

# HAUNTED CANADA

The Fourth Terrifying  
Collection

Joel A. Sutherland

illustrations by  
Mark Savona and Steven P. Hughes

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

**Scholastic Canada Ltd.**

2 Bloor Street West, Suite 401, Toronto, Ontario M4W 3E2, 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**

1 London Bridge, London SE1 9BG, UK

[www.scholastic.ca](http://www.scholastic.ca)

**Library and Archives Canada Cataloguing in Publication**

Title: Haunted Canada : the fourth terrifying collection / Joel A. Sutherland ; illustrations by Mark Savona and Steven P. Hughes. Other titles: Haunted Canada (2025)  
Names: Sutherland, Joel A., 1980- author | Savona, Mark, illustrator | Hughes, Steven P., 1989- illustrator | container of (work): Sutherland, Joel A., 1980- Haunted Canada. 10. | container of (work): Sutherland, Joel A., 1980- Haunted Canada. 11. | container of (work): Sutherland, Joel A., 1980- Haunted Canada. 12.  
Description: Series statement: Haunted Canada  
Identifiers: Canadiana 20240455584 | ISBN 9781039711846 (softcover)  
Subjects: LCSH: Ghosts—Canada—Juvenile literature. | LCSH: Haunted places—Canada—Juvenile literature.  
Classification: LCC BF1472.C3 S9873 2025 | DDC j133.10971—dc23

Cover photos ©: top: Mimadeo/Shutterstock; left: mRGB/Shutterstock; bottom right: olga Yastremska/Alamy Stock Photo.

Text copyright © 2020, 2022, 2023, 2025 by Joel A. Sutherland.  
Illustrations copyright © 2020, 2022, 2023 by Scholastic Canada Ltd.  
All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, transmitted, downloaded, decompiled, reverse engineered, or used to train any artificial intelligence technologies, or stored in or introduced into any information storage and retrieval system, in any form or by any means, whether electronic or mechanical, now known or hereafter invented, without the express written permission of the publisher. For information regarding permission, write to Scholastic Canada Ltd., 2 Bloor Street West, Suite 401, Toronto, Ontario M4W 3E2, Canada. In the case of photocopying or other reprographic copying, a licence must be obtained from Access Copyright (Canadian Copyright Licensing Agency), [www.accesscopyright.ca](http://www.accesscopyright.ca) or 1-800-893-5777.



# NIGHTTIME IN THE ASYLUM

## *Sainte-Clotilde-de-Horton, Quebec*

Four brave men and women stood on the steps of the abandoned asylum and wondered what awaited them within the large, imposing building. As members of APPA Paranormal, they would go on to investigate the Sainte-Clotilde-de-Horton Asylum more than fifteen times between 2006 and 2017, but their first visit was easily one of the most memorable. After months of planning, they were happy and excited that the day had come when they'd finally set foot inside. But Patrick Sabourin, one of the group's founders, was also overcome by a profound sadness. The building had a lot of history and had seen no shortage of tragedy.

Originally built in 1939 as a monastery for the Fathers of the Sacred Heart, the building was briefly used as the novitiate of the Brothers of Christian Instruction in the

1950s. On Christmas Day, 1959, three students died when they accidentally set a fire. The building was purchased by the government in the 1960s and converted into an asylum for people with intellectual disabilities. In 1988 a patient set a fire in a central dormitory on the top floor, killing nine people.

It's believed some of the twelve souls who died in the two separate fires have remained in the asylum long after it was closed and fell into disrepair.

Patrick led his team — his wife and co-founder, Izabel Descheneaux, technical director Éric Chicoine and mental health worker Marie Josée Lamoureux — inside. Entering the asylum was like stepping into a nightmare. Just about every window was broken and boarded up. The walls were crumbling and covered in graffiti and mould. The ceiling had many holes and looked like it might come down at any moment. The floor was covered in trash and puddles of dirty brown water. Old, broken furniture had been left behind to rot. They passed an inscription that read "*Sinite parvulos venire ad me*," which translates to "Let the children come to me."

During his research, Patrick had uncovered several reports from people who had heard voices in the halls and screams behind walls. Some of those people had also seen ghosts drifting among the shadows. Now, seeing the inside of the building for himself, he wasn't surprised. There was no chance the asylum *wasn't* haunted. More than that — judging by its appearance and the sombre feeling that hung in the air as thick as smoke, it might have been the most haunted building in the province.

Not much time passed before the ghosts revealed themselves to the group. Although they were alone, laughter cut through the silence — laughter that soon turned to crying. Patrick and the others paused and held their breath, trying not to make a sound, waiting for what they might hear next.

“Where are you going?” a soft voice asked.

Patrick was too shocked to answer. They moved deeper into the building, then descended into the depths of the basement.

“Help me,” a young voice said, full of sadness and fear. It sounded too close for comfort.

One of the members took a picture of the empty room. Later, when reviewing what they had captured, they saw a small boy holding out his hand. His expression was full of sorrow and pain. Although the boy only revealed himself in a picture, two other horrifying spirits appeared in person.

The first was the misty form of a human that flew past them like the wind and floated up the stairs. The second was an incredibly tall man who approached Izabel when she was alone. She turned and ran as quickly as she could, refusing to wait and see what the tall man wanted.

A few years later, in 2009, Roger Thivierge and Marie-Claude Martineau purchased the forty-three-hectare property, abandoned asylum and all. The couple thought it would be the ideal retirement project. Their plan was to start a French bulldog breeding business and raise funds to convert the asylum into a seniors’ residence. They didn’t