

# **Sample of Cover and Selected Pages**

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# Fangs

Mystery in Necroville



**Making Difficult Words Easy**

**Code Reader Books provide codes with “sound keys” to help read difficult words.** For example, a word that may be difficult to read is “unicorn,” so it might be followed by a code like this: unicorn (*YOO-nih-korn*). By providing codes with phonetic sound keys, Code Reader Books make reading easier and more enjoyable.

**Examples of Code Reader™ Keys**

Long a sound (as in make):

**a** (*with a silent e*) or **ay**

Examples: able (*AY-bul*); break (*brake*)

Short i sound (as in sit): **i** or **ih**

Examples: myth (*mith*); mission (*MIH-shun*)

Long i sound (as in by):

**i** (*with a silent e*) or **y**

Examples: might (*mite*); bicycle (*BY-sih-kul*)

Keys for the long o sound (as in hope):

**o** (*with a silent e*) or **oh**

Examples: molten (*MOLE-ten*); ocean (*OH-shen*)

**Codes use dashes between syllables (*SIH-luh-buls*), and stressed syllables have capital letters.**

To see more Code Reader sound keys, see page 106.

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**Mystery in Necroville**



**TREASURE BAY**

# Fangs

## Mystery in Necroville

A Code Reader™ Chapter Book  
Blue Series

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# In Necroville

(NEK-roh-vil)

What's the first thing a star influencer (*IN-floo-EN-sur*) like me does? Introduce themselves! My name is Carmilla (*kar-MIL-uh*) Stoker, and I look about your age. I say *look* because I'm a vampire, and a vampire's age is our most closely kept secret (*SEE-kret*). After all, we are rather vain. I am also brave and very curious (*KYUR-ee-us*) about everything! I love a good mystery (*MIS-tur-ee*)!

Even though I'm dead (vampires are dead, but you knew that), I appear full of life and it's easy to make me laugh. I like playing chess, going surfing (even if colorful surfer gear looks a bit weird (*weerd*) on me with my skin tone), and garlic chicken. I love garlic chicken! All that stuff about vampires being scared of garlic is a lie. It's just that we think wearing (*WARE-ring*) a necklace (*NEK-lus*) of garlic looks quite ridiculous (*ree-DIK-yoo-lus*), and that's where the story that we don't like garlic comes from.

My friend Lazlo (*LAZ-loh*) and I live in Necroville (*NEK-roh-vil*), a land of horrors, frights, terrors, and chills. The Necroville anthem says:

**If ghosts and vampires give you chills  
And bats make your pulse (puls) quicken  
Necroville is not for you  
So leave if you are chicken.**

The fun thing about living in Necroville is that here strange (*straynj*) things are normal and normal things are not-so-normal. Here it's normal to be a zombie, a she-wolf, a headless-scary-thing, a blanket-ghoul (*gool*) (best if you don't know what that is), a monster, or many other things like that.









There's also a friendly elf called Scamp who got lost in the forest one day and ended up in Necroville (*NEK-roh-vil*). He soon became friends with a three-eyed (*ide*) monster called Creeky and decided to stay and live here. Anyway, I think you get the idea (*I-DEE-uh*).

My friend Lazlo (*LAZ-loh*) and I have a detective agency (*AY-jen-see*) called Strange Happenings where we investigate the strangest (*STRAIN-jist*) mysteries and oddest cases.

Lazlo is a very intelligent (*in-TEL-ih-jent*) scientist (*SY-en-tist*), the best one I've ever met. However, it is also true that he lacks imagination (*im-maj-in-NAY-shun*) and is a bit of a scaredy-cat. When science can't explain something, Lazlo gets very nervous (*NUR-vus*). Oh, and he almost never smiles. He says that to be a respectable scientist, you have to have a serious (*SEE-ree-us*) face all the time, even if it takes an effort.



Also living with us is Dep Heo (*HEE-oh*). If you're thinking that's a strange dog . . . well, no, you're barking up the wrong tree. Dep Heo is a pig. A Vietnamese (*vee-ET-nah-meez*) potbelly pig to be exact—one of those small and friendly ones. His name means "beautiful (*BYOO-tif-ul*) pig" in Vietnamese.



## DEP HEO:

- Is a beautiful pig
- Is a clean pig
- Is also a demon pig

It is also true that Dep Heo can turn into a demon (*DEE-mun*) pig, but he doesn't like being called that. He is a very sensitive pet and that means two things:

- Instead of demon pig, he prefers us to call him a "real boar." (Which is a bit funny since, while a boar is a type of wild pig, Dep Heo is certainly (*SUR-ten-lee*) not a bore!)
- When he gets mad . . . well, I'll explain that to you later because in this story Dep Heo gets mad and. . . .

But I'm getting ahead of myself!

What I'm about to tell you is our origin story—the reason Lazlo, Dep Heo, and I decided to start our detective agency (*AY-jen-see*). So, here goes. And, as I always say when the fun begins. . . .

*I'll dress for the occasion (oh-KAY-zhun)!*





# My Admirers

The day began with good news. Two thousand new followers (*FAH-loh-wurz*)! That made me very happy. The reason for my fame as a fashion influencer (*IN-floo-EN-sur*) is that I know how to find the best clothes (*cloze*) at the best prices.

On hearing about our increase in followers, Lazlo took a loud, deep breath (*breth*) in and responded:

“That is an increase of thirteen percent since yesterday.



Almost all of them give you five stars. Of your followers, seven out of ten prefer black clothes (*cloze*). Only one in ten likes the color ‘decomposed (*dee-kum-POZE-d*) chicken-poop brown.’ And nine out of ten like you.”



“So, one in ten doesn’t like me?” I replied in surprise.  
“Why not??”

“Actually (*AK-choo-uh-lee*), it’s really only one follower. He’s a hater, that’s what haters do. He’s called @insults, but I’ve found out that his real name is Manny. He says you are lame because you only show the clothes and never show your face.”

Dep Heo chimed in with two grunts to show his disapproval (*dis-uh-PROO-vul*).

But Manny is right. Even though I am one of the biggest fashion influencers right now, I never show my face. Because I have a secret (*SEE-kret*).



I don't want my followers to know that I'm a vampire. As you probably know, vampires have no reflection and we don't show up in mirrors (*MEER-urz*), cameras (*KAM-ur-ruz*), or on social media videos. (That's why no one can prove (*proov*) we exist. It's impossible to take a photo of us!)



"You shouldn't worry about that one hater," said Lazlo. "You are fun and very glamorous (*GLAM-ur-us*). A real star. A star who will go far! Yes, a far star, I mean . . . a star who will go far that's what you are!"

Lazlo sometimes gets tied up with his words and then stops to think about the muddle he's gotten into. He then racks his brain to try to understand what he himself has just said!



Dep Heo came over and gave me a lick to try and cheer me up.

As I began to wipe off my pet pig's slobber, new comments appeared (*uh-PEERD*) from followers who liked the last photo I posted on my social media. The comments were about the outfit that Tristan, the sponsor of my social media channel, had sent me.



Tristan is the biggest clothes manufacturer (*man-yoo-FAK-chur-ur*) in Necroville. He uses his last name, which is Tzara (*ZAR-ah*), for his clothes brand.



I had just finished cleaning the pig slobber off me when a special comment appeared among (*uh-MUNG*) the many that my followers had written. It was from @mossi.



**As always, your clothes are to die for!**

The “to die for” bit made me laugh and Dep Heo grunted softly, almost purring. It’s what he does when all is well.

@mossi is one of my followers and his real name is Mossi (*MOS-see*) Mod. He’s an Italian (*it-TAL-yun*) influencer. He has a classic, elegant look and he’s very handsome with hair as black as a crow’s wing and an amazing fashion sense. He has never, never, for anything in the world, lost the crease in his pants. When it comes to things like that, @mossi is the king. However, just like me, Mossi Mod also has a secret.





56K



730



SHARE

@MOSSI  
#fashionvictim