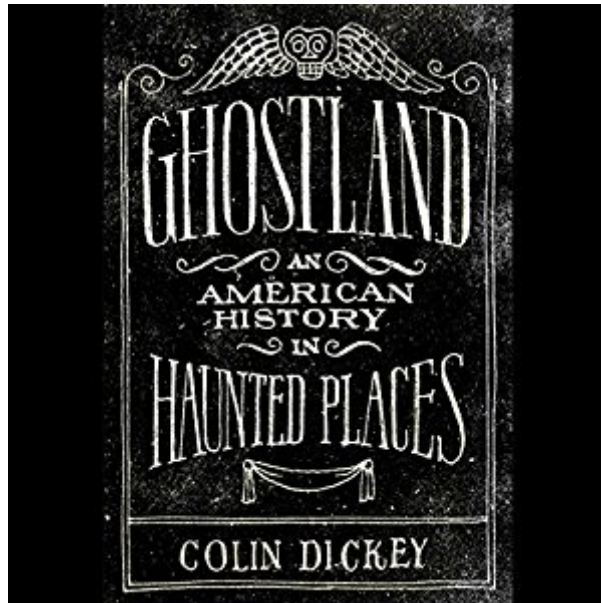


The book was found

Ghostland: An American History In Haunted Places



Synopsis

An intellectual feast for fans of offbeat history, *Ghostland* takes listeners on a road trip through some of the country's most infamously haunted places - and deep into the dark side of our history. Colin Dickey is on the trail of America's ghosts. Crammed into old houses and hotels, abandoned prisons and empty hospitals, the spirits that linger continue to capture our collective imagination, but why? His own fascination piqued by a house hunt in Los Angeles that revealed derelict foreclosures and "zombie homes", Dickey embarks on a journey across the continental United States to decode and unpack the American history repressed in our most famous haunted places. Some have established reputations as "the most haunted mansion in America" or "the most haunted prison"; others, like the haunted Indian burial grounds in West Virginia, evoke memories from the past our collective nation tries to forget. With boundless curiosity, Dickey conjures the dead by focusing on questions of the living - how do we, the living, deal with stories about ghosts, and how do we inhabit and move through spaces that have been deemed, for whatever reason, haunted? Paying attention not only to the true facts behind a ghost story but also to the ways in which changes to those facts are made - and why those changes are made - Dickey paints a version of American history left out of the textbooks, one of things left undone, crimes left unsolved. Spellbinding, scary, and wickedly insightful, *Ghostland* discovers the past we're most afraid to speak of aloud in the bright light of day is the same past that tends to linger in the ghost stories we whisper in the dark.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Even more interesting than I'd hoped, this is a well-researched and kind spirited evaluation of how and why people believe in hauntings. If you are looking for confirmation you'll be disappointed, but if you want to learn about the facts behind legends and tales you'll love it. It is at once a history and a nicely paced tour of American "haunted" places as they are today. The writer presents histories and back stories in an entertaining and thoughtful way. Thoroughly enjoyable book.

Interesting reading about different places that could or could not be haunted. I almost want to plan a road trip to visit some of these places

A brief, yet compelling look at what elements make up a haunting in today's world. The author takes no position on the validity of ghosts, but provides us with a new way of looking at dusty corridors and lonely places across the country that are inhabited by memories.

I like how he gets into the history of ghost stories and tells the history behind the story.

This book was a fun, fact-filled tomb of ghost stories that have been passed down through generations. They take you to infamous sites--haunted hotels, graveyards and even movie theaters where paranormal activity runs rampant. Not at all scary either, just amusing and of interest to anyone who likes stories of the paranormal.

Not a book of ghost stories or ghost hunting, this is a sociological exploration of the function of ghost stories. How they develop, the purpose they serve in communities, and their eventual evolution are the topics explored. I bought this for research and found it very helpful.

Excellent book that offers a paradigm changing perspective on the social history of haunted places in America. The only thing that I thought was lacking were more footnotes to support the history that was presented in the book. I highly recommend this book enthusiastically.

Loved the light psychological exploration of haunted sites. Not an intensive coverage of psychology but a really interesting down-to-earth theory of why humans believe in hauntings and haunted places. Thought-provoking and intriguing.

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