Glowing Orb

SPECIFICATIONS:

Date: November 5, 2008

Location: Glendale, Arizona

Photographer: Name withheld

Type Camera: Olympus D580

Other Information: Location has no history of paranormal activity.

I get lots of people sending me pictures of "orbs"—those little disks of light that occasionally pop up on photos—which I can usually dismiss as the flash reflecting off particles of dust or insects, but every once in awhile you come across one that makes you stop and think.

I was sent this photo by a lady in Glendale, Arizona who caught this orb while taking photos of a home she was putting up for sale. Normally, I would dismiss this as either lens refraction or as the flash reflecting off of a particle of dust, but that doesn't explain the "light shadow" the orb casts on the floor, which implies that the orb is generating its own light (in other words, that it is internally and not externally illuminated). It also appears to be on the other side of the room, with the light reflecting off the tiles in the hallway. It is also a strangely layered object unlike most dust particles, which tend to be flat. Some researchers believe that ghosts (or spiritual energies in general) may be able to manifest in the form of a sphere, possibly as a means of travel or preparatory to taking on a more robust form. If true, this could very well be an example of one.

I suppose it's possible she simply caught two different dust particles in close proximity to each other at once and I'm assuming a relationship between them, but if that's the case, why do they look so different from each other? Clearly something is going on here that defies easy explanation. *(Used with permission. All rights reserved.)*

Close up of the orb. Notice how it appears to be casting its own light onto the tiled floor, suggesting it is generating its own internal light and not a reflection. (Metafile data also indicates that no flash was used in the photo.)