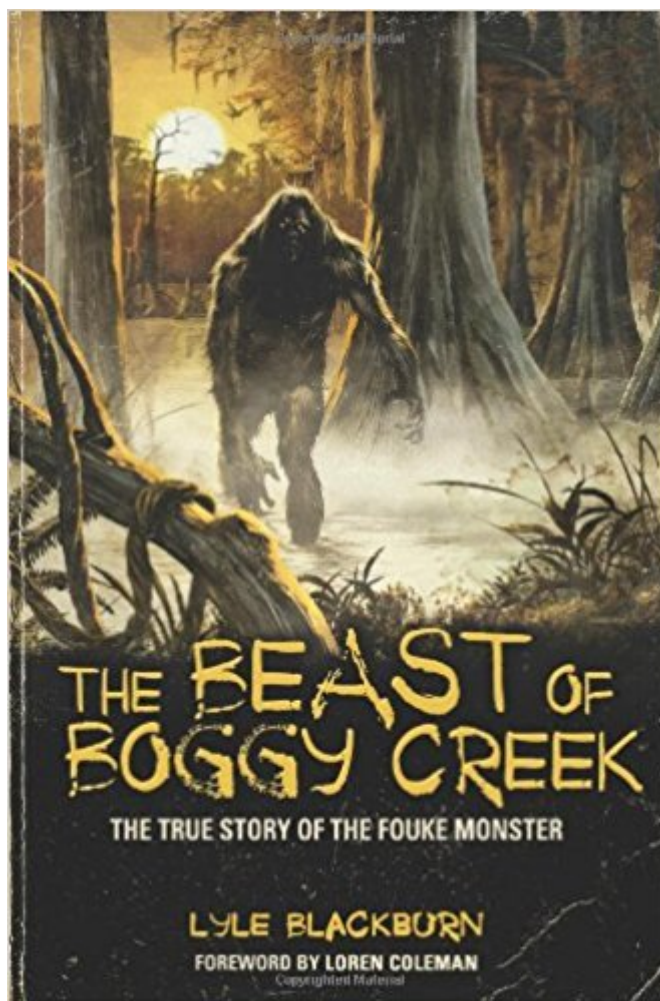


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# The Beast Of Boggy Creek: The True Story Of The Fouke Monster



## Synopsis

For more than a century, reports of a strange beast known as the Fouke Monster have circulated among the locals in southern Arkansas. Described as a large, hairy man-like creature, it's said to haunt the vast Sulphur River Bottoms as it travels the secluded waterway known as Boggy Creek. Over the years, the creature has been seen by numerous witnesses including respected citizens, experienced hunters, famous musicians, and even a police officer. The encounters were often so shocking, they served as inspiration for the classic horror film, *The Legend of Boggy Creek*, by Charles B. Pierce. Tales of the creature have long existed in scattered pieces across news clippings, memoirs, police reports, and movies, but it is only now that the complete history of the Fouke Monster has been assembled in one place. This book collects all the facts, theories, and amazing sighting reports, and weaves them into a fascinating tale about this undeniable southern mystery, one that lives on, as frightening encounters with the Beast of Boggy Creek are still being reported today! \*\* Includes a detailed sighting chronicle with over 70 visual encounters near Fouke, Arkansas!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"An extremely enjoyable and spooky ride." -- Sean Whitley, director *Southern Fried Bigfoot*"I could not put this book down." -- Neal Arnold, author of *Monster! The A-Z of Zooform*

Phenomenon"Amazingly researched and absolutely gripping." -- Dave Alexander, editor *Rue Morgue* magazine"Destined to become a cryptozoological classic!" -- Nick Redfern, author of

There's Something in the Woods This is a must have for all movie fans, history buffs, and bigfooters!" -- Kathy Moskowitz Strain, author *Giants, Cannibals & Monsters: Bigfoot in Native Culture*

For more than a century, reports of a strange beast known as the Fouke Monster have circulated among the locals in southern Arkansas. Described as a large, hairy man-like creature, it's said to haunt the vast Sulphur River Bottoms as it travels the secluded waterway known as Boggy Creek. Over the years, the creature has been seen by numerous witnesses including respected citizens, experienced hunters, famous musicians, and even a police officer. The encounters were often so shocking, they served as inspiration for the classic horror film, "The Legend of Boggy Creek," by Charles B. Pierce. Tales of the creature have long existed in scattered pieces across news clippings, memoirs, police reports, and movies, but it is only now that the complete history of the Fouke Monster has been assembled in one place. This book collects all the facts, theories, and amazing sighting reports, and weaves them into a fascinating tale about this undeniable southern mystery, one that lives on, as frightening encounters with the Beast of Boggy Creek are still being reported today!

I first met the Boggy Creek Monster while peeking over my Mother's shoulder from the back seat of the family station wagon at the River Road Drive-In, in Longview, Texas. The creature's scream blasted through the bulky, metal speaker hanging on the driver's window and into my shivering soul. It impacted my young, developing psyche in a way nothing ever had. After that night, I was ravenous for anything beastly and lurking in the dark. It still fascinates me. To this day I watch some of the shows and read the occasional book and even have friends in the crypto field. But when I saw the cover of this book I was instantly transported to the darkened back seat of my dad's Chevy. I realized I'd never seen a book about the seminal 'real' monster of my youth. I bought the book and read it as I'd read books when I was young and the world was still capable of convincing me that men did not know everything and that there were still bizarre mysteries left to pursue. Afterward, the truth of why this book had not been written before now was clear: it was Lyle Blackburn's book to write, and always had been. In his hands, the chronicle of the phenomenon of the incidents around Fouke are written with a historian's respect for the fantastic encounters and the people who came forward to report them. Lyle's ability to gain the acceptance and trust of a community that probably just wanted to be left alone is a testament to the appreciation he has for the legacy of the Fouke Beast. And in truth, learning that there might still be creature's sloshing through the bogs and

sloughs has stirred up a certain macabre curiosity that I haven't felt in a long time. Well done, Mr. Blackburn.

I liked it. Lyle Blackburn does a good job; great narration, back story of the Fouke Bigfoot legend, and good presentation of current encounters. The film is well produced. Often you find films that are just a boring vehicle for the filmmaker, kind of a vanity thing, but this is an honest documentary that focuses on the subject and does a good job of presenting the history, lore and legend of the Beast of Boggy Creek. Lyle and the people involved in this production know enough about what they're doing, and care enough about the subject, that they pulled off a good quality documentary. Rekindled some fond memories.

If you were a kid in the early 1970s and went to the drive-in theater, then you probably had the be-jeebus scared out of you watching "The Legend of Boggy Creek". Maybe you thought, "Thank, God, that's over!" when the movie came to an end and maybe, as you rode home in the backseat, peering out the car window, you watched the roadside and surrounding woods just a little bit closer, wondering if there was a similar creature out there, waiting and watching. Lyle Blackburn takes us back to those days, when the Fouke Monster was all the rage and scaring children and adults alike. Ah, yes, THOSE good old days. Only this time Lyle trudges ever deeper into the dark and mysterious Sulphur River Bottoms and swamps of Arkansas. Here he digs up even more stories and more evidence that not only was there a 'ape-like man' wandering around long before the movie came out, but it still makes that area its home. A great read! I loved learning more! This book will become part of my ever-growing research library!

I'm pretty skeptical about all things Bigfoot, but I enjoy the stories nonetheless. And one of my favorite scary movies is *The Legend of Boggy Creek*, a low-budget film about the Fouke Monster, also known as the "Boggy Creek Monster." This unlikely three-toed, hairy man-beast is said to haunt the swamps and forests near Texarkana, Arkansas. Lyle Blackburn tells two stories, the first of which is about the making and impact of "The Legend of Boggy Creek," directed by the late Charles B. Pierce. The film's quirky, quasi-documentary style inspired later films like "The Blair Witch Project" and "Paranormal Activity." It moved quite a few people to take up the hunt for Bigfoot, either as a hobby or a vocation. And the movie scared the socks off of middle-school kids like me who sat in the front row to watch matinee showings back in 1972. Blackburn's other story is about the legendary monster itself, which burst onto the scene in 1971 in a series of sightings and an

alleged attack. Blackburn's research has turned up earlier encounters that might have something to do with the story, but the beast didn't hit the big time until 1971 and the release of the movie in 1972. Blackburn does a good job of recounting the pre-movie lore, as well as various sightings that have occurred since 1972. Blackburn is a fair story teller. He's suitably balanced and not credulous, though he leans in the direction of accepting the monster's existence. His writing reveals a lot of respect for Pierce, the citizens of Fouke, and the charm of the legend. His book brought back some fond memories of seeing the movie and talking with my friends about it, hearing the monster's terrifying roar (you can listen to it on YouTube), and feeling that tingling sense of "well . . . maybe."

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