-GHOST STORY CONTEST 2023-

DON'T TOUCH MINE!!

Woah! It's humorous...

Outside it is where they're standing; Jack, Nina, Carl and Felix. It's not some ordinary place but the devil's mansion. The deadly devil which was a huge fear until it was killed last week. The village's peace was finally returned. The research team is supposed to be there this week, and that's where they are.

Of course, the mansion was quite scary. They made their first step hoping the lights wouldn't go off, the doors would not be slammed or there shouldn't be any figure showing itself within inches. Gladly, nothing seemed to be haunted. Everything went well for hours and nothing suspicious was found. Atlast, they entered the last floor's hallway. In the center was an eye snatching jewel. They went closer. Felix was the first one to see the antique gem in the main pendant and he lost control. He immediately grabbed it and wore it on him.

After a while, the research was done for the day. They submitted everything they collected to the government. Felix didn't wanna give away the jewel he found. The others let him keep it and did not complain because they were very close friends. The research continued for the next few days. Everything they got were mostly weird paintings. Well, Felix found the research really fun because he loved painting all these years. This also kinda motivated him to paint more. Meanwhile, Jack, Nina and Carl were only glad there wasn't anything haunted.

The next few days, Felix impressed Carl with his paintings. Carl loved all of his paintings. After a few days, another research team was there for a re-check and they found a dead corpse. The corpse was sent to the mortuary for further details about the corpse. A note was sent to the team from the mortuary.

Greetings,

We've tried our best to gather details about the corpse and we've come to know that the person was dead only a few days ago. Unfortunately, There is no trace of any mark or how he/she had died. That's strange but there are a few possibilities of death without marks. Therefore, we cannot say anything so sure about the death. Finally, we've figured out that this corpse is a guy named Felix.

Yours, Jacqueline's mortuary team.

The entire research team was shocked. Maybe it was a mistake?

Jack and Nina asked them if there was any antique jewel on him. The team said no.

They rushed back home and Felix wasn't there anymore. Nina checked the cupboards.

The jewel was in there.

They waited until sunset to start investigating. The investigation mission was given to Jack's team. Carl was out for a movie show so only Jack and Nina had to carry out the mission. They went home that night and started with the paintings. Every painting was different. One of the paintings had a scary looking figure with the jewel worn on it. They couldn't take their eyes off it. Suddenly, the eyes, the eyes of the figure in the painting, it....MOVED. They dropped the painting forcefully and left the room.

Jack noticed Nina having worn the jewel. He asked Nina. She smirked and turned into Felix. Jack freaked out. He rushed out of the house and Felix followed him with visible horns growing. Jack couldn't handle it so he ran into the nearby church. Luckily Felix couldn't walk inside the church. Felix turned into a scary monster.

He wasn't even done panting when he got a call from CThere was no signal and the call was cut. Worried about Carl, He waited inside the church. arl. Carl spoke, "Hey Jack, the show's over and I'm heading home." "No no no! Don't go home. Come to the church nearby, quick. I'll explain later" Jack replied. Suddenly, it started raining heavily.

Carl arrived. Jack was damn loud trying to tell Carl to get inside immediately. Carl got inside and stood beside Jack. Jack hurried up to explain everything and Carl just said,

"I know!" Jack was confused. She made it clearer, "I know that felix was not felix the very next day of the research. Felix always hated me but for the first time he was trying to impress me with his strange painting. One of the paintings had a clear picture of what was happening. Surprisingly, he listened to everything I said." Jack was shocked. So was the devil. It never thought Carl would know it all. The Devil liked her a lot.

Carl walked up to the devil. It didn't harm her. She removed the jewel from it. The Devil burnt into ashes. Later, She wore the jewel herself and she was also burnt into ashes. Both of them vanished in the air. Jack slowly moved himself outside the church totally clueless. He ran into a shop for water. Yelling for hours no one even noticed him. Already clueless, this made him even more confused.

A piece of a magazine flew up to him. It said Carl died 2 years ago. He cried in confusion and a person walked through him. He finally realized that he was dead. He drove to the Devil's Mansion for answers. Indeed it made him even more puzzled. The Jewel was still inside in the same hallway where they first saw it. He found a painting beside it. It had dark red text saying......

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-JASMITHA LOGANATHAN