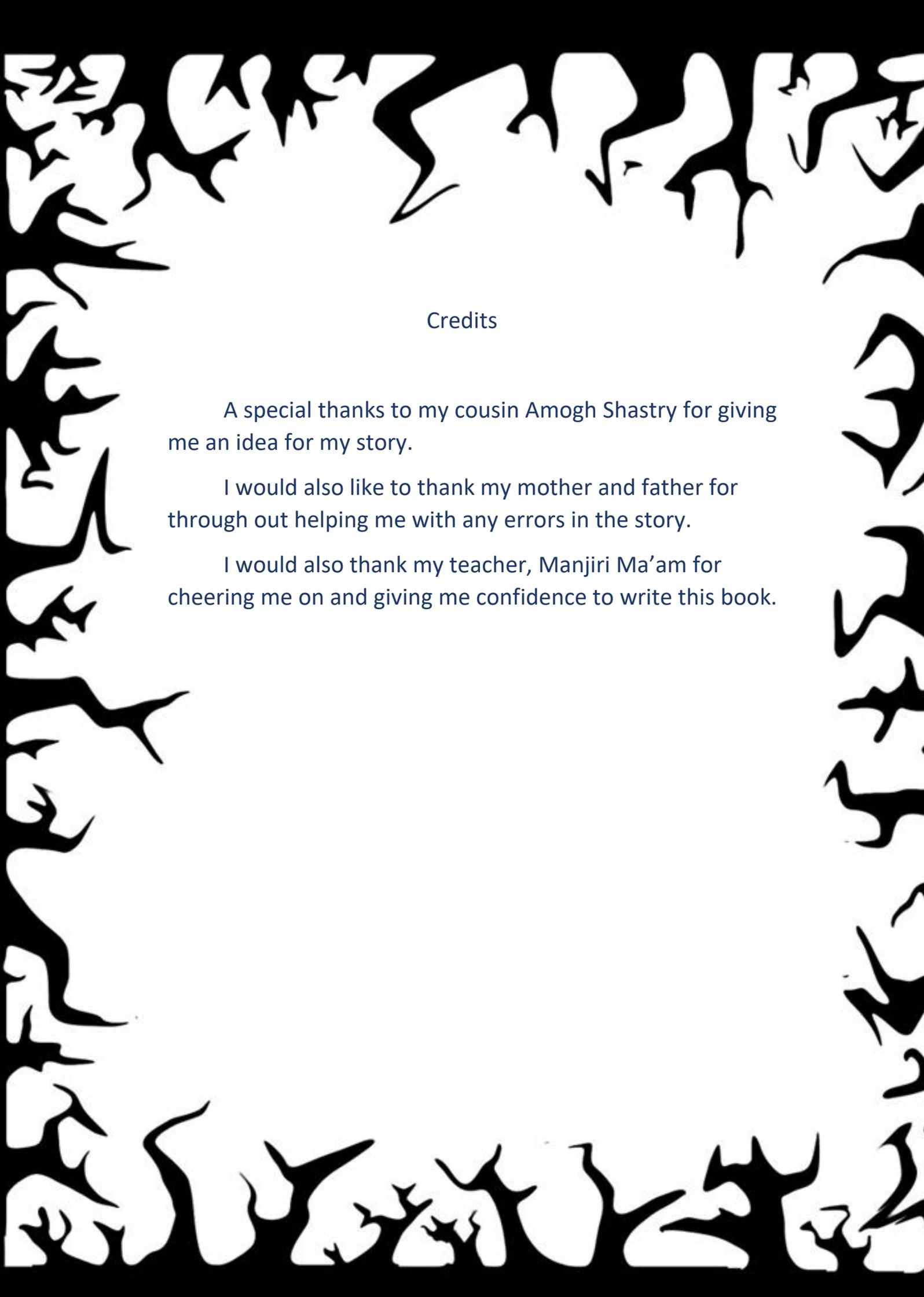


4 Deaths by
Midnight...

Author & Illustrator -
Siri Shastry



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Credits

A special thanks to my cousin Amogh Shastry for giving me an idea for my story.

I would also like to thank my mother and father for through out helping me with any errors in the story.

I would also thank my teacher, Manjiri Ma'am for cheering me on and giving me confidence to write this book.



There once lived a girl named Lila. She lived alone in her huge house. Her mother passed away when she was 10 and her father when she was 18. Now Lila is 28 and lives alone in her house. Her house is beautiful, with lavender, white and pink walls. Lila always felt very lonely without her parents as she had no relatives but 2 very close friends. She was by now used to living her life all alone.



There then came a night when she was having a bad dream, she got up and went down to the kitchen to get herself a glass of water when she saw all the street lights just went off. She looked at the time, she sighed since it was 9 pm. She ran up to her room and tried to put herself to sleep but failed. Lila then heard some strange noises coming from the basement. Lila went down and saw a message written on the wall in blood '4 Deaths by midnight'.



She freaked out, thinking that someone was in her house, she called 100 (the police) and told the officer what she saw. 2 police officers named Mani and Seeta immediately were on their way to Lila's house.

As they both rushed to the address given, they saw poor Lila on the floor of her house terrified. Lila told them exactly where she saw the blood message.

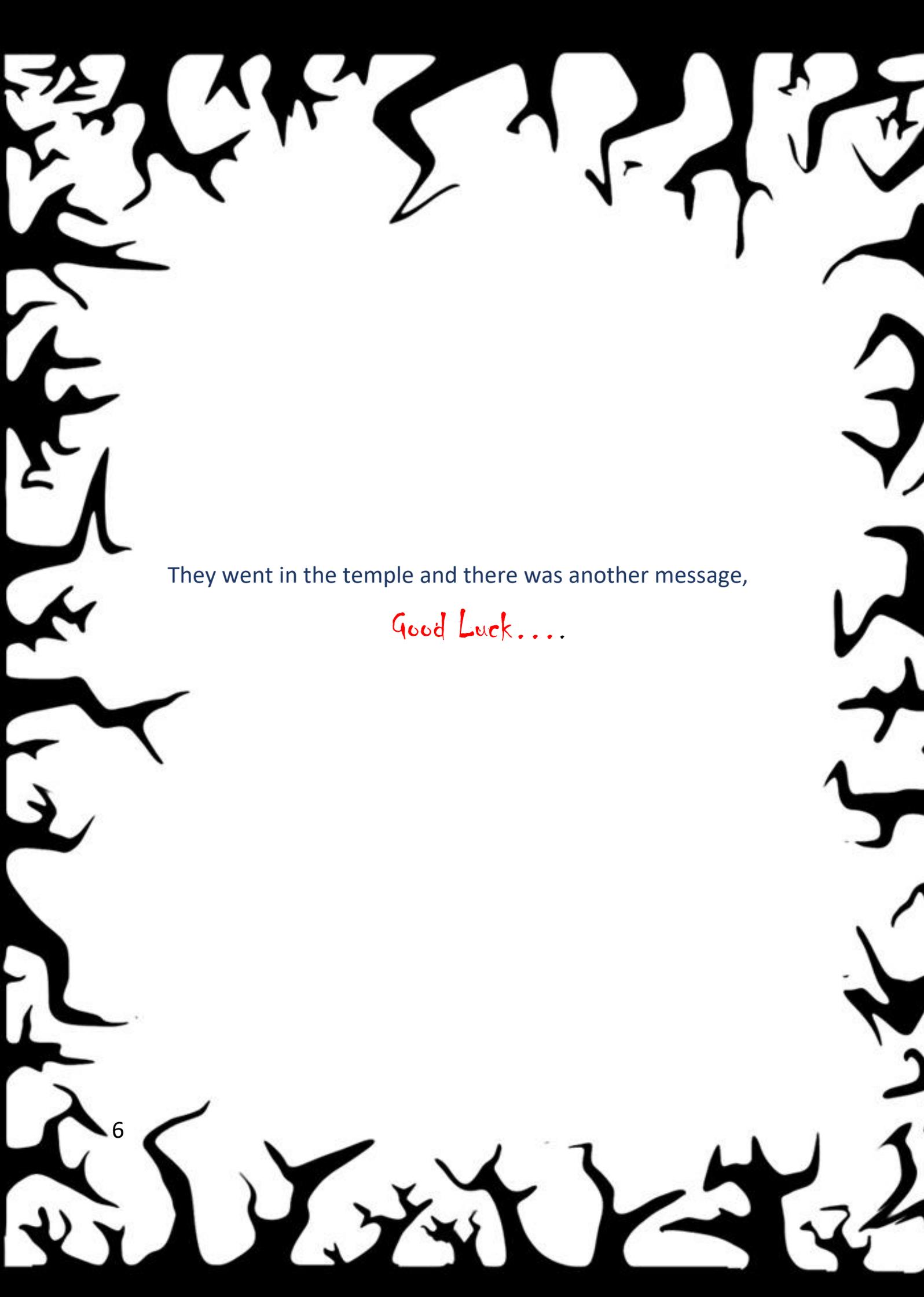
Seeta ran to the basement, and the other officer inspected the whole house to see if anyone was there in the house. Lila was still terrified and shivering. A few minutes later the officers came and told Lila there was no one in the house. Lila got up and saw the time. She was scared, it was 10:30. She told the officers what she thought of the message in blood '4 deaths by midnight'. "Sir 4 people will die by midnight." The officers asked Lila as to why was she thinking like that or had anyone told her about the deaths or was it just her thought (as she was very scared).



However, to calm Lila the officers told Lila to get herself out of the house. When Lila came out of the house she screamed. Mani came out running. They saw another frightening message in blood.

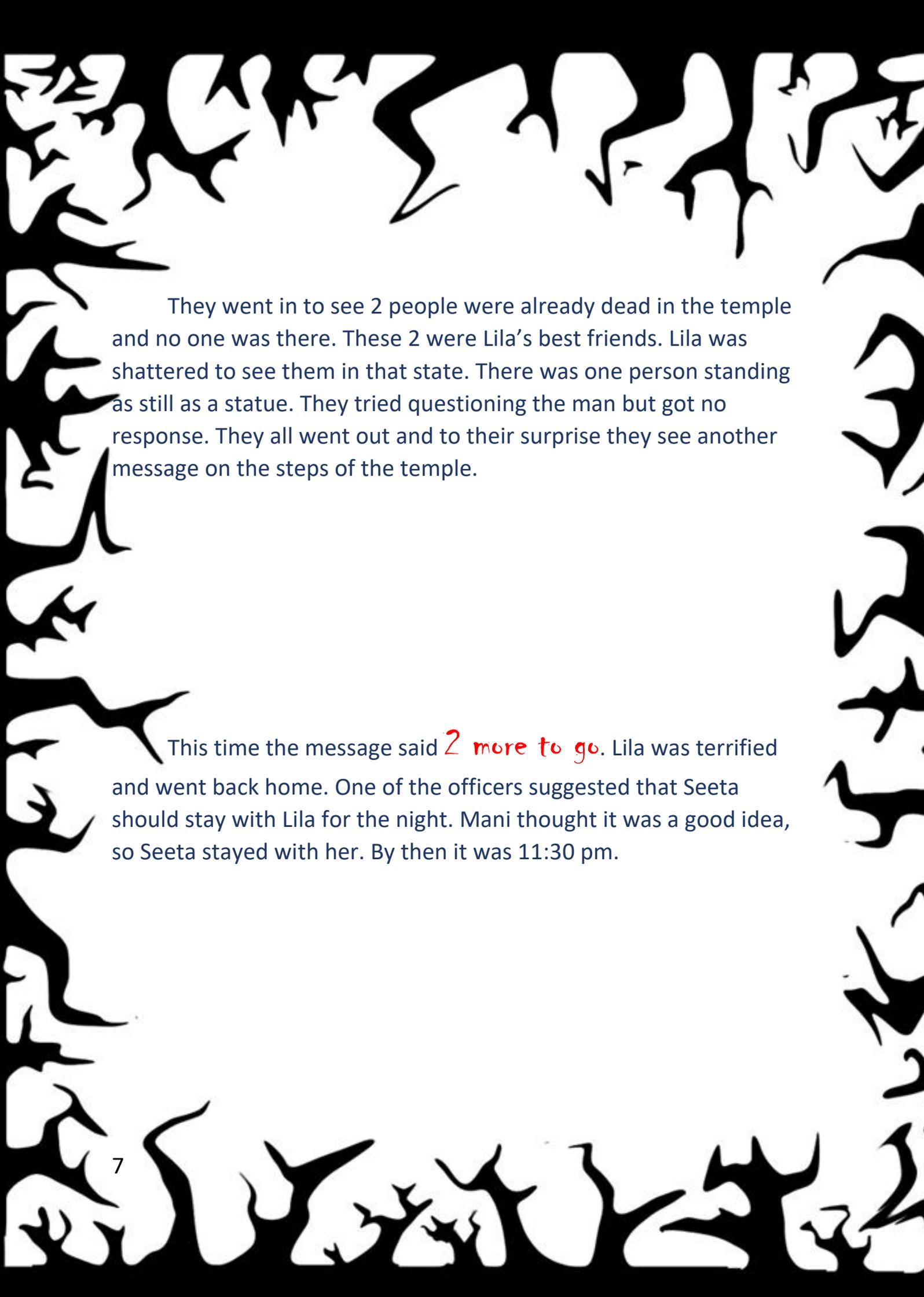
Go to the temple across the road. Then Seeta came running out and saw the message. The officers were shocked to read that message. They asked Lila as to where the temple was and she guided them as they all walked towards the temple which was just some distance away.





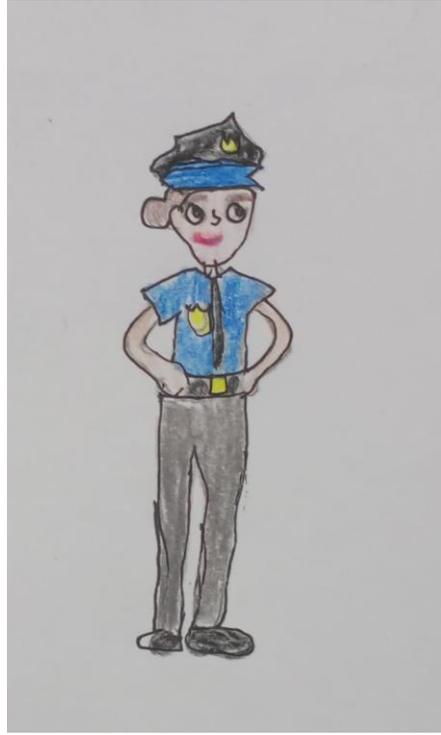
They went in the temple and there was another message,

Good Luck....



They went in to see 2 people were already dead in the temple and no one was there. These 2 were Lila's best friends. Lila was shattered to see them in that state. There was one person standing as still as a statue. They tried questioning the man but got no response. They all went out and to their surprise they see another message on the steps of the temple.

This time the message said *2 more to go*. Lila was terrified and went back home. One of the officers suggested that Seeta should stay with Lila for the night. Mani thought it was a good idea, so Seeta stayed with her. By then it was 11:30 pm.



Lila started walking towards her room and she had not even reached that she heard a scream. She was trembling to turn around but with great courage she turned and to her despair saw the officer dead on the floor. She was scared and panting and she read another message on the window which said **1 more to go.**

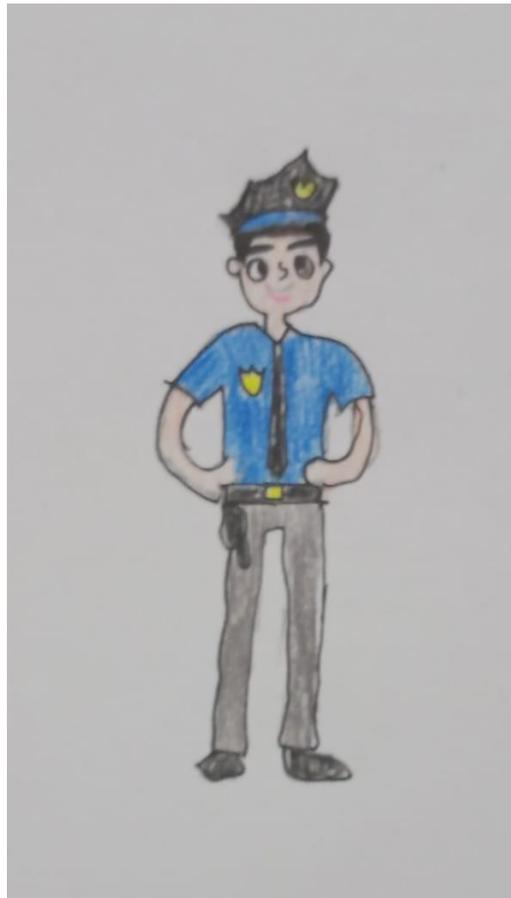
Then Lila turned around and the knife came flying at her. She at nick of time dogged the knife and fell down.



She could not move from the place as she had hurt herself. At that moment, Mani had come to Lila's house and saw Seeta and Lila lying on the floor. He quickly picked Lila, and put her in his jeep and went to investigate again to the temple where they had first gone to.

There he saw the same person who he had seen last time they went. He was in the exact same place as if he was a statue. As the police officer started to leave, he saw that the man had 4 guns hidden under his blanket. He thought of the common number between the deaths and the guns. Without any hesitation Mani took the old man and went to the police station and on the entrance found a message written in blood.

Bye Bye.



Poor and scared Mani didn't know what to do. Just as he was getting out of his jeep, the lights went off and there was the sound of a gun, the lights then turned on. The man as still as a statue was gone and Mani lay dead on the floor.



The sound of the gun, Lila gained her conscious and opened her eyes and to her surprise found herself on her bed in her room. She jumped out of her bed and ran downstairs to see and saw that everything was normal. She then realised that it was just a dream she had...rather a nightmare...

She was just thinking all of that nightmare and the doorbell rings. She starts feeling scared and after a couple of rings of the door she gains courage and goes to open the door. She opens the door and finds her best friends at the door, waiting for her to open.

She tells them about the nightmare she had and they all enjoy their coffee and have a great laugh!



About the Author – Siri Shastry

Siri is a wonderful person with a very imaginary mind. She loves to describe the situation in detail. She enjoys reading books and her inspiration to write comes from J. K. Rowling. She is crazy about Harry Potter series and surely, she has tried to give her best at her attempt of writing. She enjoys drawing and colouring. However, she is the best at Roblox (video game). She had a great time designing and creating this book.





This is an amazing horror story of a girl named Lila and 2 brave police officers. Will Lila and the officers win or lose? Is there a real murderer or is she just dreaming?

As they jump through their journey to find the mystery of-

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