Haunted Alberta: Tales from the Dark Side

Introduction

Prepare yourself for a spine-tingling journey into the haunted heart of Alberta as we unveil the chilling tales that have captivated and terrified generations. From the bustling streets of Edmonton to the majestic peaks of the Rocky Mountains, Haunted Alberta: Tales from the Dark Side delves into the realm of the unknown, where spirits linger and the veil between the living and the dead grows thin.

Within these pages, you will encounter the restless souls that haunt the grand halls of the Empress Hotel and the eerie corridors of the Banff Springs Hotel. You will learn about the tragic events that unfolded at the Varscona Theatre and the unexplained phenomena

that plague the University of Alberta. No corner of this vast province is left untouched, as we uncover the mysteries that shroud its abandoned buildings, desolate landscapes, and forgotten histories.

As you delve deeper into Haunted Alberta: Tales from the Dark Side, you will discover the chilling legends that surround the remote town of Jasper, where whispers of hauntings echo through the towering peaks. You will explore the eerie beauty of the Maligne Canyon and the otherworldly landscapes of the Sulphur Skyline Gondola. The unexplained events that have transpired in the shadows of Lethbridge and Medicine Hat will leave you questioning the boundaries of reality, while the paranormal encounters in the cities of Red Deer and Grande Prairie will send shivers down your spine.

But the journey does not end there. We invite you to venture into the enigmatic realm of Fort McMurray, where the whispers of spirits mingle with the echoes of

the oil sands industry. Uncover the secrets of the Crystal Glass Gallery and the Grande Prairie Museum, where the past and present collide in a haunting embrace. As you reach the northern reaches of the province, the Peace River region will reveal its own tales of the unexplained, leaving you with a profound sense of awe and wonder.

In Haunted Alberta: Tales from the Dark Side, we have meticulously gathered a collection of true stories, eyewitness accounts, and historical records that will transport you to a realm where the boundaries between the living and the dead blur. Whether you are a seasoned ghost hunter, a history buff, or simply curious about the unknown, this book promises to captivate your imagination and leave you forever haunted by the mysteries that lie within.

Book Description

Prepare yourself for a spine-tingling journey into the haunted heart of Alberta as we unveil the chilling tales that have captivated and terrified generations. From the bustling streets of Edmonton to the majestic peaks of the Rocky Mountains, Haunted Alberta: Tales from the Dark Side delves into the realm of the unknown, where spirits linger and the veil between the living and the dead grows thin.

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Prepare to embark on a haunting odyssey that will lead you through the shadowy streets of Calgary, where the echoes of the past linger in the Deane House and the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary. Discover the secrets of the Fairmont Hotel Macdonald and the Bow Valley Ranche Restaurant, where the boundaries between reality and the paranormal blur.

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Chapter 1: The Ghosts of Edmonton

1. The Empress Hotel

Nestled in the heart of Edmonton's bustling downtown, the Empress Hotel stands as a grand and opulent landmark, its stately presence belying the chilling secrets that linger within its walls. Constructed in 1912 as a Canadian Pacific Railway hotel, the Empress quickly became a gathering place for Edmonton's elite and a symbol of the city's growing prosperity. However, beneath its façade of elegance and luxury, a darker history unfolds, whispering tales of restless spirits that haunt the hotel's corridors and rooms.

One of the most enduring tales surrounding the Empress Hotel is that of Room 407, said to be haunted by the ghost of a young woman named Sarah. According to legend, Sarah was a chambermaid who worked at the hotel in the early 1900s. When Sarah discovered she was pregnant, the father of her child, a

wealthy guest, abandoned her, leaving her heartbroken and alone. In a fit of despair, Sarah took her own life in Room 407, and it is said that her spirit has never left the hotel. Guests and staff have reported seeing Sarah's ghost wandering the halls, her ethereal form dressed in a white gown, her face pale and drawn with sorrow.

Another well-known ghost that haunts the Empress Hotel is known as the "Blue Boy." This mischievous spirit is said to be the ghost of a young boy who died in the hotel in the 1920s. The Blue Boy is often seen playing tricks on guests, hiding their belongings or turning on lights and faucets. While some find his pranks amusing, others find them unsettling, especially when they occur in the middle of the night.

In addition to Sarah and the Blue Boy, numerous other spirits are said to reside within the Empress Hotel. Guests have reported hearing disembodied voices, ghostly footsteps, and strange noises coming from empty rooms. Some have even claimed to have seen

apparitions of former guests and employees walking through the halls or sitting in the hotel's grand ballroom.

The Empress Hotel's reputation as a haunted landmark has made it a popular destination for ghost hunters and paranormal enthusiasts. Numerous investigations have been conducted at the hotel, and many have captured evidence of paranormal activity, including EVPs, strange lights, and unexplained temperature fluctuations. Whether you believe in ghosts or not, there is no denying the eerie atmosphere that permeates the Empress Hotel, making it one of the most haunted places in Alberta.

Chapter 1: The Ghosts of Edmonton

2. The Varscona Theatre

The Varscona Theatre is one of Edmonton's oldest and most storied buildings. It opened its doors in 1913 and has been a beloved landmark ever since. Over the years, the theatre has hosted countless performances, from vaudeville shows to movies to live plays. It has also been the site of several paranormal encounters.

One of the most famous ghosts of the Varscona Theatre is that of a young woman named Mary. Mary is said to have been a usherette at the theatre in the 1920s. One night, she was working a late shift when she was brutally murdered by a unknown assailant. Her body was found in the theatre's basement, and her ghost is said to haunt the building to this day.

Mary's ghost has been seen by many people over the years. She is often described as being a young woman with long, dark hair and a white dress. She is said to be

very shy and often hides from people. However, there have been a few occasions when she has been known to interact with visitors to the theatre.

In one instance, a group of teenagers were exploring the theatre's basement when they saw Mary's ghost. The teenagers were terrified and ran out of the basement, but they never forgot what they saw.

Another time, a security guard was making his rounds of the theatre when he saw Mary's ghost standing in the balcony. The security guard was so frightened that he called the police. However, when the police arrived, they could not find any trace of Mary's ghost.

The ghost of Mary is just one of the many that are said to haunt the Varscona Theatre. Other ghosts include that of a former owner of the theatre, who is said to haunt the theatre's offices, and the ghost of a stagehand who was killed in an accident during a performance.

The Varscona Theatre is a beautiful and historic building, but it is also a place with a dark past. The theatre's many ghosts are a reminder of the tragic events that have taken place within its walls.

The Varscona Theatre is still in operation today, and it continues to host a variety of performances. However, the theatre's ghosts are still said to make their presence known from time to time. If you are ever lucky enough to visit the Varscona Theatre, be sure to keep an eye out for Mary's ghost. You might just be one of the lucky ones who gets to see her.

Chapter 1: The Ghosts of Edmonton

3. The Fairmont Hotel Macdonald

Nestled in the heart of downtown Edmonton, the Fairmont Hotel Macdonald stands as a beacon of luxury and elegance. However, beneath its opulent façade lies a darker history, one that has haunted the hotel for decades.

The hotel was built in 1915 by Donald Macdonald, a wealthy businessman and philanthropist. Macdonald was a devout Christian, and he intended for the hotel to be a place where people could come to relax and rejuvenate. However, tragedy struck shortly after the hotel opened. In 1918, Macdonald's wife, Sarah, died suddenly of a heart attack. Her death devastated Macdonald, and he is said to have never fully recovered.

In the years that followed, guests and staff at the hotel began to report strange and unexplained occurrences.

Lights would flicker on and off, doors would open and close by themselves, and disembodied voices could be heard throughout the halls. Some guests even reported seeing the ghost of Sarah Macdonald wandering the hotel, dressed in a long white gown.

One of the most famous ghost stories associated with the Fairmont Hotel Macdonald is the story of Room 437. This room is said to be haunted by the ghost of a young woman who was murdered in the hotel in the 1930s. Guests who have stayed in Room 437 have reported hearing strange noises, seeing objects move on their own, and even feeling the presence of an unseen entity.

Another common ghost story associated with the hotel is the story of the "bellhop ghost." This ghost is said to be the spirit of a young bellhop who was killed in a car accident in the 1950s. Guests and staff have reported seeing the ghost of the bellhop wandering the halls of the hotel, carrying a bag of luggage.

The Fairmont Hotel Macdonald is one of the most haunted hotels in Canada. Its rich history and tragic past have made it a popular destination for ghost hunters and paranormal enthusiasts. Whether you believe in ghosts or not, there is no denying that the Fairmont Hotel Macdonald has a dark and mysterious side.

This extract presents the opening three sections of the first chapter.

Discover the complete 10 chapters and 50 sections by purchasing the book, now available in various formats.

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