

The Canterville Ghost Cast of Characters

Lord Canterville/Canterville Ghost: Older, yet athletic, spry. British aristocracy. Talented actor in his day. Very brilliant mind, trapped and forced to replay over and over the characters he has created during the past three hundred years – a bit verbose and full of himself as the ghost; very dignified as Lord Canterville.

Mrs. Umney: 50 to 70 years old. Very British. Has a strong “ownership” of the manor and the ghost. Her determination to protect the ghost borders on long-lost and unrequited love.

Cecil, the Duke of Cheshire: 16 -26 years old. British aristocracy, a very distant relative of the Cantervilles. Initially he is very frightened of the ghost, being British. However, he learns about the ghost through Virginia’s eyes. Very impulsive, gawky, somewhat immature yet sincere.

The Butler (Oscar): He is a constant presence yet says very little and reveals even less. He is the opposite of Mrs. Umney. She is pure emotion, he is totally in control and seemingly emotionless.

Mr. Otis: About 40. Very American, a Minister, a Republican/Democrat.

Mrs. Otis: About 40. Very American but with some British affectations.

Uncle Washington Otis: About 40 years old. Mr. Otis’s older brother, unmarried. Very American in an industrial sense. Youthful in his approach to life. He gets along with the twins and Dolly extremely well. He’s also a somewhat accomplished dancer.

Virginia Otis: 15 to 25 years old. Cecil and Virginia need to be complimentary ages. Very American yet very sensitive underneath, an artist whose artistic mind “paints” the scenery and costumes for us. She is a bit too puritan and perfect and is much too “mature” at first for her age.

The Twins (Stars and Stripes Otis): 8-12 years old. Very American and, at times, rascals. Stars is confident; Strips is a bit shy, has a little stammer and often allows his brother to speak for him.

Dolly Otis: Somewhere between 5-12 years old. Very American, has all the best qualities of all the others and is well read for her age.