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## CRYSTAL ENERGY: FACT OR FICTION

Almost anyone who has read a magazine, newspaper, or even watched television in recent months would surely have seen some kind of report on the public's growing interest in crystals and the "power" some people claim to have found in them.

What do you know about crystals? Are they just some "new age" rabbit's foot that people are carrying in their pockets for good luck? In order to help separate fact from fiction the noted authority on crystals and gem therapist, Gari Gold, recently initiated extensive research to dispell many of the myths and misconceptions surrounding quartz crystal.

Silicon dioxide, more popularly known as quartz crystal, is found in mineral deposits throughout the world and are used to perform delicate functions in many modern devices used today. Due to the hardness and focusing power of crystals, telescopes and other optical devices are made possible through their use. The precise oscillation of quartz crystals has been useful in the development of modern communications systems as well as many computers. Another useful property of crystal is the generation of piezo-electricity, a phenomenon that genrates small amounts of electricity when crystals are compressed. However, more important than the aforementioned qualities are the metaphysical, spiritual, and healing properties of crystals. It is for these properties that crystals have enjoyed their recent popularity, and justifiably so.

Gold's findings state that crystals have been used effectively throughout the centuries by Indian shamans,

Egyptian priests and other spiritualists to help focus the mind, relieve localized pain; and even tap into and focus one's own psychic powers. There is definitely more to the use of quartz crystals than mere fascination or as a new age trinket. As a result of Gold's research, it was demonstrated that quartz crystal can enhance the quality of your meditation and prayer, increase your psychic abilities and ESP, enhance the dream state, relieve localized pain, create desirable change in your life, and open your universal vibrations.

However, Gold did discover that there are things that crystals cannot do for you. It is only after study and practice that you will be able to develop the use of crystals as a metaphysical tool and the most important first lesson in harnessing crystal power is to realize both the awesome power and the limitations of crystal energy.

### Editor's Note:

*The editor of the Krystal Haven, a fellowship devoted to the spiritual and physical fulfillment of mankind, would like to offer Gari Gold's recently released book entitled Crystal Energy. Released to you are the results of Gold's research and the methods you can use to make Crystal Energy work for you! Not only will you receive this "must read" edition of Crystal Energy for your library but you will receive absolutely free a genuine quartz crystal so that you can put crystal power to work for you immediately!*

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# FATE

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# WHAT I SEE BY THE PAPERS

By Donald Michael Kraig



## QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

*Nothing could persuade me to read every line of this monstrous mish-mash of claptrap interspersed with puddles of pious platitudes, but I have perused it carefully enough to get the drift of its wild science-fiction themes.*

—Martin Gardner

The above quote is taken from the winter 1990 issue of the *Skeptical Inquirer*, CSICOP's voice to the public. He is writing about *The Urantia Book*, a spiritual volume whose teachings are followed by many thousands of followers. The article is a perfect example of the "Gardnerian School of Skepticism"—don't present any evidence or proof, just criticize, mock and ridicule.

Gardner has two major claims to fame. The first is that for many years he edited the delightful puzzles that appear in *Scientific American*. The second is that he is a debunker.



Donald Michael Kraig

But note that in many cases his debunking is based on not one iota of scientific evidence. Gardner gives some very brief accounts of what he perused (he admits that he didn't even bother to read what he is trying to debunk). Because the ideas in the book are not accepted by most people, and because they are taken completely out of context, he is able to hold them up to ridicule. He implies that because it sounds silly it must be silly.

But this isn't skepticism. It's not even debunking. It's just an attempt to manipulate the minds of the readers.

Look at the emotion-laden words he uses: "monstrous mish-mash of claptrap"; "puddles of pious platitudes"; "wild science-fiction themes." These are not the expressions of a scientist refuting the works of another thinker. There is no logical argument showing that the previous writer was wrong. This is not science at

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all. In fact, he sounds more like someone trying to preach his own gospel rather than a scientific thinker.

By the way, it strikes me that the quote at the beginning of this column could have been written by Gardner about Einstein's theory of relativity.

### SO WHAT?

But Martin Gardner is just one person. So what if his polemics are based more on emotion than fact, opinion rather than research? The answer is two-fold.

First, his style of debunking has led others to the same anti-scientific path. In the same issue of *Skeptical Inquirer*, Philip J. Klass criticizes a document because the signature on it is "suspiciously" like that of a known version of the signature. In other words, it's suspicious because the signatures are alike. Of course, it would also be suspicious if they weren't alike. The document may be a fake, but you cannot win against illogical thought.

Second, his association with *Scientific American* gives him an appearance of more authority than he warrants. This may result in young people, who want to be scientists, following his type of reasoning. Then, merely because something sounds unusual, such as the theory of relativity, it could be ignored. The results could set



us back scientifically. We do not need another Dark Age.

### DON'T IGNORE US, CSICOP!

In that same issue of *Skeptical Inquirer* there is a long article by Robert E. Bartholomew on "The Airship Hysteria of 1896-97." Bartholomew cites numerous sources and finally comes to the conclusion that the "Airships were seen as a positive influence in reaction to the negative strains brought about by rapid technological advancements in a variety of fields." It is a shame that with all of Bartholomew's expertise and research that he didn't do any original work or bother to check Jerome Clark's *UFO Reporter* column in the February 1990 issue of *FATE*. There he would have learned that the whole thing was a practical joke created by a newspaper editor and a liar's club in the days when newspapers didn't have to be as truthful as they are today.

Did *FATE* merely "scoop" the *Skeptical Inquirer*? Or is the *Skeptical Inquirer*, as the printed representation of the point of view of CSICOP, merely presenting dogma to its readers rather than honest research and truth? We will certainly find out when—and if—the *Skeptical Inquirer* ever bothers to tell its readers the truth about the Airships of 1896-1897.

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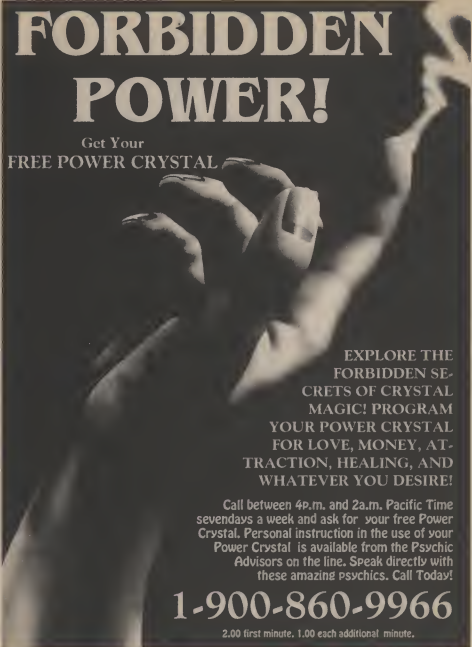
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- That every scripture, every myth, every call to spirituality is a reflection of man's need to know himself, find himself as the **conscious self-in-the-body**, and to regenerate his mortal body to one of permanence in the realm from which he has banished himself by his thinking?
- That it is the duty of every **conscious self to awaken** to the realities of re-existence, responsibility and regeneration, and to begin, in some life, the return trip "home" to the exalted state from which we have all fallen?

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*“ It had very large, very red eyes, which glowed from inside as if lit up. ” (p. 129)*

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*continued from page 9*

AFAN, the Association for Astrological Networking, seems to be acting as a media watchdog. The 2000-member organization monitors the media to make sure that false statements about astrology are not claimed as fact. They also watch out for bad astrologers who make promises (such as instant wealth) that cannot be fulfilled.

#### NEWS ITEMS

- Swiss genetic engineers have created a protein that is technically known as a monoclonal antibody. It is named IN-1. This new discovery has allowed severed spinal-cord nerves in rats to grow 11 millimeters. In rats with untreated spinal injuries, nerve growth is only one millimeter.

Although actual use for humans is years away, this is one of the first discoveries that gives hope to people who have nerve damage from accidents and strokes, as well as from diseases such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and Lou Gehrig's disease.

- There is a new mystery surrounding the Sphinx. Last year, a 700-pound piece of the shoulder fell to the ground while hundreds of people watched in surprise. There were immediate suggestions that it was caused by natural conditions, including



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rain, wind, and salt crystals that have seeped up through the limestone of the Sphinx from the increasingly salty water table level of the Nile valley.

This explanation is simple enough. But an American named Larry Hunter produced a videotape of Ahmed el-Shaer, a Sphinx guard, who claimed that he saw antiquities officials hammering at the Sphinx in the area where the stones fell just before the incident. Further, el-Shaer claimed that he had taken a bribe from "high officials" to remain silent.

Dr. Zaki Hawass, the archaeologist in charge of the Sphinx, says the charges are ridiculous. Of course, on the videotape he is accused of being part of the cover-up.

Some people are now saying that the claims are based on personality differences between people on the site. Whatever is going on, we hope that the Sphinx can avoid the partisanship that might allow its destruction before our grandchildren have the privilege of seeing it.

- Why is it that humans suffer attacks from influenza more at certain times than at others?

The eminent (if unorthodox) British astrologer Sir Fred Hoyle and his collaborator, Dr. N. Chandra Wickramasinghe, charted flu pandemics (countrywide



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or global outbreaks) since 1761. The results show that such outbreaks occur about every 11 years. This is virtually identical to the cycle of the appearance of sunspots.

The scientists have put forth the theory that influenza virus floats throughout space. They claim that the virus is electrically charged and is driven toward the Earth by the intense solar wind that occurs during high sunspot activity every 11 years.

The theory is not accepted by all astronomers.

- A 21-year-old man of Lithuanian descent named Natas Kaupas is a professional skate boarder. He appears in videos and is a part owner of a line of clothing that bears his name.

According to *Playboy*, the Long Beach Unified School District in California has told its students to avoid wearing Natas clothing. Why? Because Natas spelled backwards is Satan.

While we are certainly not in favor of satanism, we would urge people to investigate before making absurd edicts. We wouldn't want to ban live theater because live spelled backwards is evil.

- According to *Privileged Information*, the best way to learn a subject is to study for periods of between 10 and 45 minutes with

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a break between the periods of two to five minutes. Longer periods of study "wear out" the chemical stimulation that is needed to imprint the information in your mind. Cramming for a test only works for the short time.

- The human brain now appears to be *hundreds* of times more powerful than was thought. Recent studies show that we use less than one per cent of our brain's potential. This means that the brain has the ability to easily store a lifetime's worth of information—and more.

The number of brain cells does not determine intelligence and memory. Rather, it is our ability

to form connections and neurochemical patterns *between* brain cells that is important.

This means that with the exception of injury or disease, the loss of brain cells at any age is negligible. Our brains actually *grow* when stimulated by forming new pathways. There is no reason for mental acuity to decrease with age.

- And finally, although the idea of a logical left brain and artistic right brain makes an interesting model, each side of the brain actually has a variety of talents. Different skills are associated with various brain locations.



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# OUR STRANGE WORLD



by Mark Chorvinsky

## HAUNTED BRITAIN

Great Britain has traditionally been the home of many ghosts and poltergeists, as well as some of the greatest ghost hunters. I feel safe in saying that there isn't a section of England, Scotland, Wales or Ireland that doesn't have more than its fair share of indigenous spirits—some playful, others malevolent. The following are some accounts of British poltergeists, ghosts and related entities; several are quite recent and others are ancient in origin, but continue to manifest themselves in unexpected ways.



Mark Chorvinsky

## PUB POLTERGEIST?

Many British pubs have histories of hauntings, and even the ultimate rationalist cannot deny the existence of spirits in pubs! I have had the good fortune to be able to visit a number of these haunted pubs, and in the future I hope to launch investigations in

several of them. In a most interesting poltergeist case that occurred this past October, Gloria Flemings, a barmaid from the British West Midlands, is trying to get compensation from the brewery that owns the Old Priory Pub in Dudley where she works. The reason: she says that she was hit in the face by a glass thrown by one of the ghostly entities inhabiting the pub. Mrs. Flemings, 40, was working behind the bar when she was cut on the cheek and nose when a whiskey glass flew off a shelf in the pub.

"I was talking to a customer when this glass suddenly came off the shelf above the bar and struck me," Mrs. Flemings told the (Bristol) *Courier-Mail* (10/7/89). "I don't know if I believe in ghosts, but I can't explain it."

The pub has a history of hauntings, and many strange things have happened within its



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walls. Music and lights have been turned on during the night, and lampshades have shattered without apparent explanation. In addition to Mrs. Flemings' close encounter with a ghost-tossed flying glass, three other barmaids have narrowly escaped injury from flying glasses.

According to the *Daily Post*, (10/6/89), pub licensee Bob Darby insisted that Gloria Flemings submit a compensation claim to brewery Holt, Plant, and Deakin. The managing director of the brewery, Graham Page, told the *Daily Post*: "I would imagine Mrs. Flemings would be covered by insurance. There certainly have been some strange goings-on. It is very worrying."

Rev. Michael Goss (Vicar of St. Thomas's Church, Dudley) was called in to investigate the haunting. Goss was quoted as saying: "I have spoken to all concerned. They are all very down-to-earth, rational people. I am totally puzzled. If there are ghostly goings-on, it would seem there might be a poltergeist." We expect to hear more on this case in the near future.

**HAUNTED BRITISH COMPUTERS**

Another case that I hope to check out is that of the so-called "Haunted Computer." This case broke when I was in London in the summer of 1988, and it was

hardly publicized in the United States.

In Stockport, Cheshire, England, an Amstrad PC 1512 computer was allegedly doing very strange things, and the staff of the architectural firm that owned it was getting spooked. I met with veteran British psychic investigator Manfred Cassirer who was looking into the case and he described some of the "haunted computer's" strange ways. The computer supposedly made unusual sounds—including groans and cackles—and the screen would light up and display strange letters even when unplugged.

Janet Bord, in her "Strange News From Britain" column, in *Strange Magazine* #3 (1988, p. 25) reported on further developments in this bizarre case. She writes that experts from *Personal Computer* magazine were brought in to examine the computer and that they monitored it 24 hours a day for three months. *Personal Computer* editor Ken Hughes was quoted as saying, "One night there was a loud cracking noise, the power light came on and the screen lit up. Another night, random letters started flashing on the screen. I would not have believed it if I had not seen it myself. I am baffled."

I have been told that the computer has been completely dis-

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mantled and inspected, but that there was no clue as to the cause of the strange phenomena surrounding it. One consideration is that Amstrad received a great deal of publicity from the case in the UK, and a large computer conference was being held at the same time that this story appeared in the press. I believe that Manfred Cassirer also noted this at the time.

I am indebted to Janet Bord for a second report of a haunted British computer (also in Cheshire). In this strange case, teacher Ken Webster and his girlfriend claim to have received communications via computer from one Tomas Harden. "Harden" claimed to have lived in the 16th century in the cottage that Webster and his friend were occupying. Webster says that they were able to converse with Harden using the computer. Janet Bord has written that this case is unlikely to be a hoax for various reasons and that due to the many questions it poses, this case—if genuine—may be "one of the most important paranormal events of recent years." A book by Webster on the case may be forthcoming in the UK. If this case turns out to be as significant as Janet Bord thinks it may be, a number of readers may want to put their ouija boards in the attic and fire up their personal computers! Perhaps the publication of



Ken Webster's book will start a trend in the use of high technology spiritualism.

### THE SPOOKY SKULLS OF BRITAIN

There are at least ten "haunted" skulls being preserved in houses and various buildings in England. It is thought that if one of these skulls is removed, screaming or rattling noises will commence and will continue until the skull is brought back to the building and placed in its usual spot. There is much folklore surrounding the "screaming skulls" and, as usual, sifting the fact from fiction is tricky at best.

One place in England where several haunted skulls are available for viewing by the public is Turton Tower in Turton (near Bolton, Lancashire). The skulls are displayed on a Bible in the Tower's Chetham room. The skulls were originally kept at Timberbottom Earth Farm, in nearby Bolton. One of the Turton Tower skulls is nearly complete, the other is just a fragment. The skulls are said to have belonged to two robbers who broke into Timberbottom Farm.

According to Peter G.E. Laws' *A Guide to Turton Tower* (1983), in 1939 the skulls were taken away from their haunt so that they could be mounted in silver. As soon as the skulls were removed

*continued on page 26*

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(An open letter from Daniele Gilbert to everyone who has no luck in life or has real problems)

**T**hink you have problems? I remember the day in 1981 when I lost my TV job. I remember that black period when nothing was going right for me. I remember those times when it was hard at the end of the month. Believe me, I know what it means to be chased by bad luck.

Today, everything is going wonderfully well. Maybe you have seen my photograph on magazine covers.

I have been written up in the press. I've returned to television. I have just signed several big contracts. I miraculously escaped injury in a terrible automobile accident.

**Where does such luck come from so suddenly?**

I'm going to tell you in a minute. But first, let me ask you a question: Do I look like the kind of person who would buy talismans or good luck charms?

Well, I assure you, I am not. In fact, I've always been very skeptical about things that are supposed to bring you luck or help you win the lottery.

But that all changed when I heard about the legendary Ring of Re.

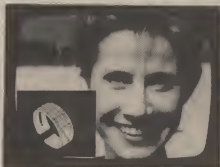
**I made some inquiries.**

And discovered that many men and women had found luck as soon as they started wearing the Ring of Re. They won contests or the lottery, often large amounts of money, or they received unexpected inheritances, or benefited from lucky events at work, in their emotional life, or their health.

I can tell you that all these things troubled me. I wanted to know more about it to try to explain the mysterious powers of the Ring of Re.

I learned that this ring was the exact reproduction of an ancient piece of Egyptian jewelry that was found in the last century. It was worn many centuries ago by the Pharaohs, kings and other very highly-placed people.

This ring had the reputation of protecting everyone who wore it from bad luck. It had the reputation of attracting good luck in all the games of chance of that period. There is no doubt that the geometric forms shown in relief on the



Look at the ring worn by Daniela Gilbert. It's the talisman (6,000 years old) worn by the Pharaohs of ancient Egypt. It has brought great luck to Daniela Gilbert. If you act quickly, you can wear this same talisman free for 30 days. But there is only one condition...

ring are directly related to the secret of its supernatural powers. As far as I know, there is no rational explanation. But it would seem that the form and the arrangement of the geometric figures not only have a protective influence, but also modify our psyche and multiply our intuitive powers. That is what researchers and writers such as A. Mellin (pentacular divination), Jacques La Maya (home physician) and others, as well, have concluded.

**I was more and more troubled by these revelations.**

I said to myself, "Can all these reputable, serious, competent specialists be wrong? Is it simply coincidence that thousands of people suddenly find themselves with luck?"

Finally, I made my decision. I ordered the Ring of Re. I had nothing to lose since I could try the ring free of charge for 30 days (as you can, if you want to). They had told me, "If no particularly lucky event happens within 30 days, all you have to do is return the ring and it won't cost you anything."

**The test is free...**

I kept the ring. The first time I put it on my finger, I felt a strange sensation come over me, like a protective presence.

As the days went by, my life didn't seem particularly improved. But then I had that horrifying automobile accident. I got out alive, uninjured, from a car that

had become a flattened scrap heap. I am certain I would no longer be in this world if it hadn't been for the Ring of Re. I could feel that it was protecting me.

I felt it in the same way you can feel a physical sensation. Later, I had other proof. I would not want to be without it today for anything in the world. From then on, I have worn it all the time.

The reason I agreed to tell my story is to allow people with emotional or money problems to learn of an effective, accessible means which has been proven throughout the centuries.

The role of the Ring of Re is to protect the person wearing it from any attack (evil neighborhood, at home, or at work), as well as from certain "subtle" waves that can be generated by various objects (statuettes, all sorts of medallions, etc.)—in short, from the environment in which you live every day. The Ring of Re effectively protects you from all harm that could come to you, without your even being aware of it. It is the No. 1 weapon to overcome bad luck or bewitchment.

Daniele Gilbert

**Here is what the Ring of Re has done for other people.**

**Thanks to the Ring of Re, THEY HAVE WON THE LOTTERY, FOUND LOVE, SUCCESS IN BUSINESS, EVERYTHING...**

...for the first time, I won \$1,667 in the lottery! And later, still other lucky things have happened to me...

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"...I couldn't believe my eyes when I read the results of the lottery. My ticket was worth \$835!"

M. Michel G.

"...my husband had left me three months earlier. The day after I received my ring, I received a letter from him in the mail. He asked me to forgive him and begged me to let him come back..."

Mrs. Carole B.

"...three times in a row I won betting! Incredible! I certainly have to believe that my Ring of Re really has mysterious powers..."

Mrs. Louise L.

"...for several years I had had rheumatism that caused me to suffer dreadfully. After wearing the Ring of Re for three days, the pains had nearly completely disappeared. I have noticed that they return as soon as I stop wearing the ring. This is proof..."

Mrs. Marie M.

"It seems incredible, but after wearing the Ring of Re, my luck has returned. I got five numbers plus the bonus one in the lottery, and won \$16,300."

Mrs. Jocelyne B.

"I won \$19,000 on Dec. 23."

Mrs. Françoise V.

"...For me, money and happiness came at the same time! I have found a man who wants to marry me. He is a very good man, distinguished, and—this won't hurt anything—he's a top executive in a company where he makes over \$8,000 per month. I never, ever could have hoped for so much..."

Miss Nicole G.

Will you agree to try the Ring of Re free for 30 days?

And with no obligation on your part?

You've read what the people who have the Ring of Re have said. Just as it did for me, merely wearing the Ring of Re produced wonderful changes in their lives.

Don't you also have problems you would like to see disappear, or a desire you would love to achieve?

Wear the Ring of Re for 30 days. I am sure that during those 30 days, it will produce a piece of luck for you that is worth at least 100 times the price of the ring.

Even if you are skeptical, you risk nothing by making this test: Because to prove to you that everything you have just read is true, you can try the Ring of Re free for 30 days before deciding if you want to buy it.

As proof of your sincerity and earnest willingness to wear the Ring of Re for 30 days with absolutely no risk whatsoever on your part, I would like to have your written request to participate in this test.

Please do not attempt to purchase the Ring of Re at this time. Merely write to

me for your special Coupon authorizing you to receive your Ring of Re and to verify within 30 days that a lucky incident will happen to you—all because you were fortunate enough to be able to wear the Ring of Re for 30 days free.

Of course, practically every person who reads this announcement will certainly want to wear the Ring of Re under these positively risk-free conditions. But I repeat, I must make sure that this amazing ring falls into the right hands. And that it is worn only by an individual who is truly sincere and truly needs what the Ring of Re has to offer.

Yes, you can participate in this free trial out of pure curiosity. Simply mail the Request Form on your right for your special free-trial coupon. Send it to Daniele Gilbert, 8 West 36th St., New York, NY 10018. Kindly enclose a dollar bill to help cover postage and handling.

The fact that you were attracted by this announcement and have read this far is perhaps a sign of destiny. Yes, this could be the chance you have been seeking for so long.

Just mailing the Request Form could be the start of a new, completely changed life...just as it has been for so many others just like you.

Remember, you are not being asked to purchase the Ring of Re. All I want is to give you the opportunity to wear it for 30 full days without risking one single penny. Today, with no obligation whatsoever, just return the Request Form. But do it now to be sure you don't forget it because this unusual offer may never be repeated. Don't let YOUR chance pass you by... Daniele Gilbert

#### ATTENTION

Please send in just one Request Form per family household. Since the Ring of Re is in short supply, kindly reply today.

#### GUARANTEE

You are not buying the Ring of Re...but you will be given the opportunity to try it for a full 30 days free.

The Ring of Re will be shipped to you immediately upon receipt of your special Free-Trial Coupon.

You will then have all the time (one whole month) to try it and prove to yourself that during those 30 days that a most rewarding lucky incident will happen to you.

Please do not attempt to purchase the Ring of Re at this time. Just return the Request Form at once so that your special Free-Trial Coupon can be rushed to you.

Your participation involves absolutely no obligation to purchase anything. But you could receive as much luck as me and the other fortunate wearers of the legendary Ring of Re from ancient Egypt.

#### IMPORTANT

Since this is a limited free trial opportunity, I can only guarantee to those who send in their Request Form within 10 days. After that, requests will be filled until the available supply of rings is exhausted.

#### FREE GIFT

If you send in the Request Form below within 5 days, you will also receive a voucher for an astonishing surprise gift.

Don't let this chance pass you by. The Ring of Re is not sold in stores. You can request it only by mailing the Request Form below.

IF YOU SINCERELY NEED AN AMAZING WAY TO SOLVE YOUR PROBLEMS, BE SURE TO CLIP AND MAIL THIS FORM RIGHT NOW!

Daniele Gilbert  
8 West 36th Street, New York, NY 10018

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New York, NY 10018

I would like to try, free of charge, the Ring of Re for 30 days. I understand that I am not purchasing the Ring of Re at this time.

Please rush my special Free-Trial Coupon which will authorize my receipt of my personal Ring of Re to wear for 30 full days entirely free of any risk to me whatsoever.

Under this guarantee, I enclose a dollar bill to help cover postage and handling.

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*continued from page 23*

various poltergeist-like phenomena allegedly occurred. Steve Jones, in his excellent listing entitled "Haunted Skulls of England," (*Earth* #14, June, 1989) states that one of the skulls is in fact female, and that both skulls are probably prehistoric. Jones also notes that Turton Tower has at least five different ghosts lurking about the place, including a haunted cradle and a phantom coach and horses. FATE readers visiting the Lancashire area may well want to tour this seemingly spook-ridden spot, which is open to the public.

The haunted skull residing in Burton Agnes Hall, in Humber-side, is that of the ill-fated Anne Griffith. Her father, Sir Henry Griffith, who began building the Hall in the 1600s, died before the work was finished. His three daughters, spearheaded by Anne, continued the project that their father held so dear. Soon after the construction was completed, Anne was attacked by robbers and critically injured. She was brought to Burton Agnes Hall, where she succumbed to her injuries several days later. Before dying, Anne Griffith requested that her skull be kept at Burton Agnes Hall for posterity to preserve the house.

Anne's wish was not carried out, however, and soon strange things began to happen in the

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Hall. There were bizarre groaning sounds, doors slammed without reason, and there was inexplicable breakage. When her sisters finally gave in and had her coffin opened, they discovered that her skull had no flesh on it, even though the rest of her body was essentially intact. To the best of my knowledge, the skull is still there today, protecting the old Hall as Anne so fervently desired.

In several months I will be in the UK visiting mystery spots and investigating strange phenomena including Morgawr (the sea serpent of Cornwall); Loch Ness's Nessie; Merlinian locations in Wales and Scotland; and the British Museum Crystal Skull in London. I will also be following up on several of the cases in this month's column and reports resulting from these investigations will appear in future "Our Strange World" columns.

Consulting editor Mark Chorvinsky (PO Box 2246, Rockville, MD 20847 edits *Strange Magazine* (\$14.95/4 issue subscription) and *Strange Annual #1: Monsters & Mystery Animals* (\$5.95), and researches and investigates a wide variety of strange phenomena.





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# ON THE PSYCHIC FRONTIER

By D. Scott Rogo

## SPONTANEOUS CONTACT

The existence of spontaneous "post-mortem contact" experiences is conspicuous in the study of bereavement. People suffering significant personal losses often experience the "return" of the deceased spouse or relative. The conventional explanation for this phenomenon is that they are psychological episodes in which the grieving person tries to reunite with the deceased.

Some bereavement counselors don't share that explanation with their colleagues, and think that these experiences could represent genuine contacts with the dead. Carol Staudacher writes in her excellent book *Beyond Grief—a guide for recovering from the death of a loved one* (Oakland, CA: New Harbinger, 1987) that "some researchers think the presence is the product of sensory recall; others consider the vision to be the actual visit of the person's spirit.

The explanation of *why* these experiences occur is less important than the fact that they are very real to the people who experience them."

Ms. Staudacher—a grief counselor in Santa Cruz, California—cites a case where a client saw the ghost of her deceased husband. Her mother simultaneously saw the figure. The mother's description of the ghost's apparel matched the description given by the daughter!



D. Scott Rogo

J. William Worden agrees. In *Grief Counseling and Grief Therapy* (New York, Springer 1986), Dr. Worden places bereavement hallucinations under the cognitive side effects of grief—which include disbelief, preoccupation with the deceased, psychological confusion and so forth. But he does say that "with all the recent interest in mysticism and spirituality, it is interesting to speculate on whether these are really hallucinations or



possibly some other kind of metaphysical phenomenon."

### WIDOWS SEE GHOSTS

In *Omega—the journal of death and dying*, Sherry Simon-Buller, Dr. Victor A. Christopherson and Dr. Randall A. Jones report on a project at the University of Arizona, Tucson. The title of the paper is "Correlates of sensing the presence of a deceased spouse."

The researchers wanted to determine if widows who received post-mortem "visitations" from their late husbands differed psychologically from other bereaved women. In order to implement their study, they contacted 294 widows by mail. Each participant was asked simply, "Do you ever sense the presence of your deceased spouse?" Each respondent then filled out a form which covered her health status, financial situation, support network, mental health, drinking behavior and several other possible variables. It is difficult to determine the specific percentage of widows who reported post-mortem contact, but it seems to be over 50 per cent. The focus of the paper is on the differences between the "experiencers" and the other widows. These differences break down into five categories:

1. Widows of more liberal reli-

gious orientations were more prone to experience their spouses' postmortem returns.

2. Those who received visitations from their late partners reported being more "worried" than the non-experiencers.

3. The "experiencers" reported more support and contact with neighbors.

4. The more financially secure widows were more prone to the contacts.

5. Those receiving spousal returns claimed having more problems dealing with their bereavements than the non-experiencers.

The fact that the recipients of the post-mortem contacts reported significant problems dealing with their grief could indicate that these experiences were simply hallucinations. Perhaps these bereaved widows "created" such visitations to rescue them from their despair.

I'm sure that most psychologists and psychiatrists will favor this explanation, but I don't think that it is the only interpretation of these findings. If survival is a fact, isn't it possible that a bereaved person's distress could "call back" a person from death's infinite boundary? (Spiritualists believe that the recently deceased are particularly sensitive to the thoughts of the living. Some spirits, communicating through a

medium, speak of being prevented from evolving in the spirit world by the grief of their surviving relatives.)

There are other problems in this report. The reader gets no insight into the phenomenology of post-mortem contacts. No case studies or examples are given. Did most of the reporters simply "feel" the invisible presence of the deceased, or did they see, talk to or otherwise interact with the presences? The University of Arizona researchers failed to discriminate between those people who *could* be suffering easily explainable hallucinations from respondents possibly reporting genuine psychic experiences. This is a possibility the researchers never considered at all.

### ONE HUNDRED CASES

A better study was published in the subsequent edition of *Omega*. Written by Dr. Erlendur Haraldsson of Iceland, "Survey of claimed encounters with the dead" is the result of a country-wide study of psychic experiences. Dr. Haraldsson and two senior psychology students at the University of Iceland interviewed 127 people (originally contacted by mail), yielding 100 usable cases.

The largest number (46 per cent) of cases in the study were visual sightings of the dead.

Perceiving the voice of the deceased ranked second (24 per cent), followed by people who reported olfactory perceptions linked to the deceased person, tactile sensations or merely feeling the "presence" of a dead friend or relative.

The study's most interesting finding is that these perceptions/experiences did not seem linked to grief. Dr Haraldsson reports that only a relatively few participants in his study were working through bereavement when their encounters took place.

Also conspicuous in the report was the mode of the deceased person's death. Nearly one fourth of them died violently through suicide, murder or physical mishap. These findings conform to a fairly consistent pattern: that the planning of the encounter was orchestrated by the *deceased* person and not by the living witness.

This becomes more apparent the closer we look into the cases. Dr. Haraldsson reports that in 43 of the cases a second person was present when the encounter took place. In a third of these cases, the second person shared in the experience. In some reports, the living person saw or interacted with a friend or relative who had only recently died—a fact which was *unknown* to the witness when the visitation took place.

Dr. Haraldsson closed his paper by briefly discussing the relationship of his findings to the study of bereavement hallucinations. "Recent research has indicated that grief, ethnicity and sex can be contributing factors in the occurrence of these experiences. Our survey shows that grief explains personal encounters with the deceased only to a small

extent in the normal population. These experiences can apparently occur to a considerable portion of the normal population and under a variety of conditions...these findings, weak as they are, may permit us to ask if some, or any, of these experiences may possibly be something more than 'just hallucinations'."



## CHIRON—THE TENTH PLANET

By Michael R. Watson

A new planet was discovered in 1977 and is little known to this day.

Considered at the time of its discovery to be a minor planet or asteroid, and reported in the non-scientific press as a new planet, Chiron, which is usually orbiting between Uranus and Saturn, has been puzzling astronomers lately.

Since early in 1988 Chiron has been getting brighter. It is now at least two and a half times brighter than expected, even allowing for the fact that its orbit is bringing it nearer to the Earth.

Some astronomers are now suggesting that Chiron is not an asteroid at all, but a comet, and that its brightening is like that of a comet approaching the Sun. Unfortunately for this explanation, no cloud of gas and dust, known as the *coma*, can be seen around Chiron. Such a cloud is expected of most comets, particularly those undergoing marked brightening, as Chiron has. Spectroscopes

have been trained on Chiron, but they have revealed none of the gases that comets normally release.

A rare opportunity to judge Chiron's size—which is not accurately known, and is given as anywhere from 120 to several hundred miles in diameter—occurred in February 1989 when Chiron passed in front of a dim star in the constellation of Orion. By measuring the length of time the star was obscured by Chiron, and calculating for its velocity through space and its distance from Earth, a meaningful diameter can be determined, within a certain range of miles. Astronomers are now awaiting the announcement of the results of these measurements.

Whatever Chiron finally proves to be, perhaps even something strange and new, it seems clear that it can no longer be thought of as a dead and dull rock.



# BEYOND THE KNOWN

By John Keel



## INTO THE VOID

You are walking to the corner grocery store on a beautiful spring evening. The sky is clear and the weather is perfect. Suddenly a strange fog begins to form ahead of you. It just doesn't look right. It seems almost alive as it moves toward you. It swirls around you and you feel a faint tingling sensation. The fog thickens and blinds you. You can no longer see the familiar surroundings. For a moment you stand completely enshrouded, overcome with fear and nearly suffocating in the dense mist.

Then, just as suddenly, the fog begins to dissipate. You are able to see again. But something is wrong.

*Something is very wrong indeed!*

Everything has changed. You are no longer standing on a familiar street. You are in a clear-

ing in something that looks like a jungle. Strange bird calls and animal sounds vibrate through the trees. Your mind is unclear and your memory seems garbled. You don't know who you are or where you are. Later you will discover that you are 2,000 miles from home. You have somehow traversed time and space. In a

split second you have gone partway around the world and it may take you many months, even years, to find your way back.

Such nightmares are not science fiction fantasies. They happen several times a year to ordinary people like yourself. A man is mowing the lawn in his backyard. His wife hears the mower suddenly stop. She looks outside and sees that the mower is there but her husband isn't. She will never see him again.

A waitress leaves a restaurant to put a coin in a parking meter. She never comes back.



John Keel

A small, single-engine plane flies into a tiny cloud above an airport and, in front of many witnesses, never reappears.

One celebrated report of this type tells how 800 soldiers in World War I marched into a low-hanging cloud on a battlefield. They all vanished forever!

### **WHERE IS EVERYBODY GOING?**

Human beings, animals and all kinds of objects have been traveling through time and space involuntarily since the beginning of time. The extensive records of religion, occultism and psychic phenomena are filled with such accounts. You don't have to visit the Bermuda Triangle in the Atlantic or the notorious Devil's Sea off the coast of Japan to be caught up in one of these "vile vortices," as the late Ivan Sanderson dubbed them.

Drivers have reported seeing other cars vanish on busy highways. Other drivers have claimed that they traveled impossible distances in a very short time. The UFO lore is loaded with tales of people and automobiles finding some shortcut in our three-dimensional world. As Charles Fort pointed out in the 1920s, teleportation is an actual fact of nature.

It is not a rare occurrence.

It happens all the time.

There was once a private museum in California that displayed nothing but objects that had supposedly been teleported.

The key issue stemming from these events is simple enough: What makes these things happen?

### **HOT ROCKS FROM COLD SKIES**

Every year somewhere on this planet stones begin to drop from the sky. They usually pelt some random house, pounding down on the roof continuously for several days. Local police and newspaper reporters invariably gather to witness this curiosity and create ridiculous theories to explain it. The people who live in the troubled house often move away.

The stones, usually pebbles and small rocks, come out of a clear sky, often seeming to move in slow motion. They are frequently warm, even hot to the touch. Police officials try to blame "teenagers," and they search the area for mischievous youngsters who, they think, are hiding in the bushes, heating stones over some kind of fire, and shooting them at the house with slingshots. Instead of tiring quickly of the game, as teenagers are wont to do, the police theorize that the kids keep up the silly barrage all day and all night for several days—in some cases,

several weeks.

Collectors of "Fortean" know that cases of these rainstorms of rocks have taken place on every continent. This year it could happen in a village in Africa or a town in South America. There are even documented cases in which the stones have chosen to pound away at tents on the Sahara Desert. The police reaction is always the same—it must be those darned teenagers.

I once visited a house in Calcutta, India, where the stones were dropping from the ceiling *inside* the house. The owner had to take a shovel and shovel out his living room every morning! The stones seemed to materialize suddenly an inch or two below the ceiling and then drop slowly. If you placed a plate under the dropping stone, the rock would somehow curve and miss the plate. Some parapsychologists view this as a form of poltergeist phenomena and it is often discussed in books about poltergeists.

We don't know where the disappearing people go, and we certainly don't know where the appearing rocks come from. Is there a gravel pit in some hypothetical alternate dimension where all the gravel is slowly filtering through some aberrant black hole and raining down on us?

### IT'S NOT LIKE "THE FLY"

There are very few clues in these teleportation cases which might lead us to a solution. We do know that teleported objects are transferred instantly, probably outside our own time frame. Science fiction stories like "The Fly" try to explain teleportation as a kind of radio process. They speculate that the person or object is broken down atomically into energy. This energy is then radioed to a distant point where it is reconstructed into physical matter.

But the innumerable cases that occur in nature every year make such theories unlikely. The whole object or being is transferred instantly. There seems to be a warp of time and space involved.

It may be connected with the earth's magnetic field. The mysterious fog that accompanies so many of these manifestations is clearly a by-product of the force or forces involved. The fog may indicate that there is a sudden drop of temperature in the area of the teleportation. This temperature drop may be the natural effect of a mass of magnetic or electrical energy that is creating a "hole" in our reality or dimension. The warming of the stones is a reversal of this effect.

Another clue is the fact that teleportation incidents seem to

increase during periods of high sun spot activity. We know that sun spots interfere with the earth's magnetic field and stimulate unusual events such as UFO sightings, so it is possible that teleportation is also a part of the same matrix.

When you realize how widespread the teleportation phenomenon is, it is remarkable that so few people are really involved in investigating it. Certainly the number of people chasing sea

serpents and other intangibles far outweighs the handful who are studying teleportation. But there are a few, including the Temporal Anomaly Research Association, P.O. Box 20173R, Keizer, Oregon 97307-0173.

We should all take a greater interest. After all, you never know when a mysterious fog might gather on your front lawn and you will feel a strange, tingling sensation...




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## NEXT STOP—THE PAST!

By John Ellis Sech

Kip S. Thorne and Ulvi Yurtsever of Cal Tech and Michael S. Morris of the University of Wisconsin believe that time travel is possible according to two of Einstein's theories. They wrote in *Physical Review Letters*, "if the laws of physics permit an advanced civilization to create and maintain a 'wormhole' in space for interstellar travel, then that wormhole can be converted into a time machine."

The first of Einstein's principles incorporated into the time travel theory is that time is relative. This was verified when scientists took two accurate clocks, synchronized them, and put one on a jet and flew it at high speed for several hours. When compared, the clock that had been on the jet was slower than the one that had stayed on the ground.

The second principle is the

warping of space by gravity. An example of this is that of a worm on the surface of an apple. If the worm uses a hole and goes through the apple, the distance to the far side would be less than if it had traveled around the circumference. Likewise, if a space traveler could go through a place in space which gravity has warped into a "wormhole," the distance to the destination would be greatly shortened.

The new theory states it would be possible to turn such a wormhole into a time machine by accelerating one end of the wormhole to a speed nearly that of the speed of light while keeping the other end stationary. By entering the stationary end it is believed that on coming out of the other end, a person would have traveled backwards in time.





## Reporter

By Jerome Clark

### SPYING ON THE KOOKS Part Three

As described in my last column, the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, including agent Sgt. Richard Doty, gave disinformation to Paul Bennewitz in an effort to discredit him. Bennewitz had a nervous breakdown. Ufologist William L. Moore, who was close to Doty and other AFOSI agents involved in the operation, cooperated in this effort to prove his trustworthiness to the agents, who were telling him a toned-down version of the government-ET interaction given to Bennewitz.

Meanwhile, according to a report Moore made to the Mutual UFO Network in 1989, Doty was involved in similar matters. He sent a phony letter to the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, Moore said, to recruit someone who could provide AFOSI with information APRO was receiving. For two years, until she was fired, an

APRO secretary leaked confidential reports to Doty.

### THE NEXT VICTIM

In the fall of 1982, Linda Moulton Howe, a Denver television producer who was best known for her program on the alleged link between UFOs and cattle mutilations, was asked by Home Box Office to do a special to be titled UFOs—The ET Factor. Howe knew of Paul Bennewitz's claims, though she did not know that he was on the receiving end of a counter-intelligence operation by AFOSI at Kirtland Air Force Base. Howe, in fact, was inclined to accept



Jerome Clark

Bennewitz's lurid ideas about cattle- and human-mutilating ETs and the U.S. government's complicity in these activities (according to Bennewitz, such activities were permitted in exchange for extraterrestrial technological secrets).

In January 1983, Peter Gersten, a New York attorney active in



legal suits intended to pry classified UFO material from government agencies, met Richard Doty who told him that UFOs are from other planets, that three of them had crashed, and that the National Security Agency is in contact with extraterrestrials, under the rubric of Project Aquarius. Top-secret documents attest to an agreement in which ETs are permitted to mutilate animals and to land at a certain base. Doty said that popular entertainment is being used as a vehicle to prepare the American public for an eventual announcement that ETs are visiting the Earth.

When Howe visited New York in March 1983 to sign the HBO contract, she had dinner with Gersten, who repeated what he had heard from Doty. He said he would ask Doty if Howe could interview him. In early April she met with Doty in Albuquerque.

Doty handed Howe a document titled "A Briefing Paper for the President of the United States on the Subject of Unidentified Flying Vehicles" that listed dates and locations of crashes and retrievals of UFOs and their humanoid occupants. Included was a crash at Aztec, New Mexico, in 1948—a story well known to ufologists and believed to be a certain hoax. The document asserted that such beings, travelers from a nearby solar sys-

tem, had used their genetic knowledge to direct the course of human evolution. On several occasions live aliens (called "extraterrestrial biological entities," or EBEs) had been kept in the custody of government agencies. A number of projects, including Aquarius, Sigma and Garnet, as well as a policy-making group called "Majority-12," dealt with various aspects of the visitation.

Howe was to be given thousands of feet of film on crashed discs, bodies, etc. "We want you to do this film," Doty told her, "we" being a group of cover-up insiders who wanted the truth to be told to the American people.

Over the course of a number of phone conversations in the weeks that followed, Howe was even promised an interview with an alien. Then Doty, after making other promises he did not fulfill, announced he was officially out of the project. Others would be in touch with her, he said. She did receive some phone calls from other individuals allegedly representing government agencies, but she was never able to contact them. In time those calls stopped, too. Howe lost her contract with HBO.

#### DENIALS BY DOTY

In March 1988, in a letter to ufologist Larry W. Bryant, Doty denied that he had ever dis-

cussed UFO secrets and made promises about film footage to Howe. Howe responded by producing a sworn statement and copies of her correspondence from the period with both Doty and HBO. In 1989, Moore said that "in early 1983 I became aware that Rick [Doty] was involved with a team of several others...in playing an elaborate disinformation scheme against a prominent UFO researcher [Howe]." The episode was a counterintelligence sting operation, part of the "wall of disinformation" intended to "confuse" the Bennewitz issue and to "call his credibility into question."

Knowing of Howe's interest in Bennewitz's work, Moore said, "certain elements within the intelligence community were concerned that the story of his having intercepted low frequency electromagnetic emissions from the Coyote Canyon area of the Kirtland/Sandia complex would end up as part of a feature film. Since this in turn might influence others (possibly even the Russians) to attempt similar experiments, someone in a control position apparently felt it had to be stopped before it got out of hand." From what he could see, Moore related, "the government seemed hell bent on severing the ties that existed between [Howe] and [HBO]."

Doty was not telling the truth when he disputed Howe's version of their meeting. Bound by a security oath, Doty could not speak freely. Moore said that the alleged Aztec crash was something Doty had added to the document Howe saw after Moore had described to him his investigation of the hoax.

### MJ-12

In December 1984, Moore's associate Jaime Shandera received a roll of 35mm film which, turned out to contain a purported briefing paper prepared by the first head of the CIA for President-elect Eisenhower. The paper claimed that an "Operation Majestic-12," consisting of a dozen top scientists, military officers and intelligence specialists, had been set up by Presidential order to study the remains of a UFO which crashed in New Mexico and the bodies of its four humanoid occupants.

Moore and Shandera's sources (they called them "birds" because they had given each an avian name: Condor, Falcon, Hawk etc.) directed them to go to the National Archives, where they found, in recently-declassified top-secret Air Force Intelligence files, a brief memo that refers to a meeting of the "MJ-12/SSP [Special Studies Project]." Although it does not say what

"MJ-12" is, it seems to confirm that a group by that name does exist. Still, its authenticity would be called into question when it was released.

The controversy over the MJ-12 document and the Cutler/Twining memo has raged ever since. By 1990, grave doubts had been raised about the authenticity of the former. Critics have found that President Truman's signature on an alleged executive order bringing MJ-12 into being is exactly like that on another letter. Apparently a forger appended a real signature to a fake letter. It appears the MJ-12 document is just another addition to the disinformation paper flow.

#### UFO COVER-UP

In October 1988, two of Moore and Shandera's sources, "Falcon" and "Condor," appeared on a national television show titled UFO Cover-up?—Live. They produced no supporting evidence and made two assertions that viewers found hilarious: that the EBEs prefer ancient Tibetan music and that they have a taste for strawberry ice cream. In his 1989 Las Vegas speech, Moore conceded that at least some of what Falcon and Condor said was "disinformation."

WAS THE "FALCON"

RICHARD C. DOTY?

On March 1, 1989, an Albuquerque ufologist, Robert Hastings, issued a 13-page statement, with 37 pages of appended documents, full of serious charges against Moore and his sources:

"First, it has been established that 'Falcon,' one of the principle [sic] sources of the MJ-12 material, is Richard C. Doty...How do I

...the EBEs prefer ancient Tibetan music and...they have a taste for strawberry ice cream.

know that Doty is 'Falcon?' During a recent telephone conversation, Linda Moulton Howe told me that when Sgt. Doty invited her to his office at Kirtland AFB in early April 1983, and showed her a purportedly authentic U.S. Government document on UFOs, he identified himself as code-name 'Falcon' and stated it was Bill Moore who had given him that name.

"Also, in early December 1988, a ranking member of the production team responsible for the 'UFO Cover-up?—Live' television documentary confirmed that Doty is 'Falcon.' The same indi-

vidual also identified the second MJ-12 source who appeared on the program, 'Condor,' as Robert Collins who was, until recently, a Captain in the U.S. Air Force. Like Doty, he was stationed at KAFB when he left the service late last year."

Hastings' revelations, made before Moore's speech the following July, anticipated some of Moore's admissions, such as that Doty was involved with the manufacture of the Weitzel and Ellsworth documents. Hastings also noted major discrepancies between the "Majority-12" paper Howe saw and the "Majestic-12" briefing document. For instance, the former mentioned the alleged Aztec crash; the second said nothing about it. Hastings wrote, "[I]f the briefing paper that Sgt. Doty showed to Linda Howe was genuine, what does that say about the accuracy (and authenticity) of the Eisenhower document? If, on the other hand, the former was bogus and was meant to mislead Howe for some reason, what does that say about Richard 'Falcon' Doty's reliability as a source for MJ-12 material as a whole?" Hastings also criticized some of Moore's actions.

Moore and Doty emphatically denied that the latter was Falcon. Howe stood by her story.

#### AND THE SOURCE FOR BIZARRE UFO CLAIMS IS...

Even wilder stories began to be told at the fringes of ufology. John Lear, Bill Cooper, Bill English and John Grace ("Val Valarian") elaborated on the already large body of flying-saucer folklore and disinformation by linking them with wild conspiracy theories favored by the political far right.

As Moore himself acknowledges, all this began as an effort to disinform a single deluded man who stumbled on to a sensitive secret at Kirtland Air Force Base (which may or may not have had anything to do with UFOs). It ended in the virtual sabotage of much of the ufology of the 1980s.

Moore remains convinced that there is at least a small amount of truth in the stories he has been told. Although hundreds of questions remain, nobody in a position to know seems willing to answer in a way that would assure us we are hearing the truth. Doty refuses to talk with any ufologist but Moore. Robert Collins, with whom I have spoken on a number of occasions, denies he is Condor, but he certainly talks like Condor—that is, like a man whose stories are as fascinating as his evidence is nonexistent.

# MERLIN THE PROPHET

By Mark Chorvinsky



**M**erlin: poet, druid, king, teacher, wizard, counselor—his name evokes many images and his story holds a fascination that has, if anything, grown during the 14 centuries that have passed since his death.

Of all of the manifold talents said to have been possessed by this remarkable man, Merlin's prophetic ability stands out. Merlin had excellent success as a prophet and there is evidence that he may have acted in this capacity

for four or more Kings and Princes of Britain. As a boy he prophesied for Vortigern, then Ambrosius Aurelianus and Uther Pendragon. He may have been Arthur's prophet, but there is actually little strong corroborating evidence to this effect. Rhydderch Hael of Strathclyde and possibly Prince Meldred, Rhydderch's enemy, also had occasion to avail themselves of Merlin's services as a prophet.

Hundreds of years later, some critics would complain that most of his prophecies were too ambiguous to have much meaning, but Merlin's first known predictions were very straightforward.

As a boy, Merlin told King Vortigern that "tomorrow, Emrys (Ambrosius) and Uthyr, the sons of Constantine, will land at Totness—will, with one mind, persecute thee—for they will come with twelve thousand warriors and recover their rights from the Saxons—make the cheeks of the Saxons red with Saxon blood."<sup>1</sup>

History records that Vortigern left the area quickly. History also tells us that Uthyr (Uther) and Emrys (Ambrosius) did indeed land at Totness and defeat the Saxons. Each became king of Britain and were destined to be inextricably linked with Merlin.

### A SEER RENOWNED

In his "The Prophecy of Britain," ("Arymes Prydein Vawr") the early British poet Golyddan alludes to Merlin's prediction that the Britons would recover their country again. With its 7th-8th century dating, this prophetic work establishes Merlin's fame as a seer centuries before Geoffrey of Monmouth supposedly "created" him, as claimed by the Merlin debunkers.

It was, in fact, Merlin's great fame as a prophet that caused Geoffrey to include Merlin's prophecies in his seminal work c. 1136 *The History of the Kings of Britain* (*Historia Regum Britanniae*). Geoffrey said that he had started writing *The History of the Kings of Britain* when "the prevalence of rumours about Merlin" led Alexander, Bishop of Lincoln, to whom the *Historia* is dedicated, to ask Geoffrey to translate Merlin's British prophecies into Latin. This is further evidence that the Merlin debunkers like A. O. H. Jarman are wrong about their contention that Geoffrey "created" Merlin out of a combination of whole cloth and scraps of lore.<sup>2</sup>

The seventh book of the *History of the Kings of Britain* contains the "Prophecies of Merlin" comprising well over 100 separate prophecies, many reminiscent in tone to those attributed to

Nostradamus. In Geoffrey's c. 1148 work, *Life of Merlin (Vita Merlini)*, Merlin makes another hundred prophecies, and when Merlin's prophecies are referred to in works of British history and lore, it is this body of prophecy that is most often used as a source.

Additional prophetic insights attributed to Merlin appear in the ancient British poems and oral history. Many of the 12th-century Celtic bards made references to Merlin as a prophet, such as in the following representative verse by Welsh Bard Llywarch Ab Llywelyn (1160 to 1220):

Merdhin [Merlin] prophesied  
That a king would come  
From the Cymry nation,  
Out of the oppressed.  
Druids declared,  
That liberality shall be renewed  
From the progeny of the eagles  
of Snowdon.<sup>3</sup>

### MERLIN'S APPROACH TO PROPHECY

There is an interesting dialogue in Geoffrey's *History of the Kings of Britain* concerning Merlin's attitude toward prophecy. Merlin had a policy against on-the-spot, stunt-like impromptu requests for fortune telling. British king Ambrosius Aurelianus bade Merlin to foretell the future, "for he wanted to hear some marvels from him," and Merlin answered: "Mysteries of that sort can-

not be revealed except where there is the most urgent need for them. If I were to utter them as an entertainment, or where there was no need at all, then the spirit which controls me would forsake me in the moment of need."<sup>4</sup>

### PROPHETIC TECHNIQUES

Merlin uses several prophetic techniques. When Vortigern asks Merlin to explain the battle of the Dragons described in Nennius' *The History of Britain (Historia Brittonum, c. 800)* and Geoffrey's *The History of the Kings of Britain*, Merlin immediately bursts into tears, draws "the breath of prophecy" and goes into a prophetic trance.<sup>5</sup> This is reminiscent of the techniques of some mediums. Summoned by Uther Pendragon, Arthur's father, to explain the significance of a brilliant, anomalous star that appeared several times, Merlin again bursts into tears, takes a deep breath, and prophesies aloud.<sup>6</sup>

Merlin also practices divination through celestial signs, most likely using a Druidic form of astrology. In both *The History of the Kings of Britain* and the *Life of Merlin*, he makes predictions based on comets, planets and stars.

### PROPHECIES FULFILLED

Many of Merlin's prophecies have "come true." According to

Geoffrey, Uther Pendragon "had been given this title because it was by means of a Dragon that Merlin had prophesied that he would become king." Uther had two dragons fabricated from gold and gave one as a present to the congregation of the church in Winchester. The second dragon was used as a standard in battles and became his symbol. Geoffrey tells us that from that point on he was known as Uther Pendragon, which means "a dragon's head."

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**Joan of Arc was strongly influenced by a prophecy attributed to Merlin...[which] predicted that the kingdom would be saved by a young, chaste maiden.**

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Merlin also foresaw the crowning of Arthur, the "Boar of Cornwall" and, in the *Life of Merlin*, is said to have correctly predicted the death of Rhydderch Hael, king of the Strathclyde Britons.

There are a good number of other prophecies in the *Life of Merlin* that were fulfilled, including Merlin's prediction that "The

city of Dumbarton shall be destroyed."<sup>8</sup> Dumbarton was destroyed by the Picts in 736. John Jay Parry, in his notes on the *Life of Merlin*, lists over a dozen examples of successful Merlinian prophecies found therein.<sup>9</sup>

The mid-12th century Welsh *Chronicle of the Princes of Wales* (*Brut Y Tywysogion*) includes an account of the fulfillment of one of Merlin's better-known prophecies. Merlin's Welsh name, Myrddin, is used:

Year 681 ...And in that year Cadwalader the Blessed, son of Cadwallon, son of Cadvan, king of the Britons, died at Rome, on the twelfth day of May; as Myrddin had previously prophesied to Vortigern of Repulsive Lips; and thenceforth the Britons lost the crown of the kingdom, and the saxons

gained it.<sup>10</sup>

The *Chronicle of the Princes of Wales* includes one other mention of Merlin, in this case in reference to a very specific double prediction that proved true centuries after it was made:

Year 1279. The ensuing year, Edward ordered the coining of new money; and that the half-pennies and farthings should be made round. And thus was



fulfilled the prophecy of Myrddin, when he says, "The symbol of the exchange shall be split, and the half shall be round."<sup>11</sup>

The first stanza of *The Black Book of Carmarthen* (c 1200) text of Merlin's poem "Apple Trees" ("Afallenau") states that there will be a "Wednesday of blood in the valley of the Machafwy in Elfael, when the English will be victorious."<sup>12</sup> Welsh scholar A. O. H. Jarman writes that "there can be no doubt that the first prediction refers to the disastrous defeat suffered by the Welsh at the hands of the English at the battle of Machafwy on August the 12th, 1198, which fell on a Wednesday."<sup>13</sup>

### MERLIN INFLUENCES JOAN OF ARC

One of Merlin's prophecies may have had far-reaching historical effects. According to Lammartine, Joan of Arc was strongly influenced by a prophecy attributed to Merlin. This prophecy predicted that the kingdom would be saved by a young, chaste maiden.<sup>14</sup>

As Merlin's prophecies came true, his fame as a prophet spread. In his account of the great plague in London in 1665, Defoe writes that fortune tellers and prophets were plentiful and

that "they displayed the head of Merlin as a sign."<sup>15</sup> In other words, Merlin became the symbol of successful prophecy so much so that his visage became the "logo" for prophets. In 1805, almost two centuries later, Edward Donovan wrote: "The invincible attachment of the Welsh to the prophecies of Merlin, to this day, is astonishing; there are thousands, even now who are firmly persuaded that, sooner or later, his prophecies must be accomplished."<sup>16</sup>

There are hundreds of Merlin's prophecies that have been thought to have come true, and there are some that have been passed down orally for centuries.

In Abergwili, originally Carreg Fyrddin (note the closeness of "Fyrddin" to "Myrddin," Welsh for Merlin) is Merlin's Stone. Merlin is said to have predicted that one day a raven would drink a man's blood off the stone. In 1876, a man searching for treasure underneath the stone was crushed when the stone fell on him.<sup>17</sup>

### MERLIN THE PROPHET VS. MERLIN THE MAN

One of the problems with the academic acceptance of Merlin as a historical personage is that historians' beliefs of what is or is not possible in their reality dictates

certain aspects of their view of history. The distinguishing factor separating history from legend in the minds of many historians, and folklorists as well, is the presence of the magical in legend. In rejecting what seems to be legend, historians and other academics largely reject out of hand all events or aspects of events involving

"magic." This is damaging to a fuller picture of history as it excludes the unusual and anomalous, subjects in which the vast majority of historians have little or no knowledge. The rationalistic view of the world is maintained by those who either know little of strange, magical and anomalous phenomena or reject such phenomena summarily. Their rationalism has become a part of their belief system and, with a crusading zeal, they guard the body of accepted knowledge from any strange intruders. Prophecy is one of these intruders.

Prophetic powers have no place in the rationalistic world-

view and therefore the fact that Merlin was a prophet, and that many if not most of his works were of an oracular nature, presents some interesting and telling problems. An argument by San-Marte, that the prophetic portions of Geoffrey of Monmouth's *Life of Merlin* contain allusions to events that had not yet occurred

in Geoffrey's day and thus could not have been written by him, demonstrates his inability to accept the possibility that prophecy exists." San-Marte rejects the simplest, most logical explanation: that Merlin's prophecies may have come true after Geoffrey's death.

In his discussion of the dating of the Merlin poetry in *The Black Book of Carmarthen*, A.

O. H. Jarman states that "the latest datable reference in these poems is to King John's expeditions against Gwynedd in 1211, which involved the seizure of Degannwy and the sacking of Bangor, and the subsequent revolt of the Welsh under Llewelyn in 1212. This is found in a



prophecy probably composed soon after the event, though attributed to Myrddin [Merlin]."<sup>19</sup> Jarman's dating of the Merlin poems is based on the notion that the most recently occurring event included in the prophecies must set the dating. Other scholars such as John Williams and Sharon Turner date the poems in the sixth century (the time of Merlin), but Jarman cannot do so, for it would mean admitting that Merlin was able to foresee historical events centuries before their occurrence.

#### PROPHECIES CONNECTED WITH MERLIN

There are a number of prophecies that are connected with Merlin. One concerns Merlin's grave and is attributed to Thomas the Rhymer:

When Tweed and Pausayl join  
at Merlin's grave  
Scotland and England shall one  
monarch have.<sup>20</sup>

This ancient prophecy came true dramatically when, on the day that James VI of Scotland was crowned James I of England, the river Tweed overflowed its banks and became united with the brook Pausayl at Merlin's Grave at Drummelzier.<sup>21</sup>

There is also a prophecy associated with his Oak tree:

When Merlin's Tree shall

tumble down

Then shall fall Carmarthen  
town.<sup>22</sup>

The tree was killed in the 19th century by a Puritan who wanted to end the local practice of holding romantic liaisons under the tree. After its death, the stump was well cared for out of respect for the ancient prophecy. At one point it was bedded in concrete.

In recent years the Carmarthenites removed the stump, which had become a traffic hazard, leaving only a piece of Merlin's Oak which is in a museum in Carmarthen.<sup>23</sup> Carmarthen has yet to fall, but the stump has not been gone for very long as these things go. Were I an inhabitant of Carmarthen, Merlin's hometown, I would not feel overly secure, for even if the prophecy of Merlin's Oak is not fulfilled, there are still the following ancient prophecies:

Llanllwch has been  
Carmarthen shall sink  
Abergwili shall stand.<sup>24</sup>

Merlin also predicted that Carmarthen would sink when a lake in Dyfed, Llyn Eiddwen, dries up. According to Chris Barber, author of *Mysterious Wales*, "there are still old folk in Carmarthen who believe that one day the town will sink."<sup>25</sup> It remains to be seen whether their beliefs are justified, but considering Merlin's reputation as a

prophet, it might not be a smart move to buy any real estate in Carmarthen.

### Notes—

1. Nennius, *The Historia Brittonum*, English version by Reverend W. Gunn, (ed.), John and Arthur Arch, 1819, p. xxxv.

2. Geoffrey of Monmouth, *The History of the Kings of Britain*, Lewis Thorpe transl., New York, Penguin, 1966, p. 170.

3. Turner, Sharon, *A Vindication of the Genuineness of the Ancient British Poems of Aneurin, Taliesin, Llywarch Hen, and Merdhin*, London, E. Williams, 1803, p. 64.

4. Geoffrey of Monmouth, op. cit., p. 196.

5. *Ibid.*, p. 171.

6. *Ibid.*, p. 201.

7. *Ibid.*, p. 202.

8. Geoffrey of Monmouth, *The Vita Merlini*, University of Illinois Studies in Language and Literature, vol. X, no. 3, Urbana, Illinois, 1925, p. 67.

9. Parry, John Jay, in his introductory notes to Geoffrey of Monmouth's *The Vita Merlini*, *Ibid.*, pp. 120-122.

10. Williams, John, ed., *Brut Y Tywysogion (The Chronicle of the Princes of Wales)*, London, Longman, Green, Longman, and Roberts, 1860, p. 3.

11. *Ibid.*, p. 371.

12. Lloyd, Sir John Edward, *A History of Wales*, vol. ii, London, Longman's, Green, and Co., 1911, pp. 586-7.

13. Jarman, A. O. H., "The Arthurian Allusions in the Black Book of Carmarthen," in *The Legend of Arthur in the Middle Ages*, Grout, Lodge, Pickford and Vanty, eds., Cambridge, D. S. Brewer, 1983, p. 104.

14. Lamartine, cited in William Edward Mead, "Outlines of the History of the Legend of Merlin," in *Merlin*, Henry B. Wheatley, ed., London, Early English Text Society, Kegan Paul, Trench, Trubner & Co., Ltd., 1899, p. CCLI.

15. *Ibid.*

16. Donovan, Edward, cited in Chris Barber, *Mysterious Wales*, London, Granada Publishing Limited, 1983, p. 139.

17. Grinsell, Leslie V., *Folklore of Prehistoric Sites in Britain*, London, David and Charles, 1976, p. 258. According to the Vicar of Newchurch, five horses chained to the stone were needed to replace it.

18. San-Marte (A. Schultz), *Die Sagan von Merlin*, Halle, 1853.

19. Jarman, op. cit., p. 103.

20. Lang, Andrew and John Lang, *Highways and Byways in the Border*, London, Macmillan and Co., Ltd., 1913, p. 353.

21. Lang points out that according to Dr. Pennecuik this phenomenon, the joining of the river Tweed and Powsayl burn (brook) near Merlin's Grave, was never observed to happen before or since that time.

22. Jarman, A. O. H., *The Legend of Merlin*, Cardiff, University of Wales Press, 1959, p. 28. Jarman writes that the belief that Merlin planted the oak tree is widely held. Others, evidently, believe that on May 19th, 1659 a schoolmaster planted the tree from an acorn.

23. Ashe, Geoffrey, *The Discovery of King Arthur*, New York, Anchor Press, 1985, p. 106A.

24. Barber, op. cit., p. 139.

25. *Ibid.*



Regular Columnist and FATE Consulting Editor Mark Chorvinsky (PO Box 2246, Rockville, MD 20852) researches and investigates a wide variety of strange phenomena and is the editor of *Strange Magazine*. He has been working on research for a book about Merlin for 11 years.



# THE



# AURA

# PARADIGM

Beginning in this issue, FATE will occasionally present new and controversial scientific theories.

Here, the author uses the theoretical model or *paradigm* of the aura to explain psychic phenomena, "free" energy and gravity.

Is he right? You be the judge.

Michael Baran

**S**ome observers believe that the controversial devices that claim to produce more energy than they consume may actually operate on *ambient free energy*—a form of energy existing all around us, the nature of which has been eluding our scientists. Most free energy researchers are

outside of mainstream science, which still denies the existence of such energy.

The controversial Joseph Newman is a Mississippi inventor who designed a mechanical engine which allegedly produces more energy than it uses. He has been trying for years to get a patent on

it without success (presumably because no logical theory exists to explain it). A similar claim regarding energy production/consumption was made more recently by a team of researchers in Utah and England, who explained their device by claiming they had achieved fusion of atomic nuclei at room temperature—"cold fusion"—which, if true, would open the way to tapping the nearly-limitless energy inside the atom. Their claim was later discounted by the scientific world.

I believe that non-fraudulent devices which claim to produce more energy than they use could operate by tapping into *ambient macrocosmic energy* (here at Earth's surface, "Earth energy"). Such machines would resonate, or "tune into," an energy that exists all around us, and draw in that energy.

The free-energy field today is as much of a free-for-all as it ever was. Researchers continue to come up with free-energy devices, "healing energy" crystals, and the like. Each researcher has his or her own theory for how they work, with no two theories agreeing. Joe Newman claims his device works via the action of energy-particles which he calls "gyrotrons." These have properties not known to science. A similar device, designed by a German

named Hans Nieper, supposedly uses gravitational forces. But there has been no wide-ranging, theoretical model (paradigm) able to address the important scientific questions *and* the anomalous energy phenomena. And, of course, there are no systematic experimental protocols for testing such a paradigm.

The lack of interest shown by most physicists toward these anomalous products may not be justified. Despite its many accomplishments in electronic/magnetic technology, physics still lacks a clear understanding of magnetism and gravitation, and physicists might be expected to have some interest in examining alternative avenues that may have a bearing on more common, recognized energy systems. Perhaps energy systems as they exist in Nature are fundamentally different in some way from the technological systems our scientists use and upon which they base their theories.

What about psychic and other paranormal phenomena, such as spontaneous human combustion? Do they involve the same "mystery energy" as free-energy devices? Orthodox science still doesn't admit the reality of paranormality—a posture that doesn't carry very well with the substantial number of people who believe they have experienced or witnessed unquestionable instances

of telepathic and other paranormal phenomena.

Telepathy is a common psychic theme. The clarity and definition of telepathic mental images over vast distances indicates that such transmissions must travel via a medium with virtually infinite features.

Another psychic theme is metal bending. I personally know of sessions in which novices are taught to psychically bend metal utensils.

#### THE "AURA" PARADIGM

An "aura" paradigm of energy would be very attractive for explaining these kinds of phenomena. According to this model, all solid objects—including humans and metallic objects—would have auric energy fields. The energy waves of two dissimilar objects, when resonating with each other (as when you "tune in" your radio to a specific radio station's frequency) react with each other.

Auric energy could be associated with or attached to the tiny particles comprising matter, so that auric energy would exist within as well as near solid bodies. An object like a spoon could be affected by auric energy trans-

missions resonating at the frequency of the spoon's aura and that come from another body—such as that of a human.

#### THE NATURE OF AURIC ENERGY

The fact that science has not delineated such an energy up to now suggests that auric energy, if it exists, would have to consist of energy transmissions of a different nature than the atomic particles and energy particles thus far characterized by physics—electrons, neutrons, and so on. The *medium* of auric energy transmis-

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**Many believe that the simplest model that explains all phenomena is the best one, making the auric model more compelling than those that postulate multiple forces and multiple dimensions...**

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sions would necessarily have to be of the same nature—a kind of super-fine ether composed of tiny particle-units. It would be a medium that theoretically could allow transmissions of a more-

dynamic and precise nature than the kinds of energy systems used by science. This theoretical medium would allow for phenomena with virtually infinite ranges and other features as described in the literature of psychic phenomena.

In the 1920s, when Einstein's theory of gravity was adopted by science, one of the major competing theories of gravity was that of a U.S. Navy scientist named T.J.J. See, who proposed that gravity arises from a wave-effect in a universal ether. See's model was endorsed by Edgar Cayce and Nikola Tesla. See pointed out that energy waves, such as light waves, become wider (their amplitude increases) the closer they are to a heavenly body like Earth. He proposed that gravity waves, magnetic waves, and all other waves must do so also. His model of gravity involved the concept of a "vacuum" created in the ether by the widening of "waves of force" near to a body like Earth. (See did not explain why waves widen close to a body.)

The aura model supplies the missing link in See's model. To understand how this would work, one first would have to see how this aura theory applies to magnetism on a planet like Earth and to planetary magnetic fields.

#### THE SECRET OF GRAVITY

In an aura model of energy,

the massive Earth has the controlling or "parent" aura. All smaller auras, like that of humans, metals, etc. acquire a variety of features (such as magnetism) as they resonate with Earth's surrounding energies (magnetic-type directionality is a pervasive theme in psychic phenomena, such as telepathy, metal bending, dowsing, etc). The aura model of energy must focus on Earth magnetism.

The aura model leads to a much simpler model of Earth magnetism than the currently accepted model. The latter is based on a complicated series of hypothetical radioactive and other processes in the central core, 2,000 miles down. In an aura model, Earth's three layers—core, surface crust, and intervening mantle—would each emit a vast auric energy field from its huge mass, and the three fields would resonate with each other to produce the planetary energy field. The magnetism of this field (Earth's magnetic field) results from the way these field resonations occur. Physicists call this *linear resonance*.

This vast auric energy, close to a heavenly body such as Earth, would include a large quantity of magnetized or auric energy particles. The ether in space would be relatively nonmagnetized when compared to the aura of a planet.



Therefore, the energy of the auric particles of the ether in space will be different from the energy of the particles when the ether approaches a body such as a planet.

See pointed out that if an ether exists, its elastic power must be enormous because it would have a stupendous number of minuscule particles. It would exert more force in space than close to a cosmic body, where the ether "thins out" and where wave transmissions "widen out."

The aura model contends that solid bodies' atoms are in a constant flux, continuously emitting and absorbing very fine auric energy-particles. Thus, close to a solid body, the ether particles would be modified (magnetized) by their interactions with the atoms and auric influences of the bodies. The ether would thin out. Etheric particles would combine into larger units like atoms, resulting in a smaller number of larger particles. In space, the ether would consist of a much larger number of smaller particles. The latter would be much more forceful, gravitationally.

### CONCLUSION

The kind of cosmic model one is finally led to by the aura/ether concept is one of a dense ether out in space exerting powerful gravitational force toward cosmic bodies, where the ether is

thinned out by resonating with the atoms of the bodies. This cosmic model is much simpler than the accepted model. Many believe that the simplest model which explains all phenomena is the best one, making the auric model more compelling than those that postulate multiple forces and multiple dimensions, and deny the existence of auric forces.

Newton's mathematical formula for the force of gravity—gravity being inversely proportional to the square of the distance between two objects—suggests that gravity is a single, simple force. Gravity, as mathematically described by Newton and Einstein, does not mix with the rest of particle/energy theory, so physicists have been postulating additional forces to make it fit. The true solution may lie elsewhere.

Only recently have we become aware of the energies contained within the planet. Gravity, the magnetic field, and the radioactivity in the earth all required that instruments be invented before they could be measured. The purpose of this article has been to present rationale for the existence of auric forces not yet perceived by science, and to suggest that we ought to think of our world as comprising not just objects but auras.



# WHEEL OF FORTUNE

By Paul Stelner

On the same day that Paul Eiding got word that ABC had cancelled his series, "The Charmings," he received news that his wife, Colleen, was expecting a baby.

Author Doris Lilly, who wrote about Greek tycoon Aristotle Onassis in her book, *Those Fabulous Greeks*, came down with the same disease from which Ari suffered—myasthenia gravis—which causes muscle weakness. Lily is also under the care of the same doctor who treated Mr. Onassis.

In the seaside city of Long Beach in New York, two false fire alarms were traced to the last person one would suspect—the fire chief.

Many religions have relics which are not voluntarily contributed. Such is not the case with a drum made of human skin used in Potala, Tibet. This is *not* a vestige of human sacrifice. Such relics are common there because the devout often will their bones to the priests. Even after their death they serve their religion.

A British rock star must take the story of Samson to heart. Tony Clarkin, the bearded lead guitarist of the group "Magnum," turned down a \$2.5 million endorsement offer from a leading British razor firm. "I just couldn't do it. It would be like taking away my musical prowess..."

Dave Criswell, a physicist associated with the California Space Institute, wants to make a permanent home for the Olympic games—in orbit. According to *Omni*, he explained that we could launch a succession of huge spherical rockets and connect them like pearls on a necklace.

This would make a basic orbital Olympic stadium. Criswell says this could be done by the year 2008.

And speaking of space, *Forum* quotes Dr. Robert Francoeur, professor of Human Sexuality at Fairleigh Dickinson University, as saying, "Copulating in space will be poetry in motion that far exceeds the fun and games of sex on Earth..."



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# QUIRKS OF FATE

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By Harold Helfer

Police officer Doug Newton of Holbrook, Arizona, made a routine check around midnight of a parked car. He saw a man, woman and baby inside and decided to investigate further. It turned out that the baby had just been abducted from a hospital in Prescott, Arizona, 150 miles away. Further, the baby, Doug Gerwitz, was the godson of the policeman for whom it had been named.

When Bethany Munsey was born in Cincinnati on July 11, 1988, she was only doing what was expected. Her mother, Lisa, age 29, was also born on July 11. As was her grandmother, Patricia Cann, 55 years earlier. As was her great-grandmother, Pearl Riley, 85 years earlier.

Gosselin Deleus, of Folkestone, England, lost his spectacles while cruising aboard a yacht. Later, he read in the paper that a Belgian fisherman had found a pair of glasses in the stomach of a 13-pound monkfish. Mr. Deleus contacted the fisherman and, sure enough, the serial number on the \$300 glasses checked out.

Marie Stoecker, 77, crouched down at the edge of a lake near Vancouver, Canada, to get a drink of water—and that's all she remembers. Two-and-a-half hours later she was discovered floating face upwards in the icy waters. The back brace she wore acted as a life jacket after she lost consciousness and slipped into the lake.

After giving birth to six sons, Denise Long of Bath, England, was convinced she'd finally have a girl. She says she's going to love Daniel just as much.

Deborah Miller, of Richmond, Indiana, became a mother—the day after she became a grandmother. A day after her daughter, Amanda Beasley, 20 gave birth to a daughter, Deborah, 37, gave birth to Michael, a son.

Melvin Pearle, 86, chatted daily with Veronica Childers, 71, the new resident of the old folks home in London, England. It turned out that they were brother and sister, and had not seen each other since she was one year old.



# The Big Grey Man

Why do mountain climbers—both amateur and professional—run in terror off the Scottish mountain named Ben MacDhul?

Who—or what—is the figure that they see?

by Dr. Karl P.N. Shuker



**A**t a lofty height of 4296 feet, Ben MacDhul of the Cairngorms range is second only to Ben Nevis as Scotland's tallest mountain, and second to none as its most mysterious. It is usually reached by a 20-mile-long path leading away from the Glenmore Lodge and extending through the arduous Lairig Ghru pass. Ben MacDhul was once a rarely-visited, lonely locale, but its towering peak with flat-topped summit began to attract increasing attention from mountain climbers when mountaineering became popular during this century's early years.

It was not long, however, before strange tales were brought back by intrepid visitors to this dark, brooding mountain—tales of ghostly music, inexplicable laughter and voices, and other uncanny phenomena. Most dramatic of all were reports concerning apparitions of colossal size, crunching footsteps that followed the climbers and, above all else, an unaccountable and uncontrollable fear that frequently drove them down and away from the mountain in a fit of blind panic.

These last three phenomena in particular seemed to share a common origin, unhesitatingly iden-

tified by the area's residents as being an entity that they firmly believed to inhabit Ben MacDhui's upper reaches, and known locally as *Am Fear Liath Mor*, or in English as the Big Grey Man. For many years, this mysterious matter attracted much attention in Scottish newspapers and journals, with many reports and explanations appearing. Such coverage culminated in 1970 with the publication of *The Big Grey Man of Ben MacDhui*, an indispensable book on the subject and written by Cairngorms-bred author Affleck Gray.

In more recent times, however, interest has waned. This is surprising as many of the more modern thoughts and ideas raised in relation to various other mysterious phenomena are particularly relevant to the Big Grey man enigma. Consequently, almost 20 years after Gray's book appeared, it seemed more than timely to take the opportunity of re-analyzing the subject by applying some of those concepts to it. First, however, here are a few of some of the more startling encounters and experiences reported from Ben MacDhui.

#### THE PROFESSOR IS TERRIFIED

Probably the most famous of all such reports was that of Norman Collie, published in 1926.

Until then, the subject had not attracted much serious attention. But Collie was one of the period's most experienced and respected mountaineers as well as Professor of Organic Chemistry at the University of London. He was also an austere man by nature who vehemently shunned sensationalism. Here was a witness with impeccable credentials, whose words could not be readily dismissed.

Collie was the speaker at the Annual General Meeting of Aberdeen's Cairngorm Club in December 1925. He announced that on his last visit to Ben MacDhui he had been descending from the Cairn while surrounded on all sides by dense mist. "...I began to think I heard something else than merely the noise of my own footsteps. For every few steps I took I heard a crunch, and then another crunch as if someone was walking after me but taking steps three or four times the length of my own." He attempted to laugh at himself for being fanciful, and continued walking, but the eerie sounds followed on behind him (with the mist that immersed him hiding their source from his view). Finally, he admitted that "...I was seized with terror and took to my heels, staggering blindly among the boulders for four or five miles nearly down to Rothiemur-

chus Forest." Not surprisingly, he vowed never to go back to that menacing mountain, and ever afterwards remained convinced that there was "...something very queer about the top of Ben MacDhui."

### THE DOCTOR SEES A BIG GREY MAN

During the early 1920s, Collie was contacted by another renowned mountaineer, Dr. A.M. Kellas, who had learned of Collie's Ben MacDhui experience before it had become widely known. Dr. Kellas informed Collie that while climbing that mountain with his brother Henry, he had spied a figure that he described as "...a big grey man..." walking from the Lairig Ghru pass up and around the 10-foot-tall Cairn toward Ben MacDhui's summit, where it disappeared from view. Dr. Kellas affirmed that the mystery figure seemed to be at least as tall as the Cairn itself. This is a historic report, for it was responsible for providing *Am Fear Liath Mor* with its English appellation.

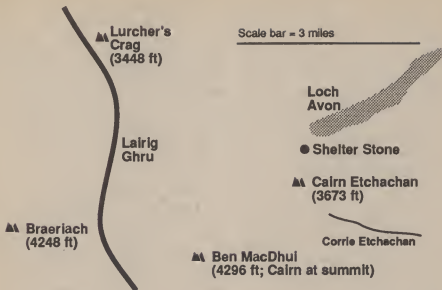
The December 1925 issue of the *Aberdeen Press and Journal* contained further news concerning this incident, based upon information given by Henry Kellas to W.G. Robertson, a friend. Apparently the Kellas brothers had awaited the Big

Grey Man's reappearance at the summit, but "...fear possessed them ere it did reach the top, and they fled. They were aware it was following them, and tore down by Corrie Etchachan to escape it."

### NO SAFETY UNDER SHELTER STONE

In the summer of 1940, and in the company of a friend with whom he was residing during a holiday, *More Highland Folktales* author R. MacDonald Robertson spent a night inside a famous, enormous block of stone on Ben MacDhui known as the Shelter Stone—as travelers frequently take shelter and rest beneath it. During that night, they were awakened by the growls of Robertson's pet bull terrier, and could soon discern the sound of crunching footsteps, approaching nearer and nearer along the gravel path outside. The identity of the footsteps' originator, however, was never discovered, for without warning, the sound of the steps just faded away, after which Robertson's dog relaxed once more.

In *The Big Grey Man of Ben MacDhui*, Affleck Gray reported that one evening in 1942, while in the vicinity of the Shelter Stone and gazing out toward Loch Avon (A'an), the experienced mountain climber Syd Scroggie



#### Layout of Major Sites Involved in Big Grey Man Phenomena.

suddenly perceived "...a tall, stately, human figure, appear out of the blackness on one side of the loch, and clearly silhouetted against the water pace with long, deliberate steps across the combined burns just where they enter the loch." The figure was not wearing a rucksack, and was soon hidden from view by the darkness on the loch's opposite side. Intrigued, Scroggie lost no time in reaching the locality of his sighting and searching it thoroughly for footprints and any other sign of the figure's movements, but he found nothing. Similarly, he called out in the hope of receiving a reply but

none came. Instead, he experienced a distinct, eerie sense of unease, one that sent him on his way back with all speed to the welcome security of the Shelter Stone!

#### SHOOTING THE BIG GREY MAN

As far as I am aware, the month of October in 1943 has a unique claim to fame in this saga by hosting the only instance on record of someone actually shooting the Big Grey Man! Mountaineer and naturalist Alexander Tewnion had been walking along the Lairig Ghru one day that month on the lookout for some

game to shoot and thereby supplement his wartime rations. He had begun to descend the track through Corrie Etchachan's deep trough, when suddenly he became aware of the sound of long, striding footsteps just behind him. As he recalled to the *Scots Magazine* in June 1958, they immediately brought to mind the strange narrative many years earlier of Professor Collie. So he peered at once through the mist in the direction of the footsteps, and was startled by a mysterious shape that loomed up menacingly, momentarily withdrew, and then charged directly at him!

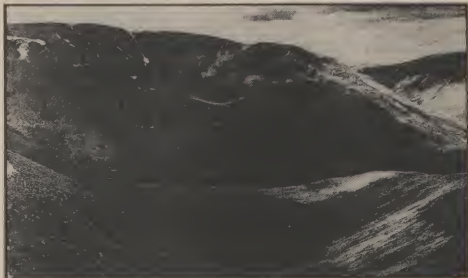
Instantly, Tewnion drew out his revolver and fired three shots

straight at the figure, but they had absolutely no effect—the threatening shape was still coming! Needless to say, he lost no time in turning around and fleeing precipitately downward, toward Glen Derry and safety!

These are just some of the unnerving and uncanny incidents, but how can they be accounted for?

#### GEOLOGICAL ARTIFACT?

The Hexham heads are a couple of small stone artifacts that were found in a garden at Hexham, England, in 1972, and since have been associated with a number of seemingly supernatural occurrences, including the



View of Ben MacDhui, with loch in foreground.

(Courtesy of the University of St. Andrews/Robert M. Adams Collection)



appearance of a strange wolfman-like being, accompanied by padding footsteps. In *Tales of the Hexham Heads* (1980) by Paul Screeton, a possible solution for the wolfman entity is postulated by inorganic chemistry specialist Dr. Don Robins. The theory could be readily applied to the Big Grey Man mystery too.

Dr. Robins' theory proposes that various minerals may be capable of encoding (storing) a type of electrical energy. Under certain specific conditions a kinetic image could actually be released. Among the supporting evidence that Robins provides is that of the visual similarity between modern-day three-dimensional holograph's interference patterns and the chemical nature of certain mineral compounds—a geological holograph!

Could this be the source of the Big Grey Man? Certainly one could hardly conceive of a more conducive locality for such activity than a rocky mountainous peak like Ben MacDhui. And if such mineralogical manifestations could incorporate both visual and aural components, this could then explain the crunching footsteps and huge figure reported from that mountain.

This theory does not, however, answer why Ben MacDhui should yield such a preponderance of petrological phantoms as com-

pared with other British mountains in general. Could this anomaly be due to certain specific and crucial, but currently unrecognized, differences in geological composition, historical background, and/or other attributes?

#### OPTICAL ILLUSION?

Many reports of phantoms have undoubtedly resulted from optical illusions. We can all recall incidents in which we have perceived an object to be something totally different from what it first appeared to be. Such frequent occurrences are due to our brain making assumptions regarding the appearance and identity of a poorly- or briefly-seen object, and then "filling in" the missing details, so that we think we have seen it in greater detail than is really the case.

R.A. Proctor described such an illusion in an article entitled "Notes on Ghosts and Goblins" (*Cornhill Magazine*, April 1873). Very distraught after his mother's death, he awoke one night to perceive, standing at the foot of his bed in his moonlit college bedroom, a white image of his mother—he could even discern tears in her eyes. He gazed at the image for some time, then leaned forward to observe it more closely. Instantly it transformed itself into his college surplice hanging

down from its hook, with the "tears" becoming the silvered buckles of a rowing belt hung over the surplice!

When he deliberately lay back in his original position in an attempt to revisualize the illusion, he found that he could not. His surplice and belt remained as such before his eyes, for now that his brain was aware of their true identity, it could not be fooled again into "filling in" the details to create the image of his mother.

One form of optical illusion involving this principle, and which is extremely pertinent to the Big Grey Man phenomenon, is termed the autokinetic effect. This illusion occurs when there is a lack of visual clues for an observer to use in determining whether or not an object is moving. The result of this is the observer's perception of apparent movement by the object when in reality the latter is completely immobile.

Climber William Hutchison Murray gave a good example of the autokinetic effect in his book *Mountaineering in Scotland* (1947). While in the Cairngorms one day, he saw what he believed to be two climbers traversing from east to west across the snowscape ahead of him. As he approached these "climbers," they paused, apparently waiting for him. Ultimately, however, when he

was about 100 yards away, he discovered their true identity—they were a pair of black boulders! The autokinetic effect explains certain sightings of phantasmal figures and giant beings seemingly observed on desolate mountains.

### HALLUCINATION, OR BROCKEN SPECTER?

As a result of the very considerable publicity that followed Professor Collie's Big Grey Man account, visitors to Ben MacDhui not infrequently contemplate the legends and rumors regarding its mysterious entity while actually climbing its lonely slope. Those who do not think of it directly are generally aware of the phenomenon. Consequently, given a sudden, unexpected sound or strangely-shaped wall of mist, it could be readily envisaged how the startled minds of such climbers could "fill in the details" to create, especially if further influenced by autokinetic illusions too, a very real (to them) phantom or presence that they would sincerely believe to be the Big Grey Man.

In contrast to such psychologically-induced optical illusions, however, hallucinations—images housed within the mind of the "observer" and based not upon any external object—comprise a very different situation. More-



Demonstration of the Brocken Specter Illusion.

over, it is very difficult to believe that apparent encounters with the Big Grey Man by experienced mountaineers could be explained in this manner.

Yet another phantom form, and one that could be participating to the Big Grey Man mystery, occurs in mountainous regions under certain climatic conditions that cause a person's shadow to become greatly magnified, which in turn is sometimes thrown onto a cloudbank or patch of mist. This eerie effect is known as a Brocken specter, named after a peak in the German Harz Mountains from which the effect was first recorded. Clearly this could be responsible for various sightings of huge beings on Ben MacDhui and associated terror.

Certainly it can be an unnerving spectacle to the uninformed observer; so too can be the weird shapes sometimes produced by local condensations of water vapor. Naturally, however, neither of these could explain the aural components of Big Grey Man encounters. Various precipitation effects could, but these, conversely, could not explain the sightings, thereby failing to provide a comprehensive solution.

#### AN ENERGY TRACE?

Techniques such as Kirlian photography seem to reveal that living organisms release intense

amounts of energy during periods of extreme emotion—energy, that can leave behind in a given locality a concentrated invisible trace even after the organism itself has moved away. The energy trace theory proposes that if a locality in which such a trace has been released experiences on some future occasion a similar emotive disturbance, the original trace may develop and actually become visible for a time, and in turn provide an explanation for reports of phantoms and ghosts. Such a process would be analogous to the original image on a photographic plate becoming visible when developed.

It can also be seen that the process could have great bearing on the Big Grey Man enigma. Some mysterious events reported on Ben MacDhui have occurred directly after the climbers concerned had been contemplating the Big Grey Man legends. Following the energy trace theory's line of argument, could their thoughts, intensified by their solitary, hitherto undisturbed travels upon the mountain, have triggered the appearance of some energy trace image originally created by earlier visitors to Ben MacDhui? The energy trace theory additionally postulates that some people release greater amounts of energy than others, thereby offering an explanation

for why many climbers have not experienced anything strange on Ben MacDhui, namely that these must have followed people who did not release sufficient energy themselves to create any original invisible trace image.

### ELECTROMAGNETIC PHANTOM?

Perhaps phantoms could be energy forms occupying the immediate boundaries of the visible spectrum of electromagnetic radiation, i.e., the infrared (IR) and ultraviolet (UV) regions. Ghost-like images, unseen by photographers, have been captured on film sensitive to these wavelengths.

According to one researcher, locality photographs exist that reveal ghostly heat (IR) images of people and vehicles that left the locality in question many hours before it was photographed. Heat (IR) images may explain many "photographed phantoms," especially those in contemporary attire.

Could the phantoms of the UV wavelengths conversely be the genuine article—real ghosts? According to frequent documentation in literature appertaining to paranormal phenomena, investigations of notable psychics have often revealed that their eyes' color-sensitive spectrum is displaced to the right of everyone

else's. That is to say, the eyes of psychics appear less sensitive than those of other people to the visible spectrum's red zone, but overtly sensitive to the violet extreme and seemingly even beyond that, into the UV zone (normally invisible to human eyes). If this is indeed true, and if psychical phantoms (whatever they may actually be) reflect UV light, this would account not only for their visibility to psychics and invisibility to everyone else, but also for many examples of mysterious photos that clearly depict forms unseen by the photographer yet which are evidently something more than mere heat images.

The Big Grey Man might be an electromagnetic phantom, an entity beyond the vision of most humans (hence the rarity of sightings in comparison with the frequent reports of footsteps) but whose presence is still sensed. Of course, this is wholly speculative at present.

### "WINDOW" AREAS

In addition to Ben MacDhui, many other localities in Britain and elsewhere seem to possess mystical attributes. These appear linked not to the people who experience them but to the localities themselves. Such locations are popularly held by researchers of the paranormal to be "win-

dow" areas, portals through which visitors from other dimensions can enter our world's time and space. Applying this theory to the Big Grey Man mystery, it could be postulated that Ben MacDhui is a "window" area.

One might assume that such an inter-dimensional interface would surely be monitored and protected by some form of warden or guardian. This entity's function would be to ward off any potential intruder (deliberate or accidental), ensuring by every means available to it that everyone kept well away from the portal's vicinity. It can be seen that the above description corre-

sponds perfectly with the reported activity and behavior of the Big Grey Man.

### A LAST WORD

Is the above scenario possible, or just science fiction? Are any of the theories discussed here the correct one? Who can say?

What can be said, and with certainty, however, is that there are many very experienced and respected mountaineers willing to testify that Ben MacDhui does possess a number of unsolved mysteries, including an entity that apparently seeks most emphatically to keep them that way.



## WONDERS FROM THE PAST

*Claire Metzger*

On September 12, 1940, 14-year-old Jacques Marsal was playing with two young friends and a neighbor in an oak forest outside the village of Lascaux, 300 miles south of Paris, France. Suddenly, their dog disappeared into a hole, barking furiously as he sought to escape.

The boys lowered the neighbor into the hole, and when they lifted him out, he appeared filthy, shaken and claimed that he had seen ghosts.

It would seem that the boys had found a real *Alice in Wonderland* rabbit hole—but they actually found something far more wonderful.

Returning the next day, the boys found a large cave whose walls

were decorated with colorful paintings of leaping stags, buffalo and prehistoric horses. Archaeologists who came to study the paintings said that they dated back to about 14,000 B.C.

Visitors from around the world came to view the prehistoric art work, and Marsal was their proud guide. In 1964, however, it was determined that the carbon dioxide in the visitors' breath was harming the paintings, and the cave was closed to the public. A replica was built nearby and opened in 1983.

Marsal, after serving as a life-long guardian of the cave, died at the age of 63 in July 1989.



# ASTRO ALMANAC



*By Anne Lyddane*

**The best astrological days to participate  
in the following activities during May 1990.**

**Combines Sun, Moon and Planetary Aspects with Sign Positions.**

Apply for a job:

3, 4, 14, 22

Ask for a raise or promotion:

4, 14, 18, 22

Ask for credit or a loan:

18, 24, 28

Buy antiques or jewelry:

4, 8, 14, 18, 31

Buy a car or have repairs done:

4, 18, 22

Buy a permanent home:

18, 22

Buy real estate for speculation:

14, 22

Canning:

9, 18, 19

Consult a physician:

9, 18, 22, 24

Cut hair for added thickness:

10, 19, 22

Cut hair to increase growth:

9, 18, 19

Cut hair to retard growth:

1, 4, 10, 14, 24

Entertain:

4, 10, 14, 18, 22

Fishing:

9, 10, 18, 23

Gardening:

4, 10, 14, 18, 23

Hunting:

9, 14, 24

Marry for happiness:

10, 19, 28

Meditation:

4, 9, 10, 15, 19

Mow lawn to retard growth:

4, 14, 24

Permanents, hair coloring:

14, 16, 18, 22

Purchase electronic equipment:

3, 18, 22

Purchase major appliances:

3, 4, 9, 14

See dentist for extractions:

4, 14, 18

See dentist for fillings:

9, 22, 24

Sell home, property, possessions:

3, 4, 9, 14, 28

Sign important papers:

18, 22, 24

Sports activities:

9, 12, 14, 23, 28

Start a weight loss program:

9, 14, 18, 19, 31

Stop a bad habit:

4, 9, 12, 14

Travel by air:

10, 15

Travel for business:

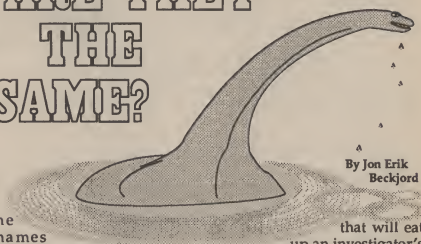
9, 10, 14, 22, 28

Travel for pleasure:

11, 18, 23

**NESSIE, CHESSIE, TESSIE,  
MOKELE M'BEMBE, OGOPOGO, CHAMP:**

**ARE THEY  
THE  
SAME?**



By Jon Erik  
Beckjord

**T**he names run off the tongue, with similarities between some of them. Could it be that the creatures also are similar? I would suggest that the answer is yes, and for many reasons.

I am fortunate to have a huge number of photos, drawings and descriptions of these creatures. Since not everyone knows these names, let me explain that Nessie inhabits Loch Ness and is the best-known lake monster. Chessie hails from the Chesapeake Bay region of Maryland, and Tessie is found in Lake Tahoe, on the California/Nevada line.

Mokele M'bembe guards small (three miles long) Lac Telle in the Republic of the Congo, (a place

that will eat up an investigator's money), Ogoopogo wiggles around Lake Okanagan in British Columbia, and Champ is the queen of Lake Champlain, which crosses NY, Vermont and Canada. All are alleged lake monsters, all have differences, and all have some similarity. For a detailed background of each, see the bibliography in the book by Henry Bauer, *The Enigma of Loch Ness*.

**DIFFERENCES  
AND SIMILARITIES**

What then, are these differences and similarities? Nessie has been sighted and filmed in many shapes, but most often in two basic forms: a plesiosaur shape and a snake shape.



Chessie seems to be mostly a serpentine shape, according to Mike Frizzell, of the Enigma Project in Reisterstown, MD.

Tessie is rarely seen, and was filmed just once in a roll of film that the local chamber of commerce, who owns the film, will not allow to be viewed, lest it scare away tourists. In the film and descriptions by witnesses, it is also a long object that never shows a head, flipper or fin.

Ogopogo has been described mostly as a serpentine shape, recently with a fluked tail by one witness; with no tail flukes by most others. Occasionally a humped back is reported.

Champ is mostly seen as a serpentine object, like a telephone pole that moves, except with undulations. Two visual aids, however, show something else. The Mansi photo shows a humped back with a long neck and a head, and the Hall video shows a hump with a neck as well. Yet, a number of photos taken by Ms. Kelly Williams shows another serpentine telephone pole.

Mokele M'bembe is special and will be discussed below.

Although some of the descriptions and photos of the same (or different) creatures are similar or identical, some are wildly different. A researcher must ask, "How can we reconcile all these differences?"

## A SOLUTION IN A NEW THEORY

If we stick to the old idea that these creatures are animals, we are caught in a dead end, for no animal, or animals, could account for all these variations that seem at times incompatible. It is simply too much to expect that a basilosaurus (an ancient whale), a plesiosaur, a giant snake and a monster worm could all exist side by side in these different lakes. Michael Meurger has written a book called *Monsters of Canadian Lakes*, and in it he points out that different lakes have different-looking lake monsters, and other lakes have several different kinds of lake monsters. It is hard enough to accept one basic monster without having to accept the idea of several different kinds, all coexisting in different lakes.

As a solution, I offer a new version of an older idea about Nessie and those of like ilk. Ted Holiday (see his book *The Goblin Universe*) and others in the past have suggested that Nessie may have come from, and gone back to, some other dimension, and may not be a normal animal at all. This concept is very difficult to prove and is beyond our current scientific ability to test. Most researchers feel that Holiday's ideas are too far out.

However, if we rephrase these ideas into a more testable hy-

pothesis, the results may explain both the similarities of Nessie, Chessie, etc., as well as the differences. At the same time, it may bring about a re-focus on the lake phenomenon problem. The zoological path has proven to be a dead end.

Let us look at Nessie, Chessie, etc., as an energy phenomena that can change to solid matter for short periods of time—perhaps even energy phenomena that has either guidance or intelligence, or an ability to react to the expectations and/or knowledge of their observers. An energy form might take the shape of a moving energized streak in the water. If it is able to feed off the expectations of its observers, it could take a more definite form as it moves along. Perhaps in lakes where there are no viewers the phenomenon might not take any form at all.

A good example is Lake Tahoe and Tessie. Few people expect a lake monster to appear in high and remote Lake Tahoe. Few lake monster experts visit there. Thus, the phenomenon asserts itself as a long, narrow body with no head and no tail. Perhaps if researchers were to live there, future sightings might feature a head, hump and tail.

Miss Alexandria David-Neel, a French scholar and traveler, has written in her book, *Magic and*

*Mystery of Tibet*, of the idea of forming "tulpoids" or creatures made from mental constructs, "mind creatures." If it is true that the mind can form physical or semi-physical beings, then maybe the lake monsters are given much of their form from the thoughts, conscious or otherwise, of the observers.

#### A RECENT EXAMPLE

I was at Loch Ness in 1983, the 50th anniversary of Loch Ness research, trying to use robot video to catch the image of Nessie. Our results were marginal with this technique. One day while waiting for a TV program to air about our efforts, I observed a series of rings being formed in the water about mile away. Fish do this, but these rings caught my attention because they were being formed in a straight line, one ring after another, some ten feet apart.

I watched with ten power binoculars, and saw, I thought, two small, straw-shaped objects, less than two inches long, surfacing to form each ring, then submerging. I waited, tried to film them with a telephoto lens, and watched some more. At one point I thought I saw a pink body, perhaps six feet long, almost surface, and then submerge. It had neither fins, head nor tail that I could see. The body

slightly reminded me of a Florida manatee. The film did not turn out, and I resolved to watch for this again the next time the water was calm.

Later, on one of the last days spent at the Loch, we had gotten up early from a caravan at Achnahannet, some miles away from the Clansmen Hotel where the first ring-sightings had occurred. At 8 A.M., I noticed the same sort of rings forming, this time going toward Fort Augustus to our right. I pulled out a movie camera and proceeded to shoot the rings as they formed, perhaps at three mph, going down the Loch in the calm water. As I filmed with three people watching, I wondered if it would surface. I had to stop twice to wind the film, and as the film ran out, the rings subsided and petered out.

I thought nothing much would come of the film, and paid little attention to it until I returned to the U.S. However, after a number of viewings, it gradually became apparent that more than a series of rings had been filmed. What appeared at first to be a mere water disturbance

became a progression of form *on* the water rather than *in* it. The white rings expanded to form a long streak. The streak undulated,

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**It looks like a man's head, bald, with two tufts of hair, somewhat rectangular, rounded in shape, with wide open eyes, a nose and mouth. In two more seconds, it has gone down under the water, and at that point the film stops**

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like a pair of linked inchworms, and these in turn became a comet-like form, taking on a shape similar to a Concorde jet, on the calm, blue water.

To my surprise, enlargements showed a gray rounded face, sometimes with two horns mounted above, looking at the four of us around the camera. To do this, the thing had to crank its head over at a 90 degree angle, looking sideways and up, while still moving forward. Dr. Macabee agrees that there is a triangular nose, and other views see a set of eyes, and a mouth with

some heavy duty teeth—like a set of short walrus tusks—mounted aiming downward. The face image has little contrast, which is typical of energy phenomena of a less controversial type, such as moving mist, or windstorm. Overall, it seems a cross between a cat, an otter and a walrus. It was found to measure ten feet, so otters are out, cats are out, and there are no ten-foot white walruses in Loch Ness. Los Angeles zoologists agree that it is nothing known to them.

Each frame of the film shows a changed form and a changed face. Further in the film the object changes again to a linear water disturbance, a frothy line on the surface. After I had wound the camera, the object changed again and continued to change.

The last head to appear is the most bizarre, and the hardest to accept. In six frames, up comes a white blob, unformed, and in under one second the head took on definite features. It looks like a man's head, bald, with two tufts of hair, somewhat rectangular, rounded in shape, with wide open eyes, a nose and mouth. In two more seconds, it has gone down under the water, and at that point the film stops, needing to be wound again.

The last sequence shows just an occasional ring in the water, then nothing. The water is calm,

as if nothing had happened.

Dr. Maccabee agrees that the object moves, and is probably animate, and that it looked at us. Zoologists at the Los Angeles Museum of Natural History agree that the film shows no known animal or fish. Other zoologists discount even a school of small fish. Operation Deepscan, a sonar effort at Loch Ness in October 1987, discovered that schools of bait fish do exist, but at least 50 feet down and not on the surface. Thus, the object seems to be the Loch Ness phenomenon, or Nessie.

My point in this analysis is to show that it may be possible that our own thoughts affected the image that the phenomenon radiated to our camera. As it progressed to our right, it may have grown in substance due to input from our collective thoughts about what Nessie should be like. As it got beyond range, it subsided to nothing. It starts as almost nothing, grows to a ten-foot object, becomes a series of appearing and disappearing heads, then subsides to nothing—something like a bell curve in intensity. Of note might be that the John Cobb Memorial was one mile away, and Cobb, a racer, died in a jet boat in 1952 at that spot. Cobb was bald, and had thin hair on the sides of his face.

Perhaps Nessie, Tessie, Chessie

and the others have been affected by the preconceptions, or lack of same, of lakeside viewers. The very strongest images with the most detail—heads, humps, tails, tails with spikes and backs with triangular stegosaurus-type projections—are found in Loch Ness, which draws a very literate and educated group of visitors. Nobody expects a Tessie, nor a Chessie, so their images are less complex. Champ has almost as much press as Nessie, and thus its image is often complex.

Ogopogo is felt by many people to be so far from Loch Ness that any similarity is remote, so its image, fed from the minds of visitors, is more Chessie-like, i.e., telephone-pole style.

#### THE MYSTERY OF MOKELE M'BEMBE

Mokele M'bembe is the dollar drainer of the African continent. Herman Regusters, who saw the creature in 1981, has made a hump-and-neck type drawing that brings to mind Nessie. Zoo director Marcellin Agagna has done the same. Colonel E. Mos-

sedzedi of the Congo army has drawn a very worm-like rendering of M.M., based on his own sighting of the creature. It looks more like a large worm or snake than like any brontosaurus, or even plesiosaur.

In the '70s, explorer James Powell asked natives about the creature and showed them pho-

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**Perhaps the same energy  
phenomenon is in all the lakes  
of the world, and it reflects to  
viewers what their back-  
ground, racial memories,  
education, and expectations  
send to the phenomenon.**

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tos of animals like hippos and elephants, with other photos of re-creations of prehistoric animals mixed in. Invariably, the natives picked either the brontosaurus or the plesiosaur.

These images may have reinforced a tulpoid Mokele M'bembe's shape. Where the earliest pygmies and other local natives got their mental images from, we

do not know. In any case, there are more reports of MM being of the plesiosaur form than the snake form, and thus it tends to be different from the northern hemisphere lake monsters. The mechanics of its mental-energy feeding process, however, appear to be the same, with the same result. Mokele M'bembe seems to be more in the lake monster mold than the dinosaur mold, and it is most often encountered in the water, over its head—not the usual habitat for a brontosaurus.

There do exist stories of sea serpents in the southern hemisphere, and while these are not lake monsters, I will throw in a brief account of a sea serpent seen by a hotel manager from Mamatanai, New Ireland, Papua New Guinea, while I was there in 1983, debunking stories of natives eating mermaids. It seems that twice in the '70s this manager, an Englishman, had encountered a 50 foot serpent, lying underwater on the sea bottom in a lagoon near Ramat Bay. He described it as looking like Chessie: a large, snake-like thing, and he avoided disturbing it lest it decide to eat him for lunch. Ramat Bay was where many of the alleged mermaids were seen, which later were proven to be dugongs, a relative of the manatee.

### INTELLIGENT ENERGY?

Perhaps the same energy phenomenon is in all the lakes of the world, and it reflects to viewers what their background, racial memories, education, and expectations send to the phenomenon. The more sophisticated the viewers, the more likely the image received is equally sophisticated. However, this may not be completely true in all instances. The images seen are too varied to be of mere animals, and a better theory, which physics can someday test, is a theory of intelligent energy, reflecting our own thoughts and images to us.

I propose that Nessie, Chessie, Tessie, Ogoopogo and Champ are all the same phenomenon. So too is Mokele M'bembe, but with some regional and perhaps foreigner-influenced input that results in it seeming to be of the hump and neck type.

If the alleged lake monsters are viewed as being unknown energy phenomena, all the apparent contradictions fall away and the path is cleared for physics to make sense of something where zoology could not.



# THE PRESIDENTIAL DEATH CYCLE



Every 20 years since 1840, an elected president has died in office.  
This did not happen to President Reagan (elected 1980).  
Why not? And most importantly, will it happen again?

By Art Gatti

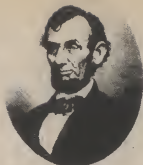
**T**he so-called "20-Year Cycle" has been a recurring tragedy visited upon the highest office in our land. Every 20 years since 1840, the U.S. president who was elected in that year has died in office—whether from natural causes or assassination.

Since John F. Kennedy's assassination in 1963, the phenomenon has been on our minds—and the whole world has been watching us to see if the tragedy would occur again to the man who was elected in 1980. It's the 20-Year *Presidential Death Cycle*, and it splatters across the tawdriest of banners and periodical headlines—*when it works*.

When a prediction "doesn't work," those who predicted it pretend they never heard of the prediction or the phenomenon. Ask the average astrologer today, and he or she will probably tell you that there is no astrological significance to the 20-year cycle, and it is probably just some inexplicable, esoteric, numerological mumbo-jumbo (why not blame it all on the numerologists!) or just plain superstition born of coincidence. After all, the president elected in a year ending in zero simply did *not* die in office this time. Ronald Reagan, in spite of an assassination attempt, has lived long enough to begin his retirement.



BENJAMIN HARRISON



ABRAHAM LINCOLN



JAMES GARFIELD



WILLIAM MCKINLEY

### ONLY IN ELECTION YEARS ENDING IN A ZERO

The phenomenon only involves election years ending in a zero. This occurs every 20 years. Thus 1940 and 1960 were presidential election years, but not 1950 or 1970.

The most visible manifestation of the 20-year cycle phenomenon has been the death of a United States president while in office, but there have also been concurrent disturbing economic times.

Here is the record of presidential deaths:

- Benjamin Harrison:  
Elected in 1840, died in 1841.
- Abraham Lincoln:  
Elected in 1860, assassinated in 1866.
- James Garfield:  
Elected in 1880, assassinated in 1881.
- William McKinley:  
Re-elected in 1900, assassinated in 1901.
- Warren Harding:  
Elected in 1920, died in 1923.
- Franklin D. Roosevelt:  
Re-elected in 1940, died in 1944.





WARREN HARDING



FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT



JOHN F. KENNEDY

- John F. Kennedy:  
Elected in 1960, assassinated  
in 1963.

### BLAME IT ON THE PLANETS

It would seem that a reasonable mind would consider the so-called "Death Cycle" mere superstition. As for astrologers, why should it matter to them? Who ever said that the 20-year cycle had to be astrological?

Well, *I* did, for one. And so did several astrologers before me. It doesn't take a very clever mind to read what went on in the heav-

ens on those separate occasions of the deaths of presidents. It has been known for some time that the death cycle almost perfectly coincides with a "transiting Jupiter/Saturn conjunction. While in *transit* in their orbits around the Sun, the planets Jupiter and Saturn (from our earth-bound perspective) seem to occupy the same degree of celestial longitude—the imaginary North-South line that dissects the external globe of the heavens.

*Jupiter*—astrological symbol of growth, expansion, plenty, liber-

alism and generally benevolent matters—takes about 12 years to pass through the 12 signs of the zodiac.

**Saturn**—a planet symbolic of hard lessons to be learned, of endings, sorrows, frugal times and conservatism—takes more than twice that time to make its own way through those 12 signs. Every 20 years, they align.

The empirical evidence-gathering upon which astrology has been based for thousands of years demands that astrologers stay alert to what goes on in the world. The current events of the times of those conjunctions reveal that they were also central to periods of debilitating depressions and/or major shakeups in the economy—either regional, affecting just the U.S. or the Western hemisphere, or worldwide, but focusing on the U.S.

#### ECONOMIC WOES AND PRESIDENTS' DEATHS

Here are the economic times that accompanied the deaths of the presidents aforementioned:

1. The Debt Repudiation Recession, a slump that lasted between 1841 and 1844.
2. Reconstruction woes plus the Secession Depression of 1865-1866.
3. The Secondary Post-War Depression of (pre-)1880.
4. In 1900, overlapping and

contradictory astrological cycles brought boom times that eradicated all the ill effects of Jupiter/Saturn.

5. The Primary Post-War Depression of 1920-1923.

6. The economic crisis caused by America's entry into WW II.

7. The period of economic priority shifts corresponding with the step-up in the Cold War that created a defense-oriented economic boom and the setting up, many believe, of false premises in the basic economy.

#### JUPITER/SATURN CONJUNCTION

The Jupiter/Saturn conjunction occurred on the following dates and in the following zodiacal signs:

- January 26, 1842, in Capricorn;
- October 21, 1861, in Virgo;
- April 18, 1881, in Taurus;
- November 28, 1901, in Capricorn;
- September 10, 1921, in Virgo;
- August 8, 1940, in Taurus (and due to retrogradation, also on February 15, in Taurus);
- February 19, 1961, in Capricorn;
- December 31, 1980, in Libra.

Now, since this event takes place every 20 years, give or take a few months, it stands to reason that the *aspect* (the Jupiter-Saturn conjunction) occurred in 1820 and 1800 as well, all times when there were American presidents

in office. None of those men died in office.

Long before Ronald Reagan, why were Jefferson and Monroe immune?

### THE KENNEDY CURSE

In 1976, my book *The Kennedy Curse*, an astrological view of the woes of the nation's First Clan, was published. Originally entitled *An Astrologer Tracks Down the Kennedy "Curse,"* it was a look at the "karmic" elements in the combined chart of the Kennedy family—how that element resonated in the charts of Jack, Bobby, Joe Jr., Teddy and others. And, since John F. Kennedy had been the most recent victim of the 20-year cycle, I devoted a chapter to an analysis of that cycle.

Plus, people were worried about Teddy Kennedy. If he was elected in 1980, would he be the next victim—the next in line for the Kennedy Curse, as well as the 20-Year American Curse?

My attention was turned to the earlier conjunctions I mentioned—those occurring before 1840. Why indeed did no tragedy or economic depression occur?

### DEADLY CONJUNCTIONS DEPEND ON FATAL ELEMENT

The sole astrological difference between the earlier benign times

accompanying the conjunction and the events surrounding the seven deadly ones was the *Element* in which they occurred.

The 12 signs of the zodiac are broken down by astrologers into four sub-groupings called Elements. These are the primordial elements: Fire, Earth, Air and Water. The first two times the conjunction occurred after the formation of the U.S. presidency, it occurred in signs that were of the Element Fire. Because of several technical factors—including the fact that the conjunction might occur at 19 years four months one time, and at 21 years another time—there is no guarantee that they will continue to occur in signs of the same Element.

### THE GREAT MUTATION CYCLE

The tendency for the alignment to shift into other signs—signs of different Elements—is called the Great Mutation Cycle. This cycle would not occur if the heavens were perfect and all the planets in perfect alignment in their orbits, but the revolution of Saturn about the Sun takes more than twice the time as Jupiter's. Due to this, the seven Jupiter/Saturn conjunctions that occurred after the 1820 alignment in Fire were in the Element Earth, apparently the fatal Element.

(For almost 150 years before 1820, the eight conjunctions of the two planets had occurred in the Element Fire.

Due to the same Great Mutation, the recent conjunction that occurred in 1980 took place in the Element Air.

Fire represents will, forcefulness, and limitless growth.

Much expansion occurred on the North American continent during the years of the Fire conjunctions, and the new economy began to flourish. Maybe experience and empirical evidence will show us that the conjunction is always beneficial in Fire. We already know it is detrimental when it is in Earth. But, to truly know how we will fare under the Fire Element, we must wait until the 22nd century or so, when they begin to occur in that Element again.

There are many reasons to expect benevolent manifestations when the conjunction occurs in Fire. One is that expansive Jupiter is at *home* in Fire (this is an astrological consideration based on the fact that astrologers see the planets and "lights" as having "rulership" over individual zodiac signs. Within this system, the planet Jupiter is seen to "rule" the Fire sign Sagittarius), while the more solemn Saturn is at "home" in the Element Earth (for similar reasons). Insofar as

one is seen as growth and general benevolence and the other represents endings and tough lessons to be learned, we tend to experience either tragedy or growth—depending on the Element in which the conjunction occurs.

### OKAY FOR TED KENNEDY TO RUN FOR PRESIDENCY

When it came to advising Teddy Kennedy via my book, I could only encourage his candidacy by assuming that the 20-Year Cycle *would not repeat itself in 1980*.

My reasoning was based on two things: I was aware that, for the first time in the United States' history, the Jupiter/Saturn conjunction would occur in the Element Air—in the sign of Libra.

The majority of astrologers are aware that, among the Elements, Air has the closest affinity with Fire. Thus, I felt it would be reasonable to expect that the manifestation of the aspect would more resemble the Jupiterian rather than the Saturnian.

I considered the counter-argument that the sign which Saturn co-rules, Aquarius, is Air, while Jupiter's co-ruling sign, Pisces, is Water. Wouldn't Saturn's Air influence affect the aspect's manifestations, since it is in Air?

While the ominous implications may be true, Aquarius' co-

ruler Saturn is less symbolic than Capricorn's Saturn of *matters terminal* and does not, like Capricorn, represent frugal, hard times, or sorrowful endings.

My conclusion: *it might not hurt to try, Teddy*. My studied, astrological conclusion was that *an American President elected in 1980 would not necessarily die in office*.

Hinkley came close to negating that conclusion. Will the association of Saturn with Air bring close calls in future Air conjunctions?

#### FUTURE PREDICTIONS: THE GRAY CLOUD LIFTS

The shift back to conservatism in general (astrologically, Saturn's influence) seems to have been a temporary tonic to the economy. Astrologers know that, while Saturn is all things conservative, Air is conducive to trade and brisk business. What suggests itself by the world economy during the time of the 1980 conjunction is an increasing tendency toward internationalization that will gradually pull world economic dominance away from the United States, perhaps toward a corporately-linked world economy.

The occurrence of the aspect in Water is a century away, so it would be ludicrous to speculate on what it will mean.

Are we rid of the fear of presidential death in office for at least

another century, while the less-ominous Air Element conjunctions of Jupiter and Saturn play out? In any case, are we rid of the worry in our own lifetime? Unfortunately, the answer is no.

Due to the Great Mutation, the next time Jupiter and Saturn are conjunct, around the Presidential Election of the year 2000, it will, for the last time for hundreds of years, occur in the mortal Element of Earth.

It is likely that the brief uplift the conservative surge brought to the economy in recent years will sag over the next four or five years. If so, it will weigh down the nation's economic infrastructure to the point where it is ready to cave in on itself.

It will be the sickness of the economy here that will drag us into the late '90s and give us the beleaguered one who will serve as president for a short while until forces outside himself, or his own health, bring him (or her) down.

Death and Depression—not a very pretty outlook, but one that must be heeded, especially when making economic decisions over the next several years.

The gray cloud lifts once and for all by the time of the 2020 election when the conjunction enters a century-long period that occurs in Air. The curse will be over.



# GREAT AMERICAN MEDIUMS



**So you think the best mediums live in England?**

**The fact is that great mediums, psychics and telepaths  
exist all over the world—  
including right here in the U.S.A.**

**Article and Photographs by Hans Holzer**

**D**o you think the best mediums live in England? Or that ghosts are usually found in British castles, rattling chains and bemoaning their sad fate?

Both assumptions would be erroneous. Ghosts occur everywhere in the world, from past times to the very present, and some of the best mediums lived and worked in America. I know... because I was privileged to work with many of them in my investigations.

## **CAROLYN CHAPMAN**

Often called "the dean" of mediums, the late Carolyn

Chapman, a true Southern lady from the Carolinas, was for many years the oldest practicing medium and clairvoyant in New York. For a long time she saw her clients at a tidy and very artistic apartment in the Ansonia, a landmark building on Broadway and 73rd Street. Later, she moved to a modern flat on East 34th Street where she worked until she passed away at a very old age.

Carolyn Chapman was essentially an old-fashioned reader who worked for private clients exclusively. Many of the predictions she made to me over the years came to pass. But it was the unexpected visit of Dr. Andrew

von Salza, a rejuvenation specialist in Los Angeles, who had come along with a lady client, that threw Carolyn for a loop. The doctor routinely took Mrs. Chapman's photograph with a polaroid camera, because he thought she was an interesting-looking woman. Picture their surprise when a gentleman appeared standing next to the medium! "Oh how nice," Mrs. Chapman said. "That's my late husband paying me a visit."

Mrs. Chapman had no use for generalities. When I first met her in 1960, she told me my mother, whom she correctly identified as Martha, was present, and that it was her anniversary. In fact, the sitting was on November 3rd, the day after my late mother's birthday. She then went on to give me greetings "from John who went out rather suddenly and didn't tell the truth." John LaTouche, my dear friend, died of a sudden heart attack, and only after his passing did it become known that someone else

owned his house and certain rights.

### ETHEL JOHNSON MYERS

Ethel Johnson Myers, who recently passed over while in her 90s, was a long-time friend and collaborator of mine in many cases. Originally, she was an opera singer in her native San

Francisco, and later a vaudeville performer with her first husband, Albert. She eventually moved to New York City and became a much sought-after vocal coach.

It was not until she contemplated suicide following her husband's passing, and his unexpected intervention from the spirit world, that Ethel became interested in psychic matters.

Eventually she added mediumship to her work and gradually it became her main occupation.

She saw clients individually and had weekly "development" circles at her studio on the ground floor of the Sherman Square apartment on West 73rd



Carolyn Chapman, in her last year, on East 34th Street, New York.

Street, a large room dominated by a grand piano and an array of intertwining plants. Never willing to limit herself to deep trance mediumship, at which she was very good, or clairvoyant readings, which she did for her clients, Ethel "sat" for direct voice phenomena with her circle and eventually achieved that phase of mediumship as well.

A real trooper, she sometimes accompanied me in the dead of night in quest of hauntings. She could get into deep trance quickly, and regardless of circumstances always delivered the "spiritual goods." There are very few like Ethel, because true, deep trance mediums are rare indeed.

Once I took Ethel on a case involving murder, a case the police were unable to solve. We deliberately took a detour so that she would not know where the house we were going to was located. But the moment we stopped the car, Ethel said, "What's the pianist doing here?"

"What pianist," I wanted to know.

"Rubinstein!"

Well, the case we were about to work on was the murder of financier Serge Rubinstein. But to voice teacher cum medium Ethel, the name Rubinstein had to be the pianist.

Probably the longest investigation I ever conducted in a haunting involved a house on Fifth Avenue in New York. In a deep trance, Ethel was able to bring through a gentleman who thought the year was 1873. I queried him about the landlord at the time, and he informed me rather briskly that he had a landlady and her name was Elsie something. But he did



Ethel Johnson Myers psychometrizing an ancient dolmen (calendar stone) at Mystery Hill, N.H.

not pay her the rent. No, he paid the rent to her handyman whose name was Pat Donovan.

After the investigation was over, I visited the New York Public Library only to discover that the directories for that period were, and had been, unavailable for some time. But I insisted,



and they were shown me at the repair shop. In the city directory for 1873 we found that the house in question belonged to one Isabella Clark domiciled at 35 Perry Street. And in the directory of the previous year, one Pat Donovan, laborer, also listed 35 Perry Street as his address. Elsie, of course, is a shortened form for Elizabeth or Isabella.

### SYBIL LEEK

The late Sybil Leek originally trained as a journalist, and then worked for years as a documentary producer in her native England. She is perhaps better known for her often publicized involvement with "The Old Religion," Wicca or Witchcraft, which was her faith, not her profession.

But her unusual psychic powers soon led her to seek out my assistance and we worked and traveled together many times, both in America and in Europe. She was also a gifted author with many books to her credit. She eventually moved to Florida

where she died.

The late Sybil Leek accompanied me and Regis Philbin to California's most haunted house, the Whaley House in San Diego. There she identified one of the resident ghosts as one "Ann Lannay." I later discovered that Anna Lannay was the *maiden name* of Thomas Whaley's wife...the man who built the house.

In a still officially unresolved murder case of a prominent actress who died in 1958, Sybil correctly identified the full name of the young man who had been dating her, and who to this day remains a suspect in the case, although he has an alibi given him by a friend. He was never arrested and charged

though he should have been. How could Sybil, newly arrived from England, know such things?

### BETTY RITTER

Betty Ritter, originally Betty Rogers before her marriage (which ended in divorce), was an Italian-American from Pennsyl-



Sybil Leek in meditation near Tara, Ireland.

vania with a great gift for clairvoyance and psychometry. I met her at a "blind" assembly in New York many years ago, where she and Ethel Myers were to be introduced to an interested professional audience of investigators and researchers.

Betty Ritter picked me out of the audience and informed me that an uncle of mine wished to be acknowledged. I demanded details, and immediately she said, "Well, his name is Otto, he was into music, and he had a blond wife named Alice."

I was flabbergasted! My late uncle Otto Stransky was a famous composer. When I knew him his wife, Alice, had gray hair, though from his memory, I suppose, she would always be his blonde.

Taken by me to a house in Greenwich Village, she correctly identified it as once having been Mayor Jimmy Walker's hideaway!

#### YOLANA LASSAW

Carolyn, Ethel, Sybil and Betty are over there now, on the Other

Side where they must be regarded as very special people which indeed they were, and are.

Today, there is Yolana Lassaw, the New York medium, holding forth at the Le Triumphe apartments on East 58th Street. Her clientele ranges from ordinary housewives to Senators and movie stars. She has clairvoyance



Betty Ritter giving her impression at a haunted apartment in Greenwich Village, New York.

as well as deep trance ability, and works frequently with various police departments (for free) trying to clear up unsolved crimes, or looking for missing persons. Her success percentage is impressive, as is the list of successful predictions she has made to me over the years since I first helped develop her gifts.

On January 11, 1979, Yolana stated

that one Oriental country would invade another shortly. On February 17, China invaded Vietnam. On January 16, 1979, she spoke of a "terror ride on a train going to Coney Island." On February 26, a holdup man terrorized and victimized people on just such a train.



Rosanna Rogers laying out the Tarot cards.

On a more intimate level, when the late John Myers "came through" her in trance, he demanded that a certain walking stick be given to "Dan." To my surprise, it turned out that such a stick had been in the estate but had not been given to his old friend, Dan Krieger, as desired by Myers!

### ROSANNA ROGERS

In Cleveland, Ohio, Rosanna Rogers—part Gypsy, part German—has her own cable television program dealing with psychic work. But her greatest talent lies in an in-depth interpretation of the ancient Tarot cards to an extent no other card reader has

ever achieved. Rosanna has designed her own deck, even illustrated it herself, and ranks high in my estimation as a reliable and knowledgeable professional.

While recently re-listening to her tape recorded predictions going back several years, I realized how accurate she really was. Living in a very picturesque old house on Svec Avenue in Cleveland's less affluent area, she nevertheless gets a steady stream of clients coming back again and again for her card readings and "what's ahead" counsel.

Rosanna Rogers uses her own enlarged deck of Tarot cards to



Yolana Lassaw

serve as psychic tools, but she combines the cards with astrology and ESP in a unique blend of clairvoyance. In January 1983, she told me I would be divorced. It happened three years later. She foretold that I would be working with "overseas money" during the month of June...this is about to happen for 1990 in connection with a film. In 1986 she spoke of my getting a magazine-publishing contract. I did, in 1988.

Like all psychic readers, exact time eludes her, but events are clear. Astrologers who do not or should not predict results—only conditions to be expected, trends, situations, etc.—work differently because theirs is a mathematically

based craft. Psychics use their emotions to probe the unknown, and in the dimension into which they reach, time as we understand it in the physical world simply does not exist.

### PSYCHICS GET ONLY PART OF THE FUTURE

Based on many years of exploring this field, I believe that the reason why some psychic readers get part of the future but not all is due to a higher order of things which wants us to know only that which is good for us to know at any given time—no more, no less. And that is as it should be.



## MAGICAL JEWELRY

*By John Ellis Sech*

Down through the ages people have adorned themselves with jewelry. Some have done so because they thought that the stones and metals harnessed the secrets and powers of nature, and that they could use the jewelry to control this power.

Sisters Lyn and Karen Mandelbaum live in New York. They've spent years researching the symbolism of ancient civilizations and have incorporated these symbols into their earring and necklace designs which they market under the name "Island Magic."

According to them, jade improves a person's sex life, a butterfly

signifies immortality and a bloodstone gives the owner the power to make all of his or her wishes come true. Along with many other ingredients, the sisters fashion jewelry that will bring their customers the very best fortune possible.

Island Magic is a success. The rich and famous, like rockers Cyndi Lauper and Debbie Gibson, adorn themselves with the magical jewelry. The line's modest prices, ranging from \$12 to \$85, make these imaginative items affordable to almost everyone.

The Island Magic line can be found in about 3,000 retail outlets.



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# MY PROOF OF SURVIVAL



*by the Readers*

## SENILE OR SUPERNATURAL?

By Oscar Atkins

The passage of time wreaks its toll on all of us, and we pay quite a price. This seemed to be the state and status of my beloved grandmother, Waunetta Atkins. There were supposed to have been blocks, hardening of the arteries, the influence of too-strong medications, etc., which had presumably made her senile... but was she?

Night after night she would retire early. We thought Mama Waunetta was talking in her sleep, or was so senile that we would not be able to care for her much longer. She would mumble and jabber, smile and laugh joyously, try to sing or simply talk about the family and those other things most important to her.

One night, however, I learned that this was not the case. On a hot night in the late '70s, Mama Waunetta was speaking and talk-

ing very loudly. My mother, Virginia Atkins, told me, "Run to your grandmother. She may be sick or need something." I did as I was told, for I felt a great sense



Oscar Atkins

of love and duty for my grandmother, and genuinely wanted to serve her and make her last days happy. When I got to her bedroom door, though, I thought I

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Author Judy Boss

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heard her talking *to someone else*.

I opened the door and asked her, trying to make my voice cheerful, "Who are you talking with, Mama?"

"Don't you recognize your Aunt Cora," she snapped back, as though I was being stubbornly ignorant. "Say hello! She's right over there," she said, pointing to a place out near the corner between the two big windows.

Though I did this just to humor her, no sooner had I spoken than a soft light, almost the color of lightning, flooded the corner.

Not only do I believe in life after death and eternity, but I know that my grandmother, Waunetta Hurt Atkins, and her sister, Cora Cooke, were experiencing it.

Mama wasn't senile after all. She was simply talking to the sister she loved so, who had come to ease her pain and take her back with her to Heaven. Both had had hard lives, and I believe the Lord gave them peace, blessing and happiness. My grandmother was never alone, even when "alone" for hours in her room or in a family in which there was little love and harsh circumstances. Cora was with my grandmother. And now, she's with Cora in a fairer place, where I also hope to return—to live and be with my beloved Mama and her sister...forever.—*Ashland, KY*

## AFTER HOURS VISITORS

By Mrs. SantaMaria Attaldo  
(as told to her granddaughter  
Terrilynn Quillien)

In early October 1989, I was hospitalized for a suspected liver problem. My skin was all yellow and itchy, and I felt absolutely miserable. Luckily, I had my youngest daughter Marie, and my granddaughter to care for me during the long nights at the hospital.

I (as well as my physicians), was concerned that I might have cancer. I was especially frightened since my sister, Mary Clement, died of cancer a few years ago. I hadn't been a patient in a hospital for over 40 years, and I'd never been this sick before. The thought of dying frightened me during all my waking hours. I really thought I might be getting ready to die. At 73 years of age, this wasn't too foolish of a fear!

Unable to determine anything conclusive from tests, the doctors performed abdominal surgery on Monday, October 16. I came through okay, but I wasn't sure that the doctors were telling me the whole truth when they pronounced me "cancer free." This is because the family opted not to tell my aunt, Sarah Avenel, when she was diagnosed as having cancer a few years ago. She died suspecting, but I guess really not knowing what was wrong. Could





From left: Mrs. Mary Clement, SantaMaria Attaldo, Mrs. Sarah Avenel

this be happening to me too?

On Wednesday the 18th, while still in East Jefferson General Hospital recovering from surgery, I had a visit I'll never forget.

Exhausted from pain and worry, I fell asleep early that evening. As I drifted into a fitful and light sleep, I immediately found myself sitting up and welcoming relatives I hadn't seen in a long time, and whom I dearly missed—my brother Dominick Villafranco, my daughter-in-law Shirley Schell, my aunt Dora Matti, my aunt Sarah, and my sister Mary. I wondered how they had got past the nurses since it was past visiting hours.

Then I remembered—they're all dead! For a moment I wondered: am I dead, too? I reached out my hand for them, and as I did, they all faded, in unison, into the wall in front of me. Just as they were fading out, I heard my daughter Marie call, "Mama, are you okay? What do you see? What is your hand doing out like that? Are you okay?"

It wasn't until much later that I decided to tell her and the family about my very special visitors—ones who arrived to let me know they weren't ready for me to visit them...yet!—*Indianapolis, IN*

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# TRUE MYSTIC EXPERIENCES

*by the Readers*

## SHE CALLS ME SUZIE

By Sylvia Husser Edwards

Ashley Edwards is the three-year-old daughter of Tina Edwards, a single working mother. I met her about six months ago when my divorced brother-in-law, Milton Brumfield, started seriously dating her mother.

When I first met Ashley she "took to me right away" as the saying goes. It was as though she recognized me as someone she knew. I treated her like I would any strange child, and it made her furious.

On one occasion with me, she grated her teeth and growled like a pit bull pup when someone takes its food away. Her small fists clenched and she shook with rage at me. She marched over to me with big, blue marble eyes flashing and deliberately stepped on the toes of my left foot. She twisted her hard-soled shoe

down as hard as she could. Then she squeezed her eyes and gritted her teeth, putting her little face as close as she could get it to mine. Her mother saw this and admonished her.

"Ashley, what on earth has gotten into you?" Tina turned to me and apologized for her child's behavior, whereupon Ashley proceeded to ignore me no matter how much I tried to talk to her.

My left foot, the one Ashley stepped on so deliberately, is deformed somewhat. A distinctive family trait, the second toe is exactly one inch longer than the big toe and the third toe is a half-inch longer than the big one. I have this long-toe phenomenon on both feet, but worse on the left one. I have been teased all my life about my toes. I usually wear open-toed shoes, possibly from a sadistic desire to be publicly ridiculed.

FATE will pay \$25.00 for each true experience published. Stories should be less than 300 words and typed double-spaced on one side of the paper (dot-matrix draft mode or script not accepted). They may be mailed to the TME Editor, FATE Magazine, P.O. Box 64383-F9005, St. Paul, MN 55164-0383. They must be signed by the author and address must be shown. Manuscripts will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

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## AND ... THE EVERYDAY WORLD

And what about the *visible world* we live in? Why do you buy things you don't really want or need, fritter away your time with activities that don't really interest, help or even amuse you? Or get involved with people you don't even like?

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Sylvia Husser Edwards

Ashley decided to be my friend after that, but she insisted on calling me "Suzie," no matter how many times her mother and I told her that my name was Sylvia.

The first time she called me Suzie her mother said, "What did you call her, Ashley? Her name is Sylvia." Ashley just smiled and refused to call me anything the rest of that day.

The second time she called me Suzie was in the supermarket. I wheeled my cart near Tina's cart in which Ashley was sitting. She somehow propelled it forward. As our carts collided she squealed loudly and yelled, "Suzie!"

Tina admonished her for being so noisy, and for calling me a name which she told the child was not mine.

I corrected her, "Oh, but my name is Sue. It's my middle name. One of my grandfather's

and also a sister used to call me Suzie. Both of them have passed on. It's all right with me if she calls me Suzie. I don't mind."

Ashley smiled at me and said, "Suzie." All the way home she hugged me and called me "Suzie."

July 30th was my birthday. After we had celebrated at home my husband John suggested that we take his mother a piece of cake and the rest of the ice cream. When we arrived, Tina and Ashley were there. Once the amenities were over and Ashley was eating her cake and ice cream she turned to her mother and said, "Birthday cake, Mama!"

Tina agreed and then laughed and told me that on the way over, Ashley had told her that they were going to eat supper. Ashley had said, "And birthday cake!"

Tina had told her, "No, Baby, no birthday cake."

But Ashley insisted that she was going to have birthday cake. Tina had finally convinced her to keep quiet about it.

After they had eaten supper the child refused to move from her place at the table telling them that she was waiting for her birthday cake. She sat there stubbornly. Then I came in and offered them birthday cake and ice cream.

How did Ashley know that my name is Sue and that I had been called Suzie? How did she

know it was my birthday? How did she know about my long toe? Reincarnation? She does remind me of my sister who passed away shortly before Ashley was born, and she has the same kind of temper that my sister had. She also has the same big, marble blue eyes.

Just coincidence? Maybe. She still calls me "Suzie."—*Pearl River, LA*

### "SAVED"

By Harvey Dabbling, Jr.

In early 1974, at the age of 24, I was employed by the U.S. Forest Service as a seasonal Fire Prevention Technician on the Stonyford Ranger District of the Mendocino National Forest in northern California.

For several weeks I had been painting and repairing prevention signs in some of the more remote areas. I was staying temporarily at a field station along with several other employees, one of whom happened to be the Forest Archaeologist, a young woman whose name I have forgotten.

One hot June afternoon, the archaeologist and I got into my government pickup truck and drove into town to deliver paperwork, obtain supplies, and make some telephone calls. It was early evening before we finished our business and started to head

back, and the Sun was still beating down mercilessly on the valley floor. We were both anxious to get back into the cool of the mountains and so I was driving the truck faster than I normally would have done.

Several miles past the forest boundary, as we approached a particularly sharp blind-curve, an incident occurred that will be forever etched in my memory.

Instead of slowing down for the curve as I should have, I suddenly slammed my foot down on the accelerator, jerked the steering wheel to the right, then spun it quickly back to the left again. This sent the truck into a sideways skid, careening us off the right-hand side of the road, where we ended up sitting in a cloud of dust in a little wide spot.

A second or two passed, and I was beginning to wonder why I was doing all of this, when a fully loaded logging truck hurtled past us so closely that he actually struck my side view mirror. The driver, I learned later, was hauling his last load of the day to the mill, and had not expected other traffic on the road that late in the day. He was going "hell bent for election" and was taking both sides of the road to do it.

Both of us sat glued to our seat, the close brush with death leaving us speechless and unable to move.



Harvey Dabling, Jr.

Finally she looked at me. "How did you know?" she demanded. I shook my head, still unable to talk. She tugged at my arm. "Harvey, how did you do that? How did you know?"

I tried to catch my breath and shook my head from side to side again. "I don't know," I said slowly. "I didn't hear it. I didn't do it. I don't know *what's* going on." Finally I was able to gain my composure enough to drive on.

Through the years I've often wondered about that moment. Although my driving skills were less than ordinary, I had performed maneuvers that would have made a professional stuntman proud. I had avoided certain death by skidding a 3/4-ton truck through loose gravel at high speed into a road turnout that I didn't even know was

there—and I had done all of it without really knowing why.

The only thing I can think is that it just wasn't my time to leave this Earth. Perhaps it was simply that I was supposed to keep that lady alive to see her husband and children again. Then again, there were, and probably still are, things that I'm personally supposed to accomplish here. Come to think of it, I'd better get busy. —*Big Piney, WY*

## GOAT MILK

By Evelyn R. Marlon

It was 1936 and we had just moved into a little cottage in Boscobel, Wisconsin. We knew few people in our neighborhood. One old lady, "Old Mother Hogan," lived alone on the other side of town. She made her poor living raising goats and selling their milk.

My little brother George was sick when we moved, and now, three days later, he had not improved. My mother, Della Hammer, said, "He needs goat milk." The doctor had agreed that it would do him a world of good.

"Mother, dear, don't fret. You are going to get some goat milk this afternoon. I know it. I'm sure of it!" I said

My mother's eyes brightened through her tears and she smiled. "You seem so sure, Trudy," she said.



## HAS THIS EVER HAPPENED TO YOU?

1. You meet someone and feel an immediate kinship:  Yes  No
2. You visit a strange place and feel like you've been there before:  Yes  No
3. You have never gotten along with a certain family member:  Yes  No
4. You struggle with fears that seem "irrational":  Yes  No
5. You have a curiosity about reincarnation:  Yes  No

If you answered "YES" to any of the above questions, you may have—at one time or another—experienced a link with one or more of your PAST LIVES!

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"Old Mrs. Hogan is walking to our house right now, and I can see the pitcher of milk she is bringing to us."

"How do you know?" Mother began, but I interrupted.

"I saw her in my dream."

About 3 o'clock that afternoon, Old Mrs. Hogan knocked on our back door and in her right hand was a full pitcher of goat milk. She held it out to Mother.

"For the baby," she said. "God sent me."—*Slidell, LA*

## VACATION GHOST

By Dolores M. Hewitt

In October 1988, two weeks after Hurricane Gilbert thrashed Cancun, Mexico with its 200-plus MPH fury, my husband Bill and I went there for vacation. There were only a handful of tourists at our resort, and only one other villa was occupied in our wing. Our villa was on the top floor next to the elevator. It would be quiet and peaceful, or so we thought.

That evening, as I bent over a suitcase, rummaging for the aspirin bottle, I felt a cool, static electric sensation at my side and caught a movement in my peripheral vision. I turned to look.

A man was there, and within seconds he evaporated! I was terrified.

I raced out of the bedroom and headed into the living room where my husband was sitting. I

told him what had happened. When he investigated no one was there.

At a party that night, I told people what had happened. The head housekeeper said there had been ghost sightings, lights turned on and phone calls to the front desk for help from empty villas.



Dolores M. Hewitt

She said that years before, a couple with a grown, retarded son stayed in that wing. The son had slipped away from his parents' supervision and had managed to get into the bottom of the elevator shaft. When the elevator descended, he was crushed to death. The "ghost" sightings and other events started shortly thereafter.

Was it the spirit of this confused, retarded man I saw that night? I believe it was. So did my husband and the head housekeeper.—*Lakewood, CO*

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# REPORT FROM THE READERS

*by the Readers*

## LETTER OF THE MONTH

Each month, FATE editors choose an especially noteworthy letter to share with our readers. The writer of the letter receives \$10.00 for his/her fine efforts.

The letter from Al MacLeod, in the March 1990 issue of FATE (Report from the Readers) concerning nothing traveling faster than the speed of light reminded me of something that happened years ago.

It was 1922 and I was in my second year in high school in San Francisco, California. We were studying the speed of sound in our physics class when I raised my hand and asked the instructor, "What would happen to an airplane if it reached the speed of sound? Would the sound waves build up and break the wings off the plane?"

His answer was something I have never forgotten. "You're crazy. They can never reach the speed of sound. It's impossible."

So you see, limits are always

set by scientific minds, but given time, they will be broken.—  
*George A. Lundburg, Magalia, CA*

"A Great

Loneliness of Spirit"

I read the story "A Great Loneliness of Spirit" in the August issue of FATE with an emptiness, a sense of frustration, and a question of "why?" This story of the noble elephant should make an impression on anyone who cares in the slightest about the ecology of this planet. Yet man, in his infinite wisdom, seems bent on the destruction of not only his domain, but of every living thing on it.

I fail to see where the killing of this great animal proves anything about the person, except on the negative side. Stealing its ivory simply is not a very good idea for killing anything.

The elephant has been with us a very long time. It will indeed be a sad day when this animal is no

These columns of FATE are set aside each month for your comments. Send your neatly typed opinion of articles, columns, and stories of unusual occurrences to REPORT FROM THE READERS, FATE Magazine, P.O. Box 64383-F9005, St. Paul, MN 55164-0383.

more, and will only be found in books and museums.—*David Stinson, Ladson, SC*

*Editor's Note: Since the appearance of the article in FATE, nations of the world have signed a treaty banning international trade in ivory. Early reports show that this is already helping the elephant.*

### Bully for Shirley

Things come slow to some, even Shirley MacLaine, but at last—per your September 1989 "I See by the Papers"—she realizes that all is *self-enlightenment*, and that a religion based on this only has one member.

Years ago, A.J. Nock stated that working for the benefit of society was not possible. Good can only be transferred from individuals to other individuals.

Bully for Shirley.—*Orlando Franklin, Santa Barbara, CA*

### Déjà vu

For several years I have found I have a déjà vu feeling of comfort and relaxation—being home—when the sky is dark gray and the surroundings feel hostile and cold. This phenomenon occurred once in an airplane and once in a ski hut.

I told a friend about this and was astonished when she knew this feeling too. She had experienced it while driving on a free-

*continued on page 113*

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# BOOK REVIEWS



## INTIMATES THROUGH TIME:

### Edgar Cayce's Mysteries of Reincarnation

*By Jess Stearn*

Harper & Row, San Francisco, CA.  
Hardcover, 1989, 280 pgs., \$17.95

Here are recounted seven of Edgar Cayce's past lives, as Cayce himself remembered them during his sleeping or trance states. During these lives Cayce constantly struggled to overcome his carnal desires in favor of his spiritual development, not often succeeding until this last life.

According to this book, Cayce was quite a ladies' man in his past lives. Many of his past-life companions were with him again in this century, and I found it interesting to see the parts they played, jealousies laid to rest and how they all worked out the past relationships in their most recent lives.

The ladies who were involved with Cayce (past and present lives) reminded me of the old-guard Spiritualists. In the book, the conversations about past lives and names, identities, etc. in those lives are nonchalant and

casual, completely accepting. Interesting recollections were included like Cayce as Ra-Ta in ancient Egypt, fathering many children with specially chosen beautiful young women in a generating program in order to propagate a new, superior race. In this culture they practiced surgery to remove feathers, appendages, etc., to make people more beautiful and perfect.

There was some repetition of information about Cayce from Stearn's other books about him. If you are new to Cayce this will be helpful in understanding his background, but a repeat if you have read other Cayce material.

Stearn's retelling of Cayce's "readings" (psychic readings given on medical advice and answers to problems given while Cayce was in a sleeping or trance state) are easier to understand than in Cayce's own trance language.

There is so much wariness of channelers now, yet Cayce's information is readily accepted by many people. He evidently has proven himself by the sheer

number of verified medical healings, although his misses should not be overlooked.

Stearn doesn't offer any actual proof that these lives were indeed the past lives of Edgar Cayce. The very notion of past lives is still highly debatable. Nor is any proof offered here testifying to his successful healings.

Although I have read many books about Cayce and his teachings, *Intimates Through Time* was the most human.—*Phyllis Galde*

## OTHER BOOKS OF INTEREST

### WHAT YOU NEED IS WHAT YOU'VE GOT

*By Larry & Valere Althouse*

Samuel Weiser, York Beach, ME.  
Softcover, 1989, 196 pgs., \$9.95

Take charge of your mind. Rule your emotions. Guide your destiny and take charge of your body. Worry is bad; a needless waste of energy. Relaxation dissolves stress and muscle tension. What is important is sleep, exercise, breathing techniques, meditation.

Although there are no new secrets in this book, it is valuable because the authors offer many *different* techniques for self-improvement. If one technique doesn't inspire you, another will.

I have always been somewhat skeptical of the everything-can-be-better-with-a-positive-atti-

tude, Norman Vincent Peale-type thinking. Somehow it seemed undignified to be too cheerful or upbeat. As the authors explain, this erroneous attitude is typical of much of our negative thinking about ourselves. This book reaffirmed that it's okay to be okay.—*Alexander Keetle*

### POTENTIAL

#### The Name Analysis Book

*By Paul & Valeta Rice*

Samuel Weiser, York Beach, ME.  
Softcover, 1987, 190 pgs., \$8.95

It is said that all of the universe operates on vibrations, and that each number has a vibration.

This book is an in-depth look at the science of vibration—numerology. More than just a book that helps you to figure out the value and meaning of your name, the authors delineate such areas as desire numbers, dormant numbers, self numbers, ability numbers, and others.

Many systems of character study, such as astrology and palmistry, while good, leave much to the subjective abilities of the interpreter. I like numerology because it is clear-cut, and there are fewer variables.

I also found useful the data sheets enclosed in the back of the book for ease in filling out pertinent number analyses.—*Angela J. Jones*

*continued on page 112*

# VENTURE BOOKSHOP



## Marina Medici GOOD MAGIC

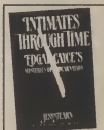
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Jess Stearn

## INTIMATES THROUGH TIME

Edgar Cayce's Mysteries of Reincarnation

Recounts the seven lives of Edgar Cayce through the ages. We see Cayce, the spiritual entity, in his various stages of development, constantly struggling to master the carnal urges that tormented him. These accounts give reality to the concept of the continuous soul and show how the memories of the distant past influence us in the present. Hardcover, 262 pp., \$17.95.



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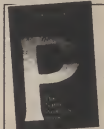
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*continued from page 109*  
**TOM SLICK AND THE  
 SEARCH FOR THE YETI**

*By Loren Coleman*

Faber & Faber, Boston, MA.

Softcover, 1989, 194 pgs., \$11.95

This is an account of Texas millionaire Tom Slick's involvement with cryptozoology. Slick played a pivotal role for much of the interest and information on the yeti in the 1950s. Coleman, after much research, has revealed the life of the enigmatic Slick, who was killed in his 40s in a mysterious plane crash, thereby ending an important era in cryptozoology.

This is also the history of the abominable snowman, detailing all known factual data on it since its discovery in 1921. Included are reports on Marlin Perkins' and Sir Edmund Hillary's attempts to debunk its existence which resulted in halting further research on the hairy hominoid.

Coleman has carefully provided solid reports of explorers' and native Tibetans' experiences in the Himalayas with these mysterious creatures. *Yetis are real.*—

*Phyllis Galde*

**MANITOU**

*By James W. Mavor Jr. and*

*Byron E. Dix*

Inner Traditions, Rochester, VT.  
 Softcover, 1989, 390 pgs., \$16.95

When Byron Dix hiked through the hills of central Vermont in the summer of 1974,

he was searching for an unusual stone chamber he'd been told about. What he found first was a bowl-shaped area of about 20 acres. Stones set in the ridge of the bowl coincided with rows of stones within the bowland which seem to be an astrological observatory.

This began a period of extensive research. This book is a detailed report of their findings in the fascinating field of archaeoastronomy.—*C.C. Helgeson*

**GOOD MAGIC**

*By Marina Medici*

Prentice Hall, NY. Softcover,

1989, 256 pgs., \$12.95

This book is an introduction to natural magic through a study of folklore, the elements, crystals and gems, herbs, flowers, etc. Filled with color photos throughout, the book encourages the beginner, and provides the how-to necessary to gain skills in magical arts through the use of the earth's natural gifts and special recipes for success.

This is a beginner's book. In her introduction, the author states that this is not a book on Witchcraft, but rather *woman-craft* handed down in a fashion similar to the wisdom passed on through our grandmothers from generation to generation.—*Blaise Deblak*

*continued from page 107*  
way and while skiing.

Where does this feeling come from? Do other people have the same experience? Is this one of the appearances of the "collective consciousness" of times long gone? Is the dark gray surrounding triggering a faint memory encountered in astral flights during sleep?—*Gerda Gallob, Torrance, CA*

#### A CHRISTIAN NATION?

While Ms. Jo Allers of Moab, Utah, may personally take issue with the U.S. being referred to as "a Christian Nation," (FATE, September 1989, "Report from the Readers") she does not apparently know it is! According to the U.S. Supreme Court (February 29, 1892, The Holy Trinity Church vs. U.S.) The United States "...is a Christian Nation." This was the unanimous opinion of the court.

Ms. Allers states she was "raised a Christian," but this does not establish one as a Christian. She refers to herself as "a New Age Christian" which in and of itself does not exist in the real world. She comes up with the idea that "the world would be far better off if left to individual belief...as regards [to] what, when and how the individual returns to God." That idea is not Christian!

A close examination of Christian belief indicates Ms. Allers' teachings are far afield. The Christian Church, as a whole, has rejected those teachings for many hundreds of years as false and unscriptural. The beliefs of the Church must conform to Scripture. If they do not they are then classed as unscriptural and false.

Ms. Allers ideas based on Scripture are not scriptural.—*Russell Fidler, Villisca, IA*

*Editor's Note: Ms. Allers ideas were 1) statistically this is principally a Christian country, 2) "it takes more to follow Christ than a very shallow mouthing of words and dunking in water," and 3) we should use the "free-will God permitted humanity" to choose how to return to God. We do not see how these ideas are "far afield" from traditional Christian theology. What do our readers think?*

#### GRANDFATHER, NOT FATHER

Author Raymond Lamont-Brown ("Samuel Wesley's Poltergeist," September, 1989 FATE) is in gross error when he says that the Reverend Samuel Wesley was the father of Methodism. Wesley's fifteenth child, John, was the father of Methodism.—*June Spencer-Mislak, Shelburne Falls, MA*

*Editor's note: This was a mistake in editing and not Mr. Lamont-*

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*Brown's problem. We regret the error and any problems it might have caused.*

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I've just read the October 1989 issue of FATE. As a Witch I was filled with great joy to see your special section on the Wiccan religion. Finally, the truth!!

Thank you so very much for showing your readers that people who follow the faith of Witchcraft are not satanists! One of these days we won't have to hide anymore...one of these days.—*Vendla Bramble, Harrisonville, MO*

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*continued on page 125*

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*continued from page 114*

zine should come to me, like my crystal did, but that is another story. Please keep your magazine coming.

In your September issue was the article on "T.G." (The Ghost) by Glen Zook which really hit home. You see, I too have someone living with me and his name is "George." Glen is not the only one who has an invisible friend.

How many others out there

have such friends and are too shy to mention it? I wonder.—C.D. Jenks, North Olmsted, OH

## SHIFTY POLES

John Keel's "Beyond the Known" (FATE, September 1989) discusses the wandering of the magnetic poles. Of interest is the theory that the magnetic poles have actually reversed repeatedly throughout geologic history. As magma cools, iron bearing minerals align according to the magnetic field of the day and retain a weak, remnant magnetism.

Study of the remnant magnetism indicates when the magnetic pole reversals have occurred. The periods between the reversals are quite varied. The North magnetic pole can literally shift to become the South magnetic pole.

The current drift in the magnetic field is interesting but minor compared to full scale magnetic field reversals. The cause of these reversals is not yet known but speculated about.—Raymond U. Roberts, Norman, OK

## NEEDS A MEDIUM

I am interested in finding a medium who has experience in contacting the dead. I would appreciate it if any of your readers could recommend some such person with whom they have had excellent results.—Rand R. Bookman, P.O. Box 13544, Tucson, AZ 85732

## JAMES BALDWIN AND ME

Recently, I saw a PBS biography on author James Baldwin. In one scene of a room I saw a lamp on a table. Below the lamp, on the wall, was the face of a woman. I don't recall where this particular room was located, but later on, at the end of the program when Baldwin was dying, he reportedly told his friends that he saw the face of his ladyfriend on the wall in his room.

I am baffled. What did I see? What did James Baldwin see? Did we both see the same image? I would be interested to know if any of your readers saw this TV biography and if anyone else saw the image of the woman on the wall by the lamp.—*Sylvia Schoenberger, Wausau, WI*

LIKES "SHOW BIZ"  
PERSONALITIES

I like having articles about famous show biz personalities as you have had in recent issues.

Show biz personalities are always good reading, especially so in the occult field. I'm an ASCAP writer for almost 40 years, and have been involved in show biz as well as in the occult: parapsychology, etc., for many years. Keep up your good track record and include show biz personalities.—*Nicholas A. Catsos, New York, NY*

## LOOKING FOR BOOKS

With professional help I have searched long, diligently and unsuccessfully for the following books by J. Arthur Findlay: *The Psychic Stream* and *The Curse of Ignorance* (two volumes). Several of his books were printed by Psychic Press, Ltd. of London. Perhaps FATE readers will be able to help me find these books.—*E.L. Robbins, Lansing, MI*

## ENJOYS GHOSTS

I enjoyed your article "The Reality of Ghosts" (FATE, November, December 1989) by Professor Hans Holzer.

Have more stories by him please!

I don't understand why people are so afraid of ghosts! They are just trying to tell us something from another world. *The Secret Passageway* section of the article is a good example of this.

I think people should listen more to ghosts. They should stay in the place where the ghosts appear (so as to record their messages, etc.) rather than run away or move from the house where the spirits are. Have a tape recorder or camera ready. Perhaps you might record something.—*May L. Mutolese, Havertown, PA*



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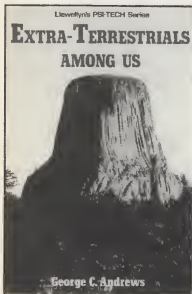
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