

# Help!

10 The trees were like inky giants menacingly looming over  
17 the house with twisted, reaching arms. Their decaying  
25 leaves rustled loudly and the air smelled damp.

35 Lucy arrived at the door. Her chest tightened. Her eyes  
44 widened. She lifted her shaking, clammy hand to knock  
55 on the door but before she could touch it, it creaked  
56 open...

61 They wouldn't find her here.

70 Slowly edging across the threshold, her heart began to  
78 pound. Thoughts were racing wildly around her head  
87 as she tentatively peered into the darkness, trying to  
98 see if the coast was clear. After moments of silence and  
107 stillness, she had reassured herself; judging by the state  
116 of the house, nobody had ventured there in years.

117 Relief.

126 Then, from the floors above, a small, almost inaudible  
130 voice called, "Help... me..."



# Quick Questions



1. Where did the voice come from?

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2. Define: inaudible.

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3. Why was her 'heart pounding'? Give two reasons.

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4. What do you predict Lucy will do next? Use the text to support your answer.

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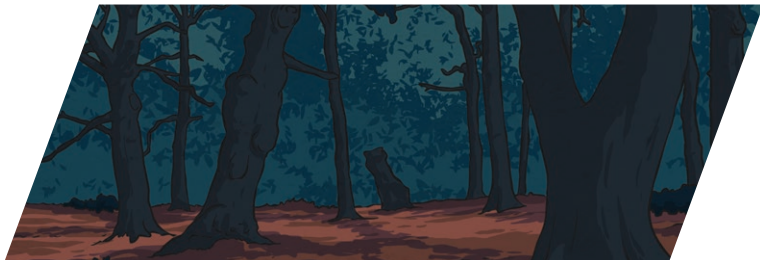
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# Answers



1. Where did the voice come from?  
**Accept: the floors above (her).**



2. Define: inaudible.  
**Accept very quiet, almost impossible to hear.**



3. Why was her 'heart pounding'? Give two reasons.  
**Accept an explanation focusing on the fact that she was trying to get away from somebody ('They wouldn't find her here') so her heart is pounding due to physical exertion and being scared.**



4. What do you predict Lucy will do next? Use the text to support your answer.  
**Accept any reasonable explanation linking to the text – she will go towards the noise because she was brave enough to go into the house; she will leave the house because she wanted to check that the coast was clear, so if somebody else is there she won't want to stay there.**