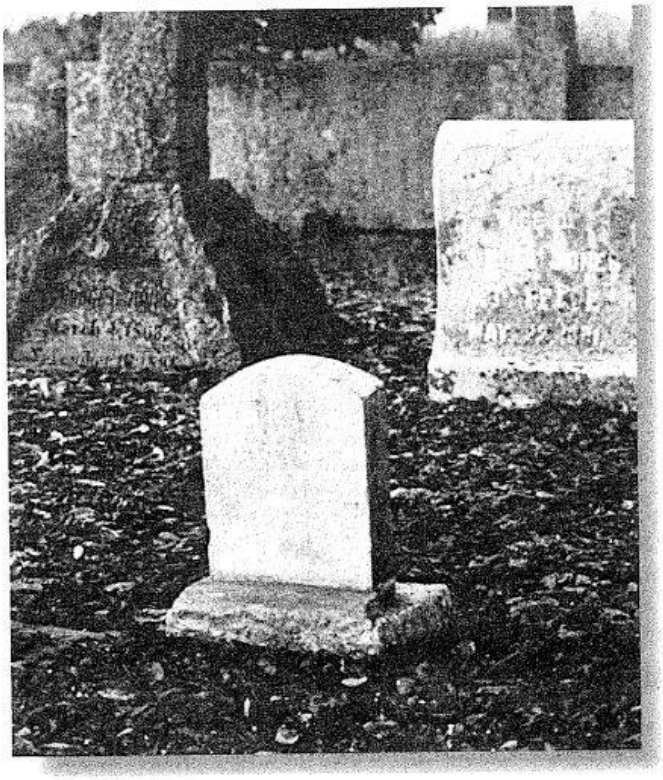
UNIT 11



1. PRE-READING

Look at the picture.

- What do you see?
- What is this place?

Read the title of the story. Look at the picture again.

- What do you think this story is about?
- Can you guess what happens?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Buried Alive

In 1865, in a small town in Germany, a little boy was very sick. His name was Max Hoffman.

"Will our son die?" Max's parents asked the doctor.

"Maybe," the doctor said quietly. "Stay with Max. Keep him warm. That's all you can do."

For three days, Max lay in his bed. Then he died. He was only five years old.

Max's parents buried their son in the town cemetery. That night Max's mother had a terrible dream. She dreamed that Max was moving in his coffin. She screamed in her sleep.

"Shh, shh," her husband said. "It's all right. You had a bad dream."

The next night, Max's mother screamed in her sleep again. She had the same terrible dream.

On the third night, Max's mother had another bad dream. She dreamed that Max was crying. She got out of bed and got dressed. "Quick! Get dressed," she told her husband. "We're going to the cemetery. I want to see Max. I want to dig up his coffin."

At four o'clock in the morning, Max's parents and a neighbor hurried to the cemetery. They dug up Max's coffin and opened it. There was Max. He looked dead. But something was different. When Max's parents buried him, he was lying on his back. Now he was lying on his side.

Max's father carried Max home. Then he ran to get the doctor. For an hour, the doctor rubbed whiskey on Max's lips and warmed his body. Then Max opened his eyes. Max was alive! A week later, he was playing with his friends.

Max Hoffman died—really died—in the United States in 1953. He was 93 years old.

2. VOCABULARY

Complete the sentences with the words below.

buried | dug up | hurried | lay | terrible

1. Max was very sick. He couldn't walk. He _lay_ in his bed.
2. After Max died, his parents _____ him in the town cemetery.
3. Max's mother had a very bad dream: She dreamed that Max was moving in his coffin. It was a _____ dream.
4. When Max's parents and a neighbor went to the cemetery, they walked fast. They _____ to the cemetery.
5. Max's parents and a neighbor took Max's coffin out of the ground. They _____ the coffin.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

3. COMPREHENSION

◆ REMEMBERING DETAILS

One word in each sentence is not correct. Find the word and cross it out. Write the correct word.

1. In 1865, in a small town in ~~France~~ Germany, a little boy was very sick.
2. For three months, Max lay in his bed; then he died.
3. Max's parents buried their daughter in the town cemetery.
4. That night Max's mother had a wonderful dream.
5. She laughed in her sleep.
6. Max's parents and a neighbor dug up the coffin and closed it.
7. When Max's parents buried him, he was lying on his back; now he was lying on his stomach.
8. Max's father carried him home and ran to get the neighbor.
9. The doctor rubbed whiskey on Max's ears and warmed his body.
10. A year later, Max was playing with his friends.

◆ UNDERSTANDING TIME AND PLACE

Read the phrases from the story. Which phrases tell you *when* something happened? Write them in the *WHEN* column. Which phrases tell you *where* something happened? Write them in the *WHERE* column.

in 1953
in a small town
in the United States
the next night
in the town cemetery
in Germany
in 1865
at four o'clock in the morning
in his bed
a week later

WHEN	*WHERE*
in 1953	in a small town

LIVEWORKSHEETS

◆ **UNDERSTANDING QUOTATIONS**

Who said it? Match the sentences and the people. Write the letter of your answer on the line.

_c_ **1.** "Will our son die?"	**a.** Max's mother
____ **2.** "Stay with Max and keep him warm."	**b.** Max's father
____ **3.** "Shh, shh. It's all right."	**c.** Max's parents
____ **4.** "I want to dig up Max's coffin."	**d.** the doctor

4. DISCUSSION

A. Max Hoffman was buried for more than two days. Then his parents dug up his coffin. Max was alive! Do you think that's possible? Is this story true? Raise your hands and vote. How many students think Max Hoffman's story is possible? How many think it's impossible?

B. Max's mother dreamed about Max. Think about your dreams. With the help of your teacher, read the sentences below and circle *YES* or *NO*.

a. In the morning, I remember my dreams.	YES	NO
b. I have the same dream again and again.	YES	NO
c. I dreamed something—and then it happened.	YES	NO
d. I know a superstition about dreams. (For example: If you dream about snakes, you will get money.)	YES	NO
e. I sometimes speak English in my dreams.	YES	NO

Read your *YES* answers to a partner. Tell your partner a little more about your dreams.

5. WRITING

When Max Hoffman was an old man, he told his story to many people. People often asked Max questions.

Imagine that you are Max Hoffman. Answer the following questions on your own paper.

1. What happened when you were five years old? *I "died."*
2. Where did your parents bury you?
3. What did your mother dream?
4. Who went to the cemetery and dug up your coffin?
5. Who carried you home?
6. What did the doctor do?
7. What were you doing a week later?

LIVEWORKSHEETS