# [*Man-Size in Marble*](https://www.eslreading.org/man_made_in_marble.html) by E Nesbit *retold by Kieran McGovern*

The church was large and lonely but we loved to visit it, especially on bright nights. To get there we followed ‘the **cemetery** walk’. This was a long path through a dark wood. It was once used to carry dead bodies to the church.

Inside, the church was dark and gloomy. On each side of the aisle there was a grey **marble** statue of a knight.

‘Mrs. Dorman says they should not be here,’ Laura told me. ‘She says that they were **wicked** men.’

‘Why are there statues of them?’

‘She says they were **wealthy** men. They bought their place in the church with stolen gold.’

Looking at their hard faces this story was easy to believe.

\*\*\*

**Vocabulary**

**aisle** - walkway down centre of church

**grave** - hole dug in the ground to bury a dead body

**cemetery/graveyard** - where bodies are buried

**gloomy** - poorly lit, depressing

**marble** - hard, smooth material used for statues, columns etc.

**wealthy** - to have money and property

**wicked** - bad/evil

**Quick Check: True or false?**

1. The ‘cemetery walk’ leads to the church.
2. The ‘cemetery walk’ is gloomy on bright nights
3. Marble is a smooth form of stone.
4. Mrs Dorman is a wicked woman.
5. The knights became rich through crime.