

Eli Finds a Friend

There once was a ghost named Eli. Eli was a shy ghost. He didn't like to scare people like normal ghosts. Eli had big eyes. Well, they weren't actually big eyes they just looked big because he wore round silver spectacles. Eli liked to wear suits and black and yellow bow ties. He was short and had a spiked, purple Mohawk. When Eli was alive, he was a ringmaster at a circus – full of confidence and bravery. He had loads of friends. However, when he died, all this changed.

He was good at being a living person. He just didn't feel that he was good at being a ghost because he wasn't scary. And now, he had no friends. This made him really sad and lonely. He also found that as a ghost, he wasn't brave anymore. He was now scared of all sorts of things. Eli liked to be around nature. That's where his happy place was. One day, while Eli was drifting through the woods, a cat walked by. Eli was so scared of the cat, he hid! The cat just kept walking.

A couple days later, Eli was tired of being lonely so he set off to try to find a friend. While Eli was gliding over a dirt road, Eli spotted a wishing well! Eli drifted over to it and then he remembered that in order to make a wish, he needed a penny! So, Eli looked for a penny. He looked over a rock; no penny. He looked under the rock; no penny. Then he remembered he had some change in his suit pocket because just before he died, he was going to the fun fair at the pier. Eli stuck his hand in his pocket and pulled out some change! Eli saw that he had three pennies and four quarters. Eli threw a penny into the well. Eli wished for a friend. The well bubbled and then his penny popped out.

"Oh well..." said Eli gloomily. Just as he was going to leave, he heard something...he spun around. And...rustling through some bushes, out popped Mike! Mike was Eli's old buddy from the circus. Mike was a ghost too! Eli was excited to see Mike, and Mike was excited to see Eli! The friends smiled and went to hug each other. But they just floated through each other! They were not expecting that and laughed!

"Of course! We're ghosts!" they said.

Mike had already noticed that Eli wasn't his cheery self, so Mike thought he should tell Eli a joke.

"Hey Eli, what did the bee say to the flower?"

"Hmmm...I don't know, what?" asked Eli.

"Hello honey!" and both ghosts laughed.

"Good one!" said Eli.

Mike was also in the circus as a clown. He knew when to tell a joke, and which one to use. Mike liked to wear long, flared pants with a wacky shirt. As a ghost, Mike seemed to be the same as ever. Eli was happy to see his old friend, and felt a little better.

As the friends were drifting along, Mike asked Eli, "Do you want to go to the pier?"

Eli said, "Sure...it doesn't hurt to see what they are doing at the circus there now."

When they arrived at the pier, Eli noticed a sign that said, "Come see the Amazing Marldo!" Eli remembered that his cousin was named Marldo. "Hey Mike! I think my cousin Marldo is appearing in the circus! Do you want to go and see?"

"Sure," said Mike. They continued along the pier until they got to a tent.

Eli said, "That must be it!"

A clown greeted them and showed them to their seats. When the show started, out popped Marldo! And Marldo was Eli's cousin! As Eli and Mike were watching Marldo being brave in the ring, Eli realized that he was still brave. He was brave in the circus, and as a ghost he could brave anywhere. After the show Eli and Mike met up with Marldo. They introduced themselves, "Hello cuz!" said Marldo. "You are looking a little pale!" Eli laughed.

Eli felt a lot better. He felt that he was like his old self. He felt braver. Eli saw a cat prowling toward him. He floated down to pet it, only to find his hand go right through it!

THE END!

"Wait, that's the end?" asked Marldo. "I thought books always end with a joke!!"

"Fine," said Mike. "What time do tennis players get up at?" He paused... "Tennish!!"

"OK, now we can end the book," said Marldo. And in unison they all said, "The end!"