

BACK FENCE Ghostly and mysterious encounters

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More paranormal experiences:

SHAKING BED: P.B., Newport: "When I was a child, I got a big bed. Every so often in the middle of the night, the whole thing would shake. Scared me so much I couldn't even scream. Later, my brother inherited the bed and said that often he would see a bright flashing light at the end of it. My brother and I didn't connect the occurrences until we were adults. When we moved, both my brother and I got brand-new beds and had no more nightly visits."

VOICE AT THE WHEEL: J.K., Scappoose: "I was driving to work very early on a Saturday morning. The street was wet. As I approached an intersection, another car suddenly made a left turn in front of me, and I had to slam on my brakes. I lost control of my car and fishtailed and suddenly heard a voice saying, 'Let go of the wheel.' Without thinking I let go of the wheel as if it were red hot, and the next thing I knew my car was under control, traveling down the street in my original lane. I could feel the hair on the back of my neck stand on end, and as I slowly reached out and took hold of the steering wheel again, I said, 'Thank you.' "

TRICKY GHOST: L.D., Dundee: "About 25 years ago I was working as a cook at the Bush House in Index, Wash. I went upstairs to get rooms ready for guests that night, only to find that after I had prepared the first room, the bed looked like someone had jumped into it dead center. I went in and straightened it up, then went back to the next room, only to find the same thing had happened. The owner said that the inn had a ghost that liked to play tricks."

GHOST ON THE SECOND FLOOR: E.S. of Richmond neighborhood: "I lived in a Southeast Portland house (circa 1909). Soon after moving in, I became aware of random tapping noises, the smell of cigar smoke and once an unexplained moan, almost always on the second floor. Every time I looked for the noise, it stopped. One day a man knocked on my door and said he'd grown up in the house. He asked me point blank: 'So, have you experienced the ghost on the second floor?' He told me that as a boy he experienced being lifted up in bed and his parents would not believe him."

A GREEN GLOW: C.M., Cannon Beach: "In the 1980s I was in the Navy on a destroyer. We were nearing the Philippines one clear star-filled night on the mid watch on the signal bridge when off to the starboard side at eye level was a football-shaped fluorescent green glow staying with us at about 18 knots. We reported this to the officer of the deck, and the first day in the Philippines we spent with some very unfriendly fellows from Naval Investigative Services taking statements and drug tests. I should have kept my mouth shut."

NEXT WEEK: The last of the paranormal experiences.

GOOD KARMA: "My daughter is a student at St. Mary's Academy downtown. This morning I sent an envelope with her to deliver to the office. It was filled with receipts for reimbursement from our recent auction. I just found out from the school that they received a call from a woman who works in a law office in the KOIN tower who found the envelope on the street after it apparently fell out of my daughter's backpack. The woman took it with her to work and contacted the school." J.K.

UMBRELLA REPAIR? Anyone know where I can go? C.V.K., Dundee

QUESTION OF THE WEEK: Most industries have their own jargon. For example, in the radio business, the music that is played going into and coming out of commercials is called "bumpers." A very short line in a newspaper column

is called a "widow." An undeliverable letter is called a "nixie." And everybody knows what a lookie-lou is. What about in your industry?

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