How do you make a skeleton laugh?

Rib-tickling jokes, riddles, and rhymes selected by John Foster

Illustrated by Mark Oliver
FUNNY BONES AND SPARE RIBS

How do you make a skeleton laugh?
_by tickling its funny bone._

Why did the skeleton go to the Chinese takeaway?
_to get some spare ribs._

What did the skeleton say to his friend in a storm?
_'Oooh that wind goes straight through me.'_

Why did Old Mother Hubbard shriek?
_Because she found a skeleton in the cupboard._

What do you call a lazy skeleton?
_Bone idle._

What did the vulture say to the skeleton?
_I've a bone to pick with you._

Why are skeletons so calm?
_Nothing gets under their skin._

Why are skeletons always lonely?
_They haven't got any body to keep them company._
Why wouldn’t the skeleton cross the road?  
*He didn’t have the guts.*

What is a skeleton’s favourite instrument?  
*The trom-bone.*

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**The Magician’s Ghost**

The ghost of the magician
Said, ‘I’m really in a fix.
The trouble is the audience
See right through all my tricks.’

**A Skeleton Once in Khartoum**

A skeleton once in Khartoum
Discovered a ghost in his room;
They spent the whole night
Shivering with fright
Wondering who should be
frightened of whom.
WHICH WITCH?

What does a witch ask for when she’s staying in a hotel?  
*Broom service.*

What did the skeleton say to the twin witches?  
*Which witch is which?*

What was the name of the witch’s father?  
*He was cauldron.*

How do you make a witch scratch?  
*Drop the w to make her itch.*

What do you call a nervous witch?  
*Twitch.*

**The Wizard of Oz**  
The wonderful wizard of Oz  
Retired from the business because  
What with up-to-date science,  
To most of his clients  
He wasn’t the wizard he was.
Wanda’s Academy for Witches
School Report for B. Wicked  Hallowe’en Term

Transformation: Needs to concentrate more. Keeps turning herself into a hyena and won’t stop cackling.

Witchcraft: Her spell-weaving is improving.

Flying: Must control her temper. Sometimes loses control of her broomstick and flies off the handle.

Appearance: Very good. Has developed some revolting warts and is growing uglier every term.

Hygiene: Excellent. Has managed not to wash all term and is developing a pungent odour.

Behaviour: Is making progress at being consistently bad.

Overall: Is beginning to become an enchanting person.
ROLLER GHOSTERS AND HIDE AND SHRIEK

Which ride do ghosts like best at the theme park?  
_The roller ghoster._

Why did the ghost stop buying lottery tickets?  
_Because he didn't have a ghost of a chance of winning._

What is a ghost’s favourite game?  
_Hide and shriek._

Where do baby ghosts go when their parents are out haunting?  
_Dayscare._

What is a ghost’s favourite form of transport?  
_Scare-o-plane._

What does the headless horseman ride?  
_A night-mare._

Where do ghosts go swimming?  
_In the Dead Sea._
There Once was a Ghost Called Paul
There once was a ghost called Paul
Who went to a fancy dress ball.
To shock all the guests
He went quite undressed
But no one could see him at all.

What did the ghost teacher say to the class?
Watch the board and I’ll go through it again.

When do ghosts play tricks on each other?
April Ghoul’s Day.

What are a ghost’s favourite foods?
Dreaded wheat and ghoulash.

Where will you never find a ghost in a haunted house?
The living room.

I KNOW A GIRL
CALLED NORAH BONE

I know a girl called Norah Bone.
She’s got a friend called Mona Lotte.

That’s nothing.
I know a boy called Neil Down.
He’s got a friend called Stan Duppe.

That’s nothing.

I know a boy called Ivor Screwloose.
He’s got a friend called Lou Chain.

That’s nothing.

I know a boy called Ben Nevis.
He’s got a friend called Rocky Mountain.

That’s nothing.

I know a boy called Dicky Bird.
He’s got a friend called Polly Parrot.

That’s nothing.

I know a boy called Jim Shoe.
He’s got a friend called Bobbie Socks.

That’s nothing.

I know a girl called Hazel Nutt.
She’s got a friend called Marguerita Pizza.