

María Angula



This legend is considered a horror story because the main character, Maria Angula, stole something creepy from a graveyard. Can you predict what it was?

Once upon a time, there was a teenage girl named Maria Angula. She was fourteen years old, and she had a very strong character. She didn't like to be bossed around. Her mother was a street vendor, she offered food such as rice with beans, roast beef, and "Tripa asada" which was a famous Ecuadorian dish prepared with sausages made of viscera.

One day, Maria's mother asked her daughter to go to the store to buy sausages and viscera for the next day. As Maria Angula had a willful character, she decided to ignore her mother's request as she wanted to be with her friends. She also used her mother's money and bought some candy to share with her friends!

As the day passed, Maria Angulo realized she did things wrong. Her behavior was not appropriate, and she feared her mother would ground her. For that reason, Maria decided to go home. While walking, she had a feeling of worriedness, and she decided to go to Quito's graveyard. This cemetery was awful! She decided to stay there until early night.

When the night arrived she went inside the cemetery and took some viscera from recently dead bodies. She was very scared but she had to be strong. When the plan was done, she decided to go home. When Maria Angulo arrived home she greeted her mom. Obviously, her mother was upset because she had disappeared all the afternoon. Maria said: "Hi, mom. I am sorry I am late. Here are the sausages and viscera you asked for."

Maria was worried thinking her mother would ground her. She knew she was wrong because her attitude was not the right one. Fortunately, her mother did not ground her. She felt relieved and wanted to go to bed immediately. Maria was in the bedroom and her mom was outside selling food, which is a very common practice in Ecuador. Some people sell food, snacks, ice cream, and more in their garage or patio. That specific night the food in Maria's mom business was a huge success! They sold every single sausage (and viscera!).

Later that night, Maria was hanging out in her room and she could not stop thinking about the awful thing she had done! Maybe there was another alternative, but she decided to do it anyway. Later, alone in her room, she kept on thinking about the terrible thing she had done. At midnight, when she was finally falling asleep there

was a loud knock on her door! For Maria Angula this was something unusual and weird.



Again and again, someone kept knocking loudly on her door! But everyone was asleep, so who could it be? Maria Angulo did not know who was slamming on the door. She froze for a moment because she heard something even stranger. Suddenly, she heard a voice. Someone was whispering in the bedroom. She was terrified! When she tried to understand what the voice was saying, she heard:

“Maria Angula: give me back my viscera... the organs you stole from me in the cemetery, give them back to me...”

Each time the voice grew louder and louder. The voice was sounding in all the bedroom. Then, she heard footsteps. Maria could feel someone coming up the stairs and crawling to her room.

She became anxious and terrified at the same time, she thought the groaning came from the spirits of the death people she had stolen the organs from.

With all these terrible feelings and emotions, Maria looked for a pair of scissors. She had decided to extract her viscera and pay her debt. She wanted to remove her organs and be free from all this suffering.

The next day, Maria Angula's mother found her dead on her bed. At that moment, her mother realized that Maria had done something terrible, something that was so risky that she took her own life.

VOCABULARY

Match the vocabulary word or phrase with a synonym or description.

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| 1. horror story | _____ a. Tales that produce fear. |
| 2. teenage girl | _____ b. Shutting (a door or window) with force. |
| 3. Viscera | _____ c. The internal organs of the body. |
| 4. behavior | _____ d. Spending time relaxing. |
| 5. worriedness | _____ e. The way in which one acts. |
| 6. scared | _____ f. No longer feeling anxious. |
| 7. greeted | _____ e. The state of being worried. |
| 8. relieved | _____ f. Fearful; frightened |
| 9. hanging out | _____ g. Gave a sign of welcome |
| 10. slamming | _____ h. Between 13 and 19 years of age |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

Read the statements. Check (✓) "True" or "False" on each.

Sentences	True	False
1. This legend talks about a funny event in Maria's life.		
2. The characters are Maria Angula and her mother.		
3. Maria was an adult woman.		
4. Maria Angula's mother sold food outside her home.		
5. "Tripa asada" is a typical food made from viscera.		
6. Maria's mother wanted to get some rice and beans.		
7. Maria spent all the money on candy for her friends.		
8. Maria stole some organs from the cemetery.		
9. At midnight she heard people hanging out in her room.		
10. Maria felt miserable and terrified.		