



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## A Look Ahead

There are some people who have had a peek into the future. They have seen what was going to happen before it did. How do they do it? No one knows. Sometimes such sights are not always pleasant.

One night in 1939 a Swedish woman, Mrs. Warner, was reading at home. Her husband was sleeping upstairs. It was late but she was not ready to go to bed. Most of the house was in darkness. One small light burned at the top of the stairs.

She walked to the stairs and stopped. Something made her look up. There on the top stair stood a man. He seemed as real as life and he was soaked to the bone. He looked as though he had been swimming. In his arms, he held the body of a child. Across the child's head was a deep cut. The cut was bleeding badly.

The woman gasped at the sight. She shut her eyes. When she opened them, the man and the child were gone. She ran to wake up her husband. She tried to tell him calmly what she had seen but her husband didn't know what to think of her story. He thought that his wife might have dreamed it all.

He said that the light on the stairs was dim. The shadows might have made it seem as though a man were there. His wife said no. She had seen what she had seen. It was very real to her. She couldn't forget it. The days passed but she was still deeply troubled.

At last she said she had to get away from the house. They went sailing in their small boat on the Baltic Sea. One night they heard on their boat's radio a ship's call for help. World War II had broken out. The ship was one of the first to be fired on. The ship wasn't far away.

The Warner's sailed towards the sinking ship. Soon they saw people swimming in the water. The first person they pulled from the sea was a man. He was quite wet. In his arms he held the body of a child. There was a deep cut across the child's head. The cut was bleeding badly. Mrs. Warner stared at the man and the child. She had seen them before.

They had been the ones at the top of her stairs that night.