

## Story: The Mystery of the Lighthouse

Once upon a time, in a small coastal town, there stood an ancient lighthouse, perched atop a cliff, overlooking the vast ocean. This lighthouse, although operational, was surrounded by tales and rumors. The locals whispered about its mysterious keeper, an old man known simply as Mr. Eldridge. He was rarely seen in town and only came down from the lighthouse to gather supplies once a month.

One stormy night, a group of tourists staying nearby heard strange noises echoing from the direction of the lighthouse. Curiosity got the best of them, and they decided to investigate the source of these sounds the following morning. As they approached the lighthouse, the door creaked open slightly, as if inviting them in. Hesitant but driven by their curiosity, they stepped inside.

The lighthouse was surprisingly cozy inside, with a warm fire burning in a small hearth and walls lined with shelves of old maritime books. The most striking feature was a large, antique map spread out on a table, with various locations marked in a meticulous manner. Mr. Eldridge, who appeared unexpectedly behind them, began to narrate the history of the lighthouse and its role in guiding countless ships to safety.

He shared tales of shipwrecks, rescued sailors, and hidden treasures that were rumored to be buried along the coast. The tourists were captivated by his stories, and soon, the mysterious noises from the night before seemed less frightening and more like a part of the lighthouse's charm.

As the day ended, the tourists thanked Mr. Eldridge for sharing his stories and the lighthouse's history. They left with a new appreciation for the old structure and its keeper, promising to return with more friends.