

Locked Inside: Karen Hendricks

I wasn't feeling too well so I called my doctor to see if she could squeeze me in for an appointment after I finished work. Luckily, a cancellation meant the last appointment of the day was now for me.

After work I raced to the surgery to get there on time. Being the end of the day, meant the surgery had emptied and only a few people remained. The receptionist waved me down to the back of the surgery where my doctor was waiting.

It was eerily quiet inside the surgery as my doctor and I chatted. I did wonder why she had to google some information. She seemed distracted and kept on popping in and out of the room. So, when my consultation finished with a relieved heart I headed back down to the reception to finalise the bill and go home out the front door. However, the receptionist had already left, and the front door was locked.

Suddenly, the lights flickered, I was left standing in a dimly lit surgery reception area all alone. It was getting creepy. I decided to go back down the hallway to my doctor's room and catch her. I opened the door and called out but there was no answer. Her chair was empty, her light was off. Now it was scary.

I frantically raced to the back door and pulled hard on it, but it was dead locked. My doctor must have left out the back and locked it behind her. It was getting darker and darker by the minute. I pulled out my mobile phone, but it had only one bar of power and no WiFi. Now I couldn't ring anyone. I raced back to the front of the surgery and pressed my face against the glass. I searched the street to wave at someone to help me, but no one was there. I could pick up a chair and smash the glass but then I could be arrested and thought of as a burglar.

Suddenly, there was a whoosh of air, so I raced back down the hallway. I was just about to scream when the lights flickered back on and there stood the cleaner.

I screamed, she screamed we both screamed. I explained that I'd been locked inside. Horrified, she let me out and I vowed to never ever take the last appointment again.