



Bell Rock, Sedona Arizona

A blogging friend: Willard related this personal story to me:

A few days after Christmas I began contemplating what to do during a week I had scheduled for vacation the middle of February. No sooner than I began to think about it, I received a phone call from my aunt in Arizona. It was unusual that she would call and during the conversation I was asked when I would be coming to see her. Without even thinking, I answered, "In February."

It was a cold and windy day as I entered Cincinnati Airport, anxious to bask in the warm sunshine of Arizona. I had no idea of the changes in my life the next several days would make!

As I landed in Phoenix, I scurried to pick up my rental car from Budget Car Rental and hurriedly left the airport. Driving towards Sun City on I-17, I began to realize how warm it was, so I rolled down a window, that didn't really help much, so I put down the other window, it was then I realized how hot it seemed to me, so I put the windows up and turned on the air conditioning! WOW, this ain't too bad a deal!!

The next day, we decided to do some sight seeing, and headed for Sedona, a town that I had never heard of, but reportedly was very beautiful and scenic, as it turned out that was a gross understatement!

As we made the trek up I-17, I began to notice cars with skis on top of the roof, as warm as it was, it was hard to imagine that snow skiing was possible a scant 75 miles away!

Busy as we were talking, we completely missed the turn off to Cottonwood which would have enabled us to take advantage of the best view of Sedona by entering from the west.

Realizing that everything happens for a reason, I wasn't too concerned. I would soon discover the reason for us coming the way we did.

As Bell Rock came into view, extreme hunger overcame me, this was an extremely peculiar circumstance as my aunt had prepared a rather large breakfast immediately prior to leaving Phoenix.

My aunt, being the good aunt she was had brought some apples, peanuts, and ice tea on the trip. I pulled along side of the road and ate everything we had.

Still feeling very faint, hungry and light headed, I started driving past Bell Rock, wanting to take some photographs I pulled off the road and began walking back towards the rock to get a better angle.

Looking up at the top of the bell, I "saw" large fiery sparks coming from the top, taking a few photos, I walked back to the car.

Having never lost sight of the car, I was perplexed as to why my aunt was concerned because she had lost sight of me.

Continuing our journey we soon reached Sedona, as it was now nearly noon, we both were hungry so we stopped at the most popular restaurant in town, The Coffee Pot in West Sedona. This is a restaurant that serves full plate lunches, I was still extremely hungry and consumed my dinner and half of my aunts. I think she was beginning to wonder if I had ever eaten when I was home.

Feeling a little better I decided to drive back to Bell Rock and see what that was all about. As I entered the area, the same feelings began to return, so I turned around and exited the area and drove to Cottonwood, and back to Phoenix.

As soon as I left the area I began to feel normal again.

Returning to Phoenix I began to do research on Sedona, the only information that I could find while in Arizona was that the Indians considered it to be a sacred land. I knew I would return to unlock the mystery!