

Myself and a friend of mine, Sarah, went for a weekend away, to one of Ireland's oldest Castle. When we got there it was dark and dismal. There was an eerie atmosphere. So too was there a smell, a distant smell. It was like must or mould. The grounds were fantastic. It was like a maze with all the trees. We weren't the only ones on holidays. We went around the castle to just check it out. The bedrooms were huge with big four poster beds. I have to say, the beds were very comfortable.

Everyone was dressing up and because we were involved in the party, we had to dress up too. It was like back in the early hundreds. Myself and Sarah said we were going to enjoy ourselves no matter what. Some of the residents were having a few drinks. We didn't drink. Anyhow eventually the night got underway. We were having a ball, when the lights went out. It was so cold and creepy. We were **a bit** afraid. Thanks be to God, some of the others had candles. There were shadows cast from the candles. We were all sitting hoping that the electricity would come back on. The next thing there was a shriek!! We tried the door but it was locked. No one could get out or in. We didn't know what had happened. We used hair pins and paper clips to see if we could open the door, but to no avail. So myself and Sarah, being the youngest, decided to climb out the window onto the ledge. I have to say I was pretty scared as I'm afraid of heights. Eventually we got in through the window and entered the room **next door**.

Oh my God! This woman about 60-ish, was lying face down on the floor. There was blood everywhere. When I checked her pulse, I discovered she was already dead. She had been bludgeoned over the head. Then just by accident I found this letter on the floor just beside her head. It too was covered in blood, but it

was still legible. It read 'Good bye Auntie.' We were horrified and contacted the police who took matters in hand.

Sarah was in total shock. None of us had see a dead body before. After the police had questioned everybody we were all allowed to leave the Castle. We discovered later it was nephew. He stood to inherit a lot of money from her death. So I can tell you that I won't be rushing back to that castle again.

By Michelle Cullen.