat. Then she blacked out.

Dear Reader,

When I was ten years old and writing scary stories, I had a special trick.

My bedroom was on the second floor of the house. My sisters' room opened directly onto mine. Their room had two unusual doors.

We did not like those doors. They led to dark attic spaces on either side of the house. We were sure something terrifying lurked behind them.

So this was my trick: I wrote at night with a torch, with my back to my sisters' bedroom. I thought that if I had my back to those doors – *and whatever lay inside!* – I would be scared. And if I was scared while I wrote, the fear might seep from my fingers and become part of my stories.

Like those stories I used to write, the stories in this book were also written when I was frightened.

Will you be **FRIGHTENED** as you read them?

Turn the page. Open the door...

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Dahl". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Michael" is written above the last name "Dahl", which is larger and more prominent. The letter "D" in "Dahl" is particularly large and stylized, with a vertical line through it.

