

DI AND TIEN AT THE GHOST FESTIVAL

A Readers Theater Script: The Ghost Festival
Adapted and Formatted by Lois Walker

Cast of 4 Readers: 2 Narrators, Di and Tien

- NARRATOR 1: Di felt free and excited.
- NARRATOR 2: He stood on the other side of the giant gate looking for his friend, Tien.
- TIEN: I wonder what's happened to Tien. He said he'd meet me right here by the gate.
- NARRATOR 1: Di could hear the sounds of people celebrating in the village below. He wished Tien would hurry so they could start having some fun! Finally, he heard someone coming...
- TIEN: Hi Di! Sorry I'm late. I told you I'd be here, though, and here I am.
- DI: Hi Tien. I'm glad you made it. Sounds like they're having a good time down there. Let's get going!
- NARRATOR 2: Tien led Di down to the village for the fair. The village people were celebrating the Ghost Festival.
- NARRATOR 1: Tien and Di got right into the action. They helped put out food, drinks and fruits for the ghosts from the underworld.
- TIEN: Hey Di, let's go down to the river and help with the water lanterns.
- DI: O.K! I've never done that before.

Di and Tien at the Ghost Festival
A Readers Theater Script for Intermediate Readers

- NARRATOR 2: When the boys reached the riverbank, they stopped and gasped.
- DI: Wow! Look at those lanterns. Some of them are two stories high! What are they doing now?
- TIEN: The monks are chanting from the scriptures.
- DI: Why is this all happening?
- TIEN: To provide light for the spirits in the water so that they can find the shore and enjoy the festival. I hope it's high tide.
- DI: Why?
- TIEN: So the spirits can arrive with the rising waters. Well, that's what some folks believe. Others think the further and faster from shore the lantern floats, the more prosperous the owner will become. So they like the low tide. They roll up their pant legs and pole a bamboo raft to help their lanterns along as they push them away from the shore.
- NARRATOR 1: Di was interested and fascinated.
- DI: And I thought this festival was just about having a good time.
- TIEN: Well, it is about a good time. The lanterns are there to guide the ghosts to the feast. And the feast is a good time!
- NARRATOR 2: Next, Tien led Di down to the streets for the parade.
- NARRATOR 1: There people were dressed up like the gods or the ghosts who were in charge of the underworld. They all wore costumes, but some walked on feet and some...
- DI: Look! There's somebody walking on stilts!