

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:08,520

On this edition of Sightings, he's buried Pomeroy Castle, the most haunted place in England.

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00:00:08,520 --> 00:00:13,000

You can see directly through her, it sounded like this.

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00:00:13,000 --> 00:00:15,000

An exclusive sightings investigation.

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00:00:15,000 --> 00:00:17,200

There, can the moon drive us mad?

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00:00:17,200 --> 00:00:19,720

O.J. Simpson happened three days after the New Moon.

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00:00:19,720 --> 00:00:22,480

The Bobbit incident happened three days after the New Moon.

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

Both at night, both years at night.

8

00:00:24,480 --> 00:00:29,160

Also, practitioners give us a rare look inside the world of Santoria and Palo Meombe.

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00:00:29,160 --> 00:00:31,760

When you're dealing with us, elemental force is very dangerous.

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00:00:31,760 --> 00:00:35,840

Plus, is this the true face of aliens or a vision shaped by Hollywood?

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00:00:35,840 --> 00:00:40,640

I think it's very possible that these beings are able to control how we perceive them.

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00:00:40,640 --> 00:00:44,760

Later, these people have a special psychic connection that leads them to water.

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00:00:44,760 --> 00:00:47,760

I don't know of many well-drillers nowadays that don't use a witcher.

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00:00:47,760 --> 00:00:50,840

And what would you do if you encountered a ghost?

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00:00:50,840 --> 00:00:52,840

Be ready to get evidence.

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00:00:52,840 --> 00:00:55,160

You don't get tangible evidence of your haunting.

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00:01:29,160 --> 00:01:31,160

Welcome to Sightings. I'm Tim White.

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00:01:31,160 --> 00:01:35,160

With Halloween Fest approaching, there are ghosts and goblins in the air.

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00:01:35,160 --> 00:01:37,160

Well, at least the paper mache variety.

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00:01:37,160 --> 00:01:43,160

But in England, there's one ancient site where spirits and apparitions from the past seem to hang around all year long.

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00:01:43,160 --> 00:01:49,160

It's Barry Pomeroy Castle, and it's earned the title of Great Britain's most haunted landmark.

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00:01:52,160 --> 00:01:58,160

The whole thing really about this place is amazing, the ghosts that occur here.

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00:01:58,160 --> 00:02:00,160

We had a strange feeling there was something wrong.

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00:02:00,160 --> 00:02:03,160

It just started getting pretty weird.

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00:02:03,160 --> 00:02:09,160

It's always been very still, as though you're waiting for something to happen.

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00:02:09,160 --> 00:02:19,160

You learn to control your imagination, because at Barry Pomeroy, if you let your imagination run away with you, you could be a Raven Lunatic.

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00:02:19,160 --> 00:02:24,160

In its heyday, Barry Pomeroy Castle hosted princes, kings and crusaders.

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00:02:24,160 --> 00:02:28,160

Since 1688, no one has wanted to live within these walls.

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00:02:28,160 --> 00:02:31,160

Visitors say there's something evil inside.

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00:02:31,160 --> 00:02:33,160

It sounded like this.

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00:02:35,160 --> 00:02:43,160

Ghostly shrieks are heard, ghoulish apparitions are seen, and photographs have captured the dark side of the castle.

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00:02:43,160 --> 00:02:49,160

The crumbling walls of this once great fortress are perched above the desolate moors that blanket southern England.

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00:02:49,160 --> 00:02:55,160

It is a land of ancient superstitions, defiled tombs and long abandoned graveyards.

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00:02:55,160 --> 00:03:03,160

It's just brooding and evil. The evil is there in the atmosphere.

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00:03:03,160 --> 00:03:07,160

But is it only atmosphere?

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00:03:07,160 --> 00:03:16,160

Sightings has teamed up with Tony Cornell, Great Britain's premier paranormal investigator for the first in-depth study ever conducted at Barry Pomeroy Castle.

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00:03:17,160 --> 00:03:21,160

In my view, it's one of the most interesting cases I think I've come across.

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00:03:21,160 --> 00:03:25,160

Basically because so many people have seen things and felt things.

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00:03:25,160 --> 00:03:29,160

You don't get that in all hauntings. You waste a lot of time.

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00:03:29,160 --> 00:03:34,160

There's enough evidence that I've heard that we've got to examine this.

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00:03:34,160 --> 00:03:38,160

Cornell's first step was to gather historical and anecdotal data.

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00:03:38,160 --> 00:03:44,160

He sought out historian Derek Seymour, who has studied the ghostly presences here for more than 70 years.

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00:03:44,160 --> 00:03:49,160

Every day I thought of this castle. If it was a lovely sunny day, I used to think,

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00:03:49,160 --> 00:03:52,160

I wonder what it's looking like at the castle today.

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00:03:52,160 --> 00:03:56,160

If there was a thunderstorm and the wind was howling, I used to think,

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00:03:56,160 --> 00:04:00,160

I wouldn't like to be at the castle today. Oh no.

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00:04:00,160 --> 00:04:04,160

The best known ghost here is the white lady.

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00:04:04,160 --> 00:04:09,160

And the white lady is, of course, the unfortunate Lady Margaret,

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00:04:09,160 --> 00:04:14,160

who is seen to walk at the top of the stairs in that tower down in the dungeon.

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00:04:14,160 --> 00:04:17,160

She is really quite frequently seen.

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00:04:17,160 --> 00:04:21,160

folklore tells of two sisters in love with the same man.

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00:04:21,160 --> 00:04:24,160

Lady Margaret, the younger and more beautiful of the two,

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00:04:24,160 --> 00:04:27,160

was imprisoned in the castle's dungeon by her jealous sister.

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00:04:27,160 --> 00:04:29,160

There she starved to death.

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00:04:29,160 --> 00:04:33,160

Modern-day visitor Anne Benny recalls her encounter with the white lady.

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00:04:33,160 --> 00:04:38,160

When we first went down the stairs into the chamber, it was dark.

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00:04:38,160 --> 00:04:43,160

It was damp. And it wasn't a nice place to be.

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00:04:43,160 --> 00:04:50,160

But then this evil presence, you could sense it was evil.

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00:04:50,160 --> 00:04:53,160

I don't know how to describe it any other way, really.

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00:04:53,160 --> 00:04:57,160

And then I heard the footsteps very quick, very light.

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00:04:57,160 --> 00:05:02,160

And the closer she got, the more panic-stricken I felt.

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00:05:02,160 --> 00:05:07,160

I just wanted to get out of the place and not come back.

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00:05:08,160 --> 00:05:11,160

Tony Cornell walked the castle grounds with Jack Hazard,

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00:05:11,160 --> 00:05:14,160

the former master stone mason of Barry Palmeroy.

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00:05:14,160 --> 00:05:18,160

It was while working here in 1986 that Hazard captured

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00:05:18,160 --> 00:05:22,160

what many consider the most authentic photographic evidence of a ghostly presence here.

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00:05:22,160 --> 00:05:26,160

It started to rain and the wind started to blow.

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00:05:26,160 --> 00:05:30,160

And I thought there was something happening unusual.

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00:05:30,160 --> 00:05:37,160

So I got the disc camera out and I took five or six shots.

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00:05:37,160 --> 00:05:41,160

And under five of the prints, white shapes came out.

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00:05:41,160 --> 00:05:45,160

Whatever they were, I have no idea. But it was a most unusual Sunday morning.

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00:05:45,160 --> 00:05:49,160

Siding's also heard stories of a haunting blue lady.

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00:05:49,160 --> 00:05:52,160

She is thought to be the spirit of a 14th century palmeroy

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00:05:52,160 --> 00:05:55,160

who was raped by her father and then bore his child.

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00:05:55,160 --> 00:05:59,160

Legend has it that she murdered the child in a fit of shame and rage.

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00:05:59,160 --> 00:06:05,160

And this unfortunate child was strangled by the mother

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00:06:05,160 --> 00:06:08,160

who did not want it at all.

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00:06:08,160 --> 00:06:10,160

Now she's quite frequently seen.

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00:06:10,160 --> 00:06:16,160

She's very evil and people don't like the sight of her at all.

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00:06:16,160 --> 00:06:20,160

Visitors Simon Day and Tim King believe the apparition they saw

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00:06:20,160 --> 00:06:23,160

on a trip to the castle was the blue lady.

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00:06:23,160 --> 00:06:27,160

What we saw was a figure of an elderly woman.

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00:06:27,160 --> 00:06:31,160

She had a blue dress on, but you could see directly through her

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00:06:31,160 --> 00:06:35,160

and she was just staring at us. And as noise started.

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00:06:35,160 --> 00:06:38,160

But when you look in the direction where it actually happened,

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00:06:38,160 --> 00:06:40,160

you can't see a thing. There was nothing there.

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00:06:40,160 --> 00:06:42,160

It screeched and stopped.

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00:06:42,160 --> 00:06:46,160

And within a second it was in the bush next to us.

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00:06:46,160 --> 00:06:49,160

There was this frilly, amazing screech.

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00:06:49,160 --> 00:06:51,160

It scared the hell out of us.

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00:06:51,160 --> 00:06:55,160

And they felt there that there was a power far stronger than themselves

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00:06:55,160 --> 00:07:00,160

and became absolutely terrified and went.

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00:07:01,160 --> 00:07:05,160

Terror also enveloped psychic investigator Bob Dolby.

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00:07:05,160 --> 00:07:07,160

And it would not go away.

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00:07:07,160 --> 00:07:10,160

I was conducting an investigation expecting nothing at all.

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00:07:10,160 --> 00:07:12,160

I was about to leave.

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00:07:12,160 --> 00:07:14,160

When just by the vampire walls and the stairs leading down,

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00:07:14,160 --> 00:07:16,160

I saw this huge black cloud.

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00:07:16,160 --> 00:07:21,160

And to me it seemed probably the hugest and blackest, deepest thing I'd ever seen.

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00:07:21,160 --> 00:07:25,160

Dolby claims the black cloud, what he terms the evil entity,

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00:07:25,160 --> 00:07:29,160

trail him through the castle then followed him back to his house nearby.

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00:07:29,160 --> 00:07:34,160

That same night he tried to use a Ouija board to make contact with the terrifying presence.

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00:07:34,160 --> 00:07:36,160

Is there anybody there?

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00:07:36,160 --> 00:07:38,160

Hi.

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00:07:38,160 --> 00:07:40,160

Yes.

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00:07:40,160 --> 00:07:44,160

The glass moved erratically around the board, which was very unusual at the time.

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00:07:44,160 --> 00:07:47,160

And then she made herself known. She popped up.

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00:07:47,160 --> 00:07:49,160

Isabelle.

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00:07:50,160 --> 00:07:53,160

She struck as a very evil little girl.

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00:07:53,160 --> 00:07:56,160

Through the Ouija board, they met a little girl named Isabelle,

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00:07:56,160 --> 00:08:02,160

who revealed that she was the bastard child of a disinherited pomeroys from the 17th century.

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00:08:02,160 --> 00:08:08,160

The Dolbys believed she spoke through the board and then actually appeared hours later in the Dolby bedroom.

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00:08:08,160 --> 00:08:13,160

I actually went to bed early and left the group downstairs experimenting with the Ouija board.

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00:08:13,160 --> 00:08:18,160

And actually had the experience of somebody sitting on the back of my legs while I was lying on the bed.

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00:08:18,160 --> 00:08:24,160

Thinking it was Bob messing about, I told him to get off, turned around and it was actually a little girl with just a manic grin on her face.

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00:08:24,160 --> 00:08:29,160

Well, they both came to see me the next afternoon. They were so terrified.

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00:08:29,160 --> 00:08:33,160

And I can tell you that they were frozen with shock.

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00:08:33,160 --> 00:08:40,160

There are hundreds of stories like these, all pointing to a bizarre force that permeates these ancient limestone walls.

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00:08:40,160 --> 00:08:45,160

For Tony Cornell, these subjective accounts demand an objective investigation.

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00:08:45,160 --> 00:08:53,160

To me, this is probably, I go far as I say it is, the most haunted castle in England.

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00:08:53,160 --> 00:09:02,160

I'm glad you brought me here. You're opening my eyes and I think that I should go back and suggest that we get in touch with British heritage

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00:09:02,160 --> 00:09:05,160

and that we do a serious investigation over a period of time.

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00:09:05,160 --> 00:09:10,160

There is something pretty potent here. There's a very evil force.

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00:09:10,160 --> 00:09:16,160

And if ever you encounter it, I'm going to Barry Pomeroy. Get out quick.

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00:09:17,160 --> 00:09:26,160

Based on the preliminary findings of our investigation, Tony Cornell believes that Barry Pomeroy Castle deserves a full-scale long-term study.

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00:09:26,160 --> 00:09:37,160

The problem is access. British heritage, the trustees of Barry Pomeroy Castle are not believers and so far have denied all requests for an intensive investigation.

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00:09:37,160 --> 00:09:43,160

Coming up next, are they eyewitnesses to an historic phenomenon or have their memories been shaped by Hollywood?

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00:09:43,160 --> 00:09:48,160

We just have to trust our hearts and kind of sift through all this and find out who's telling the truth.

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00:09:51,160 --> 00:09:57,160

If creatures from an alien civilization are here on Earth, what do they look like? How do they get here?

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00:09:57,160 --> 00:10:01,160

These questions are now being answered by two distinct groups.

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00:10:01,160 --> 00:10:06,160

First, the artists and writers who create the pop culture version of our cosmic cousins.

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00:10:06,160 --> 00:10:13,160

And the people who believe that they have actual first-hand knowledge, the eyewitnesses and abductees.

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00:10:13,160 --> 00:10:19,160

Strangely, both groups have similar visions. So who's influencing whom?

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00:10:19,160 --> 00:10:24,160

The thing you'll never forget when you look into the face of these things is the eyes.

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00:10:24,160 --> 00:10:27,160

Very large, intimidating black eyes.

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00:10:28,160 --> 00:10:32,160

Very small opening for a mouth, no ears.

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00:10:32,160 --> 00:10:37,160

Tremendous head, very thin body, long arms.

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00:10:37,160 --> 00:10:45,160

They're called greys. Abductees insist these are the real aliens and that they're a far cry from what Hollywood depicts.

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00:10:45,160 --> 00:10:48,160

And for the most part, they're right.

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00:10:48,160 --> 00:10:57,160

The creatures created by generations of sci-fi writers and illustrators are far more fantastically slender, featureless humanoids reported by abductees.

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00:10:57,160 --> 00:11:05,160

But it is this dark-eyed face that has come to dominate the public's conception of what a real extraterrestrial looks like.

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00:11:05,160 --> 00:11:13,160

The more people know about what aliens are expected to look like, the more they're likely to describe an alien as looking like that preconceived idea.

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00:11:13,160 --> 00:11:18,160

It's a self-feeding kind of a thing. In ten years, there won't be any kind of alien except a gray.

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00:11:18,160 --> 00:11:26,160

Are supposed eyewitnesses seeing the true face of aliens, or is their vision influenced by popular culture?

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00:11:26,160 --> 00:11:35,160

I think it's both. I think it's definitely both. And that we just have to trust our hearts and kind of sift through all this and find out who's telling the truth and who isn't.

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00:11:36,160 --> 00:11:42,160

The rise of this alien archetype coincides with the increasing number of supposed abductees.

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00:11:42,160 --> 00:11:47,160

But is there evidence that depictions of grays predate the abduction phenomenon?

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00:11:47,160 --> 00:11:52,160

The grays, I think, are not a modern idea.

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00:11:52,160 --> 00:11:58,160

Science fiction illustrator and historian Ron Miller has traced the depiction of grays in popular culture.

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00:11:58,160 --> 00:12:01,160

He's unearthed suggestive artwork from the 19th century.

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00:12:01,160 --> 00:12:12,160

It comes from fairy tales, science fiction, film, a lot of sources that go back decades, even a century or more.

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00:12:12,160 --> 00:12:23,160

From the earliest sort of realistic depictions of an alien, I have from a book that was published in 1884, which shows the mummified body of a Martian.

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00:12:23,160 --> 00:12:30,160

In fact, there's a startling resemblance to the modern picture of an alien.

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00:12:30,160 --> 00:12:34,160

But those early drawings are just a needle in the science fiction haystack.

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00:12:34,160 --> 00:12:42,160

Thousands of creatures, from the sublime to the utterly ridiculous, have been created by artists who use a little science and a lot of imagination.

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00:12:42,160 --> 00:12:51,160

Science fiction reached a creative peak in the 1950s, when an atmosphere of anything goes produced hundreds of outlandish movies that seemed laughable.

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00:12:52,160 --> 00:13:02,160

But that all changed in 1964, when a New Hampshire couple, Betty and Barney Hill, were the first to claim publicly that they had been abducted by aliens.

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00:13:02,160 --> 00:13:06,160

This is a composite of what they look like.

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00:13:06,160 --> 00:13:16,160

Lodger eyes, smaller nose, no lips, no protruding part of the ear, no hair, and a gray tone to the skin.

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00:13:16,160 --> 00:13:25,160

Uphologists embrace the Hill case as a significant turning point, but author James Oberg believes it was TV, not a real ET, that influenced the Hills.

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00:13:25,160 --> 00:13:30,160

A lot of Betty's memories are directly traceable back to a movie called Invaders from Mars.

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00:13:30,160 --> 00:13:37,160

Many of the themes, many of the imageries from that film, appear in almost recognizable form in Betty's story.

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00:13:37,160 --> 00:13:46,160

In the account there was kidnapping, being taken on board and flying saucer, there were needles being inserted into people's brains or other parts of their bodies.

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00:13:46,160 --> 00:13:57,160

Barney Hill's recollections of the abduction differed from Betty's in one significant detail. Barney claimed the aliens had huge eyes, the same kind of eyes depicted in this episode of The Outer Limits.

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00:13:57,160 --> 00:14:03,160

The unique feature here is these wraparound eyes, the eyeballs that move off to this forehead, off to the side of the head.

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00:14:03,160 --> 00:14:18,160

It was very original, and yet less than two weeks after this face first appeared on television, Barney Hill, under hypnosis, suddenly remembered that his aliens had eyes like that, had eyes that wrapped around.

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00:14:18,160 --> 00:14:30,160

Was it cause and effect? Did he see the show? Was his memory polluted by this Hollywood version? Can't prove it. But the sequence is highly suggestive.

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00:14:30,160 --> 00:14:39,160

I think it's very possible that these beings are able to control how we perceive them and perceive the experience that we're sharing with them, that they're very much able to manipulate it.

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00:14:39,160 --> 00:14:47,160

Artist Steve Neal also believes that he's been abducted and that his art is drawn from first-hand experience.

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00:14:47,160 --> 00:14:58,160

It's difficult to say why the gray look, the black-eyed, bubble-headed look has become so dominant

for any other reason that these are the beings that are visiting here.

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00:14:58,160 --> 00:15:06,160

The one event that catapulted the cult of the grays into mass acceptance can be summed up in two words, Steven Spielberg.

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00:15:06,160 --> 00:15:13,160

His landmark 1977 blockbuster, Close Encounters of the Third Kind, has been seen by more than 100 million Americans.

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00:15:13,160 --> 00:15:21,160

Close Encounters, for good or evil, had an enormous effect on what people expected aliens to look like.

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00:15:21,160 --> 00:15:31,160

If anything really focused all these disparate threads into one sort of standard alien, it was Close Encounters.

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00:15:31,160 --> 00:15:38,160

Spielberg himself was picking up all these loose threads in the descriptions he based them on that Heineck provided him with.

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00:15:38,160 --> 00:15:42,160

Or, of course, based on once again a long tradition of ideas and images.

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00:15:42,160 --> 00:15:47,160

We would still be having maybe more variety in aliens now, the headman for that movie.

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00:15:47,160 --> 00:15:50,160

Joe Alves was the production designer for Close Encounters.

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00:15:50,160 --> 00:15:55,160

His original drawings were based on the early abductee accounts collected by Professor J. Allen Heining.

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00:15:55,160 --> 00:16:05,160

I think what was unique about Close Encounters is it was science fiction and yet in a sense it wasn't because we weren't manufacturing something that was convenient.

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00:16:05,160 --> 00:16:16,160

We took these things from all the encounters that we could record and sort of put it into the funnel and it came out with these kind of images.

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00:16:16,160 --> 00:16:24,160

An alien that does not look like a human being is quite likely to scare the bejesus out of us.

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00:16:24,160 --> 00:16:32,160

There has been a very definite evolution from the bug-eyed monster of the 30s.

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00:16:32,160 --> 00:16:39,160

Gradually you came into less monstrous looking aliens, but still aliens.

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00:16:39,160 --> 00:16:49,160

And I think the biggest shock was around the late 50s when we began to get these reports of direct alien contacts.

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00:16:49,160 --> 00:16:57,160

Kelly Freese, known as the Dean of Science Fiction Illustrators, is disturbed by today's dominance of the Greys.

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00:16:57,160 --> 00:17:04,160

In a career spanning more than five decades, Freese has created a rich palette of creatures he believes may be out there somewhere.

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00:17:04,160 --> 00:17:10,160

I hate to think that the universe is so dull that that's the best it can come up with.

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00:17:10,160 --> 00:17:19,160

Are we supposed to assume that only one race managed to accomplish space flight and come to the Earth?

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00:17:19,160 --> 00:17:25,160

Or are there more races out there? If so, what do the other races look like?

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00:17:25,160 --> 00:17:31,160

Admittedly, there are similarities between abductee accounts and old television shows.

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00:17:31,160 --> 00:17:38,160

But considering the vast number of creatures created in this century, perhaps the similarities are coincidence, not deliberate deception.

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00:17:38,160 --> 00:17:45,160

Science Fiction tries to create believable characters and abductees believe that in a few instances they've gotten it right.

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00:17:45,160 --> 00:17:52,160

Abductees believe that they have seen the face of an alien civilization and this is it.

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00:17:52,160 --> 00:17:58,160

But Dr. Alvin Lawson, who has studied the abduction phenomenon for more than ten years, suggests another possibility.

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00:17:58,160 --> 00:18:03,160

Perhaps abductees are actually remembering their own birth experiences.

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00:18:03,160 --> 00:18:14,160

With a surgical mask covering the nose and the mouth and bright operating room lights behind, could a human face look like this to a newborn?

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00:18:14,160 --> 00:18:19,160

Next on Sightings, experts offer a guide to a ghostly encounter.

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00:18:19,160 --> 00:18:24,160

The first thing that they'll say is, you're going to think I'm crazy, but I don't think you're crazy. I've heard it all before.

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00:18:28,160 --> 00:18:37,160

During this week leading up to All Hallows Eve, Halloween, legend has it that the spirits of the dead are allowed to roam freely on the Earth.

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00:18:37,160 --> 00:18:42,160

What would you do if you were suddenly confronted by what seemed to be a ghost?

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00:18:42,160 --> 00:18:51,160

We're often asked by viewers how to document a haunting. So we went to our experts on this most haunted of holidays and here's what they advise.

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00:18:58,160 --> 00:19:05,160

The first thing that they'll say is, you're going to think I'm crazy, but this is going on and I tell them no. I don't think you're crazy. I've heard it all before.

204

00:19:05,160 --> 00:19:11,160

Al Rober is a psychical researcher with over 25 years of experience investigating the paranormal.

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00:19:11,160 --> 00:19:17,160

Rober's studies of haunting phenomena have taken him around the world in pursuit of hard evidence.

206

00:19:17,160 --> 00:19:26,160

Rober's interest in ghosts and spirits stems from his personal belief that every living being contains energy that does not die when the physical body dies.

207

00:19:26,160 --> 00:19:33,160

Every one of us is made up of energy. Now when we die, what happens? Do we go into a box six feet in the ground and that energy stays there?

208

00:19:33,160 --> 00:19:41,160

I don't think so. The energy has to go someplace. I think in cases of hauntings, somehow this energy stays behind.

209

00:19:41,160 --> 00:19:48,160

After years of investigation, Rober has developed a checklist for anyone who believes they have seen or felt a ghost.

210

00:19:48,160 --> 00:19:55,160

The first thing to do is to start keeping a log. Put down what happened, the length of time that had happened.

211

00:19:55,160 --> 00:20:04,160

Put them who was there in the room at the time of the experience. If there's four people present, could all four people experience it?

212

00:20:04,160 --> 00:20:10,160

If the activity seems to happen more often around one certain individual, that should be noted.

213

00:20:10,160 --> 00:20:20,160

Or in certain areas of the house, the person should drop a floor plan of the house and mark each area where activity is taking place and what activity took place there.

214

00:20:20,160 --> 00:20:30,160

Have a camera ready, preferably a Polaroid camera, or a tape recorder ready. Be ready to get evidence and get tangible evidence of your haunting.

215

00:20:30,160 --> 00:20:36,160

In addition to recording every aspect of your experience, Rober suggests doing some outside research.

216

00:20:36,160 --> 00:20:44,160

Find out everything you can about the history of your house, the land it sits on, and other ghost phenomena that have been reported nearby.

217

00:20:44,160 --> 00:20:49,160

If the haunting continues and is frightening to you, Rober suggests contacting the psychic.

218

00:20:49,160 --> 00:20:58,160

There are those psychics that claim that they can actually absorb the spirit into their own person and then release it at a later time through meditation.

219

00:20:58,160 --> 00:21:06,160

Although psychics can help, Rober believes that the best way to deal with the haunting is to embrace it as a once in a lifetime experience.

220

00:21:06,160 --> 00:21:12,160

I would tell them to attempt to learn to coexist with it for the time being.

221

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

If they can coexist with it, if they can somehow reduce their own tensions, then I think what they'll find is the activity will decrease.

222

00:21:24,160 --> 00:21:30,160

One more important step is to look for any natural occurrences that could explain away the haunting.

223

00:21:30,160 --> 00:21:33,160

In particular, the site's proximity to high-tension wires.

224

00:21:33,160 --> 00:21:41,160

The physical effects of EMF, electromagnetic fields, are hotly debated, but it does seem to have an influence in many haunting cases.

225

00:21:42,160 --> 00:21:44,160

When sightings continues.

226

00:21:44,160 --> 00:21:50,160

We don't go and put a gun to your head. We take your name, we put it in the pot, and then you will drop dead somewhere in the street.

227

00:21:50,160 --> 00:21:57,160

Inside the world of Santoria and Palo, then deadly effects of the moon and the water which is gift.

228

00:21:58,160 --> 00:22:12,160

The day after the invasion of Panama in 1989, US forces discovered a strange house in the Panamanian jungle owned by then-General Manuel Noriega.

229

00:22:12,160 --> 00:22:16,160

Inside, rooms had been turned into occult shrines.

230

00:22:16,160 --> 00:22:26,160

There were remains from animal sacrifices, jars filled with blood, bone and herbs, and cryptic curses defaming Noriega's enemies, including then-President George Bush.

231

00:22:26,160 --> 00:22:34,160

It was a rare glimpse at the international power of a little-known and much misunderstood religion called Santoria.

232

00:22:38,160 --> 00:22:47,160

What started as a small sect of wildly devout worshipers in one African tribe has spread significantly across the Atlantic to Cuba than Miami.

233

00:22:47,160 --> 00:22:55,160

And now, the power of Santoria is felt from New York to Los Angeles, from Caracas to Tierra del Fuego.

234

00:22:55,160 --> 00:23:01,160

Fostered by slave trading in the last century, and exposure to Catholicism in this century.

235

00:23:01,160 --> 00:23:07,160

The religion was originally practiced by the Yoruba in what is today southwestern Nigeria, mainly.

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00:23:07,160 --> 00:23:18,160

When the Yoruba came to Cuba as slaves, they had to make certain adaptations to the environment, and the resulting religion is Santoria.

237

00:23:19,160 --> 00:23:31,160

But when East met West, some centeros split from the largely benign practices of Santorio to form Palo, a religion that turned spirits into demons and corpses into objects of worship.

238

00:23:31,160 --> 00:23:35,160

We have to have an actual spirit that will do our bidding.

239

00:23:35,160 --> 00:23:46,160

So there are ceremonies where they go into the cemetery and they disinterer a body, and they ask if they can use that spirit of that corpse.

240

00:23:47,160 --> 00:23:58,160

And if the spirit of that corpse says yes that it will do what the Palo asks, then yes, we take different pieces of bone from it, whether it's the skull, fingertip bones, or shin bones.

241

00:23:58,160 --> 00:24:01,160

And we incorporate those into the pot.

242

00:24:03,160 --> 00:24:12,160

The dark rituals of Palo are often confused with Santoria, because to satisfy the spirits, both religions practice animal sacrifice.

243

00:24:13,160 --> 00:24:18,160

We don't kill cats and dogs, okay? No pets.

244

00:24:18,160 --> 00:24:25,160

We use goats, we use lambs, and chickens, and we do eat these animals.

245

00:24:25,160 --> 00:24:33,160

We don't torture the animal. The person who does the animal sacrifice is trained so that the animal is killed instantly.

246

00:24:34,160 --> 00:24:40,160

Santoria and Palo also share a belief in the power of spirit possession.

247

00:24:40,160 --> 00:24:47,160

In Santoria, spirits called orishas are summoned through music and prayer, and are believed to enter the bodies of the worshippers.

248

00:24:47,160 --> 00:24:56,160

They shave your head, they cut a small cut in your scalp, and implant actually the essence of the orisha, the power of the orisha inside your head.

249

00:24:57,160 --> 00:25:03,160

You become known as lyawo. lyawo means the wife of the orisha, even if you're male, you're still the wife of the orisha.

250

00:25:03,160 --> 00:25:11,160

Once you go into the room of the initiation, you feel the vibes, you feel the energies, that's something different.

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00:25:13,160 --> 00:25:21,160

During these initiation ceremonies, believers enter an altered state where their mind and body are given over to the orisha.

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00:25:21,160 --> 00:25:25,160

Santeros believe that in this altered state, miracles can happen.

253

00:25:25,160 --> 00:25:32,160

Jackie Rodriguez, a Cuban-American baptized in the Catholic Church, was initiated into Santoria at 22.

254

00:25:32,160 --> 00:25:36,160

She was looking for hope and healing after a series of difficult miscarriages.

255

00:25:36,160 --> 00:25:46,160

The doctors said that I should stop trying to have babies because it was going to be worse for me or I was going to cause some kind of complication.

256

00:25:46,160 --> 00:25:52,160

Jackie believes it was the power of her orisha that helped her sustain a new life within her.

257

00:25:52,160 --> 00:25:55,160

Well, when I went to the doctor, I was scared when he said I was pregnant.

258

00:25:55,160 --> 00:25:58,160

I said, oh no, you know, because I was already scared of losing them.

259

00:25:58,160 --> 00:26:04,160

And he said, well, this one looks like it's pretty good and it looks okay. Your pregnancy looks well.

260

00:26:04,160 --> 00:26:07,160

And I was shocked, the doctor was shocked as well.

261

00:26:07,160 --> 00:26:11,160

Jackie's son is now eight years old and a Santoria initiate.

262

00:26:11,160 --> 00:26:17,160

Jackie herself has become a priestess and is dedicated to helping others use Santoria for good.

263

00:26:17,160 --> 00:26:19,160

Anybody can be initiated.

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00:26:19,160 --> 00:26:25,160

The religion has people from all kinds of social backgrounds. It is a family religion.

265

00:26:25,160 --> 00:26:31,160

With more than five million members in the U.S., Santoria tries to distance itself from polo,

266

00:26:31,160 --> 00:26:34,160

where the power of the orishas is used for evil.

267

00:26:34,160 --> 00:26:40,160

The same rituals that create life for Santeros are used to curse and even kill through polo.

268

00:26:40,160 --> 00:26:46,160

We don't go and put a gun to your head. What we do is we take your name, we put it in the pot, and we do our ceremonies.

269

00:26:46,160 --> 00:26:49,160

And then you will drop dead somewhere in the street.

270

00:26:49,160 --> 00:26:53,160

But I want to stress to you that the majority of the paletos do not do evil.

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00:26:53,160 --> 00:26:58,160

Usually, most of the spells they do is to cure and heal people.

272

00:26:58,160 --> 00:27:03,160

The only time you actually see them doing evil is in self-defense with somebody else is trying to hurt them.

273

00:27:03,160 --> 00:27:12,160

The centerpiece for polo ceremonies is the enganga, an iron cauldron filled with ritual items like herbs, nails, and sometimes human remains.

274

00:27:12,160 --> 00:27:18,160

This ceremonial soup is thought to attract the orishas who are thought to spring from the enganga.

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00:27:18,160 --> 00:27:21,160

When you're dealing with this elemental force, it's very dangerous.

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00:27:21,160 --> 00:27:24,160

If you don't know what you're doing, you can hurt yourself, you see.

277

00:27:24,160 --> 00:27:29,160

So when I go and do a spell on somebody, I go in front of my pot and I ask my pot,

278

00:27:29,160 --> 00:27:33,160

am I justified in doing this spell for this person?

279

00:27:33,160 --> 00:27:39,160

If the pot tells me no, no matter how much money, no matter how much they try to persuade me, I will not do it.

280

00:27:39,160 --> 00:27:45,160

Engangas have led to the popular but erroneous belief that human sacrifices are part of Santoria and Polo.

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00:27:45,160 --> 00:27:50,160

Pleros insist the innocent have nothing to fear from their practices.

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00:27:50,160 --> 00:27:57,160

Jim Dibble was the US Army's leading occult expert when he came face to face with the dark side of Polo

283

00:27:57,160 --> 00:28:01,160

during a raid on the so-called Witch House of Manuel Noriega.

284

00:28:01,160 --> 00:28:12,160

Upon entering this house located in Fort Amador, it became apparent to me that in fact what we were looking at was not drugs.

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00:28:12,160 --> 00:28:18,160

But what it was were manifestations of a more deviant practicing of Santoria.

286

00:28:18,160 --> 00:28:22,160

The house was devoted to Polo and black magic.

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00:28:22,160 --> 00:28:30,160

Along the items, a split cow's tongue nailed shut and buried in rice inside the names of Noriega's enemies.

288

00:28:30,160 --> 00:28:37,160

When I first was able to discover that these items were linked directly to Noriega, I was astounded.

289

00:28:37,160 --> 00:28:45,160

Not only because a world leader was bound by these beliefs, guided by these beliefs,

290

00:28:45,160 --> 00:28:51,160

but this is the first time I have been able to see these types of examples, these manifestations in reality.

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00:28:51,160 --> 00:28:57,160

Hundreds of politicians and world leaders were named in curses called workings.

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00:28:57,160 --> 00:29:03,160

I encountered a number of workings that involved George Bush.

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00:29:03,160 --> 00:29:08,160

Typically George Bush's name would be written on a piece of paper.

294

00:29:08,160 --> 00:29:15,160

And then this piece of paper would be placed either in gelatin or in cornmeal.

295

00:29:15,160 --> 00:29:22,160

And then wrapped in the case of cornmeal, it would be wrapped in a banana leaf, tied securely and placed in the freezer.

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00:29:22,160 --> 00:29:29,160

It's not hard to see that Noriega was trying to influence the way George Bush thought about him and the way he acted against him.

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00:29:29,160 --> 00:29:35,160

Noriega believed these workings empowered him and that he could control his enemies through the spells he cast.

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00:29:35,160 --> 00:29:41,160

They could use a spell to sweeten you. They could use a spell to make your life a bit of misery.

299

00:29:41,160 --> 00:29:45,160

They could use the spell to bring you good fortune.

300

00:29:45,160 --> 00:29:57,160

And judging from what was done there, I would say that these were spells used to control, to put these people under his control so they would do his bidding.

301

00:29:57,160 --> 00:30:06,160

While Polo continues to operate in the shadows, Santaria has an open door policy and is accessible through neighborhood botanicas.

302

00:30:07,160 --> 00:30:16,160

You find all kinds of really interesting paraphernalia here, which is really the basis for the religion.

303

00:30:16,160 --> 00:30:26,160

Cady here is the owner of this botanica. She has an increasing number of Americans becoming involved and interested in Santaria and Palo.

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00:30:26,160 --> 00:30:35,160

Santaria has no aspect that needs to be feared by people that live in the United States.

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00:30:35,160 --> 00:30:43,160

But certainly it has an aspect that could be manipulated for destructive purposes.

306

00:30:43,160 --> 00:30:54,160

They say man is only afraid of what he doesn't know. Once you know what Palo is, you really shouldn't be afraid of it because all Palo is, is a religion of natural elements.

307

00:30:54,160 --> 00:30:56,160

That's all we work with is with nature.

308

00:30:56,160 --> 00:31:09,160

I think the most important thing is that we're not here to hurt anybody. We're just here to help those who we can help and who the Eureka's let us help.

309

00:31:09,160 --> 00:31:17,160

As the American military's leading authority on the occult, James Dibble would seem to be a prime target for the wrath of Santeros.

310

00:31:17,160 --> 00:31:24,160

Dibble has experienced some unusual occurrences, mostly mechanical and electrical malfunctions while he's lecturing about the occult.

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00:31:24,160 --> 00:31:28,160

But so far he has escaped the deadly curse of Palo Mayan Bay.

312

00:31:28,160 --> 00:31:35,160

Coming up next on Sighting This, some nights you'll get people talking to street lights, you know, barking like dogs.

313

00:31:35,160 --> 00:31:39,160

Things go a little crazy at the time of Full Moon.

314

00:31:43,160 --> 00:31:51,160

For millennia, humankind has looked to the moon with wonder and awe. Our nearest neighbor in space has inspired lovers, scientists and madmen.

315

00:31:51,160 --> 00:31:56,160

In fact, the word lunatic has at its root the Latin word for moon.

316

00:31:56,160 --> 00:32:03,160

The moon's effect on our planet can be measured with the tides. But what about its effect on human beings?

317

00:32:03,160 --> 00:32:18,160

If the Simpson crime had happened 400 years ago, people finding two badly mutilated bodies with animal footprints because a dog was present in the scene, they might have said, you know, werewolves.

318

00:32:19,160 --> 00:32:33,160

The LA riots was, I think, three days before the new moon. O.J. Simpson happened three days after the new moon. The Bobbit incident happened three days after the new moon, both at night, both using a knife.

319

00:32:33,160 --> 00:32:43,160

It is a beautiful sight. The Full Moon rising high in the night sky. But while the moon casts its heavenly glow, it seems all hell breaks loose on Earth.

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00:32:43,160 --> 00:32:52,160

During the Full Moon, reports of murder, violence and admissions to psychiatric hospitals all rise. Many scientists say Moon madness is myth.

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00:32:52,160 --> 00:32:57,160

But at the Griffith Observatory in Los Angeles, calls come in daily insisting there is a link.

322

00:32:57,160 --> 00:33:10,160

If you ask emergency personnel, police, fire, doctors, what influence does the moon have, they'll all tell you for certain things go a little crazy at the time of Full Moon.

323

00:33:10,160 --> 00:33:19,160

Tonight, yeah, we had a guy that apparently was trying to kill himself and stuck himself in the stomach with a steak knife all the way up to the handle and was running around the house.

324

00:33:19,160 --> 00:33:26,160

And when the officers got there, they were trying to calm him down and his main concern was that he wanted a cigarette.

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00:33:26,160 --> 00:33:30,160

Sightings rode along with police in Pomona, California during one recent Full Moon.

326

00:33:30,160 --> 00:33:48,160

This city is pretty weird as it is. I never really consciously thought about it. I'm sure there's probably been one or two nights where the city was jumping and if I would have looked up, it

probably would have been full.

327

00:33:48,160 --> 00:34:00,160

Some nights you'll get five or six, what we call, 5150s, people walking in traffic, talking to street lights, barking like dogs.

328

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

People who supposedly transform into animals are nothing new. They're just the modern chapter in an age-old belief in the moon's ability to bring out the beast within humankind.

329

00:34:10,160 --> 00:34:16,160

More than 1,000 years ago, moon rituals would transform participants into what we now call werewolves.

330

00:34:16,160 --> 00:34:27,160

They would do this by either drinking a concoction of herbs. They would very often bind their waste with a pelt of wolfskin.

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00:34:27,160 --> 00:34:39,160

They would light a fire and urinate in a circle around it. And there was a chat where they actually asked the wolf spirit to enter into their body and take over their soul.

332

00:34:39,160 --> 00:34:44,160

Preferably this was done at the full of the moon when the moon was at its zenith.

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00:34:44,160 --> 00:34:49,160

But did the moon cause their transformation or simply illuminated?

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00:34:49,160 --> 00:34:57,160

The connection of the werewolf to the full moon probably begins with just the notion that wolves and coyotes howl at the moon.

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00:34:57,160 --> 00:35:06,160

That linked up with the idea that the moon is always changing and it seems like a supernatural transformation to traditional people.

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00:35:06,160 --> 00:35:12,160

And so that can create the notion that something like a wolf could change into a man or vice versa.

337

00:35:12,160 --> 00:35:20,160

Forensic scientist and crime historian E.J. Wagner documents the link between the moon and its reported gruesome effects on people.

338

00:35:20,160 --> 00:35:33,160

There was a 14-year-old boy named Jean Grenet who confessed to being a werewolf and said he'd attacked and killed several children and incarcerated him in a monastery for the rest of his life.

339

00:35:33,160 --> 00:35:38,160

And he spent the rest of his life groveling on off of the wall for us. Would he dally raw meat? Would he tore apart?

340

00:35:38,160 --> 00:35:47,160

There's no close correlation between the phase of the moon and human behavior. People often think that there must be because the moon makes the tides.

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00:35:47,160 --> 00:35:55,160

That's water and of course human beings are 80% water. But tidal forces on human beings are much less than on the earth.

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00:35:55,160 --> 00:36:00,160

In fact, a book I have in my hand would exert more tidal force than the moon ever would.

343

00:36:01,160 --> 00:36:06,160

But consider these unsettling acts conducted during a full moon.

344

00:36:06,160 --> 00:36:12,160

An AP Wire Story on April 11, 1982 reports 12 murders in 12 hours.

345

00:36:12,160 --> 00:36:18,160

A man in England insists that the full moon drove him to commit gruesome crimes. And the list goes on.

346

00:36:18,160 --> 00:36:24,160

There has yet to be a single comprehensive scientific study on the lunar effect on human beings.

347

00:36:24,160 --> 00:36:32,160

But anecdotal evidence is pervasive pointing to a rise in suicide, crime, arson, earthquakes and other earth changes.

348

00:36:32,160 --> 00:36:42,160

In Miami, Florida, Jeff Warren Hyman studies lunar cycles and charts their effects. His newsletter uses this data to predict high and low points for each month.

349

00:36:42,160 --> 00:36:50,160

If you're looking for the explosive period, it's one day after the full moon. The eve of the full moon to one day after and about five days before new moon through one day after new moon.

350

00:36:50,160 --> 00:36:53,160

This is where you really see the, this is where they go to town.

351

00:36:53,160 --> 00:37:08,160

There are only anecdotes and theories for now. But as Nobel Prize winner Robert Millican has said, if man is not affected in some way by the planet's sun and moon, he is the only thing on earth that isn't.

352

00:37:09,160 --> 00:37:14,160

Next on Sightings, a mysterious ability succeeds where science fails.

353

00:37:14,160 --> 00:37:19,160

I don't know of many well-dreaders nowadays that don't use a witcher. Before I did, now I don't.

354

00:37:23,160 --> 00:37:32,160

When astronomers look for the shape of the universe, they use radio telescopes. When geneticists look deep inside DNA, they use supercomputers.

355

00:37:32,160 --> 00:37:40,160

And when drilling engineers look for water, they also call in someone special, someone who uses something like this.

356

00:37:43,160 --> 00:37:52,160

There's no way in the world that you can explain it, except that it's something mysterious and it's wonderful and it works.

357

00:37:52,160 --> 00:38:00,160

The search for water is the search for life, and dousing, our most ancient method of finding water, is still in constant use today.

358

00:38:00,160 --> 00:38:08,160

Scientists have yet to invent an instrument that can locate water more accurately than the forked stick depicted in this 16th century woodcut.

359

00:38:08,160 --> 00:38:18,160

There's no earthly reason to believe that dousing doesn't go way back to maybe the stone age, because it's so practical.

360

00:38:19,160 --> 00:38:29,160

Many dousers, also called water witches, believe that the divine rod itself is not powerful, but that it acts as an indicator of the psychic power within each individual douser.

361

00:38:29,160 --> 00:38:38,160

I think of all the psychic abilities, like clairvoyance or telepathy, there is other dousing is the most accessible.

362

00:38:38,160 --> 00:38:47,160

But the source of their ability is as individual as each water witch. In Northern Georgia, Bob Slack has doused successfully for over 17 years.

363

00:38:47,160 --> 00:38:52,160

Most dousters believe they have guardian angels or guides that help them get this information.

364

00:38:52,160 --> 00:39:04,160

And I figured that the guides get this message to my subconscious, and the subconscious takes over so that the pendulum or the rods react as they do.

365

00:39:05,160 --> 00:39:13,160

Bob uses L-shaped rods made of bronze and copper that he believes will turn and twist in his hands in the presence of water.

366

00:39:13,160 --> 00:39:19,160

When the rods cross, like so, that's a yes answer.

367

00:39:19,160 --> 00:39:22,160

If they don't cross and you ask a question, the answer is no.

368

00:39:22,160 --> 00:39:31,160

There's one vein that's flowing off to my right. Right there we are.

369

00:39:31,160 --> 00:39:38,160

After locating what he believes is a water source, Bob uses a pendulum to divine how deep the engineer should drill.

370

00:39:38,160 --> 00:39:44,160

More than 100 feet? No. 90, 80, 70, 60.

371

00:39:44,160 --> 00:39:53,160

Our sightings crew watched as Bob placed a marker on the spot where his divining rods indicated water would be found. Then we drilled.

372

00:39:53,160 --> 00:39:57,160

I don't believe 100% in them, but I don't disbelieve in them.

373

00:39:57,160 --> 00:40:03,160

But Jack Byers became a believer when he hit water, exactly where the water witch said he would.

374

00:40:03,160 --> 00:40:08,160

Skeptics argue that if you drill deep enough, you can find water anywhere, with or without dowsing.

375

00:40:08,160 --> 00:40:12,160

But drillers here in the Great Western Desert haven't found that to be true.

376

00:40:12,160 --> 00:40:15,160

Dry holes mean empty pockets.

377

00:40:15,160 --> 00:40:20,160

Water witching is very practical, especially in this country.

378

00:40:20,160 --> 00:40:29,160

If you drill a dry hole, you know, you're looking at 5,000 to 10,000 plus dollars.

379

00:40:29,160 --> 00:40:34,160

I didn't know what a water witch was, and yet I knew it worked for me.

380

00:40:34,160 --> 00:40:41,160

People would ask me and I'd say, I have no idea how it works. I just know that it works.

381

00:40:41,160 --> 00:40:44,160

When they drill well, there's water there.

382

00:40:44,160 --> 00:40:49,160

In 40 years of dowsing, Eldon Schmootz claims he's only missed three times.

383

00:40:49,160 --> 00:40:53,160

A simple willow branch in his hand succeeds where geology maps fail.

384

00:40:53,160 --> 00:40:57,160

Even the state of Utah has come to trust his stunning dowsing powers.

385

00:40:59,160 --> 00:41:10,160

If I'm holding that stick really tight, it'll go in my hand as it goes down, the bark of the willow against the flesh of my hand.

386

00:41:10,160 --> 00:41:17,160

Once Schmootz chooses a drilling site, he uses a coil of bailing wire to determine the depth at which water can be found.

387

00:41:17,160 --> 00:41:23,160

286 is the next strata to write down.

388

00:41:23,160 --> 00:41:24,160

Got it.

389

00:41:24,160 --> 00:41:32,160

I started writing down these depths, and it really amazed me. He's only a foot or two off.

390

00:41:32,160 --> 00:41:37,160

And he tells me before I drill.

391

00:41:37,160 --> 00:41:42,160

Schmootz believes his is a physical power rather than a psychic gift.

392

00:41:42,160 --> 00:41:50,160

Everybody has a Nora or an electrical field or magnetic field about them, and there's no two that are alike.

393

00:41:50,160 --> 00:41:53,160

Just like there's no two fingerprints or alike.

394

00:41:53,160 --> 00:42:00,160

And those persons who have a strong, strong aura are the one that water witching works for.

395

00:42:00,160 --> 00:42:06,160

You hold it as tight as you can. You're a water witch.

396

00:42:06,160 --> 00:42:10,160

I don't know of many weld drillers nowadays that don't use a witcher.

397

00:42:10,160 --> 00:42:14,160

It's just a natural thing now. I don't even question it anymore.

398

00:42:14,160 --> 00:42:20,160

Before I did, now I don't. So even us old guys get our education.

399

00:42:27,160 --> 00:42:29,160

You're in, guys. Think we're founder.

400

00:42:29,160 --> 00:42:30,160

That's good.

401

00:42:30,160 --> 00:42:31,160

We're deep enough.

402

00:42:31,160 --> 00:42:35,160

Yeah, that's great. Just like that.

403

00:42:36,160 --> 00:42:42,160

The American Society of Dowsers has 3,500 members in all 50 states.

404

00:42:42,160 --> 00:42:49,160

The roster of clients includes some of the biggest names in drilling and construction, including many large oil companies.

405

00:42:49,160 --> 00:42:56,160

But when we queried these companies about their use of dowsing, they refused to comment publicly.

406

00:42:57,160 --> 00:43:05,160

If you've had a paranormal experience, call the Sightings Hotline at 19033 Sight.

407

00:43:05,160 --> 00:43:08,160

That's 190337444.

408

00:43:08,160 --> 00:43:12,160

Each call 65 cents a minute, average call last three minutes.

409

00:43:12,160 --> 00:43:17,160

Sightings is also online. Our email addresses sightings at aol.com.

410

00:43:17,160 --> 00:43:23,160

Until next time, remember, no mystery is closed to an open mind.

411

00:43:23,160 --> 00:43:26,160

For Sightings, I'm Tim White.

412

00:43:53,160 --> 00:43:56,160

Sightings is open to all.