

HAUNTED CANADA 6

MORE TERRIFYING TRUE STORIES

JOEL A.
SUTHERLAND

Illustrations by
Norman Lanting

Scholastic Canada Ltd.
Toronto New York London Auckland Sydney
Mexico City New Delhi Hong Kong Buenos Aires

Scholastic Canada Ltd.

604 King Street West, Toronto, Ontario M5V 1E1, Canada

Scholastic Inc.

557 Broadway, New York, NY 10012, USA

Scholastic Australia Pty Limited

PO Box 579, Gosford, NSW 2250, Australia

Scholastic New Zealand Limited

Private Bag 94407, Botany, Manukau 2163, New Zealand

Scholastic Children's Books

Euston House, 24 Eversholt Street, London NW1 1DB, UK

www.scholastic.ca

Library and Archives Canada Cataloguing in Publication

Sutherland, Joel A., 1980-, author
Haunted Canada 6 : more terrifying true stories / by Joel A. Sutherland;
illustrated by Norman Lanting.

Issued in print and electronic formats.
ISBN 978-1-4431-4878-8 (paperback).--ISBN 978-1-4431-4879-5 (html)

1. Ghosts--Canada--Juvenile literature. 2. Haunted places--Canada--
Juvenile literature. I. Lanting, Norm, illustrator II. Title. III. Title: Haunted
Canada six.

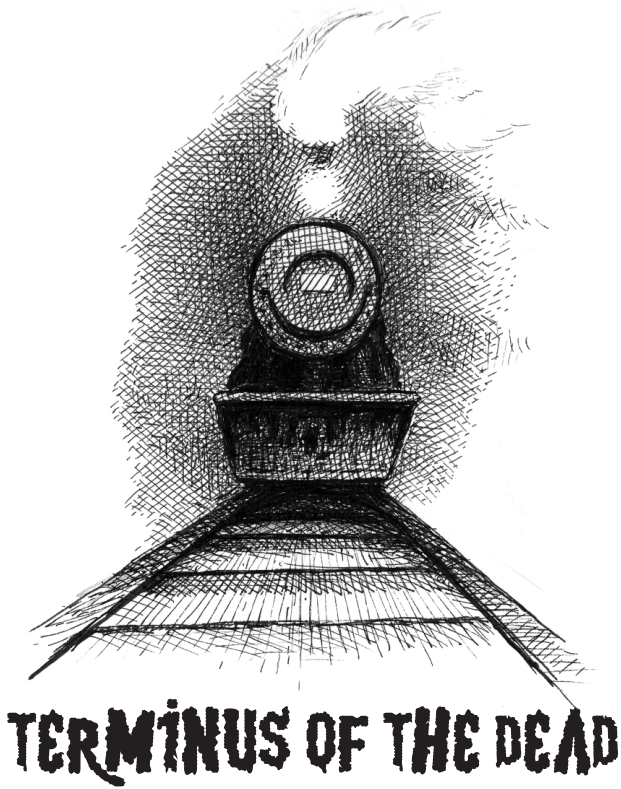
BF1472.C3S986 2016 j133.10971 C2016-902805-4
C2016-902806-2

Cover credits: hand: Chris Turner/Getty Images;
cover foliage: Matthias Schickhofer/Getty Images).
Interior border: Shutterstock © Filipchuk Oleg.
Illustrations by Norman Lanting.

Thank you to Veronica Kublu of the Department of Culture and Heritage,
Government of Nunavut, for reviewing "Wind and Shadow."

Text copyright © 2016 by Joel A. Sutherland.
Illustrations copyright © 2016 by Scholastic Canada Ltd.
All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced or stored in a retrieval system, or
transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, recording, or
otherwise, without written permission of the publisher, Scholastic Canada Ltd.,
604 King Street West, Toronto, Ontario M5V 1E1, Canada. In the case of photo-
copying or other reprographic copying, a licence must be obtained from Access
Copyright (Canadian Copyright Licensing Agency), 56 Wellesley Street West,
Suite 320, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2S3 (1-800-893-5777).



Vancouver, British Columbia

Experts believe that Waterfront Station might be the most haunted building in Vancouver, a city with such a bloody history that one of its streets is literally named Blood Alley. Built in 1915 by the Canadian Pacific Railway to serve the needs of a city that was growing rapidly, Waterfront Station was the Pacific terminus for trains travelling across the country from Montreal and Toronto. Since then, it has also become a terminus for the dead.

It's a grand building, built in a style reflective of the luxury and prestige that used to be synonymous with train travel. In its early days it contained accommodations for weary travellers as well as fine dining restaurants and a dance hall used for upper class parties and balls.

Today, some of these rooms are occupied by offices,

while others are used for storage, such as a room full of desks that have a habit of silently moving on their own.

On a dark, cold night, a security guard working the night shift prowled through the wide, empty halls of Waterfront Station. His footfalls echoed off the stone walls as he swung his flashlight from side to side. He was alone, or so he thought, as he entered one of the building's storage rooms. In order to search the room he had to swivel his large frame around the old desks that were stored there. When the guard reached the back of the room, he turned and was paralyzed with fear. The desks had silently floated off the ground and repositioned themselves. Some blocked the door while others were piled in the middle of the floor, forming a crude blockade that had cut him off from his only means of escape. Not only was he trapped, but he couldn't comprehend how that had happened.

There was only one explanation: the ghostly tales of Waterfront Station his co-workers had shared were true. A ghost — or perhaps a host of ghosts — had ensnared him in the room. But for what purpose? The security guard didn't wait around to find out. He ran full speed toward the desks, leapt up on the nearest one and sprinted across them to the door, eager to put the haunted room as far behind him as quickly as possible.

Between 2004 and 2005, a guard heard phantom footsteps in a stairwell on three separate occasions. The first time it happened the feet approached so quickly and unexpectedly that the guard barely had time to think before the sound ran past within half a metre of him. The second time he was a little more prepared and stood



Waterfront Station

in mute horror as the sound of someone running passed by, once again without a visible body. The third time the guard was not alone. He was with a colleague who also heard the footsteps, proving to him that the sound was not a product of his imagination.

One night, a different guard wandered toward the west side of the building where the dance hall used to be located. As he got closer, he slowed his pace. He heard something. It was faint at first, but it grew louder as he approached. It was the sound of music from the 1920s. That didn't make sense; the station's sound system wasn't connected. When the guard finally entered the old ballroom the music was so loud he thought he had just stepped back in time and into the middle of a swinging party. At first the room appeared to be empty. But then, out of the corner of his

eye, he spotted a solitary figure: a woman, dressed in a 1920s flapper dress, waltzing alone across the floor in time with the music. The guard took a step toward the woman, but suddenly the music stopped and the woman vanished on the spot.

On another occasion, a guard opened a door and walked into a dark storage room, completely unprepared to come face to face with the old woman staring back at him. She glowed bright white and had a look of sadness and pain etched upon her face. The woman floated and reached her hand out to him, which sent him running in the opposite direction.

Others have also rounded a corner to find three women sitting on a bench as if waiting for a midnight train. Like the dancing spectre, they disappear almost as soon as they've been spotted.

And it's not only security guards who have seen ghosts in Waterfront Station. Many employees who work in the offices have had their fair share of unwanted paranormal encounters. Debra Lummas, a senior account executive, recalls the time she was speaking with another employee in one of the bathrooms when a third woman suddenly and creepily joined them. The stranger had wavy brown hair that flowed over her shoulders and wore a glamorous blue blouse from a different time period. She stared silently at Debra for an awkward ten seconds, then whispered in an ethereal voice, "I'll come back another time," and promptly vanished.

And finally, no account of the spirits of Waterfront Station would be complete without the Headless Brakeman

who has been seen prowling on the tracks. On a night in 1928, as the rain was coming down in sheets, an unfortunate CPR brakeman named Hub Clark was working outside when he slipped and landed on his head. The fall rendered him unconscious and he lay sprawled across the tracks. A passenger train sped toward him before Clark regained consciousness, and he didn't see it coming. His head was cut clean from his body. It wasn't long before other CPR employees began seeing Clark step out of the shadows on misty nights, a lantern held high in the air. He walks up and down the tracks through the dead hours, forever searching for his missing head.

Last stop, Waterfront Station. End of the line. It's time to get off the train. But if it's late and you have a bad feeling in your gut, no one would blame you for wanting to stay on the train a little longer. Some of Waterfront Station's travellers have yet to reach their final destination.