

Why Just Reading About Bedbugs Is Making You All Itchy

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New York Magazine:

I have been itchy all damn day after reading this post by our Daily Intelligencer pals on the return of bedbugs, and I suspect I'm not the only one. As one commenter put it:

“Welp thanks for this now I’ve got psychosomatic itchy spots all over because i take the N Train all the time ... i fought the scourge back in ’12 and still feel em on me. STILL FEEL EM CRAWLING ON ME.”

I hear you. But I was curious how simply reading about something creepy and crawly could be enough to induce a physical sensation, so I reached out to Robert Provine, a neuroscientist at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and author of *Curious Behavior: Yawning, Laughing, Hiccupping, and Beyond*.

Read the whole story: [New York Magazine](#)