

DATE ***with a*** ***Vampire***

By Craig Sodaro

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STORY OF THE PLAY

Count Sid Onitt is trying to mend his vampire ways and become legit so he can become a member of Parliament, but it isn't easy when his servant, Igor, and five vampire widows are hanging around (literally!) his dreary castle, ready for some fresh necks. So you can imagine the excitement when ten - dare we say red-blooded - American students stay overnight at the castle as part of their tour of England!

To get the attention of one of the girls on tour, two of the guys hatch a plan where one will act like a vampire and the other will "save" her. It's a perfect little romantic plot, especially since it coincides with Vlad night - when Vampire Vlad, the granddaddy of all vampires, is supposed to visit the castle of every vampire and take the blood from the girl he finds most appealing. While the other kids scoff at the myth, they are innocently unaware that the Count himself doesn't like garlic, for a very good reason!

Suddenly TWO vampires confront the kids and castle guests, including the up-tight tour guides, a UFO-crazed Air Force general, and a staid English Prime Minister.

The cloak and fang shenanigans that follow go straight for the jocular vein! One interior castle set.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(9 m, 15 w)

The Students:

SHERLOCK HOMES: High school senior.

PETER: His friend, a genius.

BRANDY: Always tired.

LAURIE: Another student.

SEAN: A high school skateboarder.

LUCINDA: A "New Ager."

MATT: The star of the football team.

CATHEE: The beauty queen.

JOHNNA: Reads about vampires.

PAULETTE: Has her eyes on Matt.

Others:

MISS HAVISHAM: A veteran tour guide.

***WINTHROP MONTEGUE:** A local English guide.

TRUDY MOODY: New tour guide for Tours R Us.

MRS. HUDSON: The teacher chaperone.

COUNT SID ONITT: A vampire; castle owner.

IGOR JONES: His right hand man.

OLGA SMIRCH: Vampire tour guide.

CARLOTTA: A vampire widow.

VELNA: Another.

AURA: Another.

NITA: Another.

BRONSON CHARLES: Retired Air Force general.

LYNNE CHARLES: His wife.

EVERETT DUNN-GOODY: Prime Minister of England.

**Montegue can double as Bronson Charles or Dunn-Goody if desired.*

SYNOPSIS

Act I,

Scene 1: Stormy night in June, outside the castle.

Scene 2: A short time later inside the castle.

Scene 3: The next morning, before dawn.

Act II,

Scene 1: Following evening, after sunset.

Scene 2: A few minutes later.

SETTING

The play takes place in Onitt Castle, located in a remote northwestern corner of England. Wing entrance down right leads to exterior of castle. Wing entrance down left leads to other rooms in castle, such as dining and kitchen. SL are bookcases and up left is a stairway leading to the bedrooms with an arch entrance at top of stairs. Behind back of stairs is "door" leading to cellar. When characters go to cellar, they simply exit UPS of stairs. There is a fireplace at right; window, window box beneath it, and bookcases are up center. A few chairs and a table at right near fireplace. Castle decorations might include shields, suits of armor, etc. Cobwebs hang from the ceiling to give the place an eerie, unused atmosphere.

ACT I
Scene 1

(BEFORE RISE.)

SHERLOCK'S VOICE: Sherlock's Casebook. Entry 12. I'm afraid this tour of England is going to be a complete waste of time. I came hoping I could live up to this ridiculous name my parents saddled me with, but so far I haven't seen so much as a mugging. The worst crime I read about was somebody stealing a pot of petunias from some lady's garden. I guess my namesake really cleaned this place up and didn't leave anything for me to do. PS. No luck with Johnna, either. Maybe tomorrow I'll get a chance to at least talk to her.

(AT RISE: Before curtain. A stormy night on a road in northwestern England. LIGHTNING flashes. We hear THUNDER. WINTHROP MONTEGUE enters SR followed by TRUDY MOODY, looking smart in her Tours R Us uniform; MISS HAVISHAM, also in uniform; MRS. HUDSON, carrying a suitcase and all the STUDENTS each carrying a suitcase: SHERLOCK, JOHNNA, LAURIE, MATT, PAULETTE, CATHEE, BRANDY, LUCINDA, PETER, and SEAN. CATHEE carries additional bags and cases.)

WINTHROP: Well, here we be!

TRUDY: And where exactly is that, Mr. Montegue?

BRANDY: *(Yawning.)* Yeah! It's been a long day and I'm really sleepy!

LAURIE: You're ALWAYS sleepy, Brandy.

BRANDY: Can I help it if that's the dwarf I identified with in Snow White?

TRUDY: I'm SURE we'll be at Onitt Castle in just a jiff.

SEAN: Just a jiff. This chick says cool stuff, you know?

LUCINDA: Oh, Sean, you are so illiterate.

SEAN: Yeah, cool.

MATT: Say, Johnna, it's kind of chilly out here.

CATHEE: I know! My skin is about to chafe!

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LUCINDA: Your brain chafed years ago, Cath.

CATHEE: It's Cathee, Lucinda, honey. With two E's.

MATT: You want my coat, Johnna?

JOHNNA: I'm okay, Matt. Thanks.

PAULETTE: I'm freezing, Matt. Mind? *(SHE pulls HIS coat from him and puts it over her shoulders.)*

MISS HAVISHAM: Miss Moody? Carry on! The tradition of Tours R Us is at stake!

TRUDY: Yes, Miss Havisham. All right, students! Mr. Montegue has something he'd like to tell us. Like...why we stopped here!

WINTHROP: This is as far as I go!

MRS. HUDSON: What? We're in the middle of nowhere! A storm's coming! What will I tell the parents if I bring these kids home all wet?

WINTHROP: Look there! *(A crash of THUNDER as HE points out over heads of audience.)*

LAURIE: Vultures!

PETER: Actually a pair of *desmodus rufus*.

LUCINDA: That's a really rad band.

PETER: In layman's terms, vampire bats.

PAULETTE: *(Overreacting.)* Matt, I'm scared.

WINTHROP: And well you should be. Look there, below the bats...there you see Onitt Castle.

PETER: An excellent example of late gothic architecture.

WINTHROP: Built by the Onitt family in 1468, inhabited by their like ever since.

MRS. HUDSON: It looks like a lovely place! It's got a roof!

TRUDY: Which is why I put it on the tour. The family's just opened the castle to visits, and I thought a nice weekend at a medieval castle would be a thrilling experience.

WINTHROP: Oh, it'll be thrilling, all right. But, I'll tell you this! You'd never get ME anywhere NEAR that place!

MISS HAVISHAM: That's ridiculous, Mr. Montegue. You're our local guide. Take us to the door!

WINTHROP: Not a chance.

MRS. HUDSON: But we've all got bags to carry!

End of Freeview

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