Can ghosts kill living people?



Can **ghosts** physically harm or even kill us? It seems so. Very rare testimonies report that ghosts were able to cause injuries which ultimately resulted in death.

This article published on January 23, 1925 relates several killer ghosts ...

Abstracts:

"It is often asked if ghosts can really do any physical harm. My reply is: 'Yes; there are occasional instances of it.' What is more common, perhaps, is that ghosts have killed through shock, or have caused such injury to the constitution that death has eventually ensued. Let me quote a few instances:

There is a house not far from the Waterloo Road, Dublin, which contains a room that is periodically haunted by a very terrifying ghost that imparts such realistic sensations of strangulation to its victims as would certainly kill anyone possessing a weak heart.

I had an experience there many years ago. I had gone up to bed one night, and had just blown out the candle when I saw, some paces away from me and apparently near the foot of the bed, a faint, luminous glow that gradually materialised until it took the form of a tall figure, that suddenly came straight towards me.

I tried to move, but my limbs were paralysed; and the figure, bending over me, caught hold of me by the throat. Pressing me back on the pillow, it held me there till I lost consciousness.

On recovering, I lay for a while, too frightened to move; and then taking courage from the fact that I neither heard nor

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felt anything, I cautiously put out my hand and strack a light. The room was quite empty, and the door was locked on the inside and the window fastened.

A house that at one time bore the most sinister reputation for a very dangerous type of ghost is in Berkeley Square. It was rumoured in the 'seventies that a servant girl who went into one of the unoccupied rooms of the house one evening was picked up there later on unconscious, and from her subsequent ravings it was inferred that she had seen something almost too horrible for the mind to conceive. Indeed, her mind never recovered from the shock.

A gentleman, an utter sceptic where the supernatural was concerned, hearing the story, obtained permission to sleep in the room, the agreement that if he rang the bell twice, help should be sent him. The eventful night came and the gentleman went to the fatal apartment and shut himself in; whilst his friends, remaining in the lower part of the house, waited.

Just about midnight, or perhaps a little later, the bell of the upstairs room rang very violently once. There was a slight pause, and then a faint attempt to pull it a second time. At this, all the listeners rushed upstairs in a body, and, bursting into the haunted apartment, found the gentleman sitting upright on the bed, a discharged revolver in one hand – dead!

There is another singularly sinister house near Portman Square. Some years ago a lady and her husband lived there, and, awaking one night, heard a big clock — outside their door, apparently— slowly boom out thirteen, and, after a pause, strike something else and then again something still

more.

As there was no such clock in the house, the lady and gentleman were most impressed, and on the following morning a memorandum of the event — which memorandum I was subsequently shown — was duly recorded. Not long afterwards, whilst skating at a rink, the husband met with a very singular accident, which resulted in bis becoming insane, and eventually dying in that condition.

Some years lates I met the lady at the theatre, and learned from her that she had again heard the clock strike thirteen, and a gong shortly afterwards sound three. She seemed to think that the phenomena portended harm to a relative of hers who was ill at the time, but a feeling came over me that the warning was intended for her.

I advised her to leave the house at once, as I was sure there was a presence in it that bitterly resented her being there. She demurred, and two days later I heard that she had been killed in a taxicab accident in Portman Square."

Sources

• Can ghost kill?, Northern Argus, January 23, 1925

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