

WHY DID THE ALARM BLAST? (GUARD)

By Carole L. Cooney

Definitions

Guard: to defend	Guard the treasure from the robbers.
Guard: a safety device	That glass guards against anyone using the fire ax.
Guard: a person on sentinel duty	The British Guard wore an enormous hat.
Guard: to protect	The locked doors guarded the frightened child.

Setting: The Nagle Art Museum

Characters:

Narrator

Mrs. Block

Matt

Tony

Melissa

Anna

Narrator: It was a gloomy day when Mrs. Block decided to send her children to the Nagle Art Museum. It started to rain as the bus arrived to take them to the entrance of the museum.

Mrs. Block: Oh dear, the rain is coming down. Well, dash into the main lobby but guard against slipping and falling on the marble floor.

Matt: We'll be careful, Mom. Can we split up and go on our own?

Mrs. Block: All right. Let's see. Meet here in the lobby at 1 o'clock. Then I'll take you to get something to eat.

Narrator: The children paired up and went exploring the various rooms. The sisters went into the Impressionist paintings room. Soon they noticed the guards staring at them.

Melissa: Anna, why are those guards looking at us?

Anna: They want to make sure we don't touch any of the art work. Let's get out of this room.

Melissa: Good idea. That guard spooks me out.

Narrator: The boys went into Greek and Roman artifacts room.

Tony: Wow! Look at those athletes painted on those huge vases. What do you think those guys are doing?

Matt: Well, it says they're in a boxing match. This one shows a discus thrower.

Tony: (pointing) Look at their bodies. They sure were slender but well built!

Matt: Don't look now, but that guard is walking our way. Let's move on, okay?

Tony: It bugs me when the guard comes near us. *We're just looking.*

Narrator: In the next room the brothers saw their sisters staring at ancient jewelry. Standing beside that display containing gems and gold, were two security guards. Around the outside of the display there were laser beams set up to guarantee the items were guarded securely. When Anna pointed to a precious gold ring, an alarm sounded. The security guards immediately grabbed the sisters.

Matt: (running to his sisters) What's going on?

Tony: What's happening?

What happened next?

Using as many definitions of guard as you can, end the play.