



Vocabulary List For

THE HAUNTING

By Kristin Fulton

Note: some words have more than one meaning. In this glossary, words are defined according to how the word is used in the book, *The Haunting*. To learn additional meanings, use a dictionary to look up the words. The words below are broken into syllables but are not spelled phonetically. To hear the pronunciation, use the internet to find a dictionary application. Type in the word, then click on the audio button.

abolitionist ab-o-li-tion-ist

A person who stood against the practice of owning slaves.

Great Aunt Annabelle, a dedicated abolitionist, hid runaway slaves in her basement.

attorney at-tor-ney

A person who practices law, lawyer.

When we sued the doctor for malpractice, we hired an attorney who was experienced in medical cases.

auditorium au-d-tor-i-um

A large room to accommodate an audience in a building such as a school or theater.

The play "Grease" is in production at the high school auditorium.

bewildered be-wil-dered

Confused, befuddled, mixed up.

Tourists are often bewildered by the fact the town has no signs marking the streets.

blasphemy blas-phem-y

Disrespect of something thought of as sacred, disrespectful language.

Mom fines us five dollars every time one of us utters a blasphemy.

bona fide bo-na fide (fide has a long "I" sound as in eye,)

True, real, not deceptive or fraudulent.

The hundred-dollar bills spilled along the sidewalk were bona fide, and people were fighting each other to collect the money.

brusquely brusque-ly

Roughly and abruptly; short in manner.

A rude waiter in the elegant restaurant brusquely refused to seat us because of our casual attire.

budget bud-get

Having to do with income and expenses, managing money.

The boss warned his employees about spending more than their allotted travel budget.

camouflaged cam-ou-flaged

Blending into a background in such a way that a person or thing can't be seen.

The rabbit's white fur acts a camouflage in the snow.

carbon paper car-bon pa-per

A thin sheet of paper coated on one side with a dark waxy pigment, that is transferred by the pressure of writing or of typewriter keys onto the copying surface below.

Tracing is easy using a piece of carbon paper placed between the drawing to be traced and a piece of blank paper.

caterwauling cat-er-waul-ing

To howl or screech; to utter long wailing cries, as cats in heat.

Several dogs were caterwauling in the moonlight last night.

ceremoniously cer-e-mo-ni-ous-ly

Especially polite or formal.

The town crier ceremoniously announced the queen's invitation to the townspeople.

chorused chor-used

Said all at once by many.

"Yes!" the entire class chorused when the teacher asked if they'd like a pizza party.

chute one syllable word sounding like 'shoot'

A passage or shaft for conveying water, grain, coal, etc., to a lower level.

At the aquatic park, the children had fun sliding down a water chute.

credentials cre-den-tials

Letters or certificates that provide proof of the bearer's identity or abilities.

Applying for a job usually involves presenting one's experience and credentials to the employer.

crucial cru-cial

Involving an extremely important decision or result; decisive; critical.

It is crucial to remove a cake from the oven before it overcooks.

cubicle cu-bi-cle

A partially or totally enclosed section of a room; a small space or compartment partitioned off.

Each insurance agent sat in his or her separate cubicle entering data and talking with clients on the phone.

dawdle daw-dle

To waste time; idle; trifle; loiter.

Mike and his friends like to dawdle at the game arena.

decoy de-coy

Something designed to deceive an enemy or divert his/her attention.

Joe had a decoy distract the guard while he jumped over the fence.

deprivation dep-ri-va-tion

To withhold something from the enjoyment or possession of someone.

Deprivation of cell phones is one way my parents punish us.

dervishes der-vish-es

Members of a religious group who are noted for a frenzied, energetic, whirling dance.

The band members danced like dervishes during their performance last night.

diabolical di-a-bol-i-cal

Devilish, outrageously wicked.

Thankfully, police caught the diabolical creep who was poisoning our pets.

discreetly dis-cree-tly

Carefully and quietly, with a decorous manner.

An elegant waitress cleared the table discreetly before bringing dessert.

disrupting dis-rupt-ing

Causing disorder or turmoil.

He was given detention for disrupting the lunchroom and causing a food fight.

dubbed dubbed

Named or called; nicknamed.

His classmates dubbed him Shorty because he was the smallest kid in class.

earmarked ear-marked

Set aside for a specific purpose, use, recipient, etc.

The money I earn is earmarked for a down payment on a new car.

embezzling em-bez-zling

To take or steal money or property entrusted to one's care.

Harry was caught embezzling money from his clients.

embroidered em-broi-dered

Decorated with ornamental needlework.

Maryanne had her name embroidered on her new blouse.

etcetera et-cet-er-a

And the rest; and others; and so forth: used at the end of a list to show that other items of the same class or type should be considered or included. Etcetera is often abbreviated to 'etc.'

I packed my toothbrush, toiletries, vitamins, etcetera, into my overnight bag.

eulogy eu-lo-gy

A formal speech or piece of writing praising a person or thing, especially a person who has recently died.

The pastor's beautiful and poetic eulogy about the dead man made his family weep.

exterior ex-te-ri-or

A part, surface, or region that is on the outside.

A glittery substance was on the exterior of the spacecraft.

faultless fault-less

Without fault; perfect or blameless.

The bank teller was faultless in her ability to count money.

fictitious fic-ti-tious

Fake; not genuine or authentic; false.

Thea's controversial novel is based on fictitious events.

foundlings found-lings

An infant or small child found abandoned, a child without a known parent or guardian.

The twin foundlings were left on the orphanage doorstep.

fraud one syllable word that rhymes with 'odd.'

Deliberate deception, trickery, or cheating.

Phone scammers deliberately commit fraud to get money from victims.

grogginess grog-gi-ness

Dazed from sleep.

Hortensia woke up with a feeling of thick-headed grogginess.

Heimlich Maneuver heim-lic ma-neu-ver

An emergency technique used to eject an object, such as food, from the throat of a choking person.

"Quick!" the man shouted. "My wife is choking! Does anyone know how to do a Heimlich Maneuver?"

hoodlum hood-lum

A thug or gangster.

Mom told us to stay away from the hoodlums hanging out on the corner.

illuminated il-lu-min-a-ted

Lighted up, brightened or made clear with light.

A full moon illuminated the path, which made it easy to follow in the middle of the night.

impeccable im-pec-cable

Without flaw or error; faultless.

Professor Murray is impeccable in his manners and his teaching methods.

incident in-ci-dent

An individual occurrence or event.

Police arrived at the scene of the incident and managed to catch the suspect.

infraction in-frac-tion

To break a law or disobey a rule.

Speeding is a minor infraction compared to driving under the influence of alcohol.

interrogating in-ter-ro-gat-ing (the syllable 'gat' has the long 'a' sound as in 'gate.')

Questioning of one person by another.

Dad was busy interrogating my brother about why he was home so late.

intervene in-ter-vene

To come between people who are arguing or disagreeing.

The school principal had to intervene to stop the fist fight.

irregularities ir-reg-u-lar-i-ties

Things that seem out of order or are not what they are supposed to be.

Irregularities in his alibi led the police to believe he was lying.

kibosh ki-bosh

Put an end to; to squelch; stop, or halt something.

Our dad put the kibosh on us playing video games.

larder lar-der

A room or place where food is kept, a pantry.

My grandparent's larder was crowded with home preserves and canned goods.

lectern lec-tern

A stand with a slanted top, used to hold a book, speech, manuscript, etc., at the proper height for a reader or speaker.

Miss Shimer, the fifth-grade teacher, stands at a lectern placed in front of the class.

levitation lev-i-ta-tion

The raising of a body or object in air by supernatural means.

It was obvious that supernatural forces were behind the Yogi's levitation.

meddlesome med-dle-some

Interfering, nosy, troublesome.

The meddlesome neighbor next door is spying on us while we play.

megaphone meg-a-phone

A cone-shaped device for magnifying or directing the voice, chiefly used in addressing a large audience out of doors or in calling to someone at a distance.

Megaphones are often used by cheer leaders during football games.

melodrama mel-o-dra-ma

A play or film in which the plot is often sensational, and the characters may display exaggerated emotion.

Soap operas are usually full of emotion and melodrama.

menacingly men-ac-ing-ly

In a threatening way.

Pete, the bully, stared menacingly at the new kid.

millisecond mil-li-sec-ond

One thousandth of a second.

In competitive games, every millisecond is critical.

moonshine moon-shine

Illegally made whiskey and other alcohol.

During prohibition, lots of people resorted to buying moonshine.

obstacles ob-sta-cles

An obstacle is something that gets in the way of, obstructs, or interferes with progress.

Filling a course with obstacles makes for a challenging run.

odious o-di-ous

Deserving or causing hatred; hateful; detestable; disgusting.

A buzzard's breath is odious because it feeds on dead animals.

ominous om-in-ous

Threatening, foreboding evil.

The sky often takes on an ominous appearance before a hurricane.

ornate or-nate

Highly decorative.

The décor was so ornate that it was less pleasing to the eye and merely busy looking.

pampered pam-pered

Babied; coddled; spoiled, indulged.

Jenny, an only child, is afraid of everything because her parents pampered her too much.

pantry pan-try

A room or closet in which food, groceries, and other provisions, or silverware, dishes, etc., are kept.

Pam has a large pantry where flour, rice, and other provisions are stored.

paupers pau-pers

People who are very poor.

“I’m not renting to paupers!” screamed the landlord. “I expect payment on time!”

phantom phan-tom

An illusion, vision, figment of the imagination.

A shadowy phantom walked across the room and disappeared through the wall.

profit pro-fit

Money made, income.

We took home a small profit from selling crafts at the festival.

prologue pro-logue

An introductory scene, preceding the first act of a play, opera, etc.

In the prologue to the play, the audience learns that the main character has a secret.

provisions pro-vi-sions

Food and other necessities.

Fortunately, we bought extra provisions before the snowstorm made it impossible to go to town.

qt Q-T (each letter is pronounced.)

Slang for quiet.

The family next door won the Lotto but kept the news on the ‘qt.’

realm realm (one syllable word that rhymes with helm)

The region, sphere, or dimension within which anything occurs.

Palm readers and fortune tellers claim that they communicate with the spirit realm.

refrain re-frain

To stop or abstain from an impulse to say or do something.

It took a huge effort to refrain from eating the fattening dessert.

rickets ric-kets

A disease of childhood that results in the softening of the bones and can cause bowlegs and other problems with bone development.

In communities suffering from poverty, rickets is a common condition caused by malnutrition.

scot-free scot-free

To get away with something without harm, loss, or penalty; without being caught or punished.

Sam is lucky; he got away scot-free when he stole the Halloween candy.

scowled scowl

Frowned, gloomy or threatening look.

The nanny scowled at the misbehaving child.

scurvy scur-vy

A disease caused by a lack of vitamin C, resulting in problems with bones and teeth.

To prevent scurvy, early sailors took limes on their voyages

severance sev-er-ance

Money or wages paid to an employee who is dismissed because of lack of work or other reasons beyond the employee's control.

When Claire's job was eliminated, she got a generous severance package that included a full year's wage and benefits.

shenanigans she-nan-i-gans

Mischief, pulling pranks.

My brothers, the neighborhood terrors, were always up to one shenanigan or another.

shirk shirk (one syllable word that rhymes with perk)

To escape or get out of work, duties, or responsibilities.

I often shirk the task of folding laundry.

sincerity sin-cer-i-ty

Earnestness, commitment, reflecting true feeling.

Sincerity is important when you tell someone you love them.

skeptical skep-ti-cal

Not convinced that something is true; doubtful, disbelieving.

The teacher was skeptical when we said we'd seen a dragon on the playground.

skullduggery skull-dug-ger-y

Trickery, dishonesty.

Pirates tricked other ships on the seas with skullduggery such as flying a false flag or sounding a distress signal.

slanderous slan-der-ous

False and lying comments said about a person or persons.

A lawsuit forced the lying television anchor to pay millions for his slanderous remarks.

slogan slo-gan

A distinctive saying, phrase, or motto of any party, group, business, or person; catchword or catch phrase.

"Do a Good Turn Daily!" is the official slogan of the Boy Scouts.

smirking smirk-ing

To smile in a sarcastic, scornful, or smug way.

Damien was smirking from winning all the good properties in Monopoly.

sparse sparse

Not thick or dense; thin.

The dog's fur was sparse and patchy, and the poor thing was terribly thin.

strategic stra-te-gic

Planning and directing military movements and operations.

Taking an opponent's queen in the game of chess is a strategic move.

suspended sus-pen-ded

Hanging in the air.

Nugget, my Siamese cat, was suspended by his collar from a branch high in the tree.

taxidermy tax-i-der-my

The art of preparing and preserving the skins of animals and of stuffing and mounting them in lifelike form.

“I will take Fluffy to the taxidermist to have him stuff my darling pet. I will keep his taxidermy specimen on the shelf forevermore!”

technician tech-ni-cian

A person who is trained or skilled in repairing or operating equipment or doing practical work in a particular field.

Technicians in the field of electronics are always in demand.

urgent ur-gent

Needing immediate attention.

Since he is allergic to bee stings, it was urgent that we rush him to prompt care.

vandalizing van-dal-i-zing

Destroying or damaging something deliberately.

Vandalizing a property with graffiti is a crime.

vaporous va-por-ous

Foggy, misty.

A vaporous cloud of steam rose from the water spilled on the stove.

vouch vouch is a one syllable word that rhymes with couch.

To guarantee or support as being true and reliable.

I had to vouch for my brother Sam’s integrity and honesty before my boss would hire him.