

El Tunche

A Peruvian Folktale gathered from our linking sessions with students in Lima, Peru

Narrator #1
 Narrator #2
 The Dark
 The Light
 Children

NARRATOR #1

Here's a ghost story told in Peru!

NARRATOR #2

Listen closely so you know what to do,

NARRATOR #1

If you are ever in the jungle at night

CHILDREN frolic.

NARRATOR #2

Be on your toes or prepare for a fright!

BOTH NARRATORS

El Tunche!

THE LIGHT turns around.

El Tunche!

THE DARK turns around.

The dark and the light!

NARRATOR #1

When you hear the music begin to call,

(THE LIGHT starts drumming and CHILDREN start dancing.)

NARRATOR #2

The light ghost creates a dance for all.

NARRATOR #1

But beware when the darkness begins to fall,

THE DARK looms around and the CHILDREN freeze.

NARRATOR #2

He'll stop you in your tracks – one and all.

They freeze/dance pattern continues.

BOTH NARRATORS

El Tunche!

THE LIGHT turns around.

El Tunche!

THE DARK turns around.

NARRATOR #1

So if you're ever in the jungle at night

NARRATOR #2

Be on your toes or prepare for a fright!

BOTH NARRATORS

El Tunche! El Tunche! The dark and the light!