What Do You Come For?

By Alvin Swartz from Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark

Narrators 1-3, Old Woman, Man

Narrator 1: There was an old woman who lived all by herself, and she was very lonely.

Narrator 2: Sitting in the kitchen one night, she said:

Old Woman: Oh, I wish I had some company.

Narrator 3: No sooner had she spoken tan down the chimney tumbled two feet.

Narrator 1: The old woman's eyes bulged with terror.

Narrator 2: Then two legs dropped from the hearth and attached themselves to the feet.

Narrator 3: Then a body tumbled down, then two arms, and a man's head.

Narrator 1: As the old woman watched, the parts came together into a great, gangling man.

Narrator 2: The man danced around the room.

Narrator 3: Faster and faster he went.

Narrator 1: Then he stopped, and looked into her eyes.

Old Woman: What do you come for?

Narrator 2: She asked in a small voice that shivered and shook.

Man: What do I come for?

Narrator 3: he said.

Man: I come for—YOU!

Scripted by Chase Young