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Opening extract from

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GHOSTLY FIRST FACTS



You've seen ghosts at the movies and scared your friends with **spooky** stories – but how much do you **really** know about them?

Ghosts are thought to be the spirits of people who have **died**, returning to haunt the places they've left behind. But **why** do spirits come back as ghosts? There are a few different theories:



It's often believed that ghosts return to **communicate** with the living – either to **warn** family or friends of danger, or to take **revenge**.

Some think that people who die in a **horrible** way return to experience their final hours **over and over** again. Some ghosts might not even **know** they are dead – that's why they carry on as if they are **still alive**.



What's certain is that people have been **fascinated** by ghosts since **ancient times**. The **first ghost story** ever recorded is by the Roman author, Pliny the Younger. He wrote about a house that was being haunted by the ghost of an old man with **clanking chains** around his wrists and legs.

