

Name:

Date:

The Empty Classroom

Ella realised she had left her backpack at school just as it was getting dark. Her dad drove her back, but Ella went inside alone. The hallways were silent, and most of the lights had been switched off.

As she approached her classroom, she heard something strange. Screeeech. It sounded like a chair being dragged across the floor. Ella stopped walking. Then came another sound. Squeak. Squeak. Squeak. Someone was writing on the whiteboard. Ella slowly pushed open the classroom door. Nobody was there.

Her backpack sat beside her desk exactly where she had left it. Ella grabbed it and turned to leave. Then she noticed the whiteboard. Written across it in enormous letters were the words: **HELLO, ELLA.**

Ella stared at the message.

Behind her, a chair slowly scraped across the floor.

This time, Ella didn't turn around.

She ran.



1. Why did Ella return to school?

2. What was written on the whiteboard?

3. Have you ever been somewhere that felt creepy?

4. Does this remind you of another scary story?

5. What would you do if you were Ella?



Answers

1. She had left her backpack at school.
2. "HELLO, ELLA."
3. Answers will vary.
4. Answers will vary. Students may connect it to another scary book, movie or story.
5. Answers will vary.