Often people characterize all supernatural occurrences as ghost interactions and many times this is not the case. People tend to believe that ghosts are a way to describe any unhinged experience that happens throughout their experiences. Many experiences with supernatural come from all different types ranging from many different topics from aliens, to ghost, and even top fairies. In this paper I plan to inform of these different types of supernatural creatures while analyzing a memorate from a close friend. We all would like to know the reasoning behind a supernatural experience, and would also like to have the knowledge of what type of creature you are encountering. A mass majority of people do not have any idea of what supernatural creature is visiting them.

My friend Adriana Montgomery is from a rural, country, rustic area located in the southwest region of Michigan. The place of the sighting was, and still is not, very known for its supernatural subject matter. Most people living in the area have been there for a long time and grew up there. It is not a place that you would know without knowing someone there. With that, there are not many people that will move here for the distinct reason of pleasure. There almost always will be a reason for someone living here, and it is usually because that is where they have grown up.

The experience was experienced while my friend, Adriana, was a child. She tells me that she never grew up with a major interest in ghost and supernatural creature, she even goes as far
as to say, “I actually hoped that I would never experience them, they scare me so much.” She did not have any prior knowledge to what type of supernatural being this was, but the only thing she could think to characterize it was as a ghost. Like I said before, many people will conclude that any irrational experience is of a ghost. Most people that feel this way are uneducated, or uninterested, with the fact that it could be much more than just a ghost. She is in college now and I asked her, after the interview, if she ever planned on taking a class on supernatural or doing any research and she firmly told me that she has no interest in learning more about it. With that being said, she is interested in hearing what type of supernatural being she may have experienced.

When she tells her story of the incident, you can hear the fear in her voice and even feel the frightening feeling. She explained that the incident was something she never felt before, an unnatural feeling that she has never had before. She also says that she has never heard of anyone speaking on similar experience in the area. This frightens me that this has only been recorded by her of all the people in the town. Is the being only interested in her? Does it not exist anymore? Was it a hallucination? These are all valid question when you hear this information.

I don’t want to move along with my own judgement and opinions without properly explaining the incident to its fullest extent. Adriana explains that she was around the age of 11 or 12, she is 19 now, which makes the story take place in 2008 or 2009. This is not really that long ago, but it does seem like it was from a first person experience. She begins by telling us that it was a cold night in the early parts of winter. All of the leaves were fallen from the trees but a lot of snow was covering the ground. She expresses that she lived in a secluded area, with not many people living nearby, with a large wooded area behind her house. Adriana and her sister were outside playing, when they decided to begin building an igloo made out of laundry baskets. She turns around to pick up some snow, with the laundry basket, and when she turns back to face her
sister she saw a man. Her sister was standing at first but bent over to gather some snow herself and Adriana got a better view of the man.

She describes the man as wearing lumberjack clothing that was pretty beat up, as if he had been in the woods for quite a while. Next to the man was a large creature that resembled a Dire Wolf, by the way she explained it to me. She then notices that the man was holding a large, sharp axe above her sister’s head. Adriana’s first instinct was to yell at her sister to move because she was afraid the man would hurt her, this is what she did. She lunged forward and pushed her sister out of harm’s way. Expecting the man to be there ready to swing the axe, she turns around. The man was gone. A split second later they both heard a gunshot and a scream from the woods. At that moment they ran inside and begged their dad to investigate the situation, which he did, but he never found anything.

The incident brings up many different characteristics of this being. The being takes shape as a man, with a connection to animals, which has instant teleportation or disappearances. He was there one second, and now he is nowhere to be seen. She explains to me that she assumed it was a real man at first, because the body looked authentic and regular, but the vanishing act proved that this was not a regular occurrence. My first instinct after hearing of the situation, I immediately thought it was just a simple hallucination that may have been caused by medication. I had to ask if she had been taking any medication prior to the incident, but she confidently says that she was not taking any medication at the time. And even if it was a hallucination, how come her sister heard the gunshot and scream in the woods as well? It would be crazy to say it was a coincidence for it to happen at that exact time.

I was convinced that this event had frightened her substantially. I asked her how she felt about the situation and she explained that she was beyond terrified of the situation and she was
shaken up for quite some time afterwards. I was very curious of a reasoning, but I figured she would not know any reasoning behind the occurrence. I asked anyways but no reason was known. She said that she had quite a bit of supernatural experiences when she was young but none matched up anywhere near this one at all. She also explained that none had this much of a realistic feel to it.

Now to explain this creature is the most fun and interesting part of it all. As I said before, I will explain why it is not a certain type of supernatural being and then explain the being I believe it is. So first off, with the most common of them all, Ghosts. Ghost are characterized to be bodiless creatures with no gender. This rules out ghost, while leaving us with two other common being that it could be, fairies or aliens. Some fairies have a strong bond with the woods but they never come in the form of a tall man. They are characterized as being short beings, with no known disappearances. Aliens are able to teleport from place to place in an instant but are never seen with a human body. Although all of these supernatural beings have some connections with the one Adriana experienced, I don’t believe that they are what she experienced. All three of these beings could have some extra characteristics that we don’t know about, which could make them more suitable for the role of this story, but the inconsistency outweighs the consistency of their characteristics.

After doing extensive research, I am confident that I have found which supernatural creature visited her that day. The Leshy has every single one of the characteristics of this story, and it is hard to argue against it. The Leshy is based off of Slavic Mythology and is a creature of the woods and forests. Leshy creatures are males that have a strong bond to the woods and their main purpose is to make sure the plants and animals of the woods or forests stay safe. These Leshy creatures have a strong bond to all animals with an even closer bond to wolves and bears.
They are usually seen as tall men with large beards and bright green eyes. These creatures are seen as ‘Innocent Tricksters’ meaning they have no actual mean for harm to anyone, but like to scare people. They have also been known to steal axes from woodcutter, because they do not like people cutting down trees and harming the forest. They can also shapeshift to anything from a plant to an animal. Some will even mimic a voice you know to get you lost in the woods, if they feel you may be doing harm to the woods. They also seem to prey on little girls and could potentially kidnap them.

Now if it has not hit you yet, let me rephrase the person she described on the day this happened. She seen a tall man, with a lumberjack look, an axe in his hand, accompanied by a wolf. Let it be known that Lumberjacks are known to have large beards. This also happened near the woods with no actual harm done to her or her sister. The person she seen disappeared, or perhaps they shapeshifted into something out of sight? She also heard a scream in the woods, maybe it was the Leshy mimicking a voice. The fact that she and her sister were both little girls, might just be the cherry on top.

Something I found very interesting for myself was that this type of supernatural being shows up in a video game I play pretty frequently, The Witcher 3. I have encountered a Leshy in the game before, but it was before I knew of their history and characteristics. I find it very intriguing that they would portray a Leshy in the game, and portray it as true as possible. After watching some more videos of the game, I realized that the game depicted the Leshy very well and true to what they actually are.

In my article analysis on this subject, I wasn’t quite sure what type of supernatural I was dealing with, but I was leaning towards an alien encounter. After learning about the existence of Leshy’s, I knew that there was no way it could be aliens anymore, for there had to be something
that resembled much more closely. The new knowledge of the encounter challenges the academic source I used, and I’m glad that I gained this new knowledge. I can’t wait to share my findings with Adriana. I am excited to present her this new data, and am very curious on how she will react on the subject.