

100 ESSENTIAL WORKS

Many notable books have been left off this list in order to better represent the diversity of voices and disciplines that contribute to the practice of historically informed ghost hunting. A star is used to indicate books that merit special attention, either because of their historical significance or general excellence.

A1 Victorian Spiritualism and Occulture

- ★ 1. The Other World: Spiritualism and Psychical Research in England 1850-1914
Janet Oppenheim (1988)
- ★ 2. The Invention of Telepathy
Roger Luckhurst (2002)
3. The Place of Enchantment: British Occultism and the Culture of the Modern
Alex Owen (2004)
- ★ 4. The Eager Dead: A Study in Haunting
Archie Roy (2008)
5. Supernatural Entertainments: Victorian Spiritualism and the Rise of Modern Media Culture
Simone Natale (2016)
- ★ 6. The New Prometheans: Faith, Science, and the Supernatural Mind in Victorian Fin de Siècle
Courtenay Raia (2019)

A2 —Interdisciplinary Anthologies

7. The Victorian Supernatural
Brown, Burdett, & Thurschwell, Editors (2004)
8. Nineteenth-Century Spiritualism and the Occult (Ashgate Research Companion)
Kontou & Willburn, Editors (2012)

B1 Victorian Era Writings on Spiritualism

- ★ 9. Essays in Psychical Research
William James (1869 – 1909)
- ★ 10. Researches in the Phenomena of Spiritualism
William Crookes (1874)

11. People from the Other World
Henry Olcott (1875)
12. Mesmerism, Spiritualism, &C.: Historically & Scientifically Considered
William Carpenter (1877)
- ★ 13. Studies in Psychical Research
Frank Podmore (1897)
- ★ 14. Human Personality and Its Survival of Bodily Death (2 Vols)
Frederic Myers (1903)
15. On the Threshold of the Unseen: An Examination of the Phenomena of Spiritualism and of the Evidence of Survival After Death
William Barrett (1908)

B2 —*Surveys of Spiritual Practices*

16. Mystic London: Or, Phases of Occult Life in the Metropolis
Charles Davies (1875)
17. The History of Spiritualism (2 Vols)
Arthur Conan Doyle (1926)
- ★ 18. Modern Spiritualism: A History and a Criticism (2 Vols)
Frank Podmore (1902)

B3 —*Ghost Tales and Testimony*

- ★ 19. Phantasms of the Living (2 Vols)
Gurney, Myers, & Podmore, Editors (1886)
20. Cock Lane and Common-Sense
Andrew Lang (1894)
- ★ 21. The Night Side of Nature: Or, Ghosts and Ghost Seers
Catherine Crowe (1848)

B4 —*Practitioners and Advocates*

22. Spiritualism (2 Vols)
John Edmonds & George Dexter (1853)
23. Spiritualism, and the Age We Live In
Catherine Crowe (1859)
- ★ 24. From Matter to Spirit: The Result of Ten Years' Experience in Spirit Manifestation
Sophia Elizabeth De Morgan (1863)

- ★ 25. Incidents in My Life (Vol. 1)
Daniel Douglas Home (1863)
- 26. Ghost Land or Researches into the Mysteries of Occultism
Emma Hardinge Britten (1876)
- 27. There Is No Death
Florence Marryat (1891)

C American Spiritualism and Occulture

- 28. Spiritualism in Antebellum America
Bret Carroll (1997)
- 29. The Occult in Nineteenth-Century America
Cathy Gutierrez, Editor (2005)
- ★ 30. Ghosts of Futures Past: Spiritualism and the Cultural Politics of Nineteenth-Century America
Molly McGarry (2008)

D Victorian Era Frauds and Skeptics

- 31. Report of the Seybert Commission on Spiritualism
Seybert Commission (1887)
- 32. Revelations of a Spirit Medium
Harry Price, Editor (1891)
- 33. Spirit Slate Writing and Kindred Phenomena
William Robinson (1898)
- ★ 34. A Magician Among the Spirits
Harry Houdini (1924)

E1 Spirit(ualism) Redux

- ★ 35. The Re-Enchantment of the West (2 Vols)
Christopher Partridge (2004)
- 36. Phantasmagoria
Marina Warner (2006)

E2 —*Uncanny Doubles*

- ★ 37. The Secret Life of Puppets
Victoria Nelson (2001)

38. The Uncanny
Nicholas Royle (2003)
39. The Memory of Place: A Phenomenology of the Uncanny
Dylan Trigg (2013)

F1 Technology, Self, and Spirit

40. Bodies/Machines
Iwan Morus, Editor (2002)
41. Technologies of Magic
John Potts & Edward Scheer, Editors (2006)
- ★ 42. TechGnosis: Myth, Magic, and Mysticism in the Age of Information
Erick Davis (2015)

F2 —*Medium to Medium*

- ★ 43. Gramophone, Film, Typewriter
Friedrich Kittler (1999)
44. Haunted Media: Electronic Presence from Telegraphy to Television
Jeffrey Sconce (2000)
- ★ 45. Literature, Technology, and Magical Thinking, 1880 – 1920
Pamela Thurschwell (2001)

G Animism and Magic

46. Magic and Fetishism
Alfred Haddon (1910)
- ★ 47. The Magic of the State
Michael Taussig (1997)

H1 Cultural History of Ghosts

- ★ 48. Spectres of the Self: Thinking about Ghosts and Ghost-Seeing in England, 1750 – 1920
Shane McCorristine (2010)
49. Ghosts: A Natural History | 500 Years of Searching for Proof
Roger Clarke (2012)
50. The Ghost: A Cultural History
Susan Owens (2017)

H2 —*Ghost Studies*

51. Apparitions
G.N.M. Tyrell (1961)
- ★ 52. Poltergeists
Alan Gauld & A.D. Cornell (1979)
53. Hauntings and Apparitions
Andrew Mackenzie (1982)
54. Hauntings and Poltergeists: Multidisciplinary Perspectives
Houran & Lange, Editors (2001)
55. The Poltergeist
William Roll (2004)

I1 Sociology of Ghosts and Hauntings

- ★ 56. Ghostly Matters: Haunting and the Sociological Imagination
Avery Gordon (1997)
57. The Haunted: A Social History of Ghosts
Owen Davies (2007)
58. Co-habiting with Ghosts: Knowledge, Experience, Belief, and the Domestic Uncanny
Caron Lipman (2014)
59. Ghostly Encounters: The Hauntings of Everyday Life
Dennis Waskul & Michele Waskul (2016)
60. Sensing Spirits: Paranormal Investigations and the Social Construction of Ghosts
Marc Eaton (2021)

I2 —*Interdisciplinary Anthologies*

61. Out of the Ordinary: Folklore and the Supernatural
Barbara Walker, Editor (1995)
- ★ 62. Ghosts: Deconstruction, Psychoanalysis, History
Buse & Stott, Editors (1999)
63. Popular Ghosts: The Haunted Spaces of Everyday Culture
Blanco & Perren, Editors (2010)
64. The Spectralities Reader: Ghosts and Hauntings in Contemporary Cultural Theory
Blanco & Perren, Editors (2013)

65. *The Supernatural in Society, Culture, and History*
Waskul & Eaton, Editors (2018)

J1 Ghost Hunting

- ★ 66. *Confessions of a Ghost Hunter*
Harry Price (1936)
67. *Ghost Hunter*
Hans Holzer (1963)
68. *Ghost Hunters of the South*
Alan Brown (2006)
69. *The Gold Leaf Lady and Other Parapsychological Investigations*
Stephen Braude (2007)

J2 —*Ghost Hunting Guides*

70. *The Ghost Hunter's Guide*
Peter Underwood (1986)
71. *ESP, Hauntings, and Poltergeists: A Parapsychologist's Handbook*
Lloyd Auerbach (1986)
72. *Paranormal Technology: Understanding the Science of Ghost Hunting*
David Rountree (2010)

K1 From Psychical Research to Parapsychology

73. *The Founders of Psychical Research*
Alan Gauld (1968)
74. *The Society for Psychical Research: 1882 – 1982 | A History*
Renée Haynes (1982)
75. *Common Phantoms: An American History of Psychic Science*
Alicia Puglionesi (2020)

K2 —*Transition to Modern Parapsychology*

76. *The Elusive Science: Origins of Experimental Psychical Research*
Seymour Mauskopf & Michael McVaugh (1980)
77. *Parapsychology: A Concise History*
John Beloff (1993)

K3 —*Research Models*

- ★ 78. Extra-Sensory Perception
J.B. Rhine (1964)
- 79. Foundations of Parapsychology
Edge, Morris, Palmer, & Rush (1986)

K4 —*Pivot to Mind and Consciousness*

- 80. The Conscious Universe
Dean Radin (1997)
- 81. Irreducible Mind: Toward a Psychology for the 21st Century
Edward Kelly & Emily Williams Kelly (2009)

L1 Paranormal Cultures and Practices

- ★ 82. Authors of the Impossible: The Paranormal and the Sacred
Jeffrey Kripal (2010)
- 83. Paranormal Media: Audiences, Spirits, and Magic in Popular Culture
Annette Hill (2011)
- 84. Paranormal America
Bader, Baker, & Mencken (2017)

L2 —*Psychology of Paranormal Beliefs*

- 85. The Paranormal: Research and the Quest for Meaning
Eric Carlton (2000)
- 86. The Psychology of Paranormal Belief: A Researcher's Handbook
Harvey Irwin (2009)
- 87. The Paranormal: Who Believes, Why They Believe, and Why It Matters
Erich Goode (2012)

L3 —*Interdisciplinary Anthologies*

- 88. Paranormal Cultures (Ashgate Research Companion)
Jenzen & Munt, Editors (2013)
- 89. The Paranormal and Popular Culture: A Postmodern Religious Landscape
Caterine & Morehead, Editors (2019)

M1 Paranormal Spectacles

90. The Disembodied Spirit
Alison Ferris, Curator (2003)
- ★ 91. The Perfect Medium: Photography and the Occult
Clément Chéroux & Andreas Fischer (2004)
92. Blur of the Otherworldly
Durant & Marsching, Editors (2005)
93. The Spectacle of Illusion: Deception, Magic, and the Paranormal
Matthew Tompkins (2019)

M2 —Adjacent Performances

- ★ 94. Six Years: The Dematerialization of the Art Object from 1966 to 1972
Lucy Rippard, Editor (1973)
95. Fugitive Images: From Photography to Video
Patrice Petro, Editor (1995)
96. Experimental Film and Anthropology
Schneider & Pasqualino (2014)

N Encyclopedias and General Reference

97. Encyclopedia of Occultism and Parapsychology, 3rd Edition (2 Vols)
Leslie Shepard (1991)
98. The Encyclopedia of Ghosts and Spirits
Rosemary Ellen Guiley (1992)
99. The Encyclopedia of the Paranormal
Gordon Stein, Editor (1996)
100. Chambers Dictionary of the Unexplained
Una McGovern (2007)