

A large, close-up image of a werewolf's face, showing its eyes and fur, serves as the background for the top half of the cover.

NOT NEAR NORMAL
THE PARANORMAL

WEREWOLVES

AND OTHER SHAPE-SHIFTERS



by Ruth Owen

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President of the American Ghost Society

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The Creature at the Window

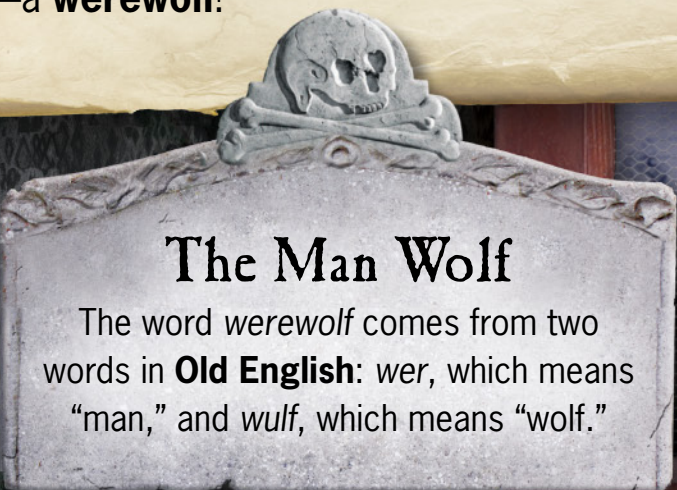
Scratch. Scratch. Scratch. Delburt Gregg woke up.

It was a hot, stormy night in Greggton, Texas. Before going to sleep, Delburt had moved her bed beside a window, hoping to catch a breeze. Now, just inches from her, something was scratching at the screen.

Suddenly, a flash of lightning lit up the window. Looking in at Delburt was a huge, hairy, wolflike face with sharp **fangs** and glowing eyes. In an instant, the creature turned and ran into some bushes.

Terrified, Delburt anxiously watched from her window. Would the beast return? Instead of a wolflike creature emerging from the bushes, however, Delburt saw a very tall man suddenly appear and run out of sight.

What did Delburt Gregg see that hot summer night in July 1958? A wolf? A man? Or something not near normal—a **werewolf**!



The Man Wolf

The word *werewolf* comes from two words in **Old English**: *wer*, which means “man,” and *wulf*, which means “wolf.”



Half Human, Half Beast

Delburt Gregg was not the first person in history to say she had come face to face with a werewolf. Stories of terrifying creatures that are half human and half wolf have been told for thousands of years.

According to **legend**, a werewolf is a person that turns into a **savage**, bloodthirsty beast at night. A werewolf may run on two or four legs, and is much faster than an actual wolf. The creature uses its superhuman strength, fangs, and claws to brutally attack people and animals. Then it feeds on their flesh.

In the morning, the hairy beast is said to change back into its human form. Then it returns to living an ordinary human life.



Werewolf or Real Wolf?

In some legends, werewolves are said to look exactly like actual wolves. There is one important difference, though. These evil creatures can be many times larger than real wolves. In fact, they can be the size of horses!



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About the Author

Ruth Owen has been developing, editing, and writing children's books for more than ten years. She lives in Cornwall, England, just minutes from the ocean. Ruth loves gardening and caring for her family of llamas.

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On a stormy night in 1958, Delburt Gregg was awakened by a scratching sound at her window. As she peered outside, lightning flashed across the sky and lit up a huge wolflike face with sharp fangs and glowing eyes. The frightening creature then darted into the bushes. Had Delburt seen a man or a wolf? Or had she seen something not near normal—a werewolf?

For hundreds of years, legends have been told of people who have transformed into werewolves and other killer beasts. If stories about these shape-shifters are just fiction, why have so many people claimed to have seen these savage creatures? Look inside to investigate the truth behind the terrifying tales.

ALIENS
AND OTHER VISITORS

GHOSTS
AND OTHER SPIRITS OF THE DEAD

HALF-HUMAN MONSTERS
AND OTHER FIENDS

VAMPIRES
AND OTHER BLOODSUCKERS

WEREWOLVES
AND OTHER SHAPE-SHIFTERS

ZOMBIES
AND OTHER WALKING DEAD

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