

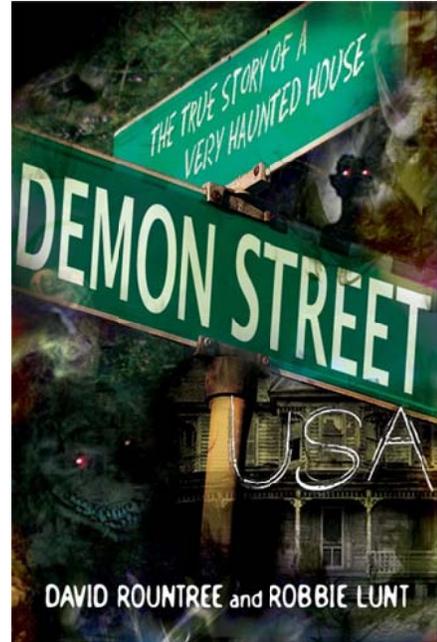
ARTICLE

The Paranormal Encounter

By Robbie Lunt and David Rountree

(1005 words)

“How do you know she is a witch?”
“She turned me into a newt... I got better.”
-*Monty Python and the Holy Grail.*



So, you are having a paranormal encounter. Whatever it is, is mean, nasty and scary beyond all belief. Not knowing where to turn, you watch the TV. The vast majority of show hosts cry out “demon” when the haunting gets malicious but that is not always the case.

Nature spirits can become very irate. Elementals are particularly prone to taking offence easily. A ghost of someone who was nasty and bitter in life can still be nasty and bitter after death. Poltergeists seem to have many different personalities. Those with a mean disposition can make someone’s life a living hell. Yet none of these are demons.

There are many signs of demonic possession. Each sign alone however, does not always mean demons. Talking in tongues is a perfect example. A sign, yet something that is witnessed every week at an evangelical church near you. Levitation is another sign; also practiced by yogis in India. The mysterious scratches that appear on people can be caused by poltergeists. Scratches that spell out words are a completely different state of affairs.

Possession is another interesting conundrum; first we must agree what it is. If it is a spirit taking over a person’s body, then channeling would be a form of possession. Mediums channel all forms of spirits; they stay as far away from demons as possible. Still, there are instances where mediums have been “jumped” because the spirit has an overwhelming need to get their message out. Many of the saints and prophets of the past channeled angelic beings.

There is the apparent power of telepathy; these beings and those possessed by them know things they shouldn't. Watch British mentalist Derren Brown, a true disbeliever in all things paranormal, do that very thing. Any gifted clairvoyant can also perform the same feats.

For the Catholic Church, proof of possession is an arduous process. The highly trained exorcists and the teams that assist them exhaust every other possibility before they admit to demonic possession. Full batteries of tests, both medical and mental, are painstakingly performed until, in the minds of the church, there can be no other answer.

What then sets the demonic encounter apart from these other occurrences? If you are encountering all of the signs above then it can be a cumulative affirmation. To assume that the first encounters with such an entity will be terrifying and horrible is to not understand their insidious nature. The inner demons that Buddhists and psychologists talk about are the tools used by demons to get inside your guard and manipulate you. Anyone dealing with this type of entity must be at peace with themselves. Not necessarily saintly but at peace with all of the dark corners of their soul. Demons have an uncanny knack of finding those secrets and exposing them to the world.

Demonic encounters are extraordinarily rare. Even the most dedicated demonologist will be lucky (perhaps not the right word) to personally experience a single instance in their lifetime. The flip side of the coin would be that every disgruntled teenager and upset young adult that is drawn to the occult thinks conjuring up a demon is the answer to their problems. The grimoires and tomes exist everywhere in these computer times thus allowing more access than ever. And for a few very gifted people, they can manifest this reality.

When first conjured, the demon is their friend and guardian. As long as the entity is being fed, everything is fine. First and foremost, this demon, what does it feed on? If the identity of the creature is not truly known then knowing what kind of energies feed it will be hard to fathom. With a demon, at least you know it feeds on some form of negative vibration.

Angry nature spirits can usually be appeased. Most ghosts will move on once they have been heard or someone points them toward the light. Demons are insatiable; they need more and more energy. And they need it in an escalating level. Like a meth addict who needs a stronger and stronger drug, the demon needs a more powerful flow.

There is a flip that happens when the "friendly" spirit shows its true self. A little slip here and there that becomes the situations that people are most familiar with. With the demonic encounter, it starts with little things then builds toward the perfect storm of paranormal insanity. Activity escalates; it can become a constant state of harassment—except when there is someone else around. In the early stages of these encounters the evil entity will play on the

victim's perception of their own sanity. Keep them guessing!

Once the claws have firmly dug in, all pretense will go away. The demon will manifest not caring who sees. If it feels threatened it will lash out at locations far removed from where the infestation is happening. It's at this point the smell begins. It gets into your pores; you can taste it. It's subtle though not quite there, however, once you have gotten the scent, it's unmistakable. When the entity has reached this level of power it can really no longer hide itself. You can feel it in your bones; your body knows. It's not the goose bumps or a feeling of being watched. There is a deep recoil of your spirit that can shake you to the core.

Wait, there is a bright side, while there are entities that would like nothing better than for all humans to die and go away, demons are not one of them. They do not want to get rid of their food source.

Demons are complex and unique entities that like to hide and deceive. As different signs begin to add up and the true evil behind the crumbling façade starts to show, the nature of a demon will always manifest in the end. Most entities can be dealt with one way or the other by laymen; demons need to be dealt with by someone with unbending faith and impeccable intent.

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