**THE STRANGE DREAM OF KATIE**

Chapter 1

**WHAT HAPPENED!**

It was a dark and stormy night of January. The snow fell thick and the roads were white. The branches of the trees swung strongly and the streetlights were extinguished along the roads one by one, thus creating even more a dark and gloomy atmosphere.

Arows left their house at six o'clock to go dinner to friends. They had to go back home at half past ten to allow to their two children, Katie and George to go sleep early. The evening, however, ended around eleven o’clock when Arows got into the car and headed home.

Arows was a rich family of London, moved to the north of Liverpool for the father’s work.

They didn’t have good relations with neighbors who had complained more than once because the level of noise of screams of children. They in fact were always rude and impolite with children.

A few days ago for example, the Stevenson, the neighbors, had scolded the two children because they had heedlessly threw a snowball on the flowers of the lady Stevenson. The reproach quite inadequately, had worried the mother.

About half past eleven the family returned home, they entered the house and they all went to sleep.

During the night, Katie woke up crying and went into the bedroom of the parents. There, the mother asked her what happened and the girl replied that she had had a bad dream. Then her mother calmed her and took her in her bed. But after a while, Katie woke up crying and ran back again into her parents' room, where she told her mother that she dreamed what she had dreamed before.

The mother was very worried because she had never seen her daughter so frightened. Katie was shaking and crying.

Something had happened.

Chapter 2

**THE DREAM**

The next morning, Katie was very upset, and decided to tell to her mother what she dreamed during the night.

Katie:« In the dream there were a lot of strange and absurd things!»

Mother:« For example?»

Katie:« There was a tall and very thin man, with a long face. His eyes were black like a cat and he had got long and straight hair and the beard. I don’t remember what he was wearing but I remember a particular: his boots had a sign “ I.a.T.”. At first, he looked me carefully and then he raised his right arm and put it on my shoulder»

Mother:« Did he said you something?»

Katie:« Yes, he did. He told me something but I didn’t understood all because he spoke a dialect. I understood three words: seventeen, shovel, death.»

Mother:« Oh my god, I can’t believe! It’s all so strange and absurd! And after?»

Katie:« After, he disappeared and I woke up suddenly. Then I don’t remember nothing.»

Mother:« You came into my room crying, I asked you what happened and you told me that you made a bad dream. After a while, I calmed you and I took you in your bed.»

Katie:« Oh yes, now I remember! The second dream!. It was the same of the first with an only change: the man wasn’t lonely, it was in company of someone who I can’t see in my head. They told me the same sentences where I understood the same three words: seventeen, shovel, death.»

Mother:« I’m shocked, I never heard a similar thing.»

Katie:« Please mum, help me, I’m very worried and scared!»

Mother:« Yes little, I will do it.»

After the conversation with Katie, the mother told with the father who worried by the fact decided that the next day would have gone to talk to someone about the incident.

Chapter 3

**THE INTERROGATION**

The next few days were agonizing for Arow family, especially for Katie, who was strange and continued to dream that man and those three words.

After few days, the family, very worried, decided to bring Katie to Ervin Coll. He was a man of great importance in the city, considered the best psychologist of that time, had also recently got a degree in inspectorate.

The inspector-psychologist Ervin Coll decided to talk immediately with the parents, Carl and Lisa.

Mr Coll:« Hey Carl and Lisa, what happened?»

Lisa:« about ten days ago, during the night, my daughter Katie woke up crying and saying that she had had a bad dream. After I calmed her and thinking it was only a dream, I took her in her bed. After a while, however, she returned to wake up saying he had done it again the same dream. The day after, I was very worried because she was strange and so, I decided to ask her what she dreamed. She told me that there was a men who he behaved in a strange way with her, he spoke a dialect and so she could not understand all he said, but she understood three words: seventeen, shovel and death. Also, she noticed a particularly in his boots, a sign: I.a.T.»

Mr Coll:« Oh, it is very crazy, what about Katie? What girls is she? What does she think? What others say about her? What loves she attend?

Carl:« Katie is a beautiful girl, she is thirteen years old, she is not very tall and thin, she has got long, curly, blond hair and brown eyes. She is usually wearing casual clothes. She has got a lot of friends and all of them, speak well of her. She is a straight forward person, she always says what she thinks. She loves dancing and she like very much attend the youth club of the neighborhood. She is always happy, she isn’t introvert and sometimes she is tolkative.»

Mr Coll:« Ok, this is a very big problem, a mystery and we must work together like a team, before anything happens irreparable!»

Carl and Lisa:« Thank you very much Mr Coll!»

Chapter 4

**THE LETTER**

The day after Arow spoke with Mr Coll, the family was having lunch when someone knocked on the door. Carl went to open the door but when he opened he didn’t find nobody. Also he found a letter on the floor.

Carl returned in the kitchen where all were in silence and he said :« there is a letter for you, Katie!».

Lisa:« Carl, give me the letter, I want read it before».

*“Katie, be careful, I’m watching you, don’t remember!”* that was written on the letter.

The mother suddenly became white and katie started to cry. What Katie dreamed wasn’t a dream but reality.

In the evening Katie and her family went to the office of Mr Coll.

He after had road the letter he decided to interview so he sent the police to patrol the area. They didn’t found anything.

Instead of this, Katie continued to go to school and attend youth club of the neighborhood.

After few days, Katie returned home from school scared. The mother ask her what happened and she said the while she was on the bus to return home a black car, surpassed the bus and almost they did not make an accident. Then, the car went away quickly.

Lisa was not particularly interested in the story and she said it was just an accident like everyone else. In the city you see them often.

During the night, Lisa could not fall asleep and she felt that something had to happen, but she did not understand what.

She kept thinking about that letter, according to her there was something wrong, why someone has sent the letter? How does he know my daughter? Why he said that he observes her? and above all, who is he?

She was very frightened.

Chapter 5

**WHERE’S KATIE ?**

In the next morning, Katie and George went to the bus station to take the bus to go to school like every day. Lisa accompanied them and then she went to work.

Lisa worked in a bank in the center of the city. Lisa liked very much her work and for nothing would leave it.

Carl instead worked as a real estate entrepreneur.

At one o’clock, the school was finished and Lisa went to the bus station to wait the two sons. But from the bus went down just George. Katie wasn’t there!

Lisa :«George, where is Katie?»

George :«I don’t know, she went out from the school whit me, then I said goodbye to my friend Richard and then I haven’t seen her.»

Lisa :« Oh my god, I can’t believe, it really happened!»

Lisa immediately phoned to Carl and tell him that Katie was disappeared. Carl went immediately at home where were the mother and George who were crying. Than they decided to go to file a complaint to the police and to inform Mr. Coll of the incident.

The police asked to the parents all everything they knew and then wrote a short story *“December 17, 2012 the young girl Katie is disappeared”.*

After which the police immediately began to work and advised the family to go home and wait patiently.

Mr. Coll meanwhile went to the Arow’s house and waited for their return. Once at home asked the son of every detail and then said :« I promise you to do everything possible to bring Katie home». After which he went.

It was the worst day of their life, they stayed up all night to wait for her return, but no, there was no sign of Katie.

Carl continued to go up and down the corridor, Lisa continued to cry and say that it wasn’t possible that it was really happened and George, afraid, wrote a letter to his sister and put it under the pillow of her bed.

It remains only one question: where’s Katie?

Chapter 6

**CRIS STEVENSON**

Three days passed, but there was no sign of Katie.

The city of Liverpool, was covered by leaflets depicting the face of the girl.

The Arow’s house looked like a call center and the phone rang constantly.

Between true and false testimonies, the only certain thing was that Katie was not found and that perhaps by chance or maybe not, even the neighbor Stevenson was disappeared.

Searches of the police continued and their attention was naturally focused on the neighbor. The latter was a man of about sixty years, who, after retiring, he became more and more greedy and hateful toward people, especially children. His name was Cris

The hatred he felt towards children was due to the fact that when he was still young, his wife lost her baby during pregnancy and by that time, no longer wanted to have anything to do with children.

Mr. Coll, in the meantime, found an important clue, while he was scouring the neighbor's house: the sign That Katie dreamed in her dream appeared also in the breast pocket of his jacket hanging on the coat stand. This created suspicion the detective, who decided to deepen the research of the house to get more clues.

Mr. Coll, called Carl and Lisa, to help him. Lisa found in the drawer of the double room, between socks and vests, a sheet. On the sheet, there were drawings depicting scenes. Among these, there was also a drawing of a shovel, the number seventeen and even a coffin with a cross.

Lisa:« Oh my god! These are the same symbols that Katie dreamed! He was, I'm sure, he kidnapped her!».

Mr Coll:« Don’ t say that, I do not know! This is only a clue! maybe so, but I'm not sure!».

Lisa:« But everything is the same of the dream!».

Mr Coll:« Yes, you are right! Maybe I understood».

Mr. coll, took this jacket, left and said:« We are well on track!».

Chapter 7

**WHO IS THIS SHOE?**

It was the 22nd December, and at some point the phone rang. He was Mr Coll.

Carl:« Hello, who is?»

Mr Coll:« Hello, is Mr Coll! Good news! The police, phoned me and tell me that a man founded a red boots in his land just outside Liverpool, while he was walking. It’s possible it is of Katie!»

Carl:« Really! Good!»

Mr Coll:« Yes, very good! Now, I come to you and then we go to the place of occurrence, there there’s the police.»

Carl:« Ok, bye!»

Mr Coll:« Bye bye!»

When they arrived to the place, there was a lot of policeman and dogs who were analyzing the footprints, and the boot.

Lisa was immediately called by the police to the recognition of the boot.

Policeman1:« Mrs Arow, come in, please!»

Policeman2:« Is this boot of your daughter Katie?»

Lisa:« Yes, it is».

Lisa started to cry, she could not accept that someone had hurt her daughter.

Mr. Coll, calmed lisa, and he said her that the discovery of the boot and footprints, were vital clues for further investigation. Also he said to have patience and hope because Katie will soon return home.

This words, calmed Lisa that want to help the police to found other clues.

Near the boot, were founded some footprints. They were of a shoe who was of an old man. The footprints carried until the end of the ground, then disappeared slowly.

Where did they carry? Who were they? And most importantly where was Katie?

Chapter 8

**HE'S LYING**

The police then decided to scour the fields near that, where it was found that the boot of Katie. One day passed, but they didn’t found nothing, at some point, however, Mr Coll, founded a phone on the ground. It was Katie’s telephone.

Mr. Coll, so decided to go on the road, he felt that Katie was not far away, she had to be somewhere nearby.

After 100 meters, he found a small shack all broken and unsafe whose chimney smoke. The shack was surrounded by a thick forest that hid almost everything except the chimney.

Mr Coll, secretly warned the police, Lisa and Carl, so join him and then knocked. He knocked for three times and then, an old man appeared at the window and said:« Who are you? What do you want from me? »

Mr Coll:« We are the police of Liverpool, rather, who are you?»

Man:« What do you care to you? I am a simple citizen of Liverpool, pensioner, waiting for his end, that's all!».

Mr Coll:« We came here, because we are looking for a girl who was disappeared on the 17th December, her name is Katie, do you know something?».

At that point, the man blanched and said :« Ehm,… no, I don’t!»

Mr Coll:« Can we enter in?»

Man:« Ehm… Yes, you can!».

The police and Mr Coll, entered in the shack, end discovered that the name of the man was Cris Stevenson, and that he was the neighbor of the Arow’s, who was disappeared the same day when disappeared Katie.

There was something wrong, why he took refuge in that shack and why he went the same day when Katie went without most return?

Mr. Coll began the interrogation. The answers of Stevenson, were insecure and contradictory, for example, when Mr Coll asked him where he was on the 17th December, he at first said that he went to the grocery store with his wife, but the latter instead said that she stayed at home.

Cris Stevenson was lying.

Chapter 9

**POOR KATIE**

There was something wrong!

Cris Stevenson lied more times, during the interrogation. He said also, that he didn’t know Katie, but instead, he knew her very good, he was her neighbor!

After a while, Cris got up and said:« Stop! For today stop whit the interrogation and the patrols. I’m tired!»

But, while Mr Coll, walked out the door of the shack, a policemen, said :« Alt! I found something!».

At the point, Cris run away and a policemen began to chase him.

Mr Coll, ran to the underground room of the shack where a cop founded something.

There were trash bags of all kinds, and under one of them, there was a trap door in the form of a coffin. Mr Coll, lifted the trapdoor and under there was that nobody wanted to believe it.

There was the corpse of Katie.

Mr Coll, was flabbergasted, he didn’t believe that someone like Cris could do such a thing:« I think that is unacceptable, take the life of a young girl who didn’t do anything! Must just be bad! Go immediately to take Cris and I beg you, don’t let him, more a glimmer of light.»

The police, so, run to chase him, and said:« Cris, don’t run again! We know all that you have done, and the best thing, now, would be to go back and tell all!».

Finally, after few minutes, a policeman managed to capture him and then, they bring him to the police station.

Mr Coll, called Carl and Lisa, and told them what had happened, unfortunately. They, didn’t believe and started immediately to cry and said:« How did that monster, kill our daughter. She was so young and had all the future ahead. It is not understandable!».

With this, they put the phone down and went to the police station. There was Cris who tell all, and was arrested for manslaughter.

The day after, there was the funeral of the little Katie, who participated all Liverpool.

Chapter 10

**THE DREAM CAME TRUE!**

«Katie live among the angels of heaven. I’m sure, she is happy and she love us and protect us every day.» Said the mother.

«Tomorrow will be the 25th December and I’m sure that she will pass this Christmas day with the angels, and she will receive a loto of presents like she liked. She protect me, my wife and her little brother always!» Said the father.

«I miss you Katie, have fun in paradise!» Said George.

Katie's dream, sadly, came true!

**Realized by Sofia Del Stabile**