

## One Fearful Night

By Sharmane C. Miller



The howling wind whistled through the open bedroom window. Shadows of all shapes and sizes danced on the walls as Linda lay frozen in her bed. Her teeth were chattering from the cold air that filled her room and the fear that gripped her added to her anxiety.

"She clutched her pillow tightly and began to recite a short prayer, '*Now I lay me down to sleep ...*'" Suddenly, a gust of wind rushed in. The assignment she had left on her computer desk scattered all over the floor. She sank deeper into her sheets and pulled the blanket over her head.

"Why me?" She thought to herself. "Why is this happening to me?" She knew she would have to get up to bolt her window or face freezing. However, her body would not cooperate. Finally, after much thought, she took a deep breath, threw off her blanket and darted to the window. The violent wind caused the window to bang furiously against the pane. Linda nervously fastened the latch and closed the curtains. It was quiet once again.

Hurriedly, Linda climbed into bed and quickly pulled the covers over her head once again. Without a thought, she continued the prayer she had started earlier, "*I pray the Lord my soul to keep ...*" With those words, Linda drifted off to sleep.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What TWO things caused Linda's teeth to chatter? [2]

2. "Linda lay frozen in her bed." Explain the meaning of this sentence. [1]

3. What is the meaning of the word **bolt** as it was used in the passage? Write a ONE word as your answer. (1)

4. Which word from the passage means the same as '**flew everywhere**'? (1)

5. Which might have happened if Linda didn't find out what caused the loud noise?  
Shade in the letter next to the correct answer. [1]

- (a) she might have stayed awake in fear  
(b) she might have prayed and gone to bed  
(c) she might have stayed awake feeling safe  
(d) she might have stood by the window singing

6. Use the numbers 1 – 4 to put the following events in the order as they happened in the story. [4]

- \_\_\_ Papers flew all over the room  
\_\_\_ Linda squeezed her pillow  
\_\_\_ Linda closed the window  
\_\_\_ Linda pulled the blanket over her head