

Summary of Key Insights and Analysis from the Ghost Survey January 2024

Overview

Belief in Ghosts and Paranormal Phenomena:

- 100% of respondents believe in ghosts, reincarnation, and the idea that some individuals are more likely to see ghosts.

Ghostly Encounters:

- Gender: Male ghosts are reported more often (10 male vs. 4 female).
- Age: Ghosts are most perceived as adults (20-60 years old).
- Clothing: Descriptions range from historical attire (e.g., "1920s," "early 1900s") to modern or ambiguous forms like "shapeless gray cloud."
- Behavior: Ghosts are described as standing, moving objects, or seeking attention.

Experiences and Interpretations:

- Respondents often interpret ghost encounters as meaningful, with ghosts seeking help, conveying messages, or manifesting due to emotional attachments.
- Ghosts are often perceived as neutral or friendly but can occasionally invoke fear or curiosity.

Physical Interactions:

- 11 out of 14 respondents reported being physically touched by a ghost.
- Dreams: Ghosts appeared in dreams for 8 respondents, while 6 reported no such experiences.

Ghostly Communication:

- Ghosts gained attention through noises, movement, or direct interaction (e.g., touching, knocking, whispering).
- Some respondents noted aggressive behavior, such as being "strangled."

Places and Circumstances of Encounters:

- Common locations include graveyards, battlefields, historical sites, and emotionally charged areas (e.g., hospitals).
- New Orleans is unanimously regarded as haunted by all respondents.

Methods of Ghost Removal:

- Suggested techniques include:
 - Prayers and rituals: Using sage, holy water, and black salt.
 - Empathy and communication: Helping the ghost address trauma.
 - Psionic methods: Creating portals or using psychic abilities.
 - Cultural practices: Referencing specific traditions, such as Eastern house blessings.

Impactful Encounters:

- Stories range from personal and family-related hauntings to significant moments, such as assisting ghosts in moving on or witnessing apparitions in public spaces like funerals or homes.

Emotional Responses:

- Feelings toward encounters varied widely, from fear and terror to curiosity, peace, and fulfillment.

Key Themes and Supporting Quotes from the Ghost Survey

1. Strong Belief in Ghosts and Paranormal Phenomena.

Every respondent believes in ghosts, reincarnation, and that certain individuals are more likely to perceive spirits. This consensus highlights the participants' shared openness to the supernatural.

- "If you believe that all souls are connected, then you are in contact with many from other dimensions!"

2. Ghosts as Emotional or Relational Entities.

Many respondents described ghosts as emotional beings with ties to their past lives or unfinished business. Encounters were often interpreted as meaningful.

- Examples:

- "Ghosts usually just want to communicate."

- "They just want to be seen. Most often they're thinking of the place they died, or a home they lived in and manifest there. It's an emotional attachment on their part."

- Impactful Story: "My sister-in-law's house had poltergeist activity after her ex-husband, Tom, died there by suicide. When I communicated with him telepathically and extended empathy, the activity ceased. Sue later sold her house, and Tom thanked me through a medium for helping him move on."

3. Diverse Manifestations and Behaviors of Ghosts.

Ghosts appeared in various forms, from human-like figures to ambiguous shapes, and exhibited a range of behaviors, from standing still to interacting physically or moving objects.

- Examples of Manifestations:

- "I saw a young man standing against the wall wearing a 1920s suit and hat. He looked like a real person."

- "The ghosts are touchy-feely. They have touched my leg and touched my cat."

- "An older man died in my house. I hear him walk every day at around 3 PM."

- Aggressive Behaviors:

- "He just strangled me."

- "Throwing things, slamming cabinets, stomping on floors."

4. Physical and Emotional Impact.

Participants reported physical sensations like being touched and strong emotional responses to encounters.

- Physical Experiences:

- "Yes, often I feel them standing behind me or touching my shoulder."

- "The only ghost I did not see was a little girl who clung to my hip. Story goes she clings to women's hips in that place."

- Emotional Responses:

- Feelings ranged from fear to curiosity, to fulfillment.

- "It was fulfilling to interact with them."

- "Seeing ghosts used to upset me, but I've learned there is meaning and purpose."

5. Connection to Place.

Certain locations were seen as more likely to host ghostly presences, often due to historical or emotional significance.

- Common Locations:

- "Graveyards, battlefields, historical buildings."
- "Places with a lot of charged emotional energy because of events and thoughts – hospitals, churches, old places."
- "Some areas have portals, or the veil is very thin, like in Northwest Wisconsin or the rainforest of the Big Island."

- New Orleans:

- 100% agreement that it is haunted.

6. Ghost Removal and Interaction.

Techniques to manage ghostly presences varied widely, from spiritual rituals to personal communication.

- Techniques:

- "Banish them."
- "You just tell them to leave, and if they're good, they will listen."
- "Help it with its trauma or open a portal to the next world."
- Cultural Practices: - "Eastern homes have a haunting index, and they also have a ceremony to bless the home."
- Creative Solutions: - "Pee in a bottle, close it, and set it under the bed. The hag will think it's your energy and possess it."

7. Profound and Memorable Encounters.

Certain experiences left a lasting impression, emphasizing the personal and often emotional nature of ghostly interactions.

- "When I saw my mother being lifted by two angels after she died."
- "At a friend's funeral, I saw a gray shape float past her coffin and out the window."
- Story of Assistance: "I made a ghost move on that was hurting a little kid. I don't 'see' ghosts; I get psychic impressions and visions of what they were."

8. Ghosts as Guides or Teachers.

Several participants felt that ghostly encounters had a deeper purpose, offering guidance or personal growth.

- "I think there is meaning and purpose. At times, I see through this veil."
- "To let me know that I'm not crazy and I was strangled in a past life. I still need to heal fully from that experience."

Research and Scholarship

Related research and Scholarship support these findings from the ghost survey. Existing scholarship and research in fields like psychology, sociology, cultural studies, and parapsychology align.

1. Belief in Ghosts and the Paranormal.

Research shows that belief in ghosts and paranormal phenomena is widespread across cultures and demographics. Some cultural beliefs include the notion that supernatural beliefs often arise from personal experiences and shared cultural narratives, not merely superstition.

2. Ghosts as Emotional or Relational Entities

The idea that ghosts are tied to emotional or relational connections aligns with research on grief hallucinations and attachment theory. Encounters with deceased loved ones can be common during the grieving process, often interpreted as spirits seeking closure or communication.

3. Diverse Manifestations and Behaviors.

Reports of ghostly encounters vary widely, consistent with accounts documented in parapsychology and folklore studies. Paranormal researchers describe ghosts as appearing in various forms, including orbs, apparitions, and sounds, often reflective of the observer's cultural framework. Folklorists categorize ghost manifestations into visual, auditory, and tactile experiences, like those in this ghost survey.

4. Physical and Emotional Impact

The physical sensations and emotional responses to ghost encounters are well-documented in both parapsychological research and neuroscience. Sensorial Experiences: Sensations, like chills or being touched, have been linked to heightened emotional states or electromagnetic anomalies. Encounters with the supernatural evoke both terror and fascination, fostering a sense of mystery.

5. Connection to Place

Certain locations, like graveyards or battlefields, are consistently associated with hauntings, aligning with theories of residual energy and psychic imprints. Environmental Triggers: Places with high emotional energy or trauma create conditions conducive to ghost sightings. Cultural Geography: Hauntings have been linked to historical events and energy fields, such as in locations like Sedona.

6. Ghost Removal and Ritual Practices

The methods described for clearing ghosts, such as rituals or direct communication, align with global practices and anthropological studies. Cross-Cultural Rituals: Cultures worldwide use spiritual rituals, from sage burning to exorcism, to remove unwanted spirits. Personal Empowerment: Some parapsychologists suggest that belief in the ability to control or clear ghosts reflects psychological empowerment during unsettling encounters.

7. Profound and Memorable Encounters

Impactful ghost encounters often serve as transformative experiences, reinforcing research on spiritual experiences and psychic phenomena. Supernatural experiences often leave individuals

with lasting emotional or spiritual insights. Mediumship and Communication: Mediums and individuals report receiving messages from spirits, echoing participants' stories.

8. Ghosts as Guides or Teachers.

The perception of ghosts as guides aligns with Jungian psychology and theories of spiritual growth. Jungian Archetypes: Carl Jung viewed supernatural figures as archetypes that guide individuals through personal transformation. Spiritual Growth: Spiritual or ghostly encounters can serve as catalysts for self-understanding.

Additional Information from the Survey

Belief in Ghosts:

- 100% of respondents believe in ghosts, indicating a strong consensus among participants.

Do you believe that New Orleans is haunted by ghosts?

- 100% Yes -12 Yes, 0 response (2)

Gender of Ghostly Encounters:

- 10 sightings of male ghosts- Male apparitions seem more commonly reported.
- 4 of female ghosts,
- 1 unclear response ("Yes").

Do you believe some people are more likely to see ghosts than others?

- 100% responded Yes

Do you believe in reincarnation?

- 100% responded Yes

Age of Ghostly Figures:

- Ghosts were most perceived as:
 - 20 to 40 years old (6 responses)
 - 40 to 60 years old (3 responses)
 - Fewer instances of very young (0-10 years) or older (over 60) apparitions.

Clothing Descriptions:

- Diverse responses included:
 - Historical references, such as "early 1900s," "1920s," and "late 1800s."
 - Ambiguous descriptions like "shapeless gray cloud" or "hard to tell."
 - Modern attire, e.g., "semi-contemporary," "suit," and "early to late 20th century."
 - A few respondents noted no distinct clothing or contemporary styles.
- "The one who lives here wears a suit."

Has any ghost physically touched you?

- 11 Yes responses
- 3 No responses

Has a ghost ever appeared to you in your dreams?

- 8 Yes responses
- 6 No responses

Participant Quotes from the Survey

Have you ever felt a ghost was there? How did you know? What did you feel? What did you sense?

- "Yes, often I feel them standing behind me or touching my shoulder."
- "The only ghost I did not see was a little girl at the bucket of blood I felt her cling to my hip in the pizza place at the time. Story goes she clings to women's hips that enter the place. The kid got ran over by a carriage long ago."
- "An older man died in my house. I hear him walk every day at around 3 PM."
- "Air felt cooler, got a creepy feeling, felt being watched."
- "Sometimes I hear footsteps, one time I saw an orb."

What were the ghosts doing?

- "Looking at me or waiting in the tunnel to go to the light."
- "He was just trying to get control of his house he had in life."
- "Standing there and moving stuff"

How did the ghost get your attention? (falling objects, blinking lights, other)

- "He just strangled me."
- Stood in our path while on a hike
- Yes, it knocked on my door
- Came behind me and held me.
- Throwing things, slamming cabinets, stomping on floor, touching my arm and foot, opening doors, whispering my name
- "A ghost created a huge noise in the basement that sounded like a bunch of plastic gallon jugs got toppled. Nothing was touched when we looked later. There's a ghost in our apartment bldg. that rings doorbells and knocks on doors."
- first with noises and "flashes of cold air"
- Just saw it floating from casket

Describe your most impactful ghost encounter.

- "When I saw my mother being lift up by two angels after she died."
- "When I was 16 years old downstairs in my old house. I looked up at the top of the stairs. I saw a young man standing against the wall wearing a 1920s suite and hat. He looked like a real person standing there - like I could reach out and touch him. He scared me because he surprised me. I screamed and then he vanished."
- "When I made a ghost move on that was hurting a little kid. I don't 'sees ghosts; I get psychic impressions and visions of what they were."
- "My sister-in-law's house had poltergeist activity after her ex-husband, Tom, died there by suicide. Clocks stopped, cupboards opened; both she and my brother heard/saw phenomena. Sue still didn't believe in ghosts until she walked through Tom in a doorway! She was freaked out. Worse, the house wouldn't sell for some reason. They asked me to help them (I'm the family weirdo who 'sees things.') I went to the house and walked around. I picked up on Tom's energy in certain spots and was told he did indeed frequent those areas while alive. When I went into the basement, I could sense his presence. I asked if I could talk with him. He readily communicated with me. This was all telepathic impressions. I sensed his sadness and that he simply wanted to be acknowledged. I extended empathy and love, even though I'd never met him while alive. That was it. After that, all paranormal activity ceased. And Sue sold her house. Tom later unexpectedly came through medium Bill Stillman and thanked me--he'd moved on!"

- "I think that the ghost in my home is the man who built this house. If I don't fix things, he shows up at night. I hear him walking on the stairs. Once, I saw him standing against my door in the night."
- "At a friend's funeral, I saw a gray shape float past her coffin and out the window. No one else saw it."

Feelings:

- Surprise
- A feeling that is "normal"
- Somehow "I knew it"
- Curious
- Scared
- Happy, peaceful
- Terrified
- "It was fulfilling to interact with them."

Are there specific places where you were more likely to see a ghost? - If yes, where?

- "Maybe - graveyards, battlefields, historical buildings, etc."
- "Places of mass trauma, but also old homes where people died, including apartments. Heck eastern homes have a haunting index, and they also have a ceremony to bless the home and be rid of any latent spirits. This haunting index tells you if people died there."
- "Some areas have portals, or the veil is very thin. The whole area will feel 'charged' to me. I experienced this phenomenon in Northwest Wisconsin, Sedona, and the rainforest of the Big Island, to name a few. In these places I didn't need to tune in. The spirits were everywhere."
- "Places with a lot of charged emotional energy because of events and thoughts - so hospitals, churches, graveyards, old places, etc."

Do you believe ghosts can attach to people? Has a ghost/ spirit ever attached to you?

- "I know my daughter's cat stayed in her home for 3 years. We would see the cat periodically."
- "Ghosts can attach to people, but there are different types of spirits:
 - o 1. Passed spirits tend to be full of unconditional love they can speak most often telepathically. My mother spoke to me often I have a link to her, but it is not strong. It opened up my gift to speak to others that passed, as well.
 - o 2. Residual energy of greed and fear on this plane. From what I figured, most ghosts are aspects of people they left behind a piece of trauma or fear that sometimes turns into obsession or hate. Some ghosts can get hag-like powers telekinesis, fear, nightmares, scratches and bruises.
 - o 3. A Hag or djinn. These are not ghosts they are psychic impressions often by living people that are based in fear. They are hexes built to gather energy of fear from people like a battery. The more fear that happens the stronger they get. These are the creatures that give nightmares and bumps in the night. Things move on their own. And sleep paralysis. I was afflicted by a Vietnamese one for a year. I accidentally opened a hag trap and got latched onto by a cat one."

Is there a way to ask ghosts to leave? How do you clear out ghosts?

- "Banish them."
- "Ground myself in white light. I'm the boss. I have no fear. My thoughts are final."
- 3 Ways:
 - o "1. Best way to get a ghost to leave is to help it with its trauma. If it is in a fear mode, you can approach it better.
 - o 2. Do not do this next part unless you have no doubt! You could clear a ghost from a home if you learned portals onto other dimensions. Usually, I send them onto the next world or heaven I open a grey portal. And if the ghost doesn't walk in, I psionically push them through. In the 4th dimension psionic powers are easier. And most ghosts exist on this plane.
 - o 3. If you are being possessed by a hag and you don't believe you have the power to open portals. There is a simple old way to help with it. Pee in a bottle close it and set it under the bed. The hag will think it's your energy and possess it. Do NOT open the bottle once the energy is trapped. This will cause the hag to latch back onto you. A second method is to find the person causing the hag and get them to stop through binding spells or persuasion.
 - o 4. There are types of super-hags that are called light-eaters. They work like hags, but the key signifier is black eyes in normal people (not to be confused with black-eyed children). These people have lost all empathy, and best course is to exit relationships with them they can be some of the most narcissistic people to deal with. Light-eaters' strength comes from an astral realm the realm has to be destroyed to stop it."
- "Some people do it. with prayers and sage."
- "You just tell them to leave and if there good they will listen. If not can use black salt, sage spray, sage smoke, holy water."
- "As with Tom, sometimes it just takes a listening ear. Everyone wants to be heard and acknowledged. My friend, Cara, sends them to the light. She is a witch and very psychically skilled. They frequent her home, apparently attracted to her ability."

Do you believe religious leaders (priests, priestesses, shamans, etc.) can remove ghosts from a building? How do they do this?

- "I believe they can remove evil from a building; I don't know about ghosts. Maybe ones that aren't able to connect with whomever they're trying to reach. They do it by communicating directly in a way that's easier for the ghost to hear/understand."
- "It's possible but never an infallible practice."

Additional information about ghost experiences:

- "I see souls- shadows."
- "She (the ghost) asked me to pray for her."
- "The ghost was startled when I said, "Oh, you're dead" to him. He then left."
- "In my current apartment, the ghost(s) are touchy feely and they have touched my leg and touched my cat."
- "The time at lunch during work, it was no big deal. I finally saw the ghost(s) that my colleague constantly mentioned seeing"
- "Ghosts usually just want to communicate."

- "I don't think that 'ghost' is the right word. More like entities or spirits is more applicable."
- "Just that most are not dangerous, they just want to be seen. Most often they're thinking of the place they died, or a home they lived in and manifest there. Thought is everything in the astral they think of home and they're there. That's not dangerous, they just miss home or remember that day they died. It's an emotional attachment on their part."
- "If you believe that all souls are connected, then you are in contact with many from other dimensions!"

Why do you think the ghost appeared to you?

- "Probably wants help."
- "I was in his territory. It was HIS and he just wanted to be left alone."
- "I sought out Tom's ghost. Relative's ghosts come to share affection. Ghosts who come during energy work come to give a message to the client."
- "I am still trying to figure it out. I think there are many dimensions and somehow I have access to it."
- "To let me know that I'm not crazy and I was strangled in a past life and still need to heal fully from that experience." (strangled by ghost)

Participant Interpretations:

- "Multiple ghost experiences have led me to understand they are just impressions of people that are left behind when we die. Some go bad when we leave for the next experience."
- "I've had many and they were all either friendly or neutral. Ghosts are just people who are in a different dimension."
- "When younger, seeing ghosts use to upset me but I've learned there is meaning and purpose for me is interesting. At times, I see through this veil."