
THE
CANTERVILLE
GHOST



ISBN

978-605-2220-81-8

Academic Director
Nevin Öztürk

Retold by
Sema Kadam

Illustrated by
Uğurcan Çetiner

Designed by
Emel Erbaş

YDS PLAZA

Küçükbakkalköy Mh.

Şerifali Yolu Cd.

Çetin Sk.

No: 11 34750

Ataşehir / İstanbul

Tel: 0850 288 35 00

Faks: 0850 288 35 09

www.ydspublishing.com

Tüm yayın hakları

YDS Yayıncılık Ltd.

Şti.'ne aittir. Yazılı izin

alınmadan kısmen

ya da tamamen alıntı

yapılamaz, hiçbir

şekilde kopya edilemez,

çoğaltılamaz ve

yayımlanamaz.

info@ydspublishing.com

ydspublishing

Basım Yeri: ERTEM BASIM YAYIN DAĞITIM SAN. TİC. LTD. ŞTİ.

Başkent Organize Sanayi Bölgesi 22. Cadde No: 6 Malıköy-Sincan/Ankara

Sertifika 16031 Basım Tarihi: 2019

CONTENTS

Chapter 1	4
Activities	12
Chapter 2	15
Activities	22
Chapter 3	25
Activities	30
Chapter 4	33
Activities	38
Chapter 5	41
Activities	45
Glossary	48
About the Author	55

CHAPTER 1

Mr Hiram B. Otis is an American businessman. He starts a business in London and moves there with his family. Mr Otis and his wife do not like city life. So, Mr Otis looks for a house in the countryside, near London. And he finds Canterville Chase. This is a very big, old house in the country.

The owner of the house, Lord Canterville is a very honest man. He **warns** Mr Otis about the ghost in Canterville Chase. He says, 'I am selling Canterville Chase because there is a ghost in it. We hear mysterious noises at night. The noises come from the corridor upstairs and from the library.'

'I am from America,' says Mr Otis. 'It is a very modern county. We don't believe in ghosts there. There are no ghosts in real life.'

'But, here in this country, we believe in ghosts,' says Lord Canterville. 'And Canterville Chase has a ghost for three hundred years. No one in our family wants to live in it. The servants are afraid, too. They don't stay there in the evenings. Only the housekeeper stays in Canterville Chase all the time. Now she lives there alone.'

'My Lord, don't worry. I am buying Canterville Chase with all its furniture and its ghost,' Mr Otis says.

'Fine, I am happy that you are buying Canterville Chase. But I am

just warning you about the ghost,' says the Lord and adds 'I hope the ghost does not visit you.'

A few weeks later, on a July evening, Mr Otis, his wife Lucretia and their children, Washington, Virginia and the twins, go to their new house, Canterville Chase. Washington Otis is the oldest child of the family. He is twenty years old. He is a handsome young man with fair hair. The twin boys are twelve years old. The daughter Virginia is 15 years old. She is a lovely girl with beautiful blue eyes.

The Otis family gets off the train from London at Ascot railway station. There, they take a horse car to Canterville Chase. It is a beautiful evening. The air is filled with the scent of pine trees. They see rabbits and squirrels on the way. After a 50-minute ride, they arrive at their new home. Suddenly dark clouds appear in the sky, and black crows fly over their heads. Then it begins to rain.

An old woman in a black dress and with a white apron and a white cap **greet**s them. This is Mrs Umney, the housekeeper. She leads the Otises through a big hall into the library. At the end of this long, narrow room, there is a big window. They sit at the long table in the middle of the room. Mrs Umney serves them tea. Mrs Otis looks around the room carefully. The bookshelves on the walls are full of books. There are big paintings on the walls. Just then she notices a red **stain** on the floor.

'There is a red stain on the floor. What is it?' she asks Mrs Umney.

'It is a blood stain, Madam,' answers the housekeeper in a low voice.

'I don't want any stains on the floors. You must remove it immediately, Mrs Umney.'

The Canterville Ghost



The Otis family gets off the train from London at Ascot railway station. There they take a horse car to Canterville Chase.

'I'm afraid I can't,' says the housekeeper, in a low voice again. 'It is the blood of Lady Eleanore de Canterville. No one can remove her blood stain. Lady Eleanore is dead. Her husband, Sir Simon de Canterville is her killer. And the **spirit** of this dead man is **haunting** Canterville Chase for three hundred years. It is his **punishment** for being a killer.'

'Nonsense,' says Washington Otis. 'I have some stain remover with me. It can remove all kinds of stains. 'Then he takes out the stain remover from his bag. It is a small, black stick. He **kneels** down and rubs the stain on the floor with it. In a few seconds, the stain is not there.

Just at that moment, a terrible **streak** of lightning lights up the **gloomy** room. And then, there is a very loud thunder. And Mrs Umney **faints**. Her eyes are closed, and her face is pale. Mrs Otis and Washington help her. Then she feels better and says, 'You will have some trouble in this house. You must be careful. The ghost is angry, and it is coming!'

'We are not afraid of ghosts. Do not worry,' says Mrs Otis to the housekeeper.

'You must not remove the blood stain. It makes the ghost angry,' says Mrs Umney. She sounds scared and worried.

'Oh, we don't believe in ghosts. There are no ghosts,' Washington Otis tells the old woman. Then Mrs Umney wishes a good night to her new master and mistress. She slowly goes to her own room.

The Canterville Ghost



*'You must not remove the blood stain. It makes the ghost angry,'
says Mrs Umney.*

The storm continues all night long, with lightning, thunder and heavy rain. But everyone sleeps quite well. In the morning, they all come downstairs to the library for breakfast. They see the blood stain on the floor again!

'I don't believe this! Is there really a ghost in this house?' says Washington. Then he removes the stain once again. But the stain appears the next morning, too. And Washington cleans it a third time. That night, Mr Otis locks the library door and takes the key with him to the bedroom. In the morning, the stain is still there!

That afternoon, they all go out for a drive in the country. They come back at about nine o'clock. They have a light dinner. No one talks about the stain on the library floor.

They talk about different things, like actors, actresses and about the different kinds of food in America. Then they all go to their bedrooms at 11 o'clock. By half past 11, everyone is asleep, and the house is dark.

Suddenly, Mr Otis wakes up with a strange noise in the corridor outside his bedroom. It is like the sound of metal chains. He gets up and lights a candle. He hears footsteps, too. But he doesn't get scared. He calmly takes a small bottle from his bedside table. He opens the door and looks into the corridor. An old man with long grey hair is standing right in front of him! His eyes are red. He is wearing old, dirty clothes. There are chains around his wrists and ankles. He is the Canterville ghost!

'Sir, you must oil your chains. They make a lot of noise,' Mr Otis says to the ghost and shows him the small bottle. 'Here is a bottle of lubricator. Please use it.' He puts the bottle down on the floor and goes back into his bedroom.

The Canterville Ghost



Sir, you must oil your chains. They make a lot of noise,' Mr Otis says to the ghost and shows him the small bottle.

The Canterville ghost is **shocked**. Just at that moment, the twins come out of their bedroom at the end of the long corridor. They have two big pillows in their hands.

They throw them at the ghost and laugh. The Canterville ghost makes an angry sound and **disappears** through the wall. The boys go back to bed. The house becomes quiet again.

The ghost angrily goes into his secret room in the house. He is very **upset**. He begins to think. 'Normally, people are always afraid of me. But these people are strange! They are not scared at all! I am a **scary** ghost, but I can't **frighten** them. That's really strange!' Then he thinks about the twins. 'How can those small boys throw pillows and laugh at me? I will teach them a lesson. I must make a good plan to frighten this family.'

The next morning, at breakfast, the Otises talk about the ghost and the stain. Mr Otis is a little angry with the twins.

'The ghost is part of our household. It is not polite to throw pillows at him.' he says to the boys. And the boys laugh **out loud**. Then Mr Otis turns to his wife and says, 'I hope he uses the oil. I don't want to hear the sound of his chains every night. I cannot sleep.'

The Canterville ghost does not appear for a week. But the stain is on the library floor every morning. Washington removes it every day, and it appears again the next morning. But the stain is not red anymore. It changes colour every day; one day it is brown and another day, it is purple. And finally, it is bright green. Everyone in the family thinks it is very funny. They all laugh. Only Virginia doesn't laugh. The blood stain makes her very sad. She looks at it every morning with tears in her eyes. She feels sorry for the Canterville ghost.

ACTIVITIES

A. Who are these people? Write.

1. Lord Canterville: _____
2. Lucretia: _____
3. Virginia: _____
4. Washington: _____
5. Mrs Umney: _____

B. Match the words (1-7) with the definitions (a-g).

1. warn	___	a. to come out; to come into sight
2. appear	___	b. to visit a place regularly; to appear regularly
3. greet	___	c. to welcome or to say hello
4. spirit	___	d. to make someone afraid; to scare
5. haunt	___	e. ghost
6. frighten	___	f. to go out of sight
7. disappear	___	g. to tell someone about a danger or problem

C. Complete the sentence about each picture with a word from the list.

out loud
stain

streak
scent

oiling
shocked

gloomy
fainting

upset
scary

1.



She's removing the _____.

2.



He's _____ about something.

3.



She has a _____ face.

4.



She is _____.

5.



She is _____.

6.



There is a _____ of lightning in the sky.

7.



It is a _____ room.

8.



He's _____ the machine.

9.



She likes the _____ of a rose.

10.



He is laughing _____.

D. Answer the questions. Give short answers.

1. Where do the Otises come from?

2. How many children do Mr Otis and Mrs Otis have?

3. Where is Canterville Chase?

4. Who removes the blood stain from the floor?

5. What does he/she remove the stain with?

6. What does Mr Otis give to the ghost?

7. What do the twins throw at the ghost?

8. Who feels sorry for the ghost?

GLOSSARY

Chapter 1

disappear (v) to become impossible to see; to become invisible

disappearance (n)

faint (v) to suddenly become unconscious for a short time and fall to the ground

frighten (v) to make somebody scared; to scare

frightened (adj)

gloomy (adj) almost dark and appearing depressing

greet (v) to say hello to someone; to welcome

greeting (n)

haunt (v) to appear in a place repeatedly

knelt (v) to bend your legs towards the ground

out loud (phrase) if you say or read something out loud, you say or read it so that other people can hear you; aloud

punishment (n) something that is done to make someone suffer because they have done something wrong or broken the law

punish (v)

scary (adj) causing fear; frightening

scare (v); scared (adj)

shocked (adj) feeling surprised by something unexpected

shock (n/v); shocking (adj)

spirit (n) a ghost

stain (n) a mark on something that is difficult to remove; a spot

stain (v)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Oscar Wilde (1854-1900) was an Irish poet and playwright. Wilde was born to an intellectual family, and he was educated at home until the age of 9. He learned French and German from his governesses at a very early age. He studied classics at Trinity College, Dublin from 1871 to 1874, and he became one of the most outstanding students.

In 1878, Wilde won a prize with his long poem *Ravenna*, which was about his visit to Ravenna, Italy. His first collection of poems was published with the title *Poems* in 1881. In 1882, he went to the United States and Canada to give lectures, then he returned to Great Britain to lecture on his impressions of America.

Wilde also wrote some plays, including *A Woman of No Importance* (1893), *An Ideal Husband* (1895) and *The Importance of Being Earnest* (1895). These plays were praised by a lot of people, and Wilde gained a reputation as a playwright. Wilde published almost all of his major works in the final decade of his life. His only novel, *The Picture of Dorian Grey* was published in 1891.

Wide was sentenced to two years imprisonment in 1895, and he wrote *The Ballad of Reading Gaol* after he was released in 1897. He wandered Europe and stayed in cheap hotels in the rest of his life. He died penniless in a cheap Paris hotel in 1900.

Sources

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Oscar-Wilde>

<http://www.wilde-online.info/oscar-wilde-biography.htm>