

OSCAR WILDE



The Canterville Ghost

Das Gespenst von Canterville

*easy*Original.com

Lesemethode von Ilya Frank

ENGLISCH

Oscar Wilde

The
Canterville Ghost

Das Gespenst von Canterville

*Aus dem Englischen übersetzt von
Ulrike Wittmann*

Lesemethode von Ilya Frank

Alle Rechte vorbehalten.

© Copyright 2020 EasyOriginal Verlag e.U., Anastasia Guskova

Medieninhaber:

EasyOriginal Verlag e.U., Anastasia Guskova

Eroicagasse 18/3, 1190 Wien, Österreich

Verlagsort: Wien, Österreich

Hersteller:

WIRmachenDRUCK GmbH

Mühlbachstraße 7, Backnang, Deutschland

Cover & Layout: Multimediana e.U.

Text Originalfassung: Oscar Wilde, Project Gutenberg

Deutsche Übersetzung: Ulrike Wittmann

Audiobook: Librivox / David Barnes

1. Auflage

ISBN print 978-3-99112-008-7

ISBN epub 978-3-99112-009-4

ISBN pdf 978-3-99112-010-0

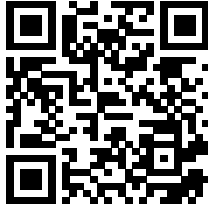
ISBN mobi 978-3-99112-011-7

Website und Online-Shop:

www.easyoriginal.com

The
Canterville Ghost

Das Gespenst von Canterville



Audiobook:

<https://easyoriginal.com/audio/e3>

***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. James¹***

*(eine unterhaltsame Chronik über die Beschwerden des Gespensts
von Schloss Canterville als der Landsitz seiner Ahnen das Zuhause des
Amerikanischen Gesandten am Hof von St. James wurde)*

¹ **the Court of St James** — der Hof von St. James – der britische Königshof.

I

When **Mr. Hiram B. Otis**, the American Minister (als Herr Hiram B. Otis, der Amerikanische Gesandte; **Minister** — *Pfarrer, Geistlicher; diplomatischer Gesandter*), **bought Canterville Chase**² (Schloss Canterville kaufte; **chase** — *Jagd, Verfolgung*), **every one told him** (sagten ihm alle; **every one** — *jeder, alle*) **he was doing a very foolish thing** (dass er etwas sehr dummes tat) **as there was no doubt at all** (nachdem es keinen Zweifel gab; **doubt** [daʊt]) **that the place was haunted** (dass es in dem Gebäude spukte; **place** — *Ort, Stelle; Gebäude; to haunt* [hɔ:nt] — *herumgeistern, spuken*). **Indeed, Lord Canterville himself** (tatsächlich, Lord Canterville selbst), **who was a man of the most punctilious honour** (der ein Mann der korrektesten Ehre war; **punctilious** [pʌŋk'tɪliəs] — *pedantisch; korrekt; honour* [ɒnə] — *Ehre, Auszeichnung*), **had felt it his duty to mention the fact to Mr. Otis** (hatte es als seine Pflicht empfunden diese Tatsache gegenüber Herrn Otis zu erwähnen; **to feel** — *fühlen, empfinden*), **when they came to discuss terms** (als sie dazu kamen, die Bedingungen zu besprechen; **discuss** [dɪ'skʌs]).

2 **Canterville Chase** — Chase bedeutet eigentlich "Jagd", im Zusammenhang dieser Geschichte dürfte es allerdings ein Jagdschloss bzw. ein Herrenhaus bezeichnen, das Schloss Canterville.

When Mr. Hiram B. Otis, the American Minister, bought Canterville Chase, every one told him he was doing a very foolish thing, as there was no doubt at all that the place was haunted. Indeed, Lord Canterville himself, who was a man of the most punctilious honour, had felt it his duty to mention the fact to Mr. Otis when they came to discuss terms.

“We have not cared to live in the place ourselves (wir wollten selbst nicht an diesem Ort leben),” said Lord Canterville (sagte Lord Canterville),” since my grandaunt, the Dowager Duchess of Bolton (seit meine Großtante, die Herzoginwitwe von Bolton; **dowager** [ˈdaʊədʒə] — *Witwe /üblicherweise für Aristokratinnen gebraucht/; duchess* [ˈdʌtʃɪs]), was frightened into a fit (zu einem Anfall geängstigt wurde; **to frighten** [ˈfraɪt(ə)n] — *erschrecken, ängstigen; fit* — *Passform; Anfall*), from which she never really recovered (von dem sie sich nie mehr wirklich erholt hat; **to recover** [rɪˈkʌvə] — *bergen, retten; erholen*), by two skeleton hands being placed on her shoulders (von zwei Skelethänden, die auf ihren Schultern platziert wurden; **skeleton** [ˈskelɪt(ə)n]; **to place** — *deponieren, platzieren*) as she was dressing for dinner (als sie sich fürs Abendessen anleidete), and I feel bound to tell you, Mr. Otis (und ich fühle mich verpflichtet Ihnen zu sagen, Herr Otis), that the ghost has been seen by several living members of my family (dass das Gespenst von mehreren lebenden Mitgliedern

meiner Familie gesehen wurde; *ghost* [gəʊst]; **living** — *lebend, lebendig*), as well as by the rector of the parish (sowie vom Pfarrer der Gemeinde), the Rev. Augustus Dampier (dem Reverend Augustus Dampier; *the Rev.* = *the Reverend* — *Hochwürden, Anrede für einen anglikanischen Pfarrer*), who is a Fellow of King's College, Cambridge (der ein ordentliches Mitglied des King's College, Cambridge ist)."

2

"We have not cared to live in the place ourselves," said Lord Canterville, "since my grandaunt, the Dowager Duchess of Bolton, was frightened into a fit, from which she never really recovered, by two skeleton hands being placed on her shoulders as she was dressing for dinner, and I feel bound to tell you, Mr. Otis, that the ghost has been seen by several living members of my family, as well as by the rector of the parish, the Rev. Augustus Dampier, who is a Fellow of King's College, Cambridge."

"After the unfortunate accident to the Duchess (nach dem unglücklichen Unfall der Herzogin; *unfortunate* [ʌn'fɔ:tʃənɪt]; *accident* ['æksɪdənt]), none of our younger servants would stay with us (wollte keiner unserer jüngeren Bediensteten bei uns bleiben; *servants* ['sɜ:v(ə)nt]), and Lady Canterville often got very little sleep at night (und Lady Canterville bekam oft nur wenig Schlaf in der Nacht) in consequence of the mysterious noises (als Folge der mysteriösen Geräusche;

consequence [ˈkɒnsɪkwəns]; *mysterious* [mɪˈstɪəriəs]) **that came from the corridor and the library** (die aus dem Flur und der Bibliothek kamen; **to come** — *ankommen, kommen*; *corridor* [ˈkɒrɪ,dɔː]).”

3

“After the unfortunate accident to the Duchess, none of our younger servants would stay with us, and Lady Canterville often got very little sleep at night, in consequence of the mysterious noises that came from the corridor and the library.”

"My Lord (mein Lord)," answered the Minister (antwortete der Gesandte; *answer* [ˌɑːnsə]), **"I will take the furniture and the ghost at a valuation** (ich werde die Möblierung und das Gespenst nach einer Wertschätzung nehmen; *furniture* [ˌfɜːnɪtʃə]; **valuation** [ˌvæljuˈeɪʃən] — *Bewertung, Wertschätzung*). **I have come from a modern country** (ich bin aus einem modernen Land gekommen), **where we have everything that money can buy** (wo wir alles haben, was Geld kaufen kann); **and with all our spry young fellows painting the Old World red** (und mit all unseren hurtigen jungen Mitmenschen, die in der alten Welt einen draufmachen; **to paint red** — *auf die Pauke hauen, einen draufmachen*; **to paint** — *streichen, malen*) **and carrying off your best actors and primadonnas** (und eure besten Schauspieler und Primadonnas entführen; **to carry off** — *davontragen; entführen*), **I reckon that if there were such a thing as a ghost in Europe** (ich vermute, dass wenn es so

etwas wie ein Gespenst in Europa gäbe; *reckon* [ˌrɛkən]), **we'd have it at home in a very short time in one of our public museums** (wir es in kürzester Zeit zu Hause in einem unserer öffentlichen Museen hätten; *museum* [mjuː'ziəm]) **or on the road as a show** (oder auf der Straße in einem fahrenden Schauspiel).“

4

“My Lord,” answered the Minister, “I will take the furniture and the ghost at a valuation. I have come from a modern country, where we have everything that money can buy; and with all our spry young fellows painting the Old World red, and carrying off your best actors and primadonnas, I reckon that if there were such a thing as a ghost in Europe, we'd have it at home in a very short time in one of our public museums, or on the road as a show.”

“I fear that the ghost exists (ich fürchte, das Gespenst existiert),” said Lord Canterville, smiling (sagte Lord Canterville, lächelnd), “though it may have resisted the overtures of your enterprising impresarios (obwohl es den Annäherungsversuchen Ihrer geschäftstüchtigen Theaterdirektoren widerstanden haben könnte; *though* [ðəʊ]; *overture* [ˈəʊvəˌtʃʊə] — *Angebot, Vorschlag; Annäherungsversuch; enterprising* [ˈɛntəˌpraɪzɪŋ]; *impresario* [ˌɪmprəˈsɑːrɪəʊ]). It has been well known for three centuries (es ist seit drei Jahrhunderten wohl bekannt; *to know* — *wissen; kennen; century* [ˈsɛntʃəri]), since 1584 in

fact (tatsächlich seit 1584), and always makes its appearance before the death of any member of our family (und erscheint immer vor dem Tod eines jeden Mitglieds unserer Familie; **appearance** [ə'piərəns] — Aussehen; Erscheinung; **to make one's appearance**— seinen Auftritt haben; erscheinen; **death** [deθ]).”

“Well, so does the family doctor for that matter, Lord Canterville (nun, tut der Hausarzt auch, was das betrifft, Lord Canterville; **matter** — Angelegenheit, Sache; **for that matter** — eigentlich; was das angeht; was das betrifft). But there is no such thing, sir, as a ghost (aber so etwas wie ein Gespenst gibt es nicht, Sir), and I guess the laws of Nature are not going to be suspended for the British aristocracy (und ich nehme an, die Naturgesetze werden nicht für den britischen Adel außer Kraft gesetzt werden; **to suspend** — aufschieben; außer Kraft setzen; **aristocracy** [,æri'stɒkrəsi]).”

5

“I fear that the ghost exists,” said Lord Canterville, smiling, “though it may have resisted the overtures of your enterprising impresarios. It has been well known for three centuries, since 1584 in fact, and always makes its appearance before the death of any member of our family.”

“Well, so does the family doctor for that matter, Lord Canterville. But there is no such thing, sir, as a ghost, and I guess the laws of Nature are not going to be suspended for the British aristocracy.”

“You are certainly very natural in America,” (ihr seid sicherlich sehr natürlich in Amerika; *certainly* [ˈsɜ:t(ə)nli]; **to be very natural** — *sehr natürlich sein*),” answered Lord Canterville (antwortete Lord Canterville), **who did not quite understand Mr. Otis’s last observation** (der Herrn Otis’ letzte Beobachtung nicht ganz verstand; *observation* [ˌɒbzəˈveɪʃən]),” **and if you don’t mind a ghost in the house** (und wenn Sie nichts gegen ein Gespenst im Haus haben; **to mind** — *aufpassen; etwas dagegen haben*), **it is all right** (ist es in Ordnung). **Only you must remember I warned you** (Sie müssen sich nur erinnern, dass ich Sie gewarnt habe; *remember* [rɪˈmɛmbə]; *warn* [wɔ:n]).“

A few weeks after this (einige Wochen hiernach = nach dieser Unterhaltung; **after this** — *nachher, hiernach*), **the purchase was concluded** (wurde der Kauf abgewickelt; *purchase* [ˌpɜ:tʃɪs]; **to conclude** [kənˈklu:d] — *beschließen; abwickeln*), **and at the close of the season** (und am Ende der Saison; *season* [ˌsi:z(ə)n]) **the Minister and his family went down to Canterville Chase** (fuhren der Gesandte und seine Familie hinunter zu Schloss Canterville; **to go down** — *abklingen; heruntergehen; hinunterfahren*). **Mrs. Otis, who, as Miss Lucretia R. Tappan, of West 53d Street** (Frau Otis, die, als Fräulein Lucretia R. Tappan, von West 53. Straße), **had been a celebrated New York belle** (eine gefeierte New York Schönheit gewesen war; *belle* [bɛl]), **was now a very handsome, middle-aged woman with fine eyes** (war jetzt eine sehr gutaussehende Frau mittleren Alters mit schönen Augen; *handsome*

[ˈhændsəm]), and a superb profile (und einem grandiosen Profil; *superb* [suˈpɜːb]; *profile* [ˈprəʊfaɪl]).

6

“You are certainly very natural in America,” answered Lord Canterville, who did not quite understand Mr. Otis’s last observation, “and if you don’t mind a ghost in the house, it is all right. Only you must remember I warned you.”

A few weeks after this, the purchase was concluded, and at the close of the season the Minister and his family went down to Canterville Chase. Mrs. Otis, who, as Miss Lucretia R. Tappan, of West 53d Street, had been a celebrated New York belle, was now a very handsome, middle-aged woman, with fine eyes, and a superb profile.

Many American ladies (viele amerikanische Damen) on leaving their native land (beim Verlassen ihres Heimatlands; *to leave* — *abgehen*; *abreisen*; *verlassen*) adopt an appearance of chronic ill-health (nehmen einen Anschein chronischer schlechter Gesundheit an; *adopt* [əˈdɒpt]; *appearance* [əˈpiərəns]; *chronic* [ˌkrɒnɪk]; *ill-health* [helθ] — *Krankheit*, *schlechte Gesundheit*), under the impression that it is a form of European refinement (unter der Annahme, dass es eine Form europäischer Vornehmheit ist; *impression* [ɪmˈpreʃən]; *European* [ˌjʊərəˈpiən]; *refinement* [rɪˈfaɪnmənt] — *Verfeinerung*; *Vornehmheit*), but Mrs. Otis had never fallen into this error (aber Frau Otis war nie

in diesen Irrtum verfallen; **error** [ˌɛrə] — Fehler; Irrtum; to fall). She had a magnificent constitution (sie hatte eine großartige Konstitution; **magnificent** [mæɡˈnɪfɪs(ə)nt]; **constitution** [ˌkɒnstɪˈtjuːʃən]), and a really wonderful amount of animal spirits (und ein wundervolles Maß an Vitalität; **wonderful** [ˌwʌndəfʊl] — wunderschön, wundervoll; **amount** [əˈmaʊnt] — Betrag; Maß; **animal spirits** — Vitalität, Lebensgeister).

Indeed, in many respects (in der Tat, in vielerlei Hinsicht; **respect** [rɪˈspekt] — Respekt; Hinsicht), she was quite English (war sie ziemlich englisch), and was an excellent example of the fact (und war ein ausgezeichnetes Beispiel der Tatsache; **excellent** [ˌɛksələnt]), that we have really everything in common with America nowadays (dass wir heutzutage wirklich alles mit Amerika gemeinsam haben; **nowadays** [ˌnaʊəˈdeɪz]), except, of course, language (außer, natürlich, Sprache; **except** [ɪkˈsept]).

7

Many American ladies on leaving their native land adopt an appearance of chronic ill-health, under the impression that it is a form of European refinement, but Mrs. Otis had never fallen into this error. She had a magnificent constitution, and a really wonderful amount of animal spirits.

Indeed, in many respects, she was quite English, and was an excellent example of the fact that we have really everything in common

with America nowadays, except, of course, language.

Her eldest son (ihr ältester Sohn), christened Washington³ by his parents in a moment of patriotism (von seinen Eltern in einem Moment von Patriotismus Washington getauft; *to christen* [ˈkris(ə)n] — *taufen, nennen; patriotism* [ˈpætriə,tɪzəm]), which he never ceased to regret (was er nie aufhörte zu bereuen; *cease* [si:s]; *regret* [rɪˈgrɛt]), was a fair-haired, rather good-looking young man (war ein blonder, recht gutaussehender junger Mann), who had qualified himself for American diplomacy (der sich für die amerikanische Diplomatie qualifiziert hatte; *qualified* [ˈkwɒlɪ,faɪd]) by leading the German at the Newport⁴ Casino for three successive seasons (indem er den deutschen Debütantenball im Newport Kasino für drei aufeinanderfolgende Saisonen leitete; *the German* = *the German cotillion* — *deutscher Debütantenball; to lead* — *führen, leiten*), and even in London was well known as an excellent dancer (und selbst in London als ausgezeichneter Tänzer bekannt war). Gardenias and the peerage were his only weaknesses (Gardenien und der Adelsstand waren seine einzigen Schwächen; *gardenia* [gɑːˈdiːniə]; *peerage* [ˈpiəriːdʒ]). Otherwise he was extremely sensible (ansonsten war er extrem vernünftig; *extremely* [ɪkˈstriːmlɪ]).

3 **Washington, George** (1732 — 1799), erster Präsident der Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika (1789 — 1797).

4 **Newport** — Stadt in Newport County im Bundesstaat Rhode Island; sie war im 19. Jahrhundert Sommerresidenz des amerikanischen Geldadels.

Her eldest son, christened Washington by his parents in a moment of patriotism, which he never ceased to regret, was a fair-haired, rather good-looking young man, who had qualified himself for American diplomacy by leading the German at the Newport Casino for three successive seasons, and even in London was well known as an excellent dancer. Gardenias and the peerage were his only weaknesses. Otherwise he was extremely sensible.

Miss Virginia E. Otis was a little girl of fifteen (Fräulein Virginia E. Otis war ein kleines Mädchen von fünfzehn Jahren), **lithe and lovely as a fawn** (gescheidig und lieblich wie ein junges Reh; *lithe* [laɪð]; *fawn* — *Rehkitz*; *Hirschkalb*) **and with a fine freedom in her large blue eyes** (und mit schöner Freiheit in den großen blauen Augen). **She was a wonderful Amazon** (sie war eine wundervolle Amazone); **and had once raced old Lord Bilton on her pony twice round the park** (und hatte sich einmal mit dem alten Lord Bilton ein Wettrennen auf ihrem Pony zwei Mal um den Park geliefert; *to race* — *brausen*; *rasen*; *um die Wette rennen*), **winning by a length and a half** (und gewann um eineinhalb Längen), **just in front of the Achilles statue** (genau vor der Achilles Statue; *statue* [ˌstætʃuː]), **to the huge delight of the young Duke of Cheshire** (zum großen Entzücken des jungen Herzogs von Cheshire; *delight* [drɪˈlaɪt]), **who proposed for her on the spot** (der auf der Stelle um ihre Hand anhielt; *to propose* — *vorschlagen*; *einen*

Heiratsantrag machen; on the spot — sofort, sogleich, auf der Stelle) and was sent back to Eton⁵ that very night by his guardians in floods of tears (und noch in derselben Nacht unter Tränenströmen von seinen Vormunden nach Eton zurückgeschickt wurde; to send — abschicken; senden; guardian [ˌgɑːdɪən]).

9

Miss Virginia E. Otis was a little girl of fifteen, lithe and lovely as a fawn, and with a fine freedom in her large blue eyes. She was a wonderful Amazon, and had once raced old Lord Bilton on her pony twice round the park, winning by a length and a half, just in front of the Achilles statue, to the huge delight of the young Duke of Cheshire, who proposed for her on the spot, and was sent back to Eton that very night by his guardians, in floods of tears.

After Virginia came the twins (nach Virginia kamen die Zwillinge), who were usually called "The Star and Stripes (die normalerweise "der Stern und Streifen" genannt wurden),“ as they were always getting swished (nachdem sie immer mit der Rute geschlagen wurden; to get — erreichen; abbekommen; to swish — sausen; mit der Rute schlagen). They were delightful boys (sie waren entzückende Jungen; delightful [drɪˈlaɪtful]), and, with the exception of the worthy Minister (und,

5 Eton — ein seit 1440 bestehendes, sehr exklusives Internat für Jungen von 13-18 Jahren.

mit Ausnahme des würdigen Gesandten; *exception* [ɪk'sepʃən]; *worthy* [ˌwɜːðɪ]) **the only true republicans of the family** (die einzig wahren Republikaner der Familie; *republican* [rɪ'pʌblikən]).

10

After Virginia came the twins, who were usually called “The Star and Stripes,” as they were always getting swished. They were delightful boys, and, with the exception of the worthy Minister, the only true republicans of the family.

As **Canterville Chase is seven miles from Ascot⁶** (nachdem Schloss Canterville sieben Meilen von Ascot entfernt ist), **the nearest railway station** (der nächsten Zugstation), **Mr. Otis had telegraphed for a waggonette to meet them** (Herr Otis hatte nach einer Wagonette telegraphiert, die sie treffen sollte; *telegraph* [ˈtelɪgrɑːf]; *waggonette* [ˌwæɡə'net]), **and they started on their drive in high spirits** (und sie begannen ihre Fahrt in ausgezeichnete Stimmung). **It was a lovely July evening** (es war ein schöner Juli-Abend), **and the air was delicate with the scent of the pinewoods** (und die Luft duftete vom Geruch der Pinienwälder; *delicate* [ˈdelɪkət] — *empfindlich, zart; köstlich*). **Now and then they heard a wood-pigeon brooding over its own sweet voice** (hin und wieder hörten sie eine Holztaube über ihre eigene süße Stimme

6 **Ascot** — Grafschaft Berkshire, südlich von Windsor. Eine der ältesten Pferderennbahnen in Großbritannien.

glucken; *wood-pigeon* [ˈpɪdʒɪn]; **to brood** — *grübeln; glucken*), or saw, deep in the rustling fern (oder sahen, tief im raschelnden Farn), the burnished breast of the pheasant (die glänzende Brust eines Fasans; **to burnish** — *glätten, polieren; breast* [brɛst]; *pheasant* [ˈfɛz(ə)nt]).

11

As Canterville Chase is seven miles from Ascot, the nearest railway station, Mr. Otis had telegraphed for a waggonette to meet them, and they started on their drive in high spirits. It was a lovely July evening, and the air was delicate with the scent of the pine-woods. Now and then they heard a wood-pigeon brooding over its own sweet voice, or saw, deep in the rustling fern, the burnished breast of the pheasant.

Little squirrels peered at them from the beech-trees as they went by (kleine Eichhörnchen spähten nach ihnen von den Buchen, als sie vorbeifuhren; *squirrel* [ˈskwɪrəl]; **to peer** — *äugen, spähen*), and the rabbits scudded away through the brushwood and over the mossy knolls (und die Hasen huschten durch das Gebüsch und über die bemoosten Hügel davon; *knoll* [nɒl]), with their white tails in the air (mit ihren weißen Schwänzen in der Luft). As they entered the avenue of Canterville Chase, however (als sie jedoch die Straße von Schloss Canterville betraten; *avenue* [ˈævɪnjuː]; *however* [haʊˈɛvə]), the sky became suddenly overcast with clouds (wurde der Himmel

plötzlich von Wolken bedeckt; **overcast** [ˈəʊvə,kɑːst] — *bewölkt; überzogen; bedeckt*), **a curious stillness seemed to hold the atmosphere** (eine merkwürdige Stille schien die Atmosphäre festzuhalten; *curious* [ˈkjʊəriəs]; **to hold** — *behaupten; festhalten*), **a great flight of rooks passed silently over their heads** (ein großer Schwarm Krähen flog still über ihre Köpfe), **and, before they reached the house** (und, bevor sie das Haus erreichten), **some big drops of rain had fallen** (waren einige große Tropfen Regen gefallen).

12

Little squirrels peered at them from the beech-trees as they went by, and the rabbits scudded away through the brushwood and over the mossy knolls, with their white tails in the air. As they entered the avenue of Canterville Chase, however, the sky became suddenly overcast with clouds, a curious stillness seemed to hold the atmosphere, a great flight of rooks passed silently over their heads, and, before they reached the house, some big drops of rain had fallen.

Standing on the steps to receive them was an old woman (eine alte Frau stand auf den Stufen, um sie zu empfangen; *to stand; receive* [rɪˈsi:v]), **neatly dressed in black silk** (ordentlich in schwarze Seide gekleidet), **with a white cap and apron** (mit einer weißen Haube und Schürze; *apron* [ˈeɪprən]). **This was Mrs. Umney, the housekeeper** (Dies war Frau Umney, die Haushälterin; *housekeeper* [ˈhaʊs,ki:pə]),

whom Mrs. Otis, at Lady Canterville's earnest request (die Frau Otis, auf Lady Canterville's inniges Bitten; *earnest* ['ɜ:nɪst] — *Ernst, ernsthaft*; *innig*; *request* [rɪ'kwɛst] — *Ersuchen; Bitte; Anfrage*), had consented to keep in her former position (in ihrer früheren Position zu behalten eingewilligt hatte). She made them each a low curtsy as they alighted (sie machte vor ihnen allen einen tiefen Knicks, als sie ausstiegen; *curtsy* ['kɜ:tsɪ]; *to alight* — *absteigen, aussteigen*) and said in a quaint, old-fashioned manner (und sagte in einer reizend altmodischen Art; *quaint* [kweɪnt]), "I bid you welcome to Canterville Chase (ich heiße Sie auf Schloss Canterville willkommen; *to bid welcome* — *begrüßen, willkommen heißen*)".

13

Standing on the steps to receive them was an old woman, neatly dressed in black silk, with a white cap and apron. This was Mrs. Umney, the housekeeper, whom Mrs. Otis, at Lady Canterville's earnest request, had consented to keep in her former position. She made them each a low curtsy as they alighted, and said in a quaint, old-fashioned manner, "I bid you welcome to Canterville Chase."

Following her (ihr folgend), they passed through the fine Tudor hall into the library (durchquerten sie den schönen Tudorsaal in die Bibliothek; *through* [θru:]), a long, low room, panelled in black oak (einen langen, niedrigen Raum, mit schwarzer Eiche verkleidet; *oak*

[əʊk]), **at the end of which was a large stained glass window** (an dessen Ende ein großes Buntglas-Fenster war; *stained glass* — *buntes Glas*; *stain* — *Fleck*; *Farbstoff*; **to stain** — *beschmutzen*; *einfärben*). **Here they found tea laid out for them** (hier fanden sie Tee für sie bereitgestellt; **to lay out** — *auslegen*; *bereitstellen*), **and, after taking off their wraps** (und, nachdem sie ihre Mäntel abgelegt hatten; *wrap* — *Verpackung*; *Umhang*, *Mantel*), **they sat down and began to look round** (setzten sie sich hin und fingen an sich umzusehen; *to sit down*; *to begin*), **while Mrs. Umney waited on them** (während Frau Umney sie bediente).

Suddenly Mrs. Otis caught sight of a dull red stain on the floor just by the fireplace (plötzlich erspähte Frau Otis einen stumpfen roten Fleck auf dem Boden knapp neben dem Kamin; **to catch sight** — *erblicken*, *erspähen*), **and, quite unconscious of what it really signified** (und, sich ziemlich unbewusst, was es wirklich bedeutete; *quite* [kwait]; *unconscious* [ʌn'kɒnʃəs] — *bewusstlos*, *unbewusst*), **said to Mrs. Umney** (sagte zu Frau Umney), **“I am afraid something has been spilt there** (ich fürchte, da ist etwas verschüttet worden; *to spill*).”

14

Following her, they passed through the fine Tudor hall into the library, a long, low room, panelled in black oak, at the end of which was a large stained glass window. Here they found tea laid out for them, and, after taking off their wraps, they sat down and began to

look round, while Mrs. Umney waited on them.

Suddenly Mrs. Otis caught sight of a dull red stain on the floor just by the fireplace, and, quite unconscious of what it really signified, said to Mrs. Umney, “I am afraid something has been spilt there.”

“Yes, madam,” replied the old housekeeper in a low voice («ja gnädige Frau», antwortete die alte Haushälterin halblaut; *in a low voice* — *mit leiser Stimme, halblaut*), “**blood has been spilt on that spot** (Blut wurde an dieser Stelle verschüttet; *blood* [blʌd]).”

“How horrid (wie furchtbar; *horrid* [ˈhɒrɪd])!” cried Mrs. Otis (rief Frau Otis); “**I don’t at all care for blood-stains in a sitting-room** (ich mag Blutflecken im Wohnzimmer überhaupt nicht). **It must be removed at once** (er muss sofort entfernt werden).”

The old woman smiled (die alte Frau lächelte), and answered in the same low mysterious voice (und antwortete mit derselben leisen mysteriösen Stimme), “**It is the blood of Lady Eleanore de Canterville** (es ist das Blut von Lady Eleanore von Canterville), **who was murdered on that very spot by her own husband** (die genau an diesem Ort von ihrem eigenen Ehemann ermordet wurde; *murder* [ˈmɜːdə]), **Sir Simon de Canterville, in 1575** (Sir Simon von Canterville, 1575).

“Yes, madam,” replied the old housekeeper in a low voice, “blood has been spilt on that spot.”

“How horrid!” cried Mrs. Otis; “I don’t at all care for blood-stains in a sitting-room. It must be removed at once.”

The old woman smiled, and answered in the same low, mysterious voice, “It is the blood of Lady Eleanore de Canterville, who was murdered on that very spot by her own husband, Sir Simon de Canterville, in 1575.

Sir Simon survived her nine years (Sir Simon überlebte sie um neun Jahre; *survive* [sə'vaɪv]), **and disappeared suddenly under very mysterious circumstances** (und verschwand plötzlich unter mysteriösen Umständen; *disappear* [ˌdɪsə'piə]; *circumstance* ['sɜ:kəm,stɑ:ns]). **His body has never been discovered** (sein Körper wurde nie gefunden; *discover* [dɪ'skʌvə]), **but his guilty spirit still haunts the Chase** (aber sein schuldiger Geist spukt immer noch durch das Schloss; *guilty* [ˌgɪltɪ] — *schuldig*; *guilt* — *Schuld*). **The blood-stain has been much admired by tourists and others** (der Blutfleck ist viel bestaunt worden, von Touristen und anderen; *admire* [əd'maɪə]), **and cannot be removed** (und kann nicht entfernt werden).”

Sir Simon survived her nine years, and disappeared suddenly under very mysterious circumstances. His body has never been discovered, but his guilty spirit still haunts the Chase. The blood-stain has been much admired by tourists and others, and cannot be removed.”

“That is all nonsense (das ist alles Unsinn; *nonsense* [ˈnɒnsəns]),” cried Washington Otis (rief Washington Otis); “Pinkerton’s Champion Stain Remover and Paragon Detergent will clean it up in no time (Pinkerton’s Champion Fleckentferner und Vorbildreinigungsmittel wird es sofort reinigen = entfernen; *paragon* [ˈpærəgən] — *Vorbild; Inbegriff; detergent* [diˈtɜːdʒ(ə)nt]),” and before the terrified housekeeper could interfere (und bevor die entsetzte Haushälterin eingreifen konnte; *terrified* [ˈterɪfəd]; *interfere* [ˌɪntəˈfɪə]), he had fallen upon his knees (war er auf die Knie gefallen), and was rapidly scouring the floor (und scheuerte rasch den Boden; *scour* [skaʊə]) with a small stick of what looked like a black cosmetic (mit einem kleinen Stift der aussah wie schwarze Kosmetik). In a few moments no trace of the blood-stain could be seen (nach einigen Augenblicken konnte man keine Spur von dem Blutfleck sehen).

“That is all nonsense,” cried Washington Otis; “Pinkerton’s Champion Stain Remover and Paragon Detergent will clean it up in no time,” and before the terrified housekeeper could interfere, he had fallen upon his knees, and was rapidly scouring the floor with a small stick of what looked like a black cosmetic. In a few moments no trace of the blood-stain could be seen.

“I knew Pinkerton would do it (ich wusste Pinkerton würde es schaffen),” he exclaimed, triumphantly (rief er triumphierend aus; *exclaim* [ɪkˈskleɪm]; *triumphant* [traɪˈʌmfənt]), **as he looked round at his admiring family** (als er sich in seiner bewundernden Familie umsah); **but no sooner had he said these words** (aber er hatte kaum diese Worte gesagt), **than a terrible flash of lightning lit up the sombre room** (als ein Blitz den düsteren Raum erhellte; *to light up*; *sombre* [ˈsɒmbə]), **a fearful peal of thunder made them all start to their feet** (ein furchtbares Donnerdröhnen veranlasste alle auf die Füße zu springen; *fearful* [ˈfiəfʊl]), **and Mrs. Umney fainted** (und Frau Umney fiel in Ohnmacht).

“I knew Pinkerton would do it,” he exclaimed, triumphantly, as he looked round at his admiring family; but no sooner had he said these words than a terrible flash of lightning lit up the sombre room, a fearful peal of thunder made them all start to their feet, and Mrs. Umney fainted.

“**What a monstrous climate** (was für ein abscheuliches Klima; *monstrous* [ˈmɒnstɹəs]; *climate* [ˈklaɪmɪt])!” **said the American Minister, calmly** (sagte der amerikanische Gesandte ruhig; *calmly* [ˈkɑːmlɪ]), **as he lit a long cheroot** (als er einen langen Stumpfen anzündete; *cheroot* [ʃəˈruːt] — *filterlose, zylindrische Zigarre*). “**I guess the old country is so overpopulated** (ich nehme an das alte Land ist so überbevölkert; *guess* [ɡɛs]; *overpopulated* [ˌəʊvəˈpɒpjʊleɪtɪd]), **that they have not enough decent weather for everybody** (das sie nicht genug anständiges Wetter für alle haben; *enough* [ɪˈnʌf]; *decent* [ˈdiːs(ə)nt]; *weather* [ˈweðə]). **I have always been of opinion** (ich war immer der Meinung; *opinion* [əˈpɪnjən]), **that emigration is the only thing for England** (dass Auswanderung das Einzige für England ist; *emigration* [ˌemɪˈɡreɪʃ(ə)n]; *thing* — *Ding, Sache*).”

“**My dear Hiram** (mein lieber Hiram),” **cried Mrs. Otis** (rief Frau Otis), “**what can we do with a woman who faints** (was können wir mit einer Frau machen, die in Ohnmacht fällt)?”

“What a monstrous climate!” said the American Minister, calmly, as he lit a long cheroot. “I guess the old country is so overpopulated that they have not enough decent weather for everybody. I have always been of opinion that emigration is the only thing for England.”

“My dear Hiram,” cried Mrs. Otis, “what can we do with a woman who faints?”

"Charge it to her like breakages (verrechne es ihr wie Bruchschäden; **to charge** — *angreifen; berechnen, verrechnen; breakage* [ˌbreɪkɪdʒ] — *Bruch, Bruchschaden*),“ **answered the Minister** (antwortete der Gesandte); **"she won't faint after that** (danach wird sie nicht mehr in Ohnmacht fallen);“ **and in a few moments Mrs. Umney certainly came to** (und nach wenigen Momenten kam Frau Umney gewiss wieder zu sich; *certainly* [ˌsɜːt(ə)nli]). **There was no doubt, however** (es gab jedoch keinen Zweifel; *doubt* [daʊt]), **that she was extremely upset** (dass sie äußerst bestürzt war; *extremely* [ɪksˈtriːmlɪ]; **upset** [ʌpˈset] — *verärgert; bestürzt*), **and she sternly warned Mr. Otis** (und sie warnte Herrn Otis streng) **to beware of some trouble coming to the house** (sich vor einigen Problemen, die ins Haus kämen, zu hüten; *beware* [brˈweə]).

"I have seen things with my own eyes, sir (ich habe Dinge mit meinen eigenen Augen gesehen, Sir),“ **she said** (sagte sie), **"that would**

make any Christian's hair stand on end (die jedes' Christen Haare zu Berge stehen lassen würden), **and many and many a night I have not closed my eyes in sleep** (und viele viele Nächte habe ich meine Augen nicht zum Schlaf geschlossen) **for the awful things that are done here** (wegen der schrecklichen Dinge, die hier getan werden; *awful* [ˌɔːfʊl]).“

20

“Charge it to her like breakages,” answered the Minister; “she won't faint after that;” and in a few moments Mrs. Umney certainly came to. There was no doubt, however, that she was extremely upset, and she sternly warned Mr. Otis to beware of some trouble coming to the house.

“I have seen things with my own eyes, sir,” she said, “that would make any Christian's hair stand on end, and many and many a night I have not closed my eyes in sleep for the awful things that are done here.”

*easy*Original

Spaß am Lesen in der Fremdsprache

Englisch

Französisch

Italienisch

Spanisch

Russisch

Informationen über unsere Bücher
und Online-Shop

www.easyoriginal.com