



Ghostlight

By Sonia Gensler

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Things that go bump in the night are just the beginning when a summer film project becomes a real-life ghost story!

Avery is looking forward to another summer at Grandma's farm, at least until her brother says he's too old for "Kingdom," the imaginary world they'd spent years creating. Lucky for her, there's a new kid staying in the cottage down the road: a city boy with a famous dad, Julian's more than a little full of himself, but he's also a storyteller like Avery. So when he announces his plan to film a ghost story, Avery is eager to join in.

Unfortunately, Julian wants to film at Hilliard House, a looming, empty mansion that Grandma has absolutely forbidden her to enter. As terrified as Avery is of Grandma's wrath, the allure of filmmaking is impossible to resist.

As the kids explore the secrets of Hilliard house, eerie things begin to happen, and the "imaginary" dangers in their movie threaten to become very real. Have Avery and Julian awakened a menacing presence? Can they turn back before they go too far?

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 4–6—Twelve-year-old Avery and her older brother, Blake, always spend summers on their grandmother's sprawling Tennessee farm. When Blake decides he is too old for Avery's favorite pretend game, Avery is furious and wounded. Then Avery meets a boy named Julian, an aspiring filmmaker. Julian is fascinated by a spooky old house on her grandmother's property—a house that Avery's grandmother has forbidden her to enter. Yet Avery can't resist when Julian invites her to help with his latest project: filming a ghost story. The new friends encounter some bizarre, downright alarming phenomena in the old house, and Julian sees the location as a perfect cinematic opportunity. Avery begins to research the history of the house and her ancestors who lived there. She hates disobeying her grandmother, but the more research she does, the more certain she becomes that the truth about the house's reclusive last resident needs to be discovered. Gensler conveys Avery's "left behind younger sibling" feelings in an authentic, relatable way. She also gently addresses the frustrations of children in unconventional family situations, and the awkwardness of cultural/religious disagreements between parents and grandparents. Supernatural elements are "real," but not exaggerated to the point of being hokey. The true beauty here is the story's inspiration to budding journalists, historians, and genealogists. Readers are in for a good ghost story, but also for encouragement to learn more about their own local histories and family trees. **VERDICT** Ghostlight is well paced and suspenseful with a sensitive, endearing protagonist.—Sara White, Seminole County Public Library, Casselberry, FL

About the Author

Sonia Gensler is also the author of the young adult novels *The Dark Between* and *The Revenant*. She grew up in a small Tennessee town and spent her early adulthood collecting impractical degrees from various Midwestern universities. A former high school English teacher, she now writes full-time in Oklahoma.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Patricia Smith:

Ghostlight can be one of your starter books that are good idea. All of us recommend that straight away because this e-book has good vocabulary that will increase your knowledge in words, easy to understand, bit entertaining but still delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort to place every word into joy arrangement in writing Ghostlight but doesn't forget the main position, giving the reader the hottest and also based confirm resource information that maybe you can be one among it. This great information could drawn you into brand-new stage of crucial pondering.

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