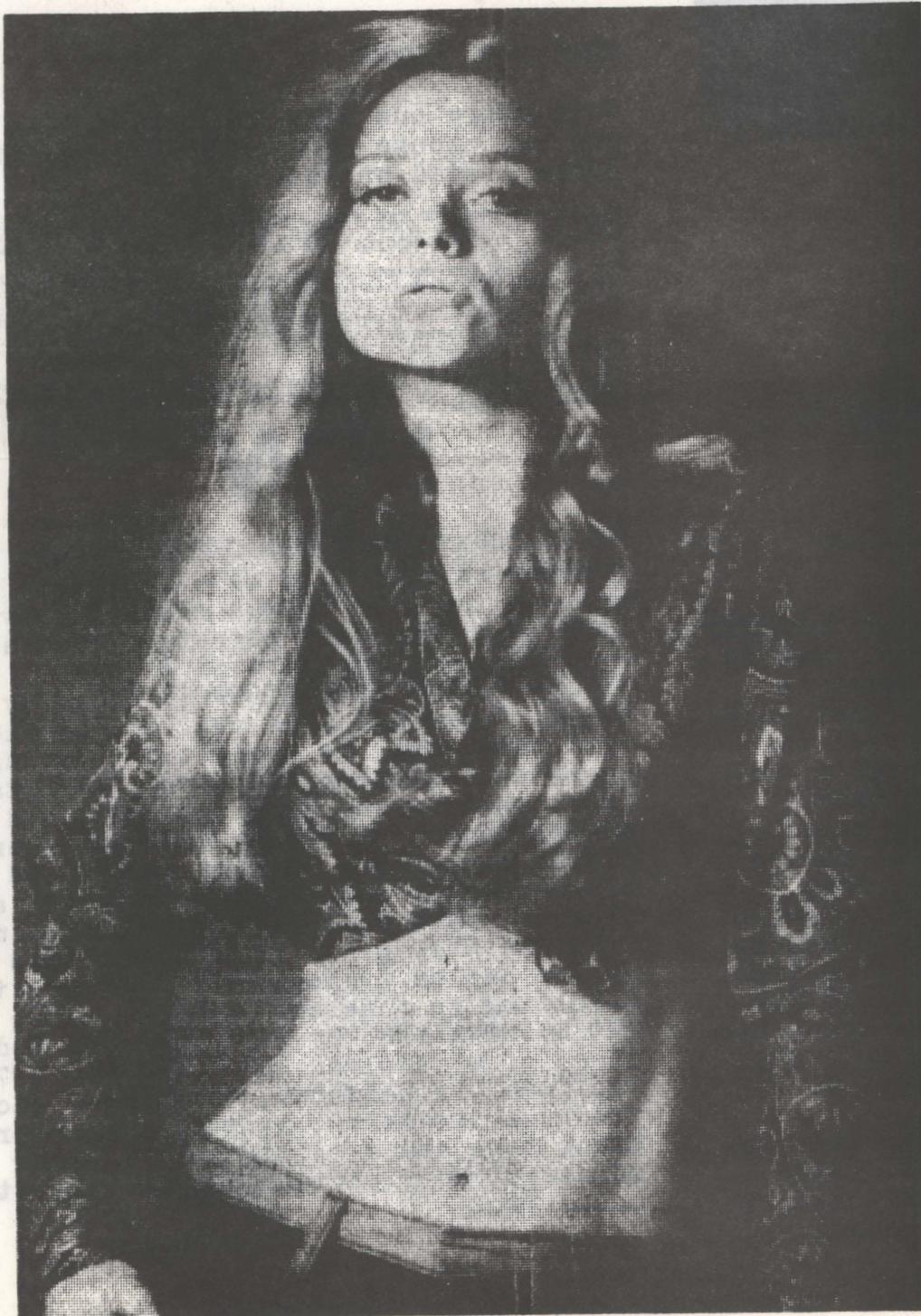


QUEST

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DEVIL CULTS

By Kurt Glemser

Satanic cults have existed many times in the past and are still operating among us. The Family by Ed Sanders is quite a handbook on weird modern-day satanic cults. These cults make animal and human sacrifices. Some groups in the Los Angeles area exist with the purpose of creating mindless followers to do the bidding of the leaders.

One such group is the Solar Lodge of the O.T.O. (Ordo Templi Orientis) led by Jean Brayton and her husband. Their intent is to carry on Aleister Crowley's teachings. The Braytons and

several of their followers are wanted by the F.B.I. for felony child abuse. Anthony Gibbons, 6, caused a fire burning down a building owned by the Braytons. As punishment he was caged in a wooden box in the desert for 56 days, with temperatures up to 110 degrees. The Braytons have fled to Mexico to avoid capture.

Another cult sometimes going under the name of the Four P Movement operated in the Santa Cruz and Santa Ana Mountains in California from 1967 to 1970. The group was led by an older man who was given the title of Grand Chingon. The Four P Movement killed people and indulged in cannibalism. The group is responsible for a human sacrifice in the first week of November, 1968. A young woman was killed, possibly voluntarily, near Boulder Creek.

In June of 1968 police began finding bodies of dogs sacrificed by the Four P Movement. The director of the Santa Cruz animal shelter stated "whoever is doing this is a real expert with a knife. The skin is cut away without even marking the flesh. The really strange thing is that these dogs have been drained of blood."

One of the cultists was arrested near Big Sur after the discovery of the animals. At the time of his arrest he had a human finger bone in his possession. He told police where to find the group's latest victim, killed three days earlier, minus the heart which had been eaten.

A multiple murder occurred on a California beach in 1970. A witness to the crime saw a hooded procession of chanting people advance down a hill towards the victims.

One person interviewed by Sanders told of seeing a film with the Manson "family" at the Spahn Ranch. The film showed a decapitated red-headed female in her late twenties lying on a beach. Circling the corpse were five people in black clothes and hoods.

This story is likely the truth for several reasons. The Manson "family" owned video-tape and super 8mm equipment. Several persons processed film for Manson. Manson and his clan have been convicted of more than the Tate-LaBianca murders of seven people.

On July 22, 1971, the Asheville, North Carolina Citizen printed the following news story under the heading "Police Await Autopsy Of Dead Youth":

"Goldsboro, N.C. (AP) - Police are awaiting an autopsy report to

learn the cause of death of a young man found dead in a churchyard where it appeared some sort of ritual was held.

The body of Randy Eugene Davis, 20, of Rt. 5, Goldsboro, was found Wednesday in the yard of St. Stephens Episcopal Church. Police said communion bread was found scattered inside the church and a jar of wine had been taken from the altar to the rear of the church.

A glass from which it appeared wine had been drunk also was found, police said, along with parts of burned candles.

Police also found a note in the church which said the author wanted to die with a cross in each hand. Police Chief Roy Renfrow said the note was signed "Randy". The dead man was not holding a cross, Renfrow said.

The body bore no marks of violence, police said. There was a minor scratch on an elbow. The dead man was fully clothed and was wearing a cape. The dead man was found by a pedestrian."

A local TV news broadcast stated that the death was the second odd death in Goldsboro within a week, according to writer Dennis Stamey.



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UFOs, THE BIBLE AND JESUS

By Sam Ichtou and Kurt Glemser

Sodom and Gomorrah, wickedest cities of the ancient world, were not destroyed by fire and brimstone as described in the Bible. They were wiped off the face of the earth by a nuclear blast set off by invaders from outer space. Lot's wife was petrified, turned into a pillar of salt according to the Bible, by radiation.

That, at least, is what one of Russia's scientists emphatically believes. The scientist was identified by Tass news agency only as physico-mathematician N. Agrest, writing in the Literary Gazette. He says he believes a gigantic space ship approached the earth from space at a speed close to light, and went into orbit while its occupants studied the earth.

They landed, possibly in the region of the Baalbek Terrace, a platform built of huge stone slabs in the Middle Eastern Antilebanon Mountains which has defied explanation.

Agrest thinks the platform is part of the remains of a launching platform built by the space travellers, or something they put up to commemorate their visit.

He adds that glass-like substances known as tektites, found in the Libyan desert and containing radioactive isotopes of aluminum and beryllium, may have been the remains of some missile.

He notes previous evidence that the tektites - for which there is no explanation - were formed less than 1,000,000 years ago and under conditions of high temperatures and powerful radiation.

"The description," he says, "that the scrolls give of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah cannot help attracting the attention of modern men who are familiar with nuclear physics. In modern language, this legend says the people were advised to leave the area of the future explosion, not to linger in the open, not to watch the blast.

"Those of the fugitives who looked back lost their eyesight and perished."

His theory is that the space travellers could have exploded their surplus nuclear fuel before leaving earth, after warning the local population.

Another Soviet scholar, V. Zaitsev, stated that Christ was a cosmonaut from another planet. The government newspaper Izvestia published excerpts from articles by Zaitsev who said the star of Bethlehem was really a spaceship.

"In other words, the descent of God to earth was really a cosmic occurrence," Zaitsev said.

He suggested that it be considered "a historical event, and that we replace the word God with a new term: cosmonaut Jesus Christ."

He said that the Biblical description of the star of Bethlehem signifying the birth of Christ was historically correct.

"Christ was a newcomer from space, a representative of a higher civilization," he said.

Rev. Barry H. Downing, a Presbyterian minister, author of The Bible and Flying Saucers also believes Christ was a visitor from another planet. Rev. Downing has a degree in physics and a doctorate in theology from the University of Edinburgh.

He feels the "pillar of cloud" by day and the "pillar of fire" by night, that led the children of Israel out of Egypt, probably was nothing other than a UFO.

"I very much suspect," confesses Downing, "that the ascension cloud that lifted Jesus into the air was the same UFO that led the Israelites through the Red Sea, gave Moses the commandments, and carried Elijah to heaven..."

The Rev. Downing expects Christ to return to earth some day in the same UFO that took him away.

But where are Christ and his "angels" now?

Downing believes they are in heaven. And heaven is not, in his view, merely another planet but a totally different universe which co-exists alongside the familiar one we live in.

Downing contends that his idio-syncratic views, rather than weakening Christianity, actually strengthen it.

"We are simply trying to discover evidence," he says of his flying saucer theories, "which will give the faith a greater degree of probability."

NEWSFRONT

On November 1, 1972, photos taken at Loch Ness by an expedition led by Robert Rines, president of the Academy of Applied Sciences, in Boston, were released. The photos taken in late summer show a green-brown triangular object, identified as a fin, moving through the water. The photos were substantiated by sonar and other data.

The sound waves of the sonar picked up two creatures moving down an underwater ravine toward the camera, Rines said, and showed them to be 20 to 30 feet long. The camera, set 50 feet under water and 150 feet from the sonar equipment, was set to take strobe-light pictures at 15-second intervals and Rines said the fin moved in and out of view in five frames.

Rines said the pictures are of poor quality because of silty water, but photo experts estimate the size of the appendage at about eight to 10 feet long and four to six feet across.

The following story was published in "Forum Newsfront" in the December, 1972, issue of PLAYBOY under the heading "The Moon Made Me Do It":

"MIAMI-The moon may somehow drive men to murder according to two researchers at the University of Miami School of Medicine. A study of Dade County, Florida, murder statistics from 1956 to 1970 disclosed that homicides consistently peaked at full moon and just after new moon. The same correlation was found for murder in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, although it was less pronounced. Reporting their findings in The American Journal of Psychiatry, Arnold L. Lieber and Carolyn R. Sherin speculated that because the body is at least 80 percent water, the moon's gravitational pull could conceivably affect human mood and behavior by causing cyclic changes in water flow within the body's fluid compartments."

In a copyrighted Washington Post story Berl Kutschinsky, a research assistant at Copenhagen University's Institute of Criminal Science,

flatly states that Denmark's pornography experiment "could not have turned out better." Kutschinsky is Denmark's leading expert on the link between pornography and crime.

Legalized pornography has caused "a dramatic fall" in several kinds of sex crimes, notably child molestation and exhibitionism. The total number of sexual offences against females has fallen each year, from 723 in 1965 to 310 in 1970, a decline of 58 per cent.

Helen, the happy medium, fights for her honour

By JIM LAWSON

A HIGH-SPIRITED defence of her honour is being put up by the Star of Light.

Mrs. Helen Hill, a medium known in Spiritualist circles as the Star of Light, has even hired an agent to help.

The trouble began when Mrs. Hill was expelled from the Spiritualist Church in Leigh, Lancashire, last year for "gimmickry."

She had dared to predict correctly the winners of the Rugby League Cup Final and had written a pop song

aided, she said, by the ghost of a French composer.

Mrs. Joe Knowles, president of the church, declared that she would have to go because she had "reduced Spiritualism to the level of fortune-telling."

But the Star of Light was not so easily extinguished. Mrs. Hill held "business consultations" with the spirits, appointed her agent and was soon packing them in at her own public meetings. Mr. Knowles, a 45-year-

old chiroprapist, hit back by forming a "Spiritualist Task Force" which picketed Mrs. Hill's meetings.

Said Mr. Knowles: "Spiritualism is a sincere religion and she is reducing it to the ranks of a comedy show. Clairvoyance is a gift from God to use for the benefit of mankind—not to make money."

Mrs. Hill, at home in Leigh Road, replied: "My record speaks for itself and people want to hear me.

How many people go to his church now?"

In three weeks she will open her Star of Light sanctuary for healing and clairvoyance in Leigh—above a butcher's shop.

She said: "I will charge for private consultation, but it will depend on the person's income."

One gentleman undisturbed by the rumpus is Mrs. Hill's agent, Mr. Bernard Woolley.

As he told me from his office in Bolton, Lancs: "The only bad publicity you can get is your obituary."

The Sunday People August 12, 1972

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'Weeping' Madonna statue photographed

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Fluid streamed from the eyes of the "Pilgrim Statue of Fatima" during its stay in New Orleans, the executive editor of the Roman Catholic archdiocesan weekly said Thursday.

Rev. Elmo Romangosa of the Clarion Herald said he photographed fluid welling in the glass eyes of the statue of the Virgin and also photographed fluid as it fell from the tip of the statue's nose.

The statue is one of two of its kind in the world. It was carved out of cedar under the guidance of Sister Lucy, the only survivor of the three children who claimed to witness the 1917 apparition of the Virgin Mary in Portugal.

Over the years there have been numerous reports of "weeping Madonnas" in which persons reported seeing statues cry. Father Romagosa's account appears in this week's

issue of the diocesan newspaper.

The statue was displayed for 10 days at a half-dozen New Orleans Catholic churches where thousands turned out to see it.

Rev. Lanaux Rareshide, assistant chancellor of the archdiocese, pointed out that the church does not confirm such occurrences without thorough investigations. Such inquiries generally are made only when it becomes necessary to guard against possible fraud or exploitation of believers, and none is planned in this instance, he said.

"There are all sorts of possible causes. This is a very humid climate here. But is it possibly miraculous? Sure it is. The Lord can do anything."

Kitchener-Waterloo Record
July 21, 1972

The man who 'killed himself' on stage

News of the World Reporter

I HAVE just witnessed an amazing scene in which a hypnotist deliberately "killed himself" on stage in front of 1,000 people. Then the man, British-born Ronald Markham brought himself "back to life" after three-and-a-half minutes.

I can't say for certain that he died. But two eminent doctors, with him on the stage, say he did. Markham's feat, in Durban, South Africa, has sparked off a controversy there among the public and the

medical profession.

Here are the facts. Can you decide what happened that night?

Markham, aged 46, who uses the stage name Romark, had a specially invited audience, including some 250 doctors and heart specialists.

He says that he stops his heart beat by hypnotising himself. But for his demonstration at Durban's Lyric Theatre he threw in the grotesque gimmick of simulating a public hanging.

As the curtain rose I saw him at the top of a gallows with a noose around his neck. Attached to his body were the terminals of a heart machine. The audience could watch and hear his heartbeat.

Then a trapdoor opened and he dropped 10 feet to his "death." The machine immediately showed that his heart had stopped.

Two doctors, one an eminent Durban heart specialist, rushed forward to examine him.

Shaking their heads in disbelief, they announced to the audience that they could feel no pulse and that Romark was dead.

Before his act Romark had announced he would die for 30 seconds.

His pretty assistant, Colleen, counted them off from a stop watch.

After a minute the curtain was dropped.

HORRIFIED

At three minutes, the audience was obviously horrified.

But after an astounding three and a half minutes the machine recorded the heart beating again and the curtain rose to show Romark staggering from a couch below the gallows.

Seconds later he collapsed. His heart had stopped again. And for a further 30 seconds he lay still.

Then he rose slowly and tottered to the microphone. "I was terrified,"

Romark said later. "I knew I could stop my heart and breathing by using self-hypnosis and knew that I could get it going again."

"I had programmed my brain to do this after 30 seconds but when I found I'd been dead for so long I was badly shaken."

Many doctors who saw or heard of the act believe it was some kind of trick.

Professor Christiaan Barnard, the noted South African heart surgeon said in Cape Town afterwards: "I don't believe it and will not unless I can see it for myself."

Romark, who lives in Ponteland, Northumberland, and tours Northern clubs with a hypnotism act, said: "You can't fool an electrocardiograph heart machine."

But he doesn't intend to repeat the performance.

The only trickery involved, he added, was the hanging. He was strapped to a heavy board which broke his fall.

A ghost with size 3 boots

DEALER Stan Clark believes that his house is haunted—by a woman ghost wearing size three Wellington boots.

Stan, 36, and his wife Betty, who moved into the house in Victoria Road, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, last May, started to hear strange noises and see strange sights just before Christmas.

He said: "Footprints resembling size three Wellington boots first appeared on the bedroom floor on the night of the full moon."

"I'm convinced it's a lady ghost. The prints are too small for a man."

Yesterday Stan spread flour on the floor of the front bedroom in a bid to track the path of the ghost.

He added: "I am appealing to the local council for a new house. This place has got us down."

London Daily Mirror
April 1, 1972

Eyes down for a ghost

MEDIUM Richard Godden has been called in to a bingo hall to try to persuade a ghost to leave.

The ghost, known as the White Lady, has apparently been a regular night visitor to the Savoy hall in Folkestone, Kent, for months.

Manager George Offin, 61, said yesterday: "I have seen her, and she scares me stiff."

"Three of the staff were so scared they quit."

Comeback by ghost actor

A GHOST is getting in on the act at a seaside show. The cast are so nervous they have asked for a priest to exorcise it.

Some of the players at the Pier Theatre, Shanklin, Isle of Wight, claim to have seen the ghost—a white-haired man, aged about 60.

He has apparently opened doors, moved

clothing and taken milk into the circle.

Legend has it that an actor died on the stage in 1898 after a bad performance—and has been trying to make a comeback ever since.

NEWS OF THE WORLD, April 16, 1972

DAILY MIRROR, Monday, June 19, 1972

WANT to buy a castle? It will probably cost you something in six figures, but for that you get at least four ghosts thrown in, not to mention smugglers' tunnels, a sub-tropical garden, and a splendid view of the North Devonshire coast.

One of the ghosts has actually been photographed.

When I heard that Watermouth Castle, near Ilfracombe, was for sale, sheer curiosity drove me to have a look.

More precisely, Robin Watson drove me there, in an open sports car—next best thing to a carriage and pair, which I felt would have been more appropriate.

Robin works for Bernard Thorpe & Partners, a top-drawer estate agent in the shadow of Buckingham Palace.

CARRIAGE and pair, any foot. Castles are sold these days by the most up-to-date methods, including closed-circuit television.

In the back of his car, Robin had an electronic hand-camera and a portable videotape recorder.

No film to develop; the tape could be played back immediately on a screen the size of a cigarette packet. Sound commentary recorded on the spot, too.

The idea, Robin explained, was to take the tape back to the shadow

of Buckingham Palace, edit it, add music, and then screen it on a full-sized TV for any castle-buyer who happened to drop in.

I said there had been nothing like that when we bought 35 Rowan Road, and he answered diplomatically that the system was very new.

Meanwhile, back at the castle, I looked

around while Robin shot his videotape.

NOT a very ancient castle, as castles go. It was built in 1825 by one of the Devonshire Bassets (yes, they came over with William the Conqueror) as a modest home for himself and his new bride.

Very modest, really; it needed only 40 domestic staff, seven gardeners, and two grooms to run the place.

Still, they knew how to build romantically in 1825, and fairy-tale-wise Watermouth Castle leaves nothing to be desired.

Also, the cellars and foundations and various other bits went back to the 14th century. Which brings us to the smugglers' tunnels.

One led down to the pretty little harbour. Legend says it was blown up by coastguards. History says it was blocked up by a Mrs. Harriet Sarah Basset in the 16th century. I prefer the legend.

OTHER tunnels led farther afield—and (legend whispers) maybe still do, if you can find them.

In the panelled hall, the Bassets, as Lords of the Manor, officiated over the local court—in the good old days when those who owned the land administered the law. (I wonder what would happen if we tried that at No. 35?)

From the windows of the dining room you can see the Welsh coast across the Bristol Channel. In the wine cellars you can not only store your wine, you can make it, too, in fermenting vats.

Worth six figures of anybody's money, I would say.

I WAS particularly curious about the ghosts, so I talked with a woman who had lived in the castle for 20 of her considerable years.

"The one I know most about is the little grey lady who was locked up in the tower because she wanted to marry some soldier," she told me.

"About 10 years ago, some young ladies were staying in the castle; they hadn't heard the story, but in the morning they wanted to know who was this soldier in the queer uniform who'd walked through the corridor.

Watermouth Castle . . . for anyone who has the money and likes ghosts

Picture by Peter Isbell

"There was one place leading to the tower, which always felt strange . . ."

SHE went on: "Sometimes, after my husband died, I'd be the only person in the castle for perhaps a fortnight at a time. But I was never afraid.

"There was another ghost who used to sit on a stone seat in the sub-tropical garden. Then they foolishly moved the seat round to another place, and

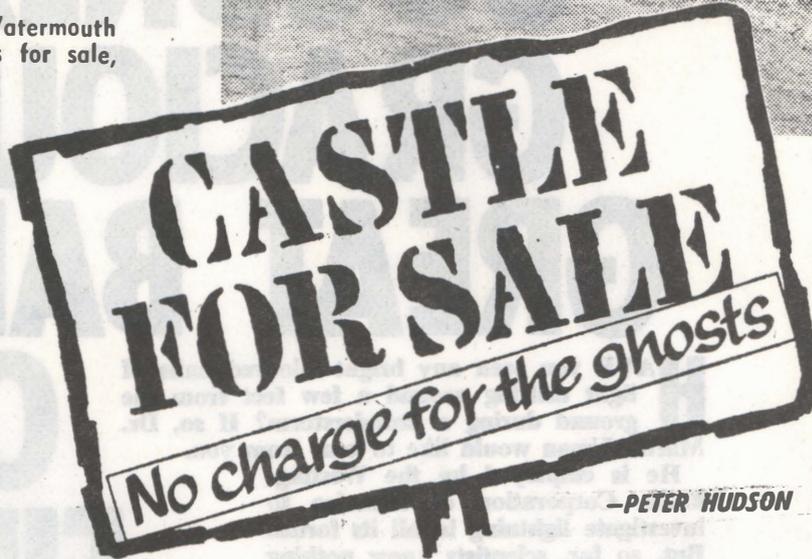


A snap of the empty terrace was developed . . . and this figure appeared in it she wasn't seen any more. I wouldn't say I've seen one, but I've sensed it. Some people can and others can't, can they?"

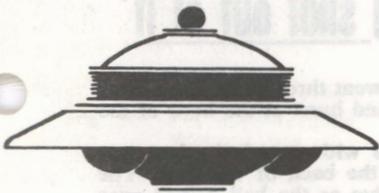
Ghost No. 4 appears to be a monk. A visitor taking a snapshot on the terrace found him in the picture when it was developed. (The picture is printed above.)

Well, we have no ghost at No. 35; but if we ever get around to selling it, we really must ask Robin along with his camera.

There is a particularly fine view of the bathroom window from the top of the air raid shelter . . .



—PETER HUDSON



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WEEKEND April 12-18, 1972

PILGRIMS: WE SAW MIRACLE IN THE SKY

by SALLY BROMPTON

IN a Spanish mountain-top village a group of British pilgrims gazed above them in awe.

The evening sun seemed to be surrounded by an aura of colours, spinning and pulsating in the sky.

Forty men and women in the party are certain they saw a miracle. The group, mostly strangers to each other, had travelled to the tiny village of Garabandal in Northern Spain where, in 1961, four village children had claimed to have seen the Virgin Mary and the baby Jesus.

One of the British pilgrims, Mrs. Gwendoline Hurndall, a night sister at St. Joseph's Hospital, Hackney, East London, yesterday: "We found we could stare at the sun without sunglasses. The outline of a cross had been seen and I just saw a part of it before it vanished.

"Then the sun began to spin like a Catherine-wheel, first one way and then the other. Then it started to jump like a yoyo for a few minutes before going back to its spinning again."

Illusions

Another of the pilgrims, Miss Marina Foley, who works in a chemist's shop in Holborn, London, said: "The sun looked like a flat, white disc and it was spinning in a clockwise direction and pulsating to and fro."

But a psychiatrist said: "People who have travelled hundreds of miles on a pilgrimage tend to have a sense of expectation. In a highly emotional state of mind anything could happen.

"Another explanation could be that staring straight at the sun can fatigue the optic nerve and cause illusions."

Dr. Alan Hunter, acting director of the Royal Observatory at Hursstonceux, Sussex, said: "We take photographs of the sun every day and would certainly have noticed if anything unusual had happened."

GHOST DRIVES OUT COUPLE

RAY and Marie Kelly have given up their council flat because they refuse to share it with a ghost.

They made their decision after calling in police to check the £4-a-week flat at Pembroke Court, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire.

Last night the couple claimed that a mysterious spirit in the house turned

on lights, moved furniture and tried to pull 20-year-old Ray out of bed.

When Ray and his 18-year-old wife could stand no more they told the police, who inspected the flat for half-an-hour. The ghost kept out of the way.

GOODNESS GRACIOUS, GREAT BALLS OF FIRE!

HAVE you seen any bright-coloured balls of light drifting around a few feet from the ground during a thunderstorm? If so, Dr. Martin Uman would like to hear from you.

He is employed by the Westinghouse Corporation of America to investigate lightning in all its forms. But, so far, scientists know nothing about ball lightning. They can't even guess what causes it.

Some years ago, when I was the fireman on a steam goods train, the driver and I noticed a large black cloud drifting in from the sea one bright, clear day.

Suddenly there was a crack and water poured from the cloud. Then we saw what looked like a ball of bright blue light about the size of a football drifting a few feet above the track just ahead of us. Every now and then a streak of forked lightning would shoot out of it. The ball drifted across a field and vanished.

AN American woman in Iowa once saw a ball of yellowish light about the size of a washtub bouncing along a dirt road. It went a few hundred yards, collided with a stable and exploded, wrecking the stable and killing the horse inside.

An Omaha woman saw a fire-ball the size of a tennis ball coming towards her in her kitchen during a storm. It curved

'We saw a bright blue light drifting above the track. Now and then streaks of forked lightning shot out of it'

over her head, went through the glass door of the cooker and burst at the back of the oven.

A small hole with scorched edges was later found at the back of the oven. The only effect on her as the ball curved over her head was a slight tingling sensation.

An American family was having breakfast when an orange and blue ball of light appeared above the table. It fluttered for a few seconds then went off like a firecracker, leaving a smell like gas.

IN Victorian times a cricket-ball-sized fireball was seen to wander around a house, pausing at people and objects as though examining them. Eventually it exploded inside an iron saucepan.

Lightning balls have been seen to drop from the clouds, but never to rise from the ground into them. This discounts any suggestion that they might be pockets of superheated atmospheric gas.

Some scientists believe ball lightning is responsible for many reports of unidentified flying objects.

J. A. BROOKES



'Welcome aboard Flight 942, I'm Harry Bradshaw, your hijacker for this trip.'

King of the Ghost Chasers

HE must have been a strange sight, riding a rickety old bicycle up and down the country, with his dog barking at his side. He was tall and thin, wore Sherlock Holmes-type clothes, and his pockets bulged with notebooks, pens and torches.

Elliott O'Donnell was a ghost hunter. Some say he was the greatest authority on ghosts the world has ever known.

This son of an Irish parson, born in Bristol, was fascinated by ghosts and ghost lore. Fascinated enough to spend his life in lonely vigils at allegedly haunted places, taking meticulous notes of everything he saw and heard.

What he thought he heard at one particular house, in the East End of London, was very strange. Every time he went there he felt somehow he was the presence of a funeral. Yet he could hear people laughing.

Puzzled by this apparent contradiction, O'Donnell made inquiries about the history of the house.

Fifty years ago it was owned by a wealthy tradesman who had exploited his employees. When he died, they all had to attend his funeral.

IT was a happy occasion, so happy that one man actually fired a salute as the coffin was placed on the hearse. The shot frightened the horse, which bolted. The coffin was thrown off and broken into pieces.

The incident is recorded* in "Elliott O'Donnell's Ghost

by CHRISTINE GARBUTT

"Hunters", edited by Harry Ludlam, published by W. Foulsham and Co., Ltd., and now on the bookstalls at £1.90.

O'Donnell confessed that he always felt nervous on a ghost hunt. "I have never been able to conquer this fear of the unknown," he said. "I was painfully afraid of the dark, as a boy, and this fear has never left me."

For this reason he generally took a dog with him, to act as a companion.

In his book O'Donnell describes the time he and his dog were keeping vigil in a house in Gloucestershire. They were sitting on the staircase together when, at two in the morning, the dog gave a loud growl. O'Donnell stroked the animal and found it was shivering.

JUST a minute later there was a loud clatter from the basement. A door banged, then footsteps were heard.

The footsteps drew nearer, until he could see first a bluish light,

then the top of a head, then a white and luminous face.

The figure approached. It was a young girl, in servant's clothes, with a look of abject misery on her face.

For a moment she paused in front of the man with the dog, then went past them up the stairs. When she reached the top there was a loud splash, followed by silence. O'Donnell and the dog were both so terrified that they fled out of the house.

Seeing a ghost, of course, is what ghost hunting is all about, however terrifying the experience may be. O'Donnell said that more than 50 per cent of his work was a failure, though.

Apparitions witnessed by others frequently failed to appear when he was waiting for them.

How can you tell if you have seen a ghost? According to O'Donnell, it is a shattering

emotional experience and is difficult to lie about. Often a certain detail will tell a psychological investigator whether or not it was a genuine haunting.

A family in Birmingham often complained that they heard screams, sobs and groans in their home.

Then one night the wife saw the figure of a tall, stout man standing before the sitting-room fireplace with a dog. His face had no eyes, nose or mouth, only ears and long hair.

A NEIGHBOUR, hearing the woman's screams, dashed in, only to see two clouds of smoke, one resembling a man and the other a dog, hovering over the hearth.

A gas fitter working in the house also claimed to have seen this strange apparition of a faceless man and a dog.

Inquiries established that the house was occupied in 1829 by a man who supplied medical students with human bodies. Neighbours of that time had reported seeing many people enter the house, never to leave it again.

Another type of haunting recorded by O'Donnell is when someone is said to appear just once to his relatives after his death.

Some, more menacing, ghosts may make a habit of regular visits, wrote O'Donnell.

ONE husband haunted by his dead wife was William Sheward, a tailor of Norwich. For 18 years, it was said, she tormented him in ghostly form—but with good reason, it seems.

For William had murdered his wife, dismembered the body and buried the parts in various places.

Neighbours thought his wife had left him,

as she had always told them she wanted to pack up and go to London.

After 18 years of seeing her as a ghost, William could take no more. The breaking-point, said O'Donnell, was seeing her staring at him out of a mirror.

The tailor ran out into the street and found a policeman. Then he made a full confession of his crime. He was tried and executed.

Elliott O'Donnell—who died in 1965 at the age of 93—spent more than 60 years tirelessly researching the existence and supposed habits of ghosts, writing several books on the subject.



Elliott O'Donnell spent his life hunting ghosts

SUBSCRIBE!



LIGHTNING HORROR

Ten children were killed when lightning struck a primary school near Ifakara, Tanzania

THE SUN, February 2, 1972

HOW MUCH FURTHER CAN SCREEN SEX GO?

Sex and youth are the two current cinema fads. Of the two sex is the more lucrative. One of the films to open the floodgates was Russ Meyer's **THE VIXEN**. Produced for \$60,000, it grossed six million dollars at the box office (and went through 23 courts). Because of **VIXEN**'s success Meyer was hired to film **BEYOND THE VALLEY OF THE DOLLS** for the Fox studios. It too was a success.

Sexploitation doesn't always make money as proved by the \$4.5 million **MYRA BRECKENRIDGE**. It featured Mae West as a lecherous old maid, Rex Reed undergoing castration, and Raquel Welch strapping on a dildo and anally raping a young actor. The film is still one million dollars in the red.

In 1971 the studios realized that excessive erotica would no longer make money as before. This caused cuts in such films as **CARNAL KNOWLEDGE** and **THE SPORTING CLUB** which were already released.

Sex has spread to the GP movies, however. **RYAN'S DAUGHTER**, an MGM picture, received an R rating from the Motion Picture Association of America. Pressure was brought to bear and the rating was changed to GP without losing a frame.

Sex has also gotten more explicit in the R and X movies. **DRIVE, HE SAID** contains frontal male nudity and one implied scene of sodomy. This trend will probably continue.

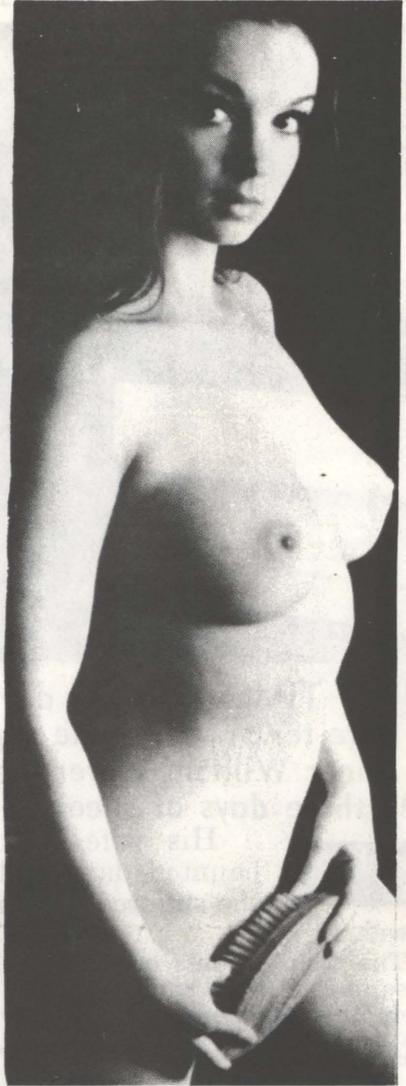
While excessive sex has been toned down, violence has increased. In **THE BEGUILED** Clint Eastwood saws off his leg, **THE GRISSOM GANG** machine guns most of its cast, and in **THE HUNTING PARTY** Gene Hackman shoots Candice Bergen in the crotch.

So you can look forward to violence and kinky sex but you probably won't see as much nudity and sex in most films as was the trend of the better shows in 1970 and 1971.

Photos on the opposite page in clockwise direction beginning with top left Kellie Evers in **SHE DID IT HIS WAY**; Christina Lindberg star of **JENA**; Elke Sommer star of **ZEPPELIN** and Brigitte Bardot who appeared in **LES NOVICES**.



Edy Williams star of **BEYOND THE VALLEY OF THE DOLLS**



MY THREE DAYS OF HELL WITH A GHOST



FIFTY TIMES in a few days an ordinary working couple were terrorised by the supernatural in their own home. Joiner William Storer looks back at the incidents as: "My three days of sheer hell."

Casebook One

His wife Grace shudders at the memory of haunted days and sleepless nights, during which she suffered a near-breakdown and lost three stone in weight.

The weird events occurred in an ordinary Victorian-style terrace house in Pinxton, a small Derbyshire village high in the Peak District, where this middle-aged couple live.

This is what Mr Storer, a down-to-earth chap with no particular religious beliefs says occurred:

A poker lifted itself from the hearth and smashed a window.

A bag of sugar rose from the kitchen table and sprinkled its contents over bacon in the frying pan. A bottle of after-shave poured itself over other food.

Three eggs went upstairs by themselves and spattered over the landing wall.

Floating

ONE evening a piece of stone from the garden rockery suddenly appeared in the sitting-room. Then it rose from the floor, hurtled across to a corner and smashed to pieces.

Mr Storer's wallet disappeared, later to be found on a pelmet but with a note missing. The note appeared floating in mid-air and slowly tore itself to pieces.

Mr Storer collected them and stuck the note back together with Sellotape — but later when a similar thing happened to a fiver the pieces were torn so small and so widely scattered he had to lose the money.

The only explanation anyone has come up with is that a GHOST moved in to live with the Storers.

● **WOULD you ring the vicar if a ghost moved in with you? Many people now regard exorcism — the casting out of evil in the name of Christ — as a superstitious hangover from the past.**

But in recent years there's been an increasing demand for the 'service' — so much so that the Bishop of Exeter, the Rt Rev Robert Mortimer, convened an investigation committee.

This week their report (Exorcism, edited by Dom Robert Petitpierre, SPCK, 50p.) is published.

Meanwhile, our investigators have been looking into the Church's casebooks.

News of the World Investigation

Investigating police were ready to swear that a human being could not have been responsible.

Mr Storer recalled two incidents which are branded in his memory

"As I crossed the room, a roll of fusewire off the mantelpiece began floating in the air. My shaving mirror which had been left on the sideboard started to float in the opposite direction.

"I sat down thinking, 'Am I going barmy, or not?'"

He went on: "One day

an ashtray whirled around the room. My sister-in-law came to call a little later and I told her about it.

"As if to verify the story, the ashtray floated up, disappeared, and then came sailing back through the wall.

"Horried, my sister-in-law ran out of the house."

Mr Storer called in the police, but there was nothing they could do. Neither could the doctor who treated Mrs Storer, by now close to a nervous breakdown.

The doctor turned to the

WHAT WERE THE "GODS"

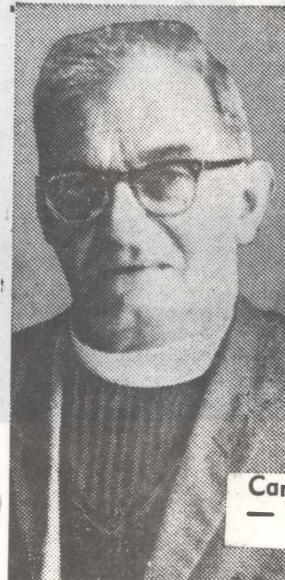
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Canon Pearce-Higgins — help for "unhappy spirits"



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local rector, who in turn appealed for help to his bishop.

It was decided that a service of exorcism should be held at the Storsers' home, conducted by the Rt Rev Thomas Parfitt, Assistant Bishop of Derby.

"The assistant bishop arrived and blessed the house—he sprinkled holy water all over it," recalled Mr Storer.

"The rector asked us to hang a crucifix over the fireplace. We did so willingly."

The Storsers have never been disturbed since.

Theories

CANON JOHN PEARCE-HIGGINS, who last year retired as Vice-Provost of Southwark Cathedral, has devoted himself to the study of the theories behind exorcism.

Canon Pearce-Higgins, 66-year-old vice-chairman of the Churches' Fellowship for Psychical and Spiritual Studies, believes that it is not demons that possess people but disembodied human entities—dead people.

At death, he believes, the physical body perishes but the spiritual body lives on.

"Some of these spiritual bodies have to re-incarnate, others go to a realm of light, a sort of paradise condition. But some do not realise they are dead and go back to their homes, which are now probably in the hands of strangers, and produce hauntings," he told me.

"They are unhappy disembodied human beings who have got lost or stuck amid the surroundings of their former earthly lives."

Canon Pearce-Higgins deals with the earthbound spirit with a service of Holy Communion and prayer for that spirit.

In the last five years the Canon has been called in many times. He doesn't like to call it "exorcism" because, he says, he is not casting out demons but helping unhappy spirits to find their proper resting place.

Until last year he usually worked with a medium who would go into a trance after the Communion service and allow the spirit to enter him.

Canon Pearce-Higgins could then talk to the spirit before it was removed by the medium's "spirit guide."

A 40-year-old farmer's wife, who didn't wish to be identified, told me she went through "15 months of real hell" before the Canon and a medium got rid of the spirits from the old farmhouse where she lives.

The "spirits," she said,

damaged her antique furniture, made loud noises at night and infested the house with the smell of tobacco smoke.

Before the Canon was called in, another clergyman and several psychic research people had accepted that there were strange phenomena at work, but were unable to remove them.

"For the last two months before the Canon came it had got to the stage where we had squeezed three beds into the spare room and we were all sleeping in there," said the farmer's wife.

"On their first visit, Canon Pearce-Higgins and the medium got rid of two entities," she went on, "an old farmhand who used to

smoke, and an old maid-servant called Grace.

"When the medium went into trance and was taken over by the maid-servant you could feel it was an old lady. He shrank and shrivelled," she said.

"On the second visit with the Canon," she went on, "the medium was turned into quite a different character. He grew enormously and his face changed. I had never seen anything like it.

"He became very wild and fierce and his face became that of a large man. He raced downstairs and out of the front door." The farmer's wife said the medium told her this

ON the trail of the supernatural ... Left: A famous "ghost" picture claims to show monks on the site of a Spanish cloister in California. Above: A ouija board in use, and ghost hunters in the cellar of the Grenadier pub in London's Belgravia

had been a Roundhead with a terrible head wound who had been in the attic. "He also cleared a Cavalier from the cellar," she added. "This happened a year ago and since then all has been quiet."

Intruder

A LONELY farmhouse is one thing; another exorcism involved the workaday premises of the Sanclean Cleaning Company in New Cross Road, London.

Casebook Three

Mr Reg Santry, a 24-year-old director of the firm, told me he and Mr Edward Gray, then a representative for the company, were standing on a landing when they saw an old grey-haired man on the stairs.

"We thought it was an intruder and raced after him," he said, "but though we searched the building we found nothing."

Mr Gray, of Devon Avenue, Twickenham, Middlesex, recalled: "Nobody could have got out. There's no doubt we saw something supernatural."

Mr Santry added: "I and others working in the building often heard footsteps and noises but there was never anybody there. In two of the rooms it was always ice-cold and you felt

Casebook Two

went through "15 months of real hell" before the Canon and a medium got rid of the spirits from the old farmhouse where she lives.

as if something was behind you."

The canon and the medium went to the building and Mr Gene Hartfield, aged 24, then painting manager of the company, described the visit: "In one of the rooms where it was always freezing the medium suddenly went into a trance. He took on a different face and a limp and started moaning and staggering around."

"In a broad Cockney accent, he told us to get out. Then he made a dash for the door. As he went by you could literally feel the cold coming off him and one person touched him and said he felt like a block of ice."

Mr Santry said the medium tripped on the stairs and had to be saved from falling. Downstairs he picked up a piece of wood and hit the front door before it was opened for him and he ran into the street.

When he came out of the trance the medium told them that the spirit was that of an old man who had lived in the house and died as a result of a head injury from falling down the stairs.

"If anyone had told me a ghost story like this I would have thought them a right crank or a liar, but it really did happen," said Mr Santry.

PERILS OF TEENAGE SATAN WORSHIP

CAPT BARRY IRONS, of the Church Army, 33-year-old warden of a boys' hostel in Oxford Road, Moseley, Birmingham, says he gets so many requests for exorcism, he could spend all day and every day doing nothing else.

"It's nearly always because the people concerned have been dabbling with the occult," he explained.

"Anything from a lonely woman with a wineglass moving round letters of the alphabet, to someone involved in witchcraft or Satanic worship."

Capt Irons added: "With teenagers it is largely Satanic worship and that is the most dangerous of all. Instead of possessing a power they are possessed."

Among vile rites that teenage Satanists practise, are the drinking of blood and the tearing apart of live animals, he said.

The "possessed" person is asked to renounce evil and Capt Irons asks the spirit to go to its appointed place in the name of Jesus Christ in his exorcism service.

Casebook Four

Monstrous

"In a service of exorcism for someone who has been involved in Satanic worship, there is also the renunciation of Satan and of the Satanic name the person has taken in place of his Christian name."

"Then there is the giving back of a Christian identity, almost re-baptising the person with the sign of the Cross," he said.

Capt Irons always consults medical and other specialists — and sometimes takes several months on a case before he exorcises the evil spirit. He believes that without rehabilitation exorcism is ineffective.

"People who are 'possessed' sometimes jump in the air during the service, in a kind of epileptic fit. Often the person goes unconscious for half an hour after the spirit comes out of them."

"But when they come round it's all over, they feel greatly relieved and better in every way."



"It will be Loch Ness again this summer. It's sort of expected of me"

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