

The Apparitional Experience

Apparitions of the Living

An experimental apparition is an image of a still-living person sent to a percipient, and is suggestive of the concept of *out of body experiences (OBEs)*, or astral projection. A reciprocal apparition is when said apparition actively interacts with the percipient.

Sources:

- 1) M Tyrell, G. N. Apparitions. Open Road Integrated Media, 2012.
- 2) Guiley, Rosemary. The Encyclopedia of Ghosts and Spirits. Facts on File, 2009.

Antemortem Apparitions

A premonitory apparition is a
harbinger that
often appears before an
individual passes.

Corpse candles, or cemetery lights, are balls of light of floating flames that have been reported to appear above family cemetery or graveyard plots, to indicate someone in the family will soon pass.

Source:

"Corpse Candles, Lights." Oxford Reference, www.oxfordreference.com/view/10.1093/oi/authority.20110803095640561.

In German and British folklore, it is believed that seeing a phantom black dog is an indicator that the percipient will soon pass.



Source:

Ault, Richard. "Phantom Black Dogs Warn of Death." StokeonTrentLive, 10 Oct. 2017, www.stokesentinel.co.uk/news/history/phantom-black-dogs-warn-death-572669.

The most famous antemortem apparition might arguably be the banshee. This spirit is heard lamenting the looming death of certain individuals of Irish decent.



Source:

Forsyth, Steven. "Legend of the Banshee." Celtic Wedding Bands & Engagement Rings, www.celtic-weddingrings.com/celtic-mythology/legend-of-the-banshee.

The doppelganger is the image of a still-
living
person that may appear to the person, or to
those close to them, and is usually
considered a warning that the person will
pass soon.

Pre-disaster Syndrome is a proposed set of symptoms exhibited by more than a couple of individuals experiencing a sudden onset of generalized anxiety, nightmares, and occasionally witnessing aerial phenomena, almost to indicate a level of precognition of a major disaster.

Source:

MacGregor, Trish, and Rob MacGregor. Sensing the Future: How to Tap Into Your Intuition and Read Signs from the Universe to Predict What's to Come. Page Street Publishing Co., 2017.

The
most famous of these is the *Mothman*
of Point Pleasant, West Virginia, that
some argue appeared to warn
residents of the town of the coming
disaster of the
collapse of the Silver Bridge, which
led to many deaths.



Sources:

- 1) Keel, John A. *The Mothman Prophecies*. Tor, 2013.
- 2) "The Mothman." Strange Matters Podcast, 14 July 2017, www.strangematterspodcast.com/the-mothman/.

Perimortem Apparitions

A crisis apparition is the image of a still-living person that appears to a percipient around the time of crisis. A delayed crisis apparition, however, appears after the crisis has passed.

Source:

M Tyrell, G. N. Apparitions. Open Road Integrated Media, 2012.

A deathbed apparition appears to a person who will soon pass away, and often are reported to be deceased family members. They are occasionally referred to as take-away apparitions, as they are believed to be present to guide the soon to be deceased to the afterlife.

Source:

Osis Kārlis, and Erlendur Haraldsson. At the Hour of Death. White Crow Books, 2012.

Postmortem Apparitions

A postmortem apparition is the image of a person that appears within 12 hours of a person's passing. A delayed postmortem apparition, however, appears after 12 hours.

They are also referred to as reassuring apparitions, as they indicate to the still-living that consciousness survived physical death.

A bystander-type apparition is a particular discarnate consciousness that continually appears to someone they knew well in life.

Source:

Rhine, L. E. (1957). Hallucinatory psi experiences II. The initiative of the percipient in hallucinations of the living, the dying, and the dead. *Journal of Parapsychology*, 21, 13 – 46.

Transient apparitions are discarnate
consciousnesses
that are only seen once or twice, and are
unknown to the percipient.

Source:

Haraldsson, E. (1994). Apparitions of the dead: Analysis of a new collection of 357 reports. In E. W. Cook & D. L. Delanoy (Eds.) Research in Parapsychology 1991 (pp. 1 – 6). Metuchen, NJ: Scarecrow Press.

A haunting apparition appears in the same location over many years, decades, or even centuries. A group of apparitions is called phantoms en masse.

Apparitions in black are usually connected to themes of religion, or mourning. Common ghost tales associate these figures with monks and nuns, but also wailing figures, consumed by grief.

Apparitions in blue are usually connected to themes of roaming and servitude. Common ghost tales associate these figures with maids in particular.

Spirits of Union soldiers also appear in blue.

Apparitions in green are usually
connected to themes of wealth, but
can also be connected to forests.

Apparitions in grey are usually connected to themes of weather. They tend to appear before a particularly disastrous weather event, as a warning.

Spirits of Confederate soldiers also appear in grey.

Apparitions in orange are usually
associated with themes of political
female figures.

Apparitions in pink are usually connected to longing. They are associated with themes of awaiting the return of their lover, even after death.

Apparitions in purple are usually connected to malicious intent. They are associated of with themes of wanting to lead the still-living into dangerous situations.

Apparitions in red are usually
connected with sexuality. They are
associated with themes of
prostitution and vanity.

Apparitions in white are usually connected to sources of water, innocence met with tragedy, and spectral brides. They are associated with themes of accidental death, murder, suicide, betrayal, and unrequited love, or rejection from a would-be spouse.

Soulless Apparitions

A soulless apparition is the image of a phantom object that appears to percipients, such as a “ghost cars”, and “ghost ships”.

Zoological Apparitions

An often short-lived haunting wherein
the image of a deceased animal appears
to the percipient.

The background features a large, solid grey triangle on the left side, pointing towards the top-left. The rest of the background is filled with a complex pattern of thin, wavy, light grey lines that create a sense of motion and depth. The overall color palette is monochromatic, consisting of various shades of grey and white.

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