

6th Grade Narrative Anchor

George's Weird Night

George was a hard-working landscaper from California. He had just moved into a spacious, 3-bedroom apartment with his cat and his seven-year-old daughter, Caroline. They spent three days and nights rummaging through boxes and suitcases. "This place is a mess, I can't wait until we are finished unpacking, daddy." "I know how you feel Caroline, but just think about how much more space we have compared to the cramped 1-bedroom we used to live in."

One hot summer night after a long day of landscaping, George walked into the cluttered living room. Caroline was already asleep in her bed when George heard a noise. He walked into his living room and saw a lump in the rug. He was too tired to tell if it was moving or not, but he saw the lamp fall over.

"Daddy, what was that noise?" Caroline asked walking into the living room rubbing her eyes. "I don't know," George replied. "Go back to bed." His first thought was to go get a chair and hit it, so he did. He heard a noise from under the carpet, but he couldn't tell what it was. He raised the chair again and banged it into the floor. All was silent so he figured that whatever it was, it must be dead. As he started walking back to his room he heard a dull thud. The lump had moved towards the TV stand and bumped into it.

George grabbed the chair again and hit the lump once more. This time he heard his daughter shout, "Daddy, stop being so loud! I can't sleep!" Then he heard his neighbor, Mr. Glockenberg, shout, "Stop banging the floor you lunatic!" Suddenly, George heard a meow.

“Snowball?” he asked and heard a meow. Then George’s cat, Snowball, walked out from under the rug. George bent down to pet his cat, “Poor kitty,” he said. He was exhausted, so he went back to bed. Ten minutes later George heard a scratching on the floor. Snowball was going back under the rug just as the exhausted George and Caroline were drifting off to sleep.

Annotations

- **Narrative techniques:** Narrative techniques (dialogue, pacing, description, etc.) develop events and characters.
 - Basic narrator involvement; functional dialogue
 - George was a hard-working landscaper from California.
 - George grabbed the chair and hit the lump once more.
 - “Daddy, what was that noise?” Caroline asked . . . “I don’t know,” George replied. “Go back to bed.”
- **Sequence and Transitions:** Appropriate transitions guide the reader through a logical sequence.
 - There is some reference to the order of events. The story progresses chronologically.
 - One hot summer night
 - His first thought
 - Then he heard
- **Plot:** Precise words and relevant details convey events.
 - Descriptive dialogue. Precise descriptive words. Details do not capture action.
 - “This place is a mess.”
 - All was silent
 - George grabbed the chair and hit the lump once more.
- **Conclusion:** Conclusion follows from the narrated events.
 - Story is clearly over, but conclusion does not reflect on narrated experiences.
 - He went back to bed.
 - Snowball was going back under the rug just as the exhausted George and Caroline were drifting off to sleep.