

CAVENDISH PRIMARY SCHOOL PRESENTS

MYSTERIOUS MAYHEM

ORIGINAL PLAY 2026

STUDENT REHEARSAL SCRIPT

Title to be chosen by the class

Based on the original student-created play conceptualised and edited by Cavendish Primary School students,
written in conjunction with AI technology.

How to Use This Script

- Learn your own lines first, then learn the cues immediately before and after your lines.
- Read the stage directions in *italics*, but do not say them aloud unless they are spoken dialogue.
- When you are not speaking, stay in character and listen. Your reactions help tell the story.
- Speak loudly, slowly and clearly enough for the person at the back of the audience to hear.
- Mark your entrances, exits and important movements in your own copy as rehearsals develop.
- The animals and ensemble can share lines, reactions and movement so that as many students as possible can participate.
- Songs and dance breaks can be rehearsed separately and inserted at the marked points.

Cast

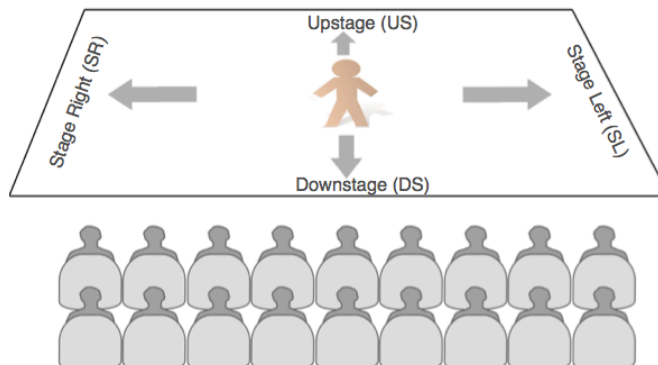
Character	Character notes
Emily Jacobs	Brave, curious leader
Lenny Jackson	Helpful, funny and loyal
Boo	A lonely ghost who hides a kind heart
Mario	Emily's hard-working dad and farmer
Mrs Jacobs	Emily's caring but practical mum
Mrs Jackson	Lenny's protective mum with dry humour
Tom	Lenny's funny older brother
Jerry	Lenny's funny older brother
Ghostbuster Captain	Leader of the Ghostbusters
Ghostbuster Pip	Ghost detector expert
Ghostbuster Ace	Professional ghost catcher
Ghostbuster Dot	Comic member of the team
Bugs	A cheeky but kind bunny
Porky	A food-loving pig
Sophie	A loyal and enthusiastic sheepdog
Chickens	Ensemble
Sheep / Shaun	Ensemble
Bees	Ensemble

Simple Stage Layout

Keep three main acting areas on stage throughout the show:

- Stage Left – Farmhouse
- Centre – Farmyard
- Stage Right – Back paddock / old wool shed

Use lightweight fences, hay bales and signs to transform the back paddock without needing a full set change.



Act One – Scene One

A Busy Morning at the Jacob's Farm

Running time: 4–5 minutes

Characters: , Emily Jacobs, , Lenny Jackson, , Mario (Emily's Dad), , Mrs Jacobs, , Mrs Jackson, , Tom, , Jerry, , Bugs (bunny), , Porky (pig), , Sophie (sheepdog), , Chickens (group), , Sheep (group), , Bees (group)

Setting: The stage is divided into three simple areas. Stage Left: The farmhouse. Centre Stage: The farmyard with hay bales, a fence and wheelbarrow. Stage Right: A gate leading towards the back paddocks. Throughout the scene, the animals wander around the farm, occasionally reacting to what is happening.

Act One – Scene One

A Busy Morning at the Jacob's Farm

Characters in this scene

Emily Jacobs

Lenny Jackson

Mario (Emily's Dad)

Mrs Jacobs

Mrs Jackson

Tom

Jerry

Bugs (bunny)

Porky (pig)

Sophie (sheepdog)

Chickens (group)

Sheep (group)

Bees (group)

The stage is divided into three simple areas.

Stage Left: The farmhouse.

Centre Stage: The farmyard with hay bales, a fence and wheelbarrow.

Stage Right: A gate leading towards the back paddocks.

Throughout the scene, the animals wander around the farm, occasionally reacting to what is happening.

Bucket

Wheelbarrow

Hay bale

Rake

Toy carrots

Picnic basket (hidden near the gate)

Dog lead

Toy watering can

Birds chirping, Sheep baaing, Chickens clucking, Bees buzzing quietly

(Opening - Song #1 - Old Town Road song & dance)

Lights up.

Scene One

(Mario is raking hay. Sophie trots proudly beside him. Bugs is nibbling a carrot. Porky is happily snuffling around. Chickens peck across the stage while Sheep graze.)

Mario: Another beautiful morning! Nothing beats life on Jacob's Farm!

(Song #2 - Heel & Toe Polka)

Sophie: Woof! Best farm ever!

Porky: Only because I'm here.

Bugs: (chewing loudly) I vote for more carrots.

Mario: No more carrots until breakfast is finished.

Bugs: Worst. Day. Ever.

Chickens (together): Cluck! Cluck! Breakfast! Breakfast! Breakfast!

Sheep (together): Baaaa! We're already eating breakfast.

Bees (buzzing together): Buzz buzz! Back to work!

(Lenny enters carrying a bucket.)

Lenny: Morning, Mr Jacobs! Need a hand?

Mario: Good morning, Lenny! A good worker is always welcome. Can you fill the chickens' water?

Lenny: Easy! I've been practising. (He confidently walks across the stage... trips over a hay bale... but somehow keeps the bucket upright.)

Lenny: See? Exactly as planned.

Mario: (laughing) Good recovery! You'll make a farmer yet.

(Song #3 - Chicken Dance)

(Tom and Jerry stroll in carrying fence posts.)

Tom: Morning, little lovebirds!

Jerry: Has Lenny come to work...or to stare at Emily?

Lenny: I came to help.

Tom: Sure you did.

Jerry: Funny...Emily isn't even here yet.

(Lenny suddenly fixes his hair.)

Tom: Ha! Caught you!

(Emily runs in excitedly.)

Emily: Lenny! You're here!

Lenny: Hi Emily. (awkward grin)

Tom: Look! He's smiling already.

Jerry: Quick! Someone write down the date!

(Emily rolls her eyes.)

Emily: Ignore them. They're impossible.

Tom: We're older brothers. It's literally our job.

Mrs Jacobs (calling from the farmhouse): Emily! Have you finished your chores?

Emily: Almost...

Mrs Jacobs: "Almost" isn't finished!

Emily: I'll do them later! Promise!

Mario: Emily...Your mum has superhero hearing.

Emily: I know. It's terrifying.

(Mrs Jackson enters carrying a shopping basket.)

Mrs Jackson: Morning everyone. Has anyone seen Lenny?

Lenny: I'm right here, Mum.

Mrs Jackson: Good. Just making sure you haven't been carried away by sheep.

Sheep: Baaaa! Not today!

Mrs Jackson: Very reassuring.

Mario: He's been helping me all morning.

Mrs Jackson: Wonderful. Keep him busy. He's less likely to get into trouble.

Emily: Speaking of trouble...Lenny...I have something to show you.

Lenny: Uh oh. Whenever you say that...something exciting happens.

Emily: Remember that back paddock? Near the old gum trees?

Lenny: The one nobody goes to?

Emily: Exactly. Yesterday...I found something.

(Music changes slightly. Curious atmosphere.)

Tom: Treasure?

Jerry: Dinosaurs?

Porky: Snacks?

Emily: Even better. An old wool shed.

(Everyone pauses.)

Mario: A wool shed?

Mrs Jacobs: We've lived here for years. There isn't another wool shed.

Emily: There is! I promise!

Tom: Maybe it grew overnight.

Jerry: Like mushrooms.

Mario: That's impossible.

Emily: Come and see!

Mario: Maybe later. I've got fences to fix.

Mrs Jacobs: And I've got washing.

Mrs Jackson: I've got shopping.

Tom: I've got...absolutely no interest.

Jerry: Same.

(Emily sighs dramatically.)

Emily: Fine. Lenny...will you come?

Lenny: Of course. Adventure sounds much better than cleaning chicken water bowls.

Chickens: HEY!

Mario: Be back before lunch!

Emily & Lenny: We will!

(Emily secretly pulls a picnic basket from behind the gate.)

Lenny: What's that?

Emily: A surprise.

Lenny: Is it...a picnic?

Emily: Maybe...

Lenny: Best day ever!

Bugs: Can I come?

Emily: No.

Porky: Me?

Emily: No.

Sophie: Woof?

Emily: Definitely not.

Sophie: Worth asking.

(Everyone laughs.)

(Emily and Lenny wave goodbye and head through the gate towards the mysterious back paddock.)

As they disappear...A cold breeze is heard. The birds suddenly stop singing. The lights dim just slightly. A faint ghostly laugh echoes from somewhere beyond the wool shed.

BOO'S VOICE (offstage, barely heard)

"...Visitors..."

(Nobody on stage hears it.)

Mario: Did anyone else feel that breeze?

Mrs Jacobs: Probably just the weather changing.

Mrs Jackson: Or maybe...someone forgot to shut the gate.

(Everyone shrugs and returns to their jobs.)

Blackout.

Act One – Scene Two

The Mysterious Wool Shed

Running time: 5–6 minutes

Characters: , Emily Jacobs, , Lenny Jackson, , Boo, , Bugs (Bunny), , Porky (Pig), , Sophie (Sheepdog)

Setting: Stage Right becomes the back paddock. A simple, old wool shed stands upstage. It can be represented by: Two old fence panels A wooden crate A "Jacob's Farm Wool Shed" sign with faded lettering Hay bales An old lantern hanging from a beam Cobwebs made from cotton wool An old wheel leaning against the wall The atmosphere should feel mysterious—but not too scary.

(Lights up on Emily and Lenny walking slowly through long grass.)

Emily carries the picnic basket. Lenny tries to look brave but keeps glancing around nervously.

Emily: Nearly there!

Lenny: You've said that...three times.

Emily: Because we're...nearly there!

Lenny: I think farms are getting bigger.

Emily: You're just getting tired.

Lenny: I'm conserving my energy. Big difference.

Emily: Look! There it is! (Points dramatically.)

(Music changes to something mysterious as lights reveal the old wool shed.)

Lenny: Whoa...That definitely wasn't here before.

Emily: I told you!

Lenny: It's huge!

Emily: How has nobody noticed it?

Lenny: Maybe...everyone was looking the other way.

Emily: Come on!

(They slowly approach.)

The shed door creaks open by itself.

CREAAAAAK.

Lenny: Did...did you do that?

Emily: No.

Lenny: Good. Because I was hoping you'd say yes.

Emily: It's probably...the wind.

Lenny: Wind usually doesn't open doors.

Emily: Maybe this wind is very helpful.

(They carefully step inside.)

Inside the Wool Shed

The lantern swings gently.

Cobwebs hang everywhere.

Dust covers everything.

Emily: Wow...It's like nobody has been here for years.

Lenny: Hundreds of years...maybe.

Emily: Don't say that! (Emily sneezes.) ACHOO!

(A loud echo repeats.)

"Achoo..."

choo...

choo..."

Lenny: Even the shed says "bless you."

Emily begins brushing away dust

Emily: Help me clear a spot.

Lenny: On it! *(Both pretend to dust.) Dust flies everywhere.*

Lenny: I think I found...more dust.

Emily: Keep looking. Maybe there's treasure.

Lenny: Or spiders.

Emily: Please don't say spiders.

Lenny: Oops. Too late. (Emily jumps.)

Emily: Where?!

Lenny: Just kidding!

Emily: Very funny. (She playfully throws a cloth at him.)

Lenny: Hey! Friendly fire!

Emily: Let's have our picnic. (They spread the blanket.)

Lenny: Best date ever.

Emily: Date?

Lenny: ...I mean...picnic.

Emily: (Smiling.) Too late. I heard you.

Lenny: Well...it is a date.

Emily: Good. Because I hoped it was. (They smile awkwardly.)

Emily: Sandwich?

Lenny: Always.

(They begin eating.)

Suddenly...CLANG!

The lantern swings wildly.

Emily: Did you hear that?

Lenny: Please say it was the wind again.

Emily: ...It wasn't the wind.

A wooden crate slides slowly across the floor. By itself.

Lenny: Emily...

Emily: I know.

Another bucket tips over. CLANG!

Lenny: Maybe...the shed is haunted.

Emily: Don't joke.

Lenny: I wasn't joking.

(The audience laughs nervously.)

Suddenly...Emily's apple slowly rises into the air.

Emily: Lenny...

Lenny: I'm looking...and I don't like what I'm seeing.

The apple floats...across the stage...then disappears behind a hay bale.

Lenny: Nope. Definitely not normal.

Emily: Who's there?

Silence.

Emily: Come out!

Nothing.

Lenny: Maybe we should—

Before he finishes...Both sandwiches disappear.

Emily: HEY! Those were our lunch!

A voice echoes through the shed.

BOO (offstage): Mine now...

Emily and Lenny freeze.

Lenny: Did...did your sandwich just talk?

Emily: No. Someone else did.

BOO: Hehehehe...

The lantern begins spinning. The crate slides again. A feather floats through the air.

Emily: Who's doing this? Show yourself!

A glowing white figure slowly appears from behind the old wool press. Not frightening. More cheeky than scary.

BOO: Hello...

Emily: AAAAAHHHH!!

Lenny: IT'S A GHOST!!

BOO: Finally. Someone noticed me.

Emily: Stay back!

BOO: Why? You came into MY shed.

Lenny: Your shed?

BOO: I've lived here...for...about...five hundred years.

Emily: Five hundred?!

BOO: I moisturise.

Lenny: Ghosts...can moisturise?

BOO: No. That's the joke.

Emily: What do you want?

BOO: Hmm...I'm thinking...

(Looks inside picnic basket.)

BOO: Another sandwich.

Emily: Give it back!

BOO: Catch me!

Boo suddenly vanishes. The sandwiches disappear with him. Ghostly laughter echoes through the shed.

BOO (echoing): Hehehehehe!

Emily and Lenny stand frozen.

Lenny: ...Nobody...is ever going to believe this.

Emily: Then we'll just have to prove it.

They pick up the basket. Take one last nervous look around. Then run out of the shed.

As soon as they leave...Boo quietly reappears. He watches them go. The audience sees a different side of him.

BOO: (Quietly, almost sadly.) I hope...they come back. It's been a very long time...since anyone visited.

He looks at the stolen sandwiches.

BOO: ...I probably shouldn't have taken their lunch.

He sighs.

BOO: Maybe...I'll give them back tomorrow.

He disappears in a swirl of ghostly laughter.

BLACKOUT

Act One – Scene Three

Something Strange on the Farm

Running time: 5–6 minutes

Characters: , Emily Jacobs, , Lenny Jackson, , Mario, , Mrs Jacobs, , Mrs Jackson, , Tom, , Jerry, , Bugs, Porky, Sophie, Chickens (Group), Sheep (Group), Bees (Group)

Setting: The stage returns to the farmyard. Everything looks normal.....except the audience knows Boo is somewhere nearby.

(Mario is fixing a fence while Mrs Jacobs hangs washing. Tom and Jerry are pretending to help but are mostly chatting. Sophie is asleep. Chickens peck happily.)

(Emily and Lenny race onto the stage, completely out of breath.)

Emily: Dad! Dad! You'll never believe what happened!

Lenny: There's...a ghost!

Mario: A ghost?

Tom: Excellent. This should be good.

Jerry: I'm listening already.

Emily: We're serious! There really is a ghost!

Mrs Jacobs: Emily...Did you imagine it?

Emily: No! It stole our lunch!

Lenny: Both sandwiches!

Tom: Maybe someone was...hungry.

Jerry: Or maybe...Lenny ate both.

Lenny: I did not!

Tom: Can you prove it?

Lenny: ...No.

Mrs Jackson: Lenny...Ghosts don't steal sandwiches.

Lenny: This one does!

Emily: His name is Boo. He's five hundred years old.

Mario: Five hundred?

Jerry: Looking good for his age.

Tom: Must have a good skincare routine.

Emily: I'm telling the truth!

Mrs Jacobs: Enough. You two have wonderful imaginations...but there are jobs to do.

Emily: We're not making it up!

Mario: We'll talk later.

(Mario rings a farm bell.)

Mario: Animals! Dinner time!

(Music begins as all the animals happily enter.)

Chickens (together): Dinner! Dinner! Dinner!

Sheep (together): Baaaa! Food!

Porky: I heard food.

Sophie: Woof! Best word ever.

Mario: Good. Everyone's here.

(Pause.)

Mario: ...Hang on.

Mrs Jacobs: What's wrong?

Mario: Where's Bugs?

(Everyone looks around.)

Emily: Bugs?

Lenny: He was here this morning.

Porky: He never misses dinner.

Sophie: Woof! That's true.

Chickens: BUGS! BUGS! WHERE ARE YOU?

Sheep: Baaaa! No bunny!

Mario: Tom! Check the barn!

Tom: On it!

Mario: Jerry! Check the vegetable garden!

Jerry: Yes, Boss!

(Tom and Jerry run in opposite directions.)

Emily: Dad...What if—

Mario: Not now, Emily.

Mrs Jacobs: He'll turn up. He always does.

Mrs Jackson: Probably asleep under a bush.

Lenny: ...Or...

Emily: Don't say it.

Lenny: The ghost.

(Small spooky musical sting.)

Mario: Enough with the ghost stories.

Emily: But—

Mario: No more.

(Tom returns.)

Tom: Nothing in the barn.

(Jerry returns.)

Jerry: Nothing in the garden.

Mario: That's strange...

Porky: Maybe...he's hiding?

Sophie: He loves hide and seek.

Emily: Not this long.

Lenny: Something's wrong.

(A distant ghostly giggle echoes.)

"Hehehehehe..."

Everyone freezes.

Mrs Jacobs: ...Did anyone hear that?

Mario: Probably the wind.

Tom: That was...a funny sounding wind.

Jerry: Very giggly.

Emily: See?! You heard it!

Lenny: We told you!

Mario: Enough. Everyone back to work. We'll find Bugs later.

Emily: Dad!

Mario: That's final.

(Adults return to their jobs.)

Emily and Lenny move downstage.

Emily: Nobody believes us.

Lenny: Even when strange things happen...they still don't believe us.

Emily: Then we have to solve this ourselves.

Lenny: Just us?

Emily: Just us.

Lenny: ...Okay. But next time...let's bring more sandwiches.

Emily: Deal.

(They shake hands like detectives.)

Emily & Lenny: Operation Boo...starts tomorrow.

(They exit determinedly.)

Final Moment

The stage is quiet. Soft blue light appears. Boo slowly floats on stage carrying...Bugs.

Bugs is completely relaxed. He's happily munching a carrot.

Bugs: This carrot is delicious.

BOO: I'm glad you like it.

Bugs: Why did you bring me here?

BOO: ...I wanted someone...to talk to.

Bugs: You could've just asked.

BOO: ...I've forgotten how.

(A small pause. The audience begins to feel sympathy.)

Bugs: Well...I'm listening.

BOO: Really?

Bugs: Sure. But tomorrow...could we invite my friends too?

BOO: ...I'd like that.

Boo smiles for the first time.

Then suddenly remembers—

BOO: Wait...No! I'm supposed to be scary!

He attempts a spooky ghost pose.

BOO: Boooooo!

Bugs: Needs work.

Boo sighs.

BOO: You're probably right.

They walk off together, chatting quietly.

(Song #4 - Count On Me)

BLACKOUT

Act Two – Scene One

The Farm in a Flap!

Running time: 5 minutes

Characters: Emily Jacobs, Lenny Jackson, Boo, Mario, Mrs Jacobs, Mrs Jackson, Tom, Jerry, Bugs, Porky, Sophie, Chickens (Group), Sheep (Group), Bees (Group)

Setting: The following morning. The farmyard looks busy, but everyone seems worried. A large hand-painted sign hangs on the fence: "MISSING: BUGS THE BUNNY" Another smaller sign reads: "Reward: One Carrot."

(Lights up.)

Mario is pinning up another "Missing Bunny" poster. Mrs Jacobs carries a basket of washing.

Tom and Jerry are searching under hay bales... rather lazily. Emily and Lenny enter carrying magnifying glasses made from cardboard.

Tom: Found him!

Jerry: Really?

Tom: ...No. Just another rock.

Jerry: That rock looked suspicious.

Mario: Keep looking. Bugs has to be somewhere.

Mrs Jacobs: We've searched the barn...the garden...the creek...and even the chicken coop.

Chickens (together): NO BUNNIES HERE!

Porky: I checked the mud. Nothing.

Sophie: I sniffed everything. Even Tom's boots.

Tom: Worst smell ever.

Jerry: Those boots should be declared a natural disaster.

Emily: Lenny...it's happening again.

Lenny: I know.

Emily: We have to prove Boo is real.

Lenny: Ghost Detectives?

Emily: Ghost Detectives!

(They put on homemade detective hats.)

Emily: Rule Number One. Look for clues.

Lenny: Rule Number Two. Don't panic.

Emily: Rule Number Three. Definitely don't scream.

(A loud "BOOOO!" echoes.)

Emily & Lenny: AAAAAAAH!!

Lenny: We broke Rule Number Three.

Emily: Immediately.

Mrs Jackson: What are you two yelling about now?

Emily: We heard Boo!

Mrs Jackson: I heard Tom singing in the shower this morning. That was much scarier.

Tom: Oi!

Mario: Enough ghost talk. If you want to help...count the sheep.

Emily: Fine.

Lenny: One...two...three...

Sheep (moving together): Baaaa! Don't count so slowly!

Lenny: Four...five.....Hang on.

Emily: What's wrong?

Lenny: Yesterday there were eight.

Emily: How many now?

Lenny: ...Seven.

(Music changes.)

Emily: Another one's missing!

Mario: Impossible.

Mrs Jacobs: Count again.

Lenny: One...two...three...four...five...six...seven.

Sheep: We're missing Shaun!

(One sheep steps forward dramatically.)

Sheep 1: He said he'd only be gone five minutes.

Sheep 2: That was yesterday.

Sheep 3: He still owes me lunch.

(Song #5 - Beep Beep I'm A Sheep)

Mario: Tom! Jerry! Search the north paddock!

Tom: Righto!

Jerry: Race you!

(They run off, bumping into each other before exiting.)

Emily (quietly): Lenny...look.

She points towards the old back paddock. A tiny white shape slips behind the fence. Only the audience, Emily and Lenny see it.

Lenny: Was that...

Emily: Boo.

Boo (offstage, whispering) Catch me...if you can...

Emily looks determined.

Emily: He's leading us somewhere.

Lenny: Should we follow?

Emily: Absolutely.

Mario (calling after them): Emily! Where are you going?

Emily (thinking quickly): We're...checking the back fence!

Mario: Good idea.

Mrs Jacobs: And don't get distracted!

Emily: We won't!

(Emily and Lenny exchange a grin.)

Lenny: We're definitely getting distracted.

Emily: The best adventures always start that way.

(They sneak toward the back paddock as the lights dim.)

Final Moment

A spotlight reveals Boo peeking out from behind the old wool shed. He isn't holding Shaun the sheep by force. Instead...Shaun is teaching Boo how to play Hide-and-Seek.

Shaun: No, Boo. If you keep glowing...everyone can find you.

BOO: Oh...That explains a lot.

Shaun: You're not very good at hiding.

BOO: I've only been practising...for five hundred years.

BOO: Maybe...today...I'll finally make some real friends.

Blackout.

End of Act Two – Scene One

Act Two – Scene Two

The Ghost Detectives

Running time: 5–6 minutes

Characters: , Emily Jacobs, , Lenny Jackson, , Boo, , Bugs, , Shaun (Sheep), , Porky, , Sophie, , Bees (Group)

Setting: The back paddock. The abandoned wool shed sits quietly. The old sheep yards are hidden behind several movable fence panels or hay bales so they cannot be seen by the audience until later in the scene.

Emily and Lenny carefully creep onto the stage. Both wear homemade detective hats. Lenny carries an oversized magnifying glass. Emily carries a notebook labelled..."Operation Boo."

Emily: Rule number one. Stay alert.

Lenny: Rule number two. Don't scream.

Emily: Good remembering.

Lenny: I've already forgotten rule three.

Emily: There wasn't one.

Lenny: Excellent. I'm still winning.

Emily kneels down.

Emily: Look! Footprints!

Lenny: Ghosts have footprints?

Emily: Maybe ghost footprints.

Lenny: They're very...footprint-shaped.

Emily writes in her notebook.

Emily: Clue Number One. Strange footprints.

Lenny: Clue Number Two. Missing animals.

Emily: Clue Number Three...

(A carrot rolls across the stage.)

Lenny: ...Runaway vegetables.

Emily picks it up.

Emily: That's Bugs' favourite carrot.

Lenny: So we're getting closer.

Suddenly... A bucket slowly slides across the floor.

Emily: Did you see that?

Lenny: Please tell me that was the wind.

Emily: The wind can't push buckets uphill.

Lenny: Good point.

Another bucket slides.

Lenny: ...I officially don't like buckets anymore.

Emily: Come on. The clues lead this way.

They carefully move towards the abandoned sheep yards. They don't notice Boo hiding behind an old post.

Audience Only

Boo quietly watches them.

BOO: (whispering) They're back.

Bugs hops beside him. Shaun the Sheep follows.

Bugs: Should we say hello?

BOO: No! It's too soon.

Shaun: You did steal their lunch.

BOO: ...I know. That probably wasn't my best idea.

Bugs: Probably?

BOO: Definitely.

Shaun: Maybe just tell them the truth.

BOO: What if...they don't like me?

Bugs: Everyone deserves a chance.

BOO: Even ghosts?

Bugs: Especially ghosts.

(A gentle "awww" moment.)

Back to Emily and Lenny

Emily: Look! More clues!

She picks up a tuft of wool.

Lenny: Shaun!

Emily: He must have come this way.

Lenny: We're close. I can feel it.

Suddenly...Porky wanders in.

Porky: Oh! There you are.

Emily: Porky! Have you seen Bugs?

Porky: Maybe...

Emily: Maybe?

Porky: Or maybe not.

Lenny: Porky...

Porky: I'm a terrible secret keeper.

Emily: What do you know?

Porky: ...Nothing!

(Pause.)

Porky: ...Absolutely nothing.

(Longer pause.)

Porky: ...Except...

Emily & Lenny: YES?

Porky: I promised not to tell.

Emily: Who made you promise?

Porky: ...Oops.

Porky accidentally points towards the abandoned sheep yards.

Emily: Lenny...Did you see that?

Lenny: He pointed!

Emily: Come on!

They slowly begin pulling aside the old fence panels. One...Two...Three...

The audience finally sees...The hidden yards.

Inside are...Bugs. Shaun. Several chickens. A few sheep. Everyone is happily playing games.

The animals cheer.

Animals: SURPRISE!

Emily and Lenny stare. Completely confused.

Emily: ...You're...playing?

Bugs: Hello!

Shaun: We've been playing Hide and Seek!

Chicken: And tag!

Another Chicken: Boo's terrible at both.

Emily: Where is Boo?

Everything suddenly goes silent. The animals glance nervously at one another.

Bugs: ...He just left.

Shaun: About...two seconds ago.

Emily: Did he hurt you?

Bugs: No.

Emily: Did he lock you in?

Animals: No.

Lenny: Then why didn't you come home?

Bugs: ...Because...

Before he can answer... A loud whistle is heard.

Mario (offstage): Emily! Lenny!

Mrs Jacobs: Where are you?

Lenny: Uh oh.

Emily: We're in trouble.

Bugs: We'll explain!

Emily: Not yet. Nobody will believe us.

The children quickly leave. The animals wave goodbye.

After they disappear... Boo slowly emerges from behind the old wool press.

BOO: ...I wanted today...to be perfect.

Bugs: It wasn't your fault.

BOO: Maybe...I'm just better at making ghosts laugh...than people.

Shaun: Give them time.

BOO: Do you think...they'll come back?

Bugs: I hope so.

BOO: ...Me too.

Boo looks towards the audience.

He smiles...

then disappears in a swirl of sparkling blue light.

BLACKOUT

End of Act Two – Scene Two

Act Two – Scene Three

Grounded!

Running time: 6–7 minutes

Characters: , Emily Jacobs, , Lenny Jackson, , Mario, , Mrs Jacobs, , Mrs Jackson, , Tom, , Jerry, , Boo (silent until the end), , Bugs, , Porky, , Sophie, , Chickens (Group), , Sheep (Group), , Bees (Group)

Setting: Late afternoon. Back at the farmyard. The sun is beginning to set. Everyone is worried because more animals have gone missing.

(Lights up.)

Mario paces across the stage. Mrs Jacobs checks another empty animal pen. Mrs Jackson folds her arms impatiently. Tom and Jerry return carrying empty buckets.

Mario: Nothing?

Tom: Nothing.

Jerry: Unless we're looking for a very suspicious wheelbarrow.

Mario: Not helping.

Jerry: Sorry.

(Emily and Lenny cautiously enter.)

Mrs Jacobs: There you are!

Mario: Where have you been?

Emily: We were...looking.

Mrs Jackson: For three hours?

Lenny: Time goes quickly...when you're...looking.

Tom: That's the worst excuse I've ever heard.

Jerry: And I've heard Tom sing karaoke.

Mario: Emily. Did you go back to that old wool shed?

(Emily hesitates.)

Emily: ...Yes.

Mrs Jacobs: After we told you not to?

Emily: We were trying to help!

Mario: Did you find anything?

Emily looks at Lenny.

Lenny looks at Emily.

They silently agree.

Emily: ...No.

Lenny: Nothing.

Tom: See? No ghost.

Jerry: Just dust.

Mrs Jackson: And two very muddy children.

Mario: Emily... You've frightened everyone today.

Mrs Jacobs: We're disappointed.

(Emily lowers her head.)

Emily: Sorry.

Mario: Until you can be honest...you're grounded.

Emily: Grounded?!

Mrs Jacobs: No exploring. No adventures. Straight home after school.

Emily: But—

Mario: That's enough.

Mrs Jackson: Lenny... The same goes for you.

Lenny: Me too?

Mrs Jackson: Especially you.

Lenny: That's not especially fair.

Mrs Jackson: Hand over your phone.

Lenny: But—

Mrs Jackson: Phone.

(Lenny reluctantly hands over his phone.)

Mrs Jacobs: Emily. Yours too.

(Emily sighs dramatically and hands hers over.)

Emily: Worst day ever.

Porky: I've had worse. Once I ran out of mud.

Sophie: Woof. That was a terrible week.

Mario: Everyone inside. We'll keep looking tomorrow.

The adults begin leaving.

Tom: Cheer up.

Jerry: At least ghosts can't steal homework.

Tom: ... Can they?

Everyone exits except Emily and Lenny.

The stage becomes quiet.

Emily: I hate lying.

Lenny: Me too.

Emily: But we couldn't tell them.

Lenny: They'd never believe us.

Emily: Or worse...they'd chase Boo away.

Lenny: He scared us...

Emily: ...But he didn't hurt anyone.

Lenny: He's just...really bad at making friends.

Emily: Exactly.

(Pause.)

Lenny: So...what do we do?

Emily: We need proof. Real proof.

Lenny: How?

Emily notices the adults' phones sitting on the farmhouse table.

A small spotlight falls on them.

Emily: ... Maybe...I have an idea.

Lenny: Is it a good idea?

Emily: Probably not.

Lenny: Excellent. Those are usually the fun ones.

Emily: Meet me here tonight. After everyone's asleep.

Lenny: Secret mission?

Emily: Secret mission.

They shake hands.

Emily & Lenny: Operation Boo...continues!

(They leave opposite sides of the stage.)

Final Scene

The lights dim. Blue moonlight fills the stage. Soft ghostly music begins. Boo slowly walks on. He is carrying all of the missing posters. He reads one.

BOO: "MISSING."

He quietly pins it back onto the fence. He notices another.

BOO: "Reward."...One carrot?

(Small audience laugh.)

He smiles sadly.

BOO: I wish...someone had put up...a poster for me.

(A thoughtful silence.)

Bugs quietly hops onstage.

Bugs: What are you doing?

BOO: Reading.

Bugs: You're making yourself sad again.

BOO: Do you think...they'll ever understand?

Bugs: Maybe.

BOO: Or maybe...they'll send ghost hunters.

Bugs: Would that be bad?

BOO: ...Very.

He looks toward the farmhouse.

BOO: I don't want to disappear.

Bugs: You won't. We'll help.

Boo smiles. For the first time...he genuinely looks hopeful.

BOO: Thank you...my friend.

Bugs smiles.

Bugs: You're welcome.

Suddenly... The lights in the farmhouse switch off. Everything becomes quiet. Emily's bedroom window slowly opens. A tiny torchlight shines out. Then... Lenny's torch flashes back from the opposite side of the stage. Three flashes. Pause. Three flashes.

BOO: ...What's that?

Bugs looks towards the audience.

Bugs: I don't think...that's going to be good.

Boo looks worried.

Blackout.

Act Three – Scene One

Operation Ghostbusters

Running time: 6–7 minutes

Characters: , Emily Jacobs, , Lenny Jackson, , Mario, , Mrs Jacobs, , Mrs Jackson, , Tom, , Jerry, , Boo, , Bugs, , Porky, , Sophie, , Chickens (Group), , Sheep (Group), , Bees (Group)

Setting: Very early the next morning. The farm is still quiet. The sun has not yet risen. The audience can hear crickets fading into birdsong.

(The stage is dark. A torch flickers from Emily's bedroom window. Three flashes. Pause. Three flashes. A second torch flashes from outside the farm gate. Lenny enters quietly, tiptoeing across the stage.)

Lenny: Emily... Emily... Are you awake?

(Emily quietly opens the farmhouse door.)

Emily: Shhh! You'll wake Dad!

Lenny: Sorry.

(Whispers even louder.)

Lenny: SHHH!

Emily: That's even louder!

Lenny: Right...Sorry.

Emily carefully carries two mobile phones.

Lenny: Did you... borrow them?

Emily: Borrow... is one word for it.

Lenny: Another word?

Emily: ...Temporarily borrowed.

Lenny: We're definitely grounded forever.

Emily: Only if we get caught.

Lenny: Comforting.

Emily opens her notebook. On the front cover it says: OPERATION BOO. She turns to a page labelled: Plan A

Emily: Step One. Call the Ghostbusters.

Lenny: Step Two?

Emily: Explain everything.

Lenny: Step Three?

Emily: Hopefully...don't get into more trouble.

Lenny: I feel like that should've been Step One.

Emily unlocks the phone.

Emily: Here goes...

(She presses imaginary buttons.)

Phone Voice (offstage): Calling...Ghostbusters.

(A comical waiting tune plays for a few seconds.)

Lenny: They're taking a while.

Emily: Maybe they're busy.

Lenny: Probably catching ghosts.

(A click is heard.)

Ghostbuster Operator (offstage): Ghostbusters Headquarters. How may we help?

Emily: Hello! We have...a ghost.

Operator: A ghost?

Emily: Yes! His name is Boo.

Operator: Is he dangerous?

Emily hesitates. She remembers Boo sharing carrots with Bugs. She remembers the animals laughing.

Emily: ...I...don't know.

Operator: Has anyone been hurt?

Emily: No.

Operator: Has he frightened people?

Emily: ...Yes.

Operator: Understood. We'll send a team immediately.

(The phone clicks off.)

Lenny: That was easy.

Emily: Too easy.

Lenny: Do you think we did the right thing?

Emily doesn't answer immediately.

Emily: ...I hope so.

(Soft music begins.)

Across the stage...

the old wool shed glows with gentle blue light.

Boo appears. He is sitting with Bugs, Shaun and several chickens. They are playing a simple card game using oversized cardboard cards.

Bugs: Your turn.

BOO: I don't understand this game.

Shaun: You're holding your cards backwards.

BOO: Oh. That explains why everyone keeps winning.

Chicken: You're getting better.

BOO: Really?

Chicken: Not at cards. At smiling.

(A gentle "aww" moment.)

BOO: I forgot what it felt like... to laugh.

Bugs: That's what friends are for.

Boo quietly smiles.

BOO: Friends... I like that word.

(The audience now knows Boo has finally found companionship.)

Suddenly... In the far distance... A loud siren is heard. WEE-OOO... WEE-OOO...

All the animals stop.

Sophie: Woof?

Porky: That doesn't sound like the ice cream truck.

Chicken: Definitely not.

Bugs: Boo...

BOO: ...What's that noise?

The siren grows louder. Blue and red lights flash faintly in the distance.

Shaun: I don't think... they're coming for us.

Bugs slowly looks at Boo.

Bugs: ... I think they're coming... for you.

Boo's smile disappears. For the first time in the play... he genuinely looks frightened.

BOO: ... I knew this day...would come.

(He looks towards the audience.)

BOO: Maybe... I was never meant... to have friends.

The lights fade slowly as the distant sirens continue. Emily and Lenny hear them too. They look towards the audience. Neither of them smiles.

Emily: ...What have we done?

BLACKOUT

Act Three – Scene Two

The Ghostbusters Arrive!

Running time: 8–10 minutes

Characters: , Emily, , Lenny, , Mario, , Mrs Jacobs, , Mrs Jackson, , Tom, , Jerry, , Boo, , Bugs, , Porky, , Sophie, , Chickens (Group), , Sheep (Group), , Bees (Group), , Ghostbuster Captain, , Ghostbuster Pip, , Ghostbuster Ace, , Ghostbuster Dot

Setting: Morning. The whole farm is awake. Everyone has gathered after hearing loud sirens.

(Everyone rushes onto the stage from different directions.)

Mario: What's all that noise?

Mrs Jacobs: Is it the fire brigade?

Mrs Jackson: Or the police?

Tom: Maybe it's the circus.

Jerry: Tom... you say that every time.

Tom: One day I'll be right.

SFX: WEE-OOO! WEE-OOO!

(Four Ghostbusters march proudly onto the stage in perfect formation.)

Ghostbusters (together): GOOD MORNING!

(Everyone jumps.)

Mario: Who are you?

Captain: Ghostbusters!

Pip: Paranormal Specialists!

Ace: Professional Ghost Catchers!

Dot: And part-time lunch enthusiasts.

Captain: Dot...

Dot: Sorry.

Captain: Which one of you reported... a ghost?

(Emily and Lenny slowly raise their hands.)

Emily: We did.

Lenny: ...Sorry.

Captain: No apology needed. Protecting people is our job.

Dot: And ghosts.

Captain: Sometimes ghosts.

Dot: Depending on the ghost.

Captain: Yes...depending on the ghost.

Captain takes out an enormous clipboard.

Captain: Question One. Does the ghost glow?

Emily: Yes.

Captain: Question Two. Float?

Lenny: Yes.

Captain: Question Three. Steal sandwiches?

Emily: ...Yes.

Dot: Definitely a ghost.

Captain: Where was it last seen?

Emily: The old wool shed.

The Ghostbusters dramatically gasp.

Ace: Classic haunting location.

Pip: Textbook.

Dot: Very spooky.

Captain: Team...formation Delta!

(They perform an unnecessarily complicated formation, bumping into each other.)

Jerry: Very impressive.

Tom: Very confusing.

Captain: Move out!

(Everyone marches dramatically toward the wool shed.)

Outside the Wool Shed: The Ghost Detector begins flashing.

Pip: Captain! I'm getting a reading!

Captain: How strong?

Pip: Very... ghosty.

Ace: Definitely ghosty.

Dot: Maximum ghostiness.

Captain: Prepare the Ghost Trap.

(Dot wheels out a giant cardboard ghost trap.)

Porky: That looks expensive.

Dot: It was on sale.

Captain: Everyone stay behind us!

(The adults quickly step behind the Ghostbusters.)

Tom: Brave.

Jerry: Very brave.

Mario: Safety first.

The detector begins beeping rapidly.

Pip: Captain...he's close.

Captain: Boo! We know you're here! Come out peacefully!

Silence.

Captain: Last warning!

A soft blue glow appears. Boo slowly steps out. He looks frightened. Not angry.

The audience is completely quiet.

BOO: ...Hello.

Captain: Stand back!

The Ghostbusters lift their cardboard blasters.

Emily: Wait!

Captain: Do not move.

BOO: I...don't want to fight.

Captain: Then surrender.

BOO: ...What does surrender mean?

(A small laugh.)

Dot: It means...please don't make us run.

Captain: Boo. Did you steal these animals?

BOO: ...Yes.

Everyone gasps.

Mario: I knew it!

Captain: Why?

Boo looks down.

BOO: ...Because...I was lonely.

Silence.

BOO: Five hundred years... is a very long time...to have nobody to talk to.

The audience becomes very quiet.

BOO: I thought...if I had friends...maybe...I wouldn't feel invisible anymore.

Bugs quietly hops beside him.

Bugs: He never hurt us.

Shaun: He just wanted company.

Chicken: And he's terrible at Hide-and-Seek.

Porky: He even shared carrots.

Sophie: Woof! And apples!

Captain: ...Is that true?

Animals: YES!

Emily slowly walks towards Boo.

Emily: ...Why didn't you just ask us?

BOO: ...Because...I forgot how.

A long pause.

BOO: After five hundred years...I didn't think anyone...would want to be my friend.

Emily looks at Lenny. Lenny nods.

Lenny: Emily...

Emily: I know.

She turns to the Ghostbusters.

Emily: Don't trap him.

BLACKOUT

Act Three – Scene Three

A Friend Forever

Running time: 8–10 minutes

Characters: , Emily Jacobs, , Lenny Jackson, , Boo, , Mario, , Mrs Jacobs, , Mrs Jackson, , Tom, , Jerry, , Ghostbuster Captain, , Ghostbuster Pip, , Ghostbuster Ace, , Ghostbuster Dot, , Bugs, , Porky, , Sophie, , Chickens (Group), , Sheep (Group), , Bees (Group)

Setting: Outside the old wool shed. Everyone is gathered together. The Ghost Trap remains closed on the ground. No one has moved.

(The stage is silent.)

Emily stands between Boo and the Ghostbusters.

Emily: Don't trap him. Please.

Captain: Emily...He admitted taking the animals.

Emily: Yes. But he also admitted why.

Lenny: He wasn't trying to be mean. He was trying to make friends.

Mario: Emily...He frightened everyone.

Mrs Jacobs: People have been worried for days.

Emily: I know. And that wasn't okay.

(Emily turns to Boo.)

Emily: Boo... You should have told us the truth.

BOO: ... I know.

Emily: You scared us.

BOO: I'm sorry.

Lenny: You stole our sandwiches.

BOO: ...I really am sorry about that.

Dot: Those did sound like good sandwiches.

BOO: I made a lot of mistakes.

Emily: Yes. You did.

BOO: I didn't know how to be someone's friend anymore.

Bugs: He's learning.

Shaun: We're teaching him.

Chicken: He still cheats at tag.

BOO: Only accidentally!

Captain: Boo... Can I ask you a question?

BOO: ...Of course.

Captain: If we put our equipment away...Will you promise never to frighten people again?

Boo nods immediately.

BOO: I promise. No more moving buckets.

Lenny: Good. Those buckets were terrifying.

BOO: No more stealing lunches.

Emily: Definitely no more stealing lunches.

BOO: Agreed.

Captain slowly lowers the ghost-catching device. One by one... The other Ghostbusters do the same.

Captain: I don't think... this farm needs Ghostbusters today.

Pip: I think...it needs understanding.

Ace: And honesty.

Dot: ...And maybe lunch.

Mario slowly walks towards Boo.

Mario: Five hundred years...is a long time to be alone.

BOO: ... It felt even longer.

Mario offers his hand. Boo hesitates.

Mario: Friends?

Boo slowly shakes his hand. The audience applauds.

Mrs Jacobs: Everyone deserves a second chance...if they're willing to make things right.

Mrs Jackson: Even ghosts.

Tom: Especially ghosts.

Jerry: As long as they don't steal my snacks.

BOO: Deal.

Suddenly... The Ghost Detector begins to glow again.

Pip: Captain! It's detecting... lots of ghosts!

Everyone gasps.

Captain: Where?

Pip: ...Not here.

He points towards the sky.

Captain: Ah... I know that signal.

Emily: What does it mean?

Captain: There is a place...where kind ghosts gather together.

Ace: Ghosts who have finished haunting...and started helping.

Dot: It's called...Everlight Meadow.

Lenny: Really?

Captain: Really.

BOO: ...There are...other ghosts?

Captain: Hundreds of them.

BOO: ...Do you think...they'd like me?

Captain: Why don't you ask them?

(Soft music begins.) Boo looks at everyone.

BOO: I don't want to leave...without saying thank you.

He walks to Emily.

BOO: Thank you...for giving me a chance.

He walks to Lenny.

BOO: Thank you...for believing I could change.

He kneels beside Bugs.

BOO: Thank you...for being my very first friend.

Bugs: You'll always have a friend here.

Porky: Visit anytime.

Sophie: Woof! Bring carrots!

Chickens: And sandwiches!

BOO: ...I think...I'll bring both.

The Ghostbusters open a large glowing doorway (created with lighting and fabric held by stage crew).

Captain: Whenever you're ready.

Boo takes a few steps...then stops. He turns back.

BOO: Emily?

Emily: Yes?

BOO: Will you ever forget me?

Emily smiles warmly.

Emily: Never.

Lenny: You're part of Jacob's Farm now.

BOO: ...I've always wanted somewhere...to belong.

He waves.

BOO: Goodbye...my friends.

Everyone: Goodbye, Boo!

Boo walks through the glowing doorway. The light slowly fades. The Ghost Detector becomes silent. A gentle breeze passes across the stage.

Then...A single white feather floats gently down. Emily catches it. She smiles.

Emily: I think...he made it.

Captain: I think...he did too.

Finale

Mario looks around the farm.

Mario: Well...Who's ready to get back to work?

Tom: Already?

Jerry: Can we have lunch first?

Dot: Now you're speaking my language.

Mrs Jacobs: Emily...Lenny...

The children look worried.

Mrs Jacobs: About borrowing our phones...

Emily: We're sorry.

Lenny: Very sorry.

Mario: You should have asked.

Emily: We know.

Mrs Jackson: You are still grounded...

(Emily and Lenny sigh dramatically.)

Mrs Jackson: ...Until after dinner.

Emily: That's it?

Lenny: Best news all day!

Mario: And next time...Come to us with the truth.

Emily: We will.

Lenny: Promise.

Mario rings the farm bell.

Mario: Breakfast!

Porky: FINALLY!

Chickens: BREAKFAST!

Sheep: BAAAA!

Bees: BUZZ!

Everyone laughs.

(Song #6 - Do The Honey Bee)

Emily: Ready?

Lenny: Ready.

Emily: Adventure finished?

Lenny: ...I have a feeling...it's only just beginning.

They smile.

The entire cast joins hands across the stage.

Final Line (Entire Cast Together): "A friend is never someone to fear... sometimes they're just

someone waiting to be found!"

Curtain Call

(Song #7 - Ghostbusters, song/dance/bows)

Final Rehearsal Checklist

- I know my lines and my cues.
- I know where I enter and exit.
- I can project my voice without shouting.
- I stay in character when I am not speaking.
- I know what props I need.
- I know when the songs / dance breaks happen.
- I can work safely with the other actors.
- I am ready to help the ensemble tell the story.

Performance Message

The story reminds us that first impressions are not always the whole story. Boo is not a villain; he is lonely. Emily and Lenny learn that courage means listening, asking questions, admitting mistakes and choosing kindness. The final message is simple: sometimes a friend is just someone waiting to be found.