The quiet American town named Kingman could always boast its perfect reputation. People knew each other well and nothing extraordinary had ever happened there. However, there was one detail of the town, which filled minds of the inhabitants with superstitions – a forest which was situated in one of the parts of the town. It looked menacing with its hazy air and ebony trees and there was something in it which gave people the creeps. The forest was oddly quiet and once you set foot in it, it seemed to you that the world outside it did not exist.

One day, the respectable town was shocked by one terrible event: the owner of the toy store and his wife were murdered and their son went missing. The police were at loss to know what to do. In few days two more children went missing.

The mayor of the town and his wife had two children. The older one, a girl named Maggie was a dreamer and her parents had always tried to make her be more serious, but all in vain. Maggie was sure that the mysterious kidnapper would come after her little brother, but her parents did not believe her, as usual.

One night she decided to stay awake and save her brother, but she could not resist and fell asleep. She was awakened by a strange noise, but when she realized what was going on it was too late. From the window of her room Maggie could see the forest and under the faint light of street-lamps she saw a blurred figure and decided to follow it. Finally, Maggie was forced to go to the creepy forest and she was surprised to see an abandoned school bus in the middle of it with bars on windows. The figure entered the bus and the girl stopped outside to see what was happening there.

There was a big cage in the bus and few candles. Inside the cage there were four children, and Maggie’s brother was among them. When Maggie saw the kidnapper she was horror-struck: her knees started knocking and she suddenly felt that her forehead was covered with droplets of sweat; it was a clown, who was wearing a grubby costume, his face was covered with make-up which apparently had not been refreshed for a very long time, and he was wearing a terrifying mask which covered his mouth and his nose with a blood-curling smile depicted on it.

The clown opened the cage and let children out, then gave them some toys to play and went out, locking the door of the bus. Maggie knew that it was high time she made something up to rescue the children. The odds were in her favor and she noticed a large rag. She used all her strength to pick it and decided to wait until the clown returned. When he finally came back and unlocked the door, she hit him hard on his head and shouted at children to make them run. Then Maggie took the keys from clown’s hand and locked him, still unconscious, in the bus.

All the children came home, with the exception of toy store owner’s son, who joined the mayor’s family and things returned to normal. However, when the police went to the forest to find a school bus, they did not manage to do that. It seemed that the clown with his bus just vanished into thin air. The case was closed due to the lack of evidence.

One night, however, when Maggie was getting ready to go to bed, it seemed to her that she saw the terrible face of the clown with his mask, the memory of which would never leave her, behind her back in the mirror…