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Warnings We Do Not Heed

September 2023

296 Words

Ten 25-Word Stories

1. Parenting Through the Years

I was fifty, parenting my own children, before I understand how much impatience my father suffered raising us. I'm still angry. Too many wounds acquired.

2. Little League Instruction

"Throwing inside makes the batter flinch. Makes him question his stance. Makes him nervous. Creates strikeout opportunities."

"Isn't that unsportsman-like, Dad?"

"No, Son, it isn't."

3. A Dirty Mind

"Stop," he demanded.

"Why?" she replied.

"I don't like it."

"Why'd you ask for it?"

"Did I?"

"Well, you didn't say no when I started."

4. An Irish Spring

Green river dyed for St. Paddy's Day conceals dead, stinking bodies better than dirt. Drunk cops don't pay attention either. I like this Irish holiday.

5. Skills Passed Down

He held the knife as he had been taught. Stabbing down hard, gripping tight to break the resistance. Plunging deep to induce spasm. Deadly accurate.

6. Creepy

Watching her from a dark corner in the room excited him. Hardened him. But he cautioned himself, *Be patient till she sleeps. Then move in.*

7. Night Guard

How many more lonely nights do I have left guarding this empty parking lot?
He thought. A meager paycheck replacing all those long, sad years.

8. Nurse

She walks down the dark hallway, psychiatric meds in a little cup, so his delusions will cease. He waits for her with a dangerous grin.

9. Gods & Devils

"I'm dead, but I'm still scared."

"Of?"

"You."

"Why?"

"Cause I think you're the devil."

"Well then this will really scare you."

"Oh, God! NO!"

10. Funny

"Say something funny, Charlie."

"Okay, Priscilla. Knock Knock."

"Whose there?"

"Your gruesome murder."

"Stop it, Charlie! That's not funny!"

"Well, I'll sure laugh when you die."