

Brimming with creative inspiration, how-to projects, and useful information to enrich your everyday life, Quarto Knows is a favourite destination for those pursuing their interests and passions. Visit our site and dig deeper with our books into your area of interest: Quarto Creates, Quarto Cooks, Quarto Homes, Quarto Lives, Quarto Drives, Quarto Explores, Quarto Gifts, or Quarto Kids.

Strange But True © 2019 Quarto Publishing plc.
Text © 2019 Kathryn Hulick.
Illustrations © 2019 Gordy Wright.

Picture of the ghost of Abraham Lincoln with Mary Lincoln (p. 28), c. 1869, taken by William H. Mumler
Photograph of the 'ghost' walking down the stairs (p. 28) was made for Joe Nickell by Clint Robertson
Photograph of 'Baby Magdalena's face' (p. 29) is courtesy of Monte Cristo Homestead

First published in 2019 by Frances Lincoln Children's Books, an imprint of The Quarto Group.
The Old Brewery, 6 Blundell Street, London N7 9BH, United Kingdom.
T (0)20 7700 6700 F (0)20 7700 8066 **www.QuartoKnows.com**

The right of Kathryn Hulick to be identified as the author of this work and Gordy Wright to be identified as the illustrator of this work has been asserted by them in accordance with the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act, 1988 (United Kingdom).

All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form, or by any means, electrical, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the prior written permission of the publisher or a licence permitting restricted copying.

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

ISBN 9978-1-78603-784-8
These artworks were painted with gouache and acrylic and put together digitally.
Set in Aller, Azaelia, and Kelpt

Published by Rachel Williams
Designed by Nicola Price
Edited by Katie Cotton
Production by Nicolas Zeifman

Manufactured in Shenzhen, China PP062019

1 3 5 7 9 8 6 4 2



THE HAUNTED MANSION

It's late in the evening in Junee, Australia, 1963. The sky is dark. Olive and Reginald Ryan have been out shopping for building materials to fix a run-down mansion they recently purchased.

As they turn up the driveway, they stop and stare in shock. Bright light streams from every door and window. That seems impossible. The house has no electricity!

The Monte Cristo Homestead was once grand and new. Christopher William Crawley, the wealthy and powerful founder of the town, lived here with his wife, children, and numerous servants. The family hosted fancy balls and played tennis and golf on the expansive property. But the house has fallen into ruin after decades of neglect. Vandals stripped lead from the roof and broke all the windows. Squatters pulled up floorboards and burned them in the fireplace.

At first, the Ryans think that maybe squatters returned to the house. But as they approach to investigate, the lights vanish. They find no one inside. This is only the first of many unnerving experiences for the Ryans and their four children. They regularly hear footsteps walking across an upstairs balcony, and sometimes see a woman in white standing there. Olive feels hands resting on her shoulders when no one is there. Reginald hangs a picture, then find it fallen on the floor but unbroken, two nights in a row. And in the most disturbing incident of all, one of their daughters goes to check on her sleeping little brother, and sees an elderly man in old-fashioned clothes standing at the end of his bed.

They regularly hear footsteps walking across an upstairs balcony





AN ENCOUNTER WITH ALIENS

A car drives along an empty stretch of highway late one night in the mountains of New Hampshire. It is September 19, 1961, and Betty and Barney Hill are on their way home from vacation in Montreal, Canada.

Out of nowhere, a bright light appears. Could it be a falling star? Strangely, it seems to follow their car. The car starts to vibrate and the Hills hear strange buzzing and beeping sounds. A feeling of drowsiness washes over them.



Suddenly, they find themselves 35 miles further south. They have vague memories of taking a sudden turn and encountering a roadblock. But several hours have passed that they cannot explain. They arrive home around dawn. When they get there, they discover that Barney's binocular strap is broken and his shoes are scuffed. Betty later notices that her dress is also torn and stained.

A few years later, under hypnosis, the Hills recall a horrifying ordeal.

Ten days later, Betty starts having vivid dreams about what happened. A few years later, under hypnosis, the Hills recall a horrifying ordeal. In this memory, the light drops rapidly and a large, disc-shaped ship hovers overhead. Barney gets out and peers through his binoculars at an astonishing sight. Almost a dozen figures in black uniforms stare out from inside the craft. the figures, who look like humans, take Barney and Betty inside. Each is brought to a different room and subjected to a series of medical tests and procedures. Betty cries out when her examiner pierces her belly button with a sharp needle. But then she talks to her captors. They show her a book full of strange symbols and a map of stars.

