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# The Hanging Hill (A Haunted Mystery)



## Synopsis

From the New York Times bestselling author of *Escape From Mr. Lemoncello's Library* and coauthor of *I Funny* and *Treasure Hunters*, comes a series of spine-tingling mysteries to keep you up long after the lights go out. How serious is stage fright? At the Hanging Hill Playhouse, it can kill you. After narrowly escaping a malevolent spirit in *The Crossroads*, Zack and Judy are hoping to relax during the rehearsals for a show based on Judy's bestselling children's books. Little do they know that the director is planning to raise a horde of evil specters from the dead, and to accomplish this, he needs a human sacrifice . . . and Zack fits the bill perfectly. This second book featuring the intrepid Zack and his stepmother, Judy, is full of the same humorous and spine-tingling storytelling that has made Chris Grabenstein a fast favorite with young and old alike. From the Hardcover edition.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 640 (What's this?)

Series: A Haunted Mystery

Paperback: 336 pages

Publisher: Yearling (August 24, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0375847006

ISBN-13: 978-0375847004

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.8 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (19 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #633,497 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #157 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Stepfamilies](#) #1317 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Boys & Men](#) #2680 in [Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Spine-Chilling Horror](#)

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Twelve-year-old Zack, who first appeared in the spooky suspense novel *THE CROSSROADS*, is back and hoping to have some time away from ghosts. Zack's house burned down at the end of his last adventure, and he thinks that means he's now away from all the spirits that haunted the abode.

But he soon realizes how wrong he is when he meets the spirit of notorious criminal Mad Dog Murphy while eating his breakfast at the local hotel. Luckily, he and his stepmother, Judy, are scheduled to oversee the play of one of her books at an old small town theater, the Hanging Hill Playhouse. But he's still hearing and seeing strange things at that historic location in Chatham, Connecticut. Just who is that ghostly young woman juggling on the stairs? Misery loves company, and Zack is thrilled to learn that someone else sees the ghosts: the famous child actress Meghan McKenna, who is starring in the new play. Together, the two explore the old theater, seeing ghosts in hallways, stairways and in the basement. A lot of scary activity is taking place --- and not all of it is from ghosts. Humans can be just as menacing (Grimes, the director, is particularly fierce). Little by little, Zack and Meghan begin to figure out what is going on and why the director of the play is so strange. But many seek to stop them --- and some want to sacrifice them. Adding to Zack's dilemma is the discovery of the spirit of a deceased family member. It's hard enough dealing with ghosts of people he doesn't know, so facing one he does seems downright impossible. And after Zack sees Mad Dog Murphy again, this time at Hanging Hill, he begins to seriously wonder what is going on. The spirits are definitely gathering, and Zack knows he and Meghan need to stop whatever it is they're up to.

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Modern History, Got Sick, and Will( Eventually) Feel Better

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