

Tales of a First-Time Ghost Hunter

By Tara Finley, SpectralTech.org

Ever since I can remember, I have always been drawn to the paranormal. Everything from Bigfoot to life on Mars captivates my interest. So it comes as no surprise that I have found myself exploring the realm of my favorite paranormal being: ghosts.

Searching for the Paranormal

As I grew up, I always knew that spirits were all around me. It did not take long to figure out that my grandparents' home in Bartlett, Tennessee, was haunted. I always enjoyed spending the night and watching paranormal shows on TV with my grandmother before bed with the hopes that the spirits in her home would take notice and follow suit from the spirits we saw on TV by making their presence known.

Much to my terror, they often would. Something about the thrill of experiencing the unknown helped keep the fear at bay.

Now that I'm older, my yearning to experience and understand the paranormal has become even more insatiable. Fortunately, my mother shares my enthusiasm for investigating the unknown and was recently given the opportunity to manage an antique store, which we believe to be haunted.

As one could imagine, an antique store has great potential for harboring

spirits, which may come and go just as quickly as some of the items do.

Recently, my mother became acquainted with Bob Fountain, who is a seasoned paranormal investigator with the Spectral Tech paranormal investigation team. I vividly remember the warm, June night several months ago when my mother called me and asked if I would like to do an investigation at the Upscale Resale antique store in Covington, Tennessee, with real ghost hunting equipment and a professional investigator.

My heart jumped, and I felt as though I had just won the lottery!

My First Investigation

When the night finally came, I was incredibly nervous and jumpy, as I had yearned for a chance to work with the high-tech equipment I had seen on television shows all my life. Holding a K-II EMF Meter and an Ovilus spirit box for the first time was like a dream come true!

Bob gave us a crash training course over the ins and outs and what-not-to-do's before we began, and off we went.

My first real investigation went well, although there was a lot more down-time than I expected there to be. I knew what questions I wanted to ask, but I wanted to hear the answers and make conversation with an entity right then and there, which I'm sure as most of you know, is an incredibly rare event.



Tara Finley recently attended her first paranormal investigation with the Spectral Tech investigation team. "Holding a K-II EMF Meter and an Ovilus spirit box for the first time was like a dream come true!" she said.

I felt almost like a superhuman with hypersensitivity to all of my surroundings that first night. I am completely convinced that if someone were to drop a pin on the carpet floor downstairs, I would certainly have heard it, or at least have felt the vibrations of it moving through the air as it fell.

Of course, I'm not that talented, nor have I been exposed to any kind of nuclear waste which gifted me with super powers, but I was still excited nonetheless!

After the investigation, all that was left to do was review the evidence. I waited anxiously to hear from Bob about his findings and found myself chomping at the bit to hear every little knock or noise that we had caught on the recorders.

We met again about a week later and went over the results from our EVP sessions. I was ecstatic to hear the voices of the spirits who dwell in the store. We did not get much, just a few male voices and a woman or child's voice with the common "hello" and "help."

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To a seasoned investigator, it may not seem like much, but to me, it was like Christmas morning. These entities were speaking to me and reacting to my voice and my actions.

I had been touched several times during the investigation as well, and these small interactions have left me wanting more contact.

It's so amazing to think that there are other beings who experience us in a totally different way than we experience them. They can speak to us without vocal chords or breath, they can touch us with unseen hands, they can hear us without ears, and they can move us without ever showing us who they are. I find that both are exhilarating and profound!

After a few more small investigations of the store, I was hooked. Next, we were offered to investigate a site that we could not refuse: an old, dilapidating home with an incredible amount of activity.

Next stop: Byhalia, Mississippi! ♦