

Gremlin Controlled Inanimate Objects

By Hap Hansen

I have known for years that Gremlins have taken over inanimate objects and they have a conspiracy against me. This is more than just theory, because I have examples with which to prove my case. Some time ago, I dropped the lid to the grape jam. What do you think the odds are that the lid would land jelly side down on the carpeting? Of course, the odds are 50-50.

But I have dropped the lid on many occasions. Not once has the outside lid landed first on the carpeting. Not once! Why? Because a Gremlin turned the lid halfway to the floor so the jelly side was always down! With my expertise at fumbling jelly-laden lids, the odds continue to be 100 percent that Gremlins will continue forcing me to clean grape stains off the carpeting.

Here is another example from several years ago. The cord on my hair dryer is fairly long. Every time I reach to plug it in, the cord loops over the knob on the lower bathroom cabinet, which jerks the cord out of my hand. This happens every time. Without fail. Gremlins! One day, I decided to fool this Gremlin-controlled inanimate electric cord by intentionally flipping the loop over the knob. Could not be done. No way could I cast a loop intentionally over the knob. Frustrated, I ignored trying and reached over to plug in the hair dryer. Guess what? Gremlins made the cord loop catch the knob and again jerk the cord out of my hand!

Serious matters were then required. Gremlin controlled inanimate objects must be taught a lesson. They must be shown who is boss. They must be punished. Grabbing the looped cord, I jerked it. Hard! The knob flew out of the cabinet, taking splinter of wood with it. Not enough Gremlin punishment had yet been meted out! I grabbed the hair dryer and flung it across the room. The dryer hit the light switch, breaking the plastic covering on the light switch and the plastic casing on the hair dryer. I forgot to mention that the Gremlins made sure that the cord's plug-in, following a few feet behind the dryer, took a neat chunk out of my right ear! At that point, my wife rushed in to see what the commotion was all about. Holding a wet towel to my ear, I explained that I was merely teaching a lesson to a cantankerous dryer cord which was controlled by Gremlins. She just rolled her eyes.

No one seems to understand the conspiracies against me which are conjured up by Gremlin controlled inanimate objects. But I know the broken hair dryer, the dryer cord and the knob will trouble me no further. Unfortunately, the final lesson was that I had to go get a tetanus shot. I know I heard Gremlins giggling when the nurse opened the door, syringe in hand and said, "Pants down, Mr. Hansen and lean over the table."