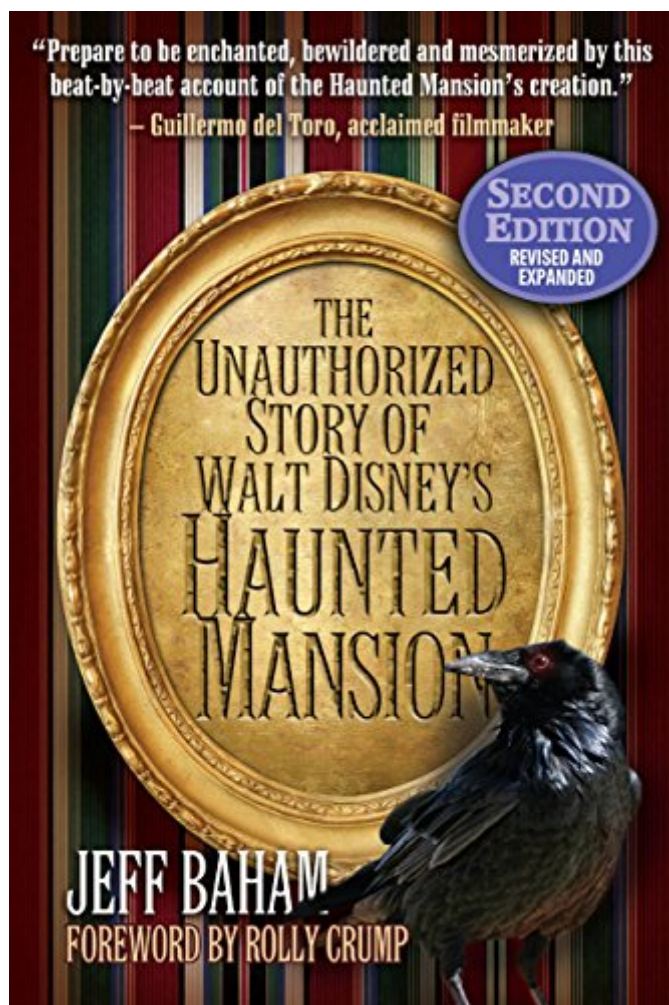


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The Unauthorized Story Of Walt Disney's Haunted Mansion



Synopsis

Expanded second edition, with all-new photos and Haunted Mansion coverage. Welcome, Foolish Readers! Join your new Ghost Host, Jeff Baham, as he recounts the colorful, chilling history of the Haunted Mansion and pulls back the shroud on its darkest secrets in this definitive book about Disney's most ghoulish attraction. Packed with photos, never-before-told stories, and comprehensive coverage of the mansion's haunted past and its chilling presence at Disneyland, Walt Disney World, and other Disney theme parks. Beginning with the Haunted Mansion's original (but never realized) incarnation as "Bloodmere Manor", Baham pulls back the shroud on the clever effects that haunt the Mansion, including Ken Anderson's plan for a cyclorama-enhanced Headless Horseman, Yale Gracey and Rolly Crump's creative wizardry and "happy accidents", Bob Gurr's Doom Buggies, the technology behind Madame Leota's crystal ball, and the controlled chaos of the Ballroom Scene. You'll learn why X. Atencio's idea for a raven narrator was ditched in favor of the now infamous Ghost Host, whether a screaming man caught in a spider web once dwelt in the mansion, and how technology exorcised the Hatbox Ghost. There's more to the mansion than mere mechanics. More than perhaps any other Disney attraction, the Haunted Mansion is powered by story: the scenes and spirits you witness from your Doom Buggy all play roles in the overall narrative of the mansion, and if you don't know the story, you'll miss out on a lot of the fun, and a few of the scares, too. Baham clues you in about such things as why the mansion is there, who built it, how it became haunted, and the dastardly deeds done by some of its residents in their corruptible, mortal states. From the comfort of your Doom Buggy you'll enjoy: Exclusive photos and commentary by Disney Imagineers, including Haunted Mansion "architect" Rolly Crump. Insider accounts of the creative clashes over whether the mansion's haunts should be humorous or horrific, and the internal workflow behind each mansion rehab or addition. An analysis of the ride, scene by scene, with insight into how the effects work, delightfully eerie trivia, and anecdotes from Imagineers and cast members. The stories behind some of the mansion's many denizens, including the Hatbox Ghost, the Knight, the Sea Captain, the Raven, the unhappy couple Constance and George, and the Ghost Host himself. A discussion of the most notable mansion collectibles released by Disney over the years. There's always room for one more, and this time you're it: come experience the Haunted Mansion with the "lights on" and learn its ghostly history, its sinister secrets, and why this Disney attraction continues to happily haunt fans young and old.

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Customer Reviews

I knew I would like the subject, but what I wasn't prepared for was how well it is written. Much like the ride itself -- It is extremely detailed and thorough while moving along at a steady pace. There are fascinating stories and interesting facts around every corner. At one point I was worried that the Haunted Mansion would never get completed-- I was that engrossed. Though not a picture book, it does have many great black and white photos to compliment the thrilling tale.

As a Haunted Mansion fan, I must say I enjoyed this book. Most of the information I have learned through other books and various Haunted Mansion websites. Mr. Baham writes in a simple but entertaining manner. While I considered getting the book I was concerned with how factual the information contained in the book was. However all the facts are footnoted with a great index at the back of the book. The book is divided into two parts, the first being the history of the attraction and the second half of the book a walkthrough of the attraction with some behind-the-scenes facts thrown in. I purchased the book mostly for the first part, as I love to learn about the thought process

that goes into the Disney attractions, however I must say the second half of the book was just as enjoyable. I learned some things about the mansion I didn't know before. If you're a fan of the attraction you will definitely enjoy this book. A quick, fun and enjoyable tribute to a classic Disney attraction.

As a hardcore Disney (and Haunted Mansion, in particular) fan, I was dubious when I read that this book contained material that hadn't been included in other histories of this great attraction. But who am I, a mere foolish mortal, to question the guy who created the legendary DoomBuggies.com website? And indeed, he did a first-class job on this project. No Mansion collection is complete without it.

I loved this book. It was just an enjoyable read. It wasn't just the wonderful in depth information but that it was written by someone who was passionate about the Haunted Mansion. Jeff Baham wrote in such an easygoing conversational tone that you felt he was just telling you stories right in the room with you. You can feel his love in his writing. This book has spurred my interest for The Haunted Mansion even more and look forward to visit his website to learn even more!

I purchased this after finishing Jason Surrell's "The Haunted Mansion: Imagineering a Disney Classic (From the Magic Kingdom)." Since I had already read Surrell's book, I didn't expect to get too many additional details reading another book, but I did. I'm happy to have and have read both. The book was very enjoyable and so is the author's site: doombuggies.com.

Jeff is one of the definitive experts on the history of the Haunted Mansion. His original book was a wonderful snap shot look at this history. Now Jeff takes us deeper into the history of this wonderful attraction. His many years of research and interviews have been compiled into an informative, fun, and interesting look at one of Disneyland most iconic attractions. This is a must have book for the Haunted Mansion enthusiast, Disneyland park buff, and the general Disney history reader.

Wonderful read. The two things I appreciate most about is how well sourced it is, love the citations, as well as the editing. So many of the "self published" books are hard to read because of little to no editing. Your attention to detail and voice are fantastic.

Fun

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