

37th ANNUAL Ghost Story Writing Contest

Can you give us goosebumps? Write down your most terrifying summer campfire story and enter it in the 37th Annual Ghost Story Writing Contest.

Helen Creighton knew what made a good ghost story: howling winds, creepy characters, ghostly ships, strange apparitions and things that go “bump” in the night.

Get writing and send us some thrills and chills.

CONTEST RULES

1. The contest is open to youth age 7 to 15.
2. Submit your ghostly tale in one of the following age categories: Ages 7-9, Ages 10-12, Ages 13-15.
3. The contest runs until **Monday, September 7, 2026**.
4. The story must be your own work: either an original piece, or a retelling (in your own words) of a ghost story that you've heard. Works generated by Artificial Intelligence (AI) are not permitted.
5. Judges will pick the two ghostliest stories in each age category to receive book prizes.
6. Winners will be announced at an awards ceremony on Sunday, October 25, 2026 at 2:00pm at Alderney Gate Public Library.
7. Limit of one story per writer. Individual entries only; group or class submissions will not be accepted.
8. All entries should be submitted on 8½ x 11 paper.

For more information, call our Ask the Library line at 902-490-5753 or visit halifaxpubliclibraries.ca/kids. Sponsored by Halifax Public Libraries, Nimbus Publishing, and the Helen Creighton Folklore Society.



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Please complete this form and send it with your story.
Deadline for entries is **Monday, September 7, 2026.**

Entries can be submitted by:

- Dropping them off at any Halifax Public Libraries branch
- Emailing askchildlib@halifaxlibrary.ca
- Mailing to: **Ghost Story Contest**

Alderney Gate Public Library
60 Alderney Drive
Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4P8

Name _____

Address _____

Postal Code _____

Phone _____

Email Address _____

Age _____

Story Title _____

☐ This was my own idea

☐ This was a retelling (in my own words) of a story I've heard

Where I heard it: _____

I certify that this is my own work (please sign)

I understand that my child's story may be posted on the
Helen Creighton Folklore Society's website at helencreighton.org

Parent's signature _____

