

Pope Lick Monster

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The Pope Lick Monster belongs beneath a Kentucky railroad trestle, where stories give a goat-like figure a human voice. The creature is legendary; the railway’s danger is entirely real.

STATUS	Urban legend with documented railway hazards
CLASSIFICATION	STR
MATERIAL	Kentucky, USA
DISPOSITION	PUBLIC / SOURCED STORY
CATEGORY	Strange Files
RECORD TYPE	Cryptids
STORY HISTORY	Twentieth-century Louisville oral legend; filmed retelling in 1988

THE ACCOUNT

Beneath the high trestle over Pope Lick Creek, Louisville’s Goat Man is said to wait for someone to listen. In one version, it imitates a human voice and draws people onto the bridge. Another gives it a history of mistreatment in a traveling circus and escape after a train wreck. The endings vary, but the structure remains: a familiar call, an uncertain figure below, and a crossing that becomes more dangerous than it first appears. The legend reached a local film in 1988.

FOLLOWING THE TRAIL

The referenced history records conflicting origin stories rather than a verified circus disaster involving such a creature. It also documents fatal accidents at the trestle and railway objections to misleading screen portrayals. Those deaths are not evidence of a monster. The bridge carries real trains; this account is a story to read, not a route onto the tracks. No authenticated physical evidence identifies a human-goat animal beneath it.

WHY IT STAYS WITH US

The borrowed voice is the most disturbing part. It makes recognition itself unreliable: the sound that should tell you another person is nearby becomes the lure. The monster does not need to cross the gap; it persuades the listener to do that.

WHERE THIS TELLING COMES FROM

Pope Lick Monster

Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pope_Lick_Monster

RETURN TO THE STORY

Pope Lick Monster

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