He switched the light on, rubbed the sleep from his eyes, and reached for his phone. He put his glasses on and peered at the screen, focusing on an icon which showed a cage with bright red bars, surrounded by hellish flames. Halloween Hellfire, the app was called. He remembered the advertisement for it: 'Is someone making your life hell? Let *them* suffer the hellfires for a change!' Obviously it couldn't *really* work, and Norman wouldn't have shelled out good money for it, but it was free. Programs and apps were his work and his hobby, and at least exploring this one might relieve his feelings.

He tapped the icon with his right thumb, and the cage expanded to fill most of the screen, leaving just enough room to reveal grinning skeletons on both sides dancing in and out of the flames, which were now flickering, shooting and crackling.

Impressive sound and graphics! You could almost think it was real.

Then he yelped. *Too real!* If he hadn't known it was impossible he would have thought that the phone itself had got hot from the conflagration and was scorching his palm.

Funny what your imagination can do to you!

Question marks now appeared in the middle of the cage, followed by the words:

Where's the target?

He hadn't read the instructions for the app, but as he moved the phone around he noticed that different parts of his bed and the room appeared in the cage. It was using the camera!

The commotion outside was still continuing. It was difficult to decide which was more disturbing, the shrill, slurring words or the percussion of beats on the door. He pushed the blinds aside, opened the window, and leaned out, gasping as the cold

air hit him. Carefully pointing the phone at the podgy figure across the road, he

adjusted the zoom so that the girl appeared squarely inside the cage, and clicked the

shutter.