

**REAL WILD
ENCOUNTERS**
in the
**WOODS &
WILDS of
the USA!**

**CAMPING
IS
CREEPY!**



1
00:00:05,900 --> 00:00:04,640
[Music]

2
00:00:10,590 --> 00:00:05,910
[Applause]

3
00:00:12,930 --> 00:00:10,600
[Music]

4
00:00:17,830 --> 00:00:12,940
[Applause]

5
00:00:21,990 --> 00:00:19,670
welcome to the best of first person

6
00:00:24,870 --> 00:00:22,000
episodes of phantoms and monsters

7
00:00:28,830 --> 00:00:24,880
please like subscribe and hit the bell

8
00:00:31,830 --> 00:00:28,840
icon so you'll be notified of all future

9
00:00:33,590 --> 00:00:31,840
uploads

10
00:00:35,030 --> 00:00:33,600
bizarre night at skull valley primitive

11
00:00:36,950 --> 00:00:35,040
campground utah

12
00:00:39,110 --> 00:00:36,960
my experience at skull valley primitive

13
00:00:39,430 --> 00:00:39,120

campgrounds in utah absolutely terrified

14

00:00:43,430 --> 00:00:39,440

me

15

00:00:45,350 --> 00:00:43,440

for good here's what happened

16

00:00:47,029 --> 00:00:45,360

the summer before last i took a road

17

00:00:48,470 --> 00:00:47,039

trip from my home in colorado up the

18

00:00:50,709 --> 00:00:48,480

west coast into canada

19

00:00:53,189 --> 00:00:50,719

my northernmost destination being fernie

20

00:00:54,709 --> 00:00:53,199

bc canada's i have family there

21

00:00:57,590 --> 00:00:54,719

i mapped out a series of free

22

00:00:59,430 --> 00:00:57,600

campgrounds to stay in instead of hotels

23

00:01:01,029 --> 00:00:59,440

i loved camping and it would help me

24

00:01:02,630 --> 00:01:01,039

stay on budget as well

25

00:01:04,549 --> 00:01:02,640

my boyfriend at the time also was

26
00:01:05,750 --> 00:01:04,559
traveling so we were planning to meet up

27
00:01:08,070 --> 00:01:05,760
in san francisco

28
00:01:09,670 --> 00:01:08,080
and get to seattle together i was doing

29
00:01:11,910 --> 00:01:09,680
the first bit of the trip with just my

30
00:01:13,590 --> 00:01:11,920
dog and my first planned campsite was a

31
00:01:14,149 --> 00:01:13,600
place called skull valley primitive in

32
00:01:16,550 --> 00:01:14,159
utah

33
00:01:18,070 --> 00:01:16,560
owned by the bureau of land management i

34
00:01:20,149 --> 00:01:18,080
found the site easily

35
00:01:22,149 --> 00:01:20,159
the camping spots are up a dirt hill so

36
00:01:23,990 --> 00:01:22,159
i took the first sight i saw as my car

37
00:01:26,390 --> 00:01:24,000
is not made for off-roading

38
00:01:28,310 --> 00:01:26,400

i set up my tent without any issues and

39

00:01:30,710 --> 00:01:28,320

changed into my hiking boots

40

00:01:32,710 --> 00:01:30,720

it was so hot i remember my poor dog had

41

00:01:33,190 --> 00:01:32,720

to have a cool towel down after i set up

42

00:01:35,270 --> 00:01:33,200

camp

43

00:01:37,190 --> 00:01:35,280

because he just couldn't get cooled off

44

00:01:38,710 --> 00:01:37,200

there were a ton of other campsites but

45

00:01:40,789 --> 00:01:38,720

hardly anyone using them

46

00:01:42,469 --> 00:01:40,799

there were two rvs i came across parked

47

00:01:44,149 --> 00:01:42,479

super far away from my site

48

00:01:46,389 --> 00:01:44,159

and i was definitely the only tent

49

00:01:48,310 --> 00:01:46,399

camper i decided to go take a hike

50

00:01:49,910 --> 00:01:48,320

around before the sun was down

51
00:01:51,830 --> 00:01:49,920
the campsite is adjacent to these

52
00:01:53,190 --> 00:01:51,840
mountains that rise out of flat ground

53
00:01:55,109 --> 00:01:53,200
and have what appear to be cave

54
00:01:57,830 --> 00:01:55,119
dwellings carved in the face of them

55
00:01:59,830 --> 00:01:57,840
i wanted to investigate so teddy my dog

56
00:02:01,510 --> 00:01:59,840
and i started off in that direction

57
00:02:03,190 --> 00:02:01,520
after only a few minutes of walking we

58
00:02:04,870 --> 00:02:03,200
hit a barbed wire fence

59
00:02:06,310 --> 00:02:04,880
i didn't think twice about beeking under

60
00:02:07,590 --> 00:02:06,320
it and continuing onwards

61
00:02:09,589 --> 00:02:07,600
i just didn't think it would be a

62
00:02:11,270 --> 00:02:09,599
problem only a few yards

63
00:02:12,710 --> 00:02:11,280

after i had hopped the fence i stopped

64

00:02:14,470 --> 00:02:12,720

dead in my tracks

65

00:02:16,630 --> 00:02:14,480

an eerie and unusual sound was coming

66

00:02:18,229 --> 00:02:16,640

from the direction of the cave dwellings

67

00:02:19,990 --> 00:02:18,239

the best description i can give you is

68

00:02:21,670 --> 00:02:20,000

that it sounded like dozens of humans

69

00:02:23,510 --> 00:02:21,680

trying to howl like wolves

70

00:02:25,589 --> 00:02:23,520

like many people pretending to be a wolf

71

00:02:27,430 --> 00:02:25,599

pack and it sounded like its origin was

72

00:02:29,589 --> 00:02:27,440

inside the caves themselves

73

00:02:31,030 --> 00:02:29,599

my dog was as spooked as i was and had

74

00:02:32,869 --> 00:02:31,040

already started running back to the

75

00:02:34,710 --> 00:02:32,879

campsite when i turned around

76

00:02:36,470 --> 00:02:34,720

the sounds continued until i was well

77

00:02:38,710 --> 00:02:36,480

inside the camp perimeters

78

00:02:40,710 --> 00:02:38,720

the sun was almost completely set when i

79

00:02:41,350 --> 00:02:40,720

decided to let teddy out for one last

80

00:02:43,190 --> 00:02:41,360

break

81

00:02:44,710 --> 00:02:43,200

i was freaked out by what had happened

82

00:02:45,509 --> 00:02:44,720

and didn't want to be running around in

83

00:02:47,589 --> 00:02:45,519

the dark

84

00:02:49,430 --> 00:02:47,599

teddy is a dog that simply does not need

85

00:02:50,470 --> 00:02:49,440

a leash he is never more than several

86

00:02:53,110 --> 00:02:50,480

feet away from me

87

00:02:54,710 --> 00:02:53,120

so i didn't use one i zipped up the tent

88

00:02:57,030 --> 00:02:54,720

and walked him away from her sight

89

00:02:59,030 --> 00:02:57,040

and then suddenly he was just gone i

90

00:03:00,790 --> 00:02:59,040

couldn't see or hear any sign of him

91

00:03:02,710 --> 00:03:00,800

the sun had finished setting by the time

92

00:03:04,630 --> 00:03:02,720

i finally gave up screaming for him

93

00:03:05,750 --> 00:03:04,640

and returned to my tent which had not

94

00:03:07,350 --> 00:03:05,760

been left alone

95

00:03:09,350 --> 00:03:07,360

the tent had a broken zipper when i

96

00:03:09,910 --> 00:03:09,360

arrived and my stuff was stern about

97

00:03:11,910 --> 00:03:09,920

inside

98

00:03:13,030 --> 00:03:11,920

though nothing was missing i want to

99

00:03:14,790 --> 00:03:13,040

emphasize the fact

100

00:03:16,390 --> 00:03:14,800

that during this time period i noticed

101

00:03:18,550 --> 00:03:16,400

there were no nature noises

102

00:03:20,550 --> 00:03:18,560

no crickets chirping or anything at all

103

00:03:21,430 --> 00:03:20,560

and i felt what can only be described as

104

00:03:24,070 --> 00:03:21,440

complete dread

105

00:03:26,229 --> 00:03:24,080

sheer terror i was simply petrified i've

106

00:03:28,070 --> 00:03:26,239

never felt so scared in my life

107

00:03:29,830 --> 00:03:28,080

in fact i feel the same terror just

108

00:03:31,030 --> 00:03:29,840

writing this out it's truly the most

109

00:03:33,350 --> 00:03:31,040

scared i've ever been

110

00:03:34,470 --> 00:03:33,360

and i will never forget it i decided to

111

00:03:36,710 --> 00:03:34,480

grab my taser

112

00:03:38,470 --> 00:03:36,720

and keep trying to find teddy after a

113

00:03:38,789 --> 00:03:38,480

bit longer of whistling and shouting for

114

00:03:40,949 --> 00:03:38,799

him

115

00:03:42,470 --> 00:03:40,959

i realized he was not coming back so i

116

00:03:44,550 --> 00:03:42,480

headed into my tent

117

00:03:46,949 --> 00:03:44,560

i used some safety pins i had to pin it

118

00:03:49,110 --> 00:03:46,959

closed since the zipper was now broken

119

00:03:50,949 --> 00:03:49,120

this is where things get even weirder as

120

00:03:51,430 --> 00:03:50,959

i lay there trying not to totally freak

121

00:03:53,270 --> 00:03:51,440

out

122

00:03:54,949 --> 00:03:53,280

something started to violently shake my

123

00:03:56,789 --> 00:03:54,959

tent from multiple angles

124

00:03:58,710 --> 00:03:56,799

i could feel it then brush against my

125

00:03:59,750 --> 00:03:58,720

feet sometimes and the shaking was

126

00:04:02,070 --> 00:03:59,760

relentless

127

00:04:04,149 --> 00:04:02,080

at some point several hours later i

128

00:04:04,710 --> 00:04:04,159

heard my dog outside the tent and peeked

129

00:04:06,949 --> 00:04:04,720

out

130

00:04:08,789 --> 00:04:06,959

it was him i quickly unpinned part of

131

00:04:10,789 --> 00:04:08,799

the flap and he hopped in

132

00:04:12,550 --> 00:04:10,799

his behavior was definitely off and he

133

00:04:14,390 --> 00:04:12,560

reacted to the constant shaking of our

134

00:04:16,150 --> 00:04:14,400

tent even more so than i did

135

00:04:18,069 --> 00:04:16,160

neither of us slept that night and as

136

00:04:20,390 --> 00:04:18,079

soon as morning came we were gone

137

00:04:22,629 --> 00:04:20,400

i called my now ex boyfriend on the

138

00:04:23,350 --> 00:04:22,639

drive out and recounted exactly what had

139

00:04:25,110 --> 00:04:23,360
happened

140

00:04:26,870 --> 00:04:25,120
he started to google the location and

141

00:04:28,310 --> 00:04:26,880
found out that the area i had walked

142

00:04:29,350 --> 00:04:28,320
into is actually the site of an

143

00:04:30,870 --> 00:04:29,360
extremely small

144

00:04:33,430 --> 00:04:30,880
and impoverished native american

145

00:04:34,390 --> 00:04:33,440
reservation his hypothesis was that they

146

00:04:36,870 --> 00:04:34,400
had been watching me

147

00:04:38,710 --> 00:04:36,880
and decided to mess with me after dark i

148

00:04:41,350 --> 00:04:38,720
can believe this to some extent

149

00:04:42,390 --> 00:04:41,360
it's somewhat plausible i guess anyway

150

00:04:44,070 --> 00:04:42,400
that's my story

151
00:04:45,909 --> 00:04:44,080
it was the first and the last time i

152
00:04:47,909 --> 00:04:45,919
camped by myself during the trip

153
00:04:54,830 --> 00:04:47,919
and sadly i have not returned to solo

154
00:04:58,150 --> 00:04:56,390
tb

155
00:04:59,830 --> 00:04:58,160
creepy camping incident in cherokee

156
00:05:01,670 --> 00:04:59,840
national forest tennessee

157
00:05:03,510 --> 00:05:01,680
i have been holding this story in for a

158
00:05:05,350 --> 00:05:03,520
while and have tirelessly searched the

159
00:05:07,350 --> 00:05:05,360
internet to find another person who has

160
00:05:08,070 --> 00:05:07,360
experienced something similar but to no

161
00:05:10,230 --> 00:05:08,080
avail

162
00:05:11,909 --> 00:05:10,240
this story is entirely true and although

163
00:05:13,510 --> 00:05:11,919

i loved the campground i stayed at

164

00:05:15,510 --> 00:05:13,520

and the beautiful nature that was all

165

00:05:16,870 --> 00:05:15,520

around i'll have a tough time going back

166

00:05:18,469 --> 00:05:16,880

without finding out what the hell

167

00:05:20,150 --> 00:05:18,479

happened last time i went

168

00:05:21,670 --> 00:05:20,160

my girlfriend had invited me on a

169

00:05:22,629 --> 00:05:21,680

camping trip to indian boundary

170

00:05:24,870 --> 00:05:22,639

campground with her

171

00:05:26,629 --> 00:05:24,880

and her family a few months back this

172

00:05:28,629 --> 00:05:26,639

campground is in the cherokee national

173

00:05:29,510 --> 00:05:28,639

forest near a city called tellico plains

174

00:05:31,270 --> 00:05:29,520

tennessee

175

00:05:33,430 --> 00:05:31,280

the first few days of the trip went as

176

00:05:35,830 --> 00:05:33,440

expected we hiked made s'mores

177

00:05:37,590 --> 00:05:35,840

and told scary stories but little did i

178

00:05:39,110 --> 00:05:37,600

know that i would be in one soon

179

00:05:41,510 --> 00:05:39,120

about halfway through the trip we

180

00:05:43,270 --> 00:05:41,520

decided to visit the local fish hatchery

181

00:05:44,950 --> 00:05:43,280

unfortunately when we arrived the gates

182

00:05:45,350 --> 00:05:44,960

were closed and there were signs out

183

00:05:47,830 --> 00:05:45,360

saying

184

00:05:49,670 --> 00:05:47,840

that it was closed due to covet 19. on

185

00:05:50,230 --> 00:05:49,680

the same bulletin board that these signs

186

00:05:52,390 --> 00:05:50,240

were on

187

00:05:54,070 --> 00:05:52,400

there was an oddly out of place and very

188

00:05:55,510 --> 00:05:54,080

unsettling picture of a fish with its

189

00:05:57,430 --> 00:05:55,520

face cut straight open

190

00:05:59,189 --> 00:05:57,440

yes the face was cut straight down the

191

00:06:01,270 --> 00:05:59,199

middle so all that could be seen

192

00:06:03,029 --> 00:06:01,280

was the skeleton of the fish there was

193

00:06:04,710 --> 00:06:03,039

text on the picture the dread look but

194

00:06:06,790 --> 00:06:04,720

it was in some strange font

195

00:06:08,070 --> 00:06:06,800

almost a creepypasta kind of font with

196

00:06:10,309 --> 00:06:08,080

characters like oh

197

00:06:11,990 --> 00:06:10,319

that itself wasn't all too weird just

198

00:06:13,670 --> 00:06:12,000

routed off as someone trying to play a

199

00:06:15,590 --> 00:06:13,680

prank and creep tourists out

200

00:06:17,430 --> 00:06:15,600

once we realized the hatchery was closed

201
00:06:19,270 --> 00:06:17,440
we decided to change our plans for the

202
00:06:21,430 --> 00:06:19,280
day and head to a swimming hole that my

203
00:06:23,350 --> 00:06:21,440
girlfriend's grandma used as a child

204
00:06:25,110 --> 00:06:23,360
we arrived to a beautiful clear creek

205
00:06:25,670 --> 00:06:25,120
with a rope swing tied to a tree on the

206
00:06:27,430 --> 00:06:25,680
bank

207
00:06:29,110 --> 00:06:27,440
an old lady sat in front of the tree

208
00:06:29,749 --> 00:06:29,120
smoking a cigarette with a rock in her

209
00:06:31,590 --> 00:06:29,759
lap

210
00:06:33,110 --> 00:06:31,600
as my girlfriend and i approached the

211
00:06:35,029 --> 00:06:33,120
creek we greeted the old woman who

212
00:06:36,629 --> 00:06:35,039
seemed quite friendly and that is when i

213
00:06:38,309 --> 00:06:36,639

noticed that she was using another

214

00:06:40,390 --> 00:06:38,319

smaller rock to etch something onto the

215

00:06:42,230 --> 00:06:40,400

larger rock that was in her lap

216

00:06:44,230 --> 00:06:42,240

she eventually left the creek side

217

00:06:46,230 --> 00:06:44,240

retreating to her camper which was about

218

00:06:48,309 --> 00:06:46,240

50 feet from the other side of the creek

219

00:06:50,309 --> 00:06:48,319

and joined her husband they both then

220

00:06:52,150 --> 00:06:50,319

sat outside their camper and lawn chairs

221

00:06:53,830 --> 00:06:52,160

facing the creek and it seemed as though

222

00:06:54,870 --> 00:06:53,840

they just watched us from a distance for

223

00:06:56,790 --> 00:06:54,880

a good while

224

00:06:58,390 --> 00:06:56,800

i didn't think too much of it sure it

225

00:06:59,749 --> 00:06:58,400

was creepy but they were just some

226

00:07:01,350 --> 00:06:59,759

harmless old people

227

00:07:03,430 --> 00:07:01,360

then i looked at the rock that the woman

228

00:07:04,550 --> 00:07:03,440

had been riding on the word look was

229

00:07:06,790 --> 00:07:04,560

carved into it

230

00:07:08,309 --> 00:07:06,800

i freaked out nothing else that was this

231

00:07:10,390 --> 00:07:08,319

strange happened throughout the rest of

232

00:07:11,029 --> 00:07:10,400

our trip but this day still boggles my

233

00:07:13,189 --> 00:07:11,039

mind

234

00:07:14,950 --> 00:07:13,199

i have no way of explaining these events

235

00:07:16,390 --> 00:07:14,960

and still have not heard of anyone with

236

00:07:18,230 --> 00:07:16,400

similar experiences

237

00:07:20,150 --> 00:07:18,240

but damn the woods are creepy and that

238

00:07:20,950 --> 00:07:20,160

is the last place i wanted to be scared

239

00:07:27,909 --> 00:07:20,960

to death

240

00:07:31,749 --> 00:07:30,230

saswitcher's cooking spirit my wife

241

00:07:33,350 --> 00:07:31,759

daughter and i went camping over the

242

00:07:35,430 --> 00:07:33,360

labor day holiday weekend

243

00:07:36,870 --> 00:07:35,440

we both took off work friday and headed

244

00:07:38,230 --> 00:07:36,880

off to meet up with a group of friends

245

00:07:38,870 --> 00:07:38,240

who were camping with their kids and

246

00:07:40,309 --> 00:07:38,880

dogs

247

00:07:42,469 --> 00:07:40,319

they were already out there and had

248

00:07:43,589 --> 00:07:42,479

found and a nice campsite that was big

249

00:07:45,430 --> 00:07:43,599

enough for a group

250

00:07:47,350 --> 00:07:45,440

just a spot off of a service road with

251
00:07:48,230 --> 00:07:47,360
primitive fire pit and not an official

252
00:07:49,990 --> 00:07:48,240
campground

253
00:07:51,430 --> 00:07:50,000
in total there were 10 of us seven

254
00:07:53,110 --> 00:07:51,440
adults and three tweens

255
00:07:54,950 --> 00:07:53,120
we were camping out in an area south of

256
00:07:56,629 --> 00:07:54,960
mount rainier just outside of the park

257
00:07:57,589 --> 00:07:56,639
boundary off of a road that would lead

258
00:07:59,670 --> 00:07:57,599
you to a locked gate

259
00:08:01,589 --> 00:07:59,680
that enters the park we knew at the end

260
00:08:03,589 --> 00:08:01,599
of the road was a luck gate because all

261
00:08:04,309 --> 00:08:03,599
the cars that went that way only to flip

262
00:08:05,830 --> 00:08:04,319
back around

263
00:08:08,070 --> 00:08:05,840

because it was only accessible to

264

00:08:09,749 --> 00:08:08,080

national park staff we set up our camp

265

00:08:11,510 --> 00:08:09,759

in a flat area that would fit our two

266

00:08:12,469 --> 00:08:11,520

tents that they had rake up for us prior

267

00:08:13,990 --> 00:08:12,479

to us arriving

268

00:08:15,830 --> 00:08:14,000

it was a bit closer to the road than

269

00:08:17,350 --> 00:08:15,840

their tents were they had set up their

270

00:08:19,029 --> 00:08:17,360

tents much further back

271

00:08:20,790 --> 00:08:19,039

once camp was set up we hung out with

272

00:08:22,469 --> 00:08:20,800

our friends while the kids played and

273

00:08:24,150 --> 00:08:22,479

had dinner around the fire

274

00:08:25,670 --> 00:08:24,160

just friends hanging out having drinks

275

00:08:26,309 --> 00:08:25,680

hanging around the fire and all was

276

00:08:27,990 --> 00:08:26,319

great

277

00:08:29,749 --> 00:08:28,000

we stayed up pretty late and everyone

278

00:08:31,670 --> 00:08:29,759

was getting tired and cold

279

00:08:33,589 --> 00:08:31,680

slowly everyone faded off to their tents

280

00:08:35,269 --> 00:08:33,599

into bed my wife was cold

281

00:08:37,350 --> 00:08:35,279

and went to warm up in the car and then

282

00:08:39,029 --> 00:08:37,360

proceeded to fall asleep in the car

283

00:08:41,110 --> 00:08:39,039

now my daughter and i are the last to

284

00:08:42,709 --> 00:08:41,120

wake out by the fire and she decided

285

00:08:44,470 --> 00:08:42,719

that she wanted to sleep in the car

286

00:08:46,630 --> 00:08:44,480

where it was warm with my wife

287

00:08:47,509 --> 00:08:46,640

i agreed that was okay after i attempted

288

00:08:49,190 --> 00:08:47,519

to wake my wife

289

00:08:51,110 --> 00:08:49,200

up and get her to come to the tent to go

290

00:08:52,790 --> 00:08:51,120

to sleep and she was out cold

291

00:08:54,630 --> 00:08:52,800

so i watched her go to her tent and grab

292

00:08:56,550 --> 00:08:54,640

her blanket and her sleeping bag for my

293

00:08:57,590 --> 00:08:56,560

wife as it was cold and i had turned the

294

00:08:59,110 --> 00:08:57,600

car off now

295

00:09:01,110 --> 00:08:59,120

she grabbed the stuff and zipped up the

296

00:09:02,870 --> 00:09:01,120

tent and off to the car she went

297

00:09:05,190 --> 00:09:02,880

i stayed up a little bit longer by the

298

00:09:06,550 --> 00:09:05,200

fire and must have dozed off momentarily

299

00:09:07,990 --> 00:09:06,560

because when i woke back up i was

300

00:09:08,870 --> 00:09:08,000

sitting in a camping chair by only

301
00:09:11,030 --> 00:09:08,880
glowing embers

302
00:09:12,630 --> 00:09:11,040
and it was pitch black only the cults of

303
00:09:13,590 --> 00:09:12,640
the fire glowing red glowing in the now

304
00:09:15,430 --> 00:09:13,600
dead fire

305
00:09:16,790 --> 00:09:15,440
i got up and found my way to the tent in

306
00:09:17,430 --> 00:09:16,800
the pitch blackness of the night and

307
00:09:19,590 --> 00:09:17,440
climb in

308
00:09:21,509 --> 00:09:19,600
and went to sleep i was exhausted and

309
00:09:22,470 --> 00:09:21,519
fell asleep as soon as i hid in that

310
00:09:24,230 --> 00:09:22,480
sleeping bag

311
00:09:25,829 --> 00:09:24,240
around 3 30 am i woke up to my

312
00:09:27,670 --> 00:09:25,839
daughter's 10 kind of wrestling

313
00:09:29,110 --> 00:09:27,680

and what sounded like two female voices

314

00:09:30,710 --> 00:09:29,120

talking really softly

315

00:09:32,230 --> 00:09:30,720

i listened intently trying to hear what

316

00:09:33,509 --> 00:09:32,240

they were seeing but i couldn't really

317

00:09:35,030 --> 00:09:33,519

understand anything

318

00:09:36,630 --> 00:09:35,040

there were no real discernible words

319

00:09:39,030 --> 00:09:36,640

coming out just mumbling

320

00:09:40,550 --> 00:09:39,040

then silence i figured it was just my

321

00:09:41,509 --> 00:09:40,560

wife and daughter finding their way to

322

00:09:43,670 --> 00:09:41,519

my daughter's tent

323

00:09:45,269 --> 00:09:43,680

not wanting to wake me up by being loud

324

00:09:47,030 --> 00:09:45,279

thank you my wife was just going to

325

00:09:48,949 --> 00:09:47,040

sleep in the tent with my daughter

326

00:09:50,550 --> 00:09:48,959

however now i'm up because my back is

327

00:09:51,910 --> 00:09:50,560

killing me because the air mattress is

328

00:09:53,269 --> 00:09:51,920

now flat at all

329

00:09:55,350 --> 00:09:53,279

as i lay there and what i can only

330

00:09:56,870 --> 00:09:55,360

describe is dead silence i hear cracking

331

00:09:58,310 --> 00:09:56,880

like sticks breaking or popping

332

00:10:00,389 --> 00:09:58,320

so i assume that the fire is still

333

00:10:01,910 --> 00:10:00,399

hanging on somehow then i hear something

334

00:10:03,430 --> 00:10:01,920

moving around towards the front of my

335

00:10:05,110 --> 00:10:03,440

tent and it stops

336

00:10:07,190 --> 00:10:05,120

something is directly outside the front

337

00:10:08,790 --> 00:10:07,200

of my tent i can feel it and sense it

338

00:10:10,550 --> 00:10:08,800

so i slowly raise up to a seated

339

00:10:12,069 --> 00:10:10,560

position and hear something breathe in

340

00:10:13,750 --> 00:10:12,079

and exhale a large breathe

341

00:10:15,590 --> 00:10:13,760

this is the heaviest breath i have ever

342

00:10:16,310 --> 00:10:15,600

heard and it was followed but what i can

343

00:10:18,310 --> 00:10:16,320

only describe

344

00:10:20,230 --> 00:10:18,320

is a very loud huff as if from a horse a

345

00:10:22,069 --> 00:10:20,240

cow or some very large animal

346

00:10:23,829 --> 00:10:22,079

i sat there frozen with fear trying to

347

00:10:24,710 --> 00:10:23,839

rationalize what it is i'm hearing and

348

00:10:26,630 --> 00:10:24,720

it stopped

349

00:10:28,230 --> 00:10:26,640

all i heard was the one deep inhale and

350

00:10:29,590 --> 00:10:28,240

exhale and that huff sound then

351

00:10:31,350 --> 00:10:29,600

everything went silent

352

00:10:33,190 --> 00:10:31,360

what followed next is I hitting a little

353

00:10:34,150 --> 00:10:33,200

ways off back from behind the area of

354

00:10:36,389 --> 00:10:34,160

our friend's tents

355

00:10:37,990 --> 00:10:36,399

and after that i heard nothing else no

356

00:10:40,069 --> 00:10:38,000

sounds of all no fire popping

357

00:10:41,670 --> 00:10:40,079

sticks cracking nothing i stayed there

358

00:10:43,190 --> 00:10:41,680

sitting up frozen with fear for what

359

00:10:44,790 --> 00:10:43,200

seemed like forever until i could tell

360

00:10:46,949 --> 00:10:44,800

the sun was coming up and that it was

361

00:10:48,710 --> 00:10:46,959

light out now i must stir up the courage

362

00:10:49,670 --> 00:10:48,720

and go outside and chuck the ground in

363

00:10:51,269 --> 00:10:49,680

front of my tent

364

00:10:52,949 --> 00:10:51,279

and that's when i noticed my daughter's

365

00:10:54,470 --> 00:10:52,959

tent unzipped and empty

366

00:10:56,389 --> 00:10:54,480

i panicked and rushed to the car and

367

00:10:58,470 --> 00:10:56,399

there they are in the car sound asleep

368

00:11:00,630 --> 00:10:58,480

i see not a single track nothing around

369

00:11:02,630 --> 00:11:00,640

our tents and everyone else is about 20

370

00:11:04,710 --> 00:11:02,640

to 30 yards away in their tents

371

00:11:05,670 --> 00:11:04,720

now i'm freaking the hell out who did i

372

00:11:07,590 --> 00:11:05,680

hear talking

373

00:11:09,190 --> 00:11:07,600

who was skulking around the tent what

374

00:11:11,110 --> 00:11:09,200

the hell was that breathing in front of

375

00:11:13,110 --> 00:11:11,120

me and huffing outside my tent

376

00:11:15,030 --> 00:11:13,120

what opened my daughter's tent super

377

00:11:16,470 --> 00:11:15,040

surely there is an explanation and i sit

378

00:11:18,470 --> 00:11:16,480

out there for at least an hour getting

379

00:11:19,670 --> 00:11:18,480

the fire going as our friends begin to

380

00:11:21,350 --> 00:11:19,680

get up and move about

381

00:11:22,949 --> 00:11:21,360

they slowly make their way to the fire

382

00:11:24,389 --> 00:11:22,959

and i immediately start asking them

383

00:11:25,910 --> 00:11:24,399

where were the dogs all night

384

00:11:27,990 --> 00:11:25,920

did you let them out were they sniffing

385

00:11:29,269 --> 00:11:28,000

around my tent did any of you wake up

386

00:11:30,710 --> 00:11:29,279

and were talking you're moving around

387

00:11:33,430 --> 00:11:30,720

and did you hear that oh

388

00:11:35,269 --> 00:11:33,440

no no and no they all replied i have no

389

00:11:36,870 --> 00:11:35,279

idea what that was talking softly and

390

00:11:37,750 --> 00:11:36,880

what was breathing and huffing right in

391

00:11:39,269 --> 00:11:37,760

front of me

392

00:11:41,190 --> 00:11:39,279

what the hell opened my daughter's tent

393

00:11:42,310 --> 00:11:41,200

in the night i watched her zip it shut

394

00:11:43,910 --> 00:11:42,320

and go to the car

395

00:11:45,750 --> 00:11:43,920

that breathe in huff was so scary it

396

00:11:47,350 --> 00:11:45,760

left me frozen with fear and i didn't

397

00:11:48,870 --> 00:11:47,360

move at all after hearing it and sat

398

00:11:50,710 --> 00:11:48,880

there as silent as possible

399

00:11:52,550 --> 00:11:50,720

not even wanting to breathe one of the

400

00:11:53,990 --> 00:11:52,560

scariest moments of my life something

401
00:11:55,750 --> 00:11:54,000
large and unknown in the darkness

402
00:11:57,750 --> 00:11:55,760
directly in front of me and only things

403
00:11:59,590 --> 00:11:57,760
separating us is a thin tent wool

404
00:12:01,190 --> 00:11:59,600
this all happened friday into saturday

405
00:12:01,670 --> 00:12:01,200
morning and we still have another night

406
00:12:03,509 --> 00:12:01,680
here

407
00:12:05,110 --> 00:12:03,519
i decided that i am not sleeping in the

408
00:12:06,629 --> 00:12:05,120
tents and neither are my wife and

409
00:12:08,310 --> 00:12:06,639
daughter tonight or ever again

410
00:12:10,230 --> 00:12:08,320
the rest of the day goes great hanging

411
00:12:11,910 --> 00:12:10,240
out having breakfast went into town

412
00:12:12,710 --> 00:12:11,920
ashford and went for a hike down the

413
00:12:14,870 --> 00:12:12,720

road to lake

414

00:12:16,550 --> 00:12:14,880

core lake basically just camping and

415

00:12:18,310 --> 00:12:16,560

hanging it's getting later now and

416

00:12:20,150 --> 00:12:18,320

although the sun is out and blue skies

417

00:12:21,590 --> 00:12:20,160

the canopy in our camping area is thick

418

00:12:23,269 --> 00:12:21,600

and even at the brightest point in the

419

00:12:24,150 --> 00:12:23,279

day was still pretty dark compared to

420

00:12:25,910 --> 00:12:24,160

road area

421

00:12:27,190 --> 00:12:25,920

as we are hanging out we hear woo wops

422

00:12:28,949 --> 00:12:27,200

way off in the distance

423

00:12:30,710 --> 00:12:28,959

and we are thinking what is that more

424

00:12:32,069 --> 00:12:30,720

time passes by and now a few of the

425

00:12:33,190 --> 00:12:32,079

people that were there when we arrived

426
00:12:34,790 --> 00:12:33,200
at camp have left

427
00:12:36,389 --> 00:12:34,800
just seven of us left and two of the

428
00:12:37,030 --> 00:12:36,399
seven were pretty much always in their

429
00:12:38,790 --> 00:12:37,040
tent

430
00:12:40,870 --> 00:12:38,800
so that left five of us out hanging out

431
00:12:42,710 --> 00:12:40,880
by the fire that's when dusk crept in

432
00:12:43,590 --> 00:12:42,720
and my buddy began working on dinner for

433
00:12:45,350 --> 00:12:43,600
all of us

434
00:12:47,030 --> 00:12:45,360
as we sat there from off in the woods

435
00:12:48,870 --> 00:12:47,040
between us and the park boundary towards

436
00:12:50,389 --> 00:12:48,880
the creek we hear these blood curdling

437
00:12:51,350 --> 00:12:50,399
screams and what type house that

438
00:12:53,269 --> 00:12:51,360

everyone heard

439

00:12:55,509 --> 00:12:53,279

we all stopped talking and fell silent

440

00:12:56,150 --> 00:12:55,519

and we all began to ask each other wtf

441

00:12:58,470 --> 00:12:56,160

was that

442

00:13:00,069 --> 00:12:58,480

we heard this about four or five times

443

00:13:01,509 --> 00:13:00,079

it sounded like a woman being murdered

444

00:13:03,030 --> 00:13:01,519

and hell type of sound

445

00:13:04,550 --> 00:13:03,040

then came a few tree knocks from the

446

00:13:05,990 --> 00:13:04,560

same general direction

447

00:13:08,069 --> 00:13:06,000

is someone messing with us out here

448

00:13:09,110 --> 00:13:08,079

everyone was thinking keep in mind it is

449

00:13:11,110 --> 00:13:09,120

a holiday weekend

450

00:13:13,350 --> 00:13:11,120

so tons of campers within a 15 mile

451
00:13:14,949 --> 00:13:13,360
radius so i called my buddy over and he

452
00:13:16,470 --> 00:13:14,959
hadn't heard the screams because he had

453
00:13:17,990 --> 00:13:16,480
been cooking on a skillet and had a

454
00:13:18,710 --> 00:13:18,000
propane lantern in front of him and

455
00:13:20,470 --> 00:13:18,720
behind him

456
00:13:21,829 --> 00:13:20,480
and they are loud we stand there and

457
00:13:23,750 --> 00:13:21,839
listen and don't hear

458
00:13:25,509 --> 00:13:23,760
we decide we will do a tree knockback

459
00:13:27,350 --> 00:13:25,519
closer to the road that divided us from

460
00:13:28,389 --> 00:13:27,360
the area we heard these vocalizations

461
00:13:30,310 --> 00:13:28,399
and knocks from

462
00:13:32,069 --> 00:13:30,320
that is when we heard it i got a chill

463
00:13:33,750 --> 00:13:32,079

down my spine to my core and the hairs

464

00:13:35,350 --> 00:13:33,760

raised up on my arms and neck

465

00:13:37,110 --> 00:13:35,360

we both looked at one another and at the

466

00:13:37,670 --> 00:13:37,120

same time asked did you freaking hear

467

00:13:39,269 --> 00:13:37,680

that

468

00:13:41,030 --> 00:13:39,279

i asked him what he heard and we had

469

00:13:42,629 --> 00:13:41,040

both heard what we can only describe as

470

00:13:44,629 --> 00:13:42,639

a minkie or gorilla sound like you would

471

00:13:47,829 --> 00:13:44,639

hear on discovery channel or something

472

00:13:49,509 --> 00:13:47,839

it was like sound it was far off but

473

00:13:51,350 --> 00:13:49,519

deep and rumbling sounding unlike what

474

00:13:52,710 --> 00:13:51,360

you hear on tv i once say it was like

475

00:13:54,310 --> 00:13:52,720

directed or focused to us

476
00:13:56,069 --> 00:13:54,320
i only say that because the other people

477
00:13:56,710 --> 00:13:56,079
were sitting behind us maybe only 10

478
00:13:58,710 --> 00:13:56,720
feet away

479
00:14:00,310 --> 00:13:58,720
and they didn't hear it only us now we

480
00:14:01,590 --> 00:14:00,320
are freaking the hell out and nobody is

481
00:14:03,189 --> 00:14:01,600
sleeping in their tents

482
00:14:04,870 --> 00:14:03,199
we don't want to say anything and freak

483
00:14:05,990 --> 00:14:04,880
everyone else because at this point they

484
00:14:07,509 --> 00:14:06,000
are already on edge

485
00:14:10,150 --> 00:14:07,519
i have been hiking and camping here in

486
00:14:11,430 --> 00:14:10,160
the pnw for almost 20 years now i have

487
00:14:13,189 --> 00:14:11,440
never experienced this

488
00:14:15,750 --> 00:14:13,199

while i was camping out with family and

489

00:14:16,230 --> 00:14:15,760

friends i am 39 years old from the east

490

00:14:17,750 --> 00:14:16,240

coast

491

00:14:19,590 --> 00:14:17,760

and have been shot at and chase that

492

00:14:21,189 --> 00:14:19,600

growing up in the ghetto i am a former

493

00:14:23,030 --> 00:14:21,199

us army infantryman who has spent

494

00:14:25,350 --> 00:14:23,040

countless nights in only a sleeping bag

495

00:14:27,110 --> 00:14:25,360

in a dugout sleeping hole and intense

496

00:14:28,629 --> 00:14:27,120

i am now afraid to ever sleep in a tent

497

00:14:30,389 --> 00:14:28,639

again after this weekend

498

00:14:32,230 --> 00:14:30,399

i have never really ever felt fear like

499

00:14:33,269 --> 00:14:32,240

i did that first night in all my time in

500

00:14:34,790 --> 00:14:33,279

the forests out here

501
00:14:42,550 --> 00:14:34,800
except when i was a kid in the woods

502
00:14:45,750 --> 00:14:45,110
was it the ozark howler i don't have any

503
00:14:47,750 --> 00:14:45,760
idea

504
00:14:49,670 --> 00:14:47,760
what i witnessed saturday evening but it

505
00:14:50,710 --> 00:14:49,680
was the most frightening experience of

506
00:14:52,949 --> 00:14:50,720
my life

507
00:14:54,389 --> 00:14:52,959
my wife and i were camping at an rv park

508
00:14:56,710 --> 00:14:54,399
near jasper arkansas

509
00:14:58,310 --> 00:14:56,720
and planned to be there for several days

510
00:15:01,030 --> 00:14:58,320
we arrived early saturday

511
00:15:02,629 --> 00:15:01,040
and got situated soon after my wife

512
00:15:04,949 --> 00:15:02,639
wanted to look around the area

513
00:15:06,790 --> 00:15:04,959

since she had never been in the ozarks i

514

00:15:08,550 --> 00:15:06,800

was born and raised in the mountains

515

00:15:10,790 --> 00:15:08,560

and was familiar with the terrain and

516

00:15:12,870 --> 00:15:10,800

wildlife after we tinkered around the

517

00:15:14,470 --> 00:15:12,880

campsite we decided to take a short hike

518

00:15:16,389 --> 00:15:14,480

through a nearby valley

519

00:15:18,150 --> 00:15:16,399

there were a few caves and caverns along

520

00:15:19,750 --> 00:15:18,160

the way but nothing where i would have

521

00:15:20,550 --> 00:15:19,760

guessed any large predator would be

522

00:15:22,470 --> 00:15:20,560

living

523

00:15:24,629 --> 00:15:22,480

after walking for an hour we started to

524

00:15:26,710 --> 00:15:24,639

head back towards the rv park

525

00:15:28,550 --> 00:15:26,720

not long after we started walking back

526

00:15:30,550 --> 00:15:28,560

down the trail something caught my eye

527

00:15:32,790 --> 00:15:30,560

on the right in a sassafras thicket

528

00:15:34,470 --> 00:15:32,800

my wife sensed it as well and stopped to

529

00:15:36,150 --> 00:15:34,480

look in the same direction

530

00:15:38,310 --> 00:15:36,160

i could see this dark four-legged

531

00:15:39,350 --> 00:15:38,320

creature moving back and forth slowly

532

00:15:41,430 --> 00:15:39,360

through the brush

533

00:15:43,189 --> 00:15:41,440

we immediately started to walk at a fast

534

00:15:45,189 --> 00:15:43,199

pace back towards the park

535

00:15:46,389 --> 00:15:45,199

this creature was moving along as well

536

00:15:48,870 --> 00:15:46,399

keeping its distance

537

00:15:50,629 --> 00:15:48,880

but tracking us this continued for what

538

00:15:51,590 --> 00:15:50,639

seemed like 10 minutes until we reached

539

00:15:53,829 --> 00:15:51,600

the clearing

540

00:15:54,790 --> 00:15:53,839

we got back to the campsite very shaken

541

00:15:56,389 --> 00:15:54,800

and nervous

542

00:15:58,310 --> 00:15:56,399

all my years growing up in these

543

00:15:59,509 --> 00:15:58,320

mountains and i had never seen anything

544

00:16:01,110 --> 00:15:59,519

comparable to it

545

00:16:03,509 --> 00:16:01,120

from what i could gather it was very

546

00:16:05,990 --> 00:16:03,519

large almost the size of a black bear

547

00:16:08,230 --> 00:16:06,000

but moved close to the ground like a cat

548

00:16:10,150 --> 00:16:08,240

it was also very dark in color

549

00:16:12,230 --> 00:16:10,160

we didn't say anything to others camping

550

00:16:14,710 --> 00:16:12,240

nearby the rest of the evening

551
00:16:15,990 --> 00:16:14,720
was very quiet and peaceful until around

552
00:16:17,350 --> 00:16:16,000
2 15 a.m

553
00:16:19,670 --> 00:16:17,360
we heard what sounded like a

554
00:16:21,590 --> 00:16:19,680
high-pitched howl coming from a distance

555
00:16:23,269 --> 00:16:21,600
it was loud enough to wake both of us

556
00:16:24,389 --> 00:16:23,279
and i noticed several campers were

557
00:16:26,470 --> 00:16:24,399
looking outside

558
00:16:28,550 --> 00:16:26,480
milling around and talking as well

559
00:16:30,790 --> 00:16:28,560
someone said it was just a coyote but

560
00:16:32,230 --> 00:16:30,800
that was not a coyote or anything else i

561
00:16:35,110 --> 00:16:32,240
had ever heard before

562
00:16:37,030 --> 00:16:35,120
the next morning we woke around 9am when

563
00:16:37,590 --> 00:16:37,040

i stepped out of the rv a woman walked

564

00:16:39,829 --> 00:16:37,600

up to me

565

00:16:41,749 --> 00:16:39,839

and asked if i had heard the howling i

566

00:16:42,389 --> 00:16:41,759

said that i didn't had no idea what it

567

00:16:46,310 --> 00:16:42,399

was

568

00:16:46,790 --> 00:16:46,320

that she believed it to be the ozark

569

00:16:48,230 --> 00:16:46,800

howler

570

00:16:50,550 --> 00:16:48,240

and that there had been a few sightings

571

00:16:52,870 --> 00:16:50,560

recently i knew the stories about the

572

00:16:53,430 --> 00:16:52,880

ozark collar but never believed any of

573

00:16:56,470 --> 00:16:53,440

it

574

00:16:58,949 --> 00:16:56,480

well my wife wanted to leave asap

575

00:17:00,710 --> 00:16:58,959

now i'm not sure what to think we came

576

00:17:01,509 --> 00:17:00,720

home today and i looked up the ozark

577

00:17:03,749 --> 00:17:01,519

collar

578

00:17:05,669 --> 00:17:03,759

there isn't much to go on i read your

579

00:17:06,549 --> 00:17:05,679

blog and thought you may want to get the

580

00:17:08,440 --> 00:17:06,559

word out

581

00:17:13,669 --> 00:17:08,450

is it possible this creature may live

582

00:17:17,110 --> 00:17:16,230

this is lon strickler if you like this

583

00:17:18,870 --> 00:17:17,120

program

584

00:17:20,230 --> 00:17:18,880

it would help us if you would give it a

585

00:17:23,110 --> 00:17:20,240

thumbs up

586

00:17:23,590 --> 00:17:23,120

then subscribe and click the bell icon

587

00:17:25,909 --> 00:17:23,600

so you

588

00:17:28,069 --> 00:17:25,919

get notification when we upload new

589

00:17:31,190 --> 00:17:28,079

first person encounters

590

00:17:33,590 --> 00:17:31,200

we have many more to come very soon and

591

00:17:35,990 --> 00:17:33,600

by the way if you have a suggestion