



The Ghost Hunter: Chilling Tales of Real Life Hauntings

Hans Holzer

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In *The Ghost Hunter*, famed ghost hunter Dr. Hans Holzer recounts more than 40 real-life ghost stories, including several of his most intriguing cases. This ever-inquisitive researcher probes the history of each of these restless spirits and sometimes even coaxes them out of seclusion.

His pursuit of things that go bump in the night takes Holzer to strange haunts. These are just a few of the spirits that you will encounter in *The Ghost Hunter*:

A Revolutionary War soldier who continues to inhabit a house in the hills of New Jersey
A Central Park West social-climbing spirit staging a postmortem sit-in because she felt that her neighbors had snubbed her
The Bayberry Perfume ghost whose distinctive scent continues to permeate the Philadelphia house that she haunts
A lunatic uncle whose demise hasn't stopped him from making unwelcome visits
The tragic Fifth Avenue Ghost who, killed by a romantic rival, remains pinned in a love triangle of 1871
An old manor ghost who drives an entire carriage team of phantom horses

Known throughout the world as "The Ghost Hunter," Austrian-born **Hans Holzer, Ph.D.** is the author of more than 100 books. He is regarded as a leading authority on the paranormal, psychic phenomena and unexplained experiences. Dr. Holzer has written, produced and hosted numerous television documentaries, including NBC's *In Search Of...* series.

The Ghost Hunter: Chilling Tales of Real Life Hauntings Details

Date : Published December 25th 2005 by Barnes & Noble (first published September 1972)

ISBN : 9780760778074

Author : Hans Holzer

Format : Hardcover 360 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Paranormal, Ghosts, Nonfiction, Short Stories



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From Reader Review The Ghost Hunter: Chilling Tales of Real Life Hauntings for online ebook

Sandra Strange says

Hans Holzer is a real ghost hunter with experience of decades. His accounts are true--which makes them much less suspenseful and interesting than if they were inventions. Holzer has his own ideas of what ghosts really consist of, and how best to deal with them. He contacts them through mediums (media?) whom he can trust. His books are interesting, but not gripping.

Richard Gazala says

The technology-laden art of ghost-hunting commonly practiced today (evidenced by the scads of popular ghost-hunting shows currently haunting your cable television for all the 26 weeks on either side of Halloween) is based largely on an extravagant array of exotic gadgets calibrated to detect the piercing of our earthly veil by ethereal forces otherwise immeasurable dispassionately. This "objective" approach was first widely championed and documented by Briton Harry Price in his 1940 tome, "The Most Haunted House in England," a classic in the field examining the haunting of Borley Rectory in Essex. But there are more ways than one to confront a wraith, as celebrated American spirit chaser Hans Holzer demonstrates in his seminal 1963 (reprinted in new editions in 2005 and 2014) work, "The Ghost Hunter." Rather than depend on cold engineering's electronic or mechanical fruits like Price and most phantom finders currently on TV, Holzer's methodology relies on selecting deft and trustworthy psychic mediums to accompany him on investigations of locations squatted by specters along America's northeast coast. Once ensconced in a haunted location, Holzer's medium-du-jour allows herself to be commandeered by the wronged spirit so the latter can speak the grievances that compel it to wreak eerie havoc. The book's collection of reports is mostly entertaining, sometimes enlightening, and Holzer's interventions usually (but not always) lead to the elimination of spooky doings once the living appropriately address the ghosts' gripes. Holzer's book teaches it may be folly to assume people's quest for fairness in love and war is constrained by mortal borders, and that a good medium gives any fancy contraption a run for its money in tracking ghosts.

Linda says

I'm still reading, but I have to say, this is the WORST ghost book I've ever seen.

It was written in the late 60's - early 70's by a man who LOVES to name drop. He was quite friendly with a number of socialites, so he loves to tell you about them, often with a coy wink as to their identity by using first name and last initial for anonymity.

Also, several of the stories are completely useless. He'll explain how allegedly certain things would take place, then say he held a seance but nothing happened, and so he thinks they settled the spirit down. Whatever.

Don't bother with this one.

Jennifer says

A very quick, fun, informative read.

Hans Holzer's account of his life as a ghost hunter in 1950-1960 New York.

Some instances are very convincing, while others are not. Recurring through each encounter is the idea that ghosts are drawn to the mortal plane because of unfinished business. Or massive confusion.

I also have an autobiography by Eileen J. Garrett, Holzer's preferred medium, which I am eager to compare with this book.

It kinda made me want to seek out some of the haunted spaces he mentions, despite my fear of ghosts.

Michelle says

interesting

Kachina says

This was not really what I expected. It seems very dated, as the author uses only mediums to "interact" with the ghosts. When he isn't telling ghosts to go "towards the light", he's only repeating unverified stories that others have told him. If you are looking for a book of scary experiences this is not it. I was able to read this in the dark.

Boris says

Hans Holzer was "Mr. Ghost Hunter" for more than a generation. Tales of reported hauntings always make for fun and intriguing reading but Holzer's narrative is based on using mediums, a largely-discredited method. Virtually all mediums famous and obscure have been frauds of the self-deluding or the cynical exploitative kind. The only exception that I know of was Leonora Piper. It's worth reading "Ghost Hunters" by Deborah Blum just to read about her.

Holzer relates the hauntings as experienced by those who contacted him to do an investigation. These always make for interesting reading. Holzer would then conduct his investigations using mediums and what follows make for a meandering dialogue between the 'medium' and the spirit reminiscent of trying to interrogate someone who is both mentally deficient and inebriated. The book absolutely bogs down at these times.

Holzer's credibility is compromised by having fully bought-in to the Amityville Horror hoax. There's also a chapter of his investigation of the reputed home of the New England legend "Ocean Born Mary". The problem is that neither Mary nor any relation ever lived at the house she was supposed to haunt.

Ghost hunting today is driven by technology; EVP recordings, magnetometers, digital cameras and thermometers. This book is a look, if anything, at the approach to the supernatural in a bygone era.

DeAnne says

2.25 stars

I normally can fly through Holzer's books, but this one was just a struggle. I put it down so many times because it was so slow even though it was all short stories.

Jay Arnold says

This gentleman put his faith in mediums & his own fallible belief that he was communicating with ghosts from beyond the veil & not demonic spirits.
