

A CALL FROM UNCLE ANDY
Adapted by Linda Nesbitt

Characters

Narrator	Ginger
Grandma Peterson	The Voice
The Operator	Stanley
Connie	

Narrator: This story takes place just on the outskirts of Fredericksburg In those long-ago days when phone calls were placed directly To an operator who then connected you to your party. It involves a family named Peterson. In the home lived Stanley And Connie Peterson, their 8 year old daughter Ginger, and Stanley's mother, "Grandma" Peterson. One night, Ginger Had a disturbing dream about a family friend everyone Called "Uncle Andy". She ran downstairs to tell her Grand-Mother.

Ginger: Grandma, Grandma – I just had the worst dream!

Grandma: Why what is it child? You're as white as a sheet!

Ginger: Oh, Grandma, I dreamed that something terrible has Happened to Uncle Andy.

Grandma: Now, now, darlin' don't you worry – it was just a Nightmare – probably caused by that second piece Of cherry pie you had at supper.

Ginger: Well, maybe – but it seemed so real!

Narrator: Just then the telephone rang.

Ginger: I'll get it Grandma. Hello.....Hello! Grandma I can hardly Hear the person on the other end of the line. Hello!

Voice: (softly) I must speak to Stanley.

Ginger: Hello! Can you please speak a little louder?

Voice: (somewhat louder) I must speak to Stanley. It's terribly Important.

Ginger: Uncle Andy is that you? Daddy's not home right now.

Narrator: The voice kept repeating that he had to speak to Stanley. Ginger finally called her Grandmother to take the phone And speak to the caller.

Grandma: Hello, hello? Andy, is that you?

Voice: (scratchy sounding) I must speak to Stanley. It's terribly Important.

Grandma: Andy, are you ill? I'll ask Stanley to call you the moment He comes in. Hello.....hello?

Narrator: The phone line had gone dead. Grandma Peterson finally Reached the operator to complain that the call had been Cut off.

Operator: I'm sorry ma'am, there has been no call on this line.

Grandma: Of course there was a call – I was just speaking with Someone.

Operator: I'm sorry ma'am. I have no record of any incoming or Outgoing calls on this line for the last hour.

Grandma: But...but. Oh for Heaven's sake!!

Narrator: Just then Stanley and Connie arrived home.

Stanley: Why Mother, what's the matter? You look very upset!

**Connie: And Ginger – what are you doing up so late? It's way past
Your bedtime.**

Ginger: Mom, Dad – I had a terrible dream!

Connie: A bad dream? Oh, dear!

Stanley: Mother what's wrong?

**Grandma: Oh, Stanley – we've just had a most disturbing phone
Call. It was from Uncle Andy – you must call right
Away. I think he's ill and needs you.**

Stanley: What? Uncle Andy?

**Narrator: Stanley and Connie looked quickly at each other and then
Tried, unsuccessfully, to hurry Ginger off to bed.**

**Ginger: But wait, Mom and Dad – I talked to Uncle Andy – you need
To call him right away!!**

**Stanley: What? You talked to him? Oh, Good Heavens! That's
Impossible!**

**Grandma: What do you mean? The child is right – I spoke to him,
Too.**

Connie: Come here Ginger, darling. We didn't want you to know

**Grandma: Know what? What in the world is wrong? Stanley –
Please, tell us.**

Stanley: Oh, Mom – Andy is dead. He hung himself 3 days ago!