**Horror Short Story** Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

As a way of showing us your understanding of the concepts related to horror fiction, we are going to ask you to write your own original horror short story. The story must be at least 3 typed pages (Times New Roman, 12 pt. font, double-spaced, 1 inch margins). The story’s subject is for you to choose, but it must be school appropriate and read by the principal without me or you blushing (or being sent to jail). The story must include the following:

1. **A return to normalcy and morality**—Remember, this is the horror story trend of bad things happening to people who do bad things. Make sure your story follows this trend somehow.
2. **Use of an archetype**—Choose at least one of the typical horror characters and show at least some understanding of the pattern for that character.
3. **Horror Techniques**—Use at least 3 of the horror techniques we have been discussing in class (physical fear, psychological fear, grotesque, suspense, foreshadowing).
4. **Irony**—Use at least 1 form of irony that we have been discussing in class (situational, dramatic, or verbal).
5. **Rationale**—Provide a typed explanation of how you used each of the required items in your story (about a ½ page explanation should do). Also, be sure to provide a key for how you marked the examples within your story. (Highlighted, underlined, etc.)

*You may work with a partner on this if you like, but we will not accept a story written by more than 2 people.*

**Your story and rationale will be scored according to the following rubric:**

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| **Category** | **4** | **3** | **2** | **1** | **0** |
| **Requirements (x5)** | All requirements are present and clearly marked in the text. | All requirements but one are present and clearly marked in the text. | All requirements but two are present and clearly marked in the text. | One requirement is present and clearly marked in the text. | No required elements present. |
| **Rationale (x2.5)** | Explains how all requirements are shown and provides a key for finding them. | Explains how all requirements but one are shown and provides a key for finding them. | Explains how all requirements but two are shown and provides a key for finding them. | Only one requirement is explained along with a key for finding it. | No rationale. |
| **Creativity (x2.5)** | Story shows excellent effort and creativity and seems like a completely original creation. | Story shows good effort and creativity and seems like a mostly original creation. | Story shows some effort and creativity and seems like a somewhat original creation. | Story shows little effort and creativity and seems like a fairly unoriginal creation. | No creativity shown. |
| **Professionalism (x2.5)** | Story contains very few if any errors and shows true effort to turn in a polished final product. | Story contains a few errors and attempts to produce a professional product. | Story contains multiple errors and only some attempt to produce a professional product. | Story contains an accumulation of errors and little attempt to produce a professional product. | Widespread errors, no evidence of an attempt to produce a professional project.  |

 **Total points: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Comments:**