

You've Felt It

by Trevor Erbsen, ASPE

You've felt it, haven't you? The feeling. The presence.

I know you have.

When you're all alone. When it's dark. Sometimes even in the light. You've felt them watching. They can see you. They aren't always watching, but pretty often. What do you hear? In... the silence...?

Writing? Laughing? Screaming?

Are you afraid to listen? Don't be.

Do you... see them?

Tall, skinny... some wear hats.

Can you feel them now? Don't try to look for them. Just... let them watch. You can listen, though. You can always listen.

Don't be too scared. They rarely come close. They don't want to touch you. They just want to watch. They like watching. They watch you eat. They watch you play. They watch you read. They love when you're distracted—when you're too distracted to notice.

They don't like dogs. Do you have dogs? Dogs hear everything. They get too close... to the truth.

You don't want to know the truth. They wouldn't like that. But I'm sure you've realized that much.

Are you alone?

Is it quiet?



(Illustration by Nicole Erbsen)

Are you sure?

Maybe you should listen more.

People don't like to be alone. They never have. Do you know why? Why you need the music to play? Why, even in silence, you distract yourself?

I wonder what they want.

I'm getting off topic.

Anyway, I'm glad you can relate.

I like our talks.

I'm sure they do, too. Ω