“I see Spirits”

Leon Matthews

<http://cowbird.com/story/34126/I_See_Spirits/>

This is Leon Matthews. It’s July 26, 2012 and um, I wanted to tell you about spirits and my, the way I handle them. And—I know it’s kinda funny but I was telling some ladies this morning—they were from Rapid City and they’re from the Anglo persuasion, or the Anglo-Saxon, or the non-Indian, as lots of people refer to them here. But um…but being on the Pine Ridge it’s…I mean most times I’m, most of the times I’m not politically correct. So I was telling some white people, some white ladies, and uh I was telling them about, you know, spirits, I said. Because, you know, I’ve seen spirits, and I’ve seen things that are, that are not normal, you know, and even though we have the five senses, I mean there are things where, where there is a sixth sense and I said that’s why, I mean *Sixth Sense* fooled a lot, everybody, I mean the movie with Bruce Willis. And the boy said “I see dead people” and, um, so I was like, I see spirits. And you know, here it is, the twenty-first century, and, and Bigfoot has never been found, you know, they’ve, lots of sightings, but never been found. And I think, you know, my own theory is that those types of things are spirits and they, something happens and then they’re spotted and they’re seen and so, I mean, that’s kind of the idea behind the story, but, you know, there is another part of it, too, because one day when I was young, I was probably about twenty-one years old and full of all the, what is it, the testosterone, and you know feeling like I was a macho warrior, you know, slash warrior, or warrior slash macho, had the machismo going. And, and it was really interesting because we were coming back from a long road trip and we were on a big bus and my car was parked at my house, which was a mile off the road, off the highway. So I get off and was like, I could walk, you know, don’t worry about me, because it was going to be quicker for us to get home if I just walked the mile, which took about seven, ten minutes, and got in the car and went and got my wife and my kids and so I said, I’ll do it. So, so we ended—I get off the bus and I’m walking and it’s like—and that might seem like an easy task, you know, walk a mile. But if you’ve ever walked a mile in pitch black, I mean, it’s an altogether different story. And so, I’m walking and off to the left I could hear something rustling in the ditch. And it’s like, oh my goodness, and I think I start walking faster. And as I walked faster, you know, the thing in the ditch was walking faster, and I was like, oh man, this is crazy! So I was like, hold it together, don’t run, don’t panic, you know, it’s just like, keep walking, keep walking! Don’t look, don’t look! And so, so I ended up, I got to where my house was, and instead of walking to the car gate, because, the cattle gate, instead of walking up there, I cut across, and, and all of a sudden my dog Mochi, you know he comes—because he hears me, and he comes right up to the fence, and he’s got his teeth and he’s snarling and, grrrrr, he’s barking, and it’s like, and I say, Mochi! And he recognized my voice, and, and, and then I climb through the barbed wire fence, and walked over, and he was happy to see me, and I was happy to be off that road and, so, I get in the car, and then I drive, drive in and pick up my wife and my kids. And it was really interesting, because you know, it’s like that was my first encounter. Now, the second encounter was like twenty years later and, and I went to pick up a family and they were going to come in town and, and hang out, so, they didn’t have a car, so I decided I would go out there. They had this long, probably, maybe about a mile long, lane, as they called it, the lane. And so I’m driving, I got my SUV and we’re driving and we, I pull up to the gate and I get out of the SUV and walk up to the gate and move the gate back. And all of a sudden, you know, there was something, and it was galloping, like a horse. And it was coming at me. And I could feel it. It wasn’t like you, I could hear it or I could see it, but I sensed it. And I was like, oh my goodness, it’s like, this thing’s coming at me! So I jumped in the car and I get in, and I go up to the house and I, and I beep, they know I was there, they said we’ll be right out. And this little baby, little blond-haired baby, you know, she was probably, I don’t know how old she was, maybe a little bit over one, maybe two—probably closer to two. And she’s like, she’s playing peek-a-boo with me. And I was like thinking, I was like, that’s just cute, I said—but I wonder if she senses what I sensed. And so, and so it’s like, we get in the car, and then she’s in the back, and she’s like, she’s telling on her dad, she’s like, “Daddy, monster!” And he’s like, “No, there’s no monster!” “Daddy, monster!” “No, no, no, there’s no monster!” “Daddy, monster!” And I was like, this is crazy. And she, and then he finally says, “Okay, Sammy, where’s the monster?” And she said, “Daddy, monster, back there!” And she pointed back toward where that thing was coming at me! And it’s like, you know, and it was real! You know, and part of it is, you know, you have to understand, I mean, I don’t come from Western scientific worldview. I mean I come from a Christian worldview…but I understand that there are spirits in the world. And those spirits are sometimes good and sometimes bad and, and I think that what was coming at me was not a good spirit. And so, you know what do I do today, you know? I, I mean, one of the things that I do is I don’t look in the peripheral, you know. I keep my eyes focused. Because oftentimes I’ll see these different spirits around me but they’ll just be like a glimpse in, in my peripheral vision. And what I try to do is I try to look straight and try to be forward, you know in sight, you know, because once you start looking off to the side, you know, I think that’s where the spirit realm lives. It’s in our peripheral vision, you know, just outside of our, our, our, our clear focus. And so, on the Pine Ridge, there are spirits, but the reality is there are spirits everywhere. And so that’s my story. Hope you had a great day and um, and um, I just want to thank everyone for listening and taking the time out their day to listen to my rambling. All right, have a great day.