

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:26,080

Why do rocks rain down on these houses each night, apparently from nowhere?

2

00:00:26,080 --> 00:00:28,080

Does a paranormal force propel them?

3

00:00:28,480 --> 00:00:32,000

The police are baffled, they can find no normal explanation.

4

00:00:33,760 --> 00:00:36,080

And what caused chaos in this German office?

5

00:00:36,720 --> 00:00:39,360

Why did lamps swing when no one was near?

6

00:00:39,360 --> 00:00:44,240

Why did the telephone make hundreds of calls while witnesses saw no one was dialing?

7

00:00:44,240 --> 00:00:46,320

Was this a supernatural subscriber?

8

00:00:47,840 --> 00:00:52,080

Mysteries from the files of Arthur C. Clarke, scientist, writer and visionary.

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00:00:52,080 --> 00:00:56,880

A scientist who invented the communication satellite, the writer of 2010,

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00:00:56,880 --> 00:01:01,920

and now in retreat in Sri Lanka, the visionary who ponders the riddles of this and other worlds.

11

00:01:26,880 --> 00:01:39,680

A few years ago, the people who live in this house reported an extraordinary series of events.

12

00:01:40,640 --> 00:01:47,280

Household objects moved around, and one observer saw a loaf of bread rise slowly in the air

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00:01:47,280 --> 00:01:53,600

and hurtle across the room. Naturally, the family was scared and had no idea what was going on.

14

00:01:54,320 --> 00:01:58,800

But to any student of the paranormal, this spelt, portugaised.

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00:01:59,760 --> 00:02:05,200

Portugaised is a German word, which means noisy spirit, but that's very much of an understatement.

16

00:02:06,080 --> 00:02:09,040

Portugaises are the original things that go bump in the night.

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00:02:09,680 --> 00:02:13,680

And as a portugais in the house, there are strange bangings and crashings.

18

00:02:14,560 --> 00:02:19,920

Furniture moves around, stones fall out of the blue, machinery goes haywire,

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00:02:20,480 --> 00:02:25,680

all without any apparent physical cause. No wonder that for centuries,

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00:02:25,680 --> 00:02:30,080

portugais have spread alarm and controversy throughout the world.

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00:02:34,800 --> 00:02:39,440

Thornton Road, Birmingham. It's not the quiet suburban neighbourhood, it seems.

22

00:02:43,760 --> 00:02:48,960

Five of these houses are under siege. Night after night, rocks rain down on them.

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00:02:48,960 --> 00:02:52,000

The bizarre bombardment has lasted more than six years.

24

00:02:52,640 --> 00:02:58,160

Glass in every window has been shattered, forcing the residents to erect barricades to protect their homes.

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00:03:03,440 --> 00:03:07,840

The stones seem to come from nowhere, yet the damage they do is real enough,

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00:03:07,840 --> 00:03:11,840

not just to the buildings, but to the householders' nerves and bank accounts.

27

00:03:12,800 --> 00:03:19,360

We've had all the panes, but two go under the garage, which are the big panes. I think they're

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00:03:19,360 --> 00:03:25,920

about 14 foot with reinforced glass, which cost nearly 700 pounds to be replaced.

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00:03:26,960 --> 00:03:30,400

And we have since they've been replaced and the wire netting's been put up.

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00:03:31,200 --> 00:03:32,960

We've had another four panes go now.

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00:03:34,720 --> 00:03:38,640

Most of the windows under the veranda have been broken.

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00:03:39,360 --> 00:03:43,680

Over £500 worth has been put in there.

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00:03:43,680 --> 00:03:46,160

Buries' other windows have been cracked.

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00:03:47,120 --> 00:03:52,800

And we have now wired all those windows and have been wired for nearly 12 months.

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00:03:55,920 --> 00:04:00,960

Birmingham's police confess their stumped. In charge, Chief Inspector Len Turling.

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00:04:00,960 --> 00:04:06,960

When I first came here some 12 months ago, I thought at that stage that I would put

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00:04:06,960 --> 00:04:10,640

two policemen on it and it would be finished in a couple of days.

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00:04:10,640 --> 00:04:12,800

That has proven to be totally wrong.

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00:04:14,000 --> 00:04:17,200

The case has all the hallmarks of a poltergeist outbreak.

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00:04:17,920 --> 00:04:20,960

Its eeriest feature is the way the rocks seem to come out of the blue.

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00:04:21,760 --> 00:04:24,560

In vain, the police have combed the gardens for vandals.

42

00:04:25,520 --> 00:04:27,920

No human being seems to be throwing the stones.

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00:04:29,520 --> 00:04:33,280

Yet the stake-art goes on in Thornton Road, night after night.

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00:04:33,600 --> 00:04:39,600

At this stage, we've probably wasted somewhere in the region of 3,500 man-hours

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00:04:39,600 --> 00:04:42,960

in observations and inquiries in the Thornton Road area.

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00:04:43,920 --> 00:04:49,600

The backs of these four houses in Thornton Road are virtually a battleground.

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00:04:50,080 --> 00:04:52,160

And clues are hard to come by.

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00:04:52,160 --> 00:04:56,240

This is a selection of the stones. This one is about average size.

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00:04:56,240 --> 00:04:58,400

As you can see, it is quite a hefty stone.

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00:04:58,400 --> 00:05:02,800

It's a pebble. It looks as if it's come from a seashore, but it hasn't.

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00:05:02,800 --> 00:05:08,800

The gardens of these houses in this area all have these pebbles in them.

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00:05:09,840 --> 00:05:13,200

The interesting thing about this and all the others that we've had

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00:05:13,200 --> 00:05:17,120

is everyone appears to have been washed or scrubbed.

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00:05:17,120 --> 00:05:19,600

None of them contain any dirt at all.

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00:05:20,640 --> 00:05:25,040

We have had police officers lying, standing,

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00:05:25,040 --> 00:05:30,480

hiding themselves from 6pm in the evening until 2 and 3 o'clock in the morning

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00:05:30,480 --> 00:05:32,240

in all kinds of weather.

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00:05:32,240 --> 00:05:36,720

They have been on top of roofs of adjoining properties.

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00:05:36,720 --> 00:05:42,480

And in all these occasions, the only thing we can say is at certain times

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00:05:42,480 --> 00:05:49,040

police officers have heard what they say appear to be stones striking the roof

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00:05:49,040 --> 00:05:50,400

or the back of houses.

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00:05:50,480 --> 00:05:55,120

In none of the occasions when we've been doing observations, have we seen anybody.

63

00:05:55,120 --> 00:06:00,800

It's as though somebody is watching you, actually going up into a room and drawing the curtains.

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00:06:00,800 --> 00:06:04,400

And you get stones come over as soon as you seem to appear at the window.

65

00:06:05,680 --> 00:06:10,960

It's uncanny really, because it's just as though somebody's focused on you all the time.

66

00:06:10,960 --> 00:06:13,280

I don't really know what's going on down here.

67

00:06:13,280 --> 00:06:16,080

It's been going on for a period of 18 years.

68

00:06:16,400 --> 00:06:18,400

I don't really know what's going on down here.

69

00:06:18,400 --> 00:06:20,960

It's been going on for a period of 18 months.

70

00:06:22,240 --> 00:06:25,920

And we haven't got a clue who's doing it at all.

71

00:06:26,960 --> 00:06:35,440

Already this year, we have arrested 1,997 criminals.

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00:06:37,280 --> 00:06:41,920

We have solved in the time we have been doing this inquiry at Thornton Road,

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00:06:41,920 --> 00:06:49,040

we have recorded and solved five murders, two of which have been extremely complicated.

74

00:06:49,040 --> 00:06:51,680

And the inquiry was very protracted.

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00:06:52,320 --> 00:06:58,960

And we've used the same expertise on our stone throwings as we have on these other incidents.

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00:06:58,960 --> 00:07:01,520

And we still know farther forward with the stone throwing.

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00:07:03,520 --> 00:07:09,360

KVOA TV of Tucson, Arizona reported a similar pelting poltergeist in 1983.

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00:07:10,000 --> 00:07:14,320

Richard Birkbegler and his family are virtual hostages in their home.

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00:07:14,320 --> 00:07:19,600

For 60 days, ever since they moved into this isolated area on Tucson's east side,

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00:07:19,600 --> 00:07:25,600

they've been bombarded by rocks thrown by an unknown attacker from the deep brush surrounding the house.

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00:07:25,600 --> 00:07:30,800

It goes on every night for the last seven weeks and last two weeks of the,

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00:07:30,800 --> 00:07:34,000

well for nine weeks and the last two weeks has been night and day.

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00:07:34,000 --> 00:07:38,960

The sheriff's department says it has been unable to find any trace of the alleged attacker.

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00:07:38,960 --> 00:07:42,400

But while the search goes on, the Birkbeglers live in fear.

85

00:07:43,200 --> 00:07:48,240

Apoltergeist apparently ram paged through a house in Swansea in 1965.

86

00:07:48,240 --> 00:07:52,800

The furniture was flung about and objects shot through the air according to householder Mrs. Howell.

87

00:07:53,360 --> 00:07:58,160

I went out the back kitchen and as I opened the door, this bottle came flying towards me.

88

00:07:58,880 --> 00:08:02,080

And of course I shut the door to protect myself.

89

00:08:02,080 --> 00:08:04,480

I opened it again and I seen this other bottle.

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00:08:05,200 --> 00:08:08,800

So I just picked up the children and I ran up the house.

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00:08:08,800 --> 00:08:11,680

As I ran up, my husband was coming down the street here

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00:08:12,480 --> 00:08:18,000

and he ran straight in the house and by the time he got in there on, the place was turned upside down.

93

00:08:18,000 --> 00:08:23,280

It was terrible, the couch, the TV, everything just thrown in the middle of the room.

94

00:08:23,920 --> 00:08:28,960

I went upstairs and when I got upstairs, the bedroom was all upside down.

95

00:08:28,960 --> 00:08:33,040

My little boy's cop was in underneath the bed. He would have been killed.

96

00:08:34,480 --> 00:08:38,560

And even the police, they had to break into the bedroom before they got there.

97

00:08:38,560 --> 00:08:42,560

They, well, they haven't got any explanation for it at all because as I said,

98

00:08:42,560 --> 00:08:48,000

it couldn't be nothing new man because how could it get out of the front bedroom down to the kitchen when the police had to break in?

99

00:08:49,840 --> 00:08:55,440

Apoltergeist was apparently photographed in action in Theresa Costa's kitchen in France in 1955.

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00:08:57,440 --> 00:09:02,400

And Apoltergeist was blamed for ransacking a house in Abbott Road, Bournemouth in 1981.

101

00:09:05,120 --> 00:09:07,760

Food and wrecked furniture were strewn everywhere.

102

00:09:11,360 --> 00:09:16,880

Romanian teenager Eleonora Zugun claimed she was attacked by Apoltergeist that bit and scratched.

103

00:09:17,600 --> 00:09:23,360

Inflamed wheels apparently swelled up on her body before the eyes of investigators in the 1920s.

104

00:09:27,600 --> 00:09:31,920

50 years later, reports of a factory, Poltergeist, caused mayhem in Manchester.

105

00:09:32,640 --> 00:09:35,120

The work here at night has to stop.

106

00:09:35,120 --> 00:09:40,880

And quite simply, the trouble is that the men are far too scared to be in these warehouses during those night hours.

107

00:09:40,880 --> 00:09:49,840

The funny thing is, the steel objects weighing maybe a pound, flies at an aluminium panel and there's never a dent, never a scratch.

108

00:09:49,840 --> 00:09:56,720

A force of energy is like willing a piece of metal or something for one point to another just thinks to lift itself and fly.

109

00:09:57,280 --> 00:10:01,280

From this pub in Barnsley Yorkshire came tales of a playful Poltergeist.

110

00:10:01,280 --> 00:10:05,280

In 1965, Michael Collindridge was in bed with Tonsillitis.

111

00:10:05,280 --> 00:10:08,400

He'd been given a walking stick to wrap for attention.

112

00:10:08,400 --> 00:10:11,840

One day, he swore it took off and walled around the room.

113

00:10:11,840 --> 00:10:18,240

To the press, the dancing stick was a psychic wonder and Michael will never forget how the astonishing antics began.

114

00:10:18,240 --> 00:10:22,400

Suddenly I was aware that the stick was moving along the top of the bed.

115

00:10:22,400 --> 00:10:27,680

It sounds quite incredible but the top of the stick was just moving backwards and forwards.

116

00:10:31,680 --> 00:10:34,320

The Cranberries regulars still muse on the mystery.

117

00:10:34,320 --> 00:10:38,320

You actually went up the ward and operated like a pendulum left and right, you know?

118

00:10:38,320 --> 00:10:42,720

You still go back as infollers on top of bed.

119

00:10:42,720 --> 00:10:47,040

And they need to come up and stand on top of bed.

120

00:10:47,040 --> 00:10:51,040

Then you used to tap on top of safe and you'd open the door.

121

00:10:51,680 --> 00:10:55,680

You opened the door and tap on top of safe and you used to play tunes.

122

00:10:55,680 --> 00:10:59,680

And different people went up and asked you to play different tunes.

123

00:10:59,680 --> 00:11:01,680

And the tunes were recognisable.

124

00:11:01,680 --> 00:11:05,680

The one that I noticed was Jingle Bells.

125

00:11:09,680 --> 00:11:13,680

You used to tap two fun not one for yes or something like that.

126

00:11:13,680 --> 00:11:17,680

So I asked it and they were all asking me questions and they were tapping.

127

00:11:18,320 --> 00:11:21,320

I said, what's his favourite going to win?

128

00:11:21,320 --> 00:11:24,320

First race tomorrow, you know?

129

00:11:24,320 --> 00:11:28,320

But no dumb.

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00:11:28,320 --> 00:11:32,320

X-rays at the local hospital revealed nothing.

131

00:11:32,320 --> 00:11:34,320

No secret devices for conjuring tricks.

132

00:11:34,320 --> 00:11:37,320

But Michael was kept under close observation.

133

00:11:37,320 --> 00:11:42,320

I can remember someone saying, will you take your hands out from under the covers?

134

00:11:42,320 --> 00:11:44,320

Which I did.

135

00:11:44,320 --> 00:11:46,320

I think actually just one hand was under the covers.

136

00:11:46,320 --> 00:11:50,320

I put my hands on the bed and the stick continued to move around.

137

00:11:50,320 --> 00:11:52,320

I then sat up.

138

00:11:52,320 --> 00:11:58,320

And I can remember that sort of being sat up in bed with this sort of stick behind me there.

139

00:11:58,320 --> 00:12:00,320

Still moving.

140

00:12:00,320 --> 00:12:05,320

Well, I stood fascinated watching it, thinking of trickery.

141

00:12:05,320 --> 00:12:08,320

But I saw no sign of trickery.

142

00:12:08,320 --> 00:12:12,320

I think as far as one can say it was some sort of spiritual evidence of some sort.

143

00:12:12,320 --> 00:12:15,320

Which was possibly attached to Michael rather than the stick itself.

144

00:12:15,320 --> 00:12:18,320

One day my father went home with strip top bed.

145

00:12:18,320 --> 00:12:21,320

And for no why is nothing.

146

00:12:21,320 --> 00:12:24,320

But I still think Michael would hurt it.

147

00:12:24,320 --> 00:12:26,320

Did you used to do it, Michael?

148

00:12:26,320 --> 00:12:28,320

No, no I didn't.

149

00:12:28,320 --> 00:12:30,320

Nothing to do with me at all.

150

00:12:31,320 --> 00:12:33,320

Well, that would have good.

151

00:12:33,320 --> 00:12:35,320

That would have good enough.

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00:12:36,320 --> 00:12:42,320

The attitude of any serious researcher towards poltergeist should be one of open-minded scepticism.

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00:12:42,320 --> 00:12:44,320

Fraud is always a possibility.

154

00:12:44,320 --> 00:12:47,320

And sometimes the culprit gets caught red-handed.

155

00:12:51,320 --> 00:12:55,320

In this woman's house near Zurich something was smashing the chino.

156

00:12:55,320 --> 00:12:58,320

She called in researchers who left their video camera running.

157

00:12:58,320 --> 00:13:01,320

Unknown to her 10-year-old daughter.

158

00:13:11,320 --> 00:13:13,320

Mommy!

159

00:13:15,320 --> 00:13:17,320

Mommy!

160

00:13:17,320 --> 00:13:20,320

That's the most powerful thing about a fire.

161

00:13:20,320 --> 00:13:22,320

That's how it works.

162

00:13:22,320 --> 00:13:25,320

To the mother it looked like the work of a poltergeist.

163

00:13:25,320 --> 00:13:30,320

And the case might never have been solved if the real culprit hadn't been captured on tape.

164

00:13:45,320 --> 00:13:50,320

More crockery came to grief in this shop in the town of Bremen in northern Germany.

165

00:13:53,320 --> 00:13:57,320

Vases and glassware were smashed apparently while no one was there.

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00:13:57,320 --> 00:14:01,320

Yet it never happened when assistant Heinrich Schultz was out of the building.

167

00:14:01,320 --> 00:14:05,320

The experts thought he must be acting as a focus for the poltergeist.

168

00:14:09,320 --> 00:14:13,320

But 13 years later he confessed that he'd done it all himself.

169

00:14:13,320 --> 00:14:17,320

And he even demonstrated his technique for the TV cameras.

170

00:14:17,320 --> 00:14:19,320

The police found the police.

171

00:14:42,320 --> 00:14:46,320

He dropped plates beside a tape recorder to record the sound of them smashing.

172

00:14:47,320 --> 00:14:51,320

Later he set the tape to play back from a hidden place.

173

00:14:51,320 --> 00:14:55,320

Others claimed to hear things breaking while he was out of the room.

174

00:14:57,320 --> 00:15:01,320

And a policeman who came to investigate found himself right in the firing line.

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00:15:17,320 --> 00:15:21,320

Some investigators have tried to explain poltergeists by natural causes.

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00:15:21,320 --> 00:15:26,320

And there's one extraordinary case where the explanation was quite literally down to earth.

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00:15:26,320 --> 00:15:28,320

Whizbeach, Cambridgeshire.

178

00:15:28,320 --> 00:15:34,320

In 1979 residents of the Mount Pleasant Estate were alarmed by inexplicable bangings and rumblings.

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00:15:34,320 --> 00:15:37,320

The terrifying trademarks of the poltergeist.

180

00:15:37,320 --> 00:15:40,320

There was that layer that was in the ground.

181

00:15:40,320 --> 00:15:43,320

And the police found the police.

182

00:15:43,320 --> 00:15:46,320

The terrifying trademarks of the poltergeist.

183

00:15:46,320 --> 00:15:51,320

There was that layer that was making the glass vibrate in the house itself.

184

00:15:51,320 --> 00:15:54,320

After two or three days it was getting quite bad.

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00:15:54,320 --> 00:16:01,320

So much so in fact that you could feel the paven stones underneath your feet actually vibrate and scrape them together.

186

00:16:01,320 --> 00:16:03,320

The manhole covers you can hear them rattling.

187

00:16:03,320 --> 00:16:07,320

And in the house you could actually see the ornaments on the mantelpiece moving.

188

00:16:07,320 --> 00:16:11,320

I have brass plates and there's ornaments.

189

00:16:11,320 --> 00:16:17,320

And we were sat there watching the tally and they started to shake it first.

190

00:16:17,320 --> 00:16:23,320

And then they just one by one started to fall off shelves and off of ready the wall.

191

00:16:23,320 --> 00:16:28,320

And you thought, creaky, whatever's going on here, you know, it just weren't natural.

192

00:16:28,320 --> 00:16:31,320

We didn't really know what it was.

193

00:16:31,320 --> 00:16:36,320

I mean it could have been earthly spirits if you like.

194

00:16:36,320 --> 00:16:38,320

Some are airing up underground.

195

00:16:38,320 --> 00:16:40,320

You didn't know what it was, you see.

196

00:16:40,320 --> 00:16:43,320

And if you don't know what something is, then it is unnervin, isn't it?

197

00:16:43,320 --> 00:16:46,320

I mean these sort of things don't happen every day.

198

00:16:46,320 --> 00:16:52,320

You know, things just flying off walls and movements from under foot, you know, it was airy.

199

00:16:52,320 --> 00:16:54,320

It really was.

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00:16:54,320 --> 00:16:57,320

But the real cause was reassuringly unparanormal.

201

00:16:57,320 --> 00:17:00,320

An air relief valve had failed in the main sewer.

202

00:17:00,320 --> 00:17:07,320

Effectively the air was trapped in the rising main and was in fact moving up and down the rising main.

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00:17:07,320 --> 00:17:10,320

Causing the tremors.

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00:17:10,320 --> 00:17:14,320

This would be similar to a central heating system.

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00:17:14,320 --> 00:17:17,320

Air gets trapped in, the pipes rattle.

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00:17:17,320 --> 00:17:26,320

If you imagine that in pipes of this size, effectively you've got 10 or 20 times greater noise as well.

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00:17:26,320 --> 00:17:31,320

And the pipe ran directly under the road where our houses were.

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00:17:31,320 --> 00:17:35,320

And that was their explanation. It was just this sewage pipe.

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00:17:36,320 --> 00:17:42,320

Elsewhere in Cambridgeshire they found poltergeists aren't always so easy to explain.

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00:17:42,320 --> 00:17:49,320

A gentleman brought out a very plausible theory a number of years ago about geophysical forces underground hitting a house.

211

00:17:49,320 --> 00:17:51,320

And making things shake, you see.

212

00:17:51,320 --> 00:17:57,320

Vibrations go up the wall, hat boxes are thrown off, tables are displaced, bars is suddenly moved.

213

00:17:57,320 --> 00:18:02,320

And people are sitting in this house and they don't realise that it's due to underground water running underneath

214

00:18:02,320 --> 00:18:08,320

or disused grains or seismic disturbance or something of that nature. Geophysical forces.

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00:18:08,320 --> 00:18:14,320

Tony Cornell is testing whether such forces can create effects that could be mistaken for poltergeists.

216

00:18:14,320 --> 00:18:20,320

Right, we'll just mountain this up here. Down a bit, down a bit.

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00:18:20,320 --> 00:18:28,320

Engineer Scott Steedman fixes a powerful vibrator to the wall to shake the house just like an earth tremor.

218

00:18:29,320 --> 00:18:33,320

This whole house probably weighs about 100 tonnes. Yeah.

219

00:18:33,320 --> 00:18:39,320

So that a normal earthquake, well, a good sized earthquake that really would probably do some serious damage to this house,

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00:18:39,320 --> 00:18:46,320

would put perhaps 20 or 40 tonnes horizontally on this house.

221

00:18:46,320 --> 00:18:53,320

On the mantelpiece, household objects are carefully positioned. The sort of things that fly about during poltergeist outbreaks.

222

00:18:53,320 --> 00:18:57,320

So we can really shake the house properly. So if anything is going to happen, it's going to happen like this.

223

00:18:57,320 --> 00:19:02,320

Shall I go upstairs and have a look? I think it's a good idea. Right there.

224

00:19:02,320 --> 00:19:10,320

Right, now if we come up the stairs here, see the traditional wardrobe with a hat box has not been thrown off.

225

00:19:10,320 --> 00:19:16,320

The idea was that you've got a vibration up the wall and it threw the box off. Nothing's moved there.

226

00:19:16,320 --> 00:19:26,320

This hasn't moved, the cup hasn't moved, the plate, sorry, the tin tray, balanced on one nail, which is very precarious.

227

00:19:26,320 --> 00:19:29,320

That hasn't moved at all. Nothing has come off.

228

00:19:29,320 --> 00:19:35,320

Pick it up higher. We're running over 100 hertz now. Well, there's a low vibration.

229

00:19:35,320 --> 00:19:39,320

About 120 hertz. I can feel it through my teeth.

230

00:19:39,320 --> 00:19:44,320

Well over 10 tonnes going in and out of this wall 100 times a second.

231

00:19:44,320 --> 00:19:50,320

A typical poltergeist effect at the expense of a cup is it doesn't just drop like that.

232

00:19:50,320 --> 00:19:56,320

It flies and crashes, you know. But nothing, we're getting nothing like that at all.

233

00:19:56,320 --> 00:20:02,320

Danny, what can you feel up there? I can feel it through my feet, but there's nothing moving.

234

00:20:02,320 --> 00:20:07,320

Well it is a local effect, I mean it's very local in that wall. Yeah.

235

00:20:07,320 --> 00:20:11,320

Right, let's wind it up a bit faster.

236

00:20:11,320 --> 00:20:18,320

Only when the machine's really racing, virtually shaking the house to destruction, do things start to fly.

237

00:20:21,320 --> 00:20:23,320

Here we go.

238

00:20:25,320 --> 00:20:31,320

But the artificial earthquake has produced nothing remotely resembling the effects of a poltergeist.

239

00:20:31,320 --> 00:20:40,320

I think that geophysical theory, as pronounced several years ago, is dead as an explanation of a poltergeist. That might be.

240

00:20:40,320 --> 00:20:47,320

I've always been fascinated by poltergeist stories. Almost against my will, I've been compelled to take them seriously,

241

00:20:47,320 --> 00:20:55,320

because they show certain recurrent features. Often, not always, there's a disturbed adolescent somewhere in the background.

242

00:20:55,320 --> 00:21:01,320

Now, as all parents know, adolescents can raise plenty of hell without paranormal aid.

243

00:21:01,320 --> 00:21:10,320

Nevertheless, this persistent feature over many centuries and in many cultures suggests that something strange may be going on.

244

00:21:11,320 --> 00:21:18,320

In the winter of 1967 in Rosenheim, southern Germany, chaos descended on a lawyer's office.

245

00:21:19,320 --> 00:21:22,320

Every piece of equipment suddenly went crazy.

246

00:21:22,320 --> 00:21:28,320

Her Adam the lawyer and engineer, Her Brunner, were caught up in the strange events.

247

00:21:28,320 --> 00:21:34,320

And they fell down, and there were grass-pinters everywhere.

248

00:21:34,320 --> 00:21:41,320

And once I had a fluorescent light installed, and it rotated too.

249

00:21:41,320 --> 00:21:44,320

Even when it was on the floor, it rotated.

250

00:21:44,320 --> 00:21:49,320

It exploded once. Through there.

251

00:21:49,320 --> 00:21:53,320

Yes, then do you remember that painting, oil painting?

252

00:21:53,320 --> 00:21:54,320

Yes.

253

00:21:54,320 --> 00:22:03,320

Yes, she was sitting there, making photocopies. I was standing here in the corner, and in front of my very eyes, the picture rotated.

254

00:22:03,320 --> 00:22:11,320

Here, there was a metal cash box. The drawer was like this, and the metal cash box flew out at a right angle to the wall.

255

00:22:11,320 --> 00:22:12,320

It's crated out.

256

00:22:12,320 --> 00:22:13,320

Heard across the room.

257

00:22:13,320 --> 00:22:14,320

Oh, yes.

258

00:22:14,320 --> 00:22:16,320

And the money was scattered all over both rooms.

259

00:22:16,320 --> 00:22:18,320

That's terrible.

260

00:22:18,320 --> 00:22:22,320

Hundreds of telephone calls were made to the speaking clock, 0119.

261

00:22:22,320 --> 00:22:28,320

Dialed at impossible speed on one occasion, nine calls in two minutes, according to the bill.

262

00:22:28,320 --> 00:22:38,320

Here, for example, you can see a column headed 0119, one after the other, 20, 30 times the whole page.

263

00:22:38,320 --> 00:22:46,320

The telephone company laboriously rewired the whole system, but the calls to the speaking clock went on.

264

00:22:46,320 --> 00:22:52,320

Professor Hans Bender, Germany's foremost parapsychologist, was summoned to Rosenheim.

265

00:22:52,320 --> 00:22:58,320

Soon he announced the cause of the trouble, the office junior, a teenage girl named Anne Marie.

266

00:23:01,320 --> 00:23:07,320

She's now a settled housewife, but Bender believes she was the focus for a genuine poltergeist.

267

00:23:07,320 --> 00:23:13,320

Well, very soon we realized it is a case of poltergeist, depending on Anne Marie.

268

00:23:13,320 --> 00:23:19,320

When the girl was walking through the corridors, the lamps began to swing.

269

00:23:19,320 --> 00:23:23,320

We very carefully observed the swinging of the lamp.

270

00:23:23,320 --> 00:23:35,320

We did not notice the beginning, but the, what do you call it, amplitude was increasing without the presence of anyone.

271

00:23:35,320 --> 00:23:42,320

So there was a supply of force, you know, and nothing happened when she was not present.

272

00:23:42,320 --> 00:23:46,320

It was a very clear case of poltergeist phenomena.

273

00:23:47,320 --> 00:23:53,320

I must say I felt very humble. I was completely shocked.

274

00:23:56,320 --> 00:24:01,320

I must believe it. You could put it that way. I must believe it.

275

00:24:01,320 --> 00:24:09,320

But I did not want it to happen, you know. That is true. But otherwise, I suppose I was the cause.

276

00:24:09,320 --> 00:24:17,320

The most extraordinary phenomena, I think, are the telephone phenomena.

277

00:24:17,320 --> 00:24:21,320

I never observed it in other cases.

278

00:24:21,320 --> 00:24:29,320

And the interesting aspect of these telephone phenomena is that Anne Marie,

279

00:24:29,320 --> 00:24:37,320

without having the slightest knowledge of the technical system of a telephone, seems to have acted on swings.

280

00:24:37,320 --> 00:24:46,320

And so produced unconsciously these calls for time, 0, 1, 1, 9.

281

00:24:46,320 --> 00:24:52,320

And this for weeks and sometimes four times, five times in a minute.

282

00:24:52,320 --> 00:24:59,320

And the motivation may have been, when can I go home?

283

00:25:00,320 --> 00:25:06,320

Not at all. I'm no different from anybody else.

284

00:25:09,320 --> 00:25:16,320

Is it possible that adolescents can possess powers which they lose in later life?

285

00:25:16,320 --> 00:25:21,320

I think it's very unlikely. But I don't think it's completely impossible.

286

00:25:29,320 --> 00:25:32,320

I'm not sure.

287

00:25:54,320 --> 00:25:58,320

Next week, ESP.