

Reading – Day 4

Intruders

The door swung open and was then pushed back until it was almost closed. Katie lay very still in her low, dusty hiding place. Except for a thin beam of light from the corridor outside, the room was in darkness. From where she was laid, she could only see two pairs of feet shuffling in across the floor. Her stomach churned and her heart was beating so fast she felt sure that the strangers would hear it thumping on the wooden floor. She followed the dark shapes as they moved slowly around the room and could hear the opening and closing of drawers and cupboards as the beam from a flashlight began to dance around in the gloomy darkness. However, she knew they wouldn't find what they were looking for.

Suddenly, she realised that in her rush to hide, she had left the bag containing the precious cargo on the floor at the other side of the bed. Slowly and carefully, she slid out her foot until her toes touched the softness of the velvet bag and then, just as slowly, she drew it in, making sure that she made no sound. Then she laid stone still, hardly daring to breathe, for what seemed like a lifetime. Thankfully, just as she was beginning to think they would never leave, the sound of voices drifted up from outside in the garden. The strangers stopped in their tracks and began to move back towards the door. Opening it, they quickly left the room, snapping the door tightly shut behind them. Katie gave a sigh of relief, knowing that she had been very lucky. If they had walked around to the other side of the bed, who knows what might have happened then!

End of text

1. How many people were in the room in addition to Katie?

_____ *1 mark*

2. Number the following events (1 – 5) to show the order in which they happen in the story. One has been done for you.

People begin talking outside Katie's house. _____

The door is pushed until it is nearly closed. _____

Katie gets into her hiding place. _____

She watches the light from the intruders' torches. _____

The door gets completely closed shut. _____ 5

1 mark

3. **Find and copy** a group of words that describe the bag.

4. How do Katie's feelings change from the first paragraph to the end of the text?

Katie's feelings at the beginning: _____

Katie's feelings at the end: _____

1 mark

5. What does the group of words, 'for what seemed like a lifetime' tell us about how Katie felt?

1 mark

6. Why do you think the intruders decided to leave the room when they did?

1 mark

7. What do you think might have happened if the intruders had seen the bag?

1 mark

8. Do you think Katie has any idea who the intruders could be? Why or why not? Use evidence from the text.

2 marks