





Imagery...

What is it?

Imagine it's late at night. You are walking alone. Can you picture this? Now I want you to start imagining details for the next three minutes. It's late. You're by yourself. Walk down the street...

- What time of the year is it?
- What's the weather like? Breezy? Cold? Rainy?
- What do you see on the street? (People? Cars? Houses? Litter? Businesses?)
- Is it a busy street?
- What's the lighting like?
- What do you hear? Voices? Sirens? The wind? Cars?
- What do you smell?

You have three minutes to write...

Now, as you're walking along, you hear some sets of steps behind you, following you. But you realize that these are not a person's steps. You hear a growl. You begin to walk faster, the steps begin to move faster. Hold on to that image. You're being followed by something as you're walking down the street at night. You have three minutes... Ready? Go!

- How do you feel as you realize something's following you?
- What do the sets of steps sound like?
- What might you smell around you?
- How does your chest feel as you sense its presence?
- How do your legs feel as you speed up?
- What do you think is behind you?
- What do you see around you?

Okay. Stop right. You walk faster down the block as the steps behind you grow closer. Then you hear a strange growl. You finally must catch of glimpse of what's following you....

- What do its eyes look like?
- What do its teeth look like? What color are they?
- How do you think it smells?
- Compared to you, how big is it?
- Does it have fur, scales, fins, feathers? What color is it?
- What other sounds does it make?
- How do you feel when it makes eye contact with you?

You know you have to outsmart it and lose it. Ahead of you, you see a dark alley. You speed up and take a sharp left into the alley. You run and run and run. It's not far behind you. Do you see the alley? Are you there?

- What do you see in the alley?
- What are on the walls of the buildings around you?
- What's the alley's ground like? Is it paved? Is it dirt?
- What do you smell in the alley?
- How do your legs feel now?
- What is your breathing like?
- What are you thinking?
- How far is it from you?

As you run toward the end of the alley, you realize it's a dead end. It comes closer, growling even angrier. You look around you. The only thing you see is a dumpster. You try to climb in. Feel it coming closer? Okay, write about climbing into the dumpster. You have three minutes. Go!

- What color is the dumpster?
- How big is it?
- How do you feel as the thing comes closer? Chest? Heart?
- What are you thinking as you decide to climb into the dumpster?
- How does the metal feel as you grasp its edges?
- How do you fall in? Feet first? Head first? What do you smell?
- What kind of things are in the dumpster? What are you touching?
- How does your stomach feel? What do you hear?

I am going to give you five more minutes to wrap up your story. Remember, you want to make it as suspenseful and mysterious as you can! Have you used your five senses to describe how you feel?

- What happens next?
- Does it get into the dumpster or stay outside?
- Does it eventually run off or continue to stalk you?
- How do you get out? Do you get out?
- How does this creepy story conclude...