

Hunt for the Skinwalker: Science Confronts the Unexplained at a Remote Ranch in Utah

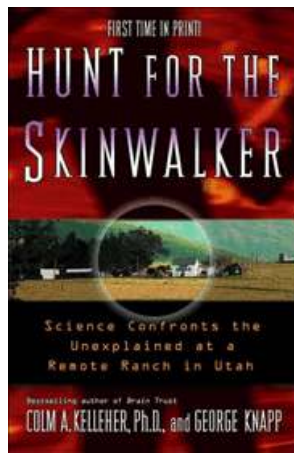
By Colm A. Kelleher, Ph.D., and George Knapp

Paraview Pocket Books (New York), 2005, paperback, 320 pgs., \$14.00
Website: <http://huntfortheskinwalker.com/>

Review by Rosemary Ellen Guiley



Bullet proof wolves. Strange creatures with supernatural powers. Black humanoids crawling out from tunnels in the sky. UFOs. Poltergeist activities. Animal mutilations. Death-dealing orbs. All of these phenomena and more have been experienced on a single ranch in Utah, according to authors Colm A. Kelleher and George Knapp in *Hunt for the Skinwalker*. Kelleher is a scientist whose most recent book was *Brain Trust*, about the threat of mad cow disease. Knapp, an investigative journalist, is well-known for his coverage of ufology.



The weird activities at the former Gorman ranch may seem like they ought to belong to the realm of fiction, but they were investigated and recorded for at least a decade. And experienced for much longer. Their effect is chilling. Kelleher and Knapp are straightforward in their account. The events are so bizarre that they need no embellishment. Once you start the book, you won't put it down until you've finished it.

Tom Gorman and his family found the ranch in the Uinta Basin in 1994 and thought it was their dream come true. Tired of small town life in New Mexico, they yearned for a more comfortable and private place to raise their expensive cattle. But instead of a happy dream, their experience was, from the beginning, a nightmare.

Curiously, the ranch home had an excessive number of bolts and locks, as though the previous owners had been desperate to keep something out. After the Gormans moved in, they discovered why the owners wanted out. Mysterious invisible shapes moved about the landscape, like rushes of wind. Sometimes forms were barely visible. Mysteriously flying lights appeared. An excessively large wolf menaced the cattle and was not felled – or even wounded – by point-blank rifle fire. Poltergeists kept moving things about the ranch house. And most strangely of all, they witnessed a black funnel roiling in the sky, which opened to show blue sky within. Large black shapes came out of the funnel, as though it were a tunnel to another reality.

The Gormans learned that the Utes would not venture onto the land because they considered it cursed. According to native lore, skinwalkers used this land for their travelways to and from Dark Canyon, their dwelling place not far away. Skinwalkers are sorcerers who have the power to shape-shift and use mental control over others to do their bidding.

But the phenomena experienced by the Gormans seemed to extend far beyond human sorcery. It seemed to involve creatures from other dimensional realities. As the family settled into their life on the ranch, the phenomena escalated. Something intelligent was behind it, responding to the Gormans' fear and anger. Efforts to banish whatever was plaguing them only

brought more trouble upon them. Cattle were mutilated and also disappeared. In an emotionally disturbing episode, Tom Gorman's favorite dogs were lured away by something invisible. Gorman found them horribly incinerated.

Word of these goings-on spread, and attracted the attention of the National Institute for Discovery Science (NIDS), formed by entrepreneur Bob Bigelow. (NIDS is now dismantled.) In 1996, NIDS organized a team of scientists, including the principal author, Colm A. Kelleher, to set up a scientific investigation.

The scientists had plenty of bizarre eye-witness experiences themselves – but were unable capture conclusive hard data, even after years of work. It was as though whatever was behind the phenomena could by-pass all their surveillance gear.

In *Hunt for the Slinwalker*, Kelleher and Knapp relate the phenomena to other phenomena, such as Bigfoot, *chupacabras*, predatory ETs, orbs, and so on. They provide an interesting discussion of possible explanations, including the multiverse dimensions of new physics, and the existence of wormholes and portals to other realms. The authors argue for a need for “revolutionary science” that accommodates a multiverse and fluidity of time. Ultimately, the events at the Gorman ranch upset our comfortable view of reality. We can't afford to ignore them.

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