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CHAPTER 2

CASTLE DRACULA

There was no bell or knocker on the door of the castle. Jonathan stood outside alone for a long time before anyone came to open it. The door was finally opened by a very tall old man. “Welcome to my house!” he said to Jonathan. “Come in!” It was Count Dracula himself.

Jonathan stepped into the castle and shook hands with the Count. Dracula’s hand was so cold that Jonathan felt he was shaking hands with a dead man.

The Count picked up Jonathan’s bags and carried them to a bedroom lit by candles. A fire burned in the fireplace. In another room, Jonathan’s supper was waiting for him. He was very hungry after his journey and happily sat down to eat. The Count did not eat with Jonathan, but he sat and talked to him.

Jonathan now had time to look at the Count carefully. He was an old man, but very strong. Jonathan saw that his ears were pointed and that he had very red lips and sharp white teeth. His hands were large, with long pointed nails like an animal’s **claws**. There was hair on his hands. The Count’s skin was very **pale** and the bad smell of his breath made Jonathan feel sick.

The next morning when Jonathan woke up, he found his breakfast on the table. There was also a note from the Count:

You may go anywhere in the castle, but do not try to go into the rooms that are locked.

There is a reason that things are as they are. Transylvania is not like England. Our customs are not like your customs and many things here will seem strange to you.

Dracula

After breakfast, Jonathan walked around the castle. Most of the doors were locked, but Jonathan found the door to the library open. There were many books, newspapers and magazines in English. Jonathan was surprised because he did not see any