

Oxford Bookworm The Canterville Ghost

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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

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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

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 literaturehorace 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

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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

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 bloodstains in the sitting room. When Mrs Umney, the housekeeper, informs Mrs Otis that the bloodstain is indeed evidence of the ghost and cannot be removed, Washington, Otis's 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.

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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 contexting it in the period in which it was written and discuss the major themes characters or the genre of the book f artwork that bring 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 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 the 19th century 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 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

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 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

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

How is this 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

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 Eleonore 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

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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

unlock the more straightforward side of the canterville ghost with this concise and insightful summary and analysis this engaging summary presents an analysis of the canterville ghost by oscar wilde which tells the story of a centuries dead ghost and his vain attempts to terrify the new inhabitants of his ancestral home this unusual short story blends fantastic and comic elements and parodies many of the features of the gothic novel resulting in a riotously funny tale with an unexpected ending the canterville ghost was the first of oscar wilde s short stories to be published and continues to captivate adults and children alike wilde was one of the most fascinating authors of the 19th century known as much for his witticisms as for his writing his most notable works include the novel the picture of dorian gray and the comic plays an ideal husband and the importance of being earnest find out everything you need to know about the canterville ghost in a fraction of the time this in depth and informative reading guide brings you a complete plot summary character studies key themes and symbols questions for further reflection why choose brightsummaries com available in print and digital format our publications are designed to accompany you on your reading journey the clear and concise style makes for easy understanding providing the perfect

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