Enjoy a boooo-tiful evening in downtown Springfield! Journey into the realms of the unknown on this one-mile walking tour through historic downtown Springfield’s haunted history, with details of local legends and folklore, tales of mystery, murder and ghosts blended with historical facts. Each Ghost Tour is led by an entertaining 19th-century costumed guide, complete with lanterns to light your way!

**Gangster Gunfight**

*Arcade Hotel.* A knock on the door. It’s a simple thing. For some, a long-awaited arrival is met with smiles and excitement. Other times, we may be perturbed by unwanted solicitations. And while it is simple, even primal in nature, a knock on the door can even conjure that most potent emotion of all: fear. Little did Detective Holderby and Teddy Bearcat know that a simple knock at the door would change their lives.

The Springfield Arcade was the second oldest arcade in the United States before its demolition in 1988. It was adjacent to the Esplanade standing where the current Marriott is located and was a leading example of Romanesque, Italianate and Monumental architecture.

The Arcade was constructed by O.S. Kelly in 1882 for $250,000. This lavish hotel featured 115 rooms with brass accents, indoor marble bathrooms, stores and featured a large fountain as its centerpiece.

**A Burning Decleration**

*Shuey Building.* Carl Wilson and Eldon Foster were good friends and coworkers at the Airtool Manufacturing Company. After a tragic accident, something weird happened. Fires started burning around town. The blame was quickly placed on Eldon, but only he knew who was truly at blame.
AN ETERNAL SEARCH
S. Wittenberg Ave. Roy Walthausen returned home to Saginaw, Michigan after the war to pursue his dream as a hot air balloon pilot. Roy would travel to visit fairs and celebrations to show off his new flying machine. His father would travel with him sometimes too. That’s how they both came to Springfield the summer of 1921. Unbeknownst to them only one of them would return to Michigan.

A VAUDEVILLE MURDER
New Sun Theatre. In early September of 1908, a police officer demanded that Chester Jordan open the vaudeville costume trunk in front of him. The last time they had used it was for the shows in Springfield. Reluctantly and at last, he opened the trunk one more time revealing a horrific sight.

The New Sun Theatre was opened on November 24, 1907 by Gus Sun, a famous vaudeville performer and booking agent. In 1926 the theatre had been renamed Bandbox Theatre. In 1938 it was renamed Ohio Theatre, and it was around this time that it was taken over by Warner Bros. Circuit Management Corp. The Ohio Theatre was still open in 1950.

A PATRIOT’S CONVICTION
Demint Cemetery. Elijah Beardsley lived a very remarkable life. He was one of the men who flung the tea into the river during the Boston Tea Party, he marched to Valley Forge and fought alongside General Washington, and he knew a thing or two about honor. He knew that in order for there to be structure and order, there first had to be rules. And he knew that if these rules were broken an example must be made.

The Demint Cemetery was laid out by James Demint in 1803 and believed to be the oldest cemetery in Clark County. The cemetery once held over 200 graves including numerous Revolutionary War Veterans.

A FALL FROM GRACE
Primrose Alley. Thomas Kizer was found dead at 4:30 in the morning on December 20, 1887. He was a prominent member of the community, in fact, he was the original land surveyor of Clark County. But in his later years he became a drinker. The police seemed to think that he had fallen out the third floor double doors that opened to nowhere because he was drunk. Mrs. Kizer knew Thomas’s death wasn’t a horrific accident. Thomas had been murdered by a regular nightly visitor.