

Captain Angus the Lighthouse Ghost

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When their parents insisted the family spend summer vacation together at the Cape Lighthouse station at Cape Otway in Australia, Aaron and Gracie were convinced it was going to be a long, boring summer.

When they arrive and Aaron and Gracie go exploring, they find a tiny, old cemetery near the lighthouse. Looking at the gravestones is eerie and creepy and makes them feel sad. Sadness soon turns to fear, however, when they hear a deep voice behind them and turn to find themselves face to face with a man wearing a sailor's uniform and sea captain's hat.

Struck nearly speechless with fright, the stranger seems to read their frightened thoughts before they even speak them aloud. Shock turns to mystery as the children realize the captain is a ghost—Captain Angus, the ghost of the lighthouse!

Captain Angus is a friendly spirit and soon the children's curiosity gets the best of them. They strike up a friendship with the ghost and are caught up in a summer filled with mystery, history, fantasy, and adventure.

The author skillfully weaves a tale that will both entertain kids, keep them in suspense, and teach them a few things about nautical history in the process.

This electronic book offers a bonus for today's technologically-savvy kids that print books just can't compete with: hyperlinks to related Websites positioned right within the text of the story. Kids can click on the hyperlinks throughout the book to read more about lighthouses, ships, shipwrecks, and a lot more to enhance their knowledge and understanding of the history behind this story.

Young readers ages nine to fourteen will enjoy this creative tale and the interactive hyperlinks. For parents who want to encourage their children to learn more about a topic or delve deeper into a subject they read about, this electronic book is an excellent choice, as the very nature of the book—when read on any computer with access to the internet—encourages additional exploration into related topics and promotes increased learning.

TINA L. MILLER (January / February 2001)

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