

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:06,000

They've seen them. Visitors swear they've heard them. Some even claim they've felt them.

2

00:00:11,280 --> 00:00:12,080

They're ghosts.

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00:00:14,400 --> 00:00:20,240

The mysterious spirits that supposedly haunt some of our most luxuriously spooky hotels.

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00:00:21,440 --> 00:00:26,240

Every story is stranger than the next. But could they actually be true?

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00:00:30,000 --> 00:00:37,120

It's time to find out. We're checking into haunted hotels on Truth or Scare.

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00:01:00,000 --> 00:01:17,760

We've got reservations at some of the most fabulous old hotels in the U.S.

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00:01:18,640 --> 00:01:22,640

There's just one thing you should know. These places have a certain reputation.

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00:01:23,680 --> 00:01:29,520

For terror. Some guests claim that when night falls, you might hear a few windows rattling

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00:01:29,600 --> 00:01:35,920

and door slamming, or see strange apparitions and ghostly visions. Are these specters just the

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00:01:35,920 --> 00:01:43,440

creation of overactive imaginations, or are these historic hotels truly filled with restless spirits?

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00:01:46,800 --> 00:01:55,200

Here on the banks of beautiful Lake Moscoma stands the Shaker Inn, a 24-room mansion built in 1837.

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00:01:56,080 --> 00:02:01,840

The Inn gets its name from the secretive religious community that built it. The Shakers came to

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00:02:01,840 --> 00:02:08,640

America from Europe at the end of the 1700s. They were led by a man named Caleb Dyer to Anfield,

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00:02:08,640 --> 00:02:14,240

New Hampshire. This is where the Shakers built this imposing six-story structure.

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00:02:15,920 --> 00:02:22,560

For most of them, it was their whole world under one roof. They lived there, worked there, ate

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00:02:22,720 --> 00:02:30,640

there, and worshipped there. Today, the Shakers are gone, and the building they lived in Praden has

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00:02:30,640 --> 00:02:38,320

been turned into a hotel. But some say their spirits live on inside the Shaker Inn, and who

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00:02:38,320 --> 00:02:44,880

would know better than the innkeeper himself? The Shakers believe very much in spirits, and that

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00:02:44,880 --> 00:02:51,520

feeling still permeates this whole building. When you walk through this building, you can

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00:02:51,600 --> 00:02:59,600

feel the spirits. And many visitors claim they can also hear them. They say they've heard doors

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00:02:59,600 --> 00:03:09,760

closing, and footsteps creaking down the hallway. Of course, that could just be another guest who's

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00:03:09,760 --> 00:03:16,240

having trouble sleeping, but how do you explain this? My chambermaids tell me that up on the

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00:03:16,320 --> 00:03:24,000

fourth floor, in room 15, there is a rocking chair that often is just rocking by itself.

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00:03:26,560 --> 00:03:31,280

Even when there's no wind coming through the building, and no guests in the house,

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00:03:32,080 --> 00:03:36,800

that one chair in that one room mysteriously keeps rocking.

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00:03:37,760 --> 00:03:49,360

But many locals believe it's the restless spirit of the Shakers leader, Caleb Dyer.

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00:03:52,800 --> 00:04:00,800

What we do know is this. In 1863, the minister's life was ended by a local man named Thomas Weier.

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00:04:01,040 --> 00:04:07,600

The man was desperate. He had lost his wife and had two young daughters to provide for.

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00:04:10,640 --> 00:04:15,920

The American Civil War was raging, so Weier joined the army of the North for money,

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00:04:17,040 --> 00:04:22,000

and left his daughters with Caleb Dyer, knowing that the kindly Shaker community would look after

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00:04:22,000 --> 00:04:29,280

them. And he was right. The girls missed their father, but the Shakers gave them a safe, stable,

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00:04:29,520 --> 00:04:37,040

happy life. But six months later, their father came back for them. It was apparent to Caleb Dyer

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00:04:37,040 --> 00:04:42,720

that Thomas Weier was unstable. Fearing for the girl's safety, Caleb refused to give them back.

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00:04:43,600 --> 00:04:51,120

But what he didn't know was that Thomas Weier had a gun. And when Caleb turned to go back into the

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00:04:51,120 --> 00:04:55,200

house, Thomas Weier did the unthinkable.

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00:05:02,640 --> 00:05:09,520

Caleb Dyer's tragic death shattered the whole community. Without him, the secrets of how the

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00:05:09,520 --> 00:05:17,120

village was run were gone forever, and the Shaker village fell apart. Which is why some people say

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00:05:17,120 --> 00:05:25,120

that only Caleb's bones rest here in the cemetery. They claim his spirit, still miserable over the

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00:05:25,120 --> 00:05:35,120

end of the Shakers, is haunting the hotel. A friend of innkeeper Don Liewitz was exploring the

fifth

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00:05:35,120 --> 00:05:42,480

and sixth floors of the inn. Floors that have never been used by the hotel. Don's friend wandered

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

through the dark, long abandoned rooms. Then, on his way back downstairs from the sixth floor,

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00:05:49,040 --> 00:05:55,200

he met a perfectly friendly-looking couple on their way up. And my friend turned to them and said,

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00:05:55,200 --> 00:06:01,200

watch out for the hand railing because it's creaky. But as he spoke, he says the face of the man on

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00:06:01,200 --> 00:06:10,240

the stairs suddenly transformed into another man's face. A very angry face. And he said those eyes,

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00:06:10,240 --> 00:06:16,480

those milky eyes just kept drawing him in. And at that point, he had to leave the building.

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00:06:17,360 --> 00:06:22,640

Not long after that, a portrait was found at the inn. It matched the face Don's friend

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00:06:22,640 --> 00:06:27,840

saw on the stairs that night. It was a portrait of Caleb Dyer.

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00:06:30,800 --> 00:06:36,000

So if you ever find yourself in Enfield, New Hampshire, you may want to prepare to be scared

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00:06:36,000 --> 00:06:38,640

when you visit the mysterious Shaker Inn.

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00:06:44,720 --> 00:06:49,520

They say scaring the guests at this spooky southern mansion is child's play.

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00:06:53,760 --> 00:06:58,800

There's no better place to feel welcome than in one of the South's historic mansion hotels.

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00:06:59,760 --> 00:07:03,600

But at one particular hotel, don't be surprised if you're on into

53

00:07:04,320 --> 00:07:05,840

an unexpected guest.

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00:07:10,320 --> 00:07:13,600

Over a hundred years ago in Charleston, South Carolina,

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00:07:14,560 --> 00:07:20,400

this mansion was home to a 12-year-old girl and her family. Her name was Sarah.

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00:07:22,560 --> 00:07:26,800

Today, Sarah's house is home to the Rutledge Victorian guest house.

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00:07:27,600 --> 00:07:32,240

But some say Sarah still lives here, playing games.

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00:07:32,240 --> 00:07:34,880

With the guests' minds.

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00:07:34,880 --> 00:07:41,680

Lights that flicker on and off. Could it really be the ghost of a 12-year-old girl?

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00:07:45,840 --> 00:07:49,520

Of course, it could also be bad wiring or a trick of the wind.

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00:07:50,320 --> 00:07:52,960

But many people say the explanation is simply

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00:07:53,920 --> 00:07:57,840

Sarah. It all goes back to one terrible night.

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00:07:58,640 --> 00:08:01,360

Sarah was in her bedroom on the top floor of the house.

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00:08:02,080 --> 00:08:05,520

She had just fallen asleep when tragedy struck.

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00:08:07,200 --> 00:08:12,640

The young girl was hopelessly trapped. Her parents were devastated.

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00:08:12,640 --> 00:08:17,200

It wasn't long before they left the house and Charleston forever.

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00:08:17,200 --> 00:08:20,400

For nearly 80 years, the burned-out mansion remained empty.

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00:08:21,120 --> 00:08:23,440

A creepy reminder of that tragic night.

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00:08:24,320 --> 00:08:29,120

Then, in the mid-1980s, the house was rebuilt and opened as a hotel,

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00:08:29,120 --> 00:08:32,320

with every authentic Victorian detail restored.

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00:08:35,760 --> 00:08:41,040

But as historian Ed Grimble tells us, for a couple who stayed in Sarah's old room,

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00:08:41,040 --> 00:08:44,080

the experience was a little too authentic.

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00:08:45,520 --> 00:08:51,920

The wife was sleeping and the pillow was under her head and all of a sudden,

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00:08:52,240 --> 00:08:54,240

the pillow was pulled out from under her.

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00:08:55,280 --> 00:08:57,280

She really thought it must be her husband.

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00:08:57,840 --> 00:09:03,280

So she put the pillow back and then, moments later, the pillow was pulled out again.

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00:09:04,080 --> 00:09:06,000

Now she knew it was her husband.

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00:09:07,040 --> 00:09:11,040

So she looked over and there he was, fast asleep.

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00:09:14,080 --> 00:09:15,120

Who pulled that pillow?

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00:09:16,640 --> 00:09:21,120

Was it Sarah or just one of those dreams that feels so sad?

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00:09:21,920 --> 00:09:22,480

So real.

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00:09:27,440 --> 00:09:31,760

There are other guests who claim that as they climb the stairs to Sarah's old bedroom,

83

00:09:32,400 --> 00:09:37,680

a little girl would appear, staring down at them through a window at the top of the stairs.

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00:09:39,120 --> 00:09:45,520

But most disturbing of all are the reports of an unmistakable odor that sometimes fills the air,

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00:09:46,320 --> 00:09:49,840

a smell that leaves no doubt in Martha Jenkins' mind.

86

00:09:50,800 --> 00:09:51,680

Sarah's here.

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00:09:52,560 --> 00:09:57,360

You can smell her comment because her clothes still smell like the smoke,

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00:09:58,160 --> 00:09:59,840

so you know that Sarah is there.

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00:10:01,600 --> 00:10:04,480

And in the last few years, the claims have gotten stranger.

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00:10:05,520 --> 00:10:07,440

They say Sarah's gotten more daring.

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00:10:08,800 --> 00:10:14,400

Now she sometimes plays her pranks outside of her room, in broad daylight.

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00:10:14,400 --> 00:10:19,680

Like the time when two guests were having tea in the dining room.

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00:10:21,120 --> 00:10:22,800

They stepped away for just a minute.

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00:10:24,000 --> 00:10:26,880

When they returned, their tea cups were stacked,

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00:10:27,760 --> 00:10:32,480

one on top of the other, and there was no one else in the hotel.

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00:10:33,440 --> 00:10:36,640

Was this Sarah's strange new way of having a tea party?

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00:10:37,360 --> 00:10:40,720

Or was it really just a bus boy with a wicked sense of humor?

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00:10:41,520 --> 00:10:46,720

Whatever it was, those two guests checked out the next day, never to return.

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00:10:48,320 --> 00:10:51,840

Sarah had her house back, at least for a little while,

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00:10:51,840 --> 00:10:57,520

and as new guests arrive, we can only guess what the little girl in the attic has in store for them.

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00:10:57,840 --> 00:11:11,680

Travelers lost in the desert sometimes see bizarre visions.

102

00:11:12,960 --> 00:11:16,720

The blazing heat of the sun is the reason, supposedly,

103

00:11:17,520 --> 00:11:20,800

but at one resort in the desert town of Palm Springs, California,

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00:11:21,440 --> 00:11:26,800

many people are convinced that the elegant ghost who haunts the grounds is no mirage.

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00:11:27,840 --> 00:11:34,880

The Korakaya Hotel is like no other place in Palm Springs.

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00:11:35,760 --> 00:11:38,720

It's an oasis in the scorching California desert,

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00:11:41,520 --> 00:11:45,440

with cool blue pools and exotic Moroccan architecture.

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00:11:49,200 --> 00:11:54,080

No wonder it's so popular with top fashion photographers, models,

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00:11:54,080 --> 00:11:57,600

and the spirit of a mysterious beauty named Gertrude.

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00:11:59,200 --> 00:12:01,760

Apparently, a sure-signed Gertrude is around,

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00:12:02,480 --> 00:12:07,840

is when on warm, windless nights, the surface of the pool suddenly ripples.

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00:12:09,200 --> 00:12:15,040

Some guests say they even feel a cold chill run down their spine, even though it's 70 degrees.

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00:12:16,560 --> 00:12:22,320

But that's only the beginning. Candles sometimes blow out, for no reason at all,

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00:12:22,560 --> 00:12:27,680

unless maybe someone or something is there.

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00:12:28,960 --> 00:12:32,560

A few visitors even claim they felt Gertrude's presence.

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00:12:33,680 --> 00:12:35,840

Could all of these people have gotten too much sun?

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00:12:36,640 --> 00:12:40,400

Or is the mysterious Gertrude more than a trick of the heat?

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00:12:41,680 --> 00:12:44,160

Maybe Gertrude herself can explain the mystery.

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00:12:45,760 --> 00:12:49,920

It turns out she was a model, but back in the 1930s,

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00:12:49,920 --> 00:12:52,800

Gertrude posed for painters instead of photographers.

121

00:12:54,000 --> 00:12:58,640

One of those artists, Gordon Coots, couldn't resist his model's charms,

122

00:12:59,440 --> 00:13:05,440

so he married her. To show his love, Gordon built his beautiful new wife an exotic and romantic home.

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00:13:06,480 --> 00:13:11,440

It would be a palace for his queen, inspired by the magnificent architecture

124

00:13:11,440 --> 00:13:16,320

the artist had seen on his travels in the North African country of Morocco.

125

00:13:16,720 --> 00:13:20,640

But this fairytale romance came to a quick, tragic end.

126

00:13:20,640 --> 00:13:24,160

Gordon died suddenly, leaving Gertrude all alone.

127

00:13:25,280 --> 00:13:28,720

But it wasn't long before she had a second chance at love.

128

00:13:29,760 --> 00:13:36,560

An artist named John Laverly came to console Gertrude, and soon won this beautiful young woman's heart.

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00:13:40,160 --> 00:13:42,720

Gertrude and John settled in at Korakaya,

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00:13:43,680 --> 00:13:47,760

and became known for the fabulous parties they'd throw for their artist and writer friends.

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00:13:49,600 --> 00:13:53,440

It was at one of these parties that tragedy struck.

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00:13:54,480 --> 00:13:57,600

Apparently, John had wandered away from the main party,

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00:13:57,600 --> 00:14:01,600

but Gertrude couldn't bear being apart, so she went off to look for him.

134

00:14:03,440 --> 00:14:08,640

But when Gertrude turned a corner and stepped into the road, a speeding car came at her,

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00:14:09,840 --> 00:14:10,880

and she was gone.

136

00:14:13,040 --> 00:14:21,760

Gertrude's death brought Korakaya's elegant nightlife to an end.

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00:14:22,720 --> 00:14:29,680

For over 60 years, it lay still, silent, with only the haunting memories to fill it.

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00:14:30,800 --> 00:14:35,280

But in 1993, the house was finally restored to its former beauty,

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00:14:36,000 --> 00:14:38,720

and opened for business as a luxurious hotel.

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00:14:39,680 --> 00:14:43,040

The exotic setting was a huge hit with fashion photographers.

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00:14:43,760 --> 00:14:46,400

Korakaya was back, and better than ever.

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00:14:47,440 --> 00:14:52,960

But if this next story is to be believed, the beautiful women who come to Korakaya today

143

00:14:53,360 --> 00:14:57,680

are sharing the spotlight with a fashionable phantom from the past.

144

00:14:58,720 --> 00:15:01,360

If there's a photo shoot happening, I'm sure she's coming out for it.

145

00:15:02,240 --> 00:15:03,440

I'm sure she wouldn't miss it.

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00:15:04,080 --> 00:15:07,520

Many models who have worked here claim that when they're out of their room,

147

00:15:07,840 --> 00:15:11,440

they return to find clothes that are not where they left them.

148

00:15:12,320 --> 00:15:14,320

Lipstick and makeup have been moved.

149

00:15:15,280 --> 00:15:17,280

It seems that someone has snuck in.

150

00:15:18,160 --> 00:15:21,600

Could it be one of the housekeepers, or is it Gertrude?

151

00:15:28,960 --> 00:15:35,520

But missing mascara hardly compares to what they say happens on the anniversary of Gertrude's death.

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00:15:38,000 --> 00:15:41,840

A slim, well-dressed lady has been seen walking toward the road,

153

00:15:42,320 --> 00:15:46,560

at exactly the same spot where Gertrude was struck by that car.

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00:15:51,920 --> 00:15:56,320

Does her beautiful ghost truly haunt this luxurious California resort?

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00:15:58,080 --> 00:16:03,520

We may never know for sure, but these days, it's very fashionable to think so.

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00:16:07,920 --> 00:16:16,080

When sleeping in a hotel built in the 1870s, you should expect to hear a few bumps in the night.

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00:16:16,880 --> 00:16:20,640

But some guests of the Snowball Inn in Night's Land in California

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00:16:21,200 --> 00:16:24,240

say that they've heard babies wailing, doorbells ringing,

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00:16:24,800 --> 00:16:28,640

and even claim they've seen a woman who walks through walls.

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00:16:32,880 --> 00:16:36,480

Cheryl and James Furing, the inn's owners, know why.

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00:16:37,520 --> 00:16:40,480

It's always been the big haunted, scary mansion.

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00:16:41,120 --> 00:16:44,000

All the children in Night's Landing think it's the haunted house.

163

00:16:46,320 --> 00:16:49,920

The oddest feelings is when Windows rattle.

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00:16:52,400 --> 00:16:55,440

According to the Furing's, the windows rattle one at a time.

165

00:16:56,560 --> 00:16:59,920

They start upstairs, moving across the front of the house,

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00:17:00,560 --> 00:17:03,040

down to the front door, then around to the side.

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00:17:07,600 --> 00:17:08,720

The house is still open.

168

00:17:08,720 --> 00:17:12,320

Has one of the mansion's former residents refused to leave?

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00:17:15,760 --> 00:17:20,000

John Snowball built this house for his wife Lucy as soon as they got married.

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00:17:22,240 --> 00:17:25,600

There were a young couple in love living a fairy tale romance.

171

00:17:26,400 --> 00:17:28,720

Only one thing was missing, a child.

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00:17:30,320 --> 00:17:34,800

Then when their beautiful daughter was born, John and Lucy's joy was complete.

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00:17:35,760 --> 00:17:39,040

Though John often had to go away on business trips,

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00:17:39,040 --> 00:17:42,080

Lucy's days were filled playing happily with the new baby.

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00:17:46,000 --> 00:17:50,640

Whenever John came home from a trip, it was a special occasion in the Snowball house.

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00:17:53,200 --> 00:17:58,640

Lucy would put the baby to sleep, then go downstairs and listen to stories of her husband's travels.

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00:18:00,640 --> 00:18:02,960

On one fateful night, as John talked,

178

00:18:03,920 --> 00:18:05,520

Lucy drifted off to sleep.

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00:18:08,400 --> 00:18:13,360

The next morning she awoke, but tragically, her child didn't.

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00:18:15,120 --> 00:18:19,440

After that terrible night, Lucy became almost like a zombie.

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00:18:19,440 --> 00:18:21,600

She was devastated and she blamed herself.

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00:18:22,480 --> 00:18:27,520

Lucy lived into her 70s and never stopped grieving for the loss of her child.

183

00:18:28,880 --> 00:18:32,560

Some say that even death can't bring an end to Lucy's misery.

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00:18:33,680 --> 00:18:37,120

Would that explain the bizarre incidents at this historic mansion?

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00:18:38,000 --> 00:18:42,000

Could it all be Lucy's Snowball, unable to escape her guilt and grief?

186

00:18:42,800 --> 00:18:44,640

Some guests say, yes.

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00:18:45,680 --> 00:18:49,680

Late at night, some guests claim they hear unexplained knocks on their door,

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00:18:50,480 --> 00:18:52,640

as if Lucy were trying to wake them up.

189

00:18:53,520 --> 00:18:55,840

Maybe she's trying to prevent another tragedy?

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00:18:56,640 --> 00:19:01,840

Even creepier is one guest's claim that he had seen Lucy's ghost come through the wall.

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00:19:02,480 --> 00:19:05,600

A wall that stood where the dorsal nursery once was.

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00:19:08,800 --> 00:19:12,800

Of course, not everyone is convinced that Lucy still roams these halls.

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00:19:14,080 --> 00:19:17,840

But Cheryl Furing says that Lucy has no patience for non-believers.

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00:19:18,560 --> 00:19:24,560

I had a friend visiting and we were out in the garden and we were talking about the spirit of Lucy.

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00:19:25,440 --> 00:19:29,840

And she said she didn't think that Snowball Mansion was haunted.

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00:19:30,720 --> 00:19:33,840

Right after she said that, the table tipped over.

197

00:19:38,080 --> 00:19:39,680

Creepy, definitely.

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00:19:41,040 --> 00:19:43,920

But is it proof that Lucy haunts her family's mansion?

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00:19:45,200 --> 00:19:50,800

Perhaps a night in the old nursery at the Snowball Inn would help you to decide.

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00:19:53,440 --> 00:19:57,120

Even with all of the bizarre claims of unexplained sights and sounds,

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00:19:57,680 --> 00:20:01,440

these historic hotels still plin guests from around the world,

202

00:20:02,080 --> 00:20:04,880

some of them actually looking for a good scare.

203

00:20:05,680 --> 00:20:08,400

And even though there's no proof that ghosts exist,

204

00:20:09,120 --> 00:20:12,000

if you spend the night in one of America's haunted hotels,

205

00:20:13,040 --> 00:20:16,000

you might want to sleep with a light on.