

1 **TOM:** Nope. That was me. I had to burp so I tried to swallow it, but it came out my nose instead.

BITSY: Oh, Tom! What am I going to do with you?

5 **MADAME VERA:** Let me try again. (*Solemnly.*) Oh, beloved spirit. We welcome you into our presence with open hearts. Please speak to us now so that we might know you are with us. (*They sit in silence for several seconds.*)

TOM: I'm still not getting anything.

BITSY: I have to agree with Tom. Maybe the séance isn't working.

10 **MADAME VERA:** Perhaps. Or perhaps the spirits are merely feeling reticent. Let us draw them out by reciting the incantation together.

TOM: What? Really?

BITSY: Yes, Tom! Really!

TOM: All right, but I want you to know I'm not happy about it!

15 **ALL:** Oh, beloved spirit. We welcome you into our presence with open hearts. Please speak to us now so that we might know you are with us. (*They sit in silence for several seconds.*)

MADAME VERA: Oh, spirits! Yoo-hoo! Are you there? (*Pause.*) Well, this is most unfortunate, but I'm forced to conclude that there are
20 no spirits in this house.

TOM: I could have told you that an hour ago, before I hauled all this stuff up here!

LILY: (*ENTERS DOWN LEFT wearing the bedsheet as a ghost costume. She holds out her arms in front of her and sways back and forth as if floating.*) Oooh! It is I, the ghooost of the iinnnn! (*BITSY and TOM open their eyes and turn to LILY.*)
25

BITSY: (*Screams.*) Ahh! It's a ghost!

TOM: Well, I'll be! It really is a ghost!

LILY: You must not loook at meee! Or I will disappeeeearrr foreverrr!
30 (*BITSY and TOM close their eyes. LILY will continue using "ghost talk" throughout this scene.*)

BITSY: Oh! Please forgive us, ghost! We had no idea!

TOM: She's kind of a touchy ghost, if you ask me.

MADAME VERA: What is your name, oh precious spirit?

35 **LILY:** My name? Um... Um... It's Sophie! Sophie the ghost!

MADAME VERA: Oh, Sophie! We are so glad to make your acquaintance!

LILY: It's nice to meet you too.

MADAME VERA: Tell us, Sophie. When were you born?

40 **LILY:** Born? Well, let me see... It must have been some time in the nineteen-twenties. Nineteen twenty-two, perhaps. Or nineteen twenty-thre.