

Ms. Howe's Fourth Grade Class

California Ghost Town: Haunted House

Dramatis Personae

The Students

LAUREN (Julianna)
WILEY WEST (Sophie)
SHELLY (Janet)
DANA (Melanie)
JESSICA OLSON (Jocelyn)
GOKU (Joshua)
AMY GARCIA (Jamy)
JACK (Owen)
VICTOR (Victor)

The Ghosts

WILEY SCREAM (Alyce)
HARRIET (Leila)
ZOM THE VAMPIRE DUDE (Nikolai)
VAUHM, Zom's brother (Oliver)
JAMES (Cole)
JAY (Joel)
VIOLET (Theodora)
ROKU (Solomon)
ALEXANDER SPARROWICK (Langston)
BOB THE GHOST (Bryan)
ELLE (Elle)

The Tourists

JASE (Lucas)
JADELYN (Alex)

MS. HOWE



A group of meddling fourth grade students is on a field trip to a Ghost Town in California. They are hot and bored.

ASHLEY

Is it me, or is it hot?

SHELLY

Are you sweating like a pig like I am?

DANA

Yeah! It is so hot!

JESSICA OLSON

It is so hot here. I wonder how
the people in the gold rush could stand it?

GOKU

They didn't care.
They were just looking for gold.

AMY GARCIA

I don't care about history or gold.
I'm looking for shade or water.

SHELLY

I know! I'm so thirsty and I drank all
the water in my water bottle.
Anybody wanna share their water?

ALL

I'm out! Me too! Sorry!

JACK

I'm just bored. This is boring!

VICTOR

Let's go exploring.
We can pretend to be pioneers.

WILY WEST

There's a house over there.
Let's go check it out!

JACK

Yeah! Let's go guys!



DANA
I don't know.
Didn't Ms. Howe say not to leave the group?

GOKU
It's all right. We won't be gone long.

AMY GARCIA
Come on! It'll be fun.

DANA
All right.

SHELLY
Maybe there's a water fountain in there.

The group of kids goes to the house to explore. They enter the house but the door slams behind them.

DANA
What just happened?
Who closed the door?

KIDS
Not me! I didn't touch it.

VICTOR
It's locked. We can't get out!

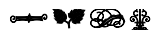
ASHLEY
What?! Shhhh! This is scary!

SHELLY
Whatever, let's just see if there's another door.
Maybe there's a water fountain too.

JACK
Yeah! This is part of the Ghost Town museum.
There's nothing to be scared of.

AMY GARCIA
What was that?

ALL
What?!



AMY GARCIA
Just kidding!

WILY WEST
Let's stick together. It looks like there's another room over here.

GOKU
Hey! Stop pulling on my shirt Jack!

JACK
I'm not! It's... ahhhh!

The meddling kids see the vampire brothers and Wily Scream and run into another part of the house. They come upon a group of ghosts and zombies dancing the Thriller. Towards the end of the dance, one of the ghosts sees them and they start walking towards them slowly. The kids run in the other direction.

SHELLY
Wait stop! I know we are being chased by ghosts but
I just saw a water fountain.
Can we please just get a drink of water?

KIDS
All right!
I'm thirsty too.

AMY GARCIA
Everybody line up.

The kids go over to the water fountain where they meet Jadelyn and Jase, stick figure men and Wily Scream.

LAUREN
Ahh! Stick figure men!

JESSICA OLSON
Don't hurt us!
We just want some water.

JADELYN and JASE
So? You got trapped in here?
You'll probably never get out!

VICTOR
Ms. Howe is going to be so mad at us!

WILY WEST



(Noticing Wily Scream)
Who are you?

WILY SCREAM
My name is Wily Scream.

WILY WEST
My name is Wily West!
I feel like I know you.

SHELLY
You look so similar.

AMY GARCIA
Yeah! You do!
This is too weird!

WILY SCREAM
You all need to go to the cemetery!

KIDS
Cemetery?

DANA
I don't think so.
I'm scared as it is.

JESSICA OLSON
Why do we need to go to the cemetery?

WILY SCREAM
That's the way out!

JACK
Well, how do we get to the cemetery?

JADELYN and JASE
Just follow me.
We'll find the way out.

WILY SCREAM
I know the way.

JASE
To the cemetery!



The meddling kids exit following Jadelyn, Wily Scream, and Jase. In the cemetery, the ghosts are looking for gold.

ALEXANDER SPAROWICK

We must find the gold!

JAY

We've looked all over this house for decades.
We're never going to find it!

ROKU

But it's gotta be here somewhere!
I want to move on. Get out of this place.
I'm tired of being stuck in this house!

BOB

I hope those meddling kids don't find it first!

HARRIET

Don't worry, they won't.

ELLE

They don't even know we are looking for gold.

VIOLET

I wish I were alive again.
They seem so happy.

JAMES

I like being a ghost.
I just wish we could find the gold
and be free of this ghost town.

ROKU

Come on everyone! Pick a grave and start digging.

ELLE

Why couldn't you just have made a map?

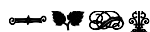
ALEXANDER SPAROWICK

I didn't think I had to.

ZOM and VAUHM

We've got visitors!

Wily Scream and the meddling kids appear at the cemetery.



GHOSTS

(Annoyed)

Wily!!

Why'd you bring them here?

KIDS

(Terrified)

I thought you said this was the way out?

WILY SCREAM

(To the kids)

I thought you could help us.

(To the ghosts)

I thought they could help us.

AMY GARCIA

Help you do what?

JADELYN

Look for the gold.

KIDS

Gold?

ALEXANDER SPAROWICK

Gold!

Long ago, in 1850, I was panning for gold just beyond the mountains.
The town wouldn't go up there because they said it was a haunted river.

I didn't listen and I found a gold vein with my buddy Jay.

JAY

We brought the gold and hid it in this house.

The night we hid it, we died and we've been trapped in this house
ever since. The thing is, we don't remember where we hid it.

GOKU

(Pointing to the other ghosts)

What about the rest of them?

HARRIET

We are all stuck in this house.

Anyone who was in the house that night
stayed here.

VIOLET



Others of us have drifted in from all over the world,
but we can't seem to leave either.

JAMES

We think that it's the gold.
It came from a haunted place and it's cursed us.

ASHLEY

What are you going to do with the gold once you find it?

JAY

We'll take it up into the mountain.
Throw it back into the river.

VAUHM

Then maybe we'll be free of this house.

SHELLY

Well, we might as well help them.

JACK

Doesn't seem like we have an option.

VICTOR

The field trip bus leaves in 15 minutes.
Do you think we can find it by then?

ZOM

We've been searching for over a 100 years.

ZOM and VAUHM

But it's worth a try.

They start digging in the ground all around. The digging turns into the Thriller dance again. All of the sudden they find the gold.

WILY WEST

I think I found it!

ALL

We found the gold!
We're free!

JAY

I'll take it to the river right now.



GHOSTS

Thank you meddling kids.

ELLE

We're finally free!

HARRIET

Come on!

We've got to hurry!

KIDS

See you later!

Good luck with the after life.

As the ghosts exit they sing "California knows how to party". The kids start back for the door.

DANA

We've got like a minute before the bus leaves.

AMY GARCIA

Last one is a rotten ghost!

ALL

(As they run off)

Booo!

MS. HOWE

Where have you kids been?

We've been looking for you.

Hurry up before the bus leaves.

Oh, you'll never guess,

we found a bag of gold by the river.

We're taking it down to the main museum.

We think it might be from the 1850s.

KIDS

Here we go again!



