



HI Y'ALL!

My name is Charley. Well, my real name is Charlotte Elizabeth Beauregard, but everyone calls me Charley for short. I'm twelve years old and in the seventh grade at Plantation View Middle School. My favorite subjects are art and P.E. Some of the kids at school say that I look like the book character Pippi Longstocking, because I wear my strawberry-blonde hair in pigtails. But I don't think so.

Anyway, Mrs. Thibodeaux, my English teacher, told us that we had to write a "personal narrative." She said a personal narrative is a detailed story about an important experience in your life. I decided to write mine about the Swamp Mysteries Detective Agency. That's the agency that I – along with my best friend,

THE TREASURE OF JEAN LAFITTE

Oscar, and the twins, Robbie and Jules – formed to help the people of Plantation View, Louisiana.

You see, where we live strange things happen ALL THE TIME. Like when Miranda Blakely, a girl in my class, was playing piano at her house and something cold and invisible started playing alongside her. Or when Jules and Robbie’s mom, Mrs. Landry, saw a headless figure emerge from the river, only to disappear within seconds. Or, when Jackson Swift’s maid entered the kitchen to find the chicken gumbo she was about to make already made for her.

These sorts of unexplainable things happen all the time, and for the most part, the people of Plantation View are used to it. But sometimes, the ghosts and ghouls that live amongst us cross the line. They go beyond what is normal and exhibit what I like to call “unfriendly paranormal behavior.” And that’s where we come in. The Swamp Mysteries Detective Agency was set up to help people get rid of the spooks that make their lives a living nightmare.

Now, you might be asking yourself how a bunch of seventh grade kids got into this business in the first

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place. And why we think we can handle these paranormal bullies.

Well, if you live in Plantation View, Louisiana you'll know the answer to that. You would have seen Oscar, Robbie, Jules and me on the Channel 4 news. You would have read about us in the *Plantation View Times* newspaper. But if you're not from here, then you probably don't know what I'm talking about.

So, for my personal narrative, I've decided to tell how it all happened. The reason *why* we created the Swamp Mysteries Detective Agency. But BEWARE! What you're about to read could cause a grown man to faint. In fact, two grown men *did* faint when they encountered what we did. And if you're the kind of person that has nightmares when they see a scary movie, DO NOT READ ANY FURTHER. I'm warning you.