



Dreams, fear and  
imagination



Dreams, fear and imagination is an e-book made by the students of Casa de Cultura Britânica, telling through short stories their dreams and nightmares.

Special thanks to William Netto.



*"A dreamer is one who can only find his way by moonlight, and his punishment is that he sees the dawn before the rest of the world"*

*Oscar Wilde*



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# PART I

## Dreams





*"Deep into that darkness peering, long I stood there,  
wondering, fearing, doubting and dreaming dreams no  
mortal ever dared to dream before"*

*Edgar Allan Poe*



# I Can Fly

*Allan Alves*

I'm a normal person, who works, studies and does housework, but in my dreams I have a unique ability, I can jump and I can fly like a bird among the trees, in places I've never been before and in places I shouldn't be, because we all have that desire to observe without being seen, even knowing that it can be wrong or risky.

It's an amazing skill that gives me a sense of freedom and power. Through it, I can observe people I don't know, their routines and intimacies. On certain occasions, when someone is interesting to me, I go down to their house and observe them more closely, sometimes I touch them. At the moment, they are scared because they don't know me and run away from me.

There are two situations in which I can no longer control my dream, when I start touching strangers and also when I jump into an abyss where I fall into an endless void and end up being woken up with the impact of the fall.

It's a horrible, agonizing feeling that in those few seconds of free fall I think I'm going to die. After waking up from this dream, I return to my real condition of being afraid of high places, of losing control of my actions, of making right or wrong choices and going back to being a normal human.



# What's in The Laboratory?

*Ana Kelly Gadelha*

On another Wednesday, Lena gets excited to go to school, because she's going to the chemistry lab for the first time and she wants to learn how to do some experiments. When she arrives at school, the teacher informs that she is waiting for permission to take the students to the laboratory, because the night before someone had been there and after that some bottles disappeared. In the meantime, the students could stay talking quietly or finishing school activities. Even knowing this, Lena was very anxious, so she waited for the teacher to get distracted to go alone to the laboratory.

When Lena got there, she didn't see anyone, even so, the girl went inside. Everything was different from how she imagined it. Open bottles, coloured liquids on the floor, but what caught her attention the most was a small black box that had circular designs on the sides, and that was open in the corner of the room. Slowly, Lena walked over and put her hand on the box.

Immediately the box turned white and the floor started to shake. Scared, Lena ran out of the room towards the stairs, but when she got closer to the stairs, she realised that everything was flooded and there were several sharks, so she decided to go through the ramp. As Lena started down the ramp, she felt like she was going in circles and that the ramp was getting thinner, without side support and further away from the end, which caused her to trip and fall into an endless deep hole.

“Lena, no! Get your hand out of that box immediately!” At the sound of the teacher's screams, the girl moved away from the box and realised that none of it was real, it was all the result of a stone that no one had ever seen there, but which stimulated the girl to become a researcher.



# Guide Star

*Chrislayne Silva Monteiro*

In the small village of Undredal lived a girl called Penny. She was the eldest of four brothers and a lovely girl. Her mother died while giving birth to her younger brother Bobby. Since then, Penny has been responsible for taking care of her brothers while her father worked to support the family.

One afternoon, the brothers were waiting for their father to arrive, who as usual would bring food for dinner. But it was already dark and he still hadn't come home. Penny became desperate and decided to go looking for her father in the nearby village where he worked and left her brothers in the care of Mrs. Fleur, a gypsy friend of the family. Penny left her village and headed towards the woods that would take her faster to the neighboring village. Suddenly, she heard the sound of footsteps approaching her. Startled, she looked back and saw a figure pass quickly from one side to the other. Paralyzed with fear, Penny couldn't run or scream, and when she got the courage to keep walking, an old lady came out of the trees, approached her and told her to go to the east side of the forest, following a certain star, because they would be there waiting for her.

Mysteriously, the old lady had disappeared and Penny, still very confused, but fearless, decided to do what she had told her. She followed a star that guided her to the eastern part of the woods and there was her father's horse.

It was then that she called out to her father a few times and she could hear a groan. She walked towards the sound and found her father injured, fallen into a hole.

Quickly Penny grabbed a rope from her father's luggage, tied it tightly to a tree trunk and threw it to her father, who even weakened, managed to climb out of the hole. They hugged and Penny's father thanked her a lot and praised her courage and determination. They returned home safely and the family was together again.



# **My Grandma – The Last Meeting**

*Ednardo Braga*

Last month I had a beautiful dream with my grandma Euridice. In the dream I was with my mother Rita and my aunt Eugêcia, and we were to meet in my grandmother's house, where I lived all my childhood.

The dream began with me and my mother walking to my grandmother's house and I remember that we talked about life and my grandparents. When we finally arrived at my grandparent's home, I saw my aunt and my grandmother sitting on the table; they were having breakfast.

I can't remember who was talking very well, but I know that they were speaking about our family, good memories and life after death, because my grandmother died 7 years ago, and I loved her very much.

At the end of the dream, my grandmother saw me and spoke: “ My dear grandson and son, I hope that you never forget how much I love you and our family and I know that you will continue to take care of our family because the love that unites us “death cannot separate” and I hugged my grandma very much, and I said “ I will love you forever”.

After that, I woke up, I cried a lot and I told my mother about this beautiful and surreal dream with all these details.



# **The Dream or The Nightmare of My Life?**

*Isabela Mendes*

I have some problems sleeping, so my dream has to be awake. When I was a kid, my dream was to be a doctor and my life and my studies were for that. I grew up studying a lot for that to happen. I always studied in private schools, but with a scholarship. I always had to be one of the best students to keep my scholarship. As time went by, I wondered if this was what I wanted. When I finished high school, I didn't pass the exam and my grandmother got sick. So, I had to work to survive.

It's difficult to say what I have to say. Time went by and I continued trying, studying and working . I tried to do another graduation, chemical engineering, but I didn't like it at all. So, I kept working and studying. I dedicated myself a lot to the job, became a boss, but it wasn't what I wanted. I got depressed and stopped pushing myself to be the person that I wanted to be.

I started on a journey to discover what I liked. I had a hobby of studying other languages, I knew English, French and Korean. So, my psychologist asked me one day, "why don't you make this a profession?". Since then, I've been studying English and Korean. I want to be a translator. The journey hasn't been easy and I'm still working in another area, but someday I'm sure that the dream will come true.



# Ruby, Are You?

*Karolina Duarte*

That's the story about one of my weirdest dreams ever, but also my favorite. Like all dreams, it starts and ends making no sense at all. I was walking through a beautiful place, surrounded by trees and flowers, and this trail ended into a mall. In some place in my mind, I knew I had to buy a lot of things for my new home (which I was supposed to move into after my wedding) and for the wedding party itself. I couldn't be happier - I should say.

While walking through the mall, between a store and another, I noticed someone was watching me. It was not 'someone', it was my fiancé. The guy was staring at me with no disguise. "He's gorgeous" was my first thought. A little piece of context here: my "fiancé" in my dream is a very famous actor who played a role in a Mexican soap opera called "Ruby". Of course, he's not really my fiancé, but he was in my dream, so who cares?

Let's call him Hector. Hector is a 6'3" blond and strong man, who has a beautiful smile. I could not believe I was about to get married to this guy and ran out to talk to him.

- "Take a look at all the things I've bought for our house, I'm so happy!", I said. He didn't look as happy as me. He looked at me and I just knew something bad was about to happen.

- "Look", he started saying, - "I know it might be a little late to talk about this, but we can't get married".

At that moment I knew - I just knew he was leaving me for another woman. He was leaving me for Ruby. Another piece of context: in the soap opera, Ruby is an outstanding woman who cheats on her best friend by stealing/snatching her fiancé.

- "Are you breaking up with me for her, aren't you? You want to get married to Ruby", I said.

- "I love her", he said.

Of course, he did. At that moment I started to cry, dropped all my bags and ran away to a very dark place.

I woke up with this weird sensation of being really tired after running and, of course, a broken heart after Hector dumped me. Apparently, I need a break from soap operas...



# A Dream, A Lot of Meetings

*Lamartine Cortez*

When I arrived in that town, it took me a while to realize where I was. I looked around, searching for reference but, although the place was familiar, I couldn't remember what I was doing there. It turns out that suddenly my uncle Joseph Sozinho (who's not a real relative of mine, but the father of two of my best friends), that's not a nickname, stopped his Buggy in front of me and said - “what are you doing here? Everyone is waiting for you at Levi's farm, come with me!”

At that time, I still could not understand what was happening, I only realized that I was in Canindé, the town where Levi's farm is located, another great friend since my school days. We headed there, chatting on the way, reminiscing about stories from when his children and I were teenagers, many adventures and good memories, it had been a long time since I had seen Uncle Sozinho.

After a few minutes on the road we arrived, I remembered that gate and was happy to be there, to return to that place. It was rainy and the vegetation had a bright green color, the river was full, you could hear the sound of running water. Finally, we arrived at the house, and everyone was gathered on the porch as in the old days. Our group was there together, Levi, Alberto and Marcelo, Uncle Sozinho's sons, Ronald, Eugenio, Daniel, Fabio, their wives, girlfriends, sons and daughters.

Little by little it seemed that I was distancing myself from that circle, although I stayed there, the sounds were muffled and the sensation was that I was observing everything a little further away, until I woke up in a fright, I realized that everything had been nothing more than a dream, one of those that we close our eyes in the hope that it will continue.



# Dreams Come True

*Lucas Gabriel de Fontes*

Today is a very special day. I'm finally going to see Now United, my favorite musical group, performing. The group is made up of singers and dancers, each from a different country. And I'll be in the front row! I get in line early and, after many hours, I finally get to the venue. I walk through the entrance and up the stairs to the entrance.

There is a store with products from the group and a large banner with their photo. I walk over to the poster to take a picture. I take out my cell phone and prepare to record a video, but at that moment I hear a scream around me. It's a little girl who is also a fan. She screams and runs towards someone. I look in her direction and can't believe it. It's Noah Urrea, my favorite singer in the Now United group! I run towards him, get close and greet him. I hug him and ask him to take a picture. He accepts, we take the picture and then I point to the earring in my ear. I tell him I'm wearing that earring because of him, because he loves wearing earrings and he's an inspiration to me. He smiles in surprise and confirms that it is because of him. I say yes and he smiles, he says: "it's something amazing" and he's very happy about it. So I hug him again, say it was a pleasure meeting him, and say goodbye. At that moment, security arrives and takes Noah out of that place, and takes him backstage. I stand still thinking about everything that happened, smile and get emotional. I look at the picture on my phone and jump for joy at having met and chatted with my favorite member.

At that moment, I feel like I've tripped and wake up in my bed. Oh no, this was all a dream! It felt so real! So I grab my phone and open Instagram. I see a notification and when I open it, I see the names of the fans who won the raffle to meet Now United. Oh my God, my name is there! I get out of bed and jump for joy! It seems that dreams can come true!



# Is That Me in The Mirror?

*Vinícius Araújo Estevão*

One day, Leon was walking in his bedroom doing housework when he saw his reflection in the mirror. He was different. His reflection had long and beautiful black hair, although his hair was actually short. He thought "wow, that hair is amazing". While he was looking at himself, the mirror seemed to turn to water. Then, he stretched his hand and he touched the mirror. As he did it, the world seemed to spin and everything went dark. After that, he realized he was in some kind of religious cult and was wearing black, like a secret agent.

He got a message in his ear, that he was on a mission and had to find a person named Noel. After receiving Noel's physical characteristics, he started the search. He had to find him dressed in a red coat with suspicious attitudes. Walking among the people in a smoke, he looked from place to place. After a while, he spotted a boy who was passing by in a red coat. Noel looked back, saw him and then started to run. He started to run in the same direction, towards the outside of the temple. Noel running in front didn't dare look back and was already entering a forest. When Leon also arrived at the entrance of the forest, he no longer saw anyone. He kept looking around, but the footprints left by Noel mysteriously disappeared.

As Leon gave up, he was leaving the forest when he heard a scream from above. He looked up and the boy in the red coat jumped on him. As he was a secret agent, he had fighting skills, he managed to dodge the attack, caught Noel and pinned him to the ground. To his surprise, Noel was himself, but he had short hair. He didn't understand anything. At that moment, everything went black again and Leon found himself lying on the bed not knowing if what he had lived had been real.



# **Carioca or Moroccan?**

*Vitória Castilho*

I was in a cafe in Morocco, reading a book about Brazil, when suddenly I saw a singer that I really like, Jorge Ben Jor. I asked myself: would this be his resting place or maybe his musical inspiration place? He had said in interviews that he liked the eastern world. That could be the explanation.

A few minutes later, I was still in my daydreams, when a man appeared. He was tall and had Indian features. He didn't hesitate to speak to the singer. I almost woke up after that moment, because I heard, with all the lyrics, the phrase uttered by the artists: You Indians are a very lively people, your culture is always a source of inspiration for me, for this Moroccan traveler and lover of the arts, and, after this comment, he ended the sentence with a saying that must have been from Morocco. My reaction was to look around, as if I wanted to ask even the flower pots in the cafeteria: you know Jorge Ben Jor, don't you? He's from Rio, he's Brazilian. As the same man who uttered the famous "I live in a more tropical place", is he presenting himself as a Moroccan? He couldn't have been referring to Morocco when he composed this song. I think that here in Morocco there is neither Carnival nor Flamengo. Is it beautiful by nature? Yes. It's beautiful. I intend to come back more often. When I was thinking about it, the singer was gone. So, I tried to talk with the Indian men.

I asked who that singer was. The man told me that singer was Benkirane. I immediately Googled Jorge Ben Jor and showed the photo to my colleague, and he was impressed. They're the same person, he said, but I'm sure Benkirane is Moroccan. Two days later I returned to Brazil. I heard that Jorge Ben Jor had traveled, but no news referred to Morocco. To this day I still believe that Pais Tropical was made to honor us.



# PART II

## Nightmares





*"Give them pleasure - the same pleasure they have when they wake up from a nightmare"*

*Alfred Hitchcock*



# Mysterious Night

*Arthur Levi*

It was mid-autumn, I could tell by the orange color of the leaves, and I was walking along a narrow dirt path with tall grass all around on my way home. I remember being accompanied by a girl who looked almost angelic, hair as black as the night sky, white skin like the most beautiful full moon, her beauty was stunning. But then, suddenly, I found myself alone, the daylight was now darkness and I was on a new, unknown path, the trees were perfectly aligned forming an endless natural road and, instead of the girl, now only the strange sensation of being observed remained, step by step.

Bewildered, I decided to follow the path lit only by the moonlight and, without any options, I looked for some way to create a spark of flame. Everywhere I looked I could see snakes, from all sides, it was possible to hear their hiss, the floor seemed to move, I was walking on them. For a moment, everything got quiet and I heard a howl faraway, and it was getting closer every second; the more I tried to run, the more trapped I got, unable to get out of where I was. I made a last effort and fell to the ground, totally numb, unable to even move a finger.

Now the werewolf-like animal was leaping in the trees above me, my heart pounding fast, almost jumping out of my chest. When the thing came down the ground, it got very close to me, bent its head close to mine and whispered "wake up" in my ear several times until I really woke up and found my mother beside the bed, screaming to wake me up.



# The Wave

*Bruna Carvalho*

Three days ago, I had a nightmare about the end of the world, and it was one of the scariest dreams that I've ever dreamed. So, I can't remember what year it was, but I feel that it was something around five years in the future. I remember being in Fortaleza, celebrating with my family and some friends on a boat. I'm a Geography student, so I understand how the earth and its events work (what always made me fear the ocean and everything about it).

In the dream, I was on this boat seeing the ocean's view when suddenly I saw a big wave approaching the city's coast. I remember being frozen and feeling really scared, I just could think about the fact that: "oh my god! I don't know how to swim! We all are going to die!".

I was in panic, very frightened, but somehow this tsunami passed under the boat that I was without capsizing it. Everybody on the boat got mortified with the situation, my mom got her cellphone and started to call the people in the city trying to warn them. We were all distracted when a second wave hit us. And... BUM! In one second, everything was water, and a moment later I blacked out.

After that, I woke up at the beach and everything was devastated by the tsunami. I started to hear people screaming and asking for help. It took a few seconds for me to realize that I needed to look for my family and friends, but I was surrounded by the water. After screaming my mother's name, I decided to get something to help me float. I remember finally reaching a piece of wood when a third wave hit me from my back and then I woke up in my bedroom at 3:00 am, on a normal Saturday morning.



# The Warning

*Danilo Silva Moura*

Hello? This is the American secret intelligence agent Danilo Silva Moura, we are trapped inside an unknown organization. I can't explain what this place is, it's something like a curse of humanity, there is everything here, a spider able to control minds, an infinite colony of cockroaches that get together to create a being, a bizarre acid monster, a being that appears in the middle of the darkness and pulls you into a hole, a plush that plays with your guts and zombies.

Everything here manages to make something absurdly extraordinary that is beyond human comprehension. I am sacrificing myself to pass on this message while my colleagues are trying to find a way out of here. We entered this place through the back of the organization, because we found a gap in the back of the organization that is probably now totally buried. Clearly the experiments performed here went wrong and one of these monsters managed to escape, that is, one of these things are outside, and only God knows what this thing can do. I repeat, every object in this damn place is like a bomb about to explode.

The coordinates of this location are being sent via encrypted message because there is a monster capable of disrupting communications from inside, and it is not possible to use the internet, only a radio station, which I am at that moment, can create communication, for sure I cannot get out of this alive, may God have mercy on this world. Noises of explosion and incomprehensible screams are heard at the end of the message.



# **The Mysteries of Mitian**

*Débora Silveira de Lima*

It was a hot afternoon in Mitian City when Lucy was riding her horse. Lucy was an 11-year-old dark skinned girl, who had curly hair and brown eyes. Her parents had died of tuberculosis a year ago. After that, she went to live with her uncles Bernardo and Renata, however, they did not have a good relationship.

Mitian was a quiet town, with few inhabitants, but it held many mysteries. On full moon nights, residents reported hearing strange noises coming from the forest. Lucy always wanted to know more about these mysteries of the forest, however, her uncles always changed the subject. So the girl decided that, at the next full moon, she would ride into the forest and find out where the strange noises were coming from.

After a few weeks, the big day finally arrived. Lucy noticed that her uncle Bernardo was missing, but that didn't stop her investigation. When the clock struck 11:30 pm, Lucy slipped out on her horse towards the forest. At midnight when the noises started, Lucy euphorically looked for the place the noises were coming from and when she found it, the scene left her paralyzed.

Lucy couldn't believe what she saw, her uncle Bernardo turning into a direwolf. Feeling fear consuming her body, Lucy screamed for help, it was then that she opened her eyes and realized that, in fact, it was just a nightmare.



# The Witch's House

*Francisco Gabriel*

Last night, I had a nightmare. I was walking on my street with my friends, their names are Aaron - tall, long haired and strong-, and Calil - small, skinny and long haired - when suddenly we looked to the side and we saw the witch's house. The witch was a lady with an ugly and scary face, her house was the last on the street and similar to a haunted house.

When we arrived at the witch's house, we decided to ring the bell, we were scared and nobody wanted to go. So, I decided to go. I headed towards the house and rang the bell five times in a row, my friends got out running and left me alone. As I was with slippery flip flops, I couldn't run fast and stayed behind.

At the exact moment I looked behind to check if someone was following me, I saw the witch opening the door's house. Because of my bad luck, I slipped and fell in the hole, and kept asking for help from my friends, but they didn't listen. When I looked at the witch again, the witch was walking towards me.

Taking short steps, she was getting closer with a broomstick in her hands, and she seemed to be furious. When she finally got close, she said to me, you and your friends are very naughty and you are going to pay for what you did. So, the witch made a magic trick to kill me, but I woke up and I remembered that there's no way to know what happens after death, because my subconscious doesn't know what it's like to die.



# Nobrega x Alencar

*Gyselle de Souza*

I worked for the Nobrega Family, in which I was quite influential and had a great heritage. Despite their high purchasing power, they were humble and fulfilled their tax obligations. Due to their wealth, they were greatly envied, especially by the Alencar family, who always wanted to have the best house, car, jewelry, etc.

The Alencar family, on the other hand, was very arrogant and overbearing, and they were always involved in scandals. However, due to deviations and other problems, the Nobrega Family lost all their inheritance. Also, they owed a lot of money to the Alencar Family, so due to the great competition. But this happened unduly, the Alencar family invaded the Nobrega's house and took all their belongings. And I was also robbed because my cell phone was in the house and one of the Alencar daughters took it, erasing all my files and passwords. I was very angry, and in an impulse of anger, I took one of the Alencar family credit cards and made the online purchase of a new cell phone for myself. When they found out, they took me to the police, and I was sentenced to prison(.) I was very desperate, there were many questions, but unfortunately the judge did not reverse the sentence.

Despite all the evidence and accusations, they were not tried for the invasion and appropriation of the Nobrega's house, they remained free and answering some processes, but without a sentence. Eventually, the Nobrega family managed to recover much of their wealth, and they fought to get me out of jail, although they only managed to reduce the sentence.



# Sad Reality

*Joselany Afio Caetano*

During the COVID-19 pandemic, I lost three cousins, which resulted in moments of great sadness and incapacity, because as I am a nurse, I was always the first one to know who was sick and, at the time, I tried to help them in whatever they needed. It was very difficult to receive the news of these losses: Adriano was 49 years old, married and father of two teenagers, Sandra was 52 years old and had a 25-year-old daughter, and Socorro, who was Adriano's sister, was 48 years old and single. A real tragedy experienced in my family. We don't want to believe it. In fact, we want to believe much more than reality imposes on us. So, for the last two years, my dreams are about a different reality.

I dream of the possibility of their early diagnosis and treatment, without the need of hospitalization, with everyone healed and still with us. The whole family together whether on trips or parties. I dream of my cousin Sandra's house, the meeting point for the family, as she welcomed everyone with great joy. Everyone talked, laughed and played with her. I saw Adriano playing and dancing, Socorro, who was always very worried about everyone, and her mother. I dream of the past and the world without covid.

The pain of loss is still with me and this feeling will be my guide and my strength in this difficult task of leaving. I wish my dreams were real, but I am sure that the most important thing in life is to live surrounded by friends and family. And, don't leave anything to do later, because we aren't sure of anything. Don't forget to tell your family how much you love them.



# The Nightmare Time

*Juliana Amaral*

On a dead Friday night, I decided to watch a series around midnight on a streaming platform. After watching some episodes I fell asleep and that's when I had a nightmare like that. Suddenly, I was in a small country city of California and I was part of a group of four boys who identified themselves as “the ghost hunters” of the countryside of California. They were dressed as such, and they were sure that the city was haunted; I got into their idea and felt like part of the group, even wearing their weird clothes.

I think a long period of time has passed, since the character is dreaming, it could be: After a meal, after, we decided to set up our tents at a campsite in the city. It was a cold night and with poor lighting, then, at that time, and, at that time, I looked for my flashlight in my pocket and didn't find it. I was anxious to find it and my friend Jeff volunteered to go with me to look for it while our two other friends, Peter and Stuart, were setting up the tents.

At one point walking, I noticed the ground sinking and I fell into it. My friend also sank and fell with it. With the fall we ended up in a submerged tunnel in the city, and suddenly, a kind of monster came out of it, running after us. I quickly looked at the shadow of the monster and I realized that he had his hands as if they were roots. Jeff had around 2 meters tall, a face in the shape of a carnivorous flower that opened and closed its yellow teeth. My friend was terrified but we didn't stop running, so I had the idea to light the lighter that I had in my backpack, and we set fire to the whole tunnel. We heard very strange sounds and suddenly the monster disappeared.

We ended up on the surface again outside the tunnel, completely sweaty and scared. After that, I heard the Could it be clearer how they met and why this game who were setting up the tent calling me and patting me on the back, congratulating me on the RPG match I had just won. After that scene I woke up, completely stunned and scared by all that nightmare about monsters and unreal worlds.



# RATS

*Lourdes Andrade*

I have always been afraid of many things, but as a child those fears were worse to deal with. There were also more items on this list, but eventually I overcame them, for example rats. Nowadays I think they are cute and I even considered having one, but when I was little I was terrified. Because of that, every time I saw one of them around the house I had some kind of nightmare. The most impactful by far were the giant rats that lived in the wall cupboard in my aunt's bedroom, where their goal was to dominate and kill my family for the house.

But how did giant rats live inside the cupboard? It was easy for them to dig and create a great tunnel where they could put their plans into action. Soon, I discovered that something was going on and, to the despair of my child self, no one but me could see the animals or understand them. It was a moment of total despair in which I didn't know what to do, warning my aunts about giant animals and a non-existent tunnel never worked. It was then that a brilliant idea came up: using rat poison. With great courage and a sprayer, every day I went to the entrance of the tunnel every day and poisoned the enemies by spraying them. Those who managed to escape the fatal spray closed the tunnel and fled to the neighboring house.

It might be a silly thing these days, but I was really terrified when I was a kid. To the point of not even being able to enter the room or getting close to the closet, which, by the way, still exists and is almost the same as it was back then. But now what would have happened to the neighbor if I had continued the dream? I don't care, it was her problem now, not mine. And the most important thing is that I managed to save my family from the giant rats, but despite not being giants and not my enemies, my house became home to an overpopulation of cockroaches.



# The Future in a Nightmare

*Lucas Dias Queiroz*

I consider myself a great enthusiast for astronomy and the mysteries of the universe. So I'm often reading or watching videos about discoveries in science about how the cosmos works. Sometimes I ponder the clichéd philosophical questions like “Where do we come from? Where are we going? What's the point of being here?”. One night after thinking a lot about it, I had a fantastic dream, like in a science fiction series.

In the dream, I am a time traveler and I am in the future at a time when the human species no longer dominates the planet. Machines and robots with high artificial intelligence have become the superior species on earth. Humans have been segregated into ghettos and are on the brink of extinction.

Suddenly I find myself getting help from a few surviving humans to get shelter and hide from something I didn't know what it was. There's a lot of noise - sounds of gunfire and bombs and lots of screaming - and the air is hard to breathe. I don't recognize anyone. Some people use robotic prosthetics and can do superhuman things. I'm hiding in a bunker and trying not to make any noise. I notice the people's screams subside and I think I'm the last one left to be eliminated by those monsters. I hear the gate to my hideout being smashed and I see something jerking toward me. I try to run away faster, but I get hit and shot down by some kind of laser and quickly everything goes dark. Soon after I woke up startled by my mother's scream calling me to go to school.



# The Crazy Nightmare

*Luiz Eduardo*

One of the worst dreams I've ever had in my life wasn't about a monster or a ghost, but a dream in which the forms and aspects of reality weren't present. The dream starts with me lying in my bed looking at the ceiling, probably waiting for sleep to come, when I suddenly realize that I'm apparently sinking in my own bed, losing track of time and space. With that, I start to lose my own perception of my body. "Where are my legs?". "Where are my arms?". The only perception I still have is in my head. It's a horrible feeling.

In addition, the darkness of the room contributes to the lack of range of vision and perception of shapes. Shadows that should be from the TV or a hanging garment become variable shapes that constantly change in size and location. I was just like an observer in the dream, immersed in this bizarreness that ran away from everything I had ever seen or felt. It was a sense of loss of all that was known, like I was going crazy or something. As time passed, the change in forms began to affect me as well. So as the things around me increased in size, I decreased in size. At the moment, everything felt like a psychedelic trip, in which the loss of notion of time was significant.

The rest of my memory of that day is waking up from this crazy dream with a little confusion and dizziness. For the rest of the day, I got really weird with a bad feeling about the night's sleep. I remember that feeling stayed with me all day. I kept thinking: "What was that?", "What's the point of that?" or "How absurd and terrifying!". I could never understand this madness, but one thing is for sure, I could never forget that dream. I chose to talk about this dream, because not every bad dream has to do with supernatural things or evil. They may also have to do with the loss of something basic for the human being, the rational use of basic motor functions.



# The Unexpected Escape

*Marli Silva*

In the dead of night, everyone slept, including Nayara, a pretty young woman, short in stature and curly hair, possessing a docile and friendly temperament. However, the sweet girl had an unusual dream and it seemed so real that she woke up with this question: “Was it a dream or reality?” Neither one nor the other, it was a terrible nightmare.

Nayara dreamed that she was sitting on her favorite bench, arranging some papers that interested her and tearing up the ones that she no longer wanted. While she was crumpling paper here, ripping paper there, saving paper there and listening to her favorite hip hop songs, just like that, a tall man appeared. He was so tall that she could hardly see him well and the young woman felt fear to overwhelm her, she remained paralyzed on her stool.

After this moment, a noise was heard in the street, Nayara was even more terrified. A group of armed and hooded men invaded the street where she lived. What did they want? They shouted that they only wanted the children!! At that moment, Nayara's mother, Dona Maricota, a lady with gray hair and wrinkled skin, but a very cheerful and kind person, entered the room and told her to run away with her grandfather. He was wise and patient. However, she shouldn't say anything to him. Amazed and unable to show fear to her grandfather, the young girl obeyed her mother. But, at a certain point of the escape, she couldn't contain herself and started to cry, the good old man consoled her and said that everything would end well, little by little she regained her hope and, together, they continued walking without a destination. However, the walk was interrupted when Nayara, feeling her mother's sweet kiss on her face, woke up.



# The Darkness

*Régis Barbosa do Nascimento*

There was a monster that used to constantly appear in my dreams. I called it 'The Darkness'. I never saw his main form, but he could appear in any form and ways he wanted .

He can appear like a normal person in a crowded place, such as a mall. It always took me a while to realize that it was “The Darkness”, and like always in my dreams, things suddenly change in the most random ways, but even if the dream changes, he always appears somewhere. the more he appears most like in a human shape he looks, after a while I could feel that something isn't right, then all of a sudden everyone, except Darkness (still in his human form), disappeared he starts to run towards me at extremely fast speed chasing me, once he caught up with me, he grabbed me and then after that, the dream ends.

Other times, more rarely, I seem to be in a room in my house and, for some reason, when I go to another room, the room I enter is dark, and when I try to escape, he pulls me back. So I just close my eyes, it is a habit for me to do this because then I can escape my nightmares. Sometimes he grabs me and the dream ends.

Once and only he chased me in his true form, the only thing I saw were his extremely long fingers. I never really saw him for what he was, because, as I said, I always close my eyes when he appears. But he always appears in my dreams.



# The Same Place

*Rodrigo Gomes*

Weird? Horrible? A night terror? How could I classify that experience? Ok, I have to tell you about “that experience”, but first let's contextualize. Some years ago, I suffered from a lot of sleep problems: sleep paralysis, nightmares, insomnia, etc. So I was already used to these problems. However, one day something happened and marked me. I went to sleep at approximately 6 p.m (actually it was supposed to be a little nap), my bedroom light was off, but the living room light was on, giving the room a little luminosity.

Then I fell asleep... dreamed a little and woke up to drink some water. Suddenly, I went back to the same place and position I was in my bed when I woke up for the first time. I thought “ok... I will do something different”, so I went to the computer and... Suddenly, I went back to the same place. It felt like I was always waking up over and over. I went to other rooms, I ate something, I drank something, but I kept coming back to the same place. As a strategy, I decided to leave my house, but the “reset” came. Then I tried to calm down and stand still thinking that would solve the situation. A mistake... When I stopped moving the thoughts came on: “Am I dead? Am I having a heart attack? Will I be stuck here?” While thinking this, I woke up at the same place sometimes, which scared me even more.

I woke up for the... well... I lost count and I was already prepared to return, to reset. Time has passed, no reset. Although I found it hard to believe, I finally woke up! I confess that I was afraid to sleep after that for a while. Imagine your mind creating an illusion that your bedroom and your consciousness are like a cage, over and over. So, how do you classify this experience?



# The Lotus Bride

*Samuel Aguiar*

I thought it was just another day, like all the others. I was coming back from university, walking all the way to the bus point, abnormally calm. I could hear each step of myself, although I wasn't alone... My friend Mário was with me. He told me several stories, but I didn't pay much attention. Suddenly, he invited me to go to the shopping centre to buy some accessories for his mobile phone. I accepted it without understanding the situation, perhaps the feeling of boredom that I felt could pass. We got on the bus and left.

Time passed slowly, I looked at the window, and it didn't seem to have an end. But after a while we finally arrived. However, it didn't seem to be the shopping centre that Mário had told me about. In fact, we had stopped in front of a church, which coincidentally marked the beginning of a strange neighbourhood... Mário seemed to have switched off, like a robot, he stopped to buy a glass of juice and remained standing in front of the church. It was already early evening, I was a little afraid of staying there, and I left Mário.

I went into the neighbourhood, and with each step I took, the streets became darker and darker... Until I found a white building that glowed like a shop window. And before I could do anything about it, a woman stepped out of this building, the prettiest woman I have ever seen in my life. For some reason, I recognised her. But I didn't focus on this, her beauty caught my attention: her eyes, her hair, her face, and mainly, her clothes. At first, it was an old lab coat, but when I blinked, her clothes turned into a long white dress, with several silver lotuses adorning such a dress. I was enchanted, and little by little, I approached her. "Why do you hate me?", she said. It was the last sentence I heard before disappearing with her into the darkness.



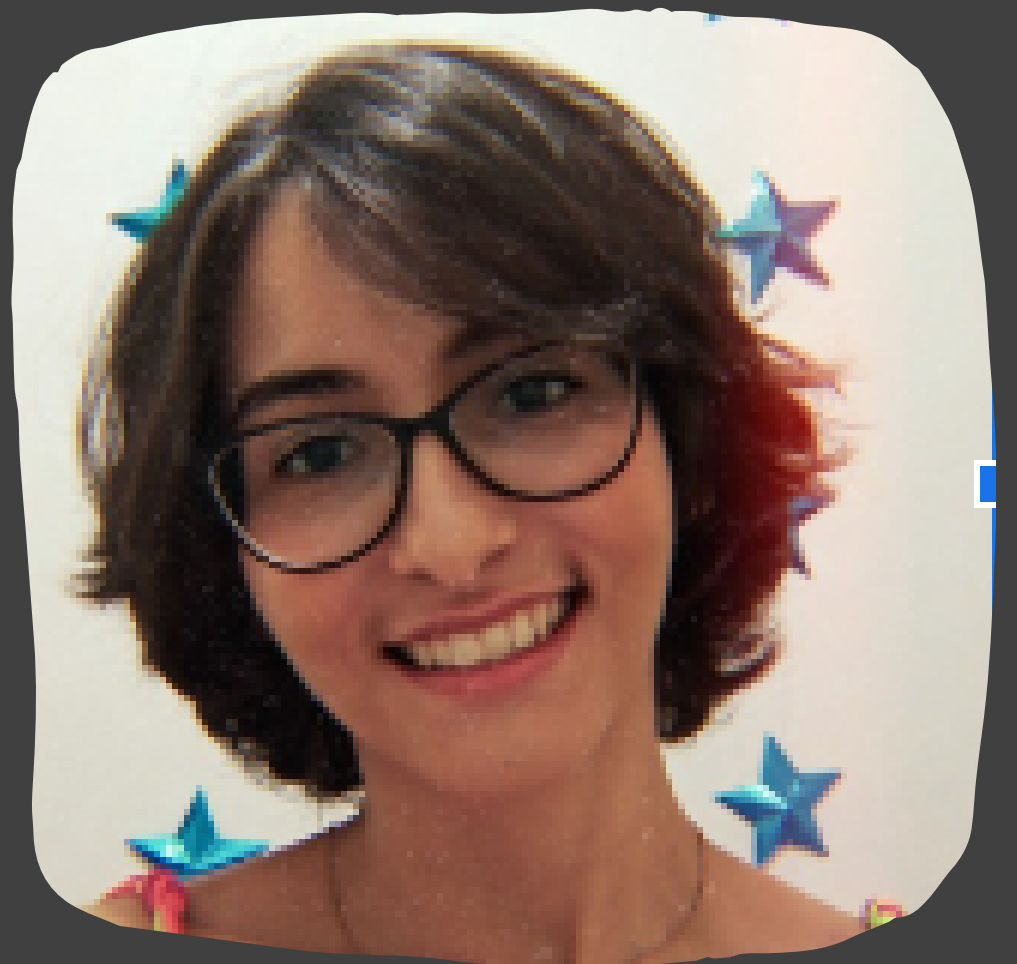
# About the Authors



*Allan Kardec*

My name is Allan Kardec Alves Peixoto, I am 42 years old, I have a major in Physical Education (UFC) and I am a specialist in Adapted Physical Activity and Health (Estácio). I work at the Health Coordination (SSPDS), La Vida and I also work as a Personal Trainer. I'm interested in science fiction and classic movies and I also like electronic games.

Hi! My name is Ana Kelly, but it's more common for people to just call me Kelly because some say it's more practical. Currently, I'm studying for the university entrance exams, so I dedicate almost all my time to it and when I'm not studying, I like to listen to music and read non-fiction books, but more social ones, the last one I read was "Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind" by Yuval Noah Harari.



*Ana Kelly*



*Chrislayne Silvia*

Hello, my name is Chrislayne, I have a degree in Spanish language and I am a Spanish teacher. I study English at the House of British Culture of UFC and French at the UECE Language Center. I'm passionate about languages and I believe that education can change the world.





*Ednardo Braga*

Hi, my name is Ednardo Braga. I'm a psychologist, teacher and social project coordinator. I love my mother, travel and food. In my free time I like to read books, watch movies and go out with my friends to pubs and nightclubs.



*Isabela Mendes*

Hi! My name is Isabela Mendes. I'm an English, French and Korean student. I work in an NGO (non-governmental organization). I want to make a difference in the world, it doesn't matter if it is for one, two or a million people. I love literature, music and discovering other cultures.



*Karolina Duarte*

I am a Computer engineer working as a product owner. I love swimming in the sea, traveling and meeting people.





*Lamartine Cortez*

Hello, I'm Lamartine, I'm 45 years old, graduated in Commercial Management and a student of English. I'm a person of simple habits; when I'm not working, I like to practice sports outdoors. I have a very intense routine, so I value the free time to stay at home with my family and do whatever I want at any time.

Hi, my name is Lucas, I'm 24 and I'm a student of Physical Education. I love listening to music, singing, exercising, reading books and comics. I like various styles of music and I like adventure books like sagas. Concerts, beaches and cinemas are my passions!



*Lucas Fontes*



*Vinícius Araújo*

Hi, my name is Vinícius, I'm 21 and I'm a pharmacy student. I love cycling, reading and watching movies, especially about magical and fantastical worlds. I also love stories that have some mystery, which let the reader imagine some elements, so I chose one like this for this book based on a dream I had. Hope you like it!





*Vitória Castilho*

Hello!! I'm Vitória Castilho. I'm from Fortaleza and I love my city. I am a student who likes politics, traveling, countless expressions of art, meeting new people and new cultures.



*Arthur Levi*

Hi! I'm Arthur, I'm 17 years old, I like playing games and going to the beach. I'm finishing the third year of High School and I really like music and I even sing in a band called "tocando a vida".



*Bruna Carvalho*

Hello! My name's Bruna Carvalho, I'm twenty two years old. I live in Fortaleza and I'm a Geography student. I love learning new things, especially about the planet and animals.





*Danilo Silva*

Hi! I'm Danilo, I'm 20 years old, and I'm a game design student. I like to play games with friends, understand the story, enjoy the soundtrack and admire the art. Furthermore, I'm also a FGC (Fighting gamer player) and someday I want to turn my thoughts into a game!



*Débora Silveira*

Hi! My name's Débora Silveira, I'm 24 years old and I'm a nursing student. I like to read about romance, thrillers and, of course, health in general. I like comedy movies, sci-fi and drama. I also love watching musicals.



*Francisco Gabriel*

Hello, my name is Gabriel. I am 23 and I'm an accounting student. I like traveling and watching movies. I love studying economics and business. During my free time, I go to restaurants and pubs with my friends.





Hi, my name is Gyselle de Souza, I'm a Pharmacy student at the Federal University of Ceará, and I'm doing an internship at the Walter Cantídio University Hospital. In addition, I study English at the house of British culture.

*Gyselle de Souza*

My name is Joselany Caetano, I'm a nurse and I work at the Federal of Ceará. In addition, I study English at the house of British culture.



*Joselany Caetano*



Hi! My name is Juliana, I'm 33 years old and I'm a nutritionist. I love watching series and movies and I'm a pop culture fan. I like to exercise and I try to lead a healthy life even though I have a busy life.

*Juliana Amaral*





*Lourdes Andrade*

Hi! My name's Lourdes, I'm 20 years old and an art student. I really like photography, so I decided to pursue this career. I also want to be a professor in the future. Other hobbies I have are reading, like fantasy and detective books, manga and comics. I also watch movies, anime and series. And finally I love listening to music.

My name is Lucas Dias. I am an environmental engineering student and I am also an accordionist. In addition, I study English at the house of British culture.



*Lucas Dias*



*Luiz Eduardo*

Hello! My name's Eduardo, I'm 27 years old and I'm a medical student. I like to read about history, philosophy, manga and, of course, health in general. I like horror movies, thrillers and sci-fi. Also, I'm crazy about football.



I'm Marli, a student of English at the British House of Culture, UFC. I took a Masters in Educational Management and Administration, because I am passionate about the art of teaching and learning. Everything that is part of nature enchants me, because it expresses a superior being - God. I believe that humanity will live in peace when everyone respects each other, regardless of any condition, because the only parameter for respect is to be a person!



*Marli Silva*



Hello, My name's Régis Barbosa, I'm 22, and I'm a Business Student in UECE. I love reading books and manga, I love listening to music, my favorite one now is 'Just The Two of Us' by Bill Withers. In my free time I usually hang out with my friends, watch some anime and read books and manga.

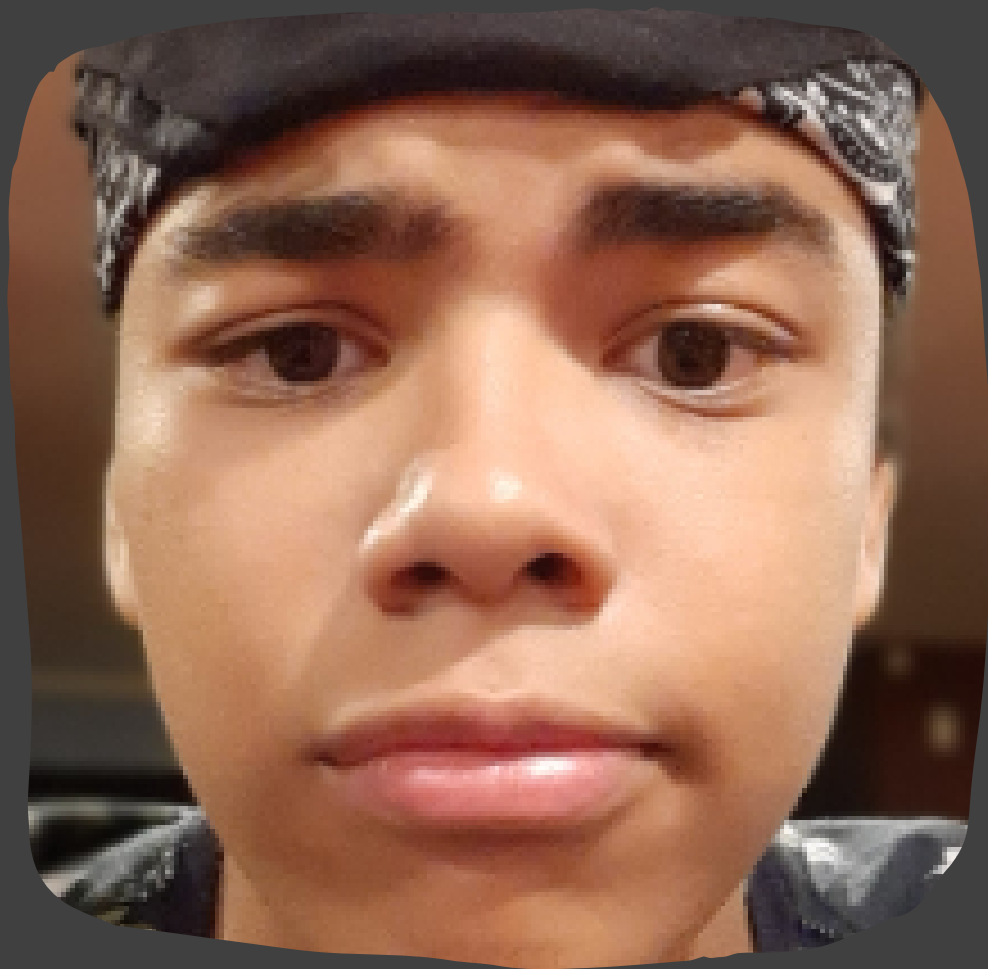
*Régis Barbosa*



Hi, my name is Rodrigo, I'm 24 and I'm a journalism student. I love listening to music and watching movies, anime and series. I have a special interest in psychology, religion and history. Also, I like stories about futurism, mind and comedy. Lastly, I wrote this story based on a nightmare I had.



*Rodrigo Gomes*



Hi! My name's Samuel, I'm 17. I'm an agronomy student and I intend to pursue a career in management. I like to play musical instruments, like guitar, board and online games, and listen to pop music. In my free time, I also like to write fiction stories and read manga.

*Samuel Aguiar*



