

As I did the whole three at the opposite side were snuffed out, not blown out by a draught surely, for the flame never wavered, it was bright one second and out the next. I had heard of candles being snuffed out before by some invisible hand, but had always thought the persons who saw these had evidently eaten too much or else had very vivid imaginations. But here was the same thing happening. Another went out, and still another. There was now only one left. With feverish haste I grabbed in my pocket for the pale green lawn light, lit it and set it in the centre of the floor. The room now had a pale green aspect, which made everything look ghastly. Even my own hands seemed spook like. Suddenly the one remaining candle went out, and then the lawn light commenced to die down. I now lit the red one, which only made everything still more supernatural looking than before. All at once both the lawn lights went out, and I lost my head completely. Something seemed to be in the room here, there and everywhere all at once. I could not describe it, just a something which tried to encircle me. I drew my

the place was in total darkness. Then and fired the six shots one after the other on all sides, but even they seemed muffled. Now my last resort was gone, my matches were all spent, and I was nearly crazy with fear. Gradually something took hold of me. Bright, feverish eyes seemed to be on all sides. I put my arms around my face and made towards the trap door, my foot slipped, and I fell headlong through the open trap down the ladder to the floor beneath.

The next day I recovered consciousness and found myself in the house-keeper's room with the kindly matron and Peter standing guard. My back ached, my head was bandaged, and my collar bone broken, and on the inside of my right arm there were two cuts in the shape of a cross about two inches long. These were said to have been found in exactly the same place on the man who had met his death trying to solve the mystery in the same way as I had. * * * Some of you may doubt my story, others may not, but you may try to solve it for yourselves. As for me I have had enough of ghosts and haunted places for the rest of my natural life.

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