

STUFF THAT REALLY SCARED YOU

(1) P04-008 Ayana K., 3rd grade, 8 yrs old, Philadelphia, Powell School

(Did you ever have a dream that really scared you, and can you tell me about it?) When—uh-when my mom, dad, and sister and my other sister, they was watching this movie, it said the Bone Collector. . . So, my mom told me not to look and my dad told me not to look,

And then when my dad said that this is too spooky for y'all, because the girl, they had locked her up in the thing, and it was this gas, and they had blew all her hair off and the bones, and all that kind of stuff,

And the other girl was her sister, and she came and she tried to pick up the bones, and stuff like that, and she said "I couldn't do it."

And my sister kept on saying "The Bone Collector is in your heart, he's going to collect your bones,"

So I went under the covers.

(2) P05-001 Sharya W., 3rd grade, 8 years old, Drew School

(Is there any place that you know that's really scary, some place you wouldn't want to go to?) Hmm. I don' know.(You're not scared of anything?) Yeah, I'm scared, oh I know-- well, it can be anything, right? (Anything) A roller coaster.

(How come?)

Because, I would go on one, but they keep on makin' roller coasters, faster and faster and flippin' 'em around, and I be thinkin' I'm a fall out because they have them things, but I still be thinkin' that I'm a gonna fall right out as soon as they flip. That's why I wouldn't go on that neither.

(Have you ever been on a roller coaster?) Yes. (What was it like?)

It's called The Top. And it's a big, big red roller coaster. It ain't have no flippin', but it was fast, and I was cryin' through the whole ride.

Soon as it start, I be like "eh-eh-eh," I be like still crying. I was like, it was like "Zzz-aaaah--Sabrina, Leon, get me off a this! Now!" I was just screamin' and cryin' and screamin'.

Then when it stopped, like, "Dum dum dum dum dum" Then I stopped cryin'.

(3) P04-15 Antonia W., 4th grade, 9 yrs old, Powell School

(What did you think of the story [about a rock that was looking at you]?)
 'Cause how a rock gonna look at him? (You never thought something was looking at you?) No. Not me. But I mean I only know sometimes people be like . . something was looking at them or a baby doll kept looking at them even though they know it's not real.

That's how my sister is.

The baby doll was -- you know how them dolls they be having their dresses and stuff on. I have a doll that has a dress and a shirt on.

It look real scary. It don't look like scary scary. It look like a regular doll.

But in the dark it look like it's just gonna get up and haunt you or something. It do. I can bring it in.

YOUNGER BROTHERS AND SISTERS

(4) P04-15 Antonia W., 4th grade, 9 yrs old, Powell School

(Is she nice?) My sister? Most of the time. She stingy though! Yes.

My mom and them make us give her stuff but when we aks her for something she don't give it to us and my mom be like "No don't aks her for nothing 'cause you know she stingy."

That don't make no difference. We gotta give her our stuff. I got a brand new doll for my birthday and she was crying for it and I was like "This my doll. I don't take your stuff on your birthday." My mom was like "Give it to her."

That's not fair.

GETTING INTO TROUBLE

(5) P04-15 Antonia W., 4th grade, 9 yrs old, Powell School

(Did you ever get blamed for something you didn't do?). Yeah, it was Candy.

'Cause one day he was grabbing my arm and I was trying to twist out and I was like that and his lip started bleeding because my wrist hit him in his lip and he told the principal that I was punching him in his lip.

They called my mom. I had to go to the accommodation room. They called my mom twice. They made me write what happened.

I told them that he grabbed me while I was in the hallway and I was trying to twist my arm to get out and I hit him in his lip by accident and then he pushed me on Mister Buck Desk.

They made me go get Candy and Candy gone tell a lie and then I got in trouble.

When we got back in the lunch room he was like "That's what you get."

(6) P05-001 Sharya W., 3rd grade, 8 years old, Drew School

(Now, this kid got into trouble by doing what mom said not to do. Did you ever get into trouble?)

One time when I was fighting at school 'cause somebody was messing with me, my mom got mad at me, but she said, "They better stop messing with you, 'cause your sister is crazy."

She said "They better stop messing with you, 'cause your sister is crazy as a bat. And I don't care, she don't care how big they are, she'll beat 'em up." And I got happy then, but then she said "But I'm still mad at you from fightin'."

Tha's one. Another one? Lemme see-oh yeah.

I was at home, right? And my mom said to sweep the steps. And I was asleep.

She said "Get up and sweep the steps." And I heard her, but I was acting like I was still asleep.

Then when she came back, I was still laying there. She said, "These steps are a mess! Go and sweep the steps, or I'll throw you upstairs in your room."

And I got mad, I just swepted downstairs like that! I got real mad!

(7) FIGHT WITH A KID BIGGER THAN YOU

P05-001 Sharya W., 3rd grade, 8 years old, Drew School

(Did you ever get into a fight with a kid bigger than you?)

Oh yeah, but my sister jumped in it.

(What happened, how did it start?)

Well, I was at my grandma's house, and I went back home, 'cause me and Sabrina was here, and then I went back home.

And I said, "Sabrina, you got a rope that we can play with Sinquetta and 'em?" and she said "Yeah."

So then Sinquetta and them had to go back in the house, la, la, la, blah, blah, blah, then some other big girl--we was playin' rope right, then she gon jump in and she say "You might jump better, and not be 'flicted." I said "It's not going to be 'flicted, 'cause I know how to turn."

And then she only got up to ten. She was mad at me, and she had hit me, so I hit her right back.

Sabrina jumped in it. And start hittin' her.

I was just lookin'. I was just lookin'. I was happy. (How come?) Because, nobody gone hit me like that just because they only got to ten on a jump. So, that's why I was happy, 'cause she always hittin' somebody, and think she grown, but somebody hit her back, she wants to be the oddball.

Mom said, "(sigh) Just don't fight no more, with a big girl."

(8) P05-009: Brian A., 2nd grade, 7 years old, Drew School

(Did you ever get into a fight with a kid bigger than you?)

Mmhm. His name Kevin.

I was telling his big brother then he kept messing with his little brother and then when he grabbed my shirt, I grabbed his and my sister broke it up and when he grabbed mines again I grabbed his, then I socked him in the neck.

I wasn't playing with 'em. And I say "He kept messing with your brother."

And then he smacked me and then they start running Then I started running and then I stopped.

Then he grabbed my shirt and I grabbed his.

And then my sister broke it up. And then he gonna act like I kicked him in the leg. He said "Aw! You kicked me in my leg."

I said "No I didn't."

My sister was standing right there looking. And then he just fell. He just--don't you know how people fall? That's how he did.

So then he gone grab my shirt again and then I said "Get off of me". He said "No". And then I socked him in the neck

And then he got off.