

The Phantom of the Opera

Book key

- 1 Open answers
- 2 Possible answers:
It is said that there is a lake under the Paris Opera. Also, there are hundreds of rooms, long passages, seventeen floors (five of which are underground), 2,500 doors and many trap doors. This kind of building gives a writer many opportunities for mystery, strange sounds, and characters coming and going in unusual ways.
- 3 Open answers (but f cellar: underground; chandelier: in a large, fine room, for example a grand sitting room; trap door: in a floor or ceiling, for example a floor above a cellar)
- 4
 - a Monsieur/M. Debienne and Monsieur/M. Poligny
 - b La Sorelli
 - c the Opera ghost
 - d Joseph Buquet
 - e Madame Giry/Meg's mother
 - f Monsieur/M. Moncharmin
 - g Christine Daaé
 - h Philippe George Marie/Count of Chagny
 - i Raoul
 - j Monsieur/M. Firmin Richard
 - k Mr. Daaé/Christine's father
 - l Monsieur/M. Valérius
 - m the Angel of music
- 5
 - a The young ballet dancers rush into La Sorelli's dressing room because they think they have seen the Opera ghost. This is important to the story because the reader is given a description of the ghost and his habits.
 - b The dead body of Joseph Buquet is found hanging in the third cellar under the stage. This scares everyone; they think the Opera ghost is responsible.
 - c After fainting at the end of her performance, Christine is with a doctor in her dressing room. Raoul tries to see her but has to wait outside the room. When Christine is alone in her dressing room, Raoul hears her talking to a man. He searches the room after she leaves, but he finds no one. This makes Raoul jealous and upset, and it makes the reader believe in the existence of a phantom.
 - d At the wonderful party for the retiring managers, everyone sees a man with a strange face and hollow eyes sitting at the end of the table. Everyone believes that this person, who does not speak or eat or drink, is the Opera ghost. This gives the reader more proof that the ghost is real, but nothing is definite.
- e The inspector reports that there were people in Box Five making a lot of noise and annoying others. They were laughing loudly, were not in their right mind, and made stupid remarks to the inspector. This shows that the Opera ghost will make trouble if anyone uses Box Five.
- f Christine was with her father in Perros-Guirec. At the beach Christine's beautiful singing captured Raoul's imagination. When the girl's scarf was blown out to sea, Raoul rescued it. Christine laughed and kissed the boy. This was when their love began.
- g Raoul follows Christine into the graveyard beside the church at Perros-Guirec late at night. He sees her praying at her father's grave and he hears the most perfect music, a piece that Christine's father used to play when he was alive. When Christine leaves, skulls roll toward Raoul and he sees the shadow of a man. Raoul follows the man and sees the face of Death with a pair of burnt-out eyes. He feels that he has seen the devil and he faints. This is more proof that ghosts and phantoms are real in this story.
- 6
 - a In this passage, the Opera ghost demands 20,000 francs per month. Monsieur Moncharmin and Monsieur Richard laugh at this and treat it as a joke.
 - b They laugh at this letter, too. They think that the old managers are playing a trick on them and want to keep Box Five for themselves. They send tickets for Box Five to Monsieur Debienne and Monsieur Poligny but intend to do this only once.
 - c They are annoyed by the letter from the two retired managers because they think the joke is going on too long.
 - d They are annoyed, amused, and then angry with Madame Giry's explanations. They think she is mad and they fire her from her job. After this they inspect Box Five for themselves.
- 7 Open answers
- 8 From the girls in the ballet company and Joseph Buquet, we learn that O.G. (Opera ghost) is ugly, wears fine clothes, walks quietly and slowly, is silent, has the face of Death and a body like a skeleton, is very thin, has eyes that are just two big, black holes, and no nose. At the party for the retiring managers, we learn that O.G. is ugly, pale, with two deep black holes for eyes. He doesn't eat or drink, but this time he has some kind of nose, possibly a false one. Madame Giry says that O.G. has a lovely man's voice.

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- 9 a angry
b confident
c optimistic
d nervous
e confused
f emotional
- 10 a white
b black
c graveyard
d near
e lies to
f tragic
g mirror
h the same creature
- 11 a cheerful
b anxious
c excited
d amazed
e insulted
f desperate
- 12 In the first letter to the two new managers, O.G. lists his demands and threatens to put a curse on the Opera. In the second and third letters, O.G. threatens Carlotta with great misfortune if she appears that night on the stage.
- 13 Opera ghost, Angel of Music, Erik
- 14 a A box of candy, a pair of opera glasses, strangely cold air, the sound of breathing, his laughter, and his voice.
b Raoul recognizes his face as the face of Death from Perros-Guirec when he is wearing a mask and dressed as the Red Death.
c Raoul sees the ghost's foot and his coat and then looks into his eyes; Christine's voice changes.
d Raoul and Christine hear a faint singing coming from the walls; the voice is male and beautiful; an icy wind sweeps over Raoul's face.
e A voice whispers in Raoul's ear about Christine, her ring, and her soul.
f A hand closes a trap door suddenly.
g A shadow follows Raoul and Christine; they hear the sound of someone in pain; a shadow approaches them; the shadow listens while Christine tells Raoul her story; a voice says, "Horror! Horror! Horror!"; the Phantom's burning eyes stare down when Christine and Raoul kiss.
- h Christine hears the Phantom's voice; the room changes and she is mysteriously outside the room; a stone-cold hand seizes her wrist and covers her mouth when she tries to scream.
i Christine recognizes the Phantom's voice; he tells her his name; she sees the face beneath the mask; she hears him play his music.
- 15–17 Open answers
- 18 a F b T c T d T e F f F g T
- 19 a envelope
b stealing
c backward
d safety
e empty
- 20 a F b T c T d F e F f T
- 21 a Raoul thinks the eyes belong to Erik, his rival, and he wants to kill him.
b Christine is singing with all her heart and soul, and Raoul is afraid for her. He stands because he is in love and he is worried for her safety.
c and d The new managers do these unusual things in order to discover what has happened to the 20,000 francs they gave to Opera ghost.
e Christine does not disappear willingly. She is carried off by Erik.
f Erik gives him a drug to make him sleep.
- 22 a This key allows Christine to reach Erik at the edge of the lake.
b Erik has told Christine that she will suffer his revenge if the ring isn't on her finger at all times.
c This report of a promise of marriage between Raoul and Christine angers Count Philippe Chagny. Because he is angry and intends to stop the wedding, he is accused of causing Christine's disappearance.
d This allows Erik to steal Christine from the stage.
e The disappearing money, replaced by false notes, confuses the managers and makes them believe in Opera ghost.
f The mirror is a door in the wall. It has been cleverly made to allow Erik to enter his hidden world.
- 23 Erik has Christine in the opera house or in the house on the lake. Erik made the system that allows Christine's mirror to work as an entrance to his secret world. Erik is known in Persia as "the trap door lover." Erik built the walls, the doors, and the trap doors of the Opera. Erik's secret world can be reached through the cellars of the opera house. Erik is very skilful with a Punjab rope. Erik has a torture room.

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24 Open answers

25 a 4 b 6 c 8 d 2 e 3 f 1 g 7 h 5

26 a HEAR

b HEAR

c SEE

d SEE

e FEEL

f HEAR

g HEAR

h SEE

i SEE

j FEEL

k FEEL

l FEEL

27 a 6 b 4 c 1 d 5 e 3 f 2

28 a Christine persuades Erik that she will be his living wife. She sees him without his mask and doesn't run away, she allows him to kiss her forehead, and she kisses his forehead. They cry together, and Erik is emotional because their tears mix together. Her kiss is Erik's first kiss, and after that he does what she asks him to do: he allows Raoul and the Persian to live and later he allows Christine to go off with Raoul, her true love. But because of all the emotion and his own heartbreak, Erik dies.

b He is a talented inventor. He sings beautifully and writes wonderful music. He is a skilful builder and architect. He is great magician. He can throw a rope like a cowboy. He can torture and kill people in many different ways. He is a great ventriloquist.

c While they were in Persia Erik helped the Persian, and the Persian saved Erik from being killed by the Persian king.

29 Possible answers:

The author's method of telling the story gives us (the readers) the impression that we are working with the story-teller to find out what is really happening. We learn bits of information from different times and places, and slowly we have to put it all together. This is an exciting way to tell a story because we feel that we are solving the mystery.

30–39 Open answers

Discussion activities key

1 Suggested answer:

Phantom means ghost. It could be a ghost story.

2 Suggested answer:

Adjectives: frightening, terrifying, exciting, colorful.

3 Using "the ghost" and not "a ghost" suggests the ghost has been seen before.

4–5 Open answers

6 The ghost requests an allowance and Box Five for his own use.

7 Open answers

8 Monsieur Moncharmin and Monsieur Richard are the new managers. The Opera is in Paris. Monsieur Moncharmin has written his memories. Monsieur Richard writes music.

9 The old managers advise the new managers to obey the ghost to avoid trouble and to have the locks changed.

10–13 Open answers

14 A curse is a magical spell that brings bad luck.

15 a To keep his box for him and not to sell it, to give him an allowance and to allow Christine Daaé to sing.

b He threatens to curse the performance.

c Carlotta thinks that Christine is threatening her.

d Open answers

16–18 Open answers

19 *Faust* is a play by Goethe (German). Faust sells his soul to the devil to gain advantages in this life.

20 Suggested answers:

frightening (frightened), terrifying (terrified), scary (scared).

21–33 Open answers

34 Suggested answers:

Erik is a monster, a murderer, and a magician. He is terribly ugly but sings beautifully and writes music. He tried to drown the Persian, who knew him from the past and who had saved his life. He can use the Punjab rope to kill and used to design buildings and build trap doors.

35–36 Open answers

37 Suggested answer:

Christine wanted to sing beautifully and wanted the Angel of Music to help her. However, she was weak and could not escape Erik's power.

38–42 Open answers

Activity worksheets key

1 a Joseph Buquet

b Gabriel

c the ghost

d Madame Giry

e Joseph Buquet

f Mercier

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- 2 a Monsieur Debieenne and Monsieur Poligny
b They tell them about the Opera ghost and the need to obey him.
c No, they do not believe them. They laugh.
d An allowance and Box Five
- 3 a F b T c T d F e T
- 4 a memories
b scenery manager
c Faust
d brothers
e Paris
- 5 a They advise them to have new locks made and to honor any request made by the ghost.
b Disaster will strike the Opera.
- 6 The correct order is
1 c 2 h 3 f 4 a 5 j 6 d 7 g 8 i
9 b 10 e
- 7 a T
b T
c F Her father took her.
d T
e F When her father died.
- 8 Open answers
- 9 a Monsieur Richard kicked her out of his office.
b She asked all her supporters to attend that night's performance.
c The audience were enthusiastic.
d They found a box of candy.
e They felt some strange, cold air around them.
- 10 a Carlotta was unwell.
b Christine disappeared.
c Madame Giry got her old job back.
- 11 a Madame Valérius to Raoul
b Raoul to Madame Valérius
c Christine to Raoul
d Christine to Raoul
e a man's voice to Christine
f Raoul to himself
- 12 a performance
b talent
c enthusiastic
d beautifully
e doubt

- 13 a the Persian
b Erik
c Raoul
d Philippe
e Christine Daaé
f Monsieur Moncharmin
g Monsieur Richard
h Viscount Chagny

14–15 Open answers

Progress test key

- 1 a Monsieur Armand Moncharmin and Monsieur Firmin Richard
b Paris
c A singer
d He is found dead (hanged).
e Chagny
f Box Five and an allowance
- 2 a childhood
b grave
c Scandinavia
d Brittany
- 3 a retirement
b social (artistic)
c artistic (social)
d performance
e retiring
f tongue
g whispers
- 4 a 3 b 5 c 1 d 4 e 2
- 5 a T
b F He wants Christine.
c T
d F They see signs that he's been there.
e F She has the voice of a toad.
- 6 a She will suffer his revenge.
b He thinks he's seen the eyes of the face of Death.
c The police detective
d The disappearance of Christine
e The Persian
- 7 a, b and d are true and should be ticked.
- 8 a 4 b 1 c 6 d 3 e 8 f 2 g 7 h 5