

Glossary of general terms

Angel- a spiritual being superior to man in power and intelligence. Can be an attendant spirit or a guardian.

Anomaly- something deviating from the norm; irregular.

Apparition- appearance of a full or partial bodied entity.

Astral travel- the human experience of leaving ones own body.

Banshee- a female spirit in Gaelic folklore whose wailing warns a family of an approaching death of a member.

Demon- an evil spirit; thought to be a dark angel.

Ectoplasm- smoky appearance of a disembodied spirit; usually a spirit attempting to manifest into an apparition.

Entity- something that has separate and distinct existence. Can have an objective or conceptual reality.

Electronic Voice Phenomena (EVP)- voices of an entity recorded by an audio device.

Ghost- the soul of a dead person believed to be an inhabitant of the unseen world or to appear to the living in bodily likeness.

Haunting- recurrent visitations or lingering of the dead.

Intelligent haunting- a spirit that interacts with the living.

Materialization- appearance of an apparition.

Matrixing- visualization of a face or other shape in a photo that is

not actually what it appears to be.

Orb- an anomaly seen in photographs due to a variety of different causes.

Out of body experience- aka astral travel- the ability to leave one's physical body.

Paranormal- something not scientifically explainable.

Parapsychology- a science concerned with investigating the paranormal.

Poltergeist- German term for "noisy ghost".

Psychokinesis- the ability to move objects with ones mind.

Reincarnation- the rebirth of a soul into a new human body.

Residual haunting- an imprint of previous events in a location. Has no interaction with the living.

Spirit- an immaterial being; ghost