



## Haunted Wisconsin

*Michael Norman, Beth Scott*

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## **Haunted Wisconsin** Michael Norman , Beth Scott

Featuring an assortment of ghosts, apparitions and other supernatural occurrences, Wisconsin could easily be called the most haunted state in America. Containing more than 70 true tales throughout Wisconsin, this is a newly revised edition of an all-time favorite collection of stories.

## **Haunted Wisconsin Details**

Date : Published December 3rd 2005 by Trails Books (first published 1979)

ISBN : 9781931599047

Author : Michael Norman , Beth Scott

Format : Paperback 226 pages

Genre : Nonfiction, Horror, Ghost Stories, Fantasy, Paranormal, History

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## From Reader Review Haunted Wisconsin for online ebook

### C says

Pros - Offers a lot of great background and history to the stories.

Cons - The stories are kinda boring.

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### Jen says

Pretty good...I wanted to be really creeped out though, and nothing ever got me good and scared. I have been known to check the closet before I go to bed (even now!) and this wasn't in the "closet-checker" category. Fun that the stories are from around my old stomping grounds...

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### Betsy says

Like I said - OBSESSED. I should buy this book - I haven't seen it in years.

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### Autum says

I love anything to do with the paranormal. I've been interested since I was very young. I picked up this book at my school library a while back, and starting reading. This book is really interesting and I loved it. I now know all the haunted places (well the popular ones) in Wisconsin. I live really close to some of those locations!

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### Ashly Lynn says

#### Synopsis

A collection of folktales, urban legends, and myths that have been rumored to happen in Wisconsin. Norman and Scott have compiled more than 70 paranormal happenings that have been witnessed, reported, or passed down from mouth year to year.

***Haunted Wisconsin* by Michael Norman and Beth Scott**

★/DNF

Genre: Nonfiction/Supernatural

Release Date: December 2005

Source: Library – Borrowed

On My Shelf: No

I'm a Wisconsin native, so when I saw this at the Library I snatched it up because I'm also a sucker for the paranormal and weird happenings. I eat that s\*\*t up.

**I have to say that I wasn't impressed with this collection.** The writing was dry, the stories were uneventful, and most of them left me wanting more elaboration. Now, I *do* understand that this was a collection of paranormal stories and most are vague and left unanswered, but **this collection lacked tension.** This might be due to my own personal preferences, though. When it comes to books like this, *I prefer* more-so investigation-type reports, *especially* if the paranormal event/story doesn't have much to offer to begin with.

**Where I think this book failed is that it sort of wanted to be both of those things and, because it was confused, it was unable to be either.** These stories were so uneventful and I felt that Wisconsin definitely has better folklore to offer. **Some of these stories were just so boring that I was ready to start pulling out my hair from frustration.** That's the main reason I DNFed this book. I simply couldn't do it anymore. If it hadn't been due back to the Library within the next few days, I might have tried to stick it out, but it would have been a challenge.

**The last thing that made this book not my thing was the bland writing that often had grammatical errors.** I'm usually fine with some errors here and there. We're human. Mistakes happen. Things can't always be perfect. That's fine. But the many scattered throughout this book *paired* with the boring writing caused me to check out from many of the stories so quickly. I can barely recall any that I read. And, even though I DNFed this, I did so with less than 80 pages left, so I read the majority of them, and *I remember nothing*. That's a lie. I remember one about some lights and vaguely about a girl who haunted a saloon or hotel or something. But, *jeez*, this book was just not for me.

**Overall, I don't recommend this one. I think there are better books out there. Heck, I'm pretty sure you could find better stories on the internet or even I could just tell you some better ones. Don't waste your time with this book.**

Review originally published on my Wordpress blog Dreaming Through Literature.

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**Shawn Weaver says**

barely a four star

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**carolyn says**

It seems Betsy and I traded the copy of this book from middle school library (in Waukesha, Wisconsin) back and forth many times. I loved the short stories about haunted houses and ghost stories that just won't die. It's very high on nostalgia for me.

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**Katie Bush says**

Like anyone else I love a scary story. While many of the stories were interesting, only a few gave me that

"looking over my shoulder" feeling. Honestly, living in Wisconsin, it was an interesting historical read if anything else. However, I was disappointed by the fact that some areas of the state were completely overlooked by the author. For example, I went to college at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater which any alumni will tell you has a rich Wiccan history, including haunted tales of the cemetery on campus, the water tower near the residences on the upper campus area, etc. Sadly, Whitewater was only mentioned once in the book and it was only in passing. Overall an interesting read, but not as goosebumpy as I had hoped.

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### **Jessica says**

Entertaining and relatively short. The stories themselves are of varying lengths, which makes it easy to pick up whenever you're in the mood for a spooky story no matter how much time you have. Some stories are a little too short and lacking in detail (one story is literally one sentence long), while others are several pages and very satisfying to read. Overall, if you're a fan of ghost stories, I'd definitely give this book a try.

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### **Flow says**

As a proud Wisconsinite by birth and a love of ghost stories, this book had it all for me. The accompanying pictures were great...wish there were more. The major disappoint for me is how some stories were merely glorified footnotes. I don't want to call the authors lazy, and I'm sure it's hard to find references for a lot of the ghost stories from long ago, but there were plenty of potentially interesting stories that only last a few lines. There are plenty of well written, longer stories included in this book that illustrate what the authors are capable of which almost makes it more disappointing for the shorter stories. Anyway, if you have any interest in the paranormal and unique WI history (like me), this is a must read. If you only have an interest in one or the other, must read might be too strong of a term.

One last, very important note -- my small hometown of St. Croix Falls gets a shout out in "The Coulee Road Ghost"! The ghost is actually in Hudson and this is a good story, but most surprising to me is that mail was delivered weekly from Hudson to SCF (80 miles round trip) on foot!

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### **Ann N. says**

I can't believe there aren't better, more believable stories of Wisconsin hauntings out there . . . The majority of these were pretty hokey.

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### **Damion says**

#### **Haunted Wisconsin**

I'm reading a book called haunted wisconsin and i think it is a very good book. it's a series of books about places in wisconsin that are haunted and have paranormal activities. some of the story's i've enjoyed were

about these family's witnessing things missing, and things thrown across the room, and also seeing people vanish in thin air. most of these stories have been made in the mid 18 to 1900's.

My favorite story from this book is titled "The girl in the White" and it's about these two boys John Groat, and his best friend Ed and they were walk to their girlfriends "Carrie and Annas" house. These two girls live out of town a mile away and they are sisters. As they were walking to their girlfriends house "this is my favorite part" they noticed this girl in a white dress walking toward them, as she was walking toward them she turned at the wooden bridge and she jumped of and John and Ed ran over to the bridge and they looked down and they didn't see her. They have searched for an hour or two and couldn't find her.

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### **Joel Manuel says**

Though not quite at the level of Norman's/Scott's earlier works (especially the "Haunted America" trilogy), this is still an awesome set of stories (for someone who admittedly knows nothing about Wisconsin history, aside from Wisconsin Death Trip). I often wonder what it is about their writing that makes Norman's/Scott's stories so alluring to me; I think it's the way they embellish their tales with a sense of history, and phrasing which makes the lives of the normal, everyday "victims"/witnesses of hauntings so plain and believable. Like their other books, this one is recommended for all readers who love "real" ghost stories.

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### **Alan says**

My book was on Haunted Wisconsin which is a book on a whole bunch of stories from 1860 to 1978 with interesting stories on the supernatural.

My favorite story was on The Ridgeway Phantoms which is about a phantom who's identity has not been found, and its form is a mystery as well. Travelers have seen a torso of a headless man mounted backward in the saddle of a giant black horse that will always keep pace with anyone. Nobody knows why the phantom chases them maybe the phantom loves to scare people off that road. The phantom has many other forms but this is the most unusual one I've heard of.

I recommend this to anyone who enjoys scary stories.

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### **Steph Moyer says**

The book was just various ghost stories from Wisconsin. I found it entertaining, not scary, but I rarely find ghost stories scary.

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