

## Oxford Bookworm The Canterville Ghost

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the canterville ghost by oscar wilde an amusing chronicle of the tribulations of the ghost of canterville chase when his ancestral halls became the home of the american minister to the court of st james

a level 2 oxford bookworms library graded reader retold for learners of english by john escott there has been a ghost in the house for three hundred years and lord canterville's family have had enough of it so lord canterville sells his grand old house to an american family mr hiram b otis is happy to buy the house and the ghost because of course americans don't believe in ghosts the canterville ghost has great plans to frighten the life out of the otis family but americans don't frighten easily especially not two noisy little boys and the poor ghost has a few surprises waiting for him

a level 2 oxford bookworms library graded reader this version includes an audio book listen to the story as you read retold for learners of english by john escott there has been a ghost in the house for three hundred years and lord canterville s family have had enough of it so lord canterville sells his grand old house to an american family mr hiram b otis is happy to buy the house and the ghost because of course americans don t believe in ghosts the canterville ghost has great plans to frighten the life out of the otis family but americans don t frighten easily especially not two noisy little boys and the poor ghost has a few surprises waiting for him

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horace b otis a wealthy american purchases canterville chase an ancient english manor house despite warnings that the house is known to be haunted he moves into the house accompanied by his wife his eldest son washington his daughter virginia and his two younger twin sons immediately upon arrival the family is confronted by a bloodstain in a sitting room the housekeeper mrs umney explains that the stain has been there since 1575 and is the result of lady eleanore de canterville having been brutally murdered by her husband sir simon de canterville the otis family takes a pragmatic perspective and scrubs the stain away they repeat the process when the stain continues to reappear every morning the stubborn reappearance of the stain as well as other strange occurrences around the house leads them to consider that the rumor of the ghost may not be totally unfounded these ideas are confirmed when one night the sound of clanking chains wakes mr otis from his sleep he gets out of bed and confronts a terrifying ghost but responds only by recommending that the ghost oil his chains so that he does not cause so much noise when he is walking around at night mr otis is not the only family member who is not afraid of the ghost the young twins enjoy tormenting the ghost with pranks the ghost is very proud of his tradition of terrifying visitors for hundreds of years and he is determined to strike fear into the american family however the more and more terrifying he tries to be the more they either make fun of or ignore him things hit rock bottom for the canterville ghost when the twins actually create a fake ghost of their own to scare the real ghost he accepts that he has lost his status and power and he begins to become depressed and pine away

books in the take part series feature play parts for mixed ability group reading they are aimed at 6 9 year olds

the canterville ghost is a humorous and satirical novella that blends elements of horror and comedy the story follows an american family the otises who move into canterville chase a haunted english mansion unlike traditional ghost stories where spirits terrify

humans the tables are turned in this tale the pragmatic and unshaken otis family refuses to be scared by sir simon the resident ghost sir simon who has haunted the mansion for centuries becomes frustrated as his attempts to frighten the family are repeatedly ignored or mocked instead of fearing him the otis children play pranks on him and the parents offer practical solutions to his ghostly troubles such as oiling his rattling chains however the youngest daughter virginia otis takes pity on sir simon and helps him find redemption ultimately allowing him to rest in peace through this the story explores themes of forgiveness cultural differences and the contrast between old world superstition and modern rationality

annotations author the canterville ghost summary the canterville ghost glossary the canterville ghost themes the canterville ghost quotes and analysis the canterville ghost symbols allegory and motifs the canterville ghost metaphors and similes the canterville ghost irony the canterville ghost imagery the canterville ghost the canterville ghost and gothic literature horace b. otis a wealthy american purchases canterville chase an ancient english manor house despite warnings that the house is known to be haunted he moves into the house accompanied by his wife his eldest son washington his daughter virginia and his two younger twin sons immediately upon arrival the family is confronted by a bloodstain in a sitting room the housekeeper mrs umney explains that the stain has been there since 1575 and is the result of lady eleanore de canterville having been brutally murdered by her husband sir simon de canterville the otis family takes a pragmatic perspective and scrubs the stain away they repeat the process when the stain continues to reappear every morning the stubborn reappearance of the stain as well as other strange occurrences around the house leads them to consider that the rumor of the ghost may not be totally unfounded these ideas are confirmed when one night the sound of clanking chains wakes mr otis from his sleep he gets out of bed and confronts a terrifying ghost but responds only by recommending that the ghost oil his chains so that he does not cause so much noise when he is walking around at night mr otis is not the only family member who is not afraid of the ghost the young twins enjoy tormenting the ghost with pranks the ghost is very proud of his tradition of terrifying visitors for hundreds of years and he is determined to strike fear into the american family however the more and more terrifying he tries to be the more they either make fun of or ignore him things hit rock bottom for the canterville ghost when the twins actually create a fake ghost of their own to scare the real ghost he accepts that he has lost his status and power and he begins to become depressed and pine away meanwhile virginia's beauty has attracted the attention of the young duke of cheshire who comes to stay at canterville chase while he is visiting virginia unexpectedly comes across the secret hiding lair of the ghost the ghost explains his sadness and suffering telling her that he longs for the peaceful experience of death he also tells her that because of her purity and innocence she can help him to achieve this peace even though she is frightened virginia agrees to help the two of them pass through a secret opening in the wall and vanish when virginia cannot be found her family and the duke become very upset a few hours later virginia appears in the dark at

the top of the stairs her only explanation of her disappearance is that she has assisted in finally bringing eternal rest to the canterville ghost as a token of his thanks and affection sir simon has given her a box filled with jewels virginia leads the family into a secret chamber where they are greeted by the sight of his skeletal remains four days later sir simon's body is finally laid to rest with a proper burial virginia subsequently marries the duke of cheshire although she never tells anyone what she experienced when she vanished with the ghost she always reflects affectionately on him and his memory

the story begins when mr otis's family shifted to canterville chase despite warnings from lord canterville that the house is haunted the otis family includes mr and mrs otis their daughter virginia twin boys often referred to as stars and stripes and their oldest son washington at the onset of the tale not one member of the otis family believes in ghosts but shortly after they move in none of them can deny the presence of sir simon the ghost the family hears clanking chains they witness re-appearing bloodstains on the floor just by the fireplace and they see strange apparitions in various forms but humorously none of these scare the otises in the least in fact upon hearing the clanking noises in the hallway mr otis promptly gets out of bed and pragmatically offers the ghost tammany rising sun lubricator to oil his chains despite sir simon's attempts to appear in the most gruesome guises the family refuses to be frightened and sir simon feels increasingly helpless and humiliated when mrs otis notices a mysterious red mark on the floor she simply replies that she does not at all care for blood stains in the sitting room when mrs umney the housekeeper informs mrs otis that the blood stain is indeed evidence of the ghost and cannot be removed washington otis the eldest son suggests that the stain be removed with pinkerton's champion stain remover and paragon detergent a quick fix like the tammany rising sun lubricator and a practical way of dealing with the problem wilde describes mrs otis as a very handsome middle aged woman who has been a celebrated new york belle her expression of modern american culture surfaces when she immediately resorts to using the commercial stain remover to obliterate the bloodstains and when she expresses an interest in joining the psychical society to help her understand the ghost mrs otis is given wilde's highest praise when he says indeed in many respects she was quite english the most colourful character in the story is undoubtedly the ghost himself sir simon who goes about his duties with theatrical panache and flair he assumes a series of dramatic roles in his failed attempts to impress and terrify the otises making it easy to imagine him as a comical character in a stage play the ghost has the ability to change forms so he taps into his repertoire of tricks he takes the role of ghostly apparitions such as a headless earl a strangled babe the blood sucker of bexley moor jonas the graveless suicide's skeleton and the corpse snatcher of chertsey barn all having succeeded in horrifying previous castle residents over the centuries but none of them works with these americans sir simon schemes but even as his costumes become increasingly gruesome his antics do nothing to scare his house guests and the otises succeed in foiling him every time he falls victim to trip wires pea shooters butter slides and falling buckets of water in a particularly comical scene he is

frightened by the sight of a ghost rigged up by the mischievous twins during the course of the story as narrated by sir simon we come to understand the complexity of the ghost's emotions we see him brave, frightening, distressed, scared and finally depressed and weak. He exposes his vulnerability during an encounter with virginia, mr otis's fifteen-year-old daughter. virginia is different from everyone else in the family and sir simon recognizes this fact. He tells her that he has not slept in three hundred years and wants desperately to do so. The ghost reveals to virginia the tragic tale of his wife lady eleanor de canterville.

paperback with 46 pages of additional content: summaries, critical notes, glossary, exercises and more. The canterville ghost of the ratna sagar classics series is an enriched edition that any keen reader of literature will be pleased to have. The book includes a brief, well-written introduction to the novella, b) annotations that are comprehensive, covering not only the meanings of words and phrases peculiar to the period in which the book was written but explaining any concept or historical event that may not be easily understood or recalled, c) summary at the end of each chapter that is concise yet sufficiently detailed to provide a faithful reproduction of that part of the story, d) critical notes at the end of each chapter that present an analysis of the chapter so that the reader can identify the nuances, allusions and underlying meanings and therefore appreciate the story better, e) general notes at the end of the book that present an overview of the book, contextualizing it in the period in which it was written and discussing the major themes, characters or the genre of the book, f) artwork that brings to life certain episodes in the story, suggestions for further reading and website links that the reader will find informative and helpful. The canterville ghost was oscar wilde's first published story and it premiered in the magazine *The Court and Society Review* in february 1887. Later it was published in a collection of short stories titled *Lord Arthur Savile's Crime and Other Stories* (1891). Set in late 19th-century england, it tells about an american family's encounter with the ghost of an english nobleman. The setting is an old english country house, canterville chase. It has all the trappings of a traditional haunted house, but the family that comes to live there belongs to a practical, modern way of life. This sets the stage for the novella: a contrast is shown between traditional english society, which has its roots in a nearly two thousand-year-old history, and modern, practical american society, which belongs to a nation discovered only in the 17th century. The seller of canterville chase, lord canterville, and the buyer, mr otis, represent these two cultures. Respectively, the ghost of sir simon, a family ancestor, tries his best to scare the otis family with the most gruesome appearances. However, the realistic american family refuses to get scared, and sir simon ends up only with comic failures. The canterville ghost is the kind of story one would write if one wanted to make fun of hair-raising ghost stories. Yet there are moments of pure sentiment that do not seem misplaced in the narrative. Wilde's mastery over sentiment and comedy alike makes this book a perennial favourite. Not surprisingly, the novella has been widely adapted for the screen, theatre and graphic medium.

The canterville ghost begins with the sale of an old british mansion called canterville.

chase to horace b otis an american minister though the former owner lord canterville warns mr otis that the mansion is haunted mr otis is not worried and replies that ghosts do not exist soon after mr otis moves into the chase with the rest of his family his wife lucretia his eldest son washington his fifteen year old daughter virginia and his two young twin boys upon moving in mrs otis notices a dull red stain on the floor and requests that it be cleaned their housekeeper reveals that it is a bloodstain from the murder of lady eleanore de canterville who was killed in 1575 by her husband sir simon de canterville and that it cannot be removed she warns mrs otis that sir simon s guilty ghost still haunts canterville chase dismissing the housekeeper s story as nonsense washington quickly pulls out a container of pinkerton s champion stain remover scrubbing it onto the spot until the stain is gone as soon as the stain is removed lightning flashes and a peal of thunder rocks the house the housekeeper faints in terror

the story begins when mr otis and family move into canterville chase after warnings from lord canterville that the house may be haunted the otis family includes mr and mrs otis their son washington their daughter virginia and the otis twins any profits from the sale of this book will go towards the freeriver community project a project aimed at promoting peace well being and togetherness in the world to learn more about the freeriver community project please visit the website [freerivercommunity.com](http://freerivercommunity.com)

the canterville ghost is a short story by oscar wilde it was the first of wilde s stories to be published appearing in two parts 23 february and 2 march 1887 the story is about an american family who move to a castle haunted by the ghost of a dead nobleman who killed his wife and was starved to death by his wife s brothers the story begins when the american minister mr otis and his family move into canterville chase despite warnings from lord canterville that the house is haunted mr otis says that he will take the furniture as well as the ghost at valuation the otis family includes mr and mrs otis their eldest son washington their daughter virginia and the otis twins the other characters include the canterville ghost the duke of cheshire mrs umney and rev augustus dampier at first none of the otis family believe in ghosts but shortly after they move in none of them can deny the presence of sir simon de canterville the family hears clanking chains they witness reappearing bloodstains on the floor just by the fireplace which are removed every time they appear in various forms but humorously none of these scare the otis family in the least in fact upon hearing the clanking noises in the hallway mr otis promptly gets out of bed and pragmatically offers the ghost tammany rising sun lubricator to oil his chains

presents in graphic novel format an adaptation of wilde s story of a celebrated and feared english ghost who is outraged when the new american owners of his haunting place refuse to take him seriously and actually fight back against him

the story begins when the american minister to the court of st james s hiram b otis and his family move into canterville chase an english country house despite warnings from lord

canterville that the house is haunted mr otis says that he will take the furniture as well as the ghost at valuation the otis family includes mr and mrs otis their eldest son washington their daughter virginia and the otis twins at first none of the otis family believe in ghosts but shortly after they move in none of them can deny the presence of sir simon de canterville when mrs otis notices a mysterious bloodstain on the floor she simply replies that she does not at all care for bloodstains in the living room when mrs umney the housekeeper informs mrs otis that the bloodstain is indeed evidence of the ghost and cannot be removed washington otis the eldest son suggests that the stain will be removed with pinkerton s champion stain remover and paragon detergent when the ghost makes his first appearance mr otis promptly gets out of bed and pragmatically offers the ghost tammany rising sun lubricator to oil his chains angrily the ghost throws the bottle and runs into the corridor the otis twins throw pillows on him and the ghost uses the fourth dimension of space to flee disappointed with his first attempt to scare the family he starts wondering what went wrong he thinks of his previous successful appearances when he was in his prime form

how is book unique original unabridged edition tablet and e reader formatted short biography is also included more than 15 illustrations are included the canterville ghost is a popular 1887 novella by oscar wilde widely adapted for the screen and stage the canterville ghost is a parody featuring a dramatic spirit named sir simon and the united states minister ambassador to the court of st james s hiram b otis mr otis travels to england with his family and moves into a haunted country house lord canterville the previous owner of the house warns mr otis that the ghost of sir simon de canterville has haunted it ever since he killed his wife eleonore three centuries before but mr otis dismisses the ghost story as bunk and disregards lord canterville s warnings when the otises learn that the house is indeed haunted they succeed in victimizing the ghost and in disregarding age old british traditions what emerges is a satire of american materialism a lampoon of traditional british values and an amusing twist on the traditional gothic horror tale

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Ghost can be taken as skillfully as picked to act.

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