The Hall of The Ghostly Past

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<u>Chapter One</u>

As the clock started chiming for midnight, Mila jumped out of her bed and went downstairs, sending a message to her friends (and Savannah) to come and meet her by the wood so she could have company looking at the new house. She drove to each of their houses to pick them up. Of course, Savannah was last and took forever, but when she opened the door, all Mila and her friends saw was that she had been sleeping. They saw that she was wearing her pyjamas, which looked like children's ones. Savannah blushed with embarrassment as one by one, the friends each started laughing. After a while, Savannah got changed into some new fancy clothes and stepped into the car (with everyone still laughing silently). It

became awkward just sitting in the car, so Mila decided to turn on the radio (which didn't help as they were still sitting in silence). Once they had finally arrived, shivers were sent down each of their spines as they had stopped outside of the wood. "Come on, we have to walk from here! Don't just stand there, you look like idiots," Mila said looking each of them in the eye with her incredible death stare. "Not like you never look like idiots," she mumbled under her breath. As soon as she said that, they all stopped shaking and walked silently behind. They walked in silence through the deep crowded wood and suddenly, Mila stopped in her tracks. Mila had an absolutely amazing sense of hearing, sight and smell. The others kept walking and strutting forward, chattering, until Savannah walked into Mila (as Mila was way ahead of everyone else). "Ugh! Watch

where you're going, Savannah. I am trying to figure something out here..." Mila shouted.

"Oh, I'm sorry little Miss Think-a-lot. I didn't mean to interrupt your interesting moment of brain time!" Savannah teased. Mila had heard something rush through the bushes and she was not sure what it was. Suddenly, a rush of a shadow flew past her eyes, and she let out a tiny scream as it had scratched her face and eye...

"Wait! What happened? Why are is your face bleeding? Most importantly, are you ok?" Daniel ran up to Mila shout-talking these questions.

"Oh, I don't know. My eye is bleeding. There was a strange shadow creature thing and I fell... Do you THINK I am ok?!" Mila shouted.

"I will take that as a no..." Daniel muttered. Mila was pretty sure that she would now have one blind eye, but she couldn't care less.

<u>Chapter 2</u>

At last, they had finally reached the house and they were all relieved... but then their spirits dropped as they saw the house was run-down and nasty looking. Somehow, they all felt a familiar presence surrounding them... then suddenly a familiar face appeared outside the door. A still-young, well-aged Riley Peterson, who had lived there since she came back to the living, was standing right in front of them! This was actually Mila's Grandmother.

"Welcome my granddaughter and her friends! You sure have grown since I last saw you," Riley praised.

"Hello, grandmother. It's nice to see you too, and I see that you have aged very well," Mila replied. Everyone else was shocked about what was happening.

"Well, this is quite... the reunion. Mila how have you never introduced us? Oh, and Miss Riley, I was wondering why this place looks so old and run-down?" Savannah dared to ask. After everyone had listened carefully to Riley explain and the whole backstory of the place, they were all terrified, but intrigued to go explore the mansion. As they walked in, Riley found an eye-covering fir Mila and spoke into the air for food and drinks. Suddenly, a plate of what she ordered arrived.

"You may all be surprised but as I told you, this is the murder mystery house that I was once in. When everyone else left and I was the only one here, we could only connect through this house, so all

the people who were with me are now here, but please do ignore the blood stains on the wall," Riley explained very carefully, whispering the last few words so they could barely here them. They all gasped, some in terror and some in surprise and amazement. As Riley showed them upstairs, Mila saw that same shadowed figure and managed to shout to everyone, "DVCK!" right before the shadow figure swooped down. Riley seemed confused, so everyone was scared.

"That is very strange... I have never seen that spirit before. It must be a new one ..." Riley mumbled.

"But grandmother, that is the beastly spirit who tried to attack us!"
Mila shouted. Then Riley was even more confused.

"But my dear, I am the only person in the world who can see these spirits. How are YOU able to see it?" Riley questioned her granddaughter.

"I guess it just runs in the family. Even though my parents weren't able to..." Mila mumbled. After a few minutes of silence Riley finally worked it out.

"I have got it my dear, you have been reincarnated from being Ally Carter! She is the only spirit of my friends who isn't here!" Riley exclaimed.

"But that's crazy. I know I may have a few of her traits and passions but that doesn't change anything!" Mila exclaimed. "I do love Ally.; all the stories you told me about her, but she just can't be me! We have completely different personalities, grandmother."

"True fact... Meh it was just a wild guess." Riley muttered.

Chapter 3

After a few hours, the gang were getting bored and decided to explore. Then they found a room with chains and locks all over it and Mila remembered Riley telling her something about that room. Apparently, even when her and her friends were there, no one could get in. Suddenly, Mila had an idea and started working away silently. She sat down on the ground in a meditating position and focused on opening the door. The others just looked at her in confusion. After a few minutes, each lock started to unlock, and the chains loosened and then... the door opened. Inside, it looked like an old science lab but everything in there was moving on its own with a shadow using everything, but being extremely cautious with all of the chemicals. Mila looked at her friends and gestured them to be

quiet and to leave while she stayed and watched the strange looking spirit. Mila felt someone staring at her, but she knew no-one was. She looked at the spirit for a while and then the true form started to show. Shock ran through Mila's body as the form was Mr Eric Lauren. She was quite surprised because in all of the stories Riley had told her about Mr Lauren, he had never been quite the science type. Yet again, those two didn't spend much time together when they were younger, so it wasn't that much of a surprise. Mila didn't feel like shouting, so she quietly crept back to her friends. She then heard a petrified scream coming from upstairs. She ran up to find Savannah lying on the floor with her arms and legs cut and bruised and with drops of blood running down her leg. Mila was certainly quite shocked as Savannah hated anything to do with violence or hurting herself or cute little animals. She was crying in pain and

looked like she was going to pass-out due to blood loss. Mila ran toward her and grabbed her in her arms and then rushed off to Riley to see if she could help her. Along the way, they encountered more and more dark spirits trying to stop them; Mila got a few cuts, but she knew nothing could be worse than her now-blind eye. She had cuts all over her legs and arms and her clothes were getting ripped. At last, she found Riley sitting down with everyone else in the living room.

"Grandmother help please! I think Savannah is going to pass out from blood-loss! She was attacked by dark spirits..." Mila cried. "Oh, and also Eric Lauren from your old school is in the locked room testing chemicals, which is also is very confusing."

"Okay, Mila dear. Just lay Savannah down on the sofa. Wait and did you say... Eric testing chemicals? I didn't know he was the

science guy type. I thought that was Thomas., Riley replied. Mila did as she was told and put Savannah down as she was getting quite heavy now. A few hours later, Mila kept on spying on Eric and spotted that he was testing black chemicals on what looked like white spirits! Mila had to tell the gang immediately as she caught out of the corner of her non-blind eye a poster on the wall (which looked like a schedule) and it said that today it was HUMAN testing day! She had to go warn the others. As she ran, she bumped into a few spirits but surprisingly none of them tried to attack her. As fast as her long legs could carry her, she ran everywhere through the house and finally found them in the kitchen.

"Guys we have to get out of here, ASAP! Eric is planning to try and turn us into dark horrible spirits," Mila shouted out as she got closer. The gang looked shocked and worried. What if this was true?

"Wait, so you're saying that I might get turned into a weird looking, non-fashionable spirit?" Savannah gasped. In Savannah's mind she was thinking that her life was turning into one of her favourite Netflix shows. Even though she loved Netflix, she didn't want to be IN a show. Mila didn't even dare to answer the question Savannah asked, so she looked around but couldn't see her grandmother anywhere.

"Where is my grandmother? Why isn't she here? Plus, stop being so quiet it's creeping me out," Mila questioned.

"I don't know. She said she was going to ask Evelyn Sander's spirit to help us, and sorry for being too quiet..." Mason answered, which was strange because Mason was a noticeably quiet person. Riley came running back from Evelyn's room and explained the plan.

<u>Chapter 4</u>

After the gang listened carefully to the plan, they all nodded in agreement that it was a good and solid idea. They all snuck up to the room full of chemicals and placed a camera outside the door so they could have eyes and ears throughout the whole thing. Since Mila was the smartest and the tallest, she would take care of the camera and watch Eric's every move, whilst Savannah, Mason and Riley checked the camera from upstairs. Daniel didn't know what to do, so he just stayed with Mila following her every move. Mila got a bit creeped out at first but got used to it after a while. After they had waited for what felt like all night, they saw Eric get out of his seat and start getting test tubes from the cupboard behind it. Mila and Daniel were curious, but Mila cautioned Daniel to stay put as she

crept forwards to the door and listened carefully. She heard Eric mumbling to himself about getting Thomas back and something about his boss being mad and other words that sounded like gibberish speak.

5 HOURS LATER...

Mila and Daniel then reported back to the gang and Riley. They spoke about the plan and how to get in when he wasn't looking. After a few minutes of conversation, the group decided to sneak in behind a spirit. Riley in front Mila at the back, the group snuck in unnoticed and silent. They each hid behind a cupboard and listened extremely carefully. Realising Eric's plan, they decided to jump out and into action. Since Eric was a spirit, it would be harder to catch him than any other being. They knew that spirits could shrink to the size of a germ, so they decided to get a cup that would trap him and then transfer him into a test tube. After, they would reverse the

chemicals and then save each of the dark spirits haunting them. Sadly, a reversal chemical would not save Mila's blind eye or the scars and bruises from the spirits. As Riley and Mason went to trap Eric, Savannah and Daniel got out a test tube ready for the transfer, whilst Mila reversed the chemicals back to normal. While Mila was reversing each chemical, she saw parts of her childhood that had never happened or that she could remember. She then realised she was lucky to be part of this world and even if she didn't remember some things, they would still be true and did happen in real-life. Mila had a bit of daydream, but was still able to focus her left-eye (as it was her non-blind eye). She paused for a second to see how the others were doing and saw that it was a success as she finished the last and final chemical. Firstly, they gave Eric a little shower in chemicals then washed all the other spirits.

After every spirit was clean and tidy, they all had a celebratory party with the most amazing food and games there could be. After that day, they all left the house with a smile...

Meanwhile, Riley waved towards the gang of friends. She then turned around and with a laugh, thanked Eric and all the other spirits for their amazing acting skills.

The End ...

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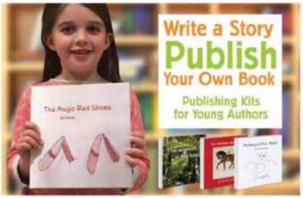
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A gang of friends are trying to run from the dark spirits that are chasing, hunting and attacking them. They find a locked room filled with chemical equipment to transform regular people into spirit monsters. With a blind eye and quite a few scars, will Mila be able to figure out how to defeat these dark spirits? Or will she not be able to save her friends in time?