Black stories

**Task: Read the following black stories. Try to guess what happened in each story. Write down your thoughts in three sentences for each story.**

1. The man in the elevator

A man lives on the tenth floor of a building. Every day he takes the elevator to go down to the ground floor to go to work or to go shopping. When he returns he takes the elevator to the seventh floor and walks up the stairs to reach his apartment on the tenth floor. He hates walking so why does he do it?

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2. The man in the bar

A man walks into a bar and asks the barman for a glass of water. The barman pulls out a gun and points it at the man. The man says ´Thank you´ and walks out.

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3. The man who hanged himself

Not far from Madrid, there is a large wooden barn. The barn is completely empty except for a dead man hanging from the middle of the central rafter. The rope around his neck is ten feet long and his feet are three feet off the ground. The nearest wall is 20 feet away from the man. It is not possible to climb up the walls or along the rafters. The man hanged himself. How did he do it?

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4. Death in a field

A man is lying dead in a field. Next to him there is an unopened package. There is no other creature in the field. How did he die?

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5. Anthony and Cleopatra

Anthony and Cleopatra are lying dead on the floor of a villa in Egypt. Nearby is a broken bowl. There is no mark on either of their bodies and they were not poisoned. How did they die?

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6. The coal, carrot and scarf

Five pieces of coal, a carrot and a scarf are lying on the lawn. Nobody put them on the lawn but there is a perfectly logical reason why they should be there. What is it?

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7. Trouble with sons

A woman had two sons who were born on the same hour of the same day of the same year. But they were not twins. How could this be so?

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8. Push that car

A man pushed his car. He stopped when he reached a hotel at which point he knew he was bankrupt. Why?

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9. The arm of the postal service

One day a man received a parcel in the post. Carefully packed inside was a human arm. He examined it, repacked it and then sent it on to another man. The second man also carefully examined the arm before taking it to the woods and burying it. Why did they do this?

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10. Heaven

A man died and went to Heaven. There were thousands of other people there. They were all naked and all looked as they did at the age of 21. He looked around to see if there was anyone he recognized. He saw a couple and he knew immediately that they were Adam and Eve. How did he know?

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11. Friday

A man rode into town on Friday. He stayed for three nights and then left on Friday. How come?

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12. The deadly party

A man went to a party and drank some of the punch. He then left early. Everyone else at the party who drank the punch subsequently died of poisoning. Why did the man not die?

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13. The realization

A man was walking downstairs in a building when he suddenly realized that his wife had just died. How?

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14. The broken match

A man is found dead in a field. He is clutching a broken match. What happened?

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15. The elder twin

One day Kerry celebrated her birthday. Two days later her older twin brother, Terry, celebrated his birthday. How come?

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