

Famous Urban Legends And Myths

Mysterious Urban Myths Encyclopedia of Urban Legends Urban Legends, Ghost Stories, and Folklore Encyclopedia of Urban Legends The Vanishing Hitchhiker Urban Legends Urban Legends (Great Stories: High Beginner) Top 15 Urban Legends and Myths Urban Legends: Don't Read Alone! (Set) Urban Myths & Legends The 500 Best Urban Legends Ever! Urban Legends Encyclopedia of Urban Legends, Updated and Expanded Edition: A-L Film, Folklore and Urban Legends An Illustrated History of Urban Legends Encyclopedia of Urban Legends, Updated and Expanded Edition Haunting Urban Legends Too Good to Be True Singapore Urban Legends Urban Legends John Townsend Jan Harold Brunvand Micah Campbell Jan Harold Brunvand Jan Harold Brunvand Mary Diane Cantrell David Bohlke Jade Summers Albert Jack Yorick Brown Gail Barbara Stewart Jan Harold Brunvand Mikel J. Koven Adam Allsuch Boardman Megan Cooley Peterson Jan Harold Brunvand Steven Stone

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read some of the funniest scariest and most disgusting modern legends and see if they can really be true from failed criminals to medical mishaps find out what makes these tales so popular

presents descriptions of hundreds of urban legends and their variations themes and scholarly approaches to the genre including such tales as disappearing hitchhikers and hypodermic needles left in the coin slots of pay telephones

you thought you knew but you have no idea the jersey devil wendigo the gates of hell bloody mary the lady in white primordial pagan religions the norse pantheon greek mythology ritual killings alien invasion the occult we've all heard the stories around the

campfire or at the water cooler we've all shared the legends with hushed whispers or nervous laughter but do we really know the truth do we really know what goes bump in the night do we want to if you are at all interested in ancient tales spooky legends the macabre superstitions cryptids or cults then this is the book for you it is harrowing and hilarious interesting and irreverent spooky and oh so satisfying urban legend ghost stories and folklore will bring you the truth about the legends and lore that you've heard of your whole life are you ready

this revised edition of the original reference standard for urban legends provides an updated anthology of common myths and stories and presents expanded coverage of international legends and tales shared and popularized online from roasted babies to vanishing hitchhikers to housewives in football helmets this exhaustive and highly readable encyclopedia provides descriptions of hundreds of individual legends and their variations examines legend themes and explains scholarly approaches to the genre revised and expanded to include updated versions of the entries from the award winning first edition this work provides additional entries on a wide range of new topics that include terrorism recent political events and hurricane katrina entries in encyclopedia of urban legends updated and expanded edition discuss the presence of urban legends in comic books literature film music and many other areas of popular culture as well as the existence of too good to be true stories in argentina china italy japan mexico and several other countries serving as both an anthology of stories as well as a reference work this encyclopedia will serve as a valuable resource for students and a source book for journalists professional folklorists and others who are researching or interested in urban legends

the groundbreaking book that launched america's urban legend obsession folklore scholar jan harold brunvand assembles the best known urban legends including the hook the spider in the hairdo and the baby sitter and the man upstairs and provides an enlightening and entertaining analysis of their variants and evolution the vanishing hitchhiker was professor brunvand's first popular book on urban legends and it remains a classic the culmination of twenty years of collection and research this book is a must have for urban legend lovers

this study answers questions about why some people believe urban legends and why these legends continue to thrive in today's society despite displaying the tell tale signs of an urban legend and the number of websites and other sources available for a quick check of the legitimacy of a legend new stories are often believed and passed on with little afterthought it is not necessary to believe a legend to pass it on nor is an urban legend necessarily false although the majority of them are untrue the targets of legends are often

businesses particularly market leaders and politicians or other prominent individuals which makes urban legends particularly attractive to the general public urban legends provide an outlet for people in a number of different ways for the person who does not believe a legend he has received participating in the distribution of it will fulfill another need breaking boredom providing a social outlet or allowing the sharer to feel helpful for others believing in a particular legend is an emotional response legends can feed into the fears anxieties and biases a person may feel toward the subject matter or society in general thus providing them with emotional gratification

this is a true story it happened to a friend of a friend of mine do you know the story of the silver hook the mysterious hitchhiker the babysitter who gets some troubling phone calls how about the story of hanako san a japanese schoolgirl who some say appears in school bathrooms these are all examples of urban legends creepy stories that people have told and retold to their friends urban legends features 16 scary stories some seem like they really happened others have a supernatural element to them all are easy to read and enjoy with simple grammar and vocabulary cefr level a2 the wayzgoose graded reader series helps you learn and practice english while you enjoy reading includes vocabulary support reading notes and discussion questions

top 15 urban legends and myths dive into the spine chilling world of urban legends and myths that have terrified generations from haunted hotel rooms to mysterious creatures lurking in the shadows this book uncovers the eerie tales that continue to captivate our imaginations highlights the haunting of room 13 discover the mystery behind the vanishing guests and cursed mirrors the legend of bloody mary explore the origins and encounters of this terrifying ritual the hook handed man unearth the terrifying stories of this infamous urban legend the babysitter and the man upstairs a chilling tale that will make you double check your locks the vanishing hitchhiker stories of ghostly passengers that disappear without a trace the curse of the crying boy painting learn about the cursed artwork that survived numerous fires the chupacabra investigate the myth of this blood sucking creature the mothman prophecies unravel the mystery behind the sightings and the tragic bridge collapse the haunted doll understand the terrifying antics of a possessed plaything the jersey devil encounter the creature that haunts the pine barrens the black eyed children beware the children with haunting black eyes the legend of la llorona hear the weeping woman s cries near the water the slender man delve into the unnerving abductions linked to this faceless entity the house of the seven gables enter a house plagued by curses and shadowy figures get ready to be thrilled and chilled by tales that blur the line between reality and the supernatural perfect for fans of horror and folklore this collection is sure to keep you up at night

the urban legends don't read alone series explores the creepiest spookiest strangest legends and unsolved mysteries in the world from the bermuda triangle to the mothman legend written with a high interest level to appeal to a more mature audience and a lower level of complexity with clear visuals to help struggling readers along considerate text includes background information on each urban legend and wild facts almost too creepy to believe hold the readers interest a table of contents glossary with simplified pronunciations and index all enhance vocabulary and comprehension

the subject of urban myths and legends is one i have been interested in for a couple of years now it occurred to me one day at lunch with friends on the isle of dogs that many long rambling conversations and ours are certainly long and always rambling will include a tall tale or two one person will then be reminded of a story he or she once heard which is then presented as near or actual fact the story will be introduced like this that reminds me of a story i once heard or i remember my uncle aunt sister hairdresser telling me what happened to a friend of theirs so urban legends are easy to spot and always have a ring of truth about them the events they describe could happen or might have happened to any of us each of us could have been as unfortunate or stupid as the character s in the story and that is one of the reasons we all enjoy urban legends so much that the misfortune involved didn't happen to us but to somebody else and that makes us laugh the stories come in many different forms some involve ghostly goings on some are about love found or lost some centre on plain stupidity and some on unfortunate coincidences although some do have happy endings the connecting feature is that all are told and then retold and come back around in altered forms and all of them are passed around by word of mouth or especially these days via the internet where they spread like wildfire these legends so called urban although they don't need to have an urban setting are the modern day version of medieval folklore and all of the anecdotes in this collection can be recited the next time you are at lunch dinner or in the pub with friends they can make even the most unimaginative person seem interesting i promise they seem to be working for me at any rate i should point out here that many of the tales told in this collection are probably not true and that any names given apart from when they are used to back up evidence in genuine accounts are made up by me so for example if there really is a peter patsalides who worked at the world trade centre in new york prior to 11 september 2001 see caught with his trousers down then i am not suggesting he was having an affair because that is also the name of a friend of mine the one who told me the story in the first place so please don't sue and leave me penniless if your marriage collapses as a result of something i have written i am sure many of the stories included must be untrue despite their ring of truth but that is part of the fun of urban legends any one of them could be true and it is up to us to decide for ourselves what to believe and what not to some well known urban legends are bound to be missing from this book but they may well pop up in a second volume if this

one proves to be popular it is only meant to be a little bit of fun and perhaps to provoke some thought and conversation anything that does that must be a good thing and also reading this book and reciting a few of the tales might make you more popular you never know albert jack

more than 500 bizarre urban legends in categories such as medical animal paranormal sex crime and accidents await in this incredibly entertaining book a sure hit for both the serious folklorist and readers fascinated by modern society's strange tales original

describes common urban legends including how they can form why they are popular and how modern technology allows urban legends to spread around the world

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from alien to when a stranger calls many films are based on folklore or employ an urban legend element to propel the narrative but once those traditional aspects have been identified do they warrant further scrutiny indeed why is the study of folklore in popular film important in films folklore and urban legends mikel j koven addresses this issue by exploring the convergence of folklore with popular cinema studies well beyond the identification of traditional motifs in popular cinema koven reveals new paradigms of filmic analysis which open up when one looks at movies through the lens of folklore in particular this book focuses on the study of urban legends and how these narratives are used as inspiration for a number of films divided into five sections the book begins with a general survey of the existing literature on folklore film predominantly from the perspective of folklore studies subsequent chapters address discourses of belief how urban legends provide the organizing principle of some films and how certain films act out or perform a legend movies discussed in this book include alligator candyman the curve dead man on campus i know what you did last summer urban legend weekend at bernie's and the wicker man as well as zombie films killer bee movies and slasher films including halloween black christmas the burning and terror train koven also devotes attention to key television shows such as the x files and most haunted in his analysis koven explains not only how film and television narratives are built upon already existing popular culture beliefs but also how films and television shows recycle those beliefs back into popular culture taken as a whole film folklore and urban legends both stands on its own as the first book length study of folklore and popular cinema and as an introductory textbook for the study of folklore and film

from the campfire to the digital rumour mill urban legends have flourished wherever we

tell stories whether once true sprouted from half remembered facts or entirely fictional we have scrutinized these legends for centuries this book will ferry you across a river of uncanny tales from classic folklore to contemporary urban legend so check the closet make sure the skies are clear and delve in if you are ready to imagine the strange

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spooky retellings of well known urban legends provided by publisher

if you enjoy these too good to be true tales brunvand s new book will give you hours of pleasure chicago tribune a fabulously entertaining book from the ultimate authority on those almost believable tales that always happen to a friend of a friend alligators in the sewers a pet in the microwave a tragic misunderstanding of the function of cruise control no it didn t really happen to your friend s sister s neighbor it s an urban legend and no matter how savvy you think you are you are sure to find in this collection of over 200 tales at least one story you would have sworn was true jan harold brunvand has been collecting and studying this modern folklore for over twenty years in too good to be true he captures the best stories in their best retellings along with their latest variations and examples of how the stories have changed as they move from person to person and place to place to help you find your favorite brunvand has arranged the tales thematically bringing up baby is full of episodes of child rearing gone wrong including the grisly tale of the drugged out baby sitter who mistakes the kid for a turkey funny business showcases stories of infamous lapses in customer service such as the story of the shockingly expensive chocolate chip cookie recipe and the criminal mind features both brilliant if they were real scams as well as the purported antics of the less mentally gifted whether you want to become an expert debunker or just have plenty of laughs this book will surprise and entertain you illustrated throughout informative and entertaining brunvand has collected more than 200 of the most repeated and best known examples of modern folk myth tampa tribune n ot only an entertaining anthology but an excellent introduction to the study of folklore itself publishers weekly a fun read all the classics are here from the killer upstairs to the kentucky fried rat new city resonant stories that express our hidden anxieties make us laugh or arouse our fascinated horror san francisco chronicle book review informative and entertaining brunvand has collected more than 200 of the most repeated and best known examples of modern folk myth tampa tribune n ot only an entertaining anthology but an excellent introduction to the study of folklore itself publishers weekly

we have always enjoyed being scared tall tales of horror that pass down through the ages we take comfort in the knowledge they are only stories except the urban legend has a

history no one knows where they come from or why they persist maybe it s because they are true 13 urban legends old new will be told in urban legends they re only stories aren t they

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