

Spirit Counselor One-Shot:

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Genre: Feel Good, Slice of life, Supernatural.

Page Count: 15

Synopsis:

A counselor is brought a ghost as a client by his occult-interested secretary. After having a meeting with the spirit, the counselor decides to take them as a client and help them overcome their guilt of leaving her family behind. Working nights with the ghostly client, both of them are able to come to their own life (and death) changing revelations.

Characters:

Counselor: A younger-to-middle aged man, with sharp eyes, well-kept hair and fashion sense.

Artist Rendition of Design (Younger/Older):



Secretary: Goth low-energy girl: Is into the occult. Has perpetual slightly off putting smile and floaty expression.



Artist Rendition of Design (Younger/Older):



Ghost: Wispy tail instead of legs. One eye is a wisp of energy that pours up and out of their head. All white coloring with lots of detail for black lines to add distinction. Floaty white hair, that flows down and then poofs back up.

Hair example:



Artist Rendition of Design (Younger/Older):



Location Mock Ups:





Script Layout Example:

Page #:		
Layer 1 (Size) Panel 1: (First layer/first panel).	Panel description.	Visual/Sound effects.
Character name: (Attached to above panel).	Dialogue.	Speech Bubble Type.
Layer 1 Long Panel 2: (Size: Big/small. Wide/long).	Introduction, Full-body Shot: Introducing character, showing full body. (Allowing audience to see full design).	SFX: Kaboom! ~ VFX: Black background.

Glossary:

Layer: Refers to the panels placement. All panels of the same layer are placed next to each other.

Panel Size: Is the size of the panel. If no description then default. Types of sizes, **Big/Small** – **Wide/Long** – **Thin**. Sometimes a description like **Super** will be added to denote that the sizing needs to be more than normal. Such as, **Super Big**. Which would generally take up most the page.

Shot: A shot describes the focus and angle of the camera. Art direction terms such as, **Half-body, Full-body, Head-shot, 2/3rds shot, Side shot**. Will be used and should be treated as the standard art definitions. **Camera:** What the panel is focusing on.

Background: BG – The back of the shot. **Midground:** MG – The middle of the shot.
Foreground: FG – the front of the shot.

Bubble Types: Nothing written is basic **Speech Bubble**. : Is a **Thought Bubble**. : is a **Starburst Bubble**. There are also **Narration Bubbles** and **Narration Boxes**.

SFX/VFX: Sound/Visual Effects. Sound is written out. VFX can be written out or drawn depending on the effect.

One-shot Script:

Page 1:		
Layer 1 Small Panel 1:	Empty panel, with gradient coming in from the bottom. Narration layered over the top right corner.	
CR:	I'm a counselor at my own private practice.	Narration Box.
Layer 1 Panel 2:	Headshot: CR giving despondent look.	
CR:	I tend to live a simple and slow lifestyle.	Narration Box.
CR:	I always try my utmost best to help any patient that comes into my doors.	Narration Box.
Layer 1 Panel 3:	Half body shot: Secretary giving slightly off smile.	
CR:	So, when my secretary said they had a client for me, of course I accepted.	Narration Box.
Layer 2 Large Panel 4:	Full body: Ghost shyly saying hello.	
Ghost:	h-Hello...	No bubble.
CR:	But this is a bit much...	Narration Box.
Layer 3 Panel 5:	Head-on-shot: CR and Secretary staring forward at camera/(Ghost).	
CR:	So, this is the client you mentioned?	
ST:	Yep!	
CR:	And how did you two meet?	

Page 2:		
Layer 1 Wide Panel 1:	Head-shot: ST, head tilted, giving a creepy, smiling expression. BG: Occult objects with negative aura to her left.	
ST:	I summoned her during my occult activities.	
CR:	A-ah...	Sweat drop(s) in bubble.
Layer 2 thin Panel 2:	CR giving exasperated expression.	
CR:	Setting aside the problematic nature of that idea.	
CR:	Actually, I'm not sure I can so easily do that...?	
Ghost:	Um!	
Layer 3-4 Panel 3:	Ghost bouncing forward.	
Ghost:	Don't be mad at her, I was really happy to be summoned by such a nice person.	
Layer 3 Panel 4:	CR glancing down at a contently smiling ST.	
CR:	Be that as it may. Isn't something like this some sort of taboo in the spirit realm or something?	
Layer 4 Panel 5:	FG - Right side: Back of the head shot of CR with sweat drop. BG - Left side: Ghost giving a blank stare back.	
Ghost:	I have no idea, I'm just a ghost.	
CR:	Ah.	No Bubble.
CR:	I see.	No Bubble.

Page 3:		
Layer 1 Panel 1:	ST motioning to Ghost, who is nodding in agreement.	
ST:	You see, we got to talking and it seemed like our ghost here had some problems to work through.	
Ghost:	Mh. Mh.	
Layer 2 Panel 2:	ST excitedly jazz hands presenting a neutral CR.	
ST:	Problems which our counselor here should make short work of!	
CR:	...	No Bubble.
Layer 3 Panel 3:	Headshot: CR side-eying (off camera) ST.	
CR:	We've talked about... Never mind.	
CR:	Much more importantly than that.	
Layer 3 Wider Panel 4:	Side Shot: CR and ST staring at each other.	
CR:	Are we actually going to skim over the whole, ghosts and spirits are real thing?	
ST:	Uh-huh.	
CR:	And that you can apparently communicate with them?	
ST:	Pretty much.	
Layer 3 Panel 5:	ST opening a door and waving bye.	
ST:	We can talk about my hobbies later, for now you have a patient to work with.	
ST:	Bye-bye!	No Bubble.

Page 4:		
Layer 1 Panel 1:	Headshot: CR giving an irritated look.	
Layer 2 Panel 2:	Identical Shot: CR letting out a sigh.	
Layer 3-4 Panel 3:	Right Side: CR having walked past Ghost. Left Side: A nervous energy Ghost sitting on the patient couch.	
CR:	Alright then, then let us begin.	
Ghost:	Uh, yes!	No bubble.
CR:	First things first.	
Layer 3 Long and wide Panel 4:	Lower-to-upper shot: CR dramatically sitting in his chair, clicking his pen out, with a notepad on his crossed leg lap.	SFX: Click!
Layer 4 Very thin Panel 5:	Eye-shot: Ghost glancing away.	
Ghost:	Well...	No Bubble.

Page 5:

Layer 1-2 Panel 1:	Halfbody: Ghost sinking into herself, while grabbing her left arm and glancing away. 1/3rd of her cut off by edge of panel	
Ghost:	Surprisingly enough, the whole dying thing wasn't so bad.	
Ghost:	It is more about... What I didn't do before then.	
Layer 1 Panel 2:	CR leaning side of head onto three extended fingers. Staring intently forward.	
Layer 2 Panel 3:	Lower-to-upper: Camera looking up at Ghost's saddened face. Her clenched hands reached down beyond the camera.	
Ghost:	The people I left behind, they are sad because of me...	
Layer 3 Panel 4:	A pensive Ghost looking off.	
CR:	Because you died?	
Ghost:	Mh-hmm.	No bubble.
Layer 4 Panel 5:	Headshot: CR giving discerning stare, half of head cut off by panel edge. BG: Black. Shine FX centered on the edge of his face.	
CR:	And were you the one who decided to die?	
Layer 4 Panel 6:	Ghost giving a confused expression.	
Ghost:	No. Of course not.	
Layer 4 Upper thin Panel 6:	Eye-shot right side of panel: CR with focused look.	
CR:	Then is it your fault they feel that way?	
Layer 4 Lower thin Panel 6:	Eye-shot left side of panel: Ghost being surprised by the question, her eye still a bit saddened from the previous talking point.	
Ghost:	Mh?	No Bubble.

Page 6:

Layer 1 Panel 1:	Ghost hugging her tail close to her chest. Her body posture tucking forward from the position.	
Ghost:	I understand what you're saying, but... It isn't that easy.	
Layer 1 Wide Panel 2:	CR giving a reassuring smile.	
CR:	Of course it isn't.	
CR:	Emotions never are and neither is therapy. But even though it isn't easy, it still is enough to help you overcome those difficult emotions.	
Layer 2 Panel 3:	Ghost giving a bright eyed expression. Clenching her fist close to her chest.	
Layer 3 Panel 4:	CR leaning forward, motioning an open hand out.	
CR:	It is true you can't go back and fix the things from the past.	
CR:	But you also can't let them hold you back in the present.	
CR:	I'm sure we'll have a lot to go over, but I know things can get better if we put in the effort.	
Layer 4 Panel 5:	2/3rds head shot: CR looking to the other panel. The two making eye-contact.	
CR:	What do you say about telling me more?	
Layer 4 Panel 6:	2/3rds head shot: Ghost looking to the other panel. The two making eye-contact.	
Ghost:	Mh-hm! Let's!	

Page 7:

Layer 1 Panel 1:	CR waving off Ghost as she is leaving. She is giving a respectful bow.	
Layer 1 wide Panel 2:	Foreground right: ST looking over at CR. Midground left: CR walking forward, rolling up his sleeve.	
ST:	How did it go?	
CR:	Well, I ended up getting into counseling mode without even realizing it.	
ST:	That's good!	No bubble.
Layer 2 Panel 3:	CR looking forward with a half-smile and confident gaze.	
CR:	I think I can help her.	
Layer 3 Panel 4:	ST nodding with a pleased smile.	
ST:	I knew you could!	
Layer 3 Panel 5:	CR pouring a cup of coffee.	
CR:	We'll probably have to start working later.	
ST:	That's fine by me.	
Layer 3 Panel 6:	CR holding a coffee cup, handle out, at the camera.	
CR:	You're going to have to stock us up on coffee.	
ST:	Got it!	

Page 8:		
Layer 1 Panel 1:	Lower-upper Shot: CR in his chair.	
Narrator:	Session 2.	Narration Box.
CR:	Do you think your friends are glad to have met you? If they are sad you're gone, they must have been happy to have you around in the first place?	
Layer 1 Panel 2:	Ghost giving a hesitant nod.	
Ghost:	I suppose that makes sense.	
Layer 2 Panel 3:	CR pointing the back of his pen forward. BG: Black. Shining point around pen tip.	
CR:	Then if they liked you, doesn't that mean they are probably happy to have known you?	
Layer 3 Panel 4:	Ghost thinking on it.	
Layer 3 Panel 5:	Ghost realizing something.	
Layer 3 Panel 6:	Ghost bouncing forward excitedly.	
Ghost:	ye-Yeah! That makes sense!	
Layer 4 Panel 7:	Side shot: The two looking at each other. Right side: CR holding back some exasperation, enough that Ghost doesn't notice, but the audience does. Left side: Ghost leaning forward, with a small amount of contemplation. Bubbles layered over each other.	
Narrator:	Session 5.	Narration Box.
CR:	Let's say your neighbors are sad. Do you think that they are going to be debilitated because of it?	
Ghost:	Mhhhh... Probably not.	
CR:	In that case then-	

Page 9:		
Layer 1 Panel 1:	Clock ticking.	SFX: Tick~ Tick~ Tick~
Narrator:	Session 5.	Narration Box.
Layer 1 Panel 2:	Hand shot: Ghost's hands clenched together. Her thumbs are up and twiddling against each other.	
Layer 1 Panel 3:	Close up of CR's blank note sheet.	
Layer 2 Panel 4:	Shoulder shot: CR patiently staring forward.	
Layer 3 Panel 5:	Ghost clearly holding back some emotion, looking down to the left.	
Layer 4 Panel 5:	CR's eyes closing as he is starting to doze off.	
Layer 4 Panel 6:	Identical Shot: CR's eyes popping open.	
Ghost:	I'm worried about my family the most.	

Page 10:		
Layer 1 Panel 1:	Side shot of the two sitting in silence.	
Layer 2 Panel 2:	CR with slight head tilt.	
CR:	We can talk about this later, when you feel ready.	
Layer 2 Panel 3:	Ghost shaking her head.	
Ghost:	No. I'm ready. It's just...	
Layer 3 thin Panel 4:	Mouth shot of Ghost.	
Ghost:	hard, because-	
Layer 4 Big Panel 5:	Shoulder-shot: A desperately sad Ghost struggling to look forward, with her eye welling up and starting to break into a full cry.	
Ghost:	I can't do anything to make it better!	

Page 11:		
Layer 1 Panel 1:	Ghost begins rubbing her eye while sobbing.	
Layer 2 Panel 2:	CR gets up.	
Layer 2 Panel 3:	Lower to upper: Foreground left: Not in complete focus, Ghost's torso. Background: CR sitting down and looking towards Ghost.	
Layer 3 Panel 4:	Pulled back - Behind back 3/4ths shot: CR with a comforting hand on Ghost's shoulder, as she cries.	

Page 12:

Layer 1 Panel 1:	Black transition panel.	
Layer 1 Panel 2:	Gradient transition panel.	
Layer 1 Panel 3:	Blank transition panel.	
Layer 1 Panel 4:	CR stretching arms up into the air, just starting to notice something.	
CR:	Mhhh~	No bubble.
CR:	Hh?	No bubble.
Layer 2-3 Panel 5:	ST head down on her crossed arms on her desk.	
Layer 2 Panel 6:	CR scratching head.	
Layer 3 panel 7:	Foreground torso shot: CR pouring coffee. Background: ST still sleeping, with new blanket over her shoulders.	
Layer 4 panel 8:	CR's attention being caught from his notes.	
Narrator:	Session 16	Narration Box
Ghost:	I'm really glad that I was recommended to come here.	
Ghost:	Although, I was surprised to hear she was a secretary for a counselor.	
Layer 5 Panel 9:	CR nonchalant with his eyes closed. As if remembering something.	
CR:	Yes, well, there are circumstances to hiring that secretary of mine.	
Ghost:	Is that so?	

Page 13:		
Layer 1 Panel 1:	Ghost giving a thoughtful smile.	
Narrator:	Session 33	Narration box.
Ghost:	I think I've realized something.	
CR:	Oh? And what is that?	
Ghost:	It was always about more than just feeling bad about how others reacted.	
Layer 2 Panel 2:	Ghost looking down and away.	
Ghost:	At least a little, I was sad about everything.	
Ghost:	And that maybe, thinking about how bad the others felt, kept me focused on something else a little more tangible.	
Layer 2 Panel 3:	Ghost closing eyes in preparation.	
Ghost:	I just want everyone else to be okay.	
Ghost:	But-	
Layer 3 Panel 4:	Ghost staring forward with a determined and hopeful expression.	
Ghost:	I know that whether I was there or not, I wouldn't have been able to guarantee anything.	
Ghost:	So, I'm going to choose to believe in the people I left behind.	
Layer 4-5 Panel 5:	Ghost begins to glow, while giving a surprised look to herself.	
Layer 4 Panel 6:	CR giving a smirk.	
CR:	Seems this might be our last session.	
Layer 5 Panel 7:	Ghost giving a content smile back.	
Ghost:	Seems that way.	

Page 14:		
Layer 1 Big Panel 1:	Ghost rising up into the cloudy light, while becoming less tangible and glowing further. She is staring down at CR as he happily looks back up.	
Ghost:	Thank you for everything.	
CR:	I just did my job. You're the one who put in the work.	
Layer 2-3 Panel 2:	CR is left alone in the room.	
Layer 2 Panel 3:	CR chuckles to himself.	
Layer 3 Panel 4:	Ground shot: CR walking out of the room.	

Page 15:

Layer 1 Panel 1:	Foreground right: CR, on an unseen ladder, looking as if he is framing/positioning the camera itself. Background left: ST looking up at the new unseen sign, giving a thumbs up.	
CR:	As a counselor, I try to help the people who need it.	Narration box.
ST:	Looks good.	No bubble.
Layer 2-3 Panel 2:	CR stepping down from ladder (new sign cut off at the bottom). ST turned towards him, rocking back on to her feet's' heels.	
CR:	Even though my life might get a little less simple.	Narration box.
ST:	You know, we will be getting a lot more clientele now.	
ST:	With lots of tough problems.	
CR:	Uh-huh.	
Layer 2 Panel 3:	ST in a thinking pose, holding a finger to her lower lip, looking up and away.	
ST:	Those who feel they haven't accomplished enough in life.	
ST:	With major regrets of the past. Having things they just won't be able to do.	
Layer 3 Panel 4:	CR turned back to the camera (ST) with a confident grin.	
CR:	So, more of what I'm used to.	
CR:	Nobody's problems are original. Not even the dead.	
Layer 4 Panel 5:	Shot with full display of the new sign. As the two walk in through the right side front door. The sign saying: Spirit Counseling	
CR:	But it's part of the job, as a Spirit Counselor.	