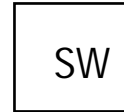
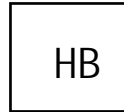


*The Haunted Hamburger*

David LaRochelle



**Readers**

Father Ghost, Echo 1, Owl ..... Maryann Weidt  
 Franny, Lulu, Echo 2 ..... Heather Bouwman  
 Frankie, Nell..... Stephanie Watson  
 Narrator ..... David LaRochelle

**NOTE:**

**Bold words** should be emphasized

Underlined words should be an aside, not given a lot of emphasis or importance,

/ between words indicates a slight pause

words in *italics* are stage directions only

*Approximate reading time: 4 minutes*

**SCRIPT:**

Echo 2: *The Haunted Hamburger and Other Ghostly Stories* by David LaRochelle, illustrated by Paul Meisel

**PAUSE**

Narrator: When two little ghosts won't go to bed, what do you do?

Echo 1: Tell them stories.

Echo 2: Tell them spooky stories.

Frankie: Tell them stories so fiendishly scary, they would even frighten...

Narrator: A ghost.

Father Ghost: Time for bed

Narrator: said father ghost

Franny/Frankie: But we are not tired,

Narrator: said Franny and Frankie

Franny: Tell us a story,

Frankie: Tell us a **scary** story,

Father Ghost: If I tell you a story, do you **promise** to go to bed?

Narrator: (*this line can be stronger*): Franny and Frankie crossed their fingers.

Franny/Frankie: We promise/  
Father Ghost: Very well,  
Narrator: said Father Ghost,  
Father Ghost: But I must warn you. This is a **very/ scary** story....  
Franny/Frankie: ooooooooooooo...../  
  
Father Ghost: Your cousin Nell was a boastful ghost.  
Nell: *(Make each line a bit louder)* I am the **fastest** ghost in the world! I  
am the  
**smartest** ghost in the world! I am the **scariest** ghost in the  
world!  
Lulu: Big Deal  
Narrator: Said her friend Lulu  
Lulu: I know someone who is faster, smarter, and scarier than you.  
His name is the Haunted Hamburger.  
Echo1 & 2: *(like a whisper)* Haunted Hamburger, Haunted Haunted  
Hamburger  
Lulu: He lives in the Dark Forest  
Echo1 & 2: Dark Forest, Dark Dark Forest  
Lulu: Why don't you go see him for yourself...  
Echo1 & 2: Unless... you are too afraid/  
Nell: I am **not** afraid of anything. I am the bravest ghost in the  
world.  
Narrator: So Nell flew off to the Dark Forest to find the Haunted  
Hamburger./  
Nell: Haunted Hamburger, where are you?  
Narrator: There was no answer.  
Nell: I bet that hamburger is too afraid to come out. He knows that I  
am faster, smarter, and scarier than he is.  
Narrator: Nell was about to fly home when she passed a stump.  
Echo 1 & 2: A stump?

Narrator: a stump. And sitting on the stump was a hamburger.

Echo1 & 2: A hamburger?

Narrator: A hamburger.

Nell: Are you the Haunted Hamburger?

Narrator: The hamburger did not answer.

Nell: That hamburger is so stuck up, he will not even talk to me. I will teach him a lesson.

Let's race to the hollow log at the edge of the forest. Whoever returns to this stump first will be the winner.

*[say the following three lines, don't echo them]*

Echo 1: On your mark,

Echo 2: get set.

Echo 1 & 2: Go!

Narrator. Nell flew under the trees and over the rocks. When she reached the hollow log, she smiled.

Nell: I **know** I am faster than a hamburger.

Narrator: But when she returned to the stump, the hamburger was already there.

Nell: (panting) How.... how... how did you get to the log and back so soon?

Narrator: The hamburger was not even out of breath.

Nell: Okay, Hamburger, maybe you **are** faster. But I **know** that I am smarter.

Owl! Wake up! Ask each of us a math question. We will see who is smart and who is not.

Owl (stretching and yawning): What is 7 plus 6?

Narrator: Nell scribbled some numbers in the dirt.

Echo 2: (*not as Echo*) She scratched her head.

Narrator: She counted on her fingers.

Nell: That is easy. Seven plus 6 is 452.

Owl. Wrong. Seven plus 6 is 13. Okay hamburger. Now it is your turn. How much is 12 minus 12?

Narrator: The hamburger just sat there.

Owl: Correct!

Nell: How can that be correct? The hamburger said nothing.

Owl: Twelve minus 12 is nothing. The hamburger wins!

Nell: (*angry*) Okay, Hamburger. Maybe you **are** faster than I am! Maybe you **are** smarter than I am! But you are **not** scarier than I am! Look at this!

Narrator: Nell crossed her eyes.

Echo 1: (*not as Echo*) She pulled her ears.

Echo 2: (*not as Echo*) She stuck out her tongue.

Narrator: She wiggled her nose.

Nell See if you can make a scarier face than *that*, Mr. Haunted Hamburger!

Narrator/Echo 1 & 2: The hamburger did not move.

Nell: Are you too scared to even **try**?

Narrator: Nell lifted off the top of the bun to make sure that the Haunted Hamburger was listening.

Nell: (*gasp*)

Narrator: Nell had never seen anything so terrifying in her life./ The hamburger had...

Echo 1: ... two round eyes as green as pickles....

Echo 2: ... a wide, squiggly mouth as yellow as mustard...

Echo 1 & 2: ... and wet bloody cheeks as red as ketchup.

Nell: (screaming) Mommmmmmmmy!

Narrator: Nell flew back home and hid beneath the table.

Echo 1& 2: She did not come out for two weeks.

Narrator: And Nell was never a boastful ghost again.