

# LIVING WITH GHOSTS

SCIENCE WEIGHS IN ON THE HEALING POWER OF AFTER-DEATH COMMUNICATION



JENNY PICTURES AND MAX VIDEO PRESENT "LIVING WITH GHOSTS" PRODUCED BY MAX FRANKSTON AND CHRISTOPHER SEWARD WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY STEPHEN BERKLEY  
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY HARRY CLARK INSPIRED BY ETHEL BEARDSWORTH STORY EDITED BY FERNANDA ROSSI SOUND BY BRENDA RAY MUSIC BY CORY GRAY

[WWW.LIVINGWITHGHOSTSMOVIE.COM](http://WWW.LIVINGWITHGHOSTSMOVIE.COM)



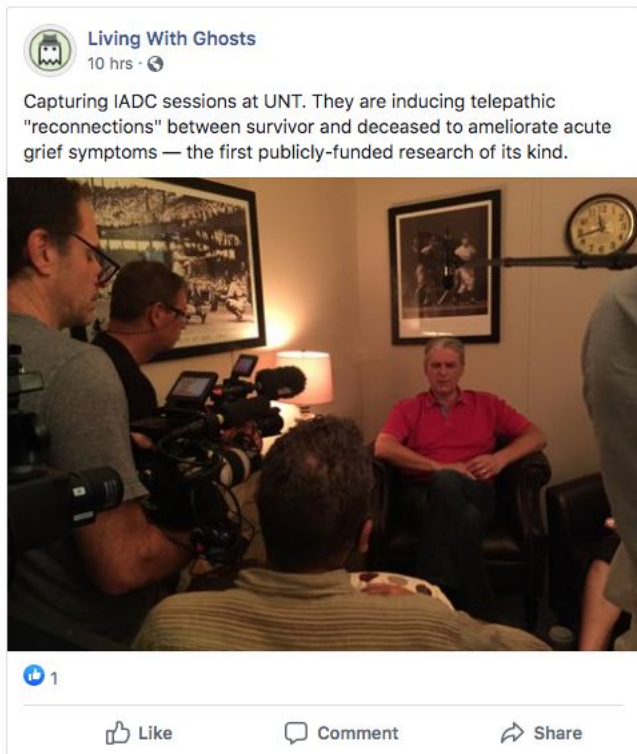
MAX VIDEO and JENNY PICTURES PRESENT

# LIVING WITH GHOSTS

Production Type..... Documentary Feature Film  
Runtime..... 89 min  
Genre..... DOCUMENTARY/SCIENCE/WOMEN/FAITH/INSPIRATIONAL  
Completion Date..... June 1, 2021  
Production Budget..... \$1 Million  
Language..... English  
Country of Origin..... United States  
Country of Filming..... United States  
Format..... 1920x1080, 24fps, 1.66:1, color, Sound 5.1  
Rating..... PG: Mature subject matter  
Sales / Distribution..... Jenny Pictures: [livingwithghostsmovie@gmail.com](mailto:livingwithghostsmovie@gmail.com) - ph. 01 212 580 8989  
Links..... Official website: [www.livingwithghostsmovie.com](http://www.livingwithghostsmovie.com)  
IMDB: [www.imdb.com/livingwithghosts/](http://www.imdb.com/livingwithghosts/)  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Living-With-Ghosts-102255538400708>



# SOCIAL MEDIA



## Posts



ADDITIONAL STILLS AT [VIRTUAL PRESS OFFICE](#)

## LOG LINE

A severely grief-stricken widow agrees to participate in a highly unorthodox study whereby scientists facilitate telepathic “reconnections” between survivor and deceased – the first publicly-funded research of its kind.

## SYNOPSIS (100 words)

Death abounds in years 2020-21. Not making headline news, however, is a mental health condition afflicting survivors of those who died abruptly.

*Complicated grief* occurs when a death is so unexpected that the resulting sorrow doesn't ebb normally over time. Instead, grief mixes with trauma and becomes chronic, disabling 20-30% of all bereaved.

This film follows three stricken people on their search for relief, culminating in a highly unorthodox study at the University of North Texas. There, scientists are working to reduce acute grief symptoms by inducing telepathic “reconnections” between survivor and deceased – the first publicly-funded research of its kind.





# SYNOPSIS (250 words)

Death abounds in year 2020-21. Not making headline news, however, is a mental health condition afflicting survivors of those who died abruptly.

A psychopathology known as *complicated grief* occurs when a death is so unexpected that the resulting sorrow does not ebb normally over time. Instead, grief mixes with trauma and becomes chronic, disabling 20-30% of all bereaved. Without intervention, impairment can last for years or even a lifetime.

This film follows three such people on their search for relief, culminating in a highly unorthodox study at the University of North Texas. There, researchers are working to reduce acute grief symptoms by inducing telepathic "reconnections" between survivor and deceased – the first publicly-funded study of its kind (study results are "in press" for 2021; Grief Matters Scientific Journal).

One featured subject named Karen has been living with acute grief symptoms ever since her young husband suffered a fatal heart attack 17 years ago. But when Karen's daughter learns about the Texas grief study and urges her mother to give it a try, Karen is troubled by the opportunity. Because like so many others trapped inside the tall walls of prolonged grief, she is protective of her bereavement pain; Karen perceives it as the only way to feel connected to her late husband. After all, that pain is the place where she last saw him.

This film demonstrates that people must grieve well in order to well. And the extraordinary treatment documented in *Living With Ghosts* helps people live well.



# SYNOPSIS (350 words)

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Compounding Karen's resistance to participating in this extraordinary study is her cultural bias towards anything falling outside Newtonian physics. We've all heard educated people in fields ranging from psychology to theology to academia characterize investigations into metaphysical realms as unscientific, irrational, and just plain stupid. But as explained by Professor Jan Holden, the director of the grief study, "Science is a process not limited to directly observable phenomena. Otherwise Darwin's evolutionary theory would be folklore."

We filmmakers set out to make a documentary about complicated grief and its devastating impact on families. But never could we have imagined the grim scenario that was about to unfold worldwide to make this topic especially poignant. Audiences will find *LIVING WITH GHOSTS* eerily timely and its content quite valuable.





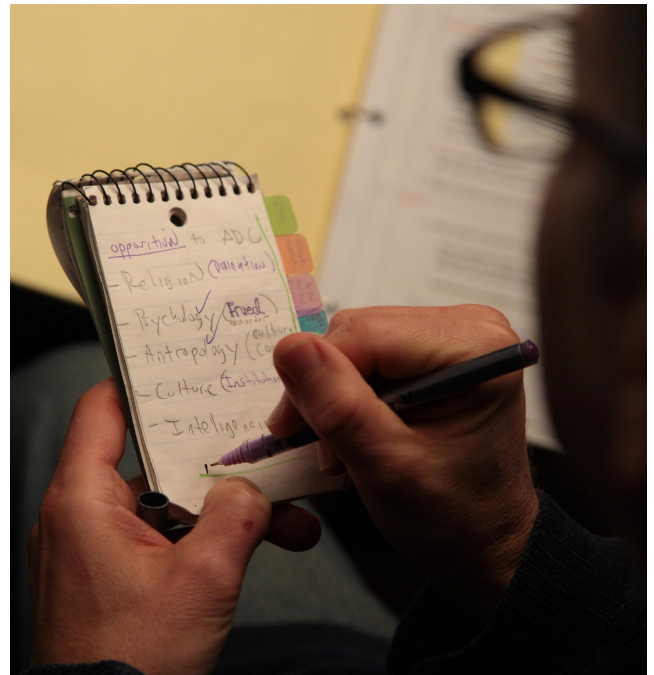
# DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Grief is not a particularly sexy topic. Neither is death for that matter. But you have to admit that there's something terribly sweet and even romantic about an elderly widow who writes daily to her late husband. And there's something equally unsettling when that same widow shares with you that her dead husband writes back.

Grief takes many forms. Especially in today's Facebook community where we are not afforded the kind of support plentiful in past eras. We have no virtual equivalent of the black funeral wreath to adorn our front doors and welcome community sympathy. That's just not our world anymore.

So when my mother introduced me to neighbor Ethel — an elderly widow practicing automatic writing — I was fascinated. And when I discovered that Ethel published a book of her unearthly correspondence to help others ease their own suffering, I was hooked and compelled to document Ethel and also those who've taken a page from Ethel's book.

*LIVING WITH GHOSTS* is about how we choose to relate to our dead. For some the film's title is literal. For others, figurative. We follow both people determined to maintain their marriage despite physical separation and also those who recognize only the material world — which really begs the question: "How should we grieve?"



In light of the catastrophic loss of life globally in 2020-21, now more than ever it's imperative that survivors understand the biological purpose behind their grief and consider asking why 50-70% of all bereaved experience one or more "visits" from their deceased. Are such visits grief-induced hallucinations or can science offer us an explanation by way of subatomic particles and quantum entanglement theory?

I believe these are questions worth asking and I found the answers to be profoundly illuminating.



FILM WEBSITE

# CAST



## JANICE HOLDEN, Ed.D.

Director of IADC Study

Prof. Holden is Chair of the Department of Counseling and Higher Education at the University of North Texas. Her primary specialization is the transpersonal perspective in counseling, which addresses the counseling implications of experiences that transcend the usual limits of space and/or time, and their associated developmental potential. In particular, she has researched near-death experiences (NDEs), with over 30 scholarly journal articles, chapters, and presentations on the topic. Jan has served six years on the Board of Directors of the International Association for Near-Death Studies (IANDS), three of those years as the Association's President.



## JEFFREY J. KRIPAL, Ph.D.

Professor of Philosophy and Religious Thought

Prof. Kripal holds the J. Newton Rayzor Chair in Philosophy and Religious Thought at Rice University. He is the author of *Comparing Religions* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2014); *Authors of the Impossible* (Chicago, 2010) and several others. His present areas of writing and research include the articulation of a New Comparativism within the study of religion that will put "the impossible" back on the table again, a robust and even conversation between the sciences and the humanities, and the mapping of an emergent mythology or "Super Story" within paranormal communities and individual visionaries.



# CAST



**DAVID J. HUFFORD, Ph.D.**

Professor Emeritus Penn State

Prof. Hufford is the Director of the Doctors Kienle Center for Humanistic Medicine at the Penn State College of Medicine (Hershey). He currently works at Spirituality and Health Center in Penn State's School of Medicine.



**BROOK NOEL**

Author on Grief

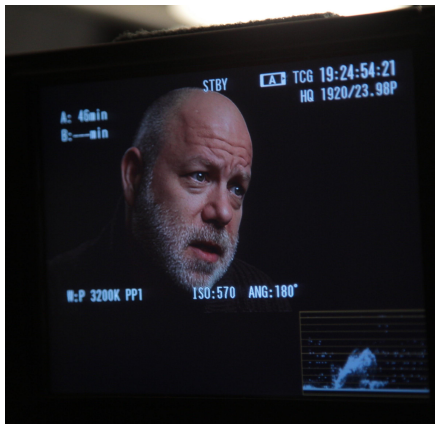
Noel authored nineteen books including the best-seller *I Wasn't Ready to Say Goodbye*. Together her titles have sold over one million copies worldwide.



**GRAHAM MAXEY**

Grief/Trauma Specialist

Maxey specializes in grief and trauma resolution, and is a member of the International Board of Induced After-Death Communication therapy (IADC) developed by Dr. Allan Botkin, Psy. D.



**PAUL SELIG, M.A.**

NYU Faculty Member (former), Empath

Selig is considered to be one of the foremost spiritual channels working today. In his breakthrough works of channeled literature — *I Am the Word*, he has recorded an extraordinary program for personal and planetary evolution as humankind awakens to its own divine nature.



**AMIT GOSWAMI, Ph.D.**

Nuclear Physicist

Goswami is a nuclear theoretical physicist and member of the University of Oregon Institute since 1968. He authored the seminal textbook *Quantum Mechanics* and his interests are found in quantum cosmology, quantum measurement theory, and the applications of quantum mechanics.



**CATHY GUTIERREZ, Ph.D.**

Historian, Professor, Author

Prof. Gutierrez teaches the Classics, Philosophy, and Religion Department at Sweet Briar College. Her lecture, like all others in the Center for the Study of Religion-sponsored series, is free and open to all.

# CAST



PAMELA D. BLAIR, Ph.D.

Psychologist, Author

*I Wasn't Ready to Say Goodbye*



ONO EKEH, Ph.D.

Theology Professor

Sacred Heart University



WILLIAM BUHLMAN

Consciousness Researcher

Author of *Adventures Beyond the Body*.



ROGER Z. SAMUEL, M.D.

Forensic Psychiatrist

In private practise in Boca Raton, Fl.



# CREW



**MAX FRANKSTON**

Producer

Frankston is a top NYC producer with over 30 years experience. His filmography is varied and includes such acclaimed projects as his work (as contributing film-maker) on the History Channel's 5, 10, and 15 year retrospective about 9/11, *102 Minutes That changed America*.



**CHRISTOPHER SEWARD**

Consulting Producer

Seward has a long and impressive filmography which includes such acclaimed documentaries as *Fahrenheit 911* (highest grossing documentary of all time), *One Child Nation* (Sundance Grand Jury Award) and *People's Republic of Desire* (SXSW Grand Jury Award), to name just a few.



**STEPHEN BERKLEY**

Writer/Director

Berkley is a television script writer and freelancer but when he feels an important topic needs to be addressed, he morphs into an award-winning documentarian — someday.



**HARRY CLARK**

Cinematographer

Clark has filmed both commercials and feature films such as *King Of The Jungle*, *The Devil And Daniel Johnston*, and *Kiss Loves You*. Several of Clark's projects have won Telly awards.



**BRENDA RAY**

Sound Engineer

Ray has been recording audio in the world of documentary films and commercial television for over 20 years. Her extensive credits include *Inside Job*, *Taxi to the Dark Side*, and *Years of Living Dangerously*.



**FERNANDA ROSSI**

Story Editor

Rossi is an internationally renowned author, speaker and story analyst. She has collaborated on more than 500 fiction scripts, documentaries and fundraising samples, including two documentaries nominated for an Academy Award®.

# PAST SCREENINGS

**WE'LL BE DOING THE FESTIVAL  
CIRCUIT IN 2021**





# CREDITS

## CAST

Karen Beardsworth  
Kevin Beardsworth  
Jessica Beardsworth  
Stefanie Beardsworth  
Carmella Beardsworth  
Ethel Beardsworth  
Irene Berkowitz  
Maxine Cohen  
Blossom Polakoff  
Beth Greenstein, LCSW  
Rabbi Eli Kavon  
Mary Bechthold  
Jaqui Davis

### Speakers

Brook Noel, Author  
Joseph Dispenza, D.C.  
Graham Maxey, M.A., LPC  
Cathy Gutierrez, Ph.D.  
Roger Samuel, M.D.  
David J. Hufford, Ph.D.  
Jeffrey Kripal, Ph.D.  
Pamela D. Blair, Ph.D.  
Paul Selig, M.A.  
Peter Millican, Ph.D.  
Lawrence Krauss, Ph.D.  
Ono Ekeh, Ph.D.  
William Buhlman, Author  
Gary Beaver, M.A., LPC  
Bruce Greyson, M.D.  
Amit Goswami, Ph.D.  
Janice Holden, Ed.D., LPC-S  
Allan Botkin, Psy.D.

## CREW

Producer - Max Frankston  
Consulting Producer - Christopher Seward  
Writer/Director - Stephen Berkley  
Director Of Photography - Harry Clark  
Story Editor - Fernanda Rossi

### Production Managers

Jacqueline Davis  
Brian Fitzgibbons

### Sound Department

Sound NY & TX - Brenda Ray  
Sound TX Dimitrios Aerts  
Sound CT - Frederick Albright  
Sound FL - M. Scott Blynder, C.A.A.  
Sound Mixer - Cory Gray

### Makeup Department

Celia Merino  
Brena Ray

### Based on a memoir by

Ethel Beardsworth entitled  
*Thoughts From Heaven*

### Camera and Electrical Department

Camera-Operator TX - Michael B. Mullins  
Camera-Operator FL - Dondi Sanchez  
Camera-Operator MN -Thomas Farmer  
Camera-Operator MN - Jim Fricker III  
Camera & Lighting Tech CT - Ben Hunt  
Camera -Operator MN - Marie O'Connor  
Still Photographer - Michael Spadafina

### Location Managers

Joe Merino  
Celia Merino

### Costume & Wardrobe Department

Wardrobe - Celia Merino

### Editorial Department

Colorist - Rikk Degres  
Animation - Zev Deans  
Archivist - Mitchell Gersten  
Book author - Ethel Beardsworth

### Music Department

Original Music - Cory Gray  
Original Music - Benjamin Corey  
Original Music - David Szezday  
Original Music - Jonathan Foster

### Other Crew

Production Services - Max Video, Inc.

Post-Production by Pinehurst Pictures &  
Sound

# REVIEWS & ENDORSEMENTS

*"**Living With Ghosts** gives us the opportunity to hear and see people talk openly and realistically about after-death communication, making it more available to everyone, and does it with sensitivity, warmth, and clarity. It will be recommended viewing in all the venues I work in. It truly is a great film."*

Graham Maxey, M.Div., M.A., LPC.  
Humana Grief Support Group Leader

*"I would recommend **Living With Ghosts** to anyone who has lost a loved one."*

Prof. Kenneth J. Doca, Ph.D.  
Senior Consultant  
Hospice Foundation of America

*"**Living With Ghosts** will generate a high level of interest in nearly everyone. For many, it will be life changing."*

After writing this endorsement I went ahead and watched the film for a third time. It's a masterpiece."

Allen Botkin, Psy.D.  
Founder of Induced After-Death Communication

*"This is a story that needs to be heard as it will help us re-think our approach to human connection and the true nature of the life-death boundary."*

Lotsa Helping Hands™  
Chicago, IL 60607

*"I've just taken time to watch **Living With Ghosts** and I think it's just outstanding! Combining the scientific content related to IADC research and practice with the experience of one widowed individual whose traumatic loss has kept her stuck in grief for years is a masterful way of presenting the content."*

Marty Tousley, RN, MS, FT, BC-TMH  
Grief Counselor, **Grief Healing Blog**  
Moderator, [Grief Healing Discussion Groups](#)

*"**Living With Ghosts** provides uniquely thorough treatment of [After-Death Communication]. It is with eagerness that the leadership of IANDS anticipates the general release of this timely and innovative documentary. It is with great enthusiasm and without reservation that we endorse its broadcast."*

Janice Miner Holden, EdD, LPC\_S, ACMHP  
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR NEAR-DEATH STUDIES, INC  
President