



STRAIGHT OUT OF HELL

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ZUAZIBAR

In the 1600's, a large house was built on a soaring hill. There it stood, alone and surrounded by no others. It was believed to have been built on a spiritual nexus. This left the house vacant from the time it was completed. Parts of the roof were conical, making the house look Victorian. A sizeable wooden oak double door led into the house, with a knocker shaped like a wolf. The building was dark brown, with many large pane windows that gave viewers a peek into the halls of the luxurious house. The halls were carpeted in a deep red color, and the walls were lined with fancy torches that held flickering flames. The house had many rooms, but few knew what the spaces contained. No one dared step foot in the Devil's Claw unless they

were invited. The place looked made of wood; over time, it had worn down, making the house look very old.

The windows were boarded up to prevent any damage to the glass. A place once so baroque now sat decayed and dilapidated. One location that might draw young people in as it looked to be haunted. Over the years, people dared to go inside and complete the thirteen-room challenge and win a prize.

No one was aware of the demon who resided under the house. Zuazibar scraped his way to earth from the depths of the underworld, escaping its fiery embrace. He was an enemy of the dark lord and was hated in the underworld. He had four large, long, twisted arms that he used to get around and two short hind legs. Zuazibar had no eyes, but his mouth was on his back, and he was relatively silent as he moved about. He was brown and looked to have been severely burned all over. His sense of smell helped him to find everything he'd ever need, even without a formal nose present. Sensors on his hind legs gave him his sense of smell. At the ends of his long, twisted arms were what nearly resembled human hands, making it much easier for him to grab his victims if he chose to. The fascinating thing about this terrifying being was his telepathic abilities. He could easily read anyone's mind and project his thoughts into their heads.

He may not have talked out loud, but he was a very cunning creature, effortlessly adapting to any environment he was surrounded by. He managed to keep himself hidden for thousands of years within the earth,

and now he made his lair under a house known as the Devil's Claw.

Over time, people who neared the house were deemed insane. They heard voices and were compelled to perform atrocious activities that no one would ever think to do. Some of the people who drew nearer to the house would cause themselves bodily harm. There were accounts of people pulling rusty nails from the place and slowly driving them into their eyes, screaming in pain as blood dripped from their sockets. Some heard that others would take hammers and hammer their hand until every bone was shattered; these people were lucky to survive. Each of them came away from the Devil's claw, severely disfigured. Other stories about the house spoke of people ripping each nail off their bodies and throwing their heads into the windows and doors of the house. One of the biggest stories was when a young lady lit herself on fire and threw herself from the house's highest point. No one is really sure if the flames took her life or if it was the fall. After being close to the Devil's Claw, nothing in the victim's life was the same again. People who neared the house uninvited were often urged to commit suicide. Not knowing these thoughts were not their own, they would find ways to die, such as jumping off the roof or hanging themselves.

The house quickly gained the nickname The Devil's Claw or The Devil's Snare. People feared nearing it, shuddering at the thought of what would happen to them if they did. Many people in the community left signs around the property with warnings that the house was dangerous. The Devil's Claw was featured

on the news and in the paper. This place was amongst the most feared buildings to date.