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00:00:00,367 --> 00:00:07,369

This series presents information based in part on theory and conjecture.

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00:00:07,369 --> 00:00:17,371

The producer's purpose is to suggest some possible explanations but not necessarily the only ones to the mysteries we will examine.

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00:00:17,371 --> 00:00:31,375

One Saturday in 1905 in the city of Manchester, England, a factory worker by the name of William Hope set out to photograph a friend.

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00:00:31,375 --> 00:00:41,378

Mr. Hope, an amateur photographer, had been through the same process many times before and certainly nothing about this day was different than any other.

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00:00:41,378 --> 00:00:52,380

Once in the developing room something unusual happened. At first he wondered if he had forgotten to clean the photographic plates but it soon became clear what had taken place.

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00:00:52,380 --> 00:01:03,383

The image of a woman had appeared on the photograph. Hope's friend recognized her immediately. It was his sister who had died 12 years before.

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00:01:03,383 --> 00:01:07,384

Mr. Hope believed he had photographed a ghost.

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00:01:08,385 --> 00:01:19,387

In 1964 this man, Ted Sirios, came to the attention of a group of scientists and psychologists when he claimed to have taken photographs solely with the power of his mind.

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00:01:19,387 --> 00:01:29,390

A series of experiments were conducted that confounded all those present. The photographs he produced were simply unexplainable.

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00:01:38,392 --> 00:01:48,395

In 1874 Sir William Crooks, a scientist and member of the London Psychical Society, was investigating the spiritual medium Florence Cook.

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00:01:48,395 --> 00:01:54,396

It was said that Miss Cook would enter a cabinet and materialize a spirit named Katie King.

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00:02:08,400 --> 00:02:19,403

Though he believed he saw her with his own eyes, he was still not convinced that she and the medium were not one and the same person.

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00:02:19,403 --> 00:02:26,405

To clear up his doubt he opened the cabinet in which the medium worked. In his own words,

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00:02:26,405 --> 00:02:33,406

I examined Katie with steadfast scrutiny until I had no doubt whatever of her reality.

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00:02:44,409 --> 00:02:48,410

Vernon Miller is a photographic expert from the Brooks Institute of Photography.

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00:02:49,411 --> 00:02:58,413

In photography light is reflected from or absorbed by the subject in the photograph, focused through a lens and recorded on a light sensitive material.

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00:02:58,413 --> 00:03:07,415

Film, plates, emulsion. The film is light sensitive so any energy, any electromagnetic energy can affect the film to some extent.

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00:03:07,415 --> 00:03:13,417

So radiation from all of the various ways X-ray so forth can affect the film.

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00:03:14,417 --> 00:03:18,418

So you might not necessarily see the light that strikes the film.

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00:03:18,418 --> 00:03:27,420

I've seen many examples of accidental ghost photography. I've seen very few of any actual examples of a process.

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00:03:27,420 --> 00:03:36,423

Most of the ghost pictures that I've seen are examples of double exposure techniques where one image was recorded against the dark background

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00:03:36,423 --> 00:03:44,425

and that image superimposed on a normally lit scene so that you can see the brighter image against the normal scene.

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00:03:44,425 --> 00:03:50,426

This particular picture seems to be quite a production. This is not accidental.

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00:03:50,426 --> 00:03:55,428

The photographer wanted to achieve this effect. There are a few clues.

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00:03:55,428 --> 00:04:04,430

The ghost image is quite bright against a darker background indicating that he was illuminated some way that would show him against that.

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00:04:04,430 --> 00:04:08,431

We can see two or three images of the hand as it goes up the banister.

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00:04:08,431 --> 00:04:16,433

Many times there are other clues. The ghost scene will be lit artificially with a directional light as in this crucifixion scene.

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00:04:16,433 --> 00:04:25,435

It appears that these are miniatures that were lit artificially and then the combined scene was done in daylight under a different light condition.

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00:04:26,436 --> 00:04:36,438

Ever since the first photograph was taken in 1826, no images have been more surprising or more controversial than those reported to be ghost photographs.

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00:04:36,438 --> 00:04:44,440

Experts will continue to disagree on a phenomenon that theoretically records the presence of entities that are invisible to the naked eye.

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00:04:44,440 --> 00:04:50,442

Attempts to cross the thin line between life and death have occupied man's mind for centuries.

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00:04:50,442 --> 00:04:57,444

Perhaps photography, recording the subtleties of light and energy, can provide a glimpse into the other realm.

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00:04:57,444 --> 00:05:02,445

William Hope, Sir William Crooks and others were convinced this is so.

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00:05:02,445 --> 00:05:10,447

This is known as the Armistice Photographs and was taken on Remembrance Day near the London War Memorial in 1923.

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00:05:10,447 --> 00:05:19,449

It purportedly shows an entire battalion killed in the Great War and gripped the public imagination like few other photographs before or since.

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00:05:19,449 --> 00:05:23,450

But the question of how these images got onto film is still in debate.

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00:05:23,450 --> 00:05:28,451

Raymond Bayless is a psychic investigator who has researched hundreds of ghost photographs.

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00:05:28,451 --> 00:05:37,454

There are two main theories. One, of course, is that the origin of all psychic phenomena comes from the mind of an individual operating through the subconscious.

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00:05:37,454 --> 00:05:44,456

And the other main theory is that the phenomenon itself is in some way instigated by a surviving spirit.

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00:05:44,456 --> 00:05:51,457

I've taken part in some experiments that I believe were authentic. That is that authentic psychic photographs were taken.

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00:05:51,457 --> 00:05:58,459

Now I'm not going to call them spirit photographs because I don't know whether they're the product of a spirit or whether they're a product of an individual's mind or what have you.

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00:05:58,459 --> 00:06:03,461

But nevertheless, I do believe that they were actually psychic photographs. That is, they were

paranormal.

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00:06:03,461 --> 00:06:11,463

This is ordinary Polaroid film, 4 by 5 inches film, and it comes in a light-tight envelope.

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00:06:11,463 --> 00:06:21,465

It can be utilized into any number of normal cameras by inserting it into a holder, film holder.

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00:06:21,465 --> 00:06:26,466

Okay, we insert the film in the back of the camera.

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00:06:26,466 --> 00:06:33,468

And from this standpoint on, it is just like ordinary wet process photography.

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00:06:33,468 --> 00:06:39,470

And I'll snap this picture and make a little demonstration for you.

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00:06:40,470 --> 00:06:54,474

Now in wet process conventional photography, there is a step in the dark room where the film is processed and the picture finally printed.

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00:06:54,474 --> 00:07:00,475

And Polaroid and Reinstant photography has the advantage of having all of this done in front of you.

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00:07:00,475 --> 00:07:07,477

So there's no chance for manipulation of the image other than right here before your eyes.

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00:07:07,477 --> 00:07:17,480

So in a few seconds we can open this envelope up and examine the photograph that we just made.

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00:07:19,480 --> 00:07:35,484

And here we have the image that we just photographed just now and a ghost-like image of another face that was made prior to the exposure just at this time.

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00:07:35,484 --> 00:07:43,486

I'm familiar enough with this process that I would look at any image with a great deal of skepticism.

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00:07:44,487 --> 00:07:48,488

Many times scientists go into experimenters with blinders on.

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00:07:48,488 --> 00:07:58,490

That is, they have become so biased due to prevailing views, customs of thought, so forth, that they're no longer capable of actually examining an experiment.

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00:07:58,490 --> 00:08:05,492

They may, for example, take part in an experiment, admit that all of the controls are perfect, that there was nothing wrong whatsoever.

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00:08:05,492 --> 00:08:12,494

But then a few days later they suddenly find that their view is changing. They no longer can accept it.

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00:08:12,494 --> 00:08:18,495

But this is not the result of thought. This is the result, as I say, of a prevailing bias.

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00:08:18,495 --> 00:08:21,496

They simply cannot examine an experiment clearly.

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00:08:21,496 --> 00:08:29,498

There have been spirit photographers that have produced real psychic photographs, and in my opinion, and they have also resorted to fraud.

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00:08:29,498 --> 00:08:35,500

There have been some photographers that apparently never resorted to fraud or practically never.

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00:08:35,500 --> 00:08:45,502

Buigwe was a very famous early spirit photographer. One of the pioneers, you might say, he made vast numbers of these photographs, some apparently real.

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00:08:45,502 --> 00:08:53,504

But in 1875, Buigwe was put on trial for fraud by those who felt that the idea of photographing spirits was preposterous.

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00:08:53,504 --> 00:09:01,506

Fraud could not be proved, and Buigwe went on to produce many more spirit photographs, some reportedly under rigid test conditions.

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00:09:04,507 --> 00:09:07,508

Not all such cases were so bitterly fought.

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00:09:07,508 --> 00:09:13,509

In 1917, Sir Arthur Cunndoil came upon an incident that soon became well-known throughout Europe.

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00:09:13,509 --> 00:09:21,512

He reported that two young English girls, while playing in the woods near their home, believed they saw a gathering of fairies.

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00:09:21,512 --> 00:09:26,513

They returned to the spot soon afterward and took these photographs.

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00:09:33,515 --> 00:09:42,517

Skeptics pointed out the suspicious resemblance to several drawings done by Claude Sheperson to illustrate a poem entitled, A Spell for a Fairy.

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00:09:43,517 --> 00:09:47,518

Episodes such as this tended to cast doubts on spirit photography.

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00:09:48,518 --> 00:09:57,521

Natural cave formations in Southern California provide photographer Seymour Locke's with fertile ground for picking up energies from past civilizations.

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00:09:58,521 --> 00:10:07,523

Coming into the cave area, what I was feeling was simply that it had been used by somebody. It was just a message that I was getting.

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00:10:08,524 --> 00:10:17,526

There are energies in the earth, sometimes from water, sometimes from minerals, and sometimes from the presence of entities who have used this,

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00:10:17,526 --> 00:10:22,527

because everything in nature has a memory, rock, whatever has a memory.

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00:10:22,527 --> 00:10:30,529

And so I would assume that the energies in this area would have to do with the people who lived here at one time, the Indian people, whomever.

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00:10:30,529 --> 00:10:42,532

But it has that kind of aura that I would assume whenever I worked with their entities around, because my supposition is that I'm assisted on the other side by people who create the imagery.

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00:10:43,533 --> 00:10:48,534

He believed that his photographs provide evidence of unseen entities.

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00:10:48,534 --> 00:11:01,537

More than ten years ago, unexplainable images began appearing in photographs taken by Seymour Locke's.

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00:11:02,538 --> 00:11:12,540

After much investigation, he has concluded that he has mysterious assistance, and the strange glow apparent in many of his pictures is energy from unseen entities.

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00:11:13,540 --> 00:11:17,541

This is really a beautiful configuration in it.

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00:11:17,541 --> 00:11:27,544

It's reminiscent of the opening to the sky that you would find in the mythologies of the American Indian.

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00:11:28,544 --> 00:11:37,547

A psychometrist can hold an object and pick up images, sometimes vibrations, etc.

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00:11:37,547 --> 00:11:42,548

A dowser can walk over a landscape and tell where the water or the mineral.

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00:11:42,548 --> 00:11:52,550

Psychic photography, the ability to pick up an image, is comparable to picking up a clairvoyant image, you're simply using another medium.

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00:11:53,551 --> 00:12:00,552

Photography is a receptive vehicle because it is silver. It has a vibration already.

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00:12:00,552 --> 00:12:06,554

Sometimes the image is impressed while I'm developing, sometimes it's impressed while it's in the camera.

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00:12:06,554 --> 00:12:13,556

You don't need a camera, you simply need some kind of sensitized paper or film.

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00:12:13,556 --> 00:12:16,557

The silver salts are a receptive vehicle.

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00:12:16,557 --> 00:12:24,559

One of the most spectacular series was with a woman, Jerry Isaacson, who at that time was living in Santa Cruz.

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00:12:24,559 --> 00:12:35,561

I photographed her in a sequence of photographs in which she was doing a massage, and in the five frames that ensued, she became less and less visible.

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00:12:36,562 --> 00:12:45,564

My experiences have been that white light is projected from the healer and that they become transparent.

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00:12:45,564 --> 00:12:52,566

Transparency and a luminosity seems to be prevalent in those photographs I've made of the healer.

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00:12:52,566 --> 00:12:59,568

In one remarkable photograph, a human face stares at us from another time and space.

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00:13:00,568 --> 00:13:13,571

After a seance, I wanted to see what I might pick up because I was still feeling, as I generally do, after a seance, the room is very, very strong because you've been building the energy, so-called, in that environment.

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00:13:13,571 --> 00:13:23,574

The so-called upper levels of consciousness are apparently available more frequently to more and more people these days for whatever reasons we don't know.

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00:13:23,574 --> 00:13:29,575

And they seem to go in cycles, and they tend to come in turbulent periods of time.

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00:13:33,576 --> 00:13:35,577

Perhaps we are still evolving.

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00:13:35,577 --> 00:13:44,579

It seems very possible that the brain, even now, has capabilities which are still in the process of developing the energy.

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00:13:45,580 --> 00:13:47,580

Perhaps we are still evolving.

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00:13:47,580 --> 00:13:54,582

It seems very possible that the brain, even now, has capabilities which are still untapped.

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00:13:55,582 --> 00:14:02,584

Dr. Michael Graves is a neurologist in Los Angeles and is keenly aware of the bewildering complexity of the mind.

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00:14:02,584 --> 00:14:10,586

How the brain actually works when we do something as simple as think or say a sentence is something that we know really very little about.

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00:14:11,586 --> 00:14:17,588

As clinical neurologists, we know that certain parts of the brain can be destroyed and the individual doesn't suffer.

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00:14:17,588 --> 00:14:26,590

So there are parts of the brain with no obvious, easily-identifiable function, but I believe that there must be some function for all parts of the brain.

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00:14:26,590 --> 00:14:36,593

Modern brain scans actually give you a picture that looks as if someone's head has been sliced into serial sections, just as like a loaf of bread is cut.

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00:14:37,593 --> 00:14:41,594

This is a cross-section of the patient's brain.

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00:14:41,594 --> 00:14:47,596

The intensity of the color indicates the intensity of metabolism of the brain tissue.

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00:14:47,596 --> 00:14:53,597

For example, here we see a red area in the temporal lobe of the brain.

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00:14:53,597 --> 00:14:59,599

That's the part of the brain which is metabolizing or using energy the most intensely.

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00:14:59,599 --> 00:15:05,600

Other areas are yellow or even blue. They're using energy less intensely.

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00:15:05,600 --> 00:15:18,603

This technique could tell us what part of the brain is most intensively operating during any mental function, including telekinesis or any psychic phenomenon.

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00:15:18,603 --> 00:15:28,606

Once we get that step as accomplished, there would still be unanswered questions as to how that part of the brain did that job.

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00:15:28,606 --> 00:15:42,610

In Waterville, Maine, the Veilleur family has confounded skeptics with their ability to capture ghost images on film.

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00:15:42,610 --> 00:15:53,613

For 15 years, they have explored the natural hunting grounds of ghosts and have taken photographs that raise questions about man's true nature and the limits of our physical reality.

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00:15:54,613 --> 00:16:02,615

Their Odyssey began with a simple parlor game which evolved into a dialogue with an entity that became their spirit guide.

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00:16:02,615 --> 00:16:05,616

Richard Veilleur records the sessions.

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00:16:05,616 --> 00:16:08,616

Could you tell us how you passed away?

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00:16:08,616 --> 00:16:17,619

A, C, C, I, D, E.

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00:16:17,619 --> 00:16:26,621

We, G, first started in December of 1965 and it started as sort of a parlor game or as an amusement.

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00:16:26,621 --> 00:16:36,624

The personality which introduced itself was ACL or N. Caroline Lowe.

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00:16:36,624 --> 00:16:44,626

She gave information concerning herself as to where she was buried, the inscription on her gravestone, location of cemetery, so forth.

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00:16:44,626 --> 00:16:48,627

I friend a family.

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00:16:48,627 --> 00:16:55,628

Would it be possible to photograph you?

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00:16:55,628 --> 00:16:58,629

Yes.

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00:17:02,630 --> 00:17:07,632

They were given the location of Anne Caroline Lowe's gravesite.

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00:17:08,632 --> 00:17:18,634

With some trepidation, they visited the site and took this photograph of their young spirit guide.

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00:17:25,636 --> 00:17:33,638

Though they photographed in a wide variety of situations, researchers couldn't find any deception involved in their method.

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00:17:38,640 --> 00:17:51,643

The personal reason to enter parapsychology was to determine the nature of the pictures and of the scripts.

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00:17:51,643 --> 00:17:57,644

Is it possible to communicate with the deceased through Ouija?

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00:17:57,644 --> 00:18:00,645

Is it possible to photograph the dead?

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00:18:00,645 --> 00:18:02,646

Who is communicating?

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00:18:03,646 --> 00:18:14,649

Certain communicators would inform us that there is a return process from their so-called reality to come back in two hours in order to communicate.

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00:18:14,649 --> 00:18:18,650

They would have to pass through a tunnel or an alleyway.

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00:18:18,650 --> 00:18:27,652

The opening at the beginning is very wide and as they come closer to our own reality, it becomes narrower and narrower.

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00:18:28,652 --> 00:18:37,655

They would see us as if steam vapor and water droplets would be falling upon a piece of glass.

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00:18:37,655 --> 00:18:43,656

A lithography, a psychophotography, a spirit photography, a paranormal imagery.

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00:18:43,656 --> 00:18:49,658

If you can't see the image, you're using an ethnographic process.

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00:18:49,658 --> 00:18:55,659

What we have to determine is what intelligence is producing the phenomenon.

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00:18:55,659 --> 00:19:00,661

Is it our own unconscious or are we actually photographing a deceased?

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00:19:00,661 --> 00:19:07,662

And is that deceased, thought-ographically, impressing its image or another image upon our plate?

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00:19:14,664 --> 00:19:21,666

In 1966, in Denver, Colorado, a series of tightly controlled experiments are conducted.

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00:19:21,666 --> 00:19:26,667

Researchers are checking and numbering fresh film and new cameras.

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00:19:26,667 --> 00:19:35,670

The subject of these experiments is Ted Sirios, a Chicago bellhop with an incredible mind and an incredible thirst to match.

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00:19:35,670 --> 00:19:40,671

Ted's Sirios ability is the power to project his thoughts onto film.

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00:19:40,671 --> 00:19:46,673

During the experiments, researchers take the pictures while Ted stares into the camera.

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00:19:46,673 --> 00:19:49,673

His concentration is intense.

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00:19:49,673 --> 00:19:54,675

His pulse rate rises to 120 or more. The results are staggering.

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00:19:54,675 --> 00:19:58,676

Images of all kinds begin appearing on the film.

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00:19:58,676 --> 00:20:07,678

A target photograph unseen by Ted and known to only two of the researchers is the image that Ted tries to duplicate.

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00:20:07,678 --> 00:20:13,679

Sometimes, when he is sure he has the photograph, he shouts, I got it that time.

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00:20:14,680 --> 00:20:20,681

An amazing aspect of the pictures is that they often contain small errors in form.

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00:20:20,681 --> 00:20:26,683

They are not quite exact duplicates, like the inverted strut of this plane.

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00:20:26,683 --> 00:20:34,685

It is as though that part of his brain that does these things can't make up its mind about the target picture.

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00:20:34,685 --> 00:20:42,687

Again and again, he matches the target pictures until it is difficult to doubt that he is actually doing what he says he is.

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00:20:43,687 --> 00:20:51,689

One of the most spectacular demonstrations of all takes place in a Colorado television station.

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00:20:51,689 --> 00:20:57,691

In a moment of bravado, Ted claims that he can actually put images onto the videotape.

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00:20:57,691 --> 00:21:00,692

Here are the results of that experiment.

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00:21:00,692 --> 00:21:05,693

Convention tells us that this should not be possible.

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00:21:05,693 --> 00:21:11,694

But if these images don't come from the mind of Ted Sirios, where do they come from?

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00:21:12,695 --> 00:21:18,696

Images from the far reaches of our imagination.

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00:21:18,696 --> 00:21:25,698

These ghostly faces look at us from behind the veil that hides the mysteries of life and death

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00:21:25,698 --> 00:21:29,699

and make us wonder about the reality of ghosts.