

HAUNTING ON AVENDALE ROAD

HAL AMES



It was August of 1979 when the police raided the house over on Avendale Road. What had been going on there had been happening for a very long time. Many of the people who lived close by had heard something very chilling and called the police to come.

Over the years, many people had called about suspicious occurrences in the house, but when the police went to the house to see what was happening, they never found anything.

Today was different.

No one knew about the events that took place in the two-story house at the end of the street. If they had known, even just a little of what was going on, it would never have gotten as bad as it did. The neighborhood was a quiet place and no one caused any problems. That is why it was such a big shock.

Most of the people in the town knew about the family who died there many years before and thought it must be the family that was haunting the house.

In 1929, the father had lost his job, and as result, became desperate. He killed his family of seven kids, his wife, and then killed himself with a shotgun. The police said they had never seen such a horrific sight.

It took days to investigate the horrific event.

The police concluded it was a murder suicide.

The house had a long history of funny things happening there.

About thirty years later, a family had moved into the home. They were very quiet and they did not bother anyone. People thought they were a bit strange since no one ever saw them.

When this new family moved in, the people on the street were happy. Now the old house would have people living in it and the stories of the haunted house would go away.

That never happened. The new family was very strange. As time passed, it appeared to everyone that the house was perfect for them. People said the house was now double haunted.

Occasionally there would be sacks of groceries left on the porch that had been delivered by the local store but not much else. No one saw the groceries taken into the house, they would just disappear.

Some of the neighbors thought they saw as many as eight children in and around the house, but none of them attended school.

What was strange was that the children would not be out for very long. When someone saw them, they would disappear very quickly.

There were never the sounds of laughter or fighting you might expect from such a large family.

At night, there were no lights in the windows. The house looked abandoned all the time. Sometimes the glow of a candle's light would move from place to place.

Many years went by and most people just avoided going past the old house. No one would walk past it and no one would drive by it either, unless they had to. The paint was falling off the outside walls, and the house looked more and more scary every year. On Halloween, the children would dare each other to go up to the house to trick-or-treat. They were all too scared to do it.

The yard was only dirt, and the only tree in the yard was half-dead. The

wooden fence was mostly gone. The shutters on the windows had fallen off and green mold was growing on the roof.

Strange noises came from inside the house, usually after midnight. None of the noises could be explained. When the police were called, they would go to the house, but no one answered the door to talk to them. After walking around the house and not finding anything unusual, the officers would leave. They hated going to house just as much as the neighbors did.

When the station was called for an explanation why the police had left so quickly, they would say they did not hear or see anything out of the ordinary. Therefore, there was no reason for them to go into the house.

One strange thing that occurred every day, was black crows would circle the house. At around two o'clock in the afternoon, a large flock of crows formed a black cloud and flew around the house for over an hour. Then they would just fly away. This happened every day.

At night, bats did the same thing around midnight.

The house became a legend. People came from miles around to see the house and watch the birds as they flew circles around it. The crowd was always biggest around Halloween. On that day, they would stay until midnight to watch the bats.

Since the house was so popular for visitors the city decided not to tear it down, even though many citizens objected. The people who lived close by were angry at the mayor for not doing something about the haunted house.

News people from all over the country heard about the house on Avendale Road and sent reporters. Specialists in paranormal activity wanted to go inside and install special equipment to monitor the activity in the house. The police would not let them go inside. It was private property.

At midnight, on the fiftieth anniversary of the killings, something happened. The sound of gunfire was heard all the way down the street. There were screams

coming from inside the house. Many shots were fired. People came out of their homes to see what was going on. Neighbors called the police. The police came once again.

However, this time because so many people told the police what they had heard, the police decided to enter the house with force.

They knocked in the front door, and several officers rushed inside. They had their guns out ready to shoot.

From outside, looking up at the house, the light from flashlights were seen moving back and forth going from room to room.

Soon the place became a crime scene. Special officers came and went from the house. Black bags were coming out on special carts and put into ambulances. There were ten of them.

At first, the police said nothing to the press. The only information they gave was that the house was under investigation.

Rumors began to run rampant throughout the town. No one knew for sure what was happening.

When the police released the final report to the public, it was a major surprise. The bodies removed from the house were mummified. The bodies had been dead for a very long time, perhaps for fifty years. They found them in different rooms, in their beds, as if they had been sleeping when they died.

The records showed that fifty years ago the bodies of the victims had been removed and buried in the local cemetery.

The judge in the town ordered the graves to be opened to see if the bodies were in the graves. When they were opened, they were empty.

After the events of that night, nothing changed at the house. Every day the crows would come and circle the house. At night, the bats would come and do the same thing. Strange noises were heard in the house and candlelight was seen in the

windows from time to time.

A few years later, the city decided to tear the house down. When they did, they found something very unexpected. In the cellar, beneath the house, they found ten bodies buried in the dirt. They had all been shot with a shotgun.