

The Canterville Ghost

Oscar Wilde

The Canterville Ghost:

The Canterville Ghost Oscar Wilde, 2025-02-18 A haunted mansion A frustrated ghost A family that refuses to be scared When the Otis family moves into Canterville Chase they discover that the mansion is home to a ghost who has terrified generations But to his dismay the Otises not only ignore his attempts to frighten them they mock him Desperate Sir Simon the mansion's resident ghost faces his worst nightmare a fearless family Only Virginia the eldest daughter seems to understand his suffering and may hold the key to his eternal rest With humor and a touch of melancholy The Canterville Ghost is a literary gem that blends the supernatural with satire The Canterville Ghost Oscar Wilde, 2012-11-08 Originally published in two parts in The Court and Society Review March 1887 The Canterville Ghost is a comical short story written by Oscar Wilde His first published story it revolves around an American family who move into an English Castle However before long they realise that they share their new home with the ghost of a murderous English aristocrat An incredible humorous play brimming with Wilde's trademark wit not to be missed by fans of his seminal work Oscar Fingal O Flahertie Wills Wilde 1854 1900 was an Irish poet and playwright who became one of the most popular in London during the 1880s and 1890s Well known for his sharp wit and extravagant attire Wilde was a proponent of aestheticism and wrote in a variety of forms including poetry fiction and drama He was famously imprisoned for homosexual acts from 1895 to 1897 and died at the age of 46 just three years after his release Other notable works by this author include Picture of Dorian Gray 1890 Salome 1891 and The Importance of Being Earnest 1895 Fantasy and Horror Classics is proudly republishing this classic play now in a new edition complete with a specially commissioned new biography of the author The Canterville Ghost Oscar Wilde, 2019-09-17 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 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 The Canterville Ghost ANNOTATED Oscar Wilde, 2021-04-15 Horace B Otis a wealthy American purchases his memory 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 Canterville Ghost (Oscar Wilde, 2011-09-15 The Canterville Ghost Oscar Wilde, 2020-10-29 The first thing the American family see when they step into their new British mansion is the bloodstain in the sitting room As it turns out they have moved into an already occupied house and their new roommate is a proud ghost determined to terrify them to death But things do not go as planned for the poor ghost The more he tries to scare the Otis family the more they make fun of and ignore him Clever from start to finish Oscar Wilde's The Canterville Ghost 1887 is charming and engaging It has been adapted to the screen many times and 1996 saw Patrick Stewart as the ghost Sir Simon de Canterville Oscar Wilde 1854 1900 was an Irish playwright novelist essayist and poet famous for The Picture of Dorian Gray and The Importance of Being Earnest to name a couple He was believed to be a homosexual and met a lot of resistance in his life on that account He died in Paris at the age of 46 The Canterville Ghost Oscar Wilde, 2012-04-27 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 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 The Canterville Ghost Oscar Wilde, 2021-08-08 The Canterville Ghost Oscar Wilde The Canterville Ghost is a humorous Horror short story by Oscar Wilde The story is about an American family who moved to a castle haunted by the ghost of a dead English nobleman who killed his wife and was then walled in and starved to death by his wife s brothers It has been adapted for the stage and screen several times hr Summary of the Canterville Ghost by Oscar Wilde 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 younger twin boys Upon moving in Mrs Otis notices a dull red stain on the ground 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 with the aid of 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 shortly 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 Canterville Ghost by Oscar Wilde The Canterville Ghost Annotated Oscar, 2020-06-29 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 The Canterville Ghost Annotated Illustrated Oscar Wilde, 2020-04-26 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 The Canterville Ghost Illustrated Oscar Wilde, 2021-01-29 The story begins when the Lubricator to oil his chains 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 The Otis family witnesses reappearing bloodstains on the floor just by the fireplace which are removed every time they appear in various colors But humorously none of these scare the Otis family in the least Despite the ghost s efforts to appear in the most gruesome guises the family refuses to be frightened and Sir Simon feels increasingly helpless and humiliated Wilde describes Mrs Otis as a very handsome middle aged woman who had been a celebrated New York belle Her expression of modern American culture surfaces when she immediately resorts to giving the ghost Doctor Dobell's tincture thinking he was screaming due to indigestion at the family s second encounter with the ghost 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 colorful 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 Otis family 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 the Strangled Babe the Blood Sucker of Bexley Moor 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 pragmatic unsentimental Americans Sir Simon schemes but even as his costumes become increasingly gruesome his antics do nothing to scare his house guests and the Otis beat him every time He falls victim to tripwires toy peashooters 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 The Canterville Ghost **Annotated** Oscar Wilde, 2021-08-03 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

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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 next morning the Otises find that the stain has mysteriously returned For the next few days they routinely clean the stain only to see it reappear the next morning Intrigued the Otis family decides that the house is in fact haunted A few nights later Mr Otis is awakened in the middle of the night by a clanking noise Venturing into the hallway he encounters the ghost of Sir Simon Rather than being frightened by Sir Simon's glowing red eyes matted hair and rusty manacles Mr Otis politely insists that the ghost oil his chains and gives him a bottle of Tammany Rising Sun Lubricator for this purpose Utterly humiliated Sir Simon retreats down the hallway until he encounters the twins who throw pillows at his head Returning to his chamber Sir Simon remembers his long and successful career as a ghost fuming that never in three hundred years of haunting maids and guests has he been so insulted Determined to scare these wretched modern Americans Sir Simon stays up all night plotting his revenge Though the bloodstain remains the Otises humorously note that it is changing in color on a daily basis Virginia Otis however does not find the changing stain amusing and appears inexplicably distressed by it One day the family discovers Sir Simon in an embarrassing position he has fallen over while trying to put on a suit of armor The twins shoot at him with pea shooters and when Sir Simon tries to scare the family with his most evil laugh Mrs Otis adds insult to injury by suggesting that he may be suffering from indigestion For several days afterward Sir Simon is ill and keeps mostly to his room Soon however he resolves to make a third attempt at scaring the Otises and picks out a suitably terrifying outfit As he makes his way to Washington's room however he is stopped by the twins who are disguised as a ghost Believing them to be a real ghost Sir Simon flees in utter terror Depressed Sir Simon retreats from his ghostly duties deciding not to replace the bloodstain and The Canterville Ghost Oscar Wilde, 2016-10-24 The Canterville Ghost Oscar Wilde The Canterville Ghost is a short story by Oscar Wilde widely adapted for the screen and stage It was the first of Wilde s stories to be published appearing in two parts in The Court and Society Review 23 February and 2 March 1887 The story begins when Mr Otis and 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 who wants to marry Virginia Mrs Umney the housekeeper 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

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The Canterville Ghost Oscar Wilde, 2019-06-27 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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The Canterville Ghost Introduction

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