

JENNY Waiting for Gilbert.
LAURA (*Smiling at Henry*) And who is this?
HENRY My name is Henry. I'm a film student.
JENNY Sit down, Laura, please.
LAURA No. I can't stop. My children are here. We are all going to America. All the family. I write books now, you know. What do you do?
JENNY Me? Nothing.
LAURA Have you got children?
JENNY No.
LAURA You look unhappy, Jenny. At school you were beautiful and good at everything. And now you are older, with no work and no children. Oh dear!
JENNY What? Laura! Why did you say that?
Laura goes. Jenny is very unhappy.
HENRY I have to go now. (*He picks up his bag.*)
JENNY What's – what's that name on your bag?
(Reading the name)
Henry Gilbert Lawson. I know you now! Gilbert! You are Gilbert, when he was twenty years old. But – why are you here? Oh no! Aaaaggghhh!
Henry runs out.



SCENE 3

Jenny learns about Gilbert

There are four people at the check-in, Woman 1, Woman 2, a man and Jenny's father. They are waiting. A British Airways man is looking at Father's plane ticket. Jenny runs in.

JENNY Excuse me! Oh, father! What are you doing here?
FATHER Jenny, smile. Be happy.
JENNY What?
WOMAN 1 (*To Jenny*) Hey! I was here before you.
MAN (*To Jenny*) I was in front of you, too.
WOMAN 2 (*To Jenny*) Are you OK, love? (*To Woman 1 and man*) She's white in the face!
JENNY (*To the British Airways man*) Excuse me . . .
BRITISH AIRWAYS MAN (*Looking at tickets*) Can you wait, please?
JENNY No! My name is Jenny Lawson . . .
BRITISH AIRWAYS MAN Ah! Mrs Lawson! We phoned you at home. There was no answer. Mrs Lawson, I'm sorry, but Mr Lawson's plane crashed in the sea. He's dead.
JENNY Oh no!!!

SCENE 4

Jenny understands everything

Jenny's father and mother and Jenny are all sitting at a table.

JENNY They all died. All the people on the plane.

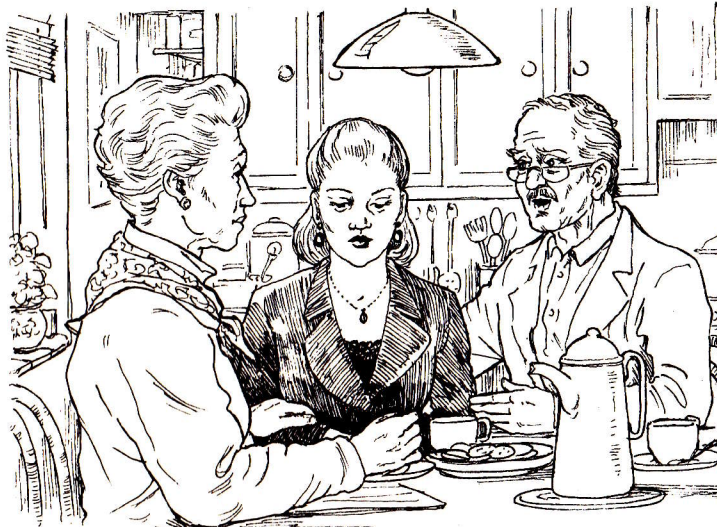
MOTHER Oh Jenny!

FATHER Your mother and I are so sorry, my love.

JENNY Thank you. Why were you at the airport, father?

FATHER Me? I wasn't at the airport.

JENNY Yes, you were! You were at the British Airways



'Your mother and I are so sorry.'

check-in desk. You said
'Be happy.' Then you left.

FATHER No!

JENNY Wait a minute.

(Telephoning) Hello,
Laura? Laura, this is
Jenny Lawson. We were
at school together. Laura,
I saw you at the airport,
remember, and – oh!

MOTHER What is Laura saying?

JENNY She said, 'I wasn't at the
airport.'

(Into the telephone) Laura, one
question. Do you write books now? Yes. Thank
you. *(Putting the phone down, and speaking to
her father and mother)* She writes books.

MOTHER Is that important?

JENNY Yes. Laura wants to write books, so she writes
books. And she's happy. At the airport, father
said 'Be happy.' And Henry Gilbert Lawson said
'Be an actress again.'

MOTHER I understand.

JENNY I understand now, too. My darling husband, I'm
going to be an actress for you, again. A good
actress. Thank you. So sleep now, my darling.



*'Laura, this is
Jenny Lawson.'*

INTRODUCTION

Brad and Jerry are nineteen, and they are in Britain on holiday. It is an unhappy time for Brad: his father died last month. His father was Dick Davis of Davis TV and when he goes back to America, Brad is going to be Brad Davis of Davis TV. One hot day, Brad and Jerry stop at a hotel in a village, and some strange things happen there . . .

CHARACTERS IN THE PLAY

Brad Davis, a young American man, aged nineteen
Jerry Maloney, Brad's friend
The ghost of Ellen Bannister
Mrs Finch, from the hotel
Maud Anscombe, an old woman from the village
Mrs Morgan, who works in the village shop
Three women and two men from the village

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Scene 1: A hotel room with two bags, a book about Britain, a television, a bed, a watch for Brad.

Scene 2: A room with a table and three chairs.

Scene 3: In a shop, with two cokes, sandwiches, money.

Scenes 4 and 5: The same room as Scene 1, with a bed and a television.

Scene 6: In the street, with two bags.

You will need summer shirts for Brad and Jerry, and a long dress for Ellen. The television doesn't have to work.

A Ghost in Love

SCENE 1

Brad sees a ghost

Brad and Jerry come into the hotel room and put their bags down. It is a hot day and they are wearing summer shirts. Brad sits on a bed.

JERRY Man, I want a drink. Twenty miles in one morning! Are the bicycles OK, in the street ?

BRAD In this little village? Oh yes! Nobody steals bicycles here.

JERRY How do you know? This is your first time here. First time in England. Or am I wrong?

BRAD No, you're right. But – I remember this village. I was here before, Jerry. I can feel it.

JERRY Oh come on! We were out in the sun for five hours. You need to drink some cold water, my friend!

BRAD This hotel opened in 1853, right?

JERRY *(He gets a book about Britain out of his bag and looks in it.)* Right. Brad, you looked at this book before.

BRAD No, I didn't. Hey, you know something? *(He looks at his watch.)* It's one-fifteen. My dad died at this