

Faces in the flames: A Ghost Story Book Talk
3.4 RL; 525 Lexile; 6 RC pts.

Told from the point of view of Cam, the main character of the story.

I can't believe I'm saying this, especially because I'm in high school. But are we there yet? I know, I know. Sounds like I'm a whiny little kid. But it's really taking a long time to get to the Ulithi islands out in the Pacific Ocean, east of the Philippines. We've been traveling nearly 24 hours from my home state of Maryland to get here! So why the long trip? Because this is the place where my grandpa's ship, the USS *Mississinewa* was sunk by a Japanese suicide torpedo back in World War II. Before it went down to the bottom of the ocean, it was exploded from carrying ammunition and oil. Smoke and flames went up into the air over 150 feet above a ship so large it could cover almost two football fields.

Dad and I learned to scuba dive for this trip, and we're really excited. But I have to admit I'm a little nervous and scared to be diving in the ocean on a sunken military ship that could have sharks around it, not to mention the fact that my grandpa said at least twenty men's dead bodies were left in the ship when it sunk. Little did I realize how scary it really would be!

We made several dives on the ship. The first time we went I was diving with the teenaged daughter of our guide. We have to buddy up with someone when we dive, and I was lucky to get Vera because she's super nice and cute. While I was near the ship, I saw a bright light coming from underneath the ship. I felt like this light was "summoning" me towards it, so I went for a closer look, even though our guide had earlier said that it could be dangerous. Then later, I saw something so terrifying that I could barely swim back to the surface! The ship is haunted!

Find out what happens to Cam and how his and others' lives are changed forever by his adventure by reading *Faces in the Flames: a Ghost Story*.