

Excerpt from the winning essay

Mysterious ending

*I am a young nine-year-old boy who is known for his courageous and rebellious nature. I did not believe in ghosts, spirits, or any other things that terrified other nine-year olds. One-night Bobby was telling all of us about the legend of the abandoned church and how the Bishop of that church haunted all those who dared to enter the church. At the end of this story all the children were shivering in fright with the exception of me. I burst out laughing. The children looked at me in awe on seeing me laugh, while Bobby was annoyed as he liked being the centre of attention. I was thus told to prove it. Not wanting to seem like a coward, I promptly agreed to spend a night in the church.*

- *Malishka Vemu*

*Bombay Scottish, Mahim*