

Jerome

By Nick

“Boooooo!” Jerome as he burst out of the closet.

“Didn’t scare me,” Ashley stated, closing the closet door.

“B-but why not?” whined Jerome.

“I’m used to you by now,” Ashley exclaimed. “Well, I’m still surprised that I’m living with a ghost, but your scares don’t frighten me anymore!”

“That’s not fair. I mean, there’s nothing else I can do. I don’t eat or sleep, and I can’t do nearly as many activities as humans can do. So the only thing I can do is scare people. Plus, I’m a ghost, so that helps,” he mumbled as he stomped up the stairs and out of sight.

“That was weird,” Ashley said to herself. “Jerome really has to learn how to handle his temper.”

“Boooooo!” shouted Jerome as Ashley rounded a corner, and headed to the living room.

“Ughhhhh. You’re not scary anymore. Actually, it’s quite annoying.”

“Then who should I scare?” complained Jerome.

“You know, you should go visit and scare a different person every other day. That way, you can still be entertained, but also keep in touch with me,” Ashley answered. “Just don’t get spotted by another ghost. They might recognize you.”

“Good idea-” he paused as he saw Ashley’s mom coming down the stairs.

“Oh, you should go. Hurry!” whispered Ashley, shooing him away. “It would be weird if mom saw me talking to the wall.”

The ghost scurried away and out of sight.

And now a word from our sponsor... uh... I mean me... you know... the author.

By now, if you’ve been confused, here are answers to your possible questions:

1. Ghosts can prevent themselves from being seen by humans.
2. It’s illegal for ghosts to reveal themselves to a human.
3. Ghosts can’t prevent being seen by other ghosts.
4. Ghosts live a “dead” life away from humans, but in the same world.
5. Ashley is one of the very few people who know about ghosts.
6. The ghost police want to find Jerome because they know that he is friends with a little girl.
7. Ghosts can’t go or see through any solid object.

It was midday. Sunshine poured through the windows, and they were ready.
“So everything is planned and we’re ready for action!” Ashley exclaimed.
Jerome paused. “Ok, well... See yah.”
The door slammed. Boom! He vanished from sight.

It was night. The moon twinkled like a giant crystal ball in deep, velvety blackness.
“He’s there,” someone said in a deep, low, monstrous voice, pointing at the ghost hovering down the road. “Surely we can catch him.”
They quickly took out their ghost cuffs and stalked their prey.

“Well, haunting that house was fun!” exclaimed Jerome. “I can’t wait to tell Ashle-” he paused when he felt something on his wrist. He turned around and saw someone he hoped he would never see again... It was Charles K. Peter, the ghost chief. And he didn’t look too happy.
“You’re coming with us,” he said excitedly because he finally had some action in his life.
They locked the ghost cuffs on his wrists and forced him down the sidewalk.
He felt like screaming for Ashley, but it was no use, so he kept quiet. The only thing that could be heard were crickets buzzing. How could he have been so stupid?

“It’s been quite a while since Jerome has left,” thought Ashley as she made her way to the front door. She was quite lucky that she opened the door at that moment because she saw Jerome getting pushed around by - nothing.
“JEROME! What’s happening?”
“Uhhh... The ghost police caught me,” he said sadly. “But I’m still happy to see you.”
“Well, where are they?” she asked.
At that moment a group of ghost men appeared. They had Jerome in handcuffs, and it didn’t look good for him.
“Is this her?” asked Charles, pointing at the girl. “I was right... **YOU REVEALED YOURSELF TO A HUMAN!!!**”
“Why can’t humans and ghosts interact with each other?” Ashley questioned.
“Well... because... the... I... OK,” answered the chief.

“OK what?” snapped Ashley, as she moved toward them.

“You know.”

“Really!” shrieked Ashley and Jerome at the same time.

“Yes, ghosts can live in a world with humans,” he said as his face became stern. “And this conversation is over!”

Then POOF! The ghost cops disappeared and Ashley and Jerome were left standing alone on the street.

“Uhhh... What should we do now?” Jerome asked. “I know. I’m going to make more human friends!” Then he set off down the road, stopped and smiled at Ashley. “By scaring them!”

And once again he vanished from sight...

“What a madness magnet he is!” chuckled Ashley, as she turned to walk home. “ I can’t wait to see what mayhem he gets in next...”

The End