



# GHOST TALES

*FOR THE PIANO*

*By*

**MATHILDE  
BILBRO**

*The WILLIS MUSIC COMPANY  
CINCINNATI OHIO.*



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# Ghost-Tales

## The Twins' Story

MATHILDE BILBRO

Moderato

*p*

One dark night when

all was still, we woke and had such a

fright! Some-thing crouched on the win-dow-sill! Oh

how we longed for the light! *mf* Two Big Eyes were

1 2 1 3 5

shin-ing at, us And if you think'twas a cat,

3 1 4 2 3 2 1 4 2 2 3 1 5 2 5

*mf* you're quite wrong for we saw it well—And 'twas much to big for

*poco rit* *a tempo*

5 2 5 1 2 2 5 3 1 1 3 1 2 1 5

that! *p*

1 3 5

# Bobbie's Story

Andantino

The musical score is written for piano in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The tempo is marked 'Andantino'. The score includes various musical notations such as dynamics (p, pp, f), articulation (accents), and fingerings. The lyrics are: 'One day when me and Jim Went to take a swim, You could nev - er guess what we saw up - on an old dead limb! Under-neath a'.

One day when me and Jim *pp*

Went to take a swim, *pp* You could nev - er

guess what we saw up - on an old dead limb! *pp*

*pp* *f* Under-neath a

tree, *pp* Black as he could be! *pp*

Sat a Great Big Thing, and he grinned, and winked at Jim and

me! *mf* Me and Jim stood there! *pp*

We were skeered for fair! Then that thing it

wig-gled a-round, and van-ished in - to air! *pp* *pp*

4 1 3 3 2 8

*f* Noth - ing left of him *pp*

On that old dead limb! *pp* If you don't be -

8

lieve what I say, why you can just ask Jim! *pp*

*pp* *pp* *pp* < *mf*

4/2



# Priscilla's Story

Moderato

Musical notation for the Moderato section. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 6/8. The music is marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The treble staff begins with a triplet of eighth notes (fingered 3) followed by a series of eighth notes with slurs. The bass staff begins with a triplet of eighth notes (fingered 2) followed by a series of eighth notes with slurs. Fingerings 1 and 2 are indicated at the end of the first measure.

Allegretto

Musical notation for the first part of the Allegretto section. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 6/8. The music is marked with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The treble staff begins with eighth notes (fingered 2) and includes a triplet (fingered 4). The bass staff begins with eighth notes (fingered 3) and includes a triplet (fingered 1). The lyrics "One day when moth - er" are written below the treble staff. A key signature change to two sharps (F# and C#) is indicated at the end of the first measure.

Musical notation for the second part of the Allegretto section. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is 6/8. The music is marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The treble staff continues with eighth notes and includes a triplet (fingered 3). The bass staff continues with eighth notes and includes a triplet (fingered 2). The lyrics "went a - way, and left me all by my - self, I" are written below the treble staff.

thought I'd like to have some Jam. 'Twas up-on a pan - try

shelf.) But when I stood up - on a chair, I

heard a rus - tling sound! And in a cor - ner dark as pitch was

some-thing moving a - round! Though I could not see a thing,

*pp* *p*

I could hear it just as plain!

*pp* *mf*

I was so scared I

scarce could scam - ble down from out of that chair! I'll

nev - er go a - gain for Jam when no-bod-y else is there!

# A Traveler's Story

## (The Haunted Dell)

In a deep, dark wood there's a cool shady Dell  
 Where the moss hangs low, and I've heard tell  
 That when midnight comes you can always hear  
 Mysterious music, soft and clear!  
 It comes from the Dell (and there's no soul there!)  
 Yet this melody rings on the still night air:

**Allegretto**

*p*

*pp leggiero*

*poco rit.*

*p a tempo*

Musical notation for the first system. The treble clef contains a melodic line with a slur over the first two notes and a fourth finger fingering above the third note. The bass clef contains a supporting line with a slur over the first two notes and a first finger fingering below the third note. A piano (*p*) dynamic marking is present in the second measure. A repeat sign is located between the second and third measures.

Musical notation for the second system. The treble clef features a triplet of eighth notes in the first measure, followed by a quarter rest. A piano (*p*) dynamic is in the second measure, and a pianissimo (*pp*) dynamic with the instruction *pp sempre leggero* is in the third measure. A repeat sign is placed at the start of the third measure. The bass clef continues with a supporting line, including a fifth finger fingering below the third note.

Musical notation for the third system. The treble clef has a half note with a sharp sign in the first measure, followed by quarter notes. A pianissimo (*pp*) dynamic is in the second measure, and a piano (*p*) dynamic is in the fourth measure. The bass clef continues with a supporting line, including a fifth finger fingering below the second note.

Musical notation for the fourth system. The treble clef features a melodic line with slurs and fingerings: a fourth finger fingering below the first note, a second finger fingering above the second note, and a fourth finger fingering above the third note. A pianissimo (*pp*) dynamic is in the first measure. The bass clef continues with a supporting line, including a fourth finger fingering below the first note.

Musical notation for the fifth system. The treble clef has a melodic line with slurs and fingerings: a fourth finger fingering above the first note, a third finger fingering above the second note, and a first finger fingering above the third note. A piano (*p*) dynamic is in the first measure, and a piano (*p*) dynamic is in the third measure. The bass clef continues with a supporting line. The system concludes with a double bar line, followed by a piano (*p*) dynamic and a pianissimo (*pp*) dynamic. The markings *D. S.* and *Fine* are at the bottom right.

# Aunt Jerusha's Story

Aunt Jerusha tells a tale about a ghost she saw  
 One time in Grandpa's garret, when the night was cold and raw  
 She heard a noise and she went up to see what it might be;  
 And when she opened wide the door, she saw—Good gracious me!—  
 A tall white object floating 'round and 'round above her head!  
 And Aunt Jerusha's hair turned white that very night, she said.

## Moderato

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time, marked Moderato. It consists of three systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#), indicating G major. The first system contains two measures, the second contains three, and the third contains four. The music features various rhythmic patterns, including quarter notes, eighth notes, and triplets. Dynamics are indicated by *mf*, *p*, and *pp*. Fingerings (1, 2, 3, 4) and articulation marks (accents, slurs) are used to guide the performer.

1 3 1 4 3 5

*mf* *mf*

*poco rit* *p* *mf a tempo*

*p* *pp* *poco a poco cresc.*

*f* *p* *p*

*Fine*

# Mammy Liza's Story

Moderato

Introduction for piano. The piece is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. It begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic, featuring a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand and a steady bass line. The dynamic shifts to piano (*p*) and then pianissimo (*pp*) as the introduction concludes.

First vocal line. The melody is in B-flat major, 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "One lit-tle tale I mus' tell (Hm - m - m) One time I went to de". The dynamics are piano (*p*) and pianissimo (*pp*). The bass line provides harmonic support with chords and a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

Second vocal line. The melody continues with the lyrics: "well. (Hm - m - m) Den yo' ole Mam-my, she got sech a might-y jar". Dynamics include pianissimo (*pp*) and mezzo-forte (*mf*). The bass line features a triplet of eighth notes in the final measure.

Third vocal line. The melody concludes with the lyrics: "Caze, chil-len', dar wuz de Bad Man, a set-tin' dar! (Hm - m)". The dynamic is pianissimo (*pp*). The bass line ends with a final chord and a half note.



*mf*

Oh, Glo-ry! Oh, Glo-ry! Jes' ought-er see how yo'

ole Mam-my run! Oh, chil- len! Oh, Chil- len!

*>p* Dar set de Deb-bil in de *pp* sun! (Hm - m!) *p* D'ain no me fer to

**Slowly**

*pp* tell. (Hm - m - m!) Bad Man, he jumped in de well! (Hm - m!)

# The Sailor's Story

**A little slow**

*mf* Oh! There's an Old Man of the Sea who

watch - es while the sail - ors sleep.

And he lives down un - der - neath the wa - ters deep. Oh!

If a sail - or falls in - to the wa - ter, then this bad Old Man will

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'A little slow'. The first system begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and includes the lyrics 'Oh! There's an Old Man of the Sea who'. The second system continues with 'watch - es while the sail - ors sleep.' The third system includes 'And he lives down un - der - neath the wa - ters deep. Oh!'. The fourth system concludes with 'If a sail - or falls in - to the wa - ter, then this bad Old Man will'. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the left hand and a more melodic line in the right hand, often with slurs and fingerings (1, 2, 3, 4) indicated. There are also some accents and dynamic markings like *mf* and *Oh!* in the piano part.

drag him to the bot - tom of the o - cean,

If he thinks he can! *sf* Oh!

If you get to be a sail-or, neverfallin - to the sea!

Lis-ten, boys, and take this ad - vice from me. *p*

# Sister Ida's Story

## "The Wind-Ghost"

On stormy nights and stormy days  
 When skies are dark and lightning plays,  
 I hear the Wind-Ghost,—and he says;—"Ooo-oo-Woo-oo-Woo!"

Where he goes nobody knows.  
 He may live in the land of snows.  
 But we can hear him when it blows, saying;—"Ooo-oo-Woo-oo-Woo!"

### Moderato

*R. H.* *L. H.* *p*

*R. H.* *L. H.* *R. H.* *mf*

*R. H.* *L. H.* *p* *pp*

Musical notation for the first system. The treble clef staff contains a series of chords and melodic lines. The first measure is marked *L.H.* and *p*. The second measure is marked *R.H.* and *L.H.*. The third measure is marked *R.H.* with a first fingering (1) and *pp*. The fourth measure is marked *R.H.* with a second fingering (2). The bass clef staff contains a few notes and rests.

Musical notation for the second system. The treble clef staff continues the melodic line with a fourth fingering (4) and a second fingering (2). The bass clef staff has a dynamic marking *f* and a first fingering (1) at the end of the system.

Musical notation for the third system. The treble clef staff has a dynamic marking *mf* and a *v* (accents) marking. The bass clef staff has a dynamic marking *p* and a *mf* marking with a crescendo hairpin.

Musical notation for the fourth system. The treble clef staff has a dynamic marking *pp* and a *v* marking. The bass clef staff has a dynamic marking *mf* and a *mf* marking with a crescendo hairpin. Hand labels *R.H.* and *L.H.* are present throughout the system.

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and contains two measures of chords with a dynamic marking of *mf* and a hairpin crescendo. The third measure begins with a dynamic marking of *pp* and features a melodic line with fingerings 2, 2, and 3. The lower staff is in bass clef and contains two measures of chords, followed by two measures of chords with a dynamic marking of *mf* and a hairpin crescendo.

The second system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff has a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *mf* and a hairpin crescendo, followed by a double bar line. The third measure has a dynamic marking of *p* and is labeled "R. H." above and "L. H." below. The lower staff has a chord with a dynamic marking of *mf* and a hairpin crescendo, followed by a double bar line. The third measure has a dynamic marking of *p* and is labeled "R. H." above and "L. H." below.

The third system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff has a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *mf* and a hairpin crescendo, followed by a double bar line. The third measure has a dynamic marking of *p* and is labeled "R. H." above and "L. H." below. The lower staff has a chord with a dynamic marking of *mf* and a hairpin crescendo, followed by a double bar line. The third measure has a dynamic marking of *p* and is labeled "R. H." above and "L. H." below.

The fourth system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff has a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *mf* and a hairpin crescendo, followed by a double bar line. The third measure has a dynamic marking of *p* and is labeled "R. H." above and "L. H." below. The lower staff has a chord with a dynamic marking of *mf* and a hairpin crescendo, followed by a double bar line. The third measure has a dynamic marking of *p* and is labeled "R. H." above and "L. H." below.

Musical score system 1, first system. The right hand (R.H.) begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic, followed by a piano-piano (*pp*) dynamic. The left hand (L.H.) also starts with *p* and then *pp*. The system concludes with a *pp* dynamic, with the R.H. playing a chordal sequence and the L.H. playing a single note.

Musical score system 2, second system. The R.H. continues with a chordal sequence. The L.H. plays a single note, marked with a finger number '2'. The system ends with a chordal sequence in the R.H. and a single note in the L.H.

Musical score system 3, third system. The R.H. plays a sequence of notes with fingerings '4' and '2'. The L.H. plays a single note. The tempo marking *mf poco allegro* is present. The system ends with a chordal sequence in the R.H. and a single note in the L.H.

Musical score system 4, fourth system. The R.H. plays a sequence of notes. The L.H. plays a sequence of notes with fingerings '1', '3', and '5'. The system concludes with a *dim. e rit.* marking and a final chord in the R.H. and a single note in the L.H.

# Mary Martha's Story

I know a story of a Ghost  
( 'Twould never do to tell it! )  
'Twould frighten you to death almost;  
There never was a grimmer ghost!  
( I really must not tell it. )

He walks at night, and shuns the light.  
And when it rains he clanks his chains!  
Oh, if I told just half the tale  
'Twould make you shudder and grow pale!  
( And so I'll never tell it! )

**Lento** **Allegretto**

Once upon a time

*p* *mf* *pp* *p*



First system of musical notation. Treble clef, bass clef. Dynamics include *mf* and *p*. Fingerings: 2, 3, 2.

Second system of musical notation. Treble clef, bass clef. Dynamics include *pp*, *ppp*, and *mf*.

Third system of musical notation. Treble clef, bass clef. Dynamics include *p*, *pp*, *ppp*, and *mf*. Fingerings: 5, 2.

Fourth system of musical notation. Treble clef, bass clef. Dynamics include *pp* and *p*. Fingerings: 5, 1, 4, 3, 2. Ends with *Fine*.

*Fine*