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Synopsis The shadow of the Bellows family has loomed large in the small town of Mill Valley for generations. It's in a mansion that young Sarah Bellows turns her tortured life and horrible secrets into a series of scary stories. These terrifying tales soon have a way of becoming all too real for a group of unsuspecting teens who stumble upon Sarah's spooky home. Director André Øvredal Producer Guillermo del Toro, Sean Daniel, Jason F. Brown, J. Miles Dale, Elizabeth Grave Screenwriter Dan Hageman, Kevin Hageman Distributor CBS Films, Lionsgate Films, eOne Production Co Les Films Séville, CBS Films, Entertainment One, Lionsgate Television, Double Dare You Rating PG-13 (Disturbing Images|Brief Sexual References|Thematic Elements|Language|Racial Epithets|Terror/Violence) Genre Horror, Mystery & Thriller, Adventure Original Language English Release Date (Theaters) Aug 9, 2019, Wide Release Date (Streaming) Aug 27, 2019 Box Office (Gross USA) $68.7M Runtime 1h 51m Aspect Ratio Scope (2.35:1) If you ever went to summer camp, had an older sibling, or had a particularly macabre set of school bus friends, you've probably heard scary campfire stories before. In fact, you might still wake up in a cold sweat some nights, thinking you can hear the distant scraping of a hook against a car door. And yet, you still can't resist the urge to re-spook yourself every Halloween. 'Tis the season to celebrate all things scary, rebranding them as festive. Even if you weren't much for pitching tents and starting bonfires, you might recognize some of these creepy campfire tales from Alvin Schwartz's Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark. That's because Schwartz, like many ghost story writers before him, drew inspiration from American folktales and urban legends (and then he added those horrific illustrations from Stephen Gammell, to more effectively haunt our every waking thought). Most of these scary stories have no known origin and no original author on record. They're good old-fashioned oral tradition, kept alive around campfires, at sleepovers, and in the dark places beneath playground equipment. (Which means you can tailor them with whatever details you know will scare the pants off your friends the best.)Here are some of the most memorably haunting campfire stories that still make us feel all weird inside to this very day.1. The HookThe Old Barn Door/ShutterstockA pair of attractive teens are parked at Make Out Point (or Lover's Lane, depending on your version of the story), an isolated spot on the edge of town. The boyfriend switches on the radio for some mood music, and the two start canoodling. But just as things are getting hot and heavy, they're interrupted by a breaking news story: A murderer has escaped from the nearby state asylum. He's armed and dangerous, and he has a hook in place of his right hand.The girlfriend is obviously frightened, and wants to go home straight away, but the boyfriend insists that they'll be fine. He locks all the car doors and tries to kiss her again. She calmly explains that no means no, and that she wants to go the heck home. Annoyed, the boyfriend slams the gas pedal and drives her back to her house. It's only when they both get out of the car that he notices something dangling from the door handle — a bloody, steel hook.2. Bloody MaryThis one might be slightly more popular at sleepovers than campfires, but I bet that you're still just a little scared to actually try it. The story goes that if you look into a mirror in a darkened room and chant "Bloody Mary" three times, you'll see the ghostly visage of Bloody Mary herself staring back at you. That, or she'll pop out of the mirror and kill you. The real Bloody Mary was actually Queen Elizabeth's ill-fated older sister, and she's probably not coming to kill you — but staring into a darkened mirror for a prolonged period of time can cause very creepy hallucinations.3. Wolf GirlYou might know this story as "The Blonde Wolf," which is admittedly not the creepiest of titles. But the story goes that a pregnant woman went into labor in a remote part of Texas. Her husband went for help, but both of their bodies were discovered the next day, ravaged by wolves. The baby was nowhere to be found. Over the years, sightings were reported of a little girl living with a pack of wolves, and later a grown woman, covered in hair, nursing wolf pups... and finally sightings of a strange-looking wolf with suspiciously human-like features.4. Don't Turn On The Light Rachata Teyparsit/ShutterstockTwo college roommates are in the same science class, and the big midterm is tomorrow morning. Marie wants to stay in and study, but Tara wants to go out and party with a cute guy from the lacrosse team. She leaves Marie to her studies. When she gets home very late that night, Marie is in bed and the lights are off. Tara goes to bed without turning the lights on, trying not to disturb her studious friend. In the morning, she goes to wake Marie so they won't be late for the test... but Marie's body lies stiff, and her bed is soaked in blood. On the wall above her, scrawled in blood, are the words "Aren't you glad you didn't turn on the light?"5. The Clown StatueA babysitter has been hired to watch two children for the night. After she puts the kids to bed, the parents ask that she watches TV in their bedroom upstairs, because the children have been having nightmares recently. She puts the kids to bed easily enough, and settles in the parents' room to watch TV. But in the corner of the room there's a large life-sized clown statue. She tries to ignore it, but it's just too creepy. Finally, she calls the dad to ask if she can watch TV downstairs instead. "Sure, but why?" he asks. She tells him that the clown statue is just creeping her out too much. There's a pause. "Get the children and leave the house," says the dad. "We don't have a clown statue."6. The Green RibbonA man marries his beloved: a beautiful young woman who always wears a green velvet ribbon around her neck. On their wedding night, he asks why she never takes the ribbon off. "If I do, you'll be sorry," she says, and goes to sleep. Night after night, he keeps asking, but she always gives him the same reply. He begins to go mad with curiosity. Finally, one night, while she's sleeping, he steals the scissors from her sewing box and cuts through the ribbon himself. The ribbon falls away... and her head rolls right off her neck and falls to the floor with a sickening thud.7. The HitchhikerVERSUSstudio/Shutterstock"The Vanishing Hitchhiker" might be the most famous campfire story of all time. A couple are driving late at night when they notice a girl hitchhiking. They pick her up, and she thanks them profusely and gives them a nearby address. They drive her home, trying to make polite conversation. But after a few minutes, the girl falls silent. The driver asks if they've reached the right intersection, but when they turn to the backseat, the girl is gone. She's vanished without a trace. When they reach the address she gave them, an elderly couple greets them at the door. They don't know of any girl... but their own daughter was killed in a car accident many years ago, just a few miles up the road.8. Doggy LickA girl is just a little afraid of the dark, so every night her dog sleeps under her bed. When she's afraid, she puts her hand down, and her dog licks it to reassure her. One night, she wakes to hear a strange dripping sound. She puts her hand down and feels the dog lick it, so she feels better and goes back to sleep. The next morning, she wakes to find the body of her dog hanging in the middle of the room, dripping blood. On the wall someone has written, "Humans can lick too!" (The same murderer as that dorm room one? Possibly.)9. The High BeamsA young woman is driving home late one night, when she notices a truck driving up directly behind her. No one else is on the road. She waits for the truck to pass her, but instead it stays directly behind her and flashes its high beams. She becomes unsettled. No matter how fast she drives, or which back roads she heads down, the truck stays close behind her, flashing its high beams every few minutes. Terrified, she speeds home, with the truck right on her tail, and pulls into her driveway. She leaps out of her car and tries to run to her front door, but the truck driver gets out too — and he's holding a gun. He points the gun in her direction and shoots. The woman screams, but the bullet wasn't for her: She turns to see the body of a man fall out of the back seat of her car, clutching a butcher's knife. The shaken truck driver explains that he noticed the man in the backseat of her car, and was trying to signal to her. Every time the man raised his knife to stab her, he flashed his high beams.10. The Golden HandIn a small town, a man is taken by a newcomer — a widow who always wears black gloves, even inside. One day, he strikes up a conversation with her at the store, and as she brushes her hair out of her face, he notices gold gleaming through the glove of her right hand. She explains that she lost her hand in an accident, and instead of getting a traditional prosthetic, she treated herself to a solid gold hand. The man becomes obsessed with her hand. His heart beats for the the heavy, shiny, gold limb. He ends up courting the woman and eventually marrying her, only to poison her slowly. After only a month or marriage, she passes, and he buries her without the hand. One night, he wakes in a cold sweat to find the his bride standing at the end of the bed, gold hand intact. She strangles him with it and he goes limp. The next morning, a maid find the man, alone in his bed, with nothing but the golden hand gripping his lifeless neck.11. The Spider BiteA young woman is on vacation. She's so relaxed while reading by the pool that she falls asleep. When she wakes up, hours have passed. She stretches, yawns, and notices that her face feels sore. She goes inside to find a mirror, assuming she just got too much sun, but she has a giant red blemish on her cheek. It looks and feels like a pimple, so she washes her face and tries not to think about it. The next morning, the spot has grown. It's swollen, bulging, and very painful. She places a hot washcloth on her cheek and then examines the sore in the mirror. She gives it a little squeeze and what looks like a long black hair pokes out of the bump — but it moves. She shrieks and the spot bursts open, releasing dozens of baby spiders. Blood and pus and fast-crawling insects ooze down her neck, biting her everywhere. 12. The Car Breakdown Ogeday Dikmen/Moment/Getty ImagesA young woman and her boyfriend are driving down a very rural road in the woods at night when suddenly the car's engine begins to sputter and eventually breaks down. With no cellphone reception, the boyfriend offers to walk to the nearest big road to find help. He tells his girlfriend to stay in the car and lock the doors before he sets out into the pitch black dense woods. Scared and shivering from the cold for hours, still waiting for her boyfriend to return, the girlfriend suddenly hears a loud tapping on the roof of the car and begins to panic, but she's also too scared to get out of the car and look. The tapping noise goes on and on, and soon it's joined by a scratching noise. The girlfriend, huddled and terrified, listens to the noises all night until she sees bright headlights coming through the trees — it's a cop car. A policeman shouts out asking if there's anyone in the car, to which the girlfriend replies, "It's just me. My boyfriend left me here and hasn't come back yet." The officer instructs her to walk toward him and, whatever she does, not turn around, but she lets curiosity get the better of her. She screams in horror, as her boyfriend is beheaded and hanging from a tree branch above the car, blood dripping from his neck and his fingernails scraping against the roof as he sways in the wind. 13. The Peeling WallpaperA young couple moves into an old decrepit house that's definitely a fixer upper. While the husband is taking care of some construction, the wife is tasked with removing the wallpaper that decorates every wall and ceiling in the house. The task is incredibly boring and tedious at first, but she begins to find it super satisfying when she can peel off big chunks at a time — think peeling a sunburn. She then discovers there's writing under every corner of each piece of wallpaper: a date and a name. When she searches one of the names and dates on the internet, it comes up as a missing person. She does more digging and finds that all of the names and dates line up with missing people, so she and her husband contact the police. When detectives come over to investigate, she overhears one of them say, "Yep, it's definitely human." She's confused — what's human? Then, they come over to her and ask, "Ma'am, where is all of the material that you've removed so far? It wasn't wallpaper." 14. The HikeA guy had just moved to a new town in New Hampshire and was out with a hiking group he had recently joined as a way to make friends. He left his cellphone in the car as a way to connect with nature, and the group of 12 set off on a beautiful, remote trail. An hour in, they passed a bathroom, and the man asked the group to wait for him while he used it. When he came out, they were gone. He started down the trail alone to try and find the group, but hours were passing and it was getting darker. He started to get disoriented in the woods as the sun set, and eventually it was fully dark and he didn't know how to get back to the parking lot — plus, he felt like something was watching him. Getting more and more freaked out, he finally spotted another bathroom and decided to stay inside for the rest of the night. The man tried to get some rest, but he soon heard the sound of someone weeping outside, getting closer and closer. Paranoid and scared, the man sprinted out of the bathroom and back into the woods. Running for what felt like miles, he somehow ended up back on the road where he flagged down a car and got help.This article was originally published on Oct. 28, 2016 WARNING: The following contains spoilers for Scary Stories To Tell In The Dark, in theaters now. Scary Stories To Tell In The Dark eschews a lot of easy horror tropes while recreating its well-trodden tales of terror. There's no waves of blood or piles of corpses. Although it can occasionally lean too far into jump scares, the creatures that make up the stories are all imaginative, unique and above all else -- scary. While they manage to dispatch many people, it's usually in new and surprising ways that make them stand out even more than before. Here are all the most gruesome attacks and deaths in Scary Stories To Tell In The Dark, and where they leave their intended targets. Harold Harold is introduced early in the film, initially nothing more than just a scarecrow. The scarecrow rests within the cornfields of Tommy Milner's (Austin Abrams) family farm. Tommy repeatedly beats it with a bat early in the film, clearly not a fan of the raggedy old thing. It's brought up that Tommy's never much liked the grotesque-looking scarecrow. That's partly what makes his ultimate fate at the hands of Harold so frightening. When Sarah Bellows's book begins writing new stories, the first one is about Tommy. Late on Halloween night, a drunken Tommy walks through the cornfield. But he's quickly lost amidst the greenery, always seeming to come upon Harold again. To his shock, he eventually finds an empty stake where the scarecrow should be. Soon, Harold is chasing after Tommy. Tommy tries to use a pitchfork to kill the creature, but does nothing. Harold takes the pitchfork and uses it to stab Tommy through the chest. But instead of blood, hay spills out of the wound. Soon, Tommy is spitting up straw until he's overwhelmed by the substance. The next morning, there's a new scarecrow on the farm, one wearing Tommy's clothes. Tommy has become the new Harold, in a fitting piece of cruel irony. Ruthie (Natalie Ganzhorn) is only briefly trapped in the Bellows house, but she's irrevocably changed by her experience with Sarah. Caught up in spider webs within the house, it's revealed that she received a bite from one of the arachnids. Mistaking the bite for acne, she tries to hide it so she can still take part in the school musical. But when it becomes too large to hide, she runs to a restroom to inspect it. Ruthie notices a single black strand sticking out of it, and touches it. This causes it to start moving, bumping under her skin. Within seconds, the welt has burst open, and a deluge of spiders spring from her open wound. Ruthie is soon covered in spiders, which quickly begin biting her and crawling around the restroom. However, the others targeted by the book are able to see the story building within Sarah's book. They're able to find her and help get the spiders off her body before they overtake her fully. Although Ruthie spends some time in the mental hospital after the event, she's seen in the final moments of the film... now boasting a long scar down her cheek where the spiders burst out. Chuck (Austin Zajur) spends most of Scary Tales To Tell In The Dark terrified of what's going to come for him. When he was first in the Bellows house, he saw a red room with an old woman inside. After Auggie (Gabriel Rush) is dragged into the darkness and Ruthie has her episode with the spiders, Chuck becomes especially worried about what waits for him in a "red room." Because of this, he elects to stay behind while Stella and Ramón (Michael Garza) go into the records room, which happens to be titled the "RED Room". This proves to be Chuck's downfall. While he's alone, he ends up in a seemingly empty hall. Alarms flash, turning everything red. Down the hall, Chuck is able to see some humanoid thing smiling at him. But no matter which hall he runs down, the Smiling Woman is always there, advancing ever closer. Eventually, she seems to be all around him, surrounding him and preventing escape. And when she reaches him... she hugs him. Chuck is just as surprised by this as the audience is, at least until the Smiling Woman pushes him further into her body. Within moments, she's fully absorbed the teenager, leaving no trace that he was there before suddenly disappearing. It's quietly the most unsettling sequence of the film. The Jangly Man is the last major threat that targets Stella and Ramón, but it also might be the most frightening creature in the entire film. The Jangly Man can come in multiple pieces, initially only appearing as a head that comes down a chimney. But even when the body parts are strewn about, they're independent. They can also fuse back into a single body. This allows the Jangly Man incredible durability (how can you put it down once and for all if it can just reform?) and strange flexibility. It can squeeze through almost any opening, laughing the entire way. Within moments of it first appearing, it's shown that bullets do nothing to it. It casually snaps the neck of Police Chief Turner (Gil Bellows), and throws his body at the teenagers. Since it came specifically for Ramón, he's able to lead the Jangly Man away. However, nothing he does can stop the creature, only slow it down. It eventually follows Ramón to the Bellows house and gets the drop on him. If it weren't for Stella finally getting through to the spirit of Sarah, it would have easily murdered Ramón. Directed by André Øvredal, Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark stars Zoe Colletti, Michael Garza, Gabriel Rush, Austin Abrams, Dean Norris, Gil Bellows, Lorraine Toussaint, Austin Zajur and Natalie Ganzhorn. The film is in theaters now. Scary Stories to Tell in The Dark, around a campfire, at sleepovers or read online. Alvin Schwartz put together a collection of spooky tales for kids based on ghost stories and urban legends. The three titles in the Stories To Tell series are Scary Stories to Tell in The Dark, More Scary Stories to Tell in The Dark, and More Tales to Chill Your Bones. Some parents have tried to have the books banned, but most kids remember the stories fondly and they have even released the tales on audio book. Scary Stories to Tell in The Dark More Scary Stories to Tell in The Dark Alvin Schwartz's most popular and spooky book is filled with tales of eerie horror and dark revenge that will make you jump with fright. More Tales to Chill Your Bones Stephen Gammell draws creepy artwork that perfectly captures the mood of more than two dozen scary stories, just right for reading alone or for telling aloud in the dark. Alvin Schwartz's third collection of scary folklore gives readers spooky, funny and fantastic tales guaranteed to raise goosebumps. Even More Scary Stories , the free encyclopedia that anyone can edit. 112,025 active editors 7,010,659 articles in English Ian Carmichael (18 June 1920 – 5 February 2010) was an English actor who had a career that spanned seventy years. Born in Kingston upon Hull, he trained at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, but his studies—and the early stages of his career—were curtailed by the Second World War. After initial success in revue and sketch productions, he was cast by the film producers John and Roy Boulting to star in a series of satires, starting with Private's Progress in 1956 through to I'm All Right Jack in 1959. In the mid-1960s he played Bertie Wooster for BBC Television for which he received positive reviews, including from P. G. Wodehouse, the writer who created the character of Wooster. In the early 1970s he played another upper-class literary character, Lord Peter Wimsey, the amateur but talented investigator created by Dorothy L. Sayers. Carmichael was often typecast as an affable but bumbling upper-class innocent, but he retained a disciplined approach to training and rehearsing. (Full article...) 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Archive Start a new article Nominate an article Melissa Hortman In the US state of Minnesota, state representative Melissa Hortman (pictured) is assassinated and state senator John Hoffman is injured. Former president of Nicaragua and first elected female president in the Americas Violeta Chamorro dies at the age of 95. Israel launches multiple airstrikes across cities in Iran, killing various nuclear scientists and military officials, including IRGC commander-in-chief Hossein Salami. Air India Flight 171 crashes in Ahmedabad, India, killing 279 people. Ongoing: Gaza war Russian invasion of Ukraine timeline Sudanese civil war timeline Recent deaths: Stella Chen Franzo Grande Stevens Sly Stone Mohammad Bagheri Fereydoon Abbasi Stu Wilson Nominate an article June 18: Autistic Pride Day Cadaver Tomb of René of Chalon 1898 – The Cadaver Tomb of René of Chalon (pictured) in Bar-le-Duc, France, was designated a monument historique. 1958 – English composer Benjamin Britten's one-act opera Noye's Fludde was premiered at the Aldeburgh Festival. 1967 – American musician Jimi Hendrix burned his guitar on stage at the end of a performance at the Monterey International Pop Festival in California. 1981 – The Lockheed F-117 Nighthawk, the first operational aircraft to be designed around stealth technology, made its maiden flight. 1994 – The Troubles: Ulster Volunteer Force members attacked a crowded bar in Loughinisland, Northern Ireland, with assault rifles, killing six people. Rogier van der Weyden (d. 1464)Ambrose Philips (d. 1749)Lou Brock (b. 1939)Stephanie Kwolek (d. 2014) More anniversaries: June 17 June 18 June 19 Archive By email List of days of the year About The Garni Temple is a classical colonnaded structure in the village of Garni, in central Armenia, around 30 km (19 mi) east of Yerevan. Built in the Ionic order, it is the best-known structure and symbol of pre-Christian Armenia. It has been described as the "easternmost building of the Greco-Roman world" and the only largely preserved Hellenistic building in the former Soviet Union. It is conventionally identified as a pagan temple built by King Tiridates I in the first century AD as a temple to the sun god Mihr (Mithra). It collapsed in a 1679 earthquake, but much of its fragments remained on the site. Renewed interest in the 19th century led to excavations in the early and mid-20th century. It was reconstructed in 1969–75, using the anastylosis technique. It is one of the main tourist attractions in Armenia and the central shrine of Hetanism (Armenian neopaganism). This aerial photograph shows the Garni Temple in the winter. Photograph credit: Yerevantsi Recently featured: Igor Stravinsky Sabella pavonina Magna Carta (An Embroidery) Archive More featured pictures Community portal – The central hub for editors, with resources, links, tasks, and announcements. Village pump – Forum for discussions about Wikipedia itself, including policies and technical issues. Site news – Sources of news about Wikipedia and the broader Wikimedia movement. Teahouse – Ask basic questions about using or editing Wikipedia. Help desk – Ask questions about using or editing Wikipedia. Reference desk – Ask research questions about encyclopedic topics. Content portals – A unique way to navigate the encyclopedia. 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Many other Wikipedias are available; some of the largest are listed below. 1,000,000+ articles العربية Deutsch Español فارسی Français Italiano Nederlands 日本語 Polski Português Русский Svenska Українська Tiếng Việt 中文 250,000+ articles Bahasa Indonesia Bahasa Melayu Bân-lâm-gú Български Català Čeština Dansk Eesti Ελληνικά Esperanto Euskara עברית Հայերեն Magyar Norsk bokmål Română Simple English Slovenčina Srpski Srpskohrvatski Suomi Türkçe O'zbekcha 50,000+ articles Asturianu Azərbaycanca Bosanski Frysk Gaeilge Galego Hrvatski ქართული Kurdî Latviešu Lietuvių Македонски Norsk nynorsk Shqip Slovenščina اردو Retrieved from " 2Calendar year Years Millennium 2nd millennium Centuries 18th century 19th century 20th century Decades 1870s 1880s 1890s 1900s 1910s Years 1895 1896 1897 1898 1899 1900 1901 vte 1898 by topic Humanities Animation Archaeology Architecture Art Film Literature Poetry Music By country Australia Belgium Brazil Bulgaria Canada China Denmark France Germany Italy New Zealand Norway Philippines Portugal Russia South Africa Spain Sweden United Kingdom United States Venezuela Other topics Rail transport Science Sports Lists of leaders Sovereign states Sovereign state leaders Territorial governors Religious leaders Law Birth and death categories Births Deaths Establishments and disestablishments categories Establishments Disestablishments Works category Works vte 1898 in various calendarsGregorian calendar1898MDCCCXCVIIIAb urbe condita2651Armenian calendar1347ԹՎ ՌՅԽԷAssyrian calendar6648Bahá'í calendar54–55Balinese saka calendar1819–1820Bengali calendar1304–1305Berber calendar2848British Regnal year61 Vict. 1 – 62 Vict. 1Buddhist calendar2442Burmese calendar1260Byzantine calendar7406–7407Chinese calendar丁酉年 (Fire Rooster)4595 or 4388 — to —戊戌年 (Earth Dog)4596 or 4389Coptic calendar1614–1615Discordian calendar3064Ethiopian calendar1890–1891Hebrew calendar5658–5659Hindu calendars - Vikram Samvat1954–1955 - Shaka Samvat1819–1820 - Kali Yuga4998–4999Holocene calendar11898Igbo calendar898–899Iranian calendar1276–1277Islamic calendar1315–1316Japanese calendarMeiji 31(明治 3 1年)Javanese calendar1827–1828Julian calendarGregorian minus 12 daysKorean calendar4231Minguo calendar14 before ROC民前14年Nanakshahi calendar430Thai solar calendar2440–2441Tibetan calendar阴火鸡年(female Fire-Rooster)2024 or 1643 or 871 — to —阳土狗年(male Earth-Dog)2025 or 1644 or 872 Wikimedia Commons has media related to 1898. 1898 (MDCCCXCVIII) was a common year starting on Saturday of the Gregorian calendar and a common year starting on Thursday of the Julian calendar, the 1898th year of the Common Era (CE) and Anno Domini (AD) designations, the 898th year of the 2nd millennium, the 98th year of the 19th century, and the 9th year of the 1890s decade. As of the start of 1898, the Gregorian calendar was 12 days ahead of the Julian calendar, which remained in localized use until 1923. Calendar year 1898 world map January 1 – New York City annexes land from surrounding counties, creating the City of Greater New York as the world's second largest. The city is geographically divided into five boroughs: Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, The Bronx and Staten Island. January 13 – Novelist Émile Zola's open letter to the President of the French Republic on the Dreyfus affair, J'Accuse...!, is published on the front page of the Paris daily newspaper L'Aurore, accusing the government of wrongfully imprisoning Alfred Dreyfus and of antisemitism. February 12 – The automobile belonging to Henry Lindfield of Brighton rolls out of control down a hill in Purley, London, England, and hits a tree; thus he becomes the world's first fatality from an automobile accident on a public highway.[1] February 15 – Spanish–American War: The USS Maine explodes and sinks in Havana Harbor, Cuba, for reasons never fully established, killing 266 men. The event precipitates the United States' declaration of war on Spain, two months later.February 15: USS Maine is sunk. February 23 – Émile Zola is imprisoned in France, after writing J'Accuse...!. March 1 – Vladimir Lenin creates the Russian Social Democratic Labour Party in Minsk March 14 – Association football and sports club BSC Young Boys is established in Bern, Switzerland, as the Fussballclub Young Boys. March 16 – In Melbourne the representatives of five colonies adopt a constitution, which will become the basis of the Commonwealth of Australia.[2] March 24 – Robert Allison of Port Carbon, Pennsylvania, becomes the first person to buy an American-built automobile, when he buys a Winton automobile that has been advertised in Scientific American. March 26 – The Sabie Game Reserve in South Africa is created, as the first officially designated game reserve. April 5 – Annie Oakley promotes the service of women in combat situations, with the United States military. On this day, she writes a letter to President McKinley "offering the government the services of a company of 50 'lady sharpshooters' who would provide their own arms and ammunition should war break out with Spain."[3] April 22 – Spanish–American War: The United States Navy begins a blockade of Cuban ports and the USS Nashville captures a Spanish merchant ship. April 23 – Spanish–American War: A conference of senior Spanish Navy officers led by naval minister Segismundo Bermejo decide to send Admiral Pascual Cervera's squadron to Cuba and Puerto Rico. April 25 Spanish–American War: The United States declares war on Spain; the U.S. Congress announces that a state of war has existed since April 21 (later backdating this one more day to April 20). In Essen, German company Rheinisch-Westfälisches Elektrizitätswerk RWE is founded.[4] April 26 – An explosion in Santa Cruz, California, kills 13 workers, at the California Powder Works.[5] April 29 – The Paris Auto Show, the first large-scale commercial vehicle exhibition show, is held in Tuileries Garden.[6] May 1 – Spanish–American War – Battle of Manila Bay: Commodore Dewey destroys the Spanish squadron, in the first battle of the war, as well as the first battle in the Philippines Campaign. May 2 – Thousands of Chinese scholars and Beijing citizens seeking reforms protest in front of the capital control yuan. May 7–9 – Bava Beccaris massacre: Hundreds of demonstrators are killed, when General Fiorenzo Bava Beccaris orders troops to fire on a rally in Milan, Italy. May 8 – The first games of the Italian Football Federation are played, in which Genoa played against Torino. May 12 – Spanish–American War: The Puerto Rican Campaign begins, with the Bombardment of San Juan. May 22 – The German Federation football club SV Darmstadt 98 is formed. May 27 – The territory of Kwang-Chou-Wan is leased by China to France, according to the Treaty of 12 April 1892, as the Territoire de Kouang-Tchéou-Wan, forming part of French Indochina.[7] May 28 – Secondo Pia takes the first photographs of the Shroud of Turin and discovers that the image on the Shroud itself appears to be a photographic negative.The original flag of the Philippines as conceived by General Emilio Aguinaldo. The blue is of a lighter shade than the currently mandated royal blue, the sun has eight points as currently but many more rays and it has a mythical face. June 1 – The Trans-Mississippi Exposition World's Fair opens, in Omaha, Nebraska. June 7 – William Ramsay and Morris Travers discover neon at their laboratory at University College London, after extracting it from liquid nitrogen.[8] June 9 – The British government arranges a 99-year rent of Hong Kong from China. June 10 – Tuone Udaina, the last known speaker of the Dalmatian language, is killed in an explosion. June 11 – The Guangxu Emperor announces the creation of what would later become Peking University.[9][10] June 12 – Philippine Declaration of Independence: After 333 years of Spanish dominance, General Emilio Aguinaldo declares the Philippines' independence from Spain. June 13 – Yukon Territory is formed in Canada, with Dawson chosen as its capital. June 19 – Food processing giant Nabisco is founded in New Jersey.[page needed] June 21 – Spanish–American War: The United States captures Guam, making it the first U.S. overseas territory. June 28 – Effective date of the Curtis Act of 1898 which will lead to the dissolution of tribal and communal lands in Indian Territory and ultimately the creation of the State of Oklahoma in 1907. August 28: Caleb Bradham names his soft drink Pepsi-Cola July 1 – Spanish–American War: Battle of San Juan Hill – United States troops (including Buffalo Soldiers and Theodore Roosevelt's Rough Riders) take a strategic position close to Santiago de Cuba from the Spanish. July 3 Spanish–American War: Battle of Santiago de Cuba – The United States Navy destroys the Spanish Navy's Caribbean Squadron. American adventurer Joshua Slocum completes a 3-year solo circumnavigation of the world. July 4 – En route from New York to Le Havre, the ocean liner SS La Bourgogne collides with another ship and sinks off the coast of Sable Island with the loss of 549 lives. July 7 – The United States annexes the Hawaiian Islands. July 17 – Spanish–American War: Battle of Santiago Bay. Troops under United States General William R. Shafter take the city of Santiago de Cuba from the Spanish. July 18 – "The Adventures of Louis de Rougemont" first appear in The Wide World Magazine, as its August 1898 issue goes on sale.[11] July 25 – Spanish–American War: The United States invasion of Puerto Rico begins, with a landing at Guánica Bay. August 12 – Spanish–American War: Hostilities end between American and Spanish forces in Cuba. August 13 – Spanish–American War: Battle of Manila – By prior agreement, the Spanish commander surrenders the city of Manila to the United States, in order to keep it out of the hands of Filipino rebels, ending hostilities in the Philippines. August 20 – The Gornergrat railway opens, connecting Zermatt to the Gornergrat in Switzerland. August 21 – Clube de Regatas Vasco da Gama is founded in Rio de Janeiro. August 23 – The Southern Cross Expedition, the first British venture of the Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration, sets sail from London. August 24 – Chickasaw and Choctaw tribes sign the Atoka Agreement, a requirement of the Curtis Act of 1898. August 25 – 700 Greeks and 15 Englishmen are slaughtered by the Turks in Heraklion, Greece, leading to the establishment of the autonomous Cretan State. August 28 – American pharmacist Caleb Bradham names his soft drink Pepsi-Cola. September 2 – Battle of Omdurman (Mahdist War): British and Egyptian troops led by Horatio Kitchener defeat Sudanese tribesmen led by Khalifa Abdullah al-Taashi, thus establishing British dominance in the Sudan. 11,000 Sudanese are killed and 1,600 wounded in the battle.[12] September 10 – Italian anarchist Luigi Lucheni assassinates Empress Elisabeth of Austria in Geneva, as an act of propaganda of the deed. September 18 – Fashoda Incident: A powerful flotilla of British gunboats arrives at the French-occupied fort of Fashoda on the White Nile, leading to a diplomatic stalemate, until French troops are ordered to withdraw on November 3. September 21 Empress Dowager Cixi of China engineers a coup d'état, marking the end of the Hundred Days' Reform; the Guangxu Emperor is arrested. Geert Adriaans Boomgaard of Groningen in the Netherlands becomes the world's first validated supercentenarian. October 1 – The Vienna University of Economics and Business is founded, under the name K.u.K. Exportakademie. October 3 – Battle of Sugar Point: Ojibwe tribesmen defeat U.S. government troops, in northern Minnesota. October 6 – The Sinfonia Club, later to become the Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia fraternity, is founded at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston by Ossian Everett Mills. October 15 – The Fork Union Military Academy is founded, in Fork Union, Virginia.[13] October 21 – General Leonard Wood, the U.S. military governor of Cuba, issues a proclamation guaranteeing personal rights to the Cuban people.[14] October 22 – In a race riot near Harperville, Mississippi in the U.S., 14 African-Americans and one white person are killed.[14] October 23 – An anarchist, suspected of plotting the assassination of Germany's Kaiser Wilhelm II, is arrested in Egypt at Alexandria.[14] October 24 – The last Spanish soldiers in Puerto Rico, led by General Ortega, depart on ships to return to Spain.[14] U.S. President William McKinley extends the deadline for all Spanish troops to leave Cuba. Set to expire on December 1, the last day to depart is extended to January 1, 1899.[14] Chinese soldiers attack a party of British engineers at the Marco Polo Bridge on the Beijing to Hankou railway.[14] October 26 – A collision between two Japanese steamers at sea kills 60 Japanese sailors.[14] The U.S. begins the release and repatriation of Spanish Navy sailors who had been taken as prisoners of war in the Philippines, and sends them back to Spain.[14] October 27 – The Court of Cassation in Paris hears arguments from lawyers regarding a new trial in the Dreyfus case.[14] The Court grants the request on October 29. October 29 – France's Court of Cassation grants a rehearing on the Dreyfus case.[14] Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany and his wife arrive at Jerusalem in Ottoman-ruled Palestine and visit the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.[14] October 30 – The Imperial Russian government announces that the leaders of the world's major nations have accepted the invitation of the Tsar to take part in a proposed conference on disarmament.[14] October 31 – The Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Jerusalem, is dedicated after the Sultan of the Ottoman Empire presents the area, said to be the site of the Virgin Mary's home, to Germany's Roman Catholics.[14] Count Ōkuma Shigenobu, Japan's Prime Minister, announces his resignation along with that of his cabinet of ministers.[14] November 1 – Charles Dupuy forms a new government as Prime Minister of France following the resignation of Henri Brisson.[14] November 3 – With increasing violence threatened by rebels in China, the Russian fleet at Port Arthur and the British warships at Wei-Hai-Wei are readied for battle.[14] November 5 – Negros Revolution: Filipinos on the island of Negros revolt against Spanish rule and establish the short-lived Republic of Negros.[14] In China, an admiral of the Imperial Russian Navy and 40 sailors are denied permission by the Chinese government to proceed from Tientsin to Beijing. In the U.S., the collapse of a theater under construction in Detroit kills 11 workmen.[14] November 6 – The Japanese ambassador to China meets with the Emperor and the Empress Dowager at Beijing.[14] November 7 – The final meeting of the Cuban Assembly of the República de Cuba en Armas, which had been founded in 1895 during the Cuban War of Independence, is called to order by General Calixto García in the city of Santa Cruz del Sur. Domingo Méndez Capote is elected as president of the assembly. November 8 – Elections are held in the U.S. for all 357 seats in the House of Representatives, as well as for the governors and state legislature of 25 of the 45 states. With 179 needed for a majority, the Republican Party maintains control with 187 seats, despite losing 19; the Democratic party gains 37 to reach 124 seats; the Populist party losses all but five of its 22 seats, and the other 4 seats are controlled by smaller parties. Among Governors elected are Theodore Roosevelt as Governor of the state of New York.[14] Count Yamagata Aritomo forms a new government as Prime Minister of Japan.[14] November 9 – In the U.S., the racial violence in Phoenix, South Carolina, comes to an end after 12 African-Americans had been lynched.[14] November 10 – The Wilmington insurrection of 1898 begins as a coup d'état by the white Democratic Party of the U.S. state of North Carolina against the Republican Mayor of Wilmington. On the first day, a building housing a negro newspaper is burned and eight African Americans are killed.[14] The new United Central American States, a merger of El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua, places its capital in the Nicaraguan city of Chinandega.[14] Bartolomé Masó, the President of the República de Cuba en Armas that had been founded during the Cuban War of Independence, resigns.[14] November 11 – In Wilmington, negro leaders and white republicans are forced to leave the city by new government.[14] November 12 – The Earl of Minto takes office as the new Governor General of Canada.[14] November 17 – Fighting begins in Pana, Illinois, between striking white coal miners and black miners hired to replace them.[14] November 18 – The wreck of the ship Atalanta off the coast of the U.S. state of Oregon kills 28 of the 30 crew aboard.[14] November 19 – In U.S. college football, Harvard University defeats Yale University, 17 to 0, to close the season unbeaten.[14] November 21 – At the Paris conference to end the Spanish-American War, the U.S. commissioners offer $20,000,000 for purchase of the Philippines from Spain.[15] November 24 – Italy sends an ultimatum to the Sultan of Morocco concerning treatmen of Italian residents.[15] November 26 – General Ramón Blanco resigns as the spanish Governor-General of Cuba and is replaced by General Adolfo Jiménez Castellanos.[15] A two-day blizzard known as the Portland Gale piles snow in Boston, severely impacting the Massachusetts fishing industry and several coastal New England towns.[15] The U.S. Marines arrive on USS Boston at Tientsin in China in order to guard the American legation at

expanded across the shores of the Atlantic Ocean, while declining in Russia[1] and China.[2] Western historians have occasionally defined the 18th century otherwise for the purposes of their work. For example, the "short" 18th century may be defined as 1715–1789, denoting the period of time between the death of Louis XIV of France and the start of the French Revolution, with an emphasis on directly interconnected events.[3][4] To historians who expand the century to include larger historical movements, the "long" 18th century[5] may run from the Glorious Revolution of 1688 to the Battle of Waterloo in 1815[6] or even later.[7] France was the sole world superpower from 1659, after it defeated Spain, until 1815, when it was defeated by Britain and its coalitions following the Napoleonic Wars. In Europe, philosophers ushered in the Age of Enlightenment. This period coincided with the French Revolution of 1789, and was later compromised by the excesses of the Reign of Terror. At first, many monarchies of Europe embraced Enlightenment ideals, but in the wake of the French Revolution they feared loss of power and formed broad coalitions to oppose the French Republic in the French Revolutionary Wars. Various conflicts throughout the century, including the War of the Spanish Succession and the Seven Years' War, saw Great Britain triumph over its rivals to become the preeminent power in Europe. However, Britain's attempts to exert its authority over the Thirteen Colonies became a catalyst for the American Revolution. The 18th century also marked the end of the Polish–Lithuanian Commonwealth as an independent state. Its semi-democratic government system was not robust enough to prevent partition by the neighboring states of Austria, Prussia, and Russia. In West Asia, Nader Shah led Persia in successful military campaigns. The Ottoman Empire experienced a period of peace, taking no part in European wars from 1740 to 1768. As a result, the empire was not exposed to Europe's military improvements during the Seven Years' War. The Ottoman military consequently lagged behind and suffered several defeats against Russia in the second half of the century. In South Asia, the death of Mughal emperor Aurangzeb was followed by the expansion of the Maratha Confederacy and an increasing level of European influence and control in the region. In 1739, Persian emperor Nader Shah invaded and plundered Delhi, the capital of the Mughal Empire. Later, his general Ahmad Shah Durrani scored another victory against the Marathas, the then dominant power in India, in the Third Battle of Panipat in 1761.[8] By the middle of the century, the British East India Company began to conquer eastern India,[9][8] and by the end of the century, the Anglo-Mysore Wars against Tipu Sultan and his father Hyder Ali, led to Company rule over the south.[10][11] In East Asia, the century was marked by the High Qing era, a period characterized by significant cultural and territorial expansion. This period also experienced relative peace and prosperity, allowing for societal growth, increasing literacy rates, flourishing trade, and consolidating imperial power across the vast Qing dynasty's territories. Conversely, the continual seclusion policy of the Tokugawa shogunate also brought a peaceful era called Pax Tokugawa and experienced a flourishment of the arts as well as scientific knowledge and advancements, which were introduced to Japan through the Dutch port of Nagasaki. In Southeast Asia, the Konbaung–Ayutthaya Wars and the Tây Sơn Wars broke out while the Dutch East India Company established increasing levels of control over the Mataram Sultanate. In Africa, the Ethiopian Empire underwent the Zemene Mesafint, a period when the country was ruled by a class of regional noblemen and the emperor was merely a figurehead. The Atlantic slave trade also saw the continued involvement of states such as the Oyo Empire. In Oceania, the European colonization of Australia and New Zealand began during the late half of the century. In the Americas, the United States declared its independence from Great Britain. In 1776, Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence. In 1789, George Washington was inaugurated as the first president. Benjamin Franklin traveled to Europe where he was hailed as an inventor. Examples of his inventions include the lightning rod and bifocal glasses. Túpac Amaru II led an uprising that sought to end Spanish colonial rule in Peru. For a chronological guide, see Timeline of the 18th century. See also: Georgian era Main articles: 1700s, 1710s, 1720s, 1730s, and 1740s Europe at the beginning of the War of the Spanish Succession, 1700 The Battle of Poltava in 1709 turned the Russian Empire into a European power. John Churchill, 1st Duke of Marlborough 1700–1721: Great Northern War between the Russian and Swedish Empires. 1701: Kingdom of Prussia declared under King Frederick I. 1701: The Battle of Feyiase marks the rise of the Ashanti Empire. 1701–1714: The War of the Spanish Succession is fought, involving most of continental Europe.[12] 1702–1715: Camisard rebellion in France. 1703: Saint Petersburg is founded by Peter the Great; it is the Russian capital until 1918. 1703–1711: The Rákóczi uprising against the Habsburg monarchy. 1704: End of Japan's Genroku period. 1704: First Javanese War of Succession.[13] 1706–1713: The War of the Spanish Succession: French troops defeated at the Battle of Ramillies and the Siege of Turin. 1707: Death of Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb leads to the fragmentation of the Mughal Empire. 1707: The Act of Union is passed, merging the Scottish and English Parliaments, thus establishing the Kingdom of Great Britain.[14] 1708: The Company of Merchants of London Trading into the East Indies and English Company Trading to the East Indies merge to form the United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies. 1708–1709: Famine kills one-third of East Prussia's population. 1709: Foundation of the Hotak Empire. 1709: The Great Frost of 1709 marks the coldest winter in 500 years, contributing to the defeat of Sweden at Poltava. 1710: The world's first copyright legislation, Britain's Statute of Anne, takes effect. 1710–1711: Ottoman Empire fights Russia in the Russo-Turkish War and regains Azov. 1711: Bukhara Khanate dissolves as local begs seize power. 1711–1715: Tuscarora War between British, Dutch, and German settlers and the Tuscarora people of North Carolina. 1713: The Kangxi Emperor acknowledges the full recovery of the Chinese economy since its apex during the Ming. 1714: In Amsterdam, Daniel Gabriel Fahrenheit invents the mercury-in-glass thermometer, which remains the most reliable and accurate thermometer until the electronic era. 1715: The first Jacobite rising breaks out; the British halt the Jacobite advance at the Battle of Sheriffmuir; Battle of Preston. 1716: Establishment of the Sikh Confederacy along the present-day India-Pakistan border. 1716–1718: Austro-Venetian-Turkish War. 1718: The city of New Orleans is founded by the French in North America. 1718–1720: War of the Quadruple Alliance with Spain versus France, Britain, Austria, and the Netherlands. 1718–1730: Tulip period of the Ottoman Empire. 1719: Second Javanese War of Succession.[15] 1720: The South Sea Bubble. 1720–1721: The Great Plague of Marseille. 1720: Qing forces oust Dzungar invaders from Tibet. 1721: The Treaty of Nystad is signed, ending the Great Northern War. 1721: Sack of Shamakhi, massacre of its Shia population by Sunni Lezgins. 1722: Siege of Isfahan results in the handover of Iran to the Hotaki Afghans. 1722–1723: Russo-Persian War. 1722–1725: Controversy over William Wood's halfpence leads to the Drapier's Letters and begins the Irish economic independence from England movement. Mughal emperor Muhammad Shah with the Persian invader Nader Shah. 1723: Slavery is abolished in Russia; Peter the Great converts household slaves into house serfs.[16] 1723–1730: The "Great Disaster", an invasion of Kazakh territories by the Dzungars. 1723–1732: The Qing and the Dzungars fight a series of wars across Qinghai, Dzungaria, and Outer Mongolia, with inconclusive results. 1724: Daniel Gabriel Fahrenheit proposes the Fahrenheit temperature scale. 1725: Austro-Spanish alliance revived. Russia joins in 1726. 1727–1729: Anglo-Spanish War ends inconclusively. 1730: Mahmud I takes over Ottoman Empire after the Patrona Halil revolt, ending the Tulip period. 1730–1760: The First Great Awakening takes place in Great Britain and North America. 1732–1734: Crimean Tatar raids into Russia.[17] 1733–1738: War of the Polish Succession. Qianlong Emperor 1735–1739: Austro-Russo-Turkish War. 1735–1799: The Qianlong Emperor of China oversees a huge expansion in territory. 1738–1756: Famine across the Sahel; half the population of Timbuktu dies.[18] 1737–1738: Hotak Empire ends after the siege of Kandahar by Nader Shah. 1739: Great Britain and Spain fight the War of Jenkins' Ear in the Caribbean. 1739: Nader Shah defeats a pan-Indian army of 300,000 at the Battle of Karnal. Taxation is stopped in Iran for three years. 1739–1740: Nader Shah's Sindh expedition. 1740: George Whitefield brings the First Great Awakening to New England 1740–1741: Famine in Ireland kills 20 percent of the population. 1741–1743: Iran invades Uzbekistan, Khwarazm, Dagestan, and Oman. 1741–1751: Maratha invasions of Bengal. 1740–1748: War of the Austrian Succession. 1742: Marvel's Mill, the first water-powered cotton mill, begins operation in England.[19] 1742: Anders Celsius proposes an inverted form of the centigrade temperature, which is later renamed Celsius in his honor. 1742: Premiere of George Frideric Handel's Messiah. 1743–1746: Another Ottoman-Persian War involves 375,000 men but ultimately ends in a stalemate. The extinction of the Scottish clan system came with the defeat of the clansmen at the Battle of Culloden in 1746.[20] 1744: The First Saudi State is founded by Mohammed Ibn Saud.[21] 1744: Battle of Toulon is fought off the coast of France. 1744–1748: The First Carnatic War is fought between the British, the French, the Marathas, and Mysore in India. 1745: Second Jacobite rising is begun by Charles Edward Stuart in Scotland. 1747: The Durrani Empire is founded by Ahmad Shah Durrani. 1748: The Treaty of Aix-La-Chapelle ends the War of the Austrian Succession and First Carnatic War. 1748–1754: The Second Carnatic War is fought between the British, the French, the Marathas, and Mysore in India. 1750: Peak of the Little Ice Age. Main articles: 1750s, 1760s, 1770s, 1780s, 1790s, and 1800s 1752: The British Empire adopts the Gregorian Calendar, skipping 11 days from 3 September to 13 September. On the calendar, 2 September is followed directly by 14 September. 1754: The Treaty of Pondicherry ends the Second Carnatic War and recognizes Muhammed Ali Khan Wallajah as Nawab of the Carnatic. 1754: King's College is founded by a royal charter of George II of Great Britain.[22] 1754–1763: The French and Indian War, the North American chapter of the Seven Years' War, is fought in colonial North America, mostly by the French and their allies against the English and their allies. 1755: The great Lisbon earthquake destroys most of Portugal's capital and kills up to 100,000. 1755: The Dzungar genocide depopulates much of northern Xinjiang, allowing for Han, Uyghur, Khalkha Mongol, and Manchu colonization. 1755–1763: The Great Upheaval forces transfer of the French Acadian population from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. 1756–1763: The Seven Years' War is fought among European powers in various theaters around the world. 1756–1763: The Third Carnatic War is fought between the British, the French, and Mysore in India. 1757: British conquest of Bengal. Catherine the Great, Empress of Russia. 1760: George III becomes King of Britain. 1761: Maratha Empire defeated at Battle of Panipat. 1762–1796: Reign of Catherine the Great of Russia. 1763: The Treaty of Paris ends the Seven Years' War and Third Carnatic War. 1764: Dahomey and the Oyo Empire defeat the Ashanti army at the Battle of Atakpamé. 1764: The Mughals are defeated at the Battle of Buxar. 1765: The Stamp Act is introduced into the American colonies by the British Parliament. 1765–1767: The Burmese invade Thailand and utterly destroy Attuthaya. 1765–1769: Burma under Hsinbyushin repels four invasions from Qing China, securing hegemony over the Shan states. 1766: Christian VII becomes king of Denmark. He was king of Denmark to 1808. 1766–1799: Anglo-Mysore Wars. 1767: Taksin expels Burmese invaders and reunites Thailand under an authoritarian regime. 1768–1772: War of the Bar Confederation. 1768–1774: Russo-Turkish War. 1769: Spanish missionaries establish the first of 21 missions in California. 1769–1770: James Cook explores and maps New Zealand and Australia. 1769–1773: The Bengal famine of 1770 kills one-third of the Bengal population. 1769: The French East India Company dissolves, only to be revived in 1785. 1769: French expeditions capture clove plants in Ambon, ending the Dutch East India Company's (VOC) monopoly of the plant.[23] 1770–1771: Famine in Czech lands kills hundreds of thousands. 1771: The Plague Riot in Moscow. 1771: The Kalmyk Khanate dissolves as the territory becomes colonized by Russians. More than a hundred thousand Kalmyks migrate back to Qing Dzungaria. 1772: Gustav III of Sweden stages a coup d'état, becoming almost an absolute monarch. Encyclopédie, ou dictionnaire raisonné des sciences, des arts et des métiers 1772–1779: Maratha Empire fights Britain and Raghunathrao's forces during the First Anglo-Maratha War. 1772–1795: The Partitions of Poland end the Polish–Lithuanian Commonwealth and erase Poland from the map for 123 years. 1773–1775: Pugachev's Rebellion, the largest peasant revolt in Russian history. 1773: East India Company starts operations in Bengal to smuggle opium into China. 1775: Russia imposes a reduction in autonomy on the Zaporizhian Cossacks of Ukraine. 1775–1782: First Anglo-Maratha War. 1775–1783: American Revolutionary War. 1776: Several kongsi republics are founded by Chinese settlers in the island of Borneo. They are some of the first democracies in Asia. 1776–1777: A Spanish-Portuguese War occurs over land in the South American frontiers. 1776: Illuminati founded by Adam Weishaupt. 1776: The United States Declaration of Independence is adopted by the Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia. 1776: Adam Smith publishes The Wealth of Nations. 1778: James Cook becomes the first European to land on the Hawaiian Islands. 1778: Franco-American alliance signed. 1778: Spain acquires its first permanent holding in Africa from the Portuguese, which is administered by the newly-established La Plata Viceroyalty. 1778: Vietnam is reunified for the first time in 200 years by the Tay Son brothers. The Tây Sơn dynasty has been established, terminating the Lê dynasty. 1779–1879: Xhosa Wars between British and Boer settlers and the Xhosas in the South African Republic. 1779–1783: Britain loses several islands and colonial outposts all over the world to the combined Franco-Spanish navy. 1779: Iran enters yet another period of conflict and civil war after the prosperous reign of Karim Khan Zand. 1780: Outbreak of the indigenous rebellion against Spanish colonization led by Túpac Amaru II in Peru. 1781: The city of Los Angeles is founded by Spanish settlers.George Washington 1781–1785: Serfdom is abolished in the Austrian monarchy (first step; second step in 1848). 1782: The Thonburi Kingdom of Thailand is dissolved after a palace coup. 1783: The Treaty of Paris formally ends the American Revolutionary War. 1783: Russian annexation of Crimea. 1785–1791: Imam Sheikh Mansur, a Chechen warrior and Muslim mystic, leads a coalition of Muslim Caucasian tribes from throughout the Caucasus in a holy war against Russian settlers and military bases in the Caucasus, as well as against local traditionalists, who followed the traditional customs and common law (Adat) rather than the theocratic Sharia.[24] 1785–1795: The Northwest Indian War is fought between the United States and Native Americans. 1785–1787: The Maratha–Mysore Wars concludes with an exchange of territories in the Deccan. 1786–1787: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart premieres The Marriage of Figaro and Don Giovanni. 1787: The Tuareg occupy Timbuktu until the 19th century. 1787–1792: Russo-Turkish War. 1788: First Fleet arrives in Australia 1788–1790: Russo-Swedish War (1788–1790). 1788: Dutch Geert Adriaans Boomgaard (1788–1899) would become the first generally accepted validated case of a supercentenarian on record.[25][26] Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen 1788–1789: A Qing attempt to reinstall an exiled Vietnamese king in northern Vietnam ends in disaster. 1789: George Washington is elected the first President of the United States; he serves until 1797. 1789: Quang Trung defeats the Qing army. 1789–1799: French Revolution. 1789: The Liège Revolution. 1789: The Brabant Revolution. 1789: The Inconfidência Mineira, an unsuccessful separatist movement in central Brazil led by Tiradentes 1791: Suppression of the Liège Revolution by Austrian forces and re-establishment of the Prince-Bishopric of Liège. 1791–1795: George Vancouver explores the world during the Vancouver Expedition. 1791–1804: The Haitian Revolution. 1791: Mozart premieres The Magic Flute. 1792–1802: The French Revolutionary Wars lead into the Napoleonic Wars, which last from 1803–1815. 1792: The New York Stock & Exchange Board is founded. 1792: Polish–Russian War of 1792. 1792: Margaret Ann Neve (1792–1903) would become the first recorded female supercentenarian to reach the age of 110.[27][28] 1793: Upper Canada bans slavery. 1793: The largest yellow fever epidemic in American history kills as many as 5,000 people in Philadelphia, roughly 10% of the population.[29] 1793–1796: Revolt in the Vendée against the French Republic at the time of the Revolution. 1794–1816: The Hawkesbury and Nepean Wars, which were a series of incidents between settlers and New South Wales Corps and the Aboriginal Australian clans of the Hawkesbury river in Sydney, Australia. 1795: The Marseillaise is officially adopted as the French national anthem.Napoleon at the Bridge of the Arcole 1795: The Battle of Nu'uanu in the final days of King Kamehameha I's wars to unify the Hawaiian Islands. 1795–1796: Iran invades and devastates Georgia, prompting Russia to intervene and march on Tehran. 1796: Edward Jenner administers the first smallpox vaccination; smallpox killed an estimated 400,000 Europeans each year during the 18th century, including five reigning monarchs.[30] 1796: War of the First Coalition: The Battle of Montenotte marks Napoleon Bonaparte's first victory as an army commander. 1796: The British eject the Dutch from Ceylon and South Africa. 1796–1804: The White Lotus Rebellion against the Manchu dynasty in China. 1797: John Adams is elected the second President of the United States; he serves until 1801. 1798: The Irish Rebellion fails to overthrow British rule in Ireland. 1798–1800: The Quasi-War is fought between the United States and France. 1799: Dutch East India Company is dissolved. 1799: Austro-Russian forces under Alexander Suvorov liberates much of Italy and Switzerland from French occupation. 1799: Coup of 18 Brumaire - Napoleon's coup d'etat brings the end of the French Revolution. 1799: Death of the Qianlong Emperor after 60 years of rule over China. His favorite official, Heshen, is ordered to commit suicide. 1800: On 1 January, the bankrupt VOC is formally dissolved and the nationalized Dutch East Indies are established.[31] Main articles: Timeline of historic inventions § 18th century, and Timeline of scientific discoveries § 18th century The spinning jenny 1709: The first piano was built by Bartolomeo Cristofori 1711: Tuning fork was invented by John Shore 1712: Steam engine invented by Thomas Newcomen 1714: Mercury thermometer by Daniel Gabriel Fahrenheit 1717: Diving bell was successfully tested by Edmond Halley, sustainable to a depth of 55 ft c. 1730: Octant navigational tool was developed by John Hadley in England, and Thomas Godfrey in America 1733: Flying shuttle invented by John Kay 1736: Europeans encountered rubber – the discovery was made by Charles Marie de La Condamine while on expedition in South America. It was named in 1770 by Joseph Priestley c. 1740: Modern steel was developed by Benjamin Huntsman 1741: Vitus Bering discovers Alaska 1745: Leyden jar invented by Ewald Georg von Kleist was the first electrical capacitor 1751: Jacques de Vaucanson perfects the first precision lathe 1752: Lightning rod invented by Benjamin Franklin 1753: The first clock to be built in the New World (North America) was invented by Benjamin Banneker. 1755: The tallest wooden Bodhisattva statue in the world is erected at Puning Temple, Chengde, China. 1764: Spinning jenny created by James Hargreaves brought on the Industrial Revolution 1765: James Watt enhances Newcomen's steam engine, allowing new steel technologies 1761: The problem of longitude was finally resolved by the fourth chronometer of John Harrison 1763: Thomas Bayes publishes first version of Bayes' theorem, paving the way for Bayesian probability 1768–1779: James Cook mapped the boundaries of the Pacific Ocean and discovered many Pacific Islands 1774: Joseph Priestley discovers "dephlogisticated air", oxygen The Chinese Putuo Zongcheng Temple of Chengde, completed in 1771, during the reign of the Qianlong Emperor. 1775: Joseph Priestley's first synthesis of "phlogisticated nitrous air", nitrous oxide, "laughing gas" 1776: First improved steam engines installed by James Watt 1776: Steamboat invented by Claude de Jouffroy 1777: Circular saw invented by Samuel Miller 1779: Photosynthesis was first discovered by Jan Ingenhousz 1781: William Herschel announces discovery of Uranus 1784: Bifocals invented by Benjamin Franklin 1784: Argand lamp invented by Aimé Argand[32] 1785: Power loom invented by Edmund Cartwright 1785: Automatic flour mill invented by Oliver Evans 1786: Threshing machine invented by Andrew Meikle 1787: Jacques Charles discovers Charles's law 1789: Antoine Lavoisier discovers the law of conservation of mass, the basis for chemistry, and begins modern chemistry 1798: Edward Jenner publishes a treatise about smallpox vaccination 1798: The Lithographic printing process invented by Alois Senefelder[33] 1799: Rosetta Stone discovered by Napoleon's troops Main articles: 18th century in literature and 18th century in philosophy 1703: The Love Suicides at Sonezaki by Chikamatsu first performed 1704–1717: One Thousand and One Nights translated into French by Antoine Galland. The work becomes immensely popular throughout Europe. 1704: A Tale of a Tub by Jonathan Swift first published 1712: The Rape of the Lock by Alexander Pope (publication of first version) 1719: Robinson Crusoe by Daniel Defoe 1725: The New Science by Giambattista Vico 1726: Gulliver's Travels by Jonathan Swift 1728: The Dunciad by Alexander Pope (publication of first version) 1744: A Little Pretty Pocket-Book becomes one of the first books marketed for children 1748: Chushingura (The Treasury of Loyal Retainers), popular Japanese puppet play, composed 1748: Clarissa; or, The History of a Young Lady by Samuel Richardson 1749: The History of Tom Jones, a Foundling by Henry Fielding 1751: Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard by Thomas Gray published 1751–1785: The French Encyclopédie 1755: A Dictionary of the English Language by Samuel Johnson 1758: Arithmetika Horvatzka by Mihalj Šilobod Bolšić 1759: Candide by Voltaire 1759: The Theory of Moral Sentiments by Adam Smith 1759–1767: Tristram Shandy by Laurence Sterne 1762: Emile: or, On Education by Jean-Jacques Rousseau 1762: The Social Contract, Or Principles of Political Right by Jean-Jacques Rousseau 1774: The Sorrows of Young Werther by Goethe first published 1776: Ugetsu Monogatari (Tales of Moonlight and Rain) by Ueda Akinari 1776: The Wealth of Nations, foundation of the modern theory of economy, was published by Adam Smith 1776–1789: The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire was published by Edward Gibbon 1779: Amazing Grace published by John Newton 1779–1782: Lives of the Most Eminent English Poets by Samuel Johnson 1781: Critique of Pure Reason by Immanuel Kant (publication of first edition) 1781: The Robbers by Friedrich Schiller first published 1782: Les Liaisons dangereuses by Pierre Choderlos de Laclos 1786: Poems, Chiefly in the Scottish Dialect by Robert Burns 1787–1788: The Federalist Papers by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay 1788: Critique of Practical Reason by Immanuel Kant 1789: Songs of Innocence by William Blake 1789: The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano by Olaudah Equiano 1790: Journey from St. Petersburg to Moscow by Alexander Radishchev 1790: Reflections on the Revolution in France by Edmund Burke 1791: Rights of Man by Thomas Paine 1792: A Vindication of the Rights of Woman by Mary Wollstonecraft 1794: Songs of Experience by William Blake 1798: Lyrical Ballads by William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge 1798: An Essay on the Principle of Population published by Thomas Malthus (mid–18th century): The Dream of the Red Chamber (authorship attributed to Cao Xueqin), one of the most famous Chinese novels 1711: Rinaldo, Handel's first opera for the London stage, premiered 1721: Brandenburg Concertos by J.S. Bach 1723: The Four Seasons, violin concertos by Antonio Vivaldi, composed 1724: St John Passion by J.S. Bach 1727: St Matthew Passion composed by J.S. Bach 1727: Zadok the Priest is composed by Handel for the coronation of George II of Great Britain. It has been performed at every subsequent British coronation. 1733: Hippolyte et Aricie, first opera by Jean-Philippe Rameau 1741: Goldberg Variations for harpsichord published by Bach 1742: Messiah, oratorio by Handel premiered in Dublin 1749: Mass in B minor by J.S. Bach assembled in current form 1751: The Art of Fugue by J.S. Bach 1762: Orfeo ed Euridice, first "reform opera" by Gluck, performed in Vienna 1786: The Marriage of Figaro, opera by Mozart 1787: Don Giovanni, opera by Mozart 1788: Jupiter Symphony (Symphony No. 41) composed by Mozart 1791: The Magic Flute, opera by Mozart 1791–1795: London symphonies by Haydn 1798: The Pathétique, piano sonata by Beethoven 1798: The Creation, oratorio by Haydn first performed ^ Volkov, Sergey. Concise History of Imperial Russia. ^ Rowe, William T. China's Last Empire. ^ Anderson, M. S. (1979). Historians and Eighteenth-Century Europe, 1715–1789. Oxford University Press. ISBN 978-0-19-822548-5. OCLC 185538307. ^ Ribeiro, Aileen (2002). Dress in Eighteenth-Century Europe 1715–1789 (revised ed.). Yale University Press. ISBN 978-0-300-09151-9. OCLC 186413657. ^ Baines, Paul (2004). The Long 18th Century. London: Arnold. ISBN 978-0-340-81372-0. ^ Marshall, P. J., ed. (2001). 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View (previous 50 | next 50) (20 | 50 | 100 | 250 | 500)List of decades, centuries, and millennia (links | edit) Goths (links | edit) Industrial espionage (links | edit) Romania (links | edit) 20th century (links | edit) 15th century (links | edit) 16th century (links | edit) 17th century (links | edit) 1870s (links | edit) 1624 (links | edit) 1626 (links | edit) 1642 (links | edit) 1661 (links | edit) 1756 (links | edit) 1791 (links | edit) 1608 (links | edit) 1818 (links | edit) 1743 (links | edit) 1826 (links | edit) 1828 (links | edit) 14th century (links | edit) 1860s (links | edit) 1788 (links | edit) 1st century (links | edit) 13th century (links | edit) 1787 (links | edit) 1863 (links | edit) 4th century (links | edit) 12th century (links | edit) 11th century (links | edit) 1859 (links | edit) 1900 (links | edit) 1848 (links | edit) 1866 (links | edit) 1896 (links | edit) 1895 (links | edit) 1861 (links | edit) 1648 (links | edit) 1623 (links | edit) 1662 (links | edit) 1640s (links | edit) 1770s (links | edit) 1780s (links | edit) 1789 (links | edit) 1782 (links | edit) 1840 (links | edit) 1840s (links | edit) 1883 (links | edit) 1800s (decade) (links | edit) 1801 (links | edit) View (previous 50 | next 50) (20 | 50 | 100 | 250 | 500) Retrieved from " WhatLinksHere/18th_century" The leaves are amassing, the skeletons are out, and enormous bags of candy fill the grocery store aisles and threaten to spill their chocolates right into your mouth, through absolutely no fault of your own. Yep, it's officially spooky season. But if you still need some help getting into the holiday spirit (or just want to kill some zombies time at work this week), Literary Hub is here to help, with a few of our staff's very favorite spooky short stories—all of which are available courtesy of that lurking transient evil you know as the internet. Consider it a literary version of a scary movie marathon. Our choices range from horror to science fiction to realism, from straight-up frightening to the kind of unsettling that just sticks around the rest of the day like the smell of smoke. Spookiness, after all, is in the eye of the beholder. So without any further ado, here are 20 spooky stories that you can read online for free this week, or anytime. (For even more short story recommendations from the Literary Hub staff, check out our One Great Short Story series.) And of course, this list is not meant to be definitive, so please feel free to add your own favorites in the comments—when it comes to scaring ourselves silly, more is always more. Ray Bradbury, "The Veldt" (Saturday Evening Post, 1950) "George, I wish you'd look at the nursery." "What's wrong with it?" "I don't know." "Well, then." "I just want you to look at it, is all, or call a psychologist in to look at it." "What would a psychologist want with a nursery?" "You know very well what he'd want." His wife paused in the middle of the kitchen and watched the stove busy humming to itself, making supper for four. "It's just that the nursery is different now than it was." "All right, let's have a look." Tananarive Due, "The Wishing Pool" (Uncanny Magazine, 2021) Joy nearly got lost on the root-knotted red dirt path off of Highway 99, losing sight of the gaps between the live oaks and Spanish moss that fanned across her hood and windows like fingertips. Driving back to her family's cabin twenty years later reminded her that the woods had rarely been restful for her. Once, Dad had made her play outside instead of sitting on the couch with her Virginia Hamilton books, and she'd stepped in an anthill up to her shin. She howled so loudly from the vicious stinging that Dad and Mom heard her all the way from the lake, and when they reached her they expected to find her half dead. She'd never forgotten that wild, frightened look in their eyes. No, Joy did not like the woods. Samanta Schweblin, tr. Megan McDowell, "Headlights" (2019) When she reaches the road, Felicity understands her fate. He has not waited for her, and, as if the past were a tangible thing, she thinks she can still see the weak reddish glow of the car's taillights fading on the horizon. In the flat darkness of the countryside, there is only disappointment, a wedding dress, and a bathroom she shouldn't have taken so long in. Joyce Carol Oates, "Zombie," (The New Yorker, 1994) My name is Q.P., and I am twenty-nine years old, three months. I see my probation officer, Mr. T., Thursdays, 10 a.m., and my therapist, Dr. E., Mondays and Thursdays, 4:30 p.m.; my group-therapy session with Dr. B. is Tuesdays, 7-8:30 p.m. I am a registered student at Dale County Business College, where I am enrolled in two three-credit courses for the spring semester: Introduction to Accounting and Computer Graphics. My residence is 118 Church Street, Mount Vernon, Michigan. Which is close by the State University campus. Seven miles from Dale but no inconvenience for me, I have my van. Mariana Enríquez, tr. Megan McDowell, "Julie," Astra (2022) She came from the United States straight to my house in Buenos Aires—they didn't want her in some hotel while they looked for an apartment to rent. My gringa cousin, Julie: she'd been born in Argentina, but when she was two, her parents—my aunt and uncle—had migrated to the States. They settled in Vermont: my uncle worked at Boeing, and my aunt—my dad's sister—birthed children, decorated the house, and secretly held spiritist meetings in her beautiful, spacious living room. Rich blond Latinos of German heritage: their neighbors didn't really know how to place them, since they came from South America but their last name was Meyer. Even so, their firstborn's features betrayed the infiltrated strain of Native blood that came from my Indigenous grandmother: Julie had the dark dead eyes of a rat, untamable hair always standing on end, skin the color of wet sand. I'm pretty sure my aunt even started telling people she was adopted. My dad got so mad when he heard that rumor that he stopped writing and calling his sister for at least a year. Nathaniel Hawthorne, "Young Goodman Brown" (1835) Young Goodman Brown came forth at sunset, into the street of Salem village, but put his head back, after crossing the threshold, to exchange a parting kiss with his young wife. And Faith, as the wife was aptly named, thrust her own pretty head into the street, letting the wind play with the pink ribbons of her cap, while she called to Goodman Brown. Nalo Hopkinson, "Left Foot, Right" (2014) "Allyou have this in a size nine?" Jenna puts the shiny red patent shoe down on the counter. Well, it used to be shiny. She's been wearing it everywhere, and now it's dulled by dust. It's the left side of a high-heeled pump, pointy-toed, with large shiny fake rhinestones decorating the toe box. Each stone is a different size and colour, in a different cheap plastic setting. The red veneer has stripped off the heel of the shoe. It curls up off the white plastic heel base in strips. Jenna's heart clenches. It's exactly the kind of tacky, blinged-out accessory that Zuleika loves—loved—to wear. Robert Coover, "The Babysitter" (2014) She arrives at 7:40, ten minutes late, but the children, Jimmy and Bitsy, are still eating supper, and their parents are not ready to go yet. From other rooms come the sounds of a baby screaming, water running, a television musical (no words: probably a dance number—patterns of gliding figures come to mind). Mrs Tucker sweeps into the kitchen, fussing with her hair, and snatches a baby bottle full of milk out of a pan of warm water, rushes out again. 'Harry!' she calls. 'The babysitter's here already!' Kelly Link, "The Specialist's Hat" (Event Horizon, 1998) "When you're Dead," Samantha says, "you don't have to brush your teeth." "When you're Dead," Claire says, "you live in a box, and it's always dark, but you're not ever afraid." Claire and Samantha are identical twins. Their combined age is twenty years, four months, and six days. Claire is better at being Dead than Samantha. Octavia Butler, "Bloodchild" (1995) My last night of childhood began with a visit home. T'Gatoi's sister had given us two sterile eggs. T'Gatoi gave one to my mother, brother, and sisters. She insisted that I eat the other one alone. It didn't matter. There was still enough to leave everyone feeling good. Almost everyone. My mother wouldn't take any. She sat, watching everyone drifting and dreaming without her. Most of the time she watched me. Brian Evenson, "Windeye" (2009) They lived, when he was growing up, in a simple house, an old bungalow with a converted attic and s

he comes home from work and his girlfriend was staying there while he was gone, claims that the stove burner kept lighting itself, she'd walk into the kitchen and it would be lit, she'd turn it off and shortly later it'd be lit again. Then, one night my brother wakes up in the middle of the night and sees his girlfriend sitting at the end of the bed, not just sees but feels her near his feet, staring at him. He calls out for her to come back to bed, she doesn't respond so he calls out louder telling her to come to bed and asking what's wrong? His girlfriend then asks what he's doing, he turns and she's sleeping next to him, he turns back, no one is at the end of the bed. Now, he's freaked out but doesn't want to scare his girlfriend from coming over his place. A few nights later, they're both sleeping and he wakes up to his girlfriend screaming. He looks over and she's sleeping but thrashing around holding onto her neck. He doesn't see anything so he starts yelling and shaking her to wake her up, after a few shakes she wakes up crying and terrified. She starts telling my brother about how real her dream felt that a woman was strangling her telling her to get out, that she doesn't belong there and to leave her man alone. Her neck had red marks on it, possibly from herself trying to 'defend herself' but they believed it to be from something else. My brother then comes clean with her, the decide to do some research and find out that the address that they live in was an old brothel back in the day that the rich bathers used to stay in. My brother lived in that house for a few more weeks before he could locate a new place, she never came back to stay the night though, and he never experienced anything aggressive while there. Still, kinda fucked up though. I know my brother and I can tell when he's lying, this shit was legit and when she talked about it, you could see how shaken up she was. 24. She found creepy pictures on her own phone. The story of the kid who borrowed his moms phone to play with and ended up falling asleep in bed. Mom finds the kid sleeping, grabs her phone and looks at her phone pics to see a pic of this crazy half face close up and the kid sleeping in the background. 25. My dead grandfather played with my baby. My daughter was born with mild tracheomalacia (soft wind pipe). The only 'trouble' it ever caused was that she would make a whistling sound sometimes when she was breathing, especially when she was excited or upset. Fast forward to when she was about 4 months old and fast asleep in her crib one evening. Her older brother had the stomach flu that day and had been throwing up. We thought the baby hadn't caught it. But, a little while after we put her to bed, we suddenly heard her softly sputtering on the monitor, then silence for a few seconds, then a HUGE loud wail, which made both my husband and I run even faster to her room. By the time we got to her, she had fallen earily quiet again. We saw she was gasping for air, choking, unable to clear the vomit from her throat or get a clean breath. Even after we picked her up and cleared her mouth, she continued to gasp. She turned blue, then grey as I drove with her quickly to the ER. She had partially recovered by the time we got there. They gave her o2, chest xray, then a clean bill and we left. Fast forward about two hours later when I'm back in my bedroom with her sleeping upright in a baby seat next to me on the bed. My husband and I talked briefly about what would have happened had the baby not cried out so loudly. Would we have reacted so quickly? Would she have recovered? I'm in and out of sleep myself because I kept checking her. One of the times, just before I had fully awoken, I looked out in the hallway and saw my grandfather, who had passed away a few years prior. When he was alive, he was not the most involved grand dad. But, when he met my husband (my boyfriend at the time) they had an instant connection. When he passed away, his last coherent words were, "I'm not going to make it to altruitis and Mr altruitis's wedding, am I…" He loved my husband dearly. Anyway, I see him out in the hall this night. He is just standing there in khakis and a polo with his hands in his pockets. In my dream state, I see all my children, except the baby, pulling at his arms and playing with him. He has a simple smile on his face, he looks over toward the baby's room and back at me and says, 'I'm sorry I made her cry, but I'm glad she's okay.' 26. The television turned off when he entered the room. My friend told me a story his Dad told him. Every day he would come home from school and he would be the first one there for at least an hour or 2. One day he walked in the front door and the TV was on and instantly turned off. He stood in the doorway for a second, turned around and walked away. He didn't go back into the house until his parents came home. 27. I heard whispering all throughout the house. This is a story I do not often tell. I promise, sincerely, that this has scarred me for life and although I have looked into psychological explanations for what I heard and natural explanations for what occurred, they remain unsatisfactory. When I was a child, I was scared of the dark. I swore to my mother I heard voices in it. They were not evil, but they were not familiar and so they scared me. It was not uncommon in the middle of the night for me to wake up and hear 'whispers' as I would call them when asking my mom. She figured they were just 'bumps in the night' and typical kids nightmare material. I tried often to explain to her that it was more than that, that they sounded different from one another the way people's voices do. On some nights I would get so scared from these 'whispers' that I would sleep in my mom's bed with her. It was an added bonus that the bathroom was directly outside of her bedroom door for my late-night tinkles. I should add at this point that when walking out into the hall to go to the bathroom, you looked directly down the stairs that would lead you into my living room on the first floor (as my mom's bedroom was on the second floor). On one such night, around Christmas, I awoke and felt the need to relieve myself. I walked out from the door and distinctly heard the phrase 'Look!"'and to my astonishment, a red light, almost like a spotlight, was cast upon the wall at the very bottom of the stairs. The light had no other source, it was by itself, and I was transfixed by it. Being a little kid, and it only being a few days from Christmas, I KNEW what this light was. IT WAS SANTA!!! How else could he get into my house to know I was being a good boy. I was so excited I began walking down the stairs to greet him, picking up my pace after the second step as it began to creep off the wall and fade into the darkness in my living room. That's when I heard him. A very strong, masculine voice. Different from the first. Not at all like my father's (not to say he isn't masculine, it was just distinctly different). It said "Stop! Right now. Go back up those stairs." I listened, turned around, and what happened next I am not sure I would believe if someone had told me this same story. After reaching the top of the stairs, I heard a very loud CRASH that sent me running back to my mother's bed where I jumped straight under the covers and stayed there the whole night. When we awoke the next morning, the poinsettia lights (little Christmas flower lights that glowed red) my mother had put on the railing down the stairs were pulled straight down to the bottom of the stairs, some broken from what seemed like a forceful tear, laying in a single pile. The dry sink in my living room had fallen from the wall. My mother could not explain it! My father was worried we had been the victims of a home invasion. My sister was crying. There was nothing missing, nobody had broken in, there did not seem to be any reason this had happened. And then I saw it, and I kept quiet about it because I was so afraid that I could not force words out of my mouth. There, on the edge of the wooden dry sink which had been facing up, were three indentations where the finish on the wood had been worn, almost as if in a forceful grip. Something down there had GRABBED IT AND THREW IT DOWN. That was what the bang was. I was mortified. After that day I never heard a single voice again. I do not like to imagine what was waiting downstairs for me that night, if it was anything at all, but I can tell you that the reality was that something had physically acted upon two things in my house near the bottom of that stairwell. After this, I had never heard another whisper again. Which is sad, because in some ways I would have liked to thank the man (masculine energy?) that had stopped me from going down those stairs. This happened when I was 7 (or 7 and a half! as I liked to say at the time). I am 20 years old now, and because of this incident I am still afraid of the dark. ESPECIALLY shadowy stairwells. 28. He felt a ghost in his bed. I don't remember all of the details because my dad told me this story several years ago, but here it goes. When my dad was younger and still living in Poland, he and a few friends took a trip and one night decided to stay at a bed and breakfast type place. Everything seemed normal until he suddenly woke up in the middle of the night. He told me he felt some sort of presence behind him, so he slowly turned around but there was no one there. He swears he could feel someone there on the bed with him though, along with a slight shift in pressure on the bed. It went away after a few minutes and my dad went back to sleep. The next morning he found out that a man had died in that bed about a week or so prior. 29. The window opened on its own. I was a junior in college and was living in a dorm which had a reputation for being haunted. Of course the RAs spread this around and we had a fun time scaring ourselves for the first month or so of school. The floors which had the greatest reputation for being haunted were the 2nd and 5th floors. My room was on the 5th. I lived on the "International" floor, even though I myself was not international, so my roommate was from Tokyo. In this dorm, each floor alternated a single, a bathroom and a double, so three people would share a bathroom. This setup was called a "suite" and the person who lived in the single (or the double, if you were in the single) was your "suitemate". My suitemate was from Cairo. Really fun ladies, it was a great year. So I come home at about midnight after a long night of chatting online, and my roommate has the curtain shut between our halves of the room. She hears me walk in and says, "Oh, $MYNAME, I'm so glad you're here! While I was in the bathroom, the door opened by itself!" Now, I enjoy a mystery as much as anyone, but I like to be practical about things so naturally I think there's a rational explanation. I walk into the bathroom. The curtain over the bathroom is drawn closed, so I peek under it. Sure enough, the window is open about an inch. I figure it must've been a draft. I walk back out into the room and tell my roommate, "Well, the Windows's open about an inch, so it probably just blew the door open." My roommate is greatly relieved and says something to the effect of, "Whew! I'm so glad to hear that!" Total time transpired: about 20 seconds. I turn around and go back into the bathroom so I can take out my contacts and brush my teeth…and stop dead in my tracks. The curtain, which had previously been closed, was now open. But it wasn't drawn open, like someone would do to see out the window, but rolled to each side, like one would roll up a newspaper. Just as if someone had been sitting in the window. I looked at that for about 30 seconds. Turned out the light. Walked back out. Went to bed, contacts and all. The next morning, it took me a few minutes to unroll each curtain and flatten it out so it would lay flat again. 30. I saw a black shadow from my car. I was on a college ghost hunt with a guy name Chris Fleming. Cool dude, we did all the normal college ghost hunt stuff walking to supposedly haunted dorms and experiencing some cool stuff, but nothing crazy. The city we where in had this special place called the Ghost Trestle. It was basically a Railroad bridge in the middle of a corn field that had a dirt road underneath it. Anyways during the ghost hunt with this guy who was actually featured on Ghost Adventures, we told him about this place. He was pumped and rushed through the rest of the college ghost hunt. Him and his assistant and a few of my friends took two cars with all his equipment to this ghost trestle. When we got there a train was coming so he interviewed us on camera to tell the story about this place. The Story: Back a long time ago there was a farm house (still there but rebuilt) and a farmer, his wife, and son escaped a fire in the house. Also on fire was the horse stables. The farmer ran in to try and rescue the horsed before they succumbed to the fire while the wife and son went to wave down a train that was passing by. The story ends with the farmer dying in the stable fire and as the wife and child were waving down the train they were struck and killed. To this day if you park your car under the bridge while a train crossed you above its suppose to open up another dimensional world to be able to communicate. Well we show up and of course to our luck there is a train coming. We all freaked out and got pumped while the Medium Chris Fleming attempted to communicate. We were all taking pictures and began to experience weird technological failures. My camera which was my own began flashing and taking multiple pictures. same thing was occurring with our disposable camera Chris Flemings assistant had. At one point we began to see stuff mostly out of the corner of our eyes, and Chris Attempted to communicate, but what ever spirit was there seemed more intimidated. He (Chris) believed it to be the spirit of the little boy. We would every now and then see a figure poking its head out from behind a concrete wall under the tracks. It seemed like it was playing hide and seek. I can honestly say that I was young and thought this stuff was hoax and just fun for college kids to pretend. Until this night when we had a real professional experience the same thing we all did. Fast forward to a year or two after this event. I came to this same place for the first time since the night we went with Chris Flemming. This time it was just me and my then GF. I parked under the bridge turned off the car and lights and took the key out of the ignition. We were joking together about how we were getting to old for this stuff. And when I looked in the rear view mirror I saw a black shadow flash by the rear window of my car follow by some noises that sounds like someone running towards my car. My heart never raced so fast to put my key into the ignition and peel out and get out of there. Whatever, it was didn't seem like it wanted us there and I have yet to drive under or by the bridge since. 31. Lake Havasu ghost. A few years back I was camping in Lake Havasu with my brother and a few friends; my brother and I were working on building a fire while the other guys were on the boat mooring it to the shore. We had a hole we dug where we had our previous fires that trip, so my brother and got the fire going and sat down around the pit. The fire was burning for a good 10 minutes and was at a decent size before the most bizarre thing happened. The fire just went out, completely extinguished, as in no more flame. The embers were still there emitting heat, but the flame was gone. My brother and I looked at each other then back at the fire pit. A few seconds go by then the fire re-ignites to level it was at before it 'went out.' We are totally confused and we just start screaming for the guys to come check out what happened. 32. The time Grandma came to say goodbye. My paternal grandmother died when I was six. I lived in NY. She lived in PA. I met her maybe twice. I was six years old, asleep in bed one night and for whatever reason I woke up and walked into my parents' bedroom. My father had an easy chair in one corner for reading. I sat in the chair. On the opposite wall was my father's closet. It opened, and Grandma came out and stood about six feet away. 'I just wanted to say goodbye,' she said, smiled, waved, and turned back and walked back into the closet, closing the door behind her. I went back to my room. About two hours later, about 6am, the phone rings. It was a call from PA that Gramma Catherine had died in her sleep. My mother came to wake me up to tell me, and I said, "I know." 'What do you mean?' 'She came to say goodbye last night.' She made me repeat the story three times, and then told me never, ever to tell my father that story. And I never did. 33. You didn't hear that little girl singing? This happened my senior year of college, Christmas break 2006. I worked for a professor that asked me to house/dog sit for him while he was outta town to see the bowl game that we were in. He was gone for three days and had a huge piece of land in the middle of nowhere. I invited my GF at the time. He had horses and fishing and a gator to ride around on, etc., etc. So the first two nights went down with no incident, but the last night, his little foofy dog is having a fit. She keeps barking at the back door. At first we blow it off but decide to lock the dog inside in case of a coyote or something. After a while we start to get a little creeped out. I keep saying it's probably an animal and we'll be fine. My GF (not too bright) wants to go investigate to see what's outside, so I lock the door behind her (he-he, just kidding). She goes outside and says she saw something small and grey (probably a coyote) and it ran off. So, just an animal, no worries. but by this time, we're pretty spooked. The dog now starts barking at the window on the other side of the house, we're still trying to ignore it, but a little worried. We decide to get into bed…awkward silence…then I hear it…it sounds like a young girl singing a soft, eerie lullaby. I don't say anything, hoping that my mind is playing tricks on me. My GF says, 'Let's get the fuck outta here.' I say, 'Why?' she says, 'You didn't hear that little girl singing?' 'OK, let's get the fuck out.' We got the fuck out. I even called someone to talk to me while we walked out to my car. Next morning, went to clean up the house and such. Most scared I've ever been. Ever. 34. 'Get out.' So, this happened last summer (2 summers ago now). We have an old Mercury Grand Marquis that my dad had wanted to buy for years. The owner would never sell it, even though it was just left sitting there. After he died, his daughter sold it to us for pretty cheap, because she knew how bad my dad wanted it. So, one day I had drove it to my friend's house on a rainy day to play some smash bros. I left at 10 that night, and it had stopped raining, and I had to drive my friend home. So, this car's radio didn't work, and it would only be static if it was on. Well, I turned down my friend's road, and when I turned, I heard someone say get out. I know it wasn't my friend, because he was talking to me. So, we continued conversation and I got to his house about 5 minutes later. When we got there, I asked him if him if he heard something weird when we turned onto the road. He said he heard the exact same thing I did, and I was freaked the fuck out. This sounds like such a made-up story, but I really wish it was. Safe to say I haven't driven that car since. 35. 'I forgot to tell you about George.' I worked the graveyard shift in a hospital kitchen about five years ago. Before the kitchen was renovated a few years prior, our dish room used to be part of the morgue. While I was training, I'd frequently feel like someone was watching me, especially when I crossed into that part of the hallway. Every time I went into the dish room, something would be moved, turned over, or missing. Assuming it was my coworker, I didn't think anything of it. About a week later, my coworker leaves, and I'm left on my own. Every night, I would hear carts being moved around, dishes being put away, and silverware rattling. If I would leave for a minute, I'd get back and my radio would be switched to a different station. It got to the point where I was terrified to come to work every night. I called my old coworker, told her what was going on, and she very calmly said, "Oh yeah, I forgot to tell you about George". Apparently, George was a nurse/medical examiner who had a stroke and died while at work. He was in his 50's, I was told. From then on, everything actually went quite well. I introduced myself to George, asked him to please keep it down, and as long as I said hi to him as soon as I started work, he didn't seem to want to bother me anymore. It took us a little while to find a radio station we could agree on, but we worked harmoniously after that. When I left the job a year later, I made sure I told the girl that replaced me. 36. Let's sing 'Happy Birthday' to the ghost. We moved into a new house a few months ago. As we were in the process of purchasing the house, the renter who was living in it died unexpectedly of natural causes in his mid-40s. He died right in the middle of the living room. Shortly after, we move into the house, and almost immediately our 2-year-old daughter starts talking about the ghost that lives in our house. Now let's be real here—she is 2 and 2-year-olds are VERY impressionable. Halloween had recently passed, and she had this Halloween-themed picture book that she loved to read, so it's entirely possible that all this talk of ghosts was just coming from looking through that book on a regular basis. Still, she was always telling me that the ghost was in her playhouse in the basement, or that the ghost was on the stairs, or that the ghost was standing in the corner. She never seemed to be afraid of the ghost, and considered him to be her friend, so I wasn't all that concerned even if there really was a ghost haunting our house. If he's a nice and helpful ghost, it could certainly be a lot worse. I would often tell the ghost that he was welcome to stay if he wanted to, but he was also welcome to go if that would make him happier. I was about 30/70 on the ghost being real and she could see and talk to him versus the ghost being just her imagination fueled by her Halloween book. … until one day, when we were going out to the car to go to daycare in the morning. It was still dark out and rainy. My daughter told me that the ghost was on the back deck, and then she told me that today was the ghost's birthday and she wanted to sing him Happy Birthday. Once again, I mostly disregarded what she was saying, as she is birthday obsessed and has in the past made us sing Happy Birthday to Mickey Mouse, a bowl of fruit snacks, and the bathroom. So we sang and wished the ghost a happy birthday and went on with our lives. Later that day, out of pure curiosity, I looked up the obituary of the man who had died in our house. And wouldn't you know it? It was his fucking birthday. 37. This demon lady literally got inches from my face. Know how when you die you see 'the white light' and some report the lady or whatever that guides you through? So I'm lying in bed, wake up, heart racing, died in a dream so I woke up. Except I can't move. My body's frozen. I see at the foot of my bed this almost demon-like lady in a white dress walking toward me. I thought Well I'm dead, must have had a heart attack in my sleep. This demon lady literally got inches from my face. Then I could move and it was over. 38. The disembodied head of a woman floating above my bed at night. Lived in this dark, creepyish rental house from 4th-7th grade. I don't know if the house was actually haunted or not, but my mom, my sister, and me always got these creepy feelings around various areas of the house (particularly the closet and bathroom in the master bedroom). Anyways, my sister who was a little bit younger than me would tell me about how she saw the disembodied head of a woman floating above my bed at night looking at me sleep. I admit, at night, I would get the eerie feeling that something I couldn't see was watching me, but trying to be the tough 9-year-old, I brushed off what she was saying as the ramblings of a 7-year-old. Nothing really happened for months and I even forgot what my sister said about the disembodied head, until one night I was in a particularly deep sleep when I suddenly heard the blood-curdling scream of a woman right outside my ear. At first, I thought it was my mom or sister messing with me but when I glanced across the room, I saw my sister sleeping in bed and went to my mom's room and saw her sleeping as well and there was no other woman in the house that could have possibly done it. 39. I'll never forget the sound of that lock turning by itself. This is a brief account of an experience I had almost a year ago in the warehouse where I work alone. No one I've told has believed me, but perhaps you all will. I work in a warehouse that my father purchased. He bought it for 25% of its cost from a farmer who seemed very excited to be rid of it. It is in the middle of Mennonite country, with no neighbors for a half-mile around. Look out the window…you see cornfields and scraggly trees. Cell service? Forget about it. I work here alone, painting and preparing the front office portion for eventual functionality. To get to the front office, you must go through a hallway from the main warehouse, into a secondary office, and then through another door into the front. I frequently hear bumps and thuds and occasionally will go into the warehouse and feel air movement, but I've always attributed it to drafts and animal life in the roof. The only thing that has ever made me uneasy about the building is the fact that all of the door locks are reversed. Whoever installed those locks didn't intend to keep people out, they intended to keep something in. I was in the front office when I began to hear the thudding. I ignored it and continued to apply masking tape to the door I was working on. But this time, it was accompanied by a screeching sound. Not loud, but audible. I was freaked out, but convinced myself that it was just a pissed off raccoon or squirrel that had found its way inside. I continued working, until I heard the slam. The door to the secondary office had been open; it sounded like it had violently slammed shut. I peaked around the corner and saw that I was right… the secondary door was now closed. I tried to logic it through in my head that a strong draft had sucked it closed, although I knew there was no such draft. The thudding began again. Close this time. I've never been able to put a proximity on it, but now it sounded like it was right on the other side of the door. I froze, unsure of what was happening. My eyes locked on the door handle, which began to turn. The door disengaged its latch and slowly swung open. Wider…wider…nothing there. Nothing visible, no air movement, just quiet. So quiet. A quiet that seemed to overwhelm me with its presence; a quiet so thick I couldn't breathe. The quiet was shattered when the screech came again. This time, it was clearly human. Pained, angered, and emanating from the main warehouse. The door slammed. That entirely broke my frozen fearful state… I ran. I got into my car and drove until I was in cell range to call my father. He didn't believe anything about the doors closing, but agreed that the building had something weird about it. He told me he'd be right out. Fast forward half an hour. My dad and I met up and drove back to the warehouse. I showed him the door that slammed, showing him that it was separated from both the front office and the main warehouse, so no draft could have closed it. I told him about the thuds, the screeching, and the sudden quiet that overcame the building. He decided that we should check the main warehouse. Emboldened by his presence, I led the way. Something you should know about this warehouse: It was formerly a furniture manufacturing place owned by a Mennonite farmer. They made handmade chairs, tables, etc. Because of all the cutting that went on, the floor is thickly coated with dust. We walked into the warehouse and saw nothing out of the ordinary. The dust was untouched, the doors were closed, windows were locked. The only thing out of the ordinary was one of the hanging fluorescent light fixtures. It was hanging askew, and swaying slightly. Insisting we take a look at the mount to ensure it didn't just break loose, my dad grabbed a step ladder. He supported it while I climbed up and grabbed the swinging light. I looked on top of the light…. and saw a hand-print. A single, fresh, inhumanly large hand-print. No footprints in the dust around the light, no signs of a presence. I climbed down and switched places with my father. He saw it and said, "what the hell? There's been no one in here for years!" He climbed down and told me he'd been suspicious of someone breaking in and stealing parts from the warehouse light system. He couldn't believe me that this wasn't human… that something wasn't right here. The last thing he said was 'nothing is here. Next time, just go back to work.' And then, as if to show its presence, the thud returned. This time it wasn't just a thud, but more of an earthquake. The entire building felt like it moved. The heartbeat-like thud was then overlaid by the screech. The awful, awful screech. It felt it like was coming from the walls themselves. We ran. We ran and I haven't returned. My father hired someone to finish my job and has since moved into the office. He's heard the thudding, but thus far nothing has happened further. What actually happened? I don't know. Nor do I ever care to know. What I do know is that there is something paranormal in that building and the man who sold it to us knew. I'll never forget the sound of that lock turning by itself or the feeling of the deafening silence. 40. The ghost in grandma's house. My grandma lives in a very beautiful old house in New Jersey. It's pre-Civil War and was built around 1820, if my memory serves correctly. For years, my grandpa would tell stories to me and my cousins about the ghost that lives there, and my dad would always get very mad at him because he didn't want us to be scared. Now, my dad is a former marine of 12 years. There's not much that scares him, he's been to some pretty bad places and done some dangerous things. But he refuses to be in the house alone. If everyone goes out to go get pizza, he won't stay at the house, even if we'll only be gone 20 minutes. I have never seen the ghost myself, but of course this gives me the creeps. However, there's a few people in my family who have: • One night, my grandpa, who had very bad vision, was walking up the stairs. He said he was startled by something and he realized he was actually INSIDE the ghost, as in he had walked straight through her. The ghost seemed startled too, and ran away. • When my cousins were born, my aunt took them over to my grandma's house. My grandma was holding one of them, just a little baby, when the ghost appeared. She said that it was a woman, and it was holding a baby. She was convinced that the ghost was trying to tell her 'Look, I also have a baby like you.' • After my grandpa died, my dad slept in the house with just my grandma there for a few nights. He said he was absolutely positive something weird was going to happen, and he barely slept. I don't really know if he saw anything, but I would've been spooked out of my mind. • My aunt forgot her keys or something one time and had to run back to the house alone. She saw a face peering out of the window, even though nobody was home. It was that of a woman, just like what my grandma had seen. 41. "There's A Man Sleeping There". This happened to a friend of mine – she told me about it a year or so ago. We'll call her Minji. Minji is in her late 20s, and works as an English tutor in South Korea. One evening, a few years ago, she was tutoring a high school boy. They were up studying pretty late, and the buses stopped running. Being a long way from his house, the boy asked if he could crash on her floor overnight and get the first bus the next morning. Minji was very reluctant, because inviting a teenage male student to stay the night didn't sound like a great idea, but he was begging her and eventually she relented. They went back to her one room apartment, and she got into the bed, while he laid a blanket out on the floor, and they both fell asleep. A few hours later, at maybe 2am, the boy wakes Minji up. "I'm really hungry", he says, "let's go get some food". Minji opens her eyes and looks up at him in disbelief. "Food? Now? It's 2am, go back to bed." But the student insists, "no, I'm so hungry, let's eat something now." She tells him that there's some ramen in the kitchen, and he can fix himself some. This doesn't satisfy him – he doesn't want ramen, there's a 24 hour place just down the road, let's go there. Eventually, after several minutes of persuasion, the boy gets Minji to come with him to the restaurant. They leave the apartment and head out. As soon as they're on the street, the boy turns to Minji, and says "I'm not hungry. I woke up in the middle of the night, and looked under your bed. There's a man sleeping there." They call the police, and discover that a homeless man had been living in Minji's apartment, sleeping under her bed, for over 2 months. The boy only saw him because he was lying on her floor, so had a clear view under the bed. The police arrested the man, and thankfully there were no other issues, but that's by far the creepiest thing that's ever happened to anyone I know. 42. Didn't Sleep A Wink That Night. My friend and I were going to a party a few hours out of town, so we decided to stay at her family's holiday house about an hour south of the party (now three hours from home). We arrived around mid afternoon, and it was winter in a holiday town, so the area was completely empty – no other cars on the street. When we left for the party I spent a moment deciding whether to pull the gate all the way closed. I'd had some trouble opening it earlier when we arrived, and if we were getting home late at night I didn't want to be stuck outside. I decided to shut it for security. Party was great, we got back to the house around 12:30, and the gate was open. I immediately felt on edge because not only did I know I'd locked it, but I knew it couldn't just blow open in the wind, but I didn't want to make a big deal so I was vague when my friend asked if I'd shut it. We went inside, and decided to make a snack. I was wandering through the house when suddenly my friend raced from the kitchen into the hallway and virtually tackled me to the ground; she was convinced she'd heard someone walking around outside. We tried to calm ourselves down, but we had no cell reception and there was no one else around. Over the next half hour or so, as we sat in the hallway paralysed with fear, we heard footsteps outside, and the back door being jimmied. We decided we had to leave, so we gathered everything up and got ready to make a break for the car. Just as we were at the front door ready to leave, there was a huge bang in the back yard, and suddenly what sounded like hundreds of birds started screaming. We legged it to the car, ended up starting it with all our stuff still on our laps, we hadn't bothered to even put it in the backseat. As we reversed out the driveway we saw somebody running up the side of the house towards us. Sped the entire way home and even once we got back to my place, didn't sleep at all that night. 43. Music At Myrtles Plantation. When I was in eighth grade I went on a school trip that was called the Louisiana Tour. It was mostly going around to significant sights in south Louisiana. One of the places we went was Myrtles Plantation, which is considered to be one of the most haunted places in the country. There are all kinds of stories about the place, but at one point we were standing in a room as a part of a larger group and the tour guide was talking about something, I don't remember what. As I'm standing there I start to hear what sounds like someone hitting a piano key. After I heard it a couple of times I started to look around for the source of the noise. I didn't see a piano, but I kept hearing it. So I asked my friends who were standing near me if they heard it, they said no. When I heard it again I said there is it again and that they must have heard it. They thought I was crazy. So I went back to looking around the room. Everyone's eyes were on the tour guide except for one woman. She caught my eye and pointed at me and then at her ear with a questioning look. I realized she was asking if I heard it too and I nodded. At this point the tour guide starts telling a story about a soldier who had died there and that he played the piano and multiple guests had reported hearing him playing in the night. I honestly didn't know what to think, I guess I still don't. I talked to the woman as we were all leaving the room and she had heard the exact same thing as me, but her husband and son had not heard it. 44. Something In The Dresser. When I was younger, I had an imaginary friend who lived in this massive antique dresser. We'd chill out and I vividly remember him telling me stories, although I have absolutely no recollection of what they actually were. I remember one day talking to my parents about it (Dad traveled quite a bit so he wasn't up to date with what I was into) and when I started telling him about my dresser buddy, he wanted to know his name. It was something innocent like Peter or Patrick but I can still see him going white in the face. I drew Peter/Patrick out for him and the very next day him and my uncle took out that dresser and burned it. It wasn't until a few years later when I found out my Dad's little brother (my uncle) also had the same friend with the same name who lived in the same antique dresser. After a few months of the typical imaginary friend shit, my uncle started having night terrors and couldn't sleep because of Peter/Patrick. It got so bad that they had to move him out of his room before he managed to get back to normal. The dresser was an old dark wood ugly thing. As far as we know, it belonged to my great great grandfather who had always been into some weird shit if family history is to be believed. Dad never talked about what was actually in the dresser and he was the only one who believed his brother when they were kids. Their parents didn't really care because they thought kids were just being kids and who honestly believed in spooky ghosts back then? Must have been a shock that 30 years later, his own son started having the same friend. My uncle's night terrors ended when they moved him to another room, the bedroom he was in with the dresser was converted into a little sitting room since it had some nice views. It remained relatively unlived in until dad moved our family into that home and that room became mine. I haven't seen my uncle in 14 years now, don't really speak to him since he is on the other end of the world. Afraid to bring something like this up since I know he struggles with depression and alcoholism so I would hate to add stuff to his plate. To everyone asking what he looked like, I remember tiny old man. Not like old man tiny, but kid sized tiny. He had very large hands, long fingers. Which in turn led to how I draw people even today, hands always come out longer and larger than what they would normally be. Smelled of wood, mothballs, old cloths, and what I now know is mold. 45. Margaret Tries To Adopt. When my son was about 3, he had an imaginary friend in his room who he used to talk to all the time. He would tell us stories about things she would tell him and we'd hear him chatting to her at bed time. We thought it was pretty cute. After a few months my son said he wasn't friends with her anymore. We figured he was over his phase of "seeing" her, so were surprised to hear him still talking to her at night. Then he started not wanting to go to bed and having really bad dreams. At some point we ended up asking a lot of questions about her. We had assumed she was a little girl, but apparently she was 47. She lived in the wall and he stopped being friends with her because she wanted him to call her mummy (her name was something like Margaret). She wanted him to come and live in the wall with her. He had told her he didn't want to talk to her anymore and she wouldn't go away. We eventually moved house, and he stopped talking about her. Funny thing is, when I was pregnant with him (living in the same house) I used to have dreams about a lady sitting at a dining table in our bedroom, except it was obviously a different era, and the room was not a bedroom at the time. The lady used to knit and make me listen to her giving me parenting advice, while her two 20ish year old sons sat at the table quietly. 46. Jim Reaches Out. About a couple weeks after I was born my dad's best friend, Jim, died. They were really close, and one of the last things he wanted was to hold little me before he passed. His wish was filled, and some short time after that he was gone. Fast forward 7 years. I'm now a happy 7-year-old with a 5-year-old brother and recently born sister. One day the phone rings, and with my mom out and dad in the washroom I thought it was going to be ignored as we kids were still too young to answer the phone (no call display, we didn't know if there would be a stranger). But my brother broke the rules and answered. "Hello?" At this point my dad is out of the washroom and is asking my brother to hand him the phone. He ignores him and keeps listening to whoever is speaking. Before my dad could ask a second time my brother hangs up, looks at him and says, "Jim says hi, and he misses you," then goes back to playing. The look of shock my dad had is what I remember most about this. 47. Pen Pals. I was once featured in a St Jude's survivor newsletter when I was about 5 years old in the early '90s. The newsletter went out across the country and apparently into Canada. There was this guy named Mitchell that called my family up out of the blue because he had read my cancer survival story. He lived somewhere in Canada and claimed to be this big-time Christian and wanted to talk to me God and prayer. My mom let him talk to me for whatever reason and the guy actually just wanted to talk to me about ALF. This Canadian dude named Mitchell was obsessed with ALF and somehow got a hold of our mailing address and sent me tons of ALF merchandise: coloring books, pencils, ALF everything. For some reason, my parents let him talk to me whenever he would call because they bought into his God stuff and liked how he sent me ALF crap. This went on and off for about a year until he asked me if I had ever heard of John Wayne Gacy. He told me who he was and that he had escaped him when Gacy tried kidnapping him when he was a kid. He told me I should tell my parents they shouldn't trust strangers because you never know who you could really be talking to. I remember he didn't sound menacing when he said it, just matter-of-fact. Of course my parents freaked when I told them that and they changed numbers and called the police. They never really did anything since the guy did live in Canada by all accounts and hadn't really threatened me. Also, keep in mind Mitchell somehow had our mailing address and knew exactly where we lived. We had plans on moving soon anyway though. Fast forward 10 years to about 2001. We live in a new house, a new state, everything unlisted. I'm now 15. What did we get in the mail? Yes, you guessed it, a fucking ALF coloring book. 48. Johnny Says Goodbye. Hard to say what qualifies as creepy. It could maybe be seen as heartwarming. I don't know. My mother swears this is a true story, and frankly, I don't see why she would lie about it. My mom had three kids. There's me, the youngest, and my older brother – but before either of us were born, there was Jonathan. He was a sweet little blonde boy, big blue eyes, known for accidentally repeating Dad's swears in church. Wholesome kid, great in school, active outside. When he was almost six, he was riding his bike and fell and hit his head on a rock. He got up and said he felt fine. My mom found him the next morning in his bed when she tried to wake him up to get to kindergarten, one pupil dilated and the other not. She got him air-lifted to the nearest hospital. During this time, Jonathan's best friend Nick was sitting at the breakfast table eating cereal. Nick suddenly gets up from the table and goes to the door. When his mom asks him what's up, Nick says that Johnny was calling for him. You see, Nick and Johnny lived on separate blocks, but they weren't allowed to cross the street without a parent yet because they were still fairly young. But they lived close enough to call to one another to come out to talk at their respective street corners. So Nick goes out to the street corner while his mother receives a call from mine that Johnny was just declared dead in the hospital (idle brain aneurism that was triggered by the fall). Nick's mom can hardly handle this news and is now wondering where her son went. But Nick comes back a few minutes later and says that he heard Johnny calling to him but he wasn't at the street corner when he looked, then sits down to continue eating his cereal. When his mom asks Nick what Johnny was saying, Nick says he had come to say, "Goodbye." My mom told me this story when I was young but it's stuck with me. I wish I could have met him. But truthfully, I wouldn't be here to type this story to all you random strangers if he hadn't died; my mother only wanted two kids. I'm thankful for the chance I was given to live, and feel like he died FOR me sometimes. I'm not religious, but I do feel spiritual when I think of Johnny. 49. The Cat Lady. Weird one that happened to my sister a couple years ago. Background info: she and her (now) husband are house sitting for my brother in laws uncle. The uncle is old and starting to lose it. He rents out a basement suite and a nice lady lives downstairs. She cleans the house when she is there but he wanted my brother in law to come check on things and feed his old cat once in a while. Okay so first day they go to house sit they get in but can't find the cat to make sure it's okay. My sister has cats and know they like to hide when they are dying so they are all worried and are looking everywhere for this cat. In all rooms under the beds and everything. Even check with the lady downstairs, she hasn't seen it. So my sister opens up the closet in the spare bedroom and is looking around stuff on the floor. Moves a couple of things and sees a set of feet on the ground in the closet, with clothes blocking anything above the feet. The feet have nicely painted toenails and look human, but she assumes it is a doll or something. They look in a few more places and all of the sudden the cat is in the middle of the living room just hanging out. So they lock the deadbolt and leave. Sister and her boyfriend go out for dinner and a movie and she can't stop thinking about the feet and how real they looked. My sister had started dating her bf fairly recently and didn't want to seem crazy so she didn't bring it up but a few hours into the night she decided she needed to tell him. He decides that it's probably a doll but he offers to go back and check anyway. When they arrive my sister will only stay on the patio because she is scared, which makes him realize that this must be something serious. They go to get in the door, but the deadbolt is now unlocked and the handle is locked. Now he thinks there must be someone in there. At the door there is a fireplace so once he is in there he grabs the sharp poker stick from the fireplace tools and starts to sneak towards the closet. He opens the closet and sees the same set of feet with painted toenails on the floor. He pokes it lightly with the fire stick and the toes scrunch up. He proceeds to smack the foot as hard as he can with the sharp stick and yells "Get out of there!" Out comes a lady in her mid-30s, holding the cat and a can of coke. Turns out she was friends with the basement tenant. When she became homeless the friend let her stay with her until she found out she was addicted to crack. Started leaving drugs around the house and had shady people coming into the house so she kicked her out. Somehow she got a key to upstairs and had been staying there while the uncle was gone. Police were called and she was arrested. 50. A Ted Bundy Encounter. It was near Halloween time when my friends and I were telling ghost stories. My friend said she was going to tell a story about her parents' first date. She said she didn't like telling the story, since it was actually true, but we prodded her on. To cut to the chase, the parents had spent a nice, if awkward first date, and around the time that they would have said "good night," the man in the situation–my friend's dad–suggested that they go for a midnight hike up Provo Canyon. He apparently knew the place, since he had done a fair amount of rock climbing in the area. So the two drove up the mouth of the canyon, got out of their cars and started hiking under just the light of the stars, since it was a new moon. At some point, my friend's dad starts getting a "bad feeling," since the pathway ahead, which would pass under some trees, would be dark, and because it was getting to be quite late. He ignores the feeling and presses on. In later retellings of the story, the my friend's mom would say that she had felt the same feeling at what was probably the same time, though she didn't know the trail like he did. A minute later, the feeling came back to my friend's dad. He ignored it again, and started walking a bit of the way into the trees when his foot hit something "soft" in the middle of the path. Under the trees, it was too dark to see just what this soft thing was, and the feeling came back stronger than ever. Instead of finding out what his foot had bumped into, he and my friend's mom both agreed to hightail it out of there… Years later, after being married for some time, they were watching an interview with the serial killer, Ted Bundy. In response to a question asking him to describe the time that he

in. When she and I returned to the door he was gone. She went outside and we couldn't find him, so I continued to the patients room to check on him. Blood everywhere and the patient is on the floor bleeding. He had tried to get up it appears and flopped around a bit in his blood trying to get up. The nurse lifted him back into the bed and we cleaned him up. There was nothing else we could do as he was DNR besides make sure he was comfortable. I went to my next patients room and bam...dead. He had stopped breathing. I rushed to get the nurse and pulled his file. DNR also. We call the morgue and his family while I clean his body with an aide. I go to check on the patient that fell (vitals every 15 minutes for non witnessed fall) and he's dead. I'm get the nurse, she's frustrated because this takes two aides off her floor to care for the deceased and lots of paperwork for her. As I'm walking down the hall for linens I see the ol man I originally saw outside walking past the nurses station and he whispered, "one more and then I'm done for the night, just one more" I jumped up because his whisper was so eerie and I run to the direction he was going. A patients room door slammed shut and when I ran in she looked directly at me and took her last breath and died. Her eyes still staring directly at me. For some reason I remember her window being open and how odd it was. I ran to the window and didn't see anything and slammed it shut, checked the woman for a pulse and found nothing. The nurse had followed me and saw exactly what I saw and heard the voice whisper as I did. She was coming around he corner and swore she saw the man and then me jump up and run after him and, like me, saw the patients room door slam shit before I could get in there. When I had turned around I saw the nurse standing in the door way and she could only say, "I fucking saw it too oh my god I fucking saw it too". 65. Nice Guy Poltergeist. I was stuck in a bathroom in a creepy house my family was staying at. I was home alone. You had to force the door into the jam to get it to close and latch, only to find out that the knob didn't work the latch. I heard the side door slam shut downstairs. I thought my dad was home. I called to him. "Dad. Dad! I'm stuck in the bathroom!" I heard him walking on the hardwood. Through The kitchen. Down the hall. Stopped at the bottom of the stairs. "Dad! I'm locked in!" I yelled. I immediately heard him run up the stairs and stop at the top. Once more I exclaimed "I'm locked in the bathroom!" 4 more steps to the other side of the door. "Dad?!" BOOOOOOOOOM The door swung open and slammed into the wall. I stepped into the hall. I looked around. Nobody was there. Nobody at all. I politely said "Thank you!" and went straight to bed. 66. The Boy Who Lived. When I was 2 years old my uncle committed a double murder and suicide. He was a meth head and had been taking money from my grandmother and finally one day she told him no more. That just happened to be the day I was at their house. He went to his room and brought out a shotgun. He shot my grandfather in his face. My grandmother ran and grabbed me. He shot her in the back. She dropped me and rolled over. He pulled out a big knife and hit her in the neck with it. He the turned his attention to me. I remember this vividly. I was crying and he picked me up. Rocked me for a minute and sat me in my swing. He thing pointed the shotgun right at my face. Then all of the sudden he just stopped. Like something was fighting with him. Like physically prevented him from blowing me into a million parts. Next thing I know the gun is in his mouth and bang. That is all I remember. My parents never told me a single thing about it and up until a year ago they didn't know I knew about it. When I told my dad he starts crying and tells me how I was just swinging in my swinger like someone was pushing me. I had forgotten about it until I was like 13 and all the sudden I remembered. It fucked with my head for a while. 67. My Brother's Friend Friya. I have a younger brother who had an imaginary friend when he was younger. He was also an avid sleep walker. When he was around three or four, he started talking to someone he called Friya (Fry-uh). He described Friya as a dark skinned man with little clothes who loved to hunt in the wilderness. Then one day he told me that Friya used to live nearby the house a long time ago. And then some white people came and burned him alive and killed his village. Not exactly something you expect to hear from a four year old. I remember I would be in my room and hear him talking like he was having a conversation and when I would try to check on him, he would immediately become silent and turn his head as soon as I peeked around the corner. Very unsettling. Well my other brother, the middle child, was visiting his dad for the summer but the day before he got back, my youngest brother told my mother and I that "Friya does not like when (brother) is mean to me. He's going to scare him." The night he got home, my mom and I were downstairs and heard a scream that I can still hear to this day. We ran upstairs and found the middle brother swearing that someone was shaking his bed violently. It was a bunk bed. My youngest brother was sound asleep. A month later, my youngest brother took a bad fall and cracked his skull. He was fine, but never talked to Friya again after that. He would also sleep walk constantly. And show up right next to my bed and stare at me until I woke up and promptly shit myself. One night I heard my front door open and close. Since it was 4am, I went to check it out. I opened the door and found my brother at the far end of the yard, in the snow, only in his underwear, staring right at me. Then he slowly waved. Those shivers weren't from the cold. 68. Visitors At Lover's Lane. Back in high school (probably junior year, I think), I was in a long distance relationship with a girl from several states away. She would visit a few times a year and when she did, we obviously spent as much time together as possible. One night, we were kind of making up from a fight we'd just had and we drove up in my dad's truck to basically the Lover's Lane of the area – a dirt cul-de-sac at the end of a road on the mountainside. From this little lot, you could look out over the town at night and it was pretty cool, which is why it was kind of a popular place to go. So we're parked in the truck just off the road, looking out over the town and cuddling while we talk out our issue. Like many trucks, it had a small hatch window on the back of the cab facing the bed of truck. We opened this to let some fresh air in. At some point during our talk, another vehicle pulled up along the cul-de-sac. Since I didn't make it clear before, the cul-de-sac didn't really have a curb all the way around it because it was partially dirt (I think there was construction in the area or something), so you could pull off the actual road and out onto the flat area overlooking the town. We had pulled off the road like that, but the other vehicle stayed in the area with the curb, so we'd have to go right past them to get back onto the road. Anyway, this vehicle pulls up and a bunch of guys a little older than us get out and start messing around. Seemed like they probably were doing some drinking but maybe not. The thing is, they had left their headlights on and their car was facing into the back of the truck, so their lights were shining right on us and it was annoying. But we ignore them for a while, figuring they're probably just being idiots and will eventually leave. Then, we get curious what they're talking about (because we can hear them talking loudly through the open back window), and we start listening in and picking up pieces of their conversation. It gradually became clear that we were the center of their attention and they seemed to be working themselves up to doing "something." I don't remember exactly what they were saying, except for something that one of them said that sticks very clearly in my memory: "I swear to god, I'll do it." At this point, I am becoming nervous, and put the keys in the ignition, telling my girlfriend that I wasn't interested in finding out what exactly was going on. So now, we're both watching nervously out the back window as we listen to them egging each other on to this mysterious dare, when a few of them start walking toward the truck. They're maybe 15 yards away, and I don't want to make an idiot of myself in front of my girlfriend by immediately flipping shit, but I do turn on the truck and put it in reverse, but not moving yet. When they saw the brake lights, they started walking quicker, and that's when the NOPE button officially got pushed in my mind and I turned the truck around and started driving back to the road. But like I said, their car was between where we were and the road, so driving back to the road takes us right past them. As we're passing their group, a couple of them run at the truck and one of them jumps onto the back bumper, grabbing the tailgate. Now, whatever traces of doubt had been there about whether or not we were the target of something (innocent or not) was gone, so I floored it and the guy fell off. I don't know if he was hurt; I don't care. It looked like they were starting to get into their car as well, so I booked it out of the area and we didn't see them again, nor did we ever return to that place. I still have no idea what would have happened if we hadn't gotten out of there, and that, to me, is the scary part. I'd like to think that they were just trying to scare us and wouldn't have actually done anything, but at the same time, I've heard stories of people at places like that getting raped/killed/whatever else. It's entirely possible that we both came very close to something horrible that night, and the experience scares me to this day. 69. Frank From Sweden. When I was a kid (4-6 range) my mother had this boyfriend.... lets call him Frank. For the most part he was an okay guy but he had some serious mental issues which we found out later. At some point they decided to move to Albuquerque (we were in California then) and off we went. Things were okay for a bit but Frany drank more and more and was growing more and more paranoid each day. Eventually my mother found that he had bought plane tickets for himself and a child (me) out of the country. She freaked out and they got into a bit of a tiff that ended up with the cops arresting him because of attempted kidnapping. She was told he would be in holding for about 4 days, long enough to pack up and leave, but that night the cops decided to let him out, why? because he knew how to vomit blood and they freaked out (the cops were not the brightest) and instead of taking him to the hospital they dropped him off at a fucking Walgreens to "get his medication" since CLEARLY this guy was no threat. To make things worse, they didn't even bother calling her to warn her that, oh hey, the fuck who was planning on kidnapping your child is our roaming the streets. A few hours later I am asleep in a sleeping bag next to her when I wake up to find his shadowy figure standing over me. He broke in. I scream, she jumps up. She throws (LITERALLY throws) him from the room, slams the door and screams for me to lock it, I do.... I think anyway (never really came up). They start screaming at each other, the neighbors have already called the cops at this point because, hey there was some creep sneaking around this place. At some point during their fighting she threw him through the sliding glass door, about the same time two officers were sneaking around the house to see what the fuck was going on. She was arrested and he kept trying to tell them to let me stay with him. I was still locked in the bedroom. Eventually the cops acquiesce and she is (while still handcuffed) allowed to convince me to unlock the door. While he is screaming that I would be fine they find all the evidence of him planning on killing her and taking me to Sweden (where he was born and had dual nationality) so he could somehow keep me away from my grandparents and father. I spent a few days in a CPS house while they sorted her information (it was a weekend which added time) and as soon as she was out we were gone. He kept calling my grandparents house to tell her he was sorry and he would be there soon to make things better... 70. Strange Sounds Among The Stacks. My school's library is open until around 2 in the morning for the idiots like me who don't do their essays until the last minute, it's a pretty small building and most of the books are in the basement area called the "Stacks". Just to give you a quick layout, there's the big main stairs that go down to the Stacks, a vending machine room, and the long hallway with four entrances into the Stacks. The Stacks are two really big rooms on opposite sides of the hallway with a huge amount of bookshelves and study desks lining the walls. I was there around 11pm last year, it was a pretty research intensive essay so I was down in the Stacks working in one of the study desks so I didn't have to keep going upstairs and downstairs again. I had been there for maybe two hours and everyone except for a boy working a few desks down from me had left already. I was pretty zoned out by this point, it was an 8am class so I didn't have much time until it was due and I was sort of panicking, so it really pissed me off when I heard someone flipping through book pages really fast to make them do that loud whir noise at the other end of the room. I sort of ignored it for a while thinking they'd go away eventually, but they just kept doing it. After about five minutes, I got sick of it and started to walk over to tell them to be knock it off. I get about three steps across the room and it just stopped. I sat back down and it was quiet again for like ten more minutes before the flipping pages noise started again, only loads louder, like they'd grabbed a huge book that time. The boy started to get pissed off too and he stood up and started walking through the bookshelves trying to find them. It keeps going so I got up too and started looking around with him. It got really loud and it was pretty obvious where it was coming from by that point, so we started walking towards it, he was on one side of the shelves and I was on the other. We walked all the way down the shelves. No one there. We hadn't seen anyone come in the stacks and we were on the side of the room with the entrances, no way could anyone have come in without us seeing them. The noise stopped again and we both just sort of slowly walked back to our seats, I assumed it was just a fan or something in the other room and I really needed to get my essay done. We sat down and immediately the noise started again, it sounded like it was coming from right next to the guy's chair. He shoved his stuff in his bag, looked at me, said, "Fuck this" and took off. I was out of there maybe five seconds behind him. I still won't go back in the Stacks at night, even when there's other people down there. No essay's worth getting murdered by a weird book ghost. 71. My grandfather. Grandpa revealed this story during the wake for my uncle. My grandfather was an engineer. When he was young he worked for this big cement company. During his first few months on the job the company sent him and other fresh recruits up in the mountains to oversee some work. Including a couple of seniors to mentor them, a guide for the hike, and the company's caretaker for the hut they'd live in, they were a total of ten people. My grandfather recalled living in an old wooden hut practicing the Filipino country life. There was no electricity and they had to light a fire with wood if they wanted to cook. He said it was a really good learning experience for him not only with regards to his job, but also with living a practical and simple lifestyle. After two weeks their little project was done. Their group decided to take a photo together on the front porch steps of the little hut to have a memento of their time there. Grandfather said they were lined up standing in two rows in front of the house. Five people in front, five people in the back standing on the porch. Remember this was the 70s, an era before selfie sticks were invented. They used one of those old film cameras that you have to get developed at a Kodak store. Everyone went back home. At work a few days later the guy who owned the camera had the photos developed. Everyone crowded to admire the photos. When they reached the last photo they took as a group, my grandpa did a double take. There were eleven people in the photo. Five in the front like they had posed initially, but six in the back. All of them were wearing work t-shirts in the photo, but in the corner of the row of smiling faces stood an unfamiliar face of a middle-aged man wearing formal outdated clothing that seemed to be from decades ago. He had a grim expression and was looking straight at the camera. My grandfather said that when he and his workmates bumped into the caretaker and hiking guide again, they asked them if they knew who the man in the photo was. Both were surprised and said no. Nobody knew who the man was. My grandfather still has his copy of that photo tucked somewhere in his house... 72. Grandpa's secretary. As I mentioned, my grandfather relayed his story during the wake of my uncle (my grandpa's sister's son). What prompted the discussion of ghost stories from my otherwise rational grandpa was the experience of his secretary just a few hours earlier. My grandparents have a couple of small businesses and they have an office in a room in their house for their secretaries. This was at the front of the house. If the secretaries wanted to pee they had to go to the kitchen, which was at the back of the house, to use the staff bathroom. My grandparents' house is situated in a big compound with the rest of our relatives'. Basically our neighbors are our family. To the left of our house is my grandpa's older brother's house, behind theirs is my grandpa's younger brother's house, and behind our own house is my grandpa's sister's house. Confusing, I know, but bear with me. My uncle lived at grandpa's sister's house. Since their house is behind my grandparents', his room happened to be directly behind the staff bathroom. Like literally back-to-back with only a couple of feet between one house and the other. My uncle passed away in his room in the early hours of the morning from a long-term illness. You know where this is heading, right? It was already a couple of hours since my uncle's body was transferred to the mortician. Grandpa's secretary went to pee. She was sitting on the toilet when she heard a very loud thumping sound coming from my uncle's room as if something heavy had fallen on the floor. Just as she shrugged this off, she heard a man's voice call out, "Help. Help me." She said the voice was unmistakably my uncle's. She pulled up her pants and hurried out of the bathroom. She figured someone must've seen her using the bathroom and decided to play a prank on her, so later that day she confronted my uncle's son about it. He denied playing the prank and said nobody was even home during that time. He also told her that right before my uncle died, he had stumbled on the floor and yelled for help. 73. My grandfather's best friend. Grandpa had a best friend from ages ago that I think he met when he was still working for that same cement company. This friend was such a big part of our lives that I called him Uncle Eddie*. He died a couple of years back and I hope he's in a better place (Rest In Peace, uncle!). Before that though he had a pretty traumatizing ordeal that I can only describe as horror-movie level fucked up. Uncle Eddie and my grandpa were the same age, but while my grandpa is a bit of a workaholic Uncle Eddie wanted to retire. Since Uncle Eddie lived in a tiny countryside town, he and my granddad decided to make their own little farm in a lot down a hill a few kilometers near uncle's house. Like legit you could drive to the farm from his house in 10 minutes. We would often go there every other weekend and we'd grill some fish, roast some chicken, and pluck some coconuts for a Sunday "picnic." It was nothing big – just a little yet spacious wooden cottage with a bed, bathroom, and porch. The cottage was surrounded by the "farm" AKA a super thick garden of various fruits and vegetables Uncle Eddie and his family had grown, though majority of the trees were already there when the land was purchased. There was a modest handmade stall in the corner that housed some chickens and occasionally pig or goat. Mostly it was just a crap-ton of trees – mango trees, coconut trees, water apple trees – and other food-bearing plants. There was so much vegetation that you could almost not see the cottage if you were standing from the car parked out on the road. Some nights Uncle Eddie or one of his sons would sleep at the cottage either to watch over the farm or just to relax. They say nearly every dawn at approximately 3AM (or at least according to the clock above the bed), if you were alone there you could hear someone knocking on the door even though no one was there when you opened it, you could sometimes hear gigantic bat wings flapping right outside the window, and other times you could hear someone calling your name, but mostly it was only Uncle Eddie who experienced the last one. I'm pretty sure he also claimed to have talked to a dwarf. Apparently uncle had already come across some eerie stuff before, but none as sinister as this particular night. Uncle Eddie decided to sleep at the farm again, probably after tiring farm work. The clock struck 3AM and the knocking began. Since he was used to this he ignored it. Then he started to hear someone call his name. He told us it was the voice of a young woman and at first it seemed to be from somewhere in the garden, calling for him to open the door and come out the cottage. As time went on, the voice became louder. It seemed to come from right outside the door. Uncle Eddie said he was too afraid to open the door, but that the young woman sounded enticing. She told him she was a princess from another world and that she lived in one of the big mango trees in the garden. She wanted Uncle Eddie to go back to the other world with her and become her prince. All he had to do was open the door. Uncle Eddie told the voice he didn't want to do that. He firmly told it to go away and leave him alone. After this, objects in the cottage began to move which obviously freaked out my uncle even more. The mysterious voice still kept asking him to open the door and come with her. He waited until daybreak to leave because there was no way in hell he was opening that door. By then the voice had stopped. He was so shaken by the experience that he frantically called my grandfather and stepdad as soon as he left the farm. The next day my grandfather found a local medicine man and invited him to the farm. Grandpa, uncle, uncle's son, grandpa's house driver, and my stepdad ate dinner with the medicine man. They didn't say anything about my uncle's experience. Without prompting the medicine man then told them there were many creatures "not like us" residing in the area surrounding the farm. There were little dwarves living nearby who were capable of making inanimate objects move (because they could make themselves invisible) and he suspected there was a creature called aswang or wakwak with big wings from the mountains as well. But the most striking thing he said to them was that there was a non-human entity, calling itself a princess, who would convince human beings to go with it so it could keep them trapped in another dimension – and she lived in a mango tree. 121. Mom's ex-boyfriend. My mom dated her high-school sweetheart for more than 10 years. I grew up with him as a father figure of sorts. I was 15 at the time and lived with them during school days then slept at my grandparents' during weekends. I had gone on a weekend vacation with my grandfather in another city. When I came back home they told me their apartment was haunted. Theirs is a very small apartment. When you open the front door you're immediately in the living room-slash-kitchen. The 60sqm room is separated by a countertop with barstools, which serves as the dining table. Right beside the fridge is the door to the bathroom. You can basically see everything in the room if you stand in any one corner. Meanwhile, there's a small spiral staircase like this leading to the bedroom. The staircase is directly beside their living room couch. For reference, I'll put a drawing below: My mother and her boyfriend (let's call him Ken) had a fight. She made Ken sleep on the couch while she slept in their bedroom on the second floor. All the lights were turned off except for the front porch light outside. Ken said he reckons it was around midnight when he began to doze off on the couch. Suddenly he saw my mom descend the spiral staircase precisely in front of him. It was somewhat dark so all he could see was her long hair and plain white night gown. Ken thought it was a bit strange for my mom to wear that nightgown, as he had never seen her wear it before. He saw my mom pass him on the couch and walk to the bathroom door. Even in the dim lighting of the room he could see her touch the bathroom doorknob and then pause to look at him. He couldn't see her face, but he saw her head turn towards him and felt her eyes staring at him before she went in the bathroom. He closed his eyes and heard the bathroom light switch being flicked on. Around fifteen minutes had passed and it dawned on Ken that my mom still had not finished using the bathroom. He called her name to make sure she was okay, "Em?" No answer. "Emma?" Still no answer. Ken began thinking maybe my mother was sick and had fainted so he stood up and crossed the room. He noticed no light was spooling from under the bathroom door despite him being certain he had heard my mom switching it on. When was in front of the bathroom, he noticed the door was ajar a couple of inches, but the light was not turned on. "Em?" he called again. Silence. He yanked the door open and switched on the light. The bathroom was empty. He felt goose bumps rise on his skin and he ran! He ran up the stairs and went into the bedroom where he saw my mom sleeping soundly in a colored shirt... He hurriedly climbed on the bed and yanked the blankets over his head, which woke up my mom. My mom, annoyed, asked him, "What are you doing here? Go back to the couch!" "There were a lot of mosquitoes," Ken lied without looking at her. Mom let it go and went back to sleep. Next morning when I arrived from my vacation, he told her the truth. One night a couple days later my mom was at work when I was cleaning the living room. I lifted the cushions on the couch and saw there was a gun hidden there. I asked Ken why it was there and without answering, he looked at the bathroom door and I understood. 74. My uncle. Do you know why my mom and I didn't question Ken's story? Well the year before, her brother had come home to visit. My uncle had moved to New Zealand and was visiting family for the holidays. My grandparents' house was getting renovated at the time whereas my mom's apartment didn't have a place for him, so my uncle stayed at my grandmother's hotel, which, as you can guess, is right beside my mom's apartment. It was my uncle's second night at the hotel. He was staying at a room close to the reception desk. It was just after dinner and he was relaxing on the bed watching TV when suddenly the channel changed. And changed again. And again. And again. He saw the remote was untouched on the coffee table beside the bed. The TV screen turned to static. Scared, my uncle grabbed the blanket and pulled it over his head. That's when he felt someone forcefully yanking the blanket from his body. The blanket fell on the floor. There was nobody else in the room. My uncle ran outside and yelled for help. The hotel staff came and asked what was wrong. When he told them what happened, they laughed and said this was normal. Apparently, there was a woman's ghost haunting the hotel and everyone had already either seen it or experienced something creepy. Do you know what they said she looked like? Long black hair, plain white night gown. 75. The hotel employees and grandparents' house-help. The hotel's employee bathroom was a row of toilet and shower stalls with individual doors which didn't go all the way up so you could still see people if they were standing on the other side. One of the hotel employees recounted he was using one of the stalls when he heard someone come in. He was on the toilet doing his business when he happened to look up. The ghost lady was peeking from the door, looking right at him. *** In the Philippines, it's typical for a household to have live-in help or housemaids. My grandparents have a huge two-story four-bedroom house. During this time they employed three female housemaids and one male house driver. One evening they were having dinner in the maids' quarters (which is a separate area from the main kitchen where you could clearly see out into the backyard where there was an altar for a crucifix) when one of the maids said, "Who is that out there? Is that madame lighting candles at the altar?" The driver froze and said, "That's not madame." Middle of the evening, pale almost glowing skin, white dress, long black hair... then seemingly disappeared. They all attest they saw a lady ghost walking in the backyard. *** The maids once told me they could hear disembodied voices in my grandparents' big house. Like sometimes they would hear someone talking in the dining room and go there only to see it's empty. A couple of times they would hear my grandma yell their names from the office or the master bedroom. However when they went to my grandma and asked what she needed, my grandma would be confused and say she didn't even call for them in the first place. *** My childhood nanny, who was one of our maids, ended up marrying the house driver and getting pregnant. At the time, though, they kept this a secret from my grandparents so they were still sleeping in different rooms – a room for male help and a different room for female help. Let's call our three female maids Anne (pregnant), Jessica, and Norma. Norma had her day off and went to visit her family so it was only Anne and Jessica in their bunk-bed bedroom. Around 1 A.M. Jessica woke up to a strange sound outside their window, which, again, is situated near our backyard. It sounded like something with long claws or nails was scratching at the windows. "Anne, are you awake? Do you hear that?" "Yes." Along with the scratching, they heard a weird high-pitched laugh-like sound that they described as almost inhuman; somewhat like the sound of a bat except the volume of the scratching and screeching became so loud that it definitely was made by something much bigger than a bat. Kind of like the cackling sound of a witch in the movies, but just not quite? The sounds were also coming from the window beside the pregnant Anne's bed. 124. Me in my old bedroom. It was a typical Friday night and I was in my bedroom watching TV. I was probably 12-years-old at the time. My bedroom was beside the helps' quarters and from one of my windows I could see the entire maids' area. I had been having some trouble sleeping a couple of weeks ago due to someone keeping me up by calling "Pssst" from my window. I figured it was just the maids making fun of me and I'd say, "Cut it out!" and sometimes they'd stop. Other times, they seemed to enjoy torturing me and would keep doing it for a long time until it drove me insane. Lately, however, it had stopped. I had completely forgotten about it until it happened again. "Pssst!" I heard it again. This time it happened earlier around 7PM instead of the usual 10-12PM annoyance. On the other side of the wall I could hear the maids' were still eating. "Aha! You're not getting away and fooling me this time!" I excitedly say to myself as I jogged from my room to their dining area to catch the culprit red-handed. A minute later when I got there, they were talking to each other and clearing the table. "All right, who did it?!" I asked in an angry tone and they looked at me like WTF? "Did what?" Jessica asked. "Don't lie to me. I know one of you keeps pssst-ing me in the middle of the night and it's really annoying!" They became quiet and looked at each other. I could see the genuine confusion on their faces. They also had an uncomfortable yet familiar expression, as though they knew what I was talking about but were surprised I mentioned it? Anne looked at me dead serious, "We aren't the ones doing that to you and nobody said 'pssst' just right now." 76. My stepdad. My mom and her boyfriend broke-up and she eventually got together with my stepdad, who is very sensitive to the paranormal. When they were pregnant with their first child, my mom left her and Ken's apartment and moved away to my stepdad's city. They lived in my stepdad's grandmother's house that my stepdad inherited along with his siblings. The house was old and dim. My stepdad said that when he was single, his sister and her family moved to another house while his brother was rarely home because his work often took him to other cities. One early morning he was eating breakfast in the kitchen when from his peripheral vision he saw someone standing in the corner of the room. He ignored it until he saw the figure move and felt a presence walk directly behind him. The hairs on his neck stood on end and he turned around to see there was nobody else in the room except him. His siblings also claim to have similar experiences and sightings of a ghostly figure. When my mom got pregnant and moved in with him, the sightings became more frequent. Again, it was an apparition of a woman with long hair and a white dress. Whether it's the same one that Ken, the maids, and hotel staff saw or whether it's a different one, I don't know. But my stepdad says that many times he would see the woman outside in the garden, slowly walking in front of their bedroom window. Then it escalated. He was talking to my mom when he looked up and saw the woman standing still right in front of their window, staring at my heavily pregnant mother. He told his sister who went to a local medicine man (shaman) to ask for help. The medicine man gave them the tail of a stingray and told them to hang it in their bedroom for protection. My stepdad said it apparently helped. He could still see the woman sometimes, but not as often as before and never as close as their window. After my mom gave birth, she and my stepdad decided to move in with my grandparents to save money and also so my stepdad, who is also an engineering graduate, could work for my grandpa. During this time I was already attending University in a different city. A few months after my parents moved back I visited them. Out of the blue my stepdad casually asked me, "Hey, when you were still using your old bedroom before did you ever feel... I don't know, anything strange?" "Why?" I asked him, surprised. "When I'm walking by it or using the bathroom there I just feel like... there's some strange presence there or something." *** A few years later my grandmother hired a feng-shui expert to inspect and bless the house. He had these red little cards with Chinese writing on it that he'd hang on places he said had negative energy and those cards supposedly counteracted the negative energy or something. Without me or my stepdad mentioning anything to the feng-shui guy, guess where he placed a red card because he said it was an area of the house that had one of the most negative energies? Yep, my old bedroom. 77. My half-brother. My parents and even my brother's nanny told me this. When my brother was still a baby (from 1-3 years old), he would sometimes begin laughing in his crib and looking at an empty space as if someone was there in front of him, playing with him. Sometimes it happened during daytime at other locations, but usually it was in the middle of the night when he was already in his crib. *** There's a big public elementary school in the middle of the city. If you were going to our home from church, the park, or any other city location you'd most likely have to pass by this school. This also occurred when my brother was still young. Every time we'd pass by the school he would wave to someone then say, "Ate" (ah-teh which means big sister in Filipino). Same specific road, same specific part of the school. Even during weekends or on summer break when the school would be 100% empty, he would look up on that same certain spot on the school's deserted second-floor classroom, wave, and say, "Ate." He's 9-years-old now and hasn't done that or the crib thing in a long time. My parents, however, had another baby. He's turning two-years-old next month. They say he's beginning to do the exact same things... 126. Chula Means Fox. My mom is Native American. She named my sister Chula which means fox. Most likely because of her name sake but maybe not ,my sister loved everything that had to do with a fox. Last November my mom was doing dishes at the sink and looking out the window at the woods like she always does. Well she looks up from the dishes to the edge of the woods and at that moment a Fox steps out of the woods. It sits on it's hind legs and stares right at my moms face while she stares back through the window . She said it seemed like five minutes they stared at each other. Suddenly the fox got up turned around and slowly walked into the woods. my mom said her first thought was to call Chula tell her about the fox. My sister never answered she died in a head on collision that day due to some asshole drunk driver. My mom keeps looking for the fox. It has never come back. 78. Copper Queen Hotel ghost. I stayed in the Copper Queen Hotel in Bisbee, AZ. It has a number of fairly infamous hauntings. Usually, people report seeing women in 1900s-era dresses and miners and a little boy who supposedly drowned in a nearby stream. I was always fascinated with the paranormal growing up but never REALLY completely believed in ghosts (even now, my belief is TBD one way or the other). My mom threw herself into the interest head-first as well but she put a significant amount of trust in the hoax-y TV shows like Ghost Adventures and whatnot. I was moving out to AZ for college and before they dropped me at the dorms for my freshman year, my parents wanted to do an AZ tour. My mother BEGGED for us to stay at the Copper Queen since it's been the focus of many a ghost hunting show. She downloaded a stupid hunting app too that "allowed ghosts to use their electromagnetic energy to choose words in the app and speak to you". Obviously, it was a random word generator. The Copper Queen was GORGEOUS. Really well-maintained and antiquated. My mom immediately took my dad by the arm, ghost app pulled up, and dragged him to the bar/lounge area to look for ghosts. I took our bags upstairs and began unpacking. Okay, here's the weirdness. As I unpacked between the two beds, I suddenly felt little tiny footsteps in the floor coming from the other side of my parents' bed. I stopped and listened. Then I heard the footsteps coming closer and felt them stop directly in front of the gap between the two beds where I stood. My heart was racing like crazy and I was frozen in place. I finally gathered up the nerve to "ask" whatever it was, "Are you there?". I was embarrassed the moment it came out of my mouth because it may very well have been a kid out in the hallway. I shit you not, guys. I heard a giggle. Something was giggling right in front of me. It was clear as day and sounded so close I thought I could touch the source. Then it stopped and the little footsteps ran around to the other side of my bed, it giggled and disappeared. I immediately ran out of the room into the hallway to look around and find a kid somewhere. But it was empty. My parents were just arriving to the room, as well. I asked them if they saw any kids running around by the elevators or stairs. They said no. I barely slept that night. 79. Historic Jefferson Hotel ghosts. My girlfriend and I stayed in room 14 at the "Historic Jefferson Hotel" in Jefferson, TX just for fun. She always "wanted" to stay in a haunted hotel so I obliged. Around 2 am I was abruptly woken by what seemed to be some drunk walking down the hall scratching the wall and rattling all the doorknobs as they were passed. Even saw the shadow under my door of what I believed to be someone walking past without stopping as our door knob rattled. Got up, opened the door to have a "word" with the prankster/jackass. However, no one in the hallway at all. Yet the scratching sound of the wall & "rattle" of door knobs on my side continued farther down the hall away from me one after the other. Forced myself back asleep and then woke up about 3 AM for an unknown reason. Just felt like someone was in the room, in the dark, standing and watching me/us. I just laid there, eyes open, refused to roll over and look. Laid there for what seemed to be an eternity until the feeling went away. Next thing you know it was dawn. Girlfriend experienced none of it. She slept through the whole thing. Oddest experience of my life so far. 80. The Man With The Suitcase And Brimmed Hat. Before I get to the story of the with the suitcase, I have to preface it a little bit. Many years ago, when I met my ex her and her family live in a mobile home. My ex has this younger sister, who is a bit messed up (in and out of pysch wards, etc..). My ex and her younger sister shared a room in the mobile home. While we were dating, and before my son was born; she told me this story about how her younger sister would wake up, and talk to the man in the hallway. The man always had a suitcase, and wore a brimmed hat. My ex and her family always dismissed them as, well the younger sister is a bit nuts. Flash forward a few years. My ex and I have a son together. Her parents moved out of the mobile home and into a house; and were renting the mobile home to my ex. Our son's room was the exact same room my ex and her sister slept in. One night after our son had gone to bed, and was asleep for a long while (I checked on him), we heard him get out of bed. We figured he would come out of his room and ask to use the potty. Instead he started talking to someone. He said "hi and started talking about his favorite stuffed animal (at that time it was a ducky). Curious, I called back and asked who he was talking to. He pops his head out of his room, and informs me he's talking to the man with a suitcase and is wearing a hat. At the time he was about 2 1/2, and never heard about his aunt seeing the same guy. 81. A Military Man Encounters True Horror. I should start off by saying my brother is not only a military man, but he's your basic hetero "never let them see you cry" cliche of a military man. He's not afraid of anything, well, except for the entire country of japan. This is his story. My brother joined the marines when he was 18 and was stationed in Japan. He really enjoyed his time there for a while. The girls, specifically. He made friends with some of the Japanese guys his age who worked around the base. On nights where him and his soldier friends had the night off, the local Japanese guys would show them around, bring them to bars, introduce them to girls, etc. One night, after a little drinking and no luck with girls, the guy invited my brother home to play video games. My brother accepted the invite and they played video games for a few hours. During this time, he tells my brother the main reason he wanted to get home early was because his little sister had been suffering from night terrors, causing her to wake up screaming, crying, and sometimes vomiting. He was worried about her and wanted to be home in case she had an episode. At this point in the story, I should explain how this guy's house was shaped. The house was built in the shape of a horseshoe, with a garden in the middle. His bedroom was at the very edge of one side of the "U" shape and his sisters all the way at the other end. So they are essentially across the garden from each other. If he looks out of his window, he can see into hers and vice versa. So anyways, they decide to call it a night, and the Japanese guy walks over to the window to look across the garden into his sisters window, to check on her. He lifts the blind and peers out for a fraction of a second before jumping back screaming and looking at my brother like he just saw something horrible. My brother then goes to look and he stops him. He tells him that he saw a dark cloud with red eyes hovering over his sister's sleeping body. My brother, naturally, does not believe him and decides to look for himself. He creeps quietly over to the window and lifts the blind but this time, he finds himself eye to eye with what he describes as a "dark black puff of smoke with a face". My brother and this other guy admit that they got under the guys covers and stayed there until it was light outside, too afraid to lift the blankets and see that the smoky figure had come a little closer, and was in the room with them, just on the other side of the thin sheets. I don't know what to believe, or if maybe they drank more than what they said they did that night and imagined it all, but I know my brother believes what he saw. He sticks to his story, and when he tells it, he looks like someone who saw something truly sinister. 82. Shaped Like A Person, But Not A Person. This occurrence didn't happen to me, but to my grandmother. It would have taken place in the 1930's. My grandmother was a young teen at the time and she lived with her mother and five siblings in an old house in the middle of the woods. The area was the Ozark Mountains in southern Missouri. My grandmother had got into a fight with her mother. She took off into the woods all day to get away from her for a while. When it got dark she decided to come home. When she got home, the doors were locked and everyone was in bed. There was an old cot sitting outside the house and she decided to just sleep on the cot until morning. In the morning when she woke up, there was some creature sitting at the end of the cot. It has been 15 years since I have heard this story, and she only told me once, so my memory is a little fuzzy. I remember she said it was really ugly and had a full set of sharp teeth. It was shaped like a person but didn't look like a person. She said that it just sat there and smiled at her with its abnormally large mouth of sharp teeth. When she started to get up from the cot to get away, it would start to get up and move towards her. When she would sit back down, it would sit back down. She sat there staring at it for a few seconds and it continued to sit and smile at her. The creature was sitting between her and the front door. She finally jumped up and made a run for the back door. When she got to the back door it was locked but her mother was in the kitchen making biscuits. She was banging on the door screaming to be let in and her mother told her to go around to the front because her hands were covered in dough. My grandmother screamed she couldn't and was frantic enough that her mother ran to let her in. She told her mother what she had seen. She had my grandmother's two brothers take the cot out to the woods and chop it up and burn it. 83. The Cateyote. So about 5 years ago, some friends and I went camping in Oconee State Park in South Carolina. We were in high school and went with our school ROTC instructor. This guy was in his 50's but still a damn ox. He was a Sergeant Major while in the Army and was the definition of badass. So, the first night camping it was really cold so we decided to sleep around the fire. We woke up all at same time in the middle of the night to the smell of wet dog and rotten flesh. We decided it might just be the damp leaves and we sleep through the rest of the night. Well, we wake up the next morning and there were paw prints all over the place. I'm not talking just around the outskirts of the site, I mean there were paw prints 4 feet away from where I laid my head that night. We were all pretty creeped out so we decided to head into town to get some lunch. We stayed in town the rest of the day and headed back to the site around dusk. My friends and I are in the back of the truck as we drive down the gravel road to the site. Then all of a sudden, Sargent Major slammed on the breaks and we came to a stop in the middle of the road. We all jumped up and looked over the cab to see what it was. Standing in the middle of the road was a hairless animal, around 50lbs, standing on its hind legs. While still on its back legs, it walked to the side of the road and let out this god awful screeching noise. It darted into the woods and left us all frozen in fear. Then we smelt it. It was the same terrible smell from the night before. We got into the cab and I saw Sargent Major like I had never seen him. I was absolutely terrified. The animal/creature we saw shook him to his core. We drove in silence for the rest of the ride back to the site. When we got there he told us that we were leaving and too pack everything up. None of us have been back since and Sargent Major won't let ROTC camp there anymore. We agreed that what we saw looked like a mix between a bob cat and a coyote, but walked like a bear on its back legs. We named it the Cateyote. A few of my friends who hadn't heard the story decided to go up there one day and said the entire area gave off a really creepy vibe and decided to leave. After I told them the story, it sealed the deal that none of us will be going back. 84. The Kid Next Door. When I was 6 years old we lived in the center of the set of 3 very similar houses. I remember ours was Purple, the one to the left was blue and the one to the right was yellow. I recently had bought one of those big inflatable bouncy balls from Walmart, and had no-one to play with me so I played with it in the backyard by myself. After school one day I accidentally hit the ball to the yellow house side of the fence. I was going to ask my mom what to do but a kid on the other side hit it back over for me. Thinking we could play, I hit it back over and he returned it. It became a daily thing and I would just hit the ball back and forth with him until I got bored after school. The kid wouldn't respond to any questions I had so I assumed he was just shy. At one point I hit it over and he didn't return it, so I asked my mom if I could climb the fence and go get it. She Was never outside with me, so she always thought I was playing alone I guess. We only got the house because my mom was friends with the landl

said he just stood there dazed about the whole situation until all of them just stopped at the same time. He left his stuff out and ran to his dorm room. His roommate said he looked like he had seen a ghost. Another job I had around the school was preparing the salad bar we had for lunch and dinner. To do this, I would have to get out everything we would need for the day from the basement in the giant freezer we had down there. I would then have to wash it and cut / peel everything. I was one of the first people up every morning to do this job. I would get up at about 6:00AM to do this everyday. I HATED having to go into the giant fucking freezer on my own when no one else was up and it was pitch black outside. It was one of the few things I never liked doing. The reason for this is this story. I got up at about 6:00. As soon as I woke up, I was feeling uneasy. I quickly took my shower and got dressed so I could get to the lunchroom at about 6:30. The person in charge of the kitchen was already up and getting everything warmed up. I said hello and checked out what we would need. I made a list and headed down. Now, that feeling of uneasiness was there the whole time. Through my whole shower, walking the dark hallways in the morning and even when I got to the kitchen. I opened the freezer and felt the cold blast of air. Needless to say, I could have cut diamonds with how cold it was. I stepped inside and started getting vegetables. As I was reaching for one I heard a giggle. This wasn't a normal one, but like a small child's giggle. I instantly froze and whipped around. No one… I brushed it off and continued, another giggle. I was like, no fucking way. This is not happening to me, flick, lights go off in the freezer. I still had a bit of light because I left the door open. I start seeing the door close, and it locks from the outside. I bolt for the door because I knew I would be locked in there for at least 15 min with the lights off if I didn't. I caught it RIGHT before it closed. Again, I hear the giggle, this time, it was right behind me. I screamed, I was 17 and screamed like a girl. I ran upstairs, told the guy I wasn't feeling well and went and hid in my room till everyone else got up that morning. 96. The baby monitor. Four years ago, I woke up in the middle of the night. We had a 2-month newborn sleeping in the room next door. I had a video monitor on my bedside table, so that my wife and I could easily check on him. So, I clicked the button that turns on the video image, and what I saw scared me like nothing ever before. My baby boy was gone. Now, I know that instincts should have made me run right into the baby's room. Instead, I froze. I looked over, and my wife was sleeping next to me. Finally, I moved. But not to run into the other room, like I should have done. Instead, I turned up the volume on the baby monitor. I heard another woman's voice singing a lullaby. I'm not kidding. Another woman was singing to my baby in a very soft, gentle and melodic voice. I don't remember what song it was, something like "Go to sleep, little baby". Finally, my freeze broke. I jumped up, ran through the hallway and burst into my boy's room. He was sound asleep in his crib. No woman. No singing. Turns out, the monitor was picking up my next-door neighbors' monitor. They had just bought the video monitor for their own newborn (on our recommendation). Nothing supernatural here, but I don't know if I've ever experienced something scarier. 97. The church. When I was in high school I was a horrible student. One time after my usual poor report card, my punishment was to help my dads janitorial company by cleaning the newest account he had picked up. It just so happened to be a church. Due to the church keeping odd hours, I would usually start cleaning around 10 or 11pm. The first night, my dad helped me out by showing me what to do/helping me. We arrived a little early (8pm?) so he could meet with the pastor and get the keys. During the brief meeting with the pastor, I got the major creep vibe, but my dad seemed cool with it, so whatever… Cut to an hour or so later, my dad and I are cleaning separate rooms. I feel somebody watching me so my head shoots around. To my relief if was my dad. I noticed he was pale while and he said "you weren't just in the other room with me were you?" I said no and he told me that he had just seen me standing there watching him. He had asked what I needed and I didn't respond. Then he said I put my hand on his shoulder just as he started to say "I get a weird feeling from these people" (referring to the people of the church). He told me that just as he finished saying that, the hand on his shoulder squeezed hard enough to bring him to his knees. He turned and nobody was there. So, that probably should have been enough to make us stop cleaning the church, but we had a job to do, so we did it. I started cleaning the church weekly and nothing else happened. One week, since I had just turned 18, my buddy wanted to take me to the strip club, so he agreed to help me clean if it would speed things up. At one point he took the trash out to the back alley, and I suddenly hear him running back in screaming "WHAT? WHERE ARE YOU?" I run out to see whats going on and ask what he's talking about. He said he stopped outside to smoke a cigarette and he heard a huge crash of broken glass and that I started screaming his name in a blood curdling scream. He had been standing about 30 feet from where I was, and I heard absolutely nothing. To this day, I don't know if he was joking with me, but he swears he wasn't. Finally, I was there cleaning the community part of the church by myself one night. The layout was a set of double doors in the front which followed by an open area. If you walked straight through, you would go straight to the back door and to either side along the way, there were rooms (classrooms, kitchen, daycare etc…). The last two doors on the left, before you reached the backdoor were the men's and women's bathrooms. The front double doors were always locked with a chain and padlock wrapped around the outside door handles. When I took the chain off, I would always wrap it around the inside handles, but I wouldn't lock it. It was mainly just to keep the wind from blowing the doors open. So I am cleaning the closest bathroom to the backdoor when I hear the water start running in the other bathroom. I stop what I'm doing and go see whats going on. I get there and see the toilet filling up, like it had just been flushed. I watch for a moment, and see the water fill to the line and stop. Ok, faulty plumbing I assume. After the toilet stops, I still hear the water running, so I take a quick look for the culprit. I don't see anything, so I head back to the original bathroom. I walk in and immediately the blood rushes from my face when I see all three of the bathroom sinks pouring full blast. Steam is rising from the sinks and I realize its the hot water. I gather my composure and turn all the sinks off. I turn to walk out and just as I get to the hallway, the front door starts bucking, as if somebody were trying to get in. The two doors are thrashing back and forth. Because they are only held closed by the chain wrapped around them, they are opening far enough for me to see that nobody is there. If there was somebody there, the would be the worst door opener ever. I don't know what to do, so I just stand in the bathroom doorway. I'm praying and chanting and doing whatever else I can think to do. Suddenly the door stops moving. And INSTANTLY the back door, which is about a foot to my left starts doing the same thing. This is a standard single door which is fully locked, but the knob is turning wildly and the door is bowing towards me, like somebody is pushing it in. There is a window to the left of the door and again, I can see that nobody is out there. Finally, just as quickly as it started, everything stops. I immediately turn and get in my car and go… I didn't even dust the pulpit, you guys. THAT'S how scary this was. I get home and my dad is sitting at the kitchen table, awake, which is out of the ordinary. He takes one look at me, and says, we are canceling the church account. Nothing more needed to be said. To this day, whenever I ask him about it, he just says, he had a bad feeling about it. 98. The footprint. I'd like to begin saying that there have been many happenings in this house, but I'll share the most frightening. Backstory: the area where my house is was once open prairie and we have found Native American artifacts laying around the area. When my parents divorced when I was a young teenager my mother and I moved into this house. Now, at first it seemed great! There was plenty of space and it had a very cozy feel to it. However, as time went on strange things became to happen. The more I noticed them the more frequent they would become. I'd hear someone walking downstairs as I was brushing my teeth and would assume it was my mom, but whenever I'd check no one would be there. Footsteps began to be a very common sound in my house, especially at night. So, after some time I came to the realization that, oh shit, my house is haunted! Now here is where things got really weird. One day my good friend and I had just gotten done from being out in the sun and decided to retreat to my moms house. Considering she had been away on a business trip we figured this would be awesome. My friend and I could go drink or do whatever mischievous actives we wanted to. We were wrong. We walked inside and headed straight for the basement where it was cooler than the rest of the house. While walking down the stairs I noticed that The Beatles Yellow Submarine poster hanging at the bottom of the stairwell was tilted slightly to the left. No bother I figured, it must have gotten bumped by me or something. I fixed it and we walked into the main room. Mind you, we had pictures and posters hanging everywhere in the basement. What my friend and I saw instantly creeped us out. All 10-15 pictures on the walls were each tilted slightly to the left. Just as the Beatles one had been. But the weirdness of the situation didn't stop there. The storage room (essentially a dirt floored room that is lifted about 4 feet off the ground) had its door cracked open. So I walk over and see a golden glow emanating out. There is a pull chord light located about 10 feet from the door that is turned on. So, I hop up and into the storage room, crawl on my hands and knees to the light, and turn it off. Hoping that all of this had a natural explanation I call my mom up and ask her about it. She says she has no idea what I'm talking about and hasn't been in the basement for weeks before she left on her trip. Shivers shoot down my spine. I look back into the storage room, and in the dirt there's a footprint. The most distorted and mangled footprint imaginable. I'm frozen in fear. My friend is too. Without words we look at one another each feeling a sickening, gut wrenching feeling. I slammed the storage space door shut, locked it, and we bolted out of my house as fast as we could. Ill never forget how sickening and mangled that footprint looked, and thinking that I had crawled in there to turn off the light still gives me shivers to this day. 99. The boy and the old man. My house is definitely haunted. Actually, I don't know if it's a haunting, or if my son managed to bring in a poltergeist. They say emotionally disturbed children attract them, so that could be it too. Anyway, my house was built in 1889. It's inevitable that someone would have died here. There are two that we know of for sure. One was a child, and he died of an illness, it was listed as natural causes in 1944. The other was an older gentleman, he died of undetermined causes in 1979. Both in the house. The boy died in my bedroom, the older man died in the area that was once the enclosed front porch and is now my daughter's room. The little boy is mean, not evil, but mean. I have pictures of him, in silhouette, standing in my bedroom. I will dig them out and scan them if I can find them. The only thing he's ever done that was potentially harmful was push a dresser down the stairs. The dresser was sitting at least a foot back from the top of the stairs, on solid ground, was not leaning at all. All of a sudden, when my roommate was about 3/4 of the way down the stairway, it comes flying down the stairs. He threw himself out of the way, and the dresser hit the bottom of the stairs so hard that it literally exploded. Creepy shit. The old man doesn't do much, just hangs around in our entryway. He covers my daughter up when she's cold and she claims to have talked to him, but I have never actually seen him myself. When we moved in, there was a satchel full of dried red peppers hanging in the entryway. I took it down and threw it away, it was put back up. This went on for literally months before I asked him to please stop putting them back up, because they had a potpourri smell to them and it was making my roommate really sick. He let me throw them away for good after that. Not that creepy. There's a female here too, but I know nothing about her, and no death of a female was disclosed to us when we bought the house. The guys hear her more than I do. My husband has heard her come on to him when he was the only one in our bedroom, multiple times. I've only heard her once. Clear as day, in a room that should have only had my husband and I in it, a female said, "Who is this bitch? I thought you wanted to be my daddy." That freaked me right the fuck out. I blessed the house, with holy water, even though I am not religious. (In fact, I'm leaning towards a belief in no god, but I was fucking scared.) No one slept that night. We heard a woman crying, pounding on the side door, which we use as the front door, begging us to let her in. That door has a peephole, and it was winter, so we could have either seen anyone that was really out there, or seen tracks leading to the porch by looking out our window. There was neither. By dawn the screaming had faded out to crying and by 8 a.m. it was completely gone. My husband and roommate think that whatever it was is gone. I think it was a ruse and she is still here. Just a gut feeling. 100. The old asylum. When I was a student, the campus was located on what had only 20 years before been an old asylum for the insane. Like, batshit crazy people. They did lobotomies there and what not. Most of the buildings had been refurbished into "normal" school buildings with lecture halls, study group rooms et cetera. Seemed pretty normal, except the small study group rooms that only had one window, that was 1 square feet, 15 feet up on the wall, with bars in front of it. Yeah. Now, walking around the halls at night was creepy enough in it self, but one experience I will never forget. I was the leader of a student/professor team that was in charge of evaluating lectures, professors, timetables et cetera, and we usually had our meetings after hours. This one time, we were sat in what used to be the old employee cafeteria (according to one of the old professors, who had been around for a long time). Now, I had seen the original blueprints from back when it was an asylum, so I knew what buildings had been the women's cell wing, the men's wing, administration (including morgue) et cetera. A little while into the meeting, suddenly all of us (8 people in total) turn at the same time, everybody hearing what seemed like a woman's scream coming from an open window towards the old women's wing. We all knew we were the only ones at the campus at the time (small part of a larger college), and we had all heard it – as evidenced by the fact that everyone turned their head. Now that was fucking creepy. 101. The stranger thing. I was a graphic designer at an agency shortly after I left college. Every day was incredibly stressful; they never knew how to say 'no' to the client and always over promised and under delivered. Every project was an emergency. Finally my (then girlfriend, now wife) suggested that I try meditation. I am in no way a religious guy but I can admit strange and unexplained things happen outside the realm of what we understand is 'normal'. So I did some minor research and started off with Kundalini meditation and borrowed an album, from a co worker, to guide me through it. The first time I did it, I was just a little dizzy, there are a lot of breathing methods implemented in most meditations but Kundalini asks you to do several different types. The next time it was around three-a.m (this was also to help me sleep), my girlfriend was asleep and I was sitting on the floor in the bedroom by the bed. I could hear my breathing and my gf's breathing and, distinctly, the breathing of someone else. My eyes snapped open and I turned around expecting Tina to be standing there. Nothing. I turned back around and was facing the door way that leads out into a short hallway. That was where I fist saw it: it was human-esque but standing awkwardly, like this is not how it normally stands; it looked like it was struggling to stay on two feet. I could not make out details, it was entirely black (not to be confused with an absence of light, but black as a color) and it was standing in a dark hallway. We have a wireless switch for our fan/light, I hit the light. Nothing was there. The next day I tossed it off to it being late and a weird breathing exercise. It was just my brain playing games on my overactive and tired mind. I went to work and came home. Tina called and said that she was running late and that she would be home in a few hours, I said I would have dinner ready. The water was boiling with the pasta and the meat-sauce was on a low simmer and it had gotten dark. I had been playing a game when the timer went off and suddenly realized just how dark it had gotten. I went into the kitchen to strain the pasta. (This part happens in the blink of an eye) I had that feeling that someone was there, like having your eyes closed and someone holding their hand in front of your face. I freaked out and thought it was an intruder and turned quickly with a knife from the counter. With all of the survival skills I have… I still dropped the knife when I saw it. It was only there until it was in my direct field of vision; it was, again, in perfect lighting still a totally black spot – not really reflecting any light – still no details inside the silhouette. I stood for what felt like forever staring in the space that it had been (possibly still was) and darting my eyes around to the other dark places to make sure I was alone. I did not want to tell Tina about it, a few years before, she had nightly night-terrors and would wake up screaming this horrifying scream. Weeks passed and my hesitation to walk into a dark room passed with them. Eventually I decided to leave my job and because of the backwards work-ethics, they were not going to pay for the two weeks of off-time I had not used, I took the two weeks as vacation and decided to give my two weeks notice when I got back. It was going to be a 'stay-cation', sleep as long as I can, play games the rest of the day. I would cook dinner and be all-a-round relaxed when Tina got home. About a week in, I woke up briefly as Tina was getting ready for work and fell back asleep. What I thought was minutes later, something felt off and I opened my eyes: out of the darkness of the hallway came a figure, like a rigid corpse being thrown at me, flying over me and landing on me. I sat up with a short scream. There were three deep impressions in the carpet in the hallway. Seeing them made (and thinking of them still makes) my skin crawl. They were larger than my feet and definitely larger than Tina's. Totally could have been anything besides feet – the shape of them is the only thing I could relate to feet. I was twenty-eight years old at the time of writing this and had been a working freelancer from home since I left the job in 2009. I have seen, what I like to call, 'the stranger thing' about ten times. The sightings have not always been at night or inside the house. I have not seen them since earlier in 2010 but I have also not practiced any mediation since those first few times. 102. The demon road. Outside of Huntsville, TX, there's a road they call "Demon Road" that runs parallel to another road. In between is an old cemetery and a dirt road connecting the two roads. Rumor has it that on Demon Road a few years ago, there was a car accident and a police shootout that left two people dead. The car was never taken from the spot it crashed and the angry spirits never left. About four years ago, I went down there with some friends to investigate. We parked on the dirt road and a truck pulled in from the other side, KC Daylighters on, blinding me. A woman got out, I thought I was going to die, technically we were trespassing. She walked to my window and said, "you be careful." She got back in her truck and drove off. I got out, rubbed some dirt on my car in an attempt to reveal fingerprints, and headed down Demon Road. About 1/4 mile down the road, I felt a cold punch on my chest and froze in my tracks. I tried to walk forward and again felt a press on my chest. I turned back to my car with a friend while everyone else continued to the car; I decided something was telling me it was a bad idea to continue. About 30 minutes later, the group came back and we started comparing pictures, audio, and *EMF readings. We caught some quality pictures and EMF readings, but no audio. One of the girls asked the guy next to her, "why did you pull my hair?" He said he didn't and about 10 seconds later, she screamed, "something jerked my ponytail" and we scrambled back to our cars and sped back to the city. When we got back to civilization, I got out and saw handprints and finger drawings all over my car. The most compelling were the two smeared handprints on my trunk, like someone was hanging on, lost grip, and slid down the trunk. The Roman Numeral XII was also fingered into the dust. I don't try to make sense of what happened that night, but that will always be burned into my mind as the absolute scariest encounter of my life. 103. The octagon pendant. My friend Aaron is a completely normal guy, and I've worked with him in the engineering realm for a bit.He's definitely a smart guy, and doesn't have a screw loose, so to hear this story was crazy. It's still left me thinking about things like the supernatural until today. He moved into this house in Portland Oregon, and it was always a little off. When he first moved in he heard some creaks and stuff, but it was mostly just old house noises. Then sometimes he could swear he heard footsteps, or doors creaking open or closed. The most peculiar thing about the house was that even with all the shades drawn up and letting the sun in, the house was always dark it seemed. As some of the noises increased in frequency, so did some strange things. He asked his roommates about the noises and they all had agreed that they had heard peculiar things around the house too. In particularly the basement. The basement had some stairs leading down and from what he described there were two rooms. The main room with the stairs in it, then another room attached that had an extra door in it on the opposite corner of the first door. He was a drummer and had his drums set up in the main basement room to practice drums. The first of the strange things to happen would be in his bedroom. He saw smoke like stuff coming from under the door and it started moving up towards the upper corner by his door. He thought the house was on fire as the smoke like stuff began to cluster in the corner so he opened the door and was gonna bail, but when he opened it and looked into the hallway, the hallway was totally fine. No smoke, no fire, then he looked back into the corner and all the clustered smoke had vanished. After that, some time later, he was in the bathroom taking a piss, and he heard the door open. Without looking behind him he says "hey hang on a minute I'm almost done" But the door didn't shut so he finished up and turned around to one of the most frightening things he'd ever seen. Clearly in front of him was an apparition of a young girl in a plaid dress, and he looked up and up and when he got to her face starting from her feet, there was nothing there and he could clearly see through her. Just a blank face. He was so scared he said he didn't even remember putting his pecker back in his pants, he just shut his eyes and ran to the door (that he thought was open) through the ghost but then he ran straight into it, because apparently it was closed! Frantically he opened the door without really opening his eyes and scrambled to his bed and he said he dove in like a little kid and held the sheets over his head until he went to sleep, terrified. The craziest thing of all that happened is what's next. In the basement where he practiced drums, he could swear that in the doorway to that extra room, he would see someone walk by the door. From one side to the other. It would happen rarely but one time he decided to go into the room. (I'm seriously getting shivers in my spine writing this.) That extra door was on the opposite corner, and he thought it was peculiar that there was door there, and that it should lead to the outside, but he knew it didn't because there was no other way into the basement. He walked over to the extra door and opened it and he said that it gave him the most sinking feeling in his stomach looking into what was behind the door. There was a stairway that had been cemented off, but in one of the most creepy ways possible. He didn't get into details but he basically said "I shut the door and never opened it again because of the terrible feeling I had when I opened it" Now being a drummer, he had met all kinds of people in his travels because he had toured the nation. One time he was talking to a man he had met about his house and these strange happenings, and the man looked at him as serious as a heart attack and said "I can help you with this house and these happenings." My friend was skeptical because he doesn't really believe in these kinds of things but he accepted the offer saying "well why not, the worst that could happen is nothing." The man met him at his house and brought with him a most peculiar bell. My friend described it as having the most piercing sound he'd ever heard and the man entered the house ringing it, and was mumbling something under his breath as he moved through the house. Eventually he asked my friend where the most activity happens, and my friend told him the basement. The man goes into the basement and instantly went into the extra room. He asked my friend, "This door, does this door have something." My friend was amazed at this man for pointing out, because my friend had said nothing about anything specific in the basement. My friend told him yes, and how he had opened it only once because it was terrifying. The man then proceeded to open the door and instantly fell to his knees shrieking and ringing the bell furiously. My friend was totally freaked out and didn't know what to do and before he knew it the man jumped up and ran up the stairs screaming and out the front door. My friend quickly followed him and met him on the sidewalk. My friend said "What was that all about" and the man looked to him and said "Whatever was in your house, I just chased it out." My friend was bewildered, then the man handed him an octagon shaped pendant and told him to put it above his door, explaining that it will protect him as long as it's on the door. My friend said thank you as politely as he could because he was still skeptical and trying to figure out exactly what all had happened but he put the pendant above his door. No joke, from that day on, all the strange noises, footsteps, doors creaking, stopped. The darkness that always seemed to loom inside the house even with the windows open, vanished. Finishing this story I have such crazy goosebumps…. I hope you liked it. I promise you it's not BS. I FINALLY Got in touch with Aaron (whose story this is) and this is his reply: As the Aaron in the story, I can tell you it is 100% true. The woman wore a plaid dress, big white squares with thick, brown, cross-hatches around the white squares. She had no shoes on and I could see the faintest outline of the open door behind her. I assumed it was my roomate Daphna. When I looked up at her face, nestled between her shoulder length blonde hair, her face was nothing more than smoke. It was like someone was smoking a cigarette, but no cigarette, no face… only smoke moving in the faintest breeze. When I ran through her, it was if I had jumped into a frozen pond. i can still feel that cold to this day. As for the octagon that my friend placed above the door, it was a yellow octagon made from a piece of wood. On it, there were three, black, horizontal lines on the side closest to the top. It also had an octagon shaped mirror in the center of it. Months afterwards, while still living in the house, I had a dream that felt so real… unlike any other dream I've had before. I was asleep in bed and a man in a suit woke me. It was a black suit and he was wearing a fashionable hat like men would wear in the 40's. I awoke (in the dream) to the man shaking me. I gasped, startled by the foreign figure in my bedroom and looked at the man with no face. He leaned in close enough to feel his cold breath. As he leaned in, he whispered to me, "it's all been reset." As he said it, it was if those words caused him to drift away in white smoke. everything. his clothes, his hat, his entire body. I awoke in a panic. I'm not sure what it meant, but after that moment, when I could feel his cold breath on me… my life became instantly better. It was some strange turning point in my life. I'm not sure if the octagon is still on that door, but for the sake of those that may live there, I hope to god that it is. When we first moved into the house, it had thick metal gating over every window and door. Not like regular metal bars, this was the kind that you could barely squeeze a finger through. We took them all down, but even still, the house always remained dark. It didn't make any sense since one entire side of the house faced the morning sun and had no obstructions. The house was incredibly old, a 3 story house with a full basement. Six bedrooms in all and everything was the original wood that came with the house. Dark, polished, but covered under years of dust. The date on the furnace was 1893 it was a huge furnace which seemed like it was converted from coal to oil. My thought was that the cemented off steps was a way of getting coal down to the basement. There were things in that house that were unexplained. So strange. One night, well before i met my wife, I was dating this woman named Elizabeth. One night in the gigantic living room, we were hanging out enjoying a fire in the woodstove that was seriously the size of a stove. We were just sitting in the room, which you could close off the french doors and heat up the entire front section of the house. As my wife would probably not want to hear, she looked me in the eyes and told me that she loved me. At the exact moment, the moment she uttered to words to me, someone pressed the G7# sharp key on the piano sitting in the living room. If you have any doubt as to how creepy that note is… press it on your piano. In that cavernous room, with that key being pressed, both of us started screaming. We shut the door to the stove and ran upstairs to the bedroom, trying to stay as far away from the piano which was leaning up against the stairs. To this day, that note creeps me the fuck out. Imagine an old basement, rough foundation setting on crumbly cement made up of pebbles. When you touched the walls in the basement, it just crumbled in your hands. The door itself was made of 4 or 5 planks of incredibly old wood. Seiously it looked like that door on the blair witch project, right before the last guy dies in the film. Imagine the wood ill fitting, splintery, and upwards of 1 inch gaps between the planks. The handle of the door was hewn from an old piece of wood, again splintery to the touch. When you dragged the door back towards you, it's rusty hinges screeched back to life. Since it was such an old door, it dragged across the basement floor as you opened it. I only looked into that room/stairwell for a few seconds before I slammed it shut. Here's what I remember. It was dark, and incredibly dirty. As if that door hadn't been opened in 50 years. The stairs went from ground level straight into the ceiling. There was a handrail which looked like it had been cemented into the ceiling as well. Inside there were a few objects, a lamp, boxes and paint cams. Those looked like they had been there for just as long. It was basically like someone poured a huge cement slab over the top of the stairway. The stairs just went up… into nothing. I used to practice drums in the adjoining room. Out of the corner of my eye, I'd always see someone walk by the doorway. I'd stop playing drums, get up and walk just close enough to see the door from where I was standing. no one. creeped out I'd go upstairs. The thing is, that whole basement was creepy. It was the creepiest basement WITHOUT the ghosts. You know those basements that your grandmother might have had? the turn of the century Farmhouse basements that looked they've at least flooded a few times in their lives? It was like that. 104. Housekeeping. I worked housekeeping in a chain hotel. There was one room at the end of the hall where things would happen while you were working on it, and the same two things every time: sometimes the faucet would start running. Not full blast or anything, but turned on enough to be running steadily. A half turn of the knob I'd say. I'd be in the other room and suddenly hear water gurgling down the drain. Sometimes I'd be working on the tub and hear it on behind me. Whoever/whatever would also turn on the tv. I'll never forget being warned on my first day that things would happen in the room, and then while making a bed and rustling the sheets noisily–suddenly aware I was hearing muffled voices and seeing the tv was on. I'm getting chills thinking back on those moments. Whatever part of the room your back was to, it felt like someone was there. I got the feeling they didn't want to be in the way, but they wanted to be there with you. One thing we all felt throughout the staff: none of us felt threatened….none of us felt like it was a bad person or someone who was trying to frighten us. We all felt overwhelmingly like it was someone trying to reach out. And had limited ways. And was lonely. Sometimes I'd say hello, sometimes I'd say sorry, because I felt like if they were frustrated trying to tell me something, I'd want them to know I felt for them. I realize I sound crazy but it happened super regularly and was witnessed by a lot of people. I thought about whoever it could be, a lot. The hotel has since been bought by a college and was turned into dorms. I hope having people staying in the room more steadily will be a good thing for whoever that spirit was. Maybe they felt less lonely with students actually living there than a revolving door of hotel guests. 105. Staying in Downtown Chicago. Not me but a friend who is a pilot. She stayed at an older hotel downtown Chicago and was studying for her recurrent class which was in a few weeks. While at the desk, deep in thought, she heard people talking and laughing. When she looked up, it got quiet. She said it sounded like it was in the room with her and went back to studying. The noise started off softly and then again sounded like a party was going on in her room. She got up and looked around and there was silence. There were no sounds coming from any rooms, no televisions on, no radios, no people in the hallway – the noise was definitely in her room. That night around 2 am, she was in bed and felt someone brush strands of hair from her forehead and tuck it behind her ear. She jumped up and turned on the light and there was no one there. She didn't get back to sleep and bid around that overnight so she wouldn't be in that hotel again. 106. Attacked by men in armor. A friend's grandfather either worked in or owned a hotel at some point. The building was hundreds of years old, dated back to the English Civil War. The story goes that he was cleaning up in the dining room and he saw three men in armour charging at him with weapons, being "ghosts" they just ran through him, but apparently, he was left feeling physically ill afterward having come into contact with the apparition. Friend's grandfather called a medium to come check the place out and she freaked out at the nature of the supposed presence in the hotel. If I remember correctly, they found through later research that there had been some murder committed by three soldiers in the building during the civil war. 107. Waiting tables at a haunted hotel. I was a server at a restaurant that used to be a hotel. It was said to be haunted by all kinds of things. My second day of training (and before I learned about the rumors), I saw a little girl about 3 or 4 years old pop her head out of a cupboard below the bar and look around. I turned my head toward her to tell her to get out of there, but- here comes the cliché- she was gone! Once, I walked into the kitchen and two of my friends were standing in front of a pile of shattered glass, jaws dropped and faces pale. Dropping a glass in a restaurant happens daily; no one reacts like that. I asked what was wrong and they sort of babbled together that the glass threw itself off of the counter, and they watched it happen. I ain't seen that shit, so idk personally. But I trust those two and they're great friends, so I believe them. 108. Ghost harlot. When my family was staying in the Silver Queen Hotel in Virginia City, there were a lot of stories told about this ghost harlot who couldn't find true love in her life, so she kept searching after death. I was sharing a room with my older brother, who's always the first to sleep and last to wake up, so I know he wasn't able to be tricking me. Nobody else had a room key, so I know it wasn't any of my other siblings doing anything. The room we were staying in had one bed, so he slept on a travel cot. He didn't have a blanket since the bed only had one, but it was warm so he didn't mind. He woke up not too long after I did one morning and started freaking out. His jacket was over him like a blanket and he was fully tucked in, and it looked like whoever did it did it with care. To this day we joke around about his ghost girlfriend. 109. Lizzie Borden B&B. I stayed at the Lizzie Borden Bed and Breakfast in April 2016. After our grand tour of the place, all of the guests were encouraged to explore the house and take pictures and whatnot. Well, my friend and I decided to hang out in the parlor (aka where Lizzie Borden's father was axed to death) and ask our tour guide more questions. As we were hanging out on the floor in a circle, the door to the dining room starts violently shaking. One of the other guests whispers, "I wonder if Mr. Borden is pissed we're lounging around his death site?" and the door immediately stops shaking. Now, I don't really know if I believe in ghosts but I do know that I def took a Xanax that night to knock me the fuck out. 110. Wallowa Lake Lodge. I worked at the Wallowa Lake Lodge in the early 90's. I was front desk clerk for graveyard shift so work consisted of me mostly just doing lots of laundry. (I can now fold a fitted sheet perfectly like when you first buy it) I was told "if you hear a customer walking around, make sure they have what they need .. tea, snacks, a fire" I'd hear footsteps from the basement stomping around upstairs in the front room, go upstairs, and no one was there. This happened dozens of times. Eventually, I just decided if I kept going upstairs every time I heard footsteps I'd never get any work done. So I'd just ignore it. Well, so one night I heard the front door ringer go off. Less common but still common and probably just the "friends". Then footsteps. Same ol same ol no big deal. But then the footsteps turned the corner. They approached the door to the basement. The creaky cellar door slowly opened. My butthole clenched. I approached the stairwell slowly. Peered around the corner. I saw a face. I said "AAAAHHHHHH!!" and the guest who arrived late said "AAAAAAHHHHH!!" so I said "AAAAAAHHHHH!!" again. Then as she's panting I collected myself and said "I'm sorry, ma'am. Are you checking in? Do you have a reservation?" Oops. Another time while walking out of the kitchen I saw a little girl in a powder blue dress at the edge of the dining room. I said "hi sweety do you need something?" She ran up the stairs to the rooms. I don't know why but I took off after her. The guest doors were all loud. I got upstairs. No girl. No door closing noise. Every door closed. 111. A loud knocking. I work in a haunted hotel. Have plenty of co-workers share stories of stuff they've seen but I've personally only had one incident. I was working late, just past midnight, when I had to go to the bathroom. This bathroom I'm using is in a public area, and is fairly large. Standard men's bathroom in that it has both stand up and sit down stalls. So I go in and I'm the only one present. It's quiet, and I walk to the stand-up stalls and start to go. As I'm going, I hear a knocking sound (very fast paced like someone rapping with their knuckles) coming from behind me and over my shoulder. I look and I see the door for the handicap sit down stall is vibrating, which is what is making the knocking sound. It's moving like if someone had locked it from the inside and was bouncing it off the lock and the outer doorstop. I'm still pissing, mind you, and I get overcome with chills. But I finish up and it still is making that noise. I think that it could possibly be a co-worker playing a prank, so I laugh and say "very funny" and it immediately stops. So I walk over expecting the door to be locked with a coworker inside, so I knock. And the door swings wide open with no one inside. I get overcome with chills again and just ran out. There was no way the door could've made that noise without being locked. Anyways, I still use that particular bathroom, but never late at night. Freaked me out good and proper. 112. Ghosts in North Carolina. Didn't work or stay at a haunted hotel, but my uncle did unintentionally. He said that he kept seeing an old woman laying in the bed behind him when he'd look in the mirror. She'd disappear when he'd turn around. 113. Ghosts in a new building. I worked briefly at a hotel that everyone claimed was haunted. It was surprising because it was a brand new building, but sure as shit, nobody wanted to work alone in there at night because all sorts of weird happenings went on such as paperwork going missing. Rooms being locked by deadbolt from the inside with no guest in there, guests complaining of loud footsteps above them for hours and when we went to check the room above was unoccupied. 114. Bathing spirits. I stayed in one haunted hotel with my friends and woke up in the middle of the night to hearing something running up and down the hallway, I looked and of course, nothing was there so I went back to sleep. I woke up not long after that and heard the tub in the bathroom running but nobody was in there. 115. Ghost guest. Lately our ghost has been pretty quiet or our living customers have been so turned up that even the Ghost Guest doesn't wanna mess with them. Oh but that doesn't mean she doesn't still have her fun here and there. We have these ladies that work for some kind of schooling/public works program and they do a lot of training in our area. So some of them stay with us every other month and most of them have their favorite rooms and some rooms they don't like. One of these ladies showed up as part of their group tonight and she asked to be on the Ghost's floor. So I start selecting a room and she stops me and says, "But I don't want to stay in that back hallway. No way, never again." Me: Ma'am I'm sorry was there something wrong with your room last time? TeacherLady: No but she don't like me at all. You know who I mean. Me: Wait… what room were you in? TeacherLady gives me a room number that is not exactly the Ghost Room. It's the connector to the Ghost Room though, like if you wanted to rent that room and the Ghost room you can swing a door open between the two and sort of have a suite. I definitely raised my eyebrows because I have this theory that the person responsible for our Ghost Guest becoming a forever resident entered the Ghost Room through those connecting doors. TeacherLady then says "I know it's not the room but SHE was in there and never again." Me: Actually I do know what you're talking about. She's generally harmless, a little annoying but harmless usually. TeacherLady: Last time she jumps on my chest and tries to strangle me. I'll never stay back there again. TeacherLady does not look like she is joking so I gave her a room closer to the front and her friend that she traveled with was supposed to have a room of her own but after listening to all of this decides she wants to share the 2Q room that TeacherLady was staying in, so I cancel her reservation and those two go off to their Ghost Free room. Later the TeacherLady comes back down and says "You must think I'm crazy. But that girl she can not rest. She's angry. She's getting angrier. This is what I felt in that room. You must think I'm crazy." Me: Actually ma'am I believe you. You're not the first woman in those rooms to ask to be moved or to complain about something feeling off about the room. I don't think you're crazy, I don't really like going up there either." TeacherLady: Someone needs to find who killed that poor girl. And then the TeacherLady makes the sign of the cross and takes a cookie and goes back up to her room. Man mother eff the top floor. 116. A dream among siblings. When my son was about six months old I had a dream that I was at my grandparent's house with him. My grandfather was holding my son and crying while I talked to my grandmother… I told her that I wished her and my grandfather were still alive to see my son and she said "Don't worry, we see him." I didn't think anything else of it until about five years later I was talking to my sister and I mentioned that I'd had a dream about our grandparents. She said "Was Papa Joe (what we called our grandfather) holding your son while he rocked in his chair, and did Grandma tell you they were watching you?" I said yes and asked how she knew and she said "I had the same dream when my son was six months old." And more recently… my son (he was 20 at the time) was driving home from work late one night. As he drove he said he very clearly heard my mother (who had been dead for two years) say "Johnathan, stop the car." Out of reflex he did, and as soon as he stopped three dear ran out in front of him. Had he not stopped the car he'd have hit them. 117. My grandmother had gotten my mother a phone for her room when she was a girl. The lady across the street had died a few days before. Supposedly the phone rang and when my mom picked up, she heard 'Cher (Cajun for child), let me speak to your momma.' She immediately hung up the phone and told me that there was no mistaking whose voice it was. It was the lady who just died. 118. I was driving home late at night (2-3AM), there was this old rusty truck exactly the type you were to see in scary movies. Anyway I went to overtake him and when I look to the right and the guy has no head, I could've seen wrong but I swear he didn't have a head. 119. All my life I've seen people on the side of the road when I drive at night. I always thought they were ghosts of people who died in car accidents. The scariest part is that it turns out I have schizophrenia. 120. I smelled my dad's cologne and felt a safe, warm…presence standing at the foot of my bed. I was perhaps 4 years old, no older. My dad died when I was 2. 121. When I was about 14 I was sleeping over at a friend's house in the finished basement. I was lying on the couch, not asleep yet, when I heard footsteps in the room with me. There was enough light to see there was no one there, and I knew it wasn't his parents because I would have heard them come down the creaky stairs. It freaked me out a bit, but not as much as when I told my friend about it the next day and he informed me that the previous owners of the house had died by murder/suicide. In the basement. 122. My great-grandmother watched my great-grandfather die. They were truly in love forever. After he died, she woke up every morning and said 'damn it!' because she was ready to pass away. My great aunts would hear her talking on a baby monitor they set up talking to members of the family who had already passed. Finally one afternoon, they heard her go 'John, finally! Why are you always late?' They were frozen as John was my great-grandfather's name. They walked in 10 minutes later and she passed away. She was just waiting for her husband to come get her. 123. So I spent six months living in my family's cottage in the far north of Michigan. That place always felt weird, but I chalked it up to my nerves and the odd noises of the woods, as I was born and raised in cities and had never been so isolated before. Then, the night before I moved out into an apartment with a friend, as I was falling asleep I experienced a powerful hypnagogic jerk (that thing where you feel like you're falling and sit up really hard) and as I did so I heard a tiny voice in my ear say—'Goodbye.' 124. My parents have both passed away. Their wishes were to be cremated, the ashes put in a nice box and be set on our wine rack. This wine rack has three shelves, and I was instructed to keep one shelf between the boxes. Well, my dad passed in 2011 and my mother in 2015. It took me a few weeks to find a box for my mom. In that time I kept her ashes in the same room but a few feet away from the wine rack. Apparently someone wasn't happy about this. Outside we had a doorbell. Every single night at 3AM it would begin ringing and wake me up. I took the button portion inside so nobody could push it. Still would ring at 3AM. Took the batteries out, still rang at the same time. Broke the whole th

like explosions in the darkness. That was the first time in my life I understood a deer in the headlights. Even though my heart was hammering in my chest and adrenaline was being poured into my system, I was frozen. The primal part of my brain was screaming danger, but it wasn't providing me with any choices to pursue. It wasn't until a blur of movement crossed in front of me that my full mental faculties engaged. I was able to process the fact that movement was my friend running past me down the road as fast as they could. I decided that was a valid option and took off after my friend as fast as I could. We reached my friend's house safe. We spent the rest of the night theorizing what that was in the trees. In the morning I walked back down the road to town and past the cemetery. During the day the eerie atmosphere was gone. 141. First of November this year. First night in my new flat and I woke up about 2 AM feeling like someone else was watching me sleep. I looked down the end of the bed and there was a figure of light standing there. It wasn't a normal light though as it didn't illuminate the room or anything around it. The figure then moved around my bed and went out the bedroom door. Last thing I remember before falling back to sleep was my heart thumping like crazy. I'm very much an atheist and I don't believe in the afterlife, but this one experience has just played on my mind a lot since happening. 142. This happened when I was around 5 or 6 ish. I lived in this isolated house so there was pretty much no one around for miles. We had a car garage and me, my sister, and cousin were playing at night around 10pm. At one point me and my sis were trying to hop on my cousin's back since he was the tallest, and we all ended up facing the garage wall. At this point, I felt like someone was watching me, so I turned. I kid you not, there was this transparent-looking man standing in front of our house just staring at me. I froze and stared back to see what I was seeing was real. We eye locked for at least four seconds, which felt like eternity. My plan was to keep an eye on him until the others also turned and confirmed what I was seeing was real. But at this point I couldn't hear my sister laughing or my cousin, it was super quiet. I kept on calling my cousin's name but I didn't hear back. At this point I thought they were dead. I freaked out, lost my eye contact with the ghost, turned and screamed my cousin's name again. All of a sudden I could hear them laughing; I quickly turned back and he was gone. I cried, telling my cousin to go back in the house and it isn't safe outside. All he did was giggle. I told my mom about this years later and she said we had two different maids that lived in the guest house who started screaming in the middle of the night because they saw this ghost-looking man. Idk still to this day I am afraid of ghosts. And thank God I left that house. I had so many weird dreams and experiences in that place. 143. I was visiting a friend of mine who lives in Virginia. He has a nice little cabin in the mountains that holds a mere four people max. The highlight of his little home is his massive basement. This thing has to be 4x the size of the house itself. He turned it into the ultimate man-cave complete with beer cooler, multiple TVs, couches, bean bags, pinball machine, pool table, you name it. The perks of being a bachelor know no bounds. He and I were having a few drinks with some of his friends and playing video games one night when we all fell asleep in our respective seats. I woke up around 4 AM with an insane urge to piss due to the drinking earlier in the night. I went to use the bathroom but the door was locked. I could hear water running so I figured one of his buddies was using the bathroom. I walked up the stairs to use the upstairs bathroom and when I turned the handle, the knob fell off. 'Well, shit,' I thought to myself. I'll just wait until his friend gets out of the bathroom so I can go next. I turned to walk back down the stairs when one of the steps below my feet collapsed. I fell through the step and caught onto the low board adjacent to the one that fell. The staircase is pretty high up so I was kind of dangling there in a daze. My friend and his buddies all wake up and ask what I'm doing. I tell them the board broke underneath my feet. As I was trying to lower myself down to the ground, the bathroom door flings open and slams into the wall. We all look at the door and there's no one inside. The lights turn off, the sink stops running, then the door slowly starts closing again. I let go of the step in fear and crash to the ground. All the others in the room stand up and cautiously start backing up toward the stairs. We hear the toilet flush from behind the closed door and all start screaming. They booked it upstairs while I scrambled to get out from beneath the stairs but our escape was all in vain. I had ripped the doorknob off so we couldn't get the door open. This basement had just about everything you could want, but it was lacking any kind of exit aside from the door that I broke. My buddy was jiggling the knob stump and slamming the door with his shoulder but it wouldn't budge. Then, out of nowhere, the door bursts open and the pile of scared men falls into the living room. We all rushed into the living room, closed the basement door, and slept on the couches. No one could explain what happened the next day and my buddy avoided his glorious man cave for a few days afterward. I haven't been back to his cabin in a while, but he claims nothing like that has happened since my visit. Read some celebrity ghost stories here. image credit — @Jovanadventures CBS The director behind Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark 2 is teasing wonderful things for the upcoming sequel. | Published: Nov 4, 2020 08:38 pm This article is over 4 years old and may contain outdated information Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark was a surprise hit when it landed in theaters in 2019, with the PG-13 horror pic taking in over $100 million on a budget that was just under $30 million. It's not crazy money or anything, but the profit margin was strong enough to make a sequel inevitable and as you've surely heard, we'll soon be getting one. Not much is known about the project just yet, but both Guillermo del Toro and André Øvredal will be back for the second outing, with the former writing the screen story, and the latter calling the shots from behind the camera again. And according to the director, some wonderful things are in store for us. While speaking with ComicBook.com, here's what he shared: "I mean, we're actively working on it. We're really playing with some new, wonderful stuff [and] I am very excited about where this sequel could go." Of course, that's pretty vague and doesn't give us much to go on, but at least he seems enthusiastic about whatever it is that they're cooking up. It's just frustrating that Øvredal refuses to spill anything of substance. Unfortunately, plot details are non-existent at this early, early stage, but we imagine the sequel will follow Stella (the protagonist of the last flick) as she attempts to discover more about the eponymous book that was written by the deceased outcast Sarah Bellows. She'll also likely try and find and rescue her friends who were taken in the original. With any luck, Scary Stores to Tell in the Dark 2 will build on what made the first one so enjoyable and expand and flesh out the building blocks that were laid last year. It wasn't a perfect film, but the 2019 horror pic was certainly a fun ride and left a lot of things for a sequel to pick up on and run with. And hopefully, Øvredal and del Toro are planning to do just that. We Got This Covered is supported by our audience. When you purchase through links on our site, we may earn a small affiliate commission. Learn more about our Affiliate Policy Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark. Lionsgate Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark ends in early November 1968, with a car bounding through the beautiful fall foliage of Western Pennsylvania. That's a little less than four months before Once Upon a Time… in Hollywood begins, and about 2,500 miles away. Both are pastiche films that make absolutely clear their love of movies and storytelling. They display an obvious affection toward and enthusiasm for the period in which they are set, even while the stories they tell from that time acknowledge a scary and rapidly changing world and are filled with terror and doom. SEE ALSO: 'Hobbs & Shaw' Made a Major Miscalculation With Its Car Chases But for Scary Stories—the new PG-13 horror movie devised by producer Guillermo del Toro to be a young person's gateway into the arty spine-tinglers he adores—the nostalgia isn't for the TV or the pop culture ephemera of the late '60s. (Though you should expect both films to fill you with drive-in movie envy.) Instead, the film serves up a paean to a romanticized version of an unfettered childhood from that era, when exploring a long rumored tale about haunted mansion in the center of town seemed like a perfectly appropriate Halloween night activity for a group of outcast friends. The film is directed by André Øvredal—the Norwegian filmmaker behind the 2010 "found footage" horror movie Trollhunter—who has a strong sense of the rhythm of Gothic filmmaking. His opening sequence at dusk in the fading town of Mill Valley, set to Donovan's "Season of the Witch," shows just how lively the often dreadful task of story establishment and character introduction can be in the right hands. Once the sun finally sets, Øvredal and his cinematographer, Roman Osin (Joe Wright's 2005 adaptation of Pride & Prejudice), show they are not the least bit afraid of the dark and using darkness to tell their story. They also mix extreme low angle shots, close-ups and push-ins that collectively mirror the wonder and intensity with which a young person experiences the world. Øvredal also coaxes mostly strong performances from his young cast. This is especially true of Zoe Colletti (Showtime's City on a Hill) as protagonist Stella, an emotionally fragile horror fan and budding writer who finds a haunted book full of scary stories that share an unfortunate quality in that they all come true. But does Øvredal meet Del Toro's goal of indoctrinating multigenerational fans of alvin schwartz's book series to the wonders of the horror genre, in the process kicking off a potential franchise that could rival the Conjuring slate of films? Only partially, mainly because it's a goal of outsized ambition. SCARY STORIES TO TELL IN THE DARK ★★1/2 (2.5/4 stars) Directed by: André Øvredal Written by: Dan Hageman, Kevin Hageman (screenplay) and Alvin Schwartz (book) Starring: Zoe Colletti, Michael Garza, Gabriel Rush, Austin Abrams, Austin Zajur, Natalie Ganzhorn, Gil Bellows and Dean Norris Running time: 107 mins. The film is never quite sure where to draw the line on too much or not enough. Is a pitchfork through the abdomen overdoing it? Probably, but who knows. What does become obvious is that stripped of the full gory toolbox normally gifted horror directors, Øvredal ends up relying too much on ear-piercing jump scares. There is never that kind of palpable and encroaching sense of dread in Scary Stories that even the lesser Conjuring films just ooze. Without it, these plucky teens' investigation into a century old mystery about whether the shut-in daughter of a rich industrial family was indeed the child murderer of town legend can be no more fear-inspiring than an early episode of Scooby Doo. To its credit, the movie does have more on its mind than a typical horror flick. It tackles small town nativism (which, thanks to our President, has become one of our most pressing national issues) through a character played by Michael Garza, a Latino drifter who forms a deep bond with Stella. In the background, black and white televisions tell the story of Nixon's reelection and the Vietnam War, which would continue to churn through bodies for another six years. It's a reminder that even the scariest stories children tell each other cannot compare to the horror of real life. Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark, which exactingly evokes a pre-corporatized Halloween of hand sewn costumes and stupid pranks, is an effective answer to the question of what to do with the kids who have aged out of trick-or-treating but still want to do something fun. Try showing them this movie. If they end up scarred for life, then they probably should have been outside asking their neighbors for candy. There are the scary stories that you tell around a campfire, or to keep little kids from talking to strangers. And then there are the Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark. As far as I can tell, the only point of those books was to give children elaborate, nausea-inducing nightmares. The stories, collected from folklore, featured severed hands, human sausage, spiders burrowing under your flesh, and all manner of skeletons, ghosts, and nameless, twisted monsters. And we loved every horrifying page. So get ready to dive into some repressed memories, children of the '90s: here are the scariest stories from Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark.A few years ago, the internet went into a tizzy (as the internet often does) because the new edition of Alvin Schwartz's Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark has different, less horrifying illustrations. Diligent '90s kid that I am, I was outraged at the idea that anyone would try to change such an integral part of my childhood... until I looked through some of those original illustrations. You guys. Those pictures are too scary. Illustrator Stephen Gammell is a wildly talented madman. I'm glad future generations are safe from his beautiful, sickening art.So, just in case you forgot how genuinely scary those stories and those original images were, here are some of the most frightening tales from the Scary Stories series:There's nothing like the idea of spiders bursting out of your face to help you sleep at night. The Red Spot, from the third Scary Stories collection, is just cruel. Everyone is already scared of spiders. But Schwartz's story adds another, grosser element: a spider bites Ruth on the face, leaving a red spot. The spot grows worse and worse over the next few days, until it finally bursts, releasing dozens of spiders all over Ruth's face. That's not how spiders actually work... but still.2. The Big ToeFor some reason, this is the story that stuck with me the most over the years. A little boy finds a toe in his yard, and he and his parents eat it for dinner. I mean... stop right there. Why are you eating a severed toe that you found in the ground? Naturally, some kind of ghost or shambling corpse shows up looking for its missing toe. But honestly, that kid is the real monster for being so gung-ho about eating human remains.3. May I Carry Your Basket?Yeah, so there's a severed head in the basket. Just FYI. Sam is just trying to be nice when he offers to carry an old lady's basket, but of course the old lady is a headless corpse. And then she and her head chase Sam down and bite him. Moral of the story: never try to help anyone, ever.4. The DrumSo there are these two little girls, right? And they meet a third girl with a cool drum. And they really want the cool drum (you know, kids and their drums). Cool-drum-girl is all, "Sure you can have my drum... but only if you're very naughty." So the two girls start acting out, and their mother threatens to leave and send them a new mother who has "glass eyes" and a "wooden tail." The girls really want this drum, though, so of course they keep misbehaving... until they return home to find their new mother, her wooden tail thumping on the ground.5. Sam's New PetThis story is actually not that scary on its own. Sam's parents pick up a new "pet" for him in Mexico, but it turns out to be a rabid sewer rat (nice job, parents). But that illustration is so grotesquely frightening, it kicks up the fear factor more than a few notches.6. The HookI have to say, I'm a sucker for a good old fashioned urban legend. Most people have heard some version of The Hook: two teens are hanging in a car, listening to a news story about an escaped murderer with a hook for a hand (like you do), and they keep hearing a scraping sound against the car door. When they get home, there's a bloody hook dangling from the handle. Classic.7. Cold as ClayQuite a few of the Scary Stories end with the "he was dead the whole time!" twist. Cold as Clay is one of them, but it's arguably the scariest. Farmhand Jim returns from the grave to visit his lady love, and she gives him a handkerchief. The next day, she and her father dig him up, and find the handkerchief clutched in his hand. And also the horse he rode is covered in clay, which is just an unnecessary, but thoroughly creepy, detail.8. Something Was WrongThis one gets extra points for an especially creepy title. John finds himself walking down the street, unsure of how he got there. He tries asking a few people the time, but each of them screams and runs from him. Finally, he calls home to get a ride... only to find that his wife isn't home, because she's currently as his funeral.9. HaroldBe kind to your scarecrows. These two farmers are absolutely awful to their scarecrow, Harold... until he starts grunting. Then they feel weird about Harold, and kind of just ignore him for a while. Until one day, when Harold climbs up onto the roof and starts trotting around. Finally the farmers are like, "This is... too weird," and get out of there. But one farmer returns for his milking stools, and winds up as a flayed, bloody skin stretched out on the roof to dry (he couldn't have bought new stools?).10. High BeamsHigh Beams just might be the scariest story in all three Scary Stories books... and that's with no supernatural elements and a happy ending. A girl is driving down the highway, when the truck behind her starts flicking on his high beams periodically. She's freaked out, but no matter how fast she goes, or which little side road she heads down, this guy keeps following her. Finally, she makes it home, followed by the truck, and jumps out of her car. The truck driver gets out, too, holding a gun... but it turns out he was only flashing his high beams because there was a man with a knife in the back of her car who kept reaching up to slash her. So... sleep tight, children.Images: Scholastic, Inc. This story might seem like a familiar one. A young woman is driving home, down a country road. She notices a truck following her. No matter which way she turns, the truck follows. Soon the truck starts flashing its high beams at her but doesn't seem to want to pass her. I'm sure she'll figure it out eventually.2,834 votesA poor scarecrow shaped in the image of a person his creators simply despise, Harold is a silently sentient being who is routinely abused. Harold grows sick of this treatment and psychologically tortures the two men who've been putting him through hell, before skinning them and spreading out their bloody skin to bake in the sun.4,349 votesTed and Sam were the best of friends. One fateful night, they saw - well, a thing. They couldn't exactly make out what it was at first. After overcoming their fear, they managed to get close enough to see it clearly. Yet it wouldn't be until later that they realized what the thing really was.2,558 votesWhen a seemingly happy butcher murders his wife, he grinds her up into sausage to feed to the local townsfolk. Unable to sell enough, he goes on a killing spree, grinding people up into meat. When the locals find out, they feed him to his very own sausage grinder.2,054 votesThis tale is a classic. It's so common, it could even be considered a horror trope. A babysitter is minding her own business, taking care of a few children one night. Trouble starts when she starts getting weird calls from some creep. Things escalate rather quickly from there.2,078 votesWe've all heard this story at one time or another. A couple teenagers are "hanging out" at Lookout Point in their car at night. They hear on the radio that a killer has escaped prison and is at large in the area. The killer happens to have a hook for a hand. "What's that scratching sound I hear?"1,906 votes Horror fans tend to be sniffy about filmmakers who eschew lashing of gore and an atmosphere of kiddie-repulsing intensity in favor of attempting to garner the largest possible audience with a rating lower than an R. But every so often, a movie comes around which both reminds those fans of the less extreme terror tales which originally inspired their love for genre cinema while also helping to ensure the future of horror by seeding that devotion in today's teens and pre-teens. Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark lands firmly — and with an ominous, yet not too ominous, squelch — in that camp. Directed by André Øvredal (who made 2016's lean, mean scare machine The Autopsy of Jane Doe), and produced by Oscar-winning genre giant Guillermo del Toro, the movie is based on the Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark books of short horror stories, written by Alvin Schwartz and illustrated by Stephen Gammell. Those tales introduced readers to such ghouls as a scarecrow who comes to terrifying life and a creature in search of their missing big toe, which has actually been eaten by a family (long story — well, a short story, technically, but you take the point). Instead of taking the obvious anthology movie approach, Øvredal, del Toro, and the movie's writers have integrated Schwartz and Gammell's memorable monsters into a single tale, a sort of supernatural slasher movie with a revolving cast of beasties standing in for Freddy or Jason. CBS Films Opening on the Halloween of 1968, Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark stars Zoe Margaret Colletti, Gabriel Rush, and Austin Zajur as a group of small-town high school misfits Stella, Auggie, and Chuck — think an undermanned, Pennsylvania-dwelling Losers Club. After provoking the (somewhat justified) ire of teen thug Tommy (Austin Abrams) by throwing a bag of aflame excrement into his car, the trio seek refuge at the local drive-in and meet the passing-through-town Ramon Morales (Michael Garza). This being Halloween, and also a horror movie, the quartet break into an abandoned mansion where they anger — through non-burning poop means — the ghost of a long-dead, much-abused, woman named Sarah Bellows. The spirit's revenge? Every night, she magically writes a new story in a book our heroes find in the basement of the mansion, summoning into the real world a different monstery threat. We'll spoil matters no further, except to say that the resulting mayhem features a lot of body horror — an obsession of del Toro's dating back to his 1993 vampire film Cronos — and manages to mine terror out of spiders, stew, and even hugs. Blessed with some firm hands on the terror tiller and a winning cast, Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark is a handsome, and deliciously horrible, horror movie. Will it give diehard gorehounds nightmares? Maybe not. But a lot of younger audience members will be begging their parents to keep at least one bedroom light on after seeing it. I'd bet my big toe on it! B+ Related content: Movies Books Travel Food Other Sign In Photo: Stephen Gammell/Harper & Row The Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark movie hits theaters this weekend, but true fans still remember the original book series — Alvin Schwartz's iconic short horror stories for children. For many, they were a childhood staple: The stories, powered by Stephen Gammell's ghastly, often unforgettable illustrations, are still etched into our memories and, possibly, inspired a passion for all things spooky. But how good were those original stories, really? The series was published between the late '80s and early '90s and spans three books — Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark, More Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark, and Scary Stories 3: More Tales to Chill Your Bones — yet only a handful of the 82 stories made the film cut. Judging by the trailer, this includes fan favorites like "Harold" and "The Red Spot," undeniably two of the best in the collection. Still, there were plenty of duds. In honor of the movie's release, we revisited all three books to determine which of the 82 tales hold up in terms of scariness and have remained relevant over the years. This proved daunting, given that each book ends with a "funny" section devoted to lackluster gags. Still, there were plenty of undying themes of abuse and self-hatred that sent chills up our spines, along with some old-fashioned scares. So here we go — maybe don't read this list at night. 82. "The Big Toe," Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark Unpopular opinion: The trilogy's opener, which will appear in the movie, is a total dud. Tasked with catching the reader's attention after the book's brief explainer introduction, "Strange and Scary Things," this story is about a filthy little boy finding and harvesting a big toe from the ground to add to his family's soup. Problem is, the toe's owner shows up looking for its appendage, but how? Something like 85 percent of our foot control comes from the big toe, so I call bullshit on that corpse finding the boy post-dinner, pre–physical therapy. 81. "The Dead Man's Brains," Scary Stories to Tell in the DarkSome of the series' weakest points come when the stories fit a gimmick rather than a narrative. Here, we're told this is a game, in the same way that one of your more annoying acquaintances might trick you into a never-ending night of Monopoly or the like. You're probably familiar with this game, however, which involves using food as a substitute for a rotting corpse and relies on a darkened room to disguise it as such. The eyeballs are grapes, which checks out. The ears are dried apricots, which is ingenious. And so it goes, each body part corresponding to another delectable — that is, until we get to the hands. They are rubber gloves, but instead of being filled with something like popcorn they're filled with mud or ice, as if that isn't a big WTF because both things are slightly inconvenient while also being nothing consistency-wise like a hand. Furthermore, reading this how-to isn't even meant to scare you, just inspire you. 80. "The Viper," Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark Let's dive into the funny sections of these books right away. I'm not saying there's no room for humor in horror, and I appreciate the books ending with a little levity — sort of like when you would avoid nightmares by putting on a comedy after letting a horror movie scare the shit out of you as a kid — but most of these are instantly forgettable or frustratingly stupid. Without giving too much away, let's just say all of this could have been avoided had the protagonist checked the peephole before opening her door and letting in a totally well-meaning, if slightly off, window washer. 79. "The Attic," Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark Attics have a long history of being scary. Often dark and dusty, the horrors of an attic can range from ritual sacrifice to adolescent incest. So it's confounding that this story is somehow one of the least scary in the series. Although it hints at a gruesome death for man's best friend, specifically Rupert's dog, Sam, in this story, in the end the horror hinges on the storyteller taking a pause after screaming "AAAAAAAAAAH" and banking on somebody asking, "Why did Rupert scream?" The big finale? He stepped on a nail. 78. "The Slithery-Dee," Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark The Slithery-Dee's simple story line paired with its comic-strip-like presentation makes it almost memeable. Though the reader never sees the Slithery-Dee in question, it's safe to assume it's a sea monster who eats animals — and a very curious creature with a long tail and the stance of a human — that dare to stroll along the coast. This seems ripe for resident fish-man obsessive Guillermo del Toro's treatment, however, and with a little movie magic, we could be looking at a top-ten story that's the darker version of The Shape of Water. Alas, this would-be palate cleanser in what's sure to be an otherwise horrifying film will not be making the cut. 77. "The Bad News," More Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark The fact that this story is called "The Bad News" and is about baseball yet has absolutely nothing to do with the 1976 seminal sports comedy The Bad News Bears seems especially rude. Instead, we're introduced to Leon and Todd, two dudes who played baseball growing up and have since graduated to watching baseball and talking about baseball as adults. Both are very concerned about the baseball prospects in heaven. I can't imagine meeting these idiots at a party. Anyway, Todd kicks the bucket and up to heaven he goes. But only briefly, because there is of course baseball in heaven, which means Todd has to travel back down to Earth to let Leon know this. The bad news? Leon is scheduled to pitch tomorrow. Seems this story is more satisfactory than scary — Todd and Leon get exactly what they want, and the Earth is spared their uselessness. 76. "The Brown Suit," More Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark "Okay" is the only note I wrote while reading this story. Maybe I'm desensitized, but the ending seemed more reminiscent of a MacGyver episode, not a terror-inducing tale. After two men are prepared for viewing at a funeral home, their respective wives decide the color of each one's suit is off. The undertaker is happy to make a switch, but instead of undressing two full-grown stiffs, he just switches their heads. Sure, life moves fast, but death moves faster. Who knows what else the undertaker had to do that day, but thanks to his ingenuity, he'll be sure to get it done. 75. "Ba-Room!," More Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark This is one of a handful of scary stories that are set to music. Readers are instructed that the story be read to the tune of "The Irish Washerwoman," which gives it a very "Third Class Dance"–from–the–Titanic vibe. The subjects, however, are not dancing. Instead, they're dead. Yes, both O'Leary and O'Reilly are dead in the very same bed completely unaware of one another. Are we sure ba-room isn't simply the sound of a relationship's death rattle? 74. "Thumpity-Thump," More Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark This tale closes out the series' second installment leaving something to be desired. A poltergeist tale as old as time, it revolves around a family terrorized by a chair that thumps around the house. Eventually, the chair takes a break, and one of its legs seems to be pointing to something. So, the family decides to dig a hole in the ground where the chair leg has set its aim. They do indeed find a body, which has the potential to cause dread, but they bury it back so swiftly that it's barely a blip in the story — which ends with the family leaving to return to their hometown, where chairs "don't go rarin' and rampagin' 'roun', scarin' folks out of their wits …" You get the idea … they prefer a stable place to sit. Seems fair. 73. "Strangers," Scary Stories 3: More Tales to Chill Your BonesThis is less a scary story and more the tale of a female superhero. It opens with a man and a woman sitting on a train. The woman takes out a book and begins reading. Like clockwork, the man asks, "What are you reading?" Because that's what anyone reading a book wants, to be taken away from it to engage in asinine small talk. So she tells him it's a ghost story. He, of course, starts to share his thoughts on the existence of spirits even though no one asked him to. Her response is to vanish. Not only does she prove ghosts are real, but she also quickly gets away from this dude. Scary story or dream come true? 72. "The Hog," Scary Stories 3: More Tales to Chill Your BonesWho here has been haunted by an ex? That song that reminds you of them, or that smell, or that very specific post-breakup Instagram they posted of themselves daring to live on after the dissolution of your relationship. Often, after a breakup, your former relationship can seem inescapable. Sometimes, however, you're the one who ended it and an ex who refuses to move on becomes the bane of your existence. In this story, the ex comes back as a hog that's able to run as fast as a car can drive and uses that skill to stalk a former flame. Seems annoying, right? It gets worse. When the protagonist confronts the hog, albeit in an aggressive manner, it responds, "I was just out for a brisk walk, enjoying myself. How could you strike me after all that we meant to one another?" Damn. Talk about getting gaslit. 71. "Is Something Wrong?," Scary Stories 3: More Tales to Chill Your BonesYes, something is wrong, but that doesn't necessarily mean it's scary. A quick entry that appears in the trilogy, this story directly follows "The Hog" and has a similar vibe, as the protagonist cannot seem to outrun a horrible thing. It might not be an ex, but it does have the same aggressive approach coupled with an insincere amount of politeness that we saw the hog portray earlier. After chasing the protagonist to the point that he thinks his lungs will burst, the creature simply taps him on the shoulder to ask if something is wrong. The nerve! 70. "It's Him!," Scary Stories 3: More Tales to Chill Your BonesThis is a cut-and-dry case of two assholes getting what they deserve: an eternity suffering together. These two people are so mean that they have to live in the woods by themselves where they can't bother anyone else. The wife is so mean that when she gets annoyed by her husband, she cuts his head off and buries him out back. The husband is so mean that he comes back to haunt his murderous wife as if he too isn't a piece of shit that no one likes. Epitomizing the standard for-better-or-for-worse vows, the story spins around to reveal death doesn't do you part if there's no one else who can tolerate you. 69. "T-h-u-p-p-p-p-p-p-p-p-!," Scary Stories 3: More Tales to Chill Your BonesThe illustration accompanying this story looks like an alien, which might lead people to believe they're in for a real invasion-laden treat. So where does this extraterrestrial tale take us? Out of this world? Absolutely not. After Sarah sees the alien fucking around in her room numerous times, her aloof father responds, "You're upset over nothing." Immediately, this could mean he's already an alien or a dickhead of a dad. Honestly, he's probably both, but we never truly find out because the alien in question is quick to fulfill its mission. You might think it's here to take over the world, but this alien is much less sinister and has come to Earth to give humans … raspberries. No, not the fruit. That thing that people do to babies to make them giggle. 68. "You May Be Next …," Scary Stories 3: More Tales to Chill Your BonesHonestly, this one might have Song of the Summer potential. A little ditty about dying, it ends with the line, "And that is the end of a perfect day." Morbid? Sure. Catchy? Definitely. Photo: Stephen Gammell/Harper & Row 67. "The Girl Who Stood on a Grave," Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark This story presents a theory that is especially easy to test. It posits that if you stand on a grave after dark, the person buried below it will grab you and pull you under. Whether "under" refers to beneath the grass or into the darkest hell imaginable is unclear. Either way, it seems inconvenient to meet this fate. It also seems unlikely, which is why the girl in this story takes the dollar bet to stand on a grave. She's instructed to stick a knife in the dirt to prove she was there. She plunges the knife into the ground of a grave she fancies, but what she doesn't realize is that she lets it pierce her skirt first, which means she's jerked back and falls to the ground when she tries to leave. Presumably she spends the night screaming for help, but her friends don't bother to look for her until later, and by that time she's died of fright. This taps into the fear of fear itself, sure, but it also points out how stupidity can cost you your life. 66. "The Walk," Scary Stories to Tell in the DarkNow here's a story that aptly portrays how the fear of oneself can be greater than the fear of the unknown. As a man walks down a dirt road, he comes across his mirror image. They make eye contact and are instantly terrified by one another. Try as we might, we're unable to escape ourselves, so it's true to life that the two continue down the same path, becoming increasingly scared by themselves. And that's it. This is seemingly their eternity. Spooky, huh? 65. "The Thing," Scary Stories to Tell in the DarkNow that we've established that your present self can be scary AF, what about your future self? In this tale, two men are faced with a skeleton decked out in black pants, a white shirt, and black suspenders. The men and the skeleton play a little cat-and-mouse game, the skeleton following the men as they run away, only to become bored and eventually leave them alone. Years later, however, one of the men becomes sick, and as he deteriorates, he looks more and more like the skeleton. Seems lame given that we're all slated to age. I suppose if you're an influencer, though, this one might hit home. 64. "A Man Who Lived in Leeds," Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark Simple and direct, the opening of this story informs us that "some say this rhyme doesn't mean anything. Others are not so sure." That's surprising given that it's a clear warning about keeping vigilant in the wake of backstabbers. And the story isn't speaking in metaphors. It literally advises that one stay on the lookout for a penknife-wielding killer, unless you want to die as blood runs down your back. 63. "Wait till Martin Comes," Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark A man looking for shelter from the rain, which is a recurring theme throughout the series, finds it in an abandoned house. Well, abandoned except for a bunch of of cats that keep insisting the man stick around until Martin comes. He doesn't and instead hightails it out of there. It's a lackluster story that fails to utilize the potential creepiness that cats can offer. 62. "The White Wolf," Scary Stories to Tell in the DarkThis one could have cracked the top 50, if it weren't so predictable. Want to avoid a gruesome death? Keep your promises. Or don't and end up like Bill the butcher. After a stint with the meat cleaver, Bill hangs up his chainmail to hunt white wolves, which are overpopulating the region. He's so good at his job that it becomes obsolete, and he makes a promise never to kill a white wolf again. Does he keep that promise, or does he try to bait a remaining wolf with a lamb only to be torn to pieces by the predator? As with a lot of these stories, which were written for children, there's a clear moral. In this case, it's pretty chill — keep your promises or die a gruesome death, kids. 61. "Alligators," Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark Alligators are scary, and they're actually having a bit of a moment right now as gator fever spreads. From Crawl to Chicago's Chance the Snapper, alligators are on the come-up. So how does this set of alligators rank? Let's see. In this story, a woman is convinced her husband is trying to turn himself and their two sons into alligators. Sure enough, her entire family vanishes while three never-before-seen alligators are spotted at a local watering hole. It's clear what happened here, which makes the scariest part of the story that no one will believe the woman. In fact, they don't even bother trying to offer her another explanation for the disappearance of her family; instead, they throw her in the hospital because "everyone knows there aren't any alligators around" there. Terrible advice: Up until this summer, there weren't any alligators in Chicago, either. 60. "Cemetery Soup," More Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark Soup is not scary. Soup is delicious. This soup, in particular, sounds most appetizing. With some carrots, green beans, corn, barley, onions, potatoes, and a "snitch of beef," with some salt and pepper, this soup is chef's kiss. The catch? The soupbone most certainly belongs to a corpse as it was found in a cemetery. Yet when the corpse comes back for what's its own, the soup-maker simply throws it back to the corpse before serving herself some soup. Scary? More like succulent. 59. "No, Thanks," Scary Stories 3: More Tales to Chill Your BonesThis is the tale of the Vector Marketing scam. You remember Vector, right? The company that convinced you and all your down-and-out friends to sell kitchen knives during college as part of a pyramid scheme? In this story, we see a man so hopeless that he resorts to cold-calling anywhere he can, even a warehouse parking lot after hours. "Hey, mister," he calls after an employee heading to his car. "Nice sharp knife … cuts nice and easy," he spews his sales pitch. "Hey, man, only three dollars. Two for five." he continues before adding, "Nice present for your mama." The mark dodges him by saying, "No, thanks. She's got one." The scary thing is? She probably does, because no one's safe from a pyramid scheme in this small town. More annoying than scary, this one sits comfortably on the chiller, not chilling end of the list. 58. "Faster and Faster," Scary Stories 3: More Tales to Chill Your BonesThe passing of time offers up a certain type of fear. It's fueled by anxiety, and something like an increasingly frantic drumbeat is sure to set it off. Here, as a ghostly drum beats faster and faster, a man watches his brother die in front of him but is unable to prove that what he heard and what he saw was real. The terror comes from time — or, rather, the lack of it. Pair that with the frustration of having to prove what you saw with your own eyes, and that's why it creeped up on the list. 57. "Rings on Her Fingers," More Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark If this story had a tagline, it would be "Don't get mad, get even." After Daisy dies and is buried in all her finery, a grave robber goes after her jewelry. Specifically, he wants her wedding ring and its smaller but stunning ruby companion. When he pries open her casket, though, her body has already started to bloat and the rings are stuck on her swollen fingers. Dude is determined, so he cuts her fingers off. But to his surprise, her fingers start to bleed and she begins to stir. Scared, he trips over a bunch of his own shit and falls directly onto his own knife. Daisy, unaffected, collects her belongings and walks home while the grave robber bleeds to death. Serves him right. 56. "Oh, Susannah!," More Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark This is absolutely not what you think it is. Not at all. That semi-charming song you used to sing at the top of your lungs as a kid has been replaced with a dorm-room nightmare. Susannah and Jane are college students living together when Susannah starts hearing "Oh, Susannah!" being hummed at irritating hours. Surely it's my roommate fucking with me, she thinks and yells at her to stop. The humming, however, does not stop, so Susannah goes over to Jane's bed to set her straight. But when she pulls the covers off, Jane she discovers her head has been cut off. Convinced it's a dream, she tells herself all will be well when she awakens, and then the story trails off, leaving us to wonder whether Jane was really decapitated or if Susannah has gone girl interrupted. 55. "The Church," More Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark Sometimes it's the smallest of things that can take you out of a story, and that's what happens here. We're off to a good start as Larry is seen driving around in his topless Jeep when a storm starts. Good, a Jeep bro is going to have his parade rained on. Passing by a cabin that he knows is haunted, he drives further to a church to seek refuge. He quickly parks his gas guzzler and runs for cover. Sure enough, the church is dry as a bone, so the man feels his way to a pew where he can stretch out and wait out the storm. But then lightning crashes, illuminating the church to reveal it is full of ghouls waiting for their graves to dry out. At this point, it seems literally anything could happen. Maybe the ghouls mercilessly tear Jeep guy apart limb by limb while mocking his chosen mode of transportation. But no, instead one of them simply says, " Baa-a-a!" That's it. All it takes is one sheep noise and the story takes a turn for the worst. 54. "Footsteps," Scary Stories 3: More Tales to Chill Your BonesThis story is eerie, sure, but entirely safe. While Liz is doing homework, she swears she hears someone in the house. Her sister Sarah is there, but for some reason Liz is certain the footsteps she hears belong to a man, even though when she goes to check who is upstairs, she's only able to find Sarah. Later, Liz sees footprints in the snow, but something tells me they're the result of a well-executed prank by her little sister. Like, if you're trying to truly scare us, let's see some blood in the snow. (Sarah, you can use ketchup for this.) 53. "Like Cats' Eyes," Scary Stories 3: More Tales to Chill Your BonesGlowing animal eyes are the No. 1 cause for alien conspiracy theories, and this story illustrates that perfectly. Are the numerous eyes that cut through the dark and seem to peer into your soul simply a collection of pets watching you sleep, or are they a family of extraterrestrials plotting your dissection? There's only one way to find out. Hit the light, if you can manage to find the courage to expose the truth. 52. "Such Things Happen," Scary Stories 3: More Tales to Chill Your BonesAs the title indicates, this story has a very so-it-goes vibe that relates directly to the death of an elderly townswoman. While the town doctor is convinced the 90-year-old died of old age, Bill, the story's protagonist, is certain he killed her via a series of spells his grandpa suggests after Bill's livestock starts mysteriously dying. Why does Bill blame this woman for the death of his livelihood? Because earlier in the story he ran over her cat and killed it. More silly than scary, and at one point an auxiliary character says, "But witches have gone out of style, haven't they?," which maybe dates the book more than the tired trope of a mystical and cruel cat lady. 51. "The Dead Hand," Scary Stories 3: More Tales to Chill Your BonesSituated directly after the classic "Harold," this story acts as a real comedown. Starting off slow, we're introduced to Tom Pattison, who rather stupidly for a Scary Stories character, comments, "I work out there every day. Not once have I ever seen anything to frighten me. Why should it be different at night?" Well, Tom, because shit goes bump in the night, which he quickly learns when a dismembered hand reaches for his in the dark. And then no one can find Tom for weeks. When turns up again, he's clearly traumatized, and where his hand is supposed to be there's nothing but a "ragged stump oozing blood." So although this tale of hand-on-hand crime doesn't outshine "Harold," it does remind you there's still something scary about the dark. 50. "Bess," Scary Stories 3: More Tales to Chill Your BonesThis twisted tale takes us on a familiar journey to a fortune-teller. As with the majority of stories that involve a mystic, her word goes unheeded. In this particular take, John Nicholas visits the fortune-teller and is told his beloved horse, Bess, will be the death of him. Only slightly worried, he mostly laughs it off and completely forgets about it once he retires the horse and sells it to a family for their kids to ride. Eventually, Bess dies. Remembering his fort

trying to avoid. It also features one hell of a horrific asshole. Aaron Kelly is a man who refuses to let his wife experience any sort of happiness or security after he dies (and quite frankly, I'm sure he was an asshole to her when he was alive, too). Although he doesn't necessarily haunt her, he does make it extremely difficult for her to move on by refusing to stay in his coffin. Asserting that he "doesn't feel dead," his skeleton walks around looking shitty, but not shitty enough to convince the insurance company not to pay out his widow. And when the widow gets a chance to remarry, do you think Aaron allows it? Absolutely not; instead, he makes sure to chase off her suitor. Talk about deadweight. 6. "Sounds," More Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark This is an especially dark tale about a woman's cries for help going unanswered. One of many seeking-shelter-from-the-storm stories in the series, this is by far the scariest. While three men wait out the storm on the first level of an abandoned beach house, they hear screams coming from upstairs. Then blood begins to drip from the ceiling. "Not me!" screams a woman, followed by a man's voice yelling, "I'll get you!" There's a brief silence followed by a deafening laugh, then the three men downstairs hear someone dragging something heavy down the stairs and out the door. At no point did any of the men think to help the woman upstairs, and only after she is clearly murdered do they feel true terror and go running from the house. 5. "One Sunday Morning," More Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark If you ever slept through your alarm — or worse, thought you were setting one on your phone only to later realize you were fucking around on your calculator in a sleepy haze — here's the horror story for you. Waking up to the sound of church bells, Ida realizes she's late for the service and rushes out the door. Once she arrives and takes a seat, she starts to realize the congregation looks unfamiliar. Finally, she recognizes a friendly face, only to remember the person died a long time ago. One by one, Ida realizes each person there is already dead and runs out of the church barely escaping as a few of her garments are ripped off her and torn to shreds by the undead. It's a relatable, real-life nightmare that transcends your basic late-for-work and naked-in-front-of-co-workers disasters. 4. "Just Delicious," Scary Stories 3: More Tales to Chill Your BonesHere's the scariest line of the story: "George was a bully, and Mina was a timid woman who did everything he asked because she was afraid of him." One day, a neighbor dies and Mina mentions it to George, who brushes her off as always. Defeated and unable to have a conversation with her husband, Mina begins to prepare George's food for the day. While he's out, she's feeling peckish and begins to pick at the liver she had cooked up. Before she knows it, she's eaten the entire thing. Worried how George will react — "He would be angry and mean and she did not want to face that again" — she goes over to the neighbor's place to secure a substitute liver. Cannibalism as a means to avoid abuse? That's terrifying. 3. "The Man in the Middle," More Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark What's the worst part about public transportation? The delays? The crowd? The smell? I'm going to go with being alone on a train car when three seemingly drunk bros drop in, two of whom are propping up their friend Jim. And of course, Jim's friends ditch him at their stops, leaving him to writhe around while Sally, still all alone, is too frightened to switch train cars, because why draw attention to yourself when you can instead try to become invisible from the male gaze? Then the train goes around a sharp curve and Jim goes flying and where does he land but at Sally's feet. That's what happens in this super-scary-because-it-could-so-easily-happen-to-you story. Photo: Stephen Gammell/Harper & Row 2. "The Red Spot," Scary Stories 3: More Tales to Chill Your BonesWaking up with a red spot on your face is hell. Is it a pimple? Maybe it's a bugbite. Oh God, is it bedbugs? The possibilities are all unpleasant, as is the transformation that occurred during the night unbeknownst to you. Add to that the unavoidable urge to pick, and you're screwed. Or maybe not — maybe you're like this iconic story's protagonist, so you go the hot-compress route, hoping to help the blemish work its way out. Joke's on you, though; instead of a puss-pop situation, a shitload of baby spiders come crawling out like it's Charlotte's Web or something. Horrifying. 1. "Harold," Scary Stories 3: More Tales to Chill Your BonesThis is it, the scariest story. Fittingly, it's featured heavily in the trailer for the movie, although it's clearly been updated. Originally, Harold the scarecrow is created so two men who are dissatisfied with their lives have something to take it out on. Named after another farmer they hate, the two men routinely abuse Harold in the most horrific manner, completely unable to fathom a healthy outlet for their unhappiness. As the story says, "They would curse at him, even kick or punch him." While it may seem harmless enough to abuse an inanimate object, the pent-up hostility exhibited by the two farmers is spine-chilling. Even scarier is when Harold is no longer a replica of a man and is instead a living and very vengeful human being. And what is Harold's payback? Why, he skins the farmers and spreads out their bodies to bake in the sun, of course. One of the most widely-remembered of the Scary Stories series, Harold is a haunt we can't shake, a reminder that our wrongdoings have consequences, and, if this movie has anything to do with it, the renewed source of our nightmares. All 82 Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark, Ranked 1David Wall//Getty ImagesLa Llorona is a fixture of Mexican folklore. In this story, Silvia Moren0-Garcia—author of the horror novel Mexican Gothic—puts a modern twist on the age-old tale, by casting a homeless woman as the legendary La Llorona. Read Now2Nuno Serrao / EyeEm//Getty ImagesAdapted into a podcast in 2020, "The Left Right Game's" first incarnation was as a post on "No Sleep" subreddit, where users submit fictional stories often framed as urban legends. "The Left Right Game" quickly garnered a reputation as one of most elaborate, unexpected, and downright terrifying entries ever. It's about a supposedly harmless game, which can be played on any old suburban road. Read NowAdvertisement - Continue Reading Below3Maskot//Getty ImagesIf you're looking for a small story that packs a big scare, check out this imaginative riff of a fixture of the modern age: the cellphone. A girl buys a smartphone that happens to have pictures that foretell her own doom.Read Now4Paul Husband//Getty ImagesJoe Hill comes from horror pedigree: His father is the Stephen King. With this short story (and all of his novels), Hill shows his own distinct, but equally chilling, style. "Abraham's Boys" is about the sons of the Dutch vampire hunter, Professor Abraham Van Helsing—the sons have no idea who their father really was.Read NowAdvertisement - Continue Reading Below5Sanja Baljkas//Getty Images"Snakes are easy. It's people that I don't know how to charm," the narrator of this sneaky and unexpected story says, at one point—before the plot gets extremely gnarly (trust us, it will). "All the Fabulous Beasts" uses tropes of horror and metamorphosis to discuss trauma rooted in reality.Read Now6Ghislain & Marie David de Lossy//Getty ImagesLooking for a kid-friendly story to read around the campfire? We've got you covered with this charming short story about a house in Arkansas that's teeming with ghosts—but the friendly kind. Read NowAdvertisement - Continue Reading Below7Johner Images//Getty ImagesDread. That's the word that best describes this early short story from the legendary Joyce Carol Oates. Connie is a teenage girl at odds with her family, so she turns to the world for companionship. What she finds may be even worse. Read Now8Dmitry Ageev//Getty ImagesCarmilla is a vampire novel first published in 1872, predating Dracula by two decades. In 2019, the acclaimed author Carmen Maria Machado edited a new edition of Carmilla. While promoting the book, Machado had quite an...unexpected interview with Electric Literature. It's best not to give away any details from the interview. Just be sure to read until the end—because frankly, this deliciously creepy Q&A is better than any vampire movie.Read NowAdvertisement - Continue Reading Below9Dustin Prestridge / EyeEm//Getty Images10Ippei Naoi//Getty ImagesIf it's a Neil Gaiman story, you know you're in for an enchanting, magical, and yes—slightly creepy ride. This short story, in particular, begins with an extremely evocative opening; the kind that teases a story you'll read in one sitting. Follow along as our unnamed protagonist searches through dark caves to find what he's looking for, and encounter what he isn't. Read NowAdvertisement - Continue Reading Below11David Trood//Getty ImagesKali Fajardo-Anstine's short story follows a 20-something-year-old woman living in a remote desert house with a mind of its own—literally. While there are horrors in this story, they're not supernatural but an all-too-common kind.Read Now12Wal Vas//Getty ImagesRebecca author Daphne DuMaurier wrote "The Doll" when she was 20 years old. Then, it was lost for approximately 70 years, only resurfacing in 2010. The legend around "The Doll" is but an appetizer for the delightfully creepy story itself, which foreshadows DuMaurier's career as an author of unforgettable gothic fiction.Read NowAdvertisement - Continue Reading Below13Heritage Images//Getty ImagesIf you are looking for a great gothic story about vampirism, look no further than "The Lady of the House of Love." This short from renowned author Angela Carter follows a female vampire queen on her quest to find her next victim.Read Now 14Picture taken by Sebastian Rose//Getty ImagesIn "Patient Zero" we meet Jay, a little boy who has been in the hospital for a long, long time. In fact, Jay is not allowed to leave. But why are the doctors and nurses going to such lengths to keep Jay locked away, and who really is the danger? Tananarive Due asks these questions and more in this short, thrilling tale.Read NowAdvertisement - Continue Reading Below15JackF//Getty Images"Hello, Moto" is a short story about three best friends, each in possession of a magical wig. While the wearers planned to use their powers for good, the tone of the story takes a sudden and abrupt shift when the wigs possess them.Read Now 16David Wall//Getty ImagesEmily Carroll is known for her creepy, horror comics, and "His Face All Red" is one of her most popular pieces. The pacing is solid, atmosphere is chilling, and tale is top notch.Read NowAdvertisement - Continue Reading Below17Jekaterina Nikitina//Getty ImagesFrom the very beginning of this haunting short story, one thing is clear: Momma is sick and her kids are suffering. But what is the cause of Momma's illness? The truth is terrifying.Read Now 18Tim Graham//Getty ImagesSummer camps are the perfect horror setting. After all, kids reside in these facilities alone, with no parents and little to no supervision. However, the camp in "How to Get Back to the Forest" is unlike any other, and we quickly learn these children are never going home.Read NowAdvertisement - Continue Reading Below19David Wall//Getty ImagesBrian Everson's "A Collapse of Horses"—for which an entire collection of stories was later named—isn't about gore or jump scares; instead, it follows an unreliable narrator through a confusing, post-traumatic time. A solid psychological thriller.Read NowElena NicolaouElena Nicolaou is the former culture editor at Oprah Daily. Watch Next Advertisement - Continue Reading Below Production Company CBS Films Entertainment One Roling Hills Productions 1212 Entertainment Double Dare You (DDY) Hivemind Canadian Film or Video Production Services Tax Credit (PSTC) Starlight Culture Entertainment Sierra / Affinity Starlight Media Release Date Aug 9, 2019 Duration 1 h 48 m Rating PG-13 Genres Tagline Based on the iconic book series. Website Cast & crewUser reviewsTriviaFAQPennsylvania, 1968. After playing a joke on a school bully, Stella and her friends decide to sneak into a haunted house that once belonged to the powerful Bellows family, unleashing dark for... Read allPennsylvania, 1968. After playing a joke on a school bully, Stella and her friends decide to sneak into a haunted house that once belonged to the powerful Bellows family, unleashing dark forces that they will be unable to control.Pennsylvania, 1968. After playing a joke on a school bully, Stella and her friends decide to sneak into a haunted house that once belonged to the powerful Bellows family, unleashing dark forces that they will be unable to control.Sign in to rate and Watchlist for personalized recommendationsSign inSuggest an edit or add missing contentYou have no recently viewed pages In Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark, Auggie (Gabriel Rush) and Chuck (Austin Zajur) convince their nerdy friend Stella (Zoe Margaret Colletti) to come out for Halloween. But when the boys' Halloween prank on town bully Tommy (Austin Abrams) goes wrong, all three teenagers end up hiding in the car of a stranger named Ramon (Michael Garza), who's passing through town. Once the threat has passed, the teenagers decide to take Ramon to see something really spooky.The old Bellows house is an old mansion on the edge of town. It has long been boarded up in the hope that no-one will go inside and unleash the darkness responsible for the disappearance of numerous children. Ramon easily unlocks the door, and they explore the house. Ramon and Stella uncover the entrance to a secret room where the legendary Sarah Bellows (Kathleen Pollard) was confined, weaving her web of horror stories that brought terror and death. Stella comes across Sarah's book, which contains numerous handwritten scary stories. Stella decides to take it home to read.Unfortunately, Sarah is angry, and the horror is unleashed through her stories once again. Now it's up to Stella and her friends to solve the mystery of Sarah Bellows and stop the darkness before they all disappear. ThemesFamily breakdown; adolescents separated from family; teenagers as victims; familial abuse; racism ViolenceScary Stories to Tell in the Dark has some violence. For example:A boy smashes a scarecrow in the face with bottles and a baseball bat.A boy lights a bag of poo on fire and throws it into the car of a local bully.Tommy smashes, dents and writes graffiti on Ramon's car.A creepy scarecrow stabs Tommy through the chest with a pitch fork.A huge monster breaks the sheriff's neck.Ramon explains how his brother was shipped back from Vietnam in pieces.Ramon smashes a monster into a truck and pins it there. It then disassembles itself, body parts falling off, and pieces itself back together again to keep chasing Ramon.There's a recording of what sounds like Sarah being tortured by her family.Stella is dragged by the hair and thrown into a room. Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark has some sexual references. For example:Chuck tells Auggie to stop 'perving' on his sister.Chuck says that he can't die as he hasn't even had sex yet. Alcohol, drugs and other substancesScary Stories to Tell in the Dark shows some use of substances. For example, a group of teenage bullies gets drunk on Halloween night. Tommy's mother yells at Tommy, 'Are you drunk again?' Nudity and sexual activityScary Stories to Tell in the Dark has some nudity. For example, one of the boys has a pen with an image of a woman on it. When he turns the pen, the woman's clothes disappear. Product placementA Coca-Cola cup is briefly shown in one scene in Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark. Coarse languageScary Stories to Tell in the Dark has some coarse language and name-calling. Ideas to discuss with your childrenScary Stories to Tell in the Dark is a horror movie based on the series of books by Alvin Schwartz. It's well-made, but it isn't a movie for young viewers. It's better suited to older teenagers.The main messages from this movie are to never give up and to always remember that there is power in stories. Stories can set us free, teach us to care, make us brave enough to face our deepest fears, and help us find our way home.Values in this movie that you could reinforce with your children include persistence, friendship, loyalty, courage and empathy.This movie could also give you the chance to talk with your children about real-life issues like:judging people based on ethnicitybullying othersvandalising property and being violent to get revengehiding the truth and punishing innocent people. The days grow short and a chill hangs in the air… There is no better way to pass the time than these scary stories to tell in the dark… The Best Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark I can't count how many nights I spent huddled around a campfire deep in the Piney Woods National Forest of east Texas, listening to the scary stories and urban legends that turned darker the lower the fire burned. It always ended with my uncle telling us to "sleep tight…" which of course, I was never able to. Fall is an incredible time to be outdoors and the perfect time to tell ghost stories. The night grows dark, the flames lay low and begin to smolder, uneven light flickers and shadows slither across otherwise familiar faces… there is no better way to pass the time. I've put together a short list of my favorite urban legends and scary stories to tell in the dark for you to share with your own family. The trouble with urban legends is most of them are steeped in truth. But where does the truth end… and where does the story begin? Can you separate fact from fiction? Can you "up" the scare factor and make them more believable…more terrifying? Below are just a few samples of some of the best ghost stories I've come across: Drip Drip Drip One night a young girl, Lily Foster, is left alone for the night, in her country house, while her parents drove out to town for a party. This was fine with Lily, especially since she had her faithful dog, Scout, protecting her throughout the night. She made herself something to eat and sat down at the kitchen table. Turning on the radio to her favorite station, she was surprised to hear a news bulletin declaring that an avenged murderer was on the loose. It advised that people secure all windows and doors as a safety precaution. With her dog by her side, the young girl locked the front and back doors. She went from window to window and locked each of them one at a time. Lily reassured herself that she would be fine with her trusty dog and that her parents would be home shortly, anyway. So, Lily had a pleasant, peaceful evening, and finally decided around eleven o'clock that it was time for bed. She climbed the stairs to her bedroom and slid under the big, warm blanket on her bed. Before closing her eyes she reached her hand down under the bed, and allowed her dog to lick it – she did this every night because it comforted her. A short while later she awoke to the sound of a scratching noise at her bedroom window. She eyed the window and reminded herself that the whole house was locked and she was safe. She stuck her hand under her bed and felt her dog's slobbery tongue cross over the palm of her hand. Sighing, she went back to sleep. An hour or so later she sat up in bed. She had heard footsteps in the hallway and crept out of bed to see if it was possibly just her parents returning from their party. Seeing nothing, she returned to bed. As she was about to stick her hand under the bed, she heard a drip, drip, drip, followed by some footsteps. She walked downstairs into the kitchen and secured the taps. That surely wasn't the source of the drip. She crept upstairs and climbed into bed. "This is silly," she told herself. "I'm probably just imagining things." She stuck her hand under the bed and felt the dog lick her hand. An hour later she awoke again. A little mad at this point, she jumped out of bed. The dripping wasn't coming from the kitchen so it must be from the bathroom. She crept along the side of the hallway and walked into the bathroom. Groping along the side of the wall with her left hand, looking for the light switch, she flicked the light on and gasped. There, hanging from the shower rod was Scout. Skinned… and dangling lifeless, a pool of blood had formed on the bathroom tile with a continuous 'drip, drip, drip' as the blood from the dog slowly spattered on the floor. Something on the wall caught her eye. Written on the wall was a message in blood: "Humans can lick too." Some Things Are Better Left Unseen… She commandeered the room in the basement of her dorm as soon as she realized she would have to pull an all-nighter in order to prepare for tomorrow's final exam. Her roommate, Jenna, liked to get to bed early, so she packed up everything she thought she would need and went downstairs to study . . . and study . . . and study some more. It was two o'clock, when she realized that she'd left one of the textbooks upstairs on her bed. With a dramatic sigh, she rose and climbed the stairs slowly to her third-floor dorm room. The lights were dim in the long hallway, and the old boards creaked under her weary tread. She reached her room and turned the handle as softly as she could, pushing the door open just enough to slip inside, so that the hall lights wouldn't wake her roommate. The room was filled with a strange, metallic smell. She frowned a bit, her arms breaking out into chills. There was a strange feeling of malice in the room as if a malevolent gaze were fixed upon her. It was a mind trick; the all-nighter was catching up with her. She could hear Jenna breathing on the far side of the room—a heavy sound, almost as if she had been running. Jenna must have picked up a cold during the last tense week before finals. She crept along the wall until she reached her bed, groping among the covers for the stray history textbook. In the silence, she could hear a steady drip-drip-drip sound. She sighed silently. Facilities would have to come to fix the sink in the bathroom…again. Her fingers closed on the textbook. She picked it up softly and withdrew from the room as silently as she could. Relieved to be out of the room, she hurried back downstairs, collapsed into an overstuffed chair and studied until six o'clock. She finally decided that enough was enough. If she slipped upstairs now, she could get a couple hours' sleep before her nine o'clock exam. The first of the sun's rays were beaming through the windows as she slowly slid the door open, hoping not to awaken Jenna. Her nose was met by that same earthy, metallic smell a second before her eyes registered the scene in her dorm room. Jenna was spread-eagled on top of her bed against the far wall, her throat slashed from ear to ear and her nightdress stained with blood. Two drops of blood fell from the saturated blanket with a drip-drip noise that sounded like a leaky faucet. Scream after scream poured from her mouth, but she couldn't stop herself any more than she could cease wringing her hands. All along the hallway, doors slammed and footsteps came running down the hall. Within seconds the other students had gathered in her doorway, and one of her friends gripped her arm with a shaking hand and pointed a trembling finger toward the wall. Her eyes widened in shock at what she saw. Then she fainted into her friend's arms. On the wall above her bed, written in her roommate's blood, were the words: "Aren't you glad you didn't turn on the light?" Ring Ring… A married couple was going out for the evening and called in a teenage babysitter to take care of their three children. When she arrived they told her they probably wouldn't be back until late, and that the kids were already asleep so she needn't disturb them. It should have been an easy night… The babysitter starts doing her homework while awaiting a call from her boyfriend. After a while the phone rings. She answers it, but hears no one on the other end – just a slow…heavy…breathing. After several moments the line goes dead. Ten minutes later, the phone rings again. She answers, and this time, there's a man on the line who says, in a chilling voice, "Have you checked on the children?" Click. At first, she thinks it might have been the father calling to check up and he got interrupted, so she decides to ignore it. She goes back to her homework, then the phone rings again. Ring, ring. "Have you checked on the children?" says the creepy voice on the other end. "Mr. Murphy?" she asks, but the caller hangs up again. She decides to phone the restaurant where the parents said they'd be dining, but when she asks for Mr. Murphy she is told that he and his wife had left the restaurant 45 minutes earlier. So she calls the police and reports that a stranger has been calling her and hanging up. "Has he threatened you?" the dispatcher asks. No, she says. "Well, there's nothing we can really do about it. You could try reporting the prank caller to the phone company." A few minutes go by and she gets another call. Ring, ring. "Why haven't you checked the children?" the voice says. "Who is this?" she asks, but he hangs up again. She dials 911 again and says, "I'm scared. I know he's out there, he's watching me." "Have you seen him?" the dispatcher asks. She says no. "Well, there isn't much we can do about it," the dispatcher says. The babysitter goes into a panic and pleads with him to help her. "Now, now, it'll be okay," he says. "Give me your number and street address, and if you can keep this guy on the phone for at least a minute we'll try to trace the call. What was your name again?" "Linda." "Okay, Linda, if he calls back we'll do our best to trace the call, but just keep calm. Can you do that for me?" "Yes," she says, and hangs up. She decides to turn the lights down so she can see if anyone's outside, and that's when she gets another call. Ring, ring. "It's me," the familiar voice says. "Why did you turn the lights down?" "Can you see me?" she asks, panicking. "Yes… that's such a pretty dress you're wearing Linda" he says after a long pause. "Look, you've scared me," she says. "I'm shaking. Are you happy? Is that what you wanted?" "No." "Then what do you want?" she asks. Another long pause. "To see what your insides look like, Linda," he said with a low ominous chuckle. She slams the phone down, terrified. Almost immediately it rings again. Ring, ring. "Leave me alone!" she screams, but it's the dispatcher calling back. His voice is urgent. "Linda, we've traced that call. It's coming from inside the house. Get out of there! Now!!!" She tears to the front door, attempting to unlock it and dash outside, only to find the chain at the top still latched. In the time it takes her to unhook it she sees a door open at the top of the stairs. Light streams from the children's bedroom, revealing the profile of a man standing just inside. She finally gets the door open and bursts outside, only to find an officer standing on the doorstep with his gun drawn. The officer rushes in and up the stairs… They capture the man and as they drag him down the stairs linda notices the blood… but it's not his own. As he's being lead to the car, the man screams: "WHY DIDN'T YOU CHECK ON THE CHILDREN LINDA! IT'S ALL...YOUR...FAULT!" These are just a couple of my favorite scary stories… but there are so many more floating around and so many variations that there's no way to even make a dent in them. If you want a great place to start looking for new scary stories to make your next campfire a real fright fest… Click here now! One thing to keep in mind…not every scary story needs a long set up…sometimes even just two sentences can be enough to raise the hair on the back of your neck Creepy Two-Sentence Scary Stories To Tell In The Dark Image Credit: Bonus: This one would be a little long to commit to memory and tell around a campfire but it is by far one of the most unsettling stories I've ever read. Caution: This one gave me nightmares.… The Russian Sleep Experiment Russian researchers in the late 1940s kept five people awake for fifteen days using an experimental gas-based stimulant. They were kept in a sealed environment to carefully monitor their oxygen intake so the gas didn't kill them, since it was toxic in high concentrations. This was before closed circuit cameras so they had only microphones and five-inch thick glass porthole sized windows into the chamber to monitor them. The chamber was stocked with books, cots to sleep on but no bedding, running water and toilet, and enough dried food to last all five for over a month. The test subjects were political prisoners deemed enemies of the state during World War II. Everything was fine for the first five days… The subjects hardly complained having been promised (falsely) that they would be freed if they submitted to the test and did not sleep for 30 days. Their conversations and activities were monitored and it was noted that they continued to talk about increasingly traumatic incidents in their past, and the general tone of their conversations took on a darker aspect after the four day mark. After five days they started to complain about the circumstances and events that lead them to where they were and started to demonstrate severe paranoia. They stopped talking to each other and began alternately whispering to the microphones and one way mirrored portholes. Oddly they all seemed to think they could win the trust of the experimenters by turning over their comrades, the other subjects in captivity with them. At first the researchers suspected this was an effect of the gas itself… After nine days the first of them started screaming. He ran the length of the chamber repeatedly yelling at the top of his lungs for three hours straight, he continued attempting to scream but was only able to produce occasional squeaks. The researchers postulated that he had physically torn his vocal cords. The most surprising thing about this behavior is how the other captives reacted to it… or rather didn't react to it. They continued whispering to the microphones until the second of the captives started to scream. The non-screaming captives took the books apart, smeared page after page with their own feces and pasted them calmly over the glass portholes. The screaming promptly stopped. So did the whispering to the microphones. After three more days passed. The researchers checked the microphones hourly to make sure they were working, since they thought it impossible that no sound could be coming with five people inside. The oxygen consumption in the chamber indicated that all five must still be alive. In fact it was the amount of oxygen five people would consume at a very heavy level of strenuous exercise. On the morning of the 14th day, the researchers did something they said they would not do to get a reaction from the captives, they used the intercom inside the chamber, hoping to provoke any response from the captives they were afraid were either dead or vegetables. They announced: "We are opening the chamber to test the microphones; step away from the door and lie flat on the floor or you will be shot. Compliance will earn one of you immediate freedom." To their surprise, they heard a single phrase in a calm voice response: "We no longer want to be freed." Debate quickly broke out among the researchers and the military forces funding the research. Unable to provoke any more response using the intercom it was finally decided to open the chamber at midnight on the fifteenth day. The chamber was flushed of the stimulant gas and filled with fresh air and immediately voices from the microphones began to object. 3 different voices began begging as if pleading for the life of loved ones to turn the gas back on. The chamber was opened and soldiers sent in to retrieve the test subjects. They began to scream louder than ever, and so did the soldiers when they saw what was inside. Four of the five subjects were still alive, although no one could rightly call the state that any of them were in 'life.' The food rations past day five had not been so much as touched. There were chunks of meat from the dead test subject's thighs and chest stuffed into the drain in the center of the chamber, blocking the drain and allowing four inches of water to accumulate on the floor. Precisely how much of the water on the floor was actually blood was never determined… All four 'surviving' test subjects also had large portions of muscle and skin torn away from their bodies. The destruction of flesh and exposed bone on their finger tips indicated that the wounds were inflicted by hand, not with teeth as the researchers initially thought. Closer examination of the position and angles of the wounds indicated that most if not all of them were self-inflicted. The abdominal organs below the ribcage of all four test subjects had been removed… While the heart, lungs, and diaphragm remained in place, the skin and most of the muscles attached to the ribs had been ripped off, exposing the lungs through the ribcage. All the blood vessels and organs remained intact, they had just been taken out and laid on the floor, fanning out around the eviscerated but still living bodies of the subjects. The digestive tract of all four could be seen to be working, digesting food. It quickly became apparent that what they were digesting was their own flesh that they had ripped off and eaten over the course of days. Most of the soldiers were Russian special operatives at the facility, but still many refused to return to the chamber to remove the test subjects. They continued to scream to be left in the chamber and alternately begged and demanded that the gas be turned back on, lest they fall asleep… To everyone's surprise… The test subjects put up a fierce fight in the process of being removed from the chamber. One of the Russian soldiers died from having his throat ripped out, another was gravely injured by having his testicles ripped off and an artery in his leg severed by one of the subject's teeth. Another 5 of the soldiers lost their lives if you count ones that committed suicide in the weeks following the incident. In the struggle, one of the four living subjects had his spleen ruptured and he bled out almost immediately. The medical researchers attempted to sedate him but this proved impossible. He was injected with more than ten times the human dose of a morphine derivative and still fought like a cornered animal, breaking the ribs and arm of one doctor. When his heart was seen to beat for a full two minutes after he had bled out to the point there was more air in his vascular system than blood. Even after it stopped he continued to scream and flail for another three minutes, struggling to attack anyone in reach and just repeating the word "MORE" over and over, weaker and weaker, until he finally fell silent. The surviving three test subjects… They were heavily restrained and moved to a medical facility, the two with intact vocal cords continuously begging for the gas demanding to be kept awake… The most injured of the three was taken to the only surgical operating room that the facility had. In the process of preparing him to have his organs placed back within his body it was found that he was effectively immune to the sedative they had given him. He fought furiously against his restraints when the anesthetic gas was brought out to put him under. The subject managed to tear most of the way through a four inch wide leather strap on one wrist, even through the weight of a 200 pound soldier was holding that wrist as well. It took only a little more anesthetic than normal to put him under, and the instant his eyelids fluttered shut, his heart stopped. In the autopsy of the test subject that died on the operating table… It was found that his blood had triple the normal level of oxygen. His muscles that were still attached to his skeleton were badly torn and he had broken 9 bones in his struggle to not be subdued. Most of them were from the force his own muscles had exerted on them. The second survivor had been the first of the group of five to start screaming. His vocal cords destroyed, he was unable to beg or object to surgery, and he only reacted by shaking his head violently in disapproval when the anesthetic gas was brought near him. He shook his head yes when someone suggested, reluctantly, they try the surgery without anesthetic and did not react for the entire six hour procedure of replacing his abdominal organs and attempting to cover them with what remained of his skin. The surgeon presiding stated repeatedly that it should be medically possible for the patient to still be alive… One terrified nurse assisting the surgery stated that she had seen the patient's mouth curl into a smile several times, whenever his eyes met hers. When the surgery ended the subject looked at the surgeon and began to wheeze loudly, attempting to talk while struggling. Assuming this must be something of drastic importance the surgeon had a pen and pad fetched so the patient could write his message. It was simple. "Keep cutting." The other two test subjects were given the same surgery, both without anesthetic as well. Although they had to be injected with a paralytic for the duration of the operation. The surgeon found it impossible to perform the operation while the patients laughed continuously. Once paralyzed the subjects could only follow the attending researchers with their eyes. The paralytic cleared their system in an abnormally short period of time and they were soon trying to escape their bonds. The moment they could speak they were again asking for the stimulant gas. The researchers tried asking why they had injured themselves, why they had ripped out their own guts and why they wanted to be given the gas again. Only one response was given: "I must remain awake." All three subject's restraints were reinforced and they were placed back into the chamber awaiting determination as to what should be done with them. The researchers, facing the wrath of their military 'benefactors' for having failed the stated goals of their project considered euthanizing the surviving subjects. The commanding officer, an ex-KGB instead saw potential, and wanted to see what would happen if they were put back on the gas. The researchers strongly objected, but were overruled. In preparation for being sealed in the chamber again the subjects were connected to an EEG monitor and had their restraints padded for long term confinement. To everyone's surprise, all three of the subjects stopped struggling the moment it was known that they were going back in the gas chamber. It was obvious that at this point all three were putting up a great struggle to stay awake. One of the subjects that could speak was humming loudly and continuously; the mute subject was straining his legs against the leather bonds with all his might, first left, then right, then left again for something to focus on. The remaining subject was holding his head off his pillow and blinking rapidly. Having been the first to be wired for EEG most of the researchers were monitoring his brain waves in surprise. They were normal most of the time but then, sometimes they would flat line inexplicably. It looked as if he were repeatedly suffering brain death, before returning to normal. As they focused on paper scrolling out of the brainwave monitor only one nurse saw his eyes slip shut at the same moment his head hit the pillow. His brainwaves immediately changed to that of deep sleep, then flat lined for the last time as his heart simultaneously stopped. The only remaining subject that could speak started screaming to be sealed in now. His brainwaves showed the same flat lines as one who had just died from falling asleep. The commander gave the order to seal the chamber with both subjects inside, as well as three researchers. One of the named three immediately drew his gun and shot the commander point blank between the eyes, then turned the gun on the mute subject and blew his brains out as well. He pointed his gun at the remaining subject, still restrained to a bed as the remaining members of the medical and research team fled the room. "I won't be locked in here with these things! Not with you!" he screamed at the man strapped to the table. "WHAT ARE YOU?" he demanded. "I must know!" The subject smiled. "Have you forgotten so easily?" the subject asked. "We are you. We are the madness that lurks within you all, begging to be free at every moment in your deepest animal mind. We are what you hide from in your beds every night. We are what you sedate into silence and paralysis when you go to the nocturnal haven where we cannot tread." The researcher paused. Then aimed at the subject's heart and fired. The EEG flatlined as the subject weakly choked out, "So… nearly… free…" Need a little more inspiration? Check out these 30 urban legends that turned out to be true… What's your favorite scary story to tell around the campfire? Think you can give us a fright? Share it in the comments below… I'd love to read. If you're looking for useful survival gear that you can't make at home, check out the Survival Life Store! Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and Pinterest! Editor's Note: This post was originally published on October 21, 2016, and has been updated for quality and relevancy. Buffy the Vampire Slayer fan-favorite James Marsters speaks out about the upcoming Buffy sequel - and what he believes has happened to Spike. Phil Leotardo had a quick rise to the top and gruesome downfall as the rival mob boss to Tony Soprano in The Sopranos. Melissa Rauch shares bad news for Night Court fans hoping for a series rescue. After recently receiving a new streaming home, the zombie film is experiencing a lot of popularity. From's Season 3 finale introduced time-traveling, but fans are worried it could be used to bring back a problematic character in Season 4. One of Doctor Doom's most powerful super teams is quickly proving why they will never be able to hold themselves together against any real competition Gary Oldman quickly became a high-demand actor for villain roles. Hello Kitty and Hatsune Miku are reuniting for another fantastical figurine featuring two of the most popular characters of their eras. Marvel announces a new Secret Wars story and reveals details about the new cast of heroes -- and which universe's they're coming from. Dragon Ball Gekishin Squadra is the newest Dragon Ball game. What do fans need to know? One of the greatest animated series of all time is coming back thanks to a new limited series, and it could solve an infamous Spider-Man mystery. The Cobra Kai creators almost got everything they wanted, but one plan was cut off. Two Netflix shows are back, but even with better scores, they failed to become big streaming hits. Pokemon fans were thrilled to play the games on Nintendo's new console, but it looks like making the transfer is more of a risk than we thought. One star of Thunderbolts* reveals she knew a major MCU twist was coming years before anyone else did, and her co-stars reveal how it was kept secret. The last few weeks have been filled with quality films for the entire family, and Pixar is adding a new one. The LEGO series has largely been known as a couch co-op franchise, but the brand is tapping into Nintendo territory with this latest party title. Arrowverse alum Melissa Benoist is as much into the DC Universe's reboot of Superman as the rest of movie enthusiasts this summer. Gerard Butler is experiencing success both in theaters and on streaming. Springsteen: Deliver Me From Nowhere Jeremy Allen White heads from the ring to the stage with his latest biopic role. Page 2 One star of Thunderbolts* reveals she knew a major MCU twist was coming years before anyone else did, and her co-stars reveal how it was kept secret. The last few weeks have been filled with quality films for the entire family, and Pixar is adding a new one. The LEGO series has largely been known as a couch co-op franchise, but the brand is tapping into Nintendo territory with this latest party title. Arrowverse alum Melissa Benoist is as much into the DC Universe's reboot of Superman as the rest of movie enthusiasts this summer. Dragon Ball Super fans can't wait for the Black Frieza Saga, but the long-awaited arc could potentially be a huge disaster. Jurassic Park and Jurassic World have some fearsome creatures, but there are a few dinosaurs that have no equals. Gerard Butler is experiencing success both in theaters and on streaming. Springsteen: Deliver Me From Nowhere Jeremy Allen White heads from the ring to the stage with his latest biopic role. Gone Girl was a thriller that audiences can never forget, but there's a show that captures that same energy in a great way. Cineverse, Bloody Disgusting, and Iconic Events Releasing unveil the domestic release dates for two highly anticipated horror reboots. There's good news for Hololive and Mori Calliope fans coming this August, with the VTuber agency sharing new details for a special event. IDW Publishing is on the verge of kicking off the next great era in Star Trek history, and it all begins with the conclusion of Star Trek: Omega. One Punch Man is finally returning for Season 3, but fans deserve to know why it took so long to arrive. Springsteen: Deliver Me From Nowhere Jeremy Allen White is Bruce Springsteen in the new trailer for Springsteen: Deliver Me From Nowhere. In theaters October 24. One of the Blade Runner franchise's most underrated heroes is coming back with a brand new comic book limited series from Titan Comics. The current movie season has been a wild one, with plenty of exciting new releases. With so many films in theaters, which are actually worth watching? Netflix is now embarking on a promo campaign for Wednesday, teasing its newcomers. With the announcement that James Gunn and the DCU are actively working on a new film, fans are already discussing possible villains who could appear. The footage reveals the amount of work that went into creating two versions of Jordan on screen. Jujutsu Kaisen loves pain and suffering a little too much. Page 3 This Studio Ghibli movie is a rare misstep in their nearly flawless legacy, and its ugly visuals prove you can judge a book by its cover. The NCIS spinoff is going to arrive much sooner than many fans were expecting. Jost explains exactly where his fear came from during the writing process. Alex Garland explains the evolution at the heart of the film's rage-zombie hordes. Lawrence opens up about how medicine has changed and what that means for the characters in the upcoming revival series. The actor says the upcoming horror blockbuster is far from the average scary movie. Harrison Ford and Henry Winkler might not be an expected duo, but this forgotten war film is still among their best work. One of the most beloved (and hard to find) pieces of Sailor Moon merchandise is getting a much-needed re-release seven years after hitting shelves. Power Levels have always been hard to keep track of, but these fan-made ones actually line up with what's depicted in the anime and manga. These anime series are perfect to throw on the next time the kids are in the room. Spider-Man and the X-Men are surprisingly close allies in the Marvel universe and have teamed up for quite a few epic comic events and storylines. Many romantic couples in Studio Ghibli films are well-written, with healthy and even aspirational dynamics. Harrison Ford is known for his dashing and heroic roles, but one of his earliest on-screen appearances allowed him to show his dark side. And Just Like That... finally fixed the HBO series' biggest mistake as Miranda faced the consequences of her drastic relationship choices. From the voices to the vibes, Dragon Ball Z in English just hits harder. The dub is a core part of anime history, and it still holds up. Gossip Girl is an iconic CW show, but it's also had more than a few moments that led to fans leaving the show without a second thought. Solo Leveling has a way of going viral and breaking the internet thanks to its amazing action scenes, and Season 3 is set to raise the bar even higher On rewatch, parts of MHA like The Shie Hassaik

the most popular Pokémon from Gen 6 is still missing from Pokémon Go, and the game's director has explained the technical issue behind it. Alien: Earth star Sydney Chandler has landed a leading role in a science fiction road movie, where she will co-star with Shōgun star Takehiro Hira. The actor has had several iconic characters but credits one specifically for his career. Robert Pattinson fans, mark your calendars! Page 15 This week, catch brand-new episodes of The Walking Dead: Dead City, Resident Alien, and The Mortician and The Gilded Age. Former Wizards of the Coast leads, Chris Perkins and Jeremy Crawford, join Critical Role's Darrington Press creative team. From the World of John Wick: Ballerina John Wick's appearance in Ballerina felt less like a cameo and more like the perfect display of how nostalgia should be used in franchises forever. The comparison could hint at a completely new creative direction for the MCU. Jake Gyllenhaal and Amazon MGM Studios are making another movie together following the success of Road House last year. Solo Leveling hit a new Crunchyroll milestone following its record-breaking wins at the 2025 Anime Awards, but there's still no update on Season 3. 'Patra finds herself bound to a magical mask and knife that appear out of thin air when in dangerous proximity to serial killer Jeremy Jones. The gangster series has been breaking records since its premiere. The Batman sequel has unfortunately received multiple delays. James Gunn shares that he recently killed a DC Universe film project -- but it's actually amazing news for fans ahead of Superman's release. The DCU will kick off soon with the upcoming Superman, but there are still major characters left, including Batman. Marvel teases a big announcement later today for '616 Day,' celebrating the main Marvel Universe continuity with special retailer exclusives. The Superman writer and director explains why he made a significant chance to the reboot early in development. Crunchyroll's new anime episodes drop all throughout the day every week. Here's what's streaming the week of June 16-June 22, 2025. Whether direct portrayals or loose inspirations, The Gilded Age has had its fair share of historical appearances throughout its three-year run. A Reddit post calling for a Superman boycott is going viral, and even James Gunn weighed in on it. Christopher Nolan told one of his colleagues not to do another Batman movie after his hugely successful Dark Knight trilogy, and he was totally right. Three decades after the original anime debuted, the Neon Genesis Evangelion franchise joins the highly-detailed and dynamic Revoltech toy line. One children's film Jason Isaacs starred in unfortunately didn't do very well at the box office. Paramount debuts the official trailer for its upcoming The Naked Gun reboot starring Liam Neeson as the new Frank Drebin. Page 16 Gareth Edwards was secretly hoping that he could turn down the job offer. An eight-time Oscar nominee, who shockingly hasn't won yet, and an American Horror Story alum are the latest additions to the next Hunger Games movie. Liam Neeson is the new Frank Drebin in the official trailer for the upcoming Naked Gun reboot. Prime Video's latest YA novel adaptation, We Were Liars, is equal parts thriller and romance that takes a big bite out of hard-hitting themes. Three of Taylor Sheridan's best television series, including Yellowstone, are proving to be smash hits on Paramount+. Brad Pitt has a simple reason for staying away from Tom Cruise movies. One of the most critically acclaimed films of Hanks entire career is heading to a free streaming home. John Cena's third feature film (which got two sequels after some seriously bad reviews) is heading to a free streaming platform. Hermione Granger founded SPEW in the Harry Potter books, but the organization was cut from the movies. HBO's Harry Potter series should feature it. The live-action remake of How to Train Your Dragon defies fans' expectations with one scene, proving that this frustrating film trend can be great. One of the best buddy comedies starring two of the most critically acclaimed actors of all time is about to land a (free) new streaming home. Craig Mazin weighs in on the meme-inspiring line of dialogue from The Last of Us Season 2. Rumer Willis gets emotional in a tribute post written for father Bruce on Father's Day. The Walking Dead: Dead City A new revelation in The Walking Dead: Dead City Season 2, Episode 7 makes the Dama and Hershel's relationship much more disturbing than it already is. Superheroes like the Justice League have faced several DC villains from across the timeline, from threats in the future to warnings from the past. Movies such as Heretic and Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind somehow competed for comedy awards at the Golden Globes. There were plans to show Aragorn and Arwen's first meeting in The Lord of the Rings films, but it was removed in favor of a different powerful moment. A beloved '90s comedy starring Jim Carrey is about to have a brand-new streaming home, and fans will be able to watch it for free. The Walking Dead: Dead City In the final season of The Walking Dead, Negan had a big change in his storyline. Jeffrey Dean Morgan didn't love it, and Dead City proves why. teenage mutant ninja turtles (comics) The most dangerous member of the Foot Clan is usually considered to be the Shredder, though it's actually the one who was responsible for founding it. Page 17 The Vampire Diaries had many questionable moments, but the series finale alone had more than a few elements that still make no sense. My Adventures With Superman Adult Swim is about to give fans of Superman an entire marathon of one of the franchise's most highest rated animated series of all time. Game Freak just showed off their new action RPG and it looks incredible, but do they have what it takes to pull off something like this? Comedic alien outtakes were teased in a new Elio preview, harkening back to a gag Pixar included in some of its earliest computer-generated films. Doc Ock, Green Goblin, and Sandman are probably among the first villains you think of when you think of Spider-Man. But Spidey has other strong foes. Denzel Washington and Mark Wahlberg teamed up in the forgotten film getting a free streaming home. Some of the most powerful Zoan-type Devil Fruits have yet to reach their full potential, and the final saga is the perfect time for them to awaken. The Devil has been featured in countless horror movies, including some that rank among the best that the genre has to offer. After Ahsoka, Season 2, Dave Filoni's Star Wars movie will represent a major turning point for the franchise, bringing several key stories to an end. Daredevil's future in the MCU is uncertain, though fans are dying to see ol' Hornhead make his way into the MCU properly with a few key appearances. Batman is known for not killing, but many fans forget that he is willing to take life. Exploring key deaths reveals much about Batman's evolution. The Walking Dead: Dead City In Dead City Season 2, Episode 7, Negan and Maggie put their lives on the line for the children in their lives, and face their past in the process. Even though Solo Leveling brought home the award for Anime of the Year, one of its competitors was clearly a better series. Open-world games like Hogwarts Legacy and Grand Theft Auto V are even better with an animal companion. Lazarus Episode 11 breathes new life into the anime with Axel's best fight scene yet as the stakes get higher than ever for the group. Boruto: Two Blue Vortex Chapter 22 is a weak reply to Sarada Uchiha's groundbreaking Mangekyo Sharingan reveal that doesn't get the story far. International Attack on Titan fans can embrace their love for the critically acclaimed anime through a series of sleek new character timepieces. High Potential and It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia star Kaitlyn Olson talks about what she wants to see in Season 2 of the hit crime drama. Everyone knows Ghibli, but there are a few select films by the world-famous studio that you need to watch in order to be a true anime fan. Buffy the Vampire Slayer is an iconic masterpiece, but it failed in an obvious way with one of its most important characters. Page 18 The Transformers cinematic universe just scrapped one of its best story concepts. It may take a while before Dragon Ball Super's next arc begins, but here's what fans know so far. Roger Ebert wasn't wrong to give this epic Quentin Tarantino action film four stars when it was released in 2003. Although these One Piece characters once stood on top of the world, their downfalls were incredibly drastic. With so many Superman comics, all kinds of amazing stories have been told — revealing Superman's greatest qualities along the way. Many beloved TV characters are deeply flawed, and fans should stop idolizing these ten and start recognizing the harm they actually cause. Elite Four members tend to be minor characters in the Pokemon anime, but some leave a much bigger impact than others. The Walking Dead kicked off a massive franchise shift at the end of its eleven-season run, but the spinoffs have done little to recognize it. While Green Lantern helps keep the actual DC universe safe, there are quite a few amazing comic stories set on Earth that are more than worth reading. No one thinks of Hello Kitty when they want to experience the joy of giant robots, but there is a secret connection that many don't know about. Disney's So Weird followed a touring family of musicians that investigated paranormal happenings. 26 years later, it deserves a rewatch on Disney+. The Legend of Zelda: Tears of the Kingdom Players are determined to break through every shrine in The Legend of Zelda: Tears of the Kingdom, and these tricks will aid that quest. Images of the winner of a Pedro Pascal lookalike contest are going viral. From stunning visuals to wild stories, donghua like Scissor Seven and The King's Avatar have it all. These series deserve a spot on your watchlist. From Bond to Mission: Impossible, the best spy films know how to keep their audience on the edge of their seats with high stakes epic sequences. Sons of Anarchy has delivered some of the most shocking send-offs for its main characters, including the protagonist, Jax Teller. Acclaimed actor Stellan Skarsgård has eight children, and seven of them have followed in their father's footsteps, making their mark in the industry. Shane Black is holding out hope for the long-awaited sequel, but it's an uphill battle. Some comics are ahead of their time, while others downright predict the future. Thanks to Larson's creativity, this happens often in The Far Side. Will Smith almost starred in one of Christopher Nolan's most popular movies. Page 19 This 2019 Netflix film is a captivating and thrilling war drama starring Timothée Chalamet, Robert Pattinson, and Lily-Rose Depp. Supergirl: Woman of Tomorrow The DCEU made a major mistake with Superman and Supergirl, but James Gunn can't make the same mistake with its Kryptonians in the DCU. A new and exclusive transparent Gunpla model kit lets fans recreate the Nu Gundam from the epic climax of Char's Counterattack. Summer of 2025 is an exciting time for television fans, with highly anticipated shows like Ironheart and Countdown premiering their first episodes. Anime like Your Lie In April, Violet Evergarden, and Fruits Basket focus on depression and provide important mental health representation. Ti West gained recognition with the X trilogy, but he directed one of the best horror films of his career 13 years earlier, in which he also acted. The X-Files made many wild choices in its run, but one theory may have finally answered the most controversial twist of the series. Hunter x Hunter's latest arc focuses on the Five Threats, supernatural items that humanity brought back from the Dark Continent. Jade Empire was a 2005 gem by BioWare, the company behind KOTOR and the Mass Effect series. It deserves a new game. Django Unchained might share the same name as the 1966 original, but the two films are actually very different. If Imu can get their hands on these Devil Fruits, the entire future of the Grand Line could be at stake. Not every Yu-Gi-Oh! booster set is of an equal power level - here are the best of the best. Underneath their formulaic nature, some procedurals blend clever storytelling, emotional depth and bold themes. Dragon Ball is still incredibly popular, but for some fans there's no topping the franchise's heights during the '90s and 2000s! One of the last great William Friedkin movies is also one of the best crime thrillers of all time, and it greatly immersed itself in the concept. Austin Stowell opens up on playing the younger Gibbs. Omni-King Zeno is the most powerful character in Dragon Ball Super, but he's far from being the strongest anime character of all time. Mario Kart World pulled out all the stops in developing new and exciting tracks that have every fan buzzing, from its design to the fun of driving. Shining Girls is an ingenious exploration of trauma and identity, and is the perfect binge-watch for fans of both sci-fi and thrilling limited series. The '90s were a transformative time for movies and gave fans some of the most iconic and unforgettable characters. Page 20 Sanrio gives Hello Kitty, Cinnamoroll, My Melody, and more a whole new look, and every single one of them is more than ready to take center stage. LOST did great by the majority of its characters, and that extends especially to their unforgettable introductions. Following the digital release of the new movie, a new Blu-ray set with every installment is on the way with special feature for each film. A24's underrated punk horror movie is gaining more attention from audiences everywhere, and now fans are discovering just how great it truly is. Big Mom has one of the most powerful crews on the seas, and her children make up most of the high-ranking positions. Dragon Ball's Vegeta has fought and failed against some of the series' greatest villains, some of which he deserved to be better against! Fans remember the character of Bubbles well on The Wire. However, they might not realize the backstory behind his inspiration. From Bai Xiaochun to Wei Wuxian, these donghua protagonists aren't just strong — they're absolute monsters. Kathy Bates lucked out after the original idea for the Matlock reboot was scrapped. Spider-Man: Brand New Day The latest rumors about Spider-Man: Brand New Day might hint at the film's main storyline (and it is exactly what Marvel fans have asked for). Kung Fu film stars like Jet Li, Bruce Lee, and Jackie Chan have achieved wide success, popularizing a genre that's high on physicality and drama. Star Trek: The Next Generation Star Trek: The Next Generation featured some of the best stories in the history of the franchise, but some were truly shocking and weird. Fans eagerly waiting for Bleach TYBW's final cour can watch great anime like Chainsaw Man and Demon Slayer in the meantime. There are plenty of anime like Frieren: Beyond Journey's End that can satisfy fans who are looking for another adventure-filled story. This classic blockbuster is celebrating its golden anniversary this year. Studio Ghibli revives a limited-edition apparel collection which features "Hawaiian-style" designs based on one of Hayao Miyazaki's greatest films. Pokemon Trading Card Game Sometimes, evolving once is more than enough - these are the best Stage 1 Pokémon in the Pokémon Trading Card Game. Friends ran for 10 years on NBC and remains one of the most popular sitcoms to this day. Wonder Woman is officially coming to the DCU, and James Gunn would do well to consider these amazing actresses when casting the iconic DC superhero. Horizon: An American Saga Kevin Costner has addressed the possibility of retirement after turning 70 earlier this year. He is currently working on his Horizon franchise. Page 21 masters of the universe (film) The first official look at Nicholas Galitzine as the new He-Man has been unveiled. Viewers are supposed to root against them, but villains like Meruem and Yuno Gasai made losing look like a tragedy. From his creation for The New Fantastic Four (1978) to many more iterations, here's a history of H.E.R.B.I.E. in Marvel comics. Aragorn from The Lord of the Rings usually had a stoic personality, but fans often overlook the sense of humor he displayed in the novel and films. Colin Trevorrow has been avoiding all things Star Wars for nearly a decade since parting ways with the franchise, but now he's a fan again. Everyone knows their Zodiac sign, but which character from The Apothecary Diaries are you most similar to? Director Danny Boyle has downplayed the likelihood of returning to the James Bond franchise after dropping out of a previous sequel. The Silent Hill series has seen a revival thanks to games like Silent Hill 2 Remake and Silent Hill f, and it's poised to enter a new era. Misty isn't just Ash Ketchum's most famous companion, but one of the strongest Gym Leaders in the Pokémon anime. Hiroaki Hirata, the voice of Sanji from One Piece, explains why he initially believed that Taz Skylar was miscast as the franchise's iconic chef. Mission: Impossible - The Final Reckoning The new Mission: Impossible, believed to be the last entry, has set a Guinness World Record, but it might not defeat its ultimate quest: making money. Bobby Hill sounds a bit more mature in the King of the Hill revival's newest preview. Friend turns against friend in Witch Watch Episode 11, as Nico faces her warlock foe and Morihito faces the wrath of a werewolf hiding in plain sight. James Gunn makes a major promise regarding the stakes at hand in the DCU ahead of the release of Superman starring David Corenswet. The original Dragon Ball manga contains stunning panels that draw the eye, often depicting critical moments for main characters like Goku and Vegeta. With news of the X-Men finally making their way into the MCU, it's time to think about the other characters who deserve a chance to shine. Sam Rockwell has many amazing performances, but his best came in an indie movie that may connect to Fight Club. Fox canceled this drama shortly after its fourth season finale. Imu is a new challenge for Luffy, one which may call for some special tricks and detective work to overcome. Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba Demon Slayer villains aren't just mindless, violent creatures. Each demon was once human, and their lives as a human shaped their life as a demon. Page 22 The live-action remake also ended Lilo & Stitch's reign at the top of the charts. Iconic magical-girl anime Cardcaptor Sakura announces enchanting new content ahead of a theatrical release after 25 years. Grey's Anatomy has its share of impactful episodes highlighting sexual assault, abortion, and other key issues. The film stars Sydney Sweeney in the leading role. Landman star Billy Bob Thornton was excited when he landed a role in a major Stephen King adaptation, but then he got some bad news. These anime series are so despairing and bleak, they'll leave even the most optimistic viewers feeling demoralized. One of Tom Cruise's hugely popular action sequels is dominating the global streaming charts in twenty countries. From new high school dramas to historical romances, these are the best Summer 2025 romance anime to look forward to. Chicago Fire and Chicago P.D. are seeing a massive spike in streaming after both shows got renewed with a controversial catch. This dystopian sci-fi series has been renewed for a fourth and final season on Apple TV+. When all is said and done, some of the best moments in Game of Thrones involve some steam. Which one do you think was the hottest? Sailor Moon is a classic magical girl anime, and more than just the heroes get their own magical transformation sequences. HBO's greatest fantasy series was full of unexpected deaths, but one sly character foreshadows a couple of them. The John Wick miniseries is currently climbing the streaming charts around the world. Once Upon a Time in America A final film can ultimately define a director's work and some talented filmmakers knew how to end an eclectic career. These dystopian anime series combine gruesome settings with thrilling narratives as bleak as the worlds they take place in. Marvel's latest symbiote superhero is heading to the primary Marvel Universe, and all because of a god everyone thought was dead and gone. The Lazarus anime has been getting some mixed reactions, but it is hard to stand in the shadow of something as monumental as Cowboy Bebop. Vocaloid pop star Hatsune Miku gets an official makeover in a newly announced upgrade. The newest wave of Transformers: Age of the Primes action figures reveals new Primes, new Combiners and even a forgotten Generation 1 Insecticon. Page 23 Star Wars: Episode III - Revenge of the Sith As if the Battle of Heroes in Revenge of the Sith wasn't cool enough already, there's another important detail that fans might have missed. From Overlord to Beyond the Boundary, these anime fumbled the story but nailed the characters so well, viewers usually stick around anyway. In a brand-new Line it is Drawn, our artists drew your ideas for comic characters celebrating Father's Day Jin-Woo's not the only one built different. Shōnen leads like Saitama and Natsu could solo a dungeon like it's just another Tuesday. Erin Moriarty reveals she was diagnosed one month ago. The CW's latest hit series keeps climbing up the streaming charts. Jin-Woo's the star of Solo Leveling, but side characters like Cha Hae-In and Sung Il-Hwan had fans just as hyped, maybe even more. Although these anime technically aren't comedies, they are still hilarious to watch nonetheless. HBO is swinging for the fences with its highly anticipated Harry Potter reboot set to premiere in 2026. Despite its buzz, viewership may suffer. Brad Pitt, Damson Idris, Kerry Condon, Joseph Kosinski and Jeremy Kleiner break down the making of F1 to create an authentic Formula One film. While most of DC's heroes exist in the present day, fans have seen both teams and individual heroes appear in the past and future of the DC Universe. Ryan Coogler recommends that all budding filmmakers need to check out the iconic director's first movie. Disney films such as Zootopia and Encanto are likely to be regarded as modern classics, thanks to their memorable characters and engaging stories. Bong Joon Ho is a huge fan of suspenseful movies and has credited one of the most notable slashers of all time as one of his favorites. Rachel's character assassination on One Tree Hill regressed her to a selfish mean girl and left her destitute, but Danneel Ackles rewrote her ending. BoxLunch is one of the best places for Hunter X Hunter fans to buy merch & collectibles based on their favorite anime. Scribe Chris Claremont guided the X-Men for decades, though this particular Marvel Comics saga had consequences that are still felt to this day. Viewers might feel oversaturated with prequels, sequels and reboots, but these legacy TV shows rise above their label as great series on their own. Deus Ex was first released 25 years ago. It help set new standards for the role-playing video game genre. Academy Award winner and Hollywood icon Gary Oldman discusses his recently acquired Knighthood and how little he has processed the massive honor. Page 24 How to Train Your Dragon director Dean DeBlois opens up on the casting criticism that occurred ahead of the movie's release. Calvin and Hobbes may follow a six-year-old boy and his stuffed tiger, but that doesn't stop it from including dozens of pop culture references. From the horror-filled Dawn of the Dead to the Lovecraftian thrills of Re-Animator, innovative gore effects have helped create genre-defining classics The 1978 Superman is hailed as the golden standard for the entire genre, but does it still deserve that title in the modern era? Peter Jackson's The Lord of the Rings films employed some clever techniques to showcase the strength and importance of the One Ring. Marvel Cinematic Universe Avengers: Secret Wars has many fans excited, but comic book readers are apprehensive about the film's inability to adapt a key part from the book. Justified and Santa Clarita Diet star Timothy Olyphant returns to the small screen. Batman Beyond rarely revealed the fates of major DC Comics characters, but sometimes, a classic villain would return again. Toothless could have looked very different in the live-action version of How to Train Your Dragon. Not all who sat the Iron Throne ruled—these characters claimed the seat without the crown in Game of Thrones and House of the Dragon. Nintendo is known for having some of the most iconic franchises in gaming, but some of the company's best IP have been cast to the wayside. There are more than a few beloved Power Rangers out there, but for every great one is another that fans barely think about anymore. Star Trek: Strange New Worlds After a two-year wait, Star Trek: Strange New Worlds Season 3 continues its mission with big, cinematic episodes. Colin Farrell was one of many actors to portray Jesse James in a Western, but his film was so bad that it accidentally killed an entire subgenre. There are many callbacks to the earlier episodes of The Handmaid's Tale in the series finale, but one involving Serena is one you might have missed. Hollywood icon and Star Wars star Andy Serkis explains why his fan-favorite character from the first season of Andor didn't return. Fans hoped that Disney sequels like Mulan II and The Return of Jafar would live up to the original films, but that wasn't the case. A-list names, such as Tom Holland and Robert Pattinson, united in one of Netflix's most controversial original films. Netflix's long-awaited Wednesday Season 2 receives a new batch of posters, showing off the returning main characters' Outcast powers. This techno-thriller featured Rami Malek in his breakout role. Page 25 The Vampire Diaries has had some great episodes and moments, but there are also some universally criticized ones that are disappointing. If not for this essential Tombstone villain, Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday would not have had the same effect on audiences. Carnivàle is a unique, challenging, and visually stunning piece of television that shares a deep spiritual kinship with Twin Peaks. This MCU hero was originally slated to die in a 2017 film, which makes some of Marvel's other decisions easier to understand. Fans of Frieren: Beyond Journey's End can now own a timeless timepiece that celebrates the anime's main characters. Grey's Anatomy has had many great characters since the start, but one of its best, among a couple of others, reached a natural stopping point. A handful of forgotten anime games, like Berserk Millennium Arc, remain hidden gems that many players may not know about Captain America: Brave New World Captain America: Brave New World introduces several new villains to the Marvel Cinematic Universe--but which is the strongest of them all? The live-action How to Train Your Dragon perfectly captures the magic of the original, but DreamWorks may learn the wrong lessons from its success. Nina Dobrev left The Vampire Diaries in 2015 before the CW drama wrapped up its eight-season run. Why did the star exit her role as Elena Gilbert? Pacific Rim changed Western kaiju films and set the stage for the ones that followed, and Charlie Hunnam gave a standout performance. Spaceballs is a movie classic, but despite its large fandom, there was never a Spaceballs comic book. Why is that? The Far Side has always been ahead of its time, and Gary Larson's incredible comedic genius is at the heart of its long-standing success. Yu-Gi-Oh! characters are famous for their over-the-top designs, and plenty of the franchise's heroes and villains make their wild outfits work. From gangster epics to serial killer thrillers, these crime films broke through at the Oscars and earned their place in cinematic history. teenage mutant ninja turtles (comics) The original Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles animated series can be streamed online, along with a few other offerings from the Heroes in a Half Shell. Agatha Christie has been a master of the mystery for decades, and some of her adaptations have perfectly captured that. Bleach is filled to the brim with strong and imposing characters but which amongst them is considered the strongest? Mark Hamill recently announced he will no longer play Luke Skywalker and Lucasfilm should begin to search for a new actor to fill the role and others. Netflix's new action thriller series, slightly reminiscent of the John Wick franchise, is making its way up the streaming charts. Page 26 The Vampire Diaries may have concluded, but one theory fundamentally alters Elena's story and maybe even opens the door for more stories. Dandadan Season 1 was nothing short of a masterpiece of anime adaptation, but which episode was the best? Scream 7 director Kevin Williamson shares excitement for Sidney Prescott's return in the upcoming next installment of the iconic horror franchise. The LEGO brand is expanding its video game slate with a change from its traditional format, to lean into an industry trend worth experimenting with. One of Faramir's quotes from the novel version of The Lord of the Rings implied that Gandalf spent time in Harad, but the author later denied it. Dragon Ball Z's action continues in the Frieza Saga as the Z-Fighters face the intergalactic emperor Frieza. Their strongest foe yet. From Kaguya-sama: Love Is War to Cardcaptor Sakura, Crunchyroll reveals which of its anime titles have the best enemies-to-lovers relationships. Former child star Betsy Gay has died. The Nintendo Switch 2 has a limited library, but Mario Kart World and Cyberpunk 2077 are currently some of its best titles. The 2000s introduced more than a few beloved shows, but, sadly, not all of them aged as well as audiences hoped. Emma Thompson is not only the lead star, but also the writer of the adaptation of Jane Austen's Sense and Sensibility, which elevated her performance. Persona 3 Reload limited edition PC release is an almost perfect tribute for the Atlus RPG's 1st anniversary, but is held back by one crucial flaw. These are the best jobs across the Final Fantasy series, ranging from the most powerful to the ones that can end an enemy's offensive capabilities. Animorphs is a beloved product of the '90s, but even though it was great, it never made it to the big screen. Did Morris Chestnut just confirm Matt Berry's Season 2 cameo? Wicked: For Good, the sequel to 2024's hit film, Wicked, will premiere in November. Reacher boasts a 96% score on Rotten Tomatoes and is getting a fourth season on Prime Video. The Western genre is one of cinema's oldest, and that comes with many tropes that just don't work in modern times and modern morals. Carl and Enid had one of the most wholesome romances on The Walking Dead, but Carl's undeserved death kept it from being far greater than it was. Solo Leveling is way more than just epic fights and aura farming moments for Sung Jinwoo, and Season 3 will make that clear with tons of laughs. NOW PLAYING GET TICKETS These terrifying tales play on the deepest, darkest fears of those who read them... and you're next. Do you dare enter? It's 1968 in America. Change is blowing in the wind... but seemingly far removed from the unrest in the cities is the small town of Mill Valley where for generations, the shadow of the Bellows family has loomed large. It is in their mansion on the edge of town that Sarah, a young girl with horrible secrets, turned her tortured life into a series of scary stories, written in a book that has transcended time - stories that have a way of becoming all too real for a group of teenagers who discover Sarah's terrifying home THIS IS AN EVIL PLACE. FLEE WHILE YOU CAN... With a number of sudden and grisly deaths occurring in this small town, the mystery must be solved. But by who? Guillermo del Toro Sean Daniel Jason F. Brown J.Miles Dale Elizabeth Grave Dan Hageman Kevin Hageman Guillermo del Toro Patrick Melton Marcus Dunstan Zoe Colletti Stella Nicholls Michael Garza Ramon Morales Gabriel Rush Auggie Hilderbrandt Austin Abrams Tommy Milner Dean Norris Roy Nicholls Gil Belllows Police Chief Turner Lorraine Toussaint Lou Lou Austin Zajur Chuck Steinberg Natalie Ganzhorn Ruth Steinburg Take a closer look at some of Sarah Bellows' stories. See Sarah's collection of scary stories come to life in these terrifying first look trailers. Partnering with KingSpin kasyno online automaty allows us to elevate our users' gaming experience to unprecedented heights. With an extensive selection of cutting-edge slot machines, engaging table games, and the latest technology, KingSpin's virtual casino delivers an immersive environment that keeps players fully engaged. The seamless gameplay and exceptional graphics enhance every moment spent at the virtual tables, ensuring an exhilarating experience. 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