

# Moonville Tunnel

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What is one to make of the bone chilling tales echoing from the small area known as Moonville? Could it be possible that there are at least two ghosts who have taken up residence near the moonville tunnel and allow themselves to be seen by the visitors there?

The answer to numerous eyewitnesses is a resounding "yes" They reveal the same details when recounting the ordeal of meeting the more popular of the two: A black man, standing close to eight feet tall with a white beard, seeing with eyes that glisten like balls of fire from under what appears to be a miner's hat. Dressed in dirty overalls, he swings a glowing lantern when one nears the tunnel and, according to some accounts, releases a bloodcurdling scream that propelled many to run away without ever looking back.

The second ghost has appeared to many in two forms: Some have seen merely a shapeless entity, while others report a woman dressed in clothes of an earlier time period. Accounts differ on several points regarding this apparition, but the effect was all the same....an encounter of unbelievable proportions that left a spine-tingling chill running through the hearts and memory of all those who have seen it.

As for those who would question whether there is anything to justify such claims, consider this: Local historical accounts do record the tragic and untimely deaths of two people matching the exact descriptions of both ghosts, at the very locations of the sightings.

Could so many people be mistaken about what their eyes have seen? Or is it possible that these ghosts and other reported spirits are roaming around Moonville looking for something or some way to take care of unfinished business? The answer may be found nowhere else but in the midst of a sleepless night on the eastern edge of Vinton County.