

TRUE STORIES OF THE STRANGE AND UNKNOWN

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A Medium Fights

A  
DEMON

A FEW years after I started working with the Parapsychology Foundation, a lawyer acquaintance of the Foundation's president, Mrs. Eileen Garrett, telephoned her with an intriguing request.

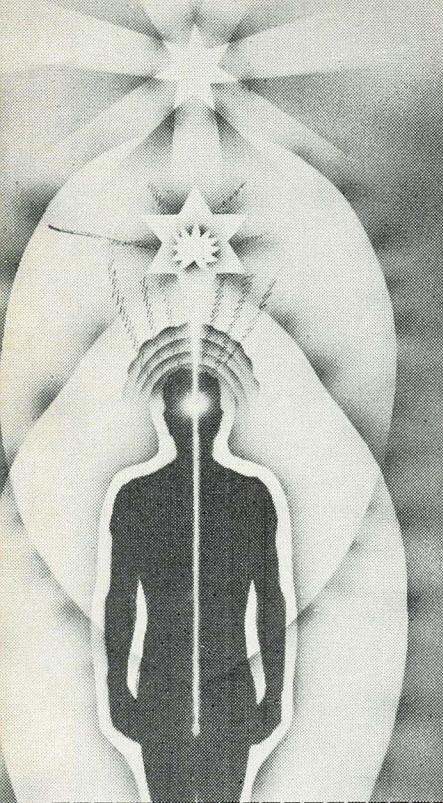
Could she, he asked, exorcize the spirit of a witch who had invaded the mind and body of a young married woman?

This request was no routine matter. The scene of the phenomena was elegant — a town house on New York's upper East Side, the home of Walter Camden, a successful steel executive, and his wife Victoria, a vivacious hostess and sportswoman.

We were told that Victoria had suffered a number of accidents in her home. Without forewarning she might be thrown across the room. At one time she was nearly drowned in her bathtub and then found herself hurled, wet, helpless and naked, against the tiles around the tub...

(Continued on page 38)

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# I See by the Papers



Curtis  
Fuller

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

*"Oh, let us never, never doubt  
What nobody is sure about."*

—Hilaire Belloc

WE LONG have believed life must exist every place on earth where it is neither too cold nor too hot. When FATE began publication it was generally held that the ocean depths were devoid of life because of the perpetual darkness, lack of nutrients and enormous pressures. It was similarly believed that in Antarctica only the coast could sustain life; inland there could be only frozen desert. In recent years both of these scientifically held theories have been disproved.

Now the exciting news is of the teeming life that the joint French-American Project Fa-

mous is discovering 9,000 feet deep in the Atlantic Ocean. Three deep-sea submarines, the French *Cyana* and *Archimedes* and the American *Alvin* are examining the great north-south rift valley which cuts through the Atlantic Ocean floor from Iceland almost to Antarctica.

Omitting the geology this month, we want to describe the sea-bottom creatures Walter Sullivan reports in the *New York Times*. Sullivan interviewed Dr. Wilfred B. Bryan of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, who described "lots of dog-faced fish — big ones," some as long as three feet. As the *Alvin* prowled just above the ocean bottom the scientists aboard noted many benthosaurs, fish that rest tripod-like on their two pectoral fins and tail. They saw swarms of brightly colored small fish whose brilliance Dr. Ballard, also of Woods Hole, termed a puzzle. "Who's going to admire them?" he asked.

The *Alvin* came upon an umbrella-shaped octopus with webbed tentacles, a three-foot squid, what appeared to be an eel, and rattail fish with huge heads and eel-like bodies.



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The sea bottom in places was carpeted with petropods which look like tiny horseshoe crabs. There were sponges as big as three feet in diameter and resembling giant puffballs. There were sea pins shaped like corkscrews up to 20 feet long.

Strangely enough there were few luminous fish such as are found at intermediate depths. On the way up to the surface the *Alvin* operators would switch the floodlamps on and off and this light energized luminous organisms and made them shine brighter. "They really lit up," said one scientist. "It was like going through a galaxy."

Attempts to bring up some of these sea-bottom creatures alive were unsuccessful, perhaps due to extreme temperature changes or because of the change in pressure from two tons per square inch to only 15 pounds at sea level.



## "LITTLE ICE AGE"

**M**AN HAS kept climate records for relatively few years, thus cannot be certain the recent colder weather the earth has been experiencing presages the coming of a "little ice age." New evidence that this may be the case, however, has been presented by two Oregon State University oceanographers who

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have made a three-year study of ocean core drillings. Ross Heath and Ted Moore have extracted 80-foot cores off the west coasts of Oregon, California and South America and have studied the layers of sediment contained in these samples. The layers are "like a little history book," Heath told UPI.

"Since 1940 the average air temperature in the North Hemisphere has fallen about 1.3 degrees Fahrenheit," explained Heath. "It's enough to make very bitter winters."

The core studies suggest that full ice ages recur about every 100,000 years. Intermediate ice ages seem to come in 2,500-year cycles and little ice ages more frequently.

The two scientists report that the last little ice age began in the 12th Century and peaked in the 16th Century. After that temperatures warmed up again until about 1940. During the worst of this cold period the Viking settlements in Greenland were wiped out, European wheat and grape crops failed and advancing glaciers destroyed Alpine villages.

In North America the recurrence of a little ice age means harder winters. The ability to forecast this would warn us of the need for more fuel during the colder spells and, Moore told the

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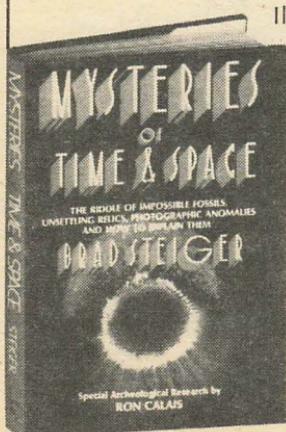
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UPI, "Hopefully we'd be able to tell farmers where the best place to grow wheat would be 25 years from now, or that they should store a crop surplus."



### A LITTLE BIT OF FAITH

AS IN THE case of so many unexplained wonders, science is determined to offer a rational explanation for fire walking. Only in recent years have scientists even deigned to consider the claim that "purified" men and women can walk on red-hot coals without being burned.

The handicap, skepticism, exists even in the Orient it seems. Now the Sri Lanka Rationalists' Association of Colombo, Sri Lanka (formerly Ceylon), has offered a \$5,000 cash prize to the first devotee who walks on fire and is medically certified not to have blistered his feet.

The skepticism arose, it seems, after some faculty members of the University Sri Lanka successfully walked over fire under laboratory controlled conditions. Fire walking devotees called this approach prissy and challenged the laboratory fire walkers to take a real fire walk with them in a genuine temple ceremony.

Lionel Cooray, a laboratory assistant sponsored by the medical faculty, took up the challenge

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but unfortunately he blistered his feet while one devotee among the challengers had no blisters when examined by medical specialists.

The judges in their report stated that "Cooray made a mad dash across the fire trench, panic-stricken, and ran as if he were being chased by a tiger, while other devotees walked the fire, one following the other with confidence." Cooray explained that the temple fire walk was much hotter than his laboratory fires had been.

So far the issue remains unresolved. The medical faculty reports that devotees take about three seconds to walk across a bed of cinders 18 feet long. They take an average of 10 steps and they calculate that the average duration of contact between the feet and the coals is three-tenths of a second which is insufficient to cause burns.

To this the devotees respond, why then were Cooray's feet blistered?

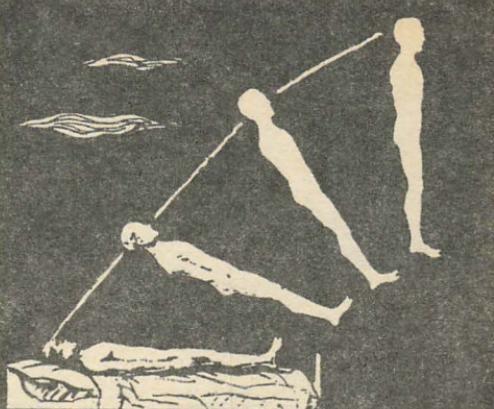
The doctors reply that fire walkers habitually go barefoot and the soles of their feet are thicker than those of persons accustomed to wearing shoes.

But the devotees insist they are protected by religious purification rituals.

And there the matter rests — the Rationalists' Association hasn't yet paid out its \$5,000.

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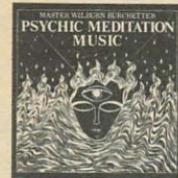
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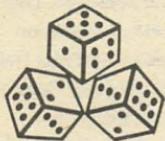
**LIGHTNING STRIKES**  
**"I** COULD see the lightning strike," said Don Parrott. "It was like you see in the pictures, all jagged and streaking down right to Jamey. Then he turned all white, at the same time he was like a ball of fire. And then he flipped into the air backwards and landed four or five feet away."

Parrott, with his two sons Jamey and Jeff, had been playing golf on the Mainlands of Tamarac course in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., when he saw his son turn into a ball of fire, "completely outlined in light, fire and smoke."

Within seconds Parrott stuck his finger down Jamey's throat and the 15-year-old boy began to gag. Parrott gave him mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. In the hospital an hour and a half later Jamey began to recover feeling in his legs. His right arm remained numb for four hours. But shortly he was as good as new except for a lightning burn on his arm. Yet his shirt was burned and split to shreds; the hair on the right armpit was completely singed off; the mark of his tennis shoe eyelets showed as burned rings on his feet; and the zipper of his trousers was welded shut.

Jamey felt nothing of his ordeal. "I was just frozen," he told Barbara Lawry of the Fort

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Lauderdale News, "but I must have been looking at my arm because I could see it and it was all a blue glow." Jamey's brother Jeff and a friend, Dave Rose, were knocked down and dazed by the same lightning stroke.



**CRACKING THE MAYAN CODE**

**A**NTOON Vollemaere, a Belgian researcher who has been working alone for 10 years, believes he is close to deciphering the Mayan script whose keys were destroyed by the conquering Spaniards in the 15th Century. The Spanish burned every Mayan book or codex they could lay their hands on and only three are known to survive. However, scattered through the jungles are 13,000 historical sites of the Mayas, most of them unexcavated, containing innumerable hieroglyphs whose significance still is not understood.

Claims of deciphering the Mayan writing have been made before but all have been mistaken. Vollemaere was untrained and 44 years old when he set out to crack the Mayan script in 1965. He wrote several technical papers, journeyed to Yucatan and Central America, and on the basis of his work was admitted to the Sorbonne in Paris as a doctoral student. His doctorate in

Mayan paleology was the first ever awarded by a French university.

But does Vollemaere really have the keys? He believes he does. "We can say it is now virtually deciphered," he says. "We have the most important parts. In two years it should be done entirely."

The three existing codices have been of great help to Vollemaere since they contain vestiges of picture writing along with 10,361 hieroglyphs. He doesn't expect much new material to come from the codices but says the important thing is to be able to read the script. "After that comes the interesting part. That is to apply what we know to the Mayan stellae and monuments. If we can read these we can know the history as the Mayas recorded it."



#### ASTRONOMERS AT WORK

PERHAPS the most dramatic example of our present-day scientific explosion is the increase in astronomical knowledge. One facet of this is the extraordinary development of space photography. When man took that first "giant step" on the moon a group of longtime science fiction fans got together to marvel at what had seemed impossible when they were mimeo-

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— SATISFACTION GUARANTEED OR MONEY BACK —

graphing their high school fan-zines a couple of decades ago. But the development of space photography seems almost as exciting as that first trip to the moon.

It began about 15 years ago when the Russians photographed the far side of the moon — the side never before seen by man. Today not only has the entire surface of the moon been photographed but so has the entire surface of Mars.

We now expect humans will visit Mars some day. It does not seem less attainable than the moon did at the beginning of this rocket age. And when that day comes the first human visitors will know beforehand not only what the Martian landscape looks like but whether life exists there. They will know about Mars' atmosphere, winds and temperatures. Space probes will give them this information. Space photography may give them more.

What space photography tells us about Jupiter, Venus and Mercury further astounds us. These three planets have an environment so hostile that it now seems man may never visit them. Mariner 10 dispatched several thousand amazing photographs during its single orbit of Venus before it plunged on toward Mercury.

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Venus has hardly any spin—it takes Venus 243 Earth-days to rotate once, its day is longer than its year—and little magnetism which would seem to confirm the view that earth's magnetic field is caused by its spin. Earth's magnetic field, in turn, diverts the fearsome solar wind which beats down upon Venus.



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to our moon's. The photographs show huge craters, scattered ridge-like formations and a few long narrow valleys. From a distance of 3,720 miles the twin television cameras were able to photograph physical objects smaller than a mile across. Meanwhile electronic sensors scanned the surface. Mariner 10 circled Mercury twice, took more than 2,000 photos and solved mysteries previously undefined because the planet is so close to the sun it is almost impossible to study it through a telescope from Earth. Scientists will be analyzing the data for months; this is written only a few days after the first transmission. Hopefully, Mariner 10 will have another shot at photographing Mercury on September 22, 1974, when both the planet and the spaceship, having circled the far side of the sun, will be on the return trip. Already we know that Mercury has a small magnetic field and a thin atmosphere of deadly gases.



### WHY ALL THIS?

EXCEPT TO satisfy man's insatiable curiosity, what is the purpose of it all? Certainly immediate dividends would be hard to find. But who knows what value these explorations will have for future generations?

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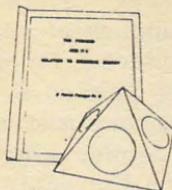
to the probable existence of "black holes" in space—tiny areas of collapsed matter so dense their gravitational attraction does not permit even light waves to escape.

How one looks at "black holes" may be a matter of temperament. In April 1973 Dr. John A. Wheeler of Princeton University predicted the universe someday will collapse into a single great "black hole" in which all matter will be annihilated.

Wheeler's colleague at Princeton, Prof. Jeremiah P. Ostriker, recently described the same thing in quite different terms. He believes he may have found some of the mass in the universe that Einstein predicted. If so, Einstein was right when he proposed a closed universe that expands and contracts eternally. Ostriker, then, instead of predicting a permanent "black hole" in which all matter and all physical laws come to an end, suggests that after the matter has expanded to its maximum distance it will fall back upon itself forming a "black hole" and this "black hole" in turn will explode in another "big bang" and the universe will have started all over again—an endless cycle, repeating itself through eternity.

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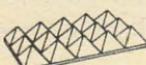
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Laboratories has proposed that someday man will be able to harness "black holes" to create nearly endless supplies of energy. The concept seems far out but can hardly be ignored since the Livermore Laboratories are operated for the Atomic Energy Commission by the University of California.

Because no studies to date show enough mass to account for the gravity that holds galaxies together, it has been proposed that the necessary mass may be concealed in a multitude of "black holes," large and small, spread throughout the galaxies.

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seem to be a problem because according to Walter Sullivan of the *New York Times*, if the earth were compressed enough to become a "black hole" it would be no bigger than a tennis ball.

On the other hand, the Livermore scientists say, some "black holes" may be so tiny their effects would extend no more than a few hundred yards. The scientists suggest a power plant could be placed in orbit to accompany an orbiting "black hole" — not so close as to be sucked into it — and fire fusion fuel into the "hole." The fuel would release enormous amounts of energy which then would be collected by the power plant and beamed to earth at microwave radio frequencies.

The Livermore scientists caution that the difficulties "may have been overestimated" but of course, there's that problem of finding the "black hole."



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**T**HE SEARCH for life in space is not coming along so good, really. The Soviets have had tough luck in their attempts to land a probe on Mars. One landing capsule missed the planet completely and another stopped sending signals on its way down to land. No signals have yet been returned by any spacecraft from

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the Martian surface. In 1975, however, NASA plans to land on Mars two Viking craft carrying life-detecting equipment.

Elsewhere in our galaxy a systematic search of the 500 nearest stars so far has failed to detect any radio waves suggestive of an advanced technology. Included are all the likely candidates within 80 light years of Earth according to Dr. Frank Drake of Cornell University. The data are still being analyzed.

Despite these failures, Dr. Drake told an audience of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, emissions from interstellar civilizations "certainly are now going through this room."

To provide a real network of eavesdroppers, a NASA study is considering a 10-mile-wide field of antennas to listen to the heavens. The cost would be a piddling \$5 billion — and the field could be built in increments.

Lest the whole matter seem relatively hopeless we are pleased to report that Dr. Carl Sagan of Cornell University believes that Titan, the largest of Saturn's moons, may support life. Although Titan is an enormous distance from the sun a greenhouse effect may be operating there, created by the absorption of the sun's rays by molecular hydrogen. If so, Ti-

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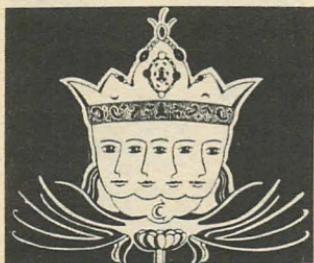
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tan's temperature might tolerate life — especially because the satellite should be "littered" with the type of organic molecules which led to the origin of life on earth, says Dr. Sagan.



**MAN vs. BEAST**

ANOTHER current controversy occupying psychologists is the argument between animal psychologists (called "ethologists") as to the extent their conclusions can be applied to humans.

Men like Konrad Lorenz, who discovered the important concept of "imprinting" which continues to affect all psychology, believe that the history of man is such that warfare is inevitable and that based upon animal behavior, all humans are aggressive and territorial. Lorenz contends, "The peaceful man is yet to be born."

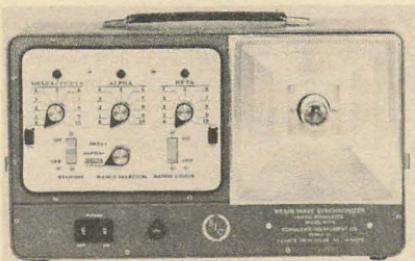
Another European, German researcher Dr. Irenaus Eibl-Eibesfeldt, takes a more hopeful view. He believes along with many other critics of Lorenz that society can teach man to be non-violent. Although he does not dispute the aggressiveness of man Dr. Eibl-Eibesfeld says that man has made a start in ritualizing aggression by such activities as war crimes trials, treaties, arms limitation pacts, and the like.

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mously difficult. Dr. Jane Van Lawick-Goodall, who lived in the wilds of Tanzania observing chimpanzees in their natural state, says that three baby chimps died within a year of the death of their mothers even though all of them were past the stage of depending on them for food, milk or safety. She showed motion pictures dramatizing the depression of the young chimps and believes they died as a result of their sorrow.



### SPECIAL NOTE

SINCE FATE began publishing paleontologists have pushed back the antiquity of man in America 10's of thousands of years.

A new technique called "aspartic acid racemization" now suggests the theory that man first appeared on this continent about 20,000 years ago, having migrated across the Bering Sea land bridge during the last ice age, undoubtedly is wrong.

A report in *Science* by Jeffrey L. Bada and Roy A. Schroeder of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, and George F. Carter of the Department of Geography of Texas A&M, concludes man was present in North America at least 50,000 years ago and probably much longer ago than that. — *Curtis Fuller*.

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My name is Mike Warren, and I'm happy to say I don't worry about bills anymore. Oh, I used to grind and sweat and swear, too, when the first of the month rolled around . . . let this go another month, pay a little on that. Payday was "exchange day." In fact, I was so busy working for everybody else that I never had time to work for myself.

For most of us life is a day-to-day struggle . . . a losing effort to get ahead of car payments, mortgage payments, insurance payments . . . payments for groceries, gas, dry cleaning, tuition, clothing. Payments, payments, payments . . . it goes on and on. Where does it end? Like the Red Queen in *Alice In Wonderland*, the faster we go, the behind we get!

But, as I say, all that is behind me now. These days I spend my time as I like . . . because *I've found the secret of success*. What secret, you say? Don't laugh, now . . . I make my money betting on the horses!

I can hear you laughing anyway. Well, go ahead, have a chuckle on me. I don't mind . . . I have my money to console me. More money than I ever saw before. Money to buy what I need . . . and fulfill my family's needs. Money to go where I want. Money to do what I like. And—believe it or not—all my money comes from one place: the Thoroughbred race track.

Yes, friend, I can beat the races. I can go to any race track and pick up what I need—a hundred or a thousand—whenever I need it. Of course, I don't go every day . . . I don't press. Why take advantage of a good thing? Some days I'd rather work on my sports car, or play tennis, or take my kids to the zoo, or just loaf around the pool. But I could go to the race track every day if I wanted to . . . and, I suspect, win day after day after day. Not bad for a kid with a high school education, eh? This has been going on for over three years now—ever since I quit my old job to start living my life the way I want to.

The other day I paid a visit to my local race track to pick up some spare

change. I guess I really *saw*, for the first time, the looks of anguish and despair on the faces of many in the crowd . . . tearing up losing tickets, cursing their luck, getting ready to go back to jobs they hate. It occurred to me that I might be able to help some of those people . . . as well as many who have never been to the races in their lives and don't know the first thing about horses. Besides, I figure I don't even have to go to the race track anymore. All I have to do is put my secrets on paper and sell them for a profit. I reason that people would have to be crazy not to part with a few dollars if I could show them the road to retirement tomorrow . . . with enough money to do what they want. A vacation, new clothes, a car . . . or just do what I do—spend more time with the family and watch the kids grow.

So here goes. I'm going to let you in on the secret of my success: four little "systems" that work at any Thoroughbred flat track in America, under all types of weather conditions, year 'round. You can play one race a day or several . . . win, place, or show . . . bet a little or bet a lot. These four ingenious systems should provide you with whatever income you desire and are suited to either conservative or maximum style of play.

I call my four little systems *4 For A Fortune*—and I've wrapped them up in an easy-to-read book you can finish in just one evening at home. *4 For A Fortune* tells you everything you need to know to start cashing big at the track. You'll quickly find out why most people beat themselves at the races . . . and why a select few, who use their wits and patience, walk away with the fat money.

Keep in mind that you don't have to know a thing about horse racing in order to reap the rich rewards of these four systems. All you must do is follow some simple rules (strictly!) that will select the eventual winner in most races . . . and put more money in your pockets than you ever dreamed of!

But don't take my word for it. See for yourself. I'll be happy to send you

your own copy of *4 For A Fortune*. Just clip and mail the coupon below and enclose \$10. Read *4 For A Fortune* at your leisure . . . then give these four little systems a try. If you aren't well on your way to retirement in just 30 days, let me know . . . I'll return your \$10 immediately, no questions asked.

So if you've ever said to yourself, " . . . tomorrow . . . next week . . . next year . . . as soon as we get caught up . . ." stop dreaming and act now. Why let another day slip by when you could be living the way you'd like to—the way I do.

You can't afford to wait. Do it today.

Sworn statement by Frank Rosenfeld, nationally noted racetrack authority and better known as "Mr. Div" (for whom, incidentally, the stakes winning horse is named):

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Irish-born Eileen Garrett had two careers, first as renowned trance medium and then as promoter of parapsychological investigations.

# GHOST *against* GHOST

If we brought Eileen Garrett's trance control face to face with the demon possessing Victoria what would the outcome be?

By Martin Ebon

A FEW YEARS after I started working as Administrative Secretary for the Parapsychology Foundation in New York City, a lawyer acquaintance of the Foundation's president Mrs. Eileen Garrett telephoned her with an intriguing request. Could she, he asked, exorcize the spirit of a witch who had invaded the mind and body of a young married woman? Mrs. Garrett heard the

request in her usual gracious manner. In one way or another, for several decades she had been called upon to oust malignant forces from dozens of houses, once, in my presence, even from a barn.

But this request was no routine matter. The scene of the phenomena was elegant—a town house on New York's Upper East Side. I am, of course, disguising

the identities of the people who asked Mrs. Garrett's help but when I say that the husband was a successful steel executive and his wife a vivacious hostess and sportswoman I am fitting them into the accurate social niche.

told Mrs. Garrett that Camden had become seriously concerned about these injuries, as well as about Victoria's mental sufferings. She had lost more weight than was good for her — even in her diet-conscious set. Would

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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MARTIN EBON served as Administrative Secretary of the Parapsychology Foundation of New York City and as editor of its publications for 12 years. Since 1965 he has been active as a writer, editor and lecturer. He also has conducted an adult education course on parapsychology at the New School for Social Research in New York. His many books include "Prophecy in Our Time," "The Psychic Reader," "Test Your ESP," "They Knew The Unknown" and "Beyond Space and Time." He also is Book Review Editor for "Occult" Magazine.

His article "Was Jesus An Exorcist?" appeared in the April 1974 issue of FATE.

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We were told that Victoria Camden had suffered a number of accidents in her home. Apparently without forewarning she might be thrown across the room. At one time she was nearly drowned in her bathtub and then found herself hurled, wet, helpless and naked, against the tiles around the tub and wall. To her friends she laughed about her obvious cuts and bruises, implying that they had been caused by a recalcitrant horse on the Camdens' Pennsylvania farm.

Walter Camden's lawyer friend

Mrs. Garrett come and talk to her? Would she visit their house? Would she try and explain the increasingly horrifying phenomena that were haunting Camden's wife?

It did not take long to agree on the arrangements. However, Mrs. Garrett had found through long experience that it is wise to keep detailed records of psychic experiments and to have witnesses, both for scientific and possibly legal reasons. The lawyer was invited to attend the exorcism experiment and I went

along to help keep the chronology of events in order, to ask supplementary questions and to look after the recording. I looked up the Camdens' biographical notes in various reference volumes and Mrs. Garrett and I went off for a more-than-routine Manhattan summer evening.

The evening began with dinner at a French restaurant. The descriptions of Victoria Camden's external personality had been accurate. She had an easy air about her. Even her haggard appearance contributed to an elusive charm, although she did look somewhat older than Walter. I soon realized that they were childless. Mrs. Garrett and Victoria discussed their love of southern France, particularly Provence, while Walter Camden and I discovered mutual interests in such esoteric fields as low-grade iron ore beneficiation through the pelletizing method. The lawyer was a spectator rather than a participant, waiting for the next act of the unfolding play. After dinner Camden drove us in a vintage Ferrari to his home.

By New York standards it was an historic house. Its actual age was a matter of conjecture but Camden, because of the phenomena Victoria experienced there, had traced its ownership to some of the city's oldest and "best"

families. The furnishings in the main living room on the second floor were quietly traditional; it was dark, the lighting subdued, but did not strike me as gloomy. But obviously it struck Victoria as a good deal more than gloomy. As soon as we walked through the door the woman changed into a frightened child.

"She is here," she whispered. There was a tremolo in her voice. First her hands began to shake, then her whole body shook.

But who was "she"?

We gathered that Ruth, the entity that appeared to possess Mrs. Camden, had been a witch in Salem who had not been caught or tried. Just why she had fastened onto Victoria was not clear. It had not just happened from one day to another, however. Victoria, it seemed, had "opened herself up" to psychic influences, beginning with writings that seemed to flow through her hand as if dictated by spirit entities. I asked whether she had done any extensive reading in the psychic, had been aware of what was happening to her. Her husband denied it.

"When her writing went into its first phase," Camden explained, "she was just like a ship's operator getting messages. They seemed to come from a variety of personalities. Some came only once or twice, but

## EDITOR'S NOTE

Eileen J. Garrett, widely regarded as one of the foremost mediums of this century, was born in Ireland in 1893 but moved to England as a young woman. She became active in mediumship there in the 1920's and visited the United States several times before settling in New York City following the outbreak of World War II. Mrs. Garrett founded a book publishing firm, Creative Age Press, and was publisher-editor of the magazine *Tomorrow*, which began as a monthly on literary and public affairs but continued as a quarterly on psychical research from 1952 to 1964.

In 1952 Mrs. Garrett established the Parapsychology Foundation, Inc., which supported research and conferences in the field. For several years the Foundation issued the *International Journal of Parapsychology* and a *Newsletter*, now called the *Parapsychology Review*, conference *Proceedings* as well as other books and a series of monographs. Following Mrs. Garrett's death in 1970 Mrs. Eileen Coly, her daughter by the first of her three marriages, continued her work as president of the Parapsychology Foundation.

there were hundreds of them. We have thousands of pages. Perhaps two-thirds came from two personalities who identified themselves only as Richard and Mary, but the rest came from entities who purported to have existed on earth in different times and places."

I wanted to know whether they had any intrinsic value. "Were the messages interesting at all? Were they at all valuable in themselves?"

Victoria answered that some of them were. "I found one or two quite interesting or literate. For example, I don't know what I asked them but something about were they 'always with us.' The answer, I thought, was interesting. They said, 'We walk among you unhindered and unhindering.

Midnight is a fool's myth.' That was pretty coherent. A lot of them begged for my prayers and described where they were. They would say, 'Oh, it's so cold in this merciless wind.' They suffered from lack of privacy and some said they had no lives."

Mrs. Garrett said quite firmly, "Oh, no, we have to get rid of all this."

Obviously such an onslaught by innumerable ghosts could drive a person to distraction. I still wondered whether Victoria really had come to these experiences entirely without outside suggestions from persons or through reading. But she remembered only a "ridiculous story by Oscar Wilde about a haunted house that I thought was so funny. No, I've never been interested in the

occult." When the term "automatic writing" was first mentioned to her, Victoria said, she didn't know that she had been doing it. "I didn't know what it meant. This wasn't a hobby with me," she said.

The automatic writing, much of it done on the Camdens' place in Pennsylvania, had been followed by Victoria's seeing ghosts, fleeting things, and hearing odd noises that seemed to originate with the spirits who had dictated the writings to her. And now, in this house in Manhattan, it had become a nightmare of possession.

Victoria said, "Ever since we moved into this house I have been sick. Right from the beginning I've been ill the whole time I've been in this house, one thing after another, one thing after another. Of course, the persecution by Ruth has made me sickest of all with these violent attacks. You have no idea how violent they were — I mean she'd throw you across the room, that kind of thing, always on the face, which is just peachy. There was always the strain of not knowing what would happen next. You'd be perfectly all right; you'd start across the room and then — wham — down you'd go."

Mrs. Garrett and I, as we had done in other instances, were acting in tandem. She expressed

determination to rid the house and most certainly the woman of the plaguing ghost, or memory, or delusion, or whatever one might call it; I, meanwhile, was asking questions that sought to probe Victoria's own role in this drama and to compare it with similar cases.

I said, "I'll tell you this. It is a very classical and established sequence. We can see the origin, the present state, and the outcome. After you have reached a saturation point, as you obviously have, then comes the time for closing it off, sealing it all off, having had it as part of your life. You'll never forget it but you'll be done with it. This is an almost classical pattern, too, that you arrive at a peaceful conclusion. It ends, you've finished with it."

Victoria did not quite believe me, "You mean, finished entirely? Might I not become a healer or something?"

Mrs. Garrett shook her head with determination. "That is something else. You must give all this up."

Healing, I said to Victoria, calls for different qualities. "You do not receive such impulses or possessions as this. Healing makes you a battery, a channel, providing strength to others."

"I have been through all this myself," Mrs. Garrett said. "Your kind of suffering is not a

preparation for healing."

"I don't want it," Victoria protested. "I truly don't want it."

I think she sensed our doubts, our impression that this personal drama, no matter how painful, filled some sort of need — for attention? For self-castigation? For the concern of others, including her husband?

Mrs. Garrett then began to go slowly through the house, from room to room, from floor to floor. Walter Camden and I took the tape recorder along so her observations could be spoken into a microphone. The Camdens had heard rumors that several generations back the house had been the scene of a murder. They thought perhaps the possessing entity, Ruth, was not a Salem witch at all but a victim of violence, the kind of restless ghost traditionally known since the days of ancient China and Babylon. In some of the rooms and even on stairway landings, Mrs. Garrett stopped quietly, spoke inaudibly as if praying or pleading with an unseen force. On two occasions she rushed ahead, leaving us behind, and then stood still as if listening. At one point she stared at a wall. Later she stated there had been an opening, a window or door or connection with another building, but it now was closed off; only its memory remained, like a

phantom limb. She was taking, as it were, the building's psychic measure, searching for memories that might be felt and dramatized by a sensitive person, and seeking to put them in their proper place in time and history.

This took about one hour. It was a method I had learned to accept as standard practice. Walter Camden, for all his tolerance and worldliness, at times seemed doubtful, sometimes shaken, and finally exhausted. But Mrs. Garrett seemingly built up energy while as she put it, "smelling the place out." It was all in preparation for the final encounter, the meeting of ghost with ghost.

For most of her life Eileen Garrett had been a trance medium. She was able to place herself in a trance state, her eyes closed, her own personality withdrawn and apparently unconscious of what was happening while her "control" Uvani took over. This entity, identified as a Persian, called himself "Keeper of the Gate." When he was in control Mrs. Garrett's voice changed markedly as did the vocabulary used by the entity. Uvani often appeared only at the outset and end of a seance, while another personality, identified as Abdul Latif, an Arab physician at the Court of Saladin in the 12th Century, appeared to speak

through her. Abdul Latif also had a distinct personality, far less curt and peremptory than Uvani's. Over the years I had come to accept him as one accepts a kindly stranger with whom one has a few interests in common. Tonight, obviously, Abdul Latif would be called upon for his healing skills. It was to be an exorcism of a ghost by a ghost, surely a unique situation.

We seated ourselves in the Camdens' living room. Mrs. Garrett made herself comfortable by slipping off her jewelry, closing her eyes and leaning her head back. Victoria sat facing her, rigid in a stiff chair, while the silent lawyer, Walter Camden and I tried to be inconspicuous. Eileen Garrett entered trance. The voices of Uvani and Abdul Latif came through with their usual fluency.

"What do you wish of me?" Abdul asked, after we all had introduced ourselves.

Briefly we described Victoria Camden's dilemma.

"It is well that you have come here," Abdul Latif said.

At this point Victoria became convulsed and while her body writhed a voice croaked from her throat, "I want . . . I want . . . I want . . . peace!"

We did not transcribe this segment of the evening, fearing that recording paraphernalia

might disrupt the psychological balance. But the scene that followed was dramatic.

"Come to me, my child," Abdul Latif said through Mrs. Garrett.

The writhing Victoria, speaking in the voice of her possessing entity, Ruth, stumbled over to the sofa and sank to the floor.

Quietly, soothingly, a stream of reassurances came from the medium's vocal chords. "We are here to heal you, to help you find you, to bring you peace." Words of such reassurances, in a steady flow, came in Abdul Latif's characteristic voice, intonation and vocabulary.

Ruth-Victoria knelt before Abdul-Garrett, her head on the medium's knees, sobbing. Slowly, the writhing stopped. Motherly-fatherly, whatever you wish to call it, the entranced medium spoke to the distraught woman as to a frightened child. The voice of Abdul Latif sought to tell the witch Ruth that she did not belong on this plane and must let go of the body through which she sought contact with the world.

"No," Abdul said, "you have not been abandoned, although you may be seared in your soul. There are others here among us who can help you find your proper life, your proper existence. But you must let go of this body for your own sake."

The lawyer's hands were gripping the sides of his chair. Walter Camden sat slumped, staring straight ahead, immobile. I did not dare lift my hand to my eyes. Was this truly ghost speaking to ghost? If so, did they need the entranced medium and the possessed woman to make contact? Couldn't they meet, independently, on their own plane of existence? It is a question that frankly, I did not formulate just then, although it seems an obvious one.

Abdul Latif placed, through the medium, a blessing on the possessed woman's head, "And now, you, Ruth, must go and let this child reside in her own world. She must be restored to herself and to herself alone."

Eileen Garrett leaned back once more, shuddered, groaned, breathed heavily; she was coming out of her trance. Victoria remained kneeling. She was quiet. Camden looked at me questioningly. I nodded. He went over, lifted his wife and guided her back to her chair.

Eileen Garrett came out of her trance neither exhausted nor exactly rested. "What's happened?" she asked matter-of-factly. We told her and she listened with approval. While the rest of us still were tongue-tied Mrs. Garrett broke the ice, "I guess we all need a stiff drink. And let's

get out of here." Like the captain of a battered crew she steered us into the large bright kitchen and Walter Camden brought bottles from the bar. The spell, as the saying goes, had been broken. But for how long?

No one knew better than Eileen Garrett that the evening's dramatic events might be no more than that — just drama. So when we had relaxed she insisted on another round of probing talk. We took our glasses into Walter's study — another change of scene — and sought to tie the numerous loose ends together.

"You know," Mrs. Garrett said, "there hasn't been a murder here: The knocking you have experienced, I think, comes from someone who is friendly. You talk about the feeling you get around the fireplace, but I don't. This friend is very fond of you, actually."

"Oh, is he?" said Victoria. Eileen Garrett caught this note of fascination and said, "Yes, he likes the house, he likes you, but I've asked him to go away; to please go away in the name of God and leave everybody at peace until they are strong. I see him as brash, cheerful, nonchalant, good-natured but rough."

Victoria demurred. "Not too good-natured, actually."

The tapping sounds that had been heard in the house also

were discussed. Now they had stopped and Victoria asked, "I wonder why they won't come anymore." Apparently she had liked the tapping and the personality behind it and so I said, "Well, I guess you have to get rid of the good with the bad spirits."

Mrs. Garrett agreed enthusiastically, "You bet you do. You have to get them *all* out."

Eileen Garrett felt her work had not been completed. She wanted to contact whatever entities there might be, talk to them, exorcize them from Victoria's life. "I want to come up here again. Let's put aside some afternoon to come and give the house a treatment," she said.

I was still puzzled by the underlying psychological factors of the phenomena we had encountered. "Could it be," I asked, "that in a house like this husband and wife somehow interact?"

Mrs. Garrett answered, "Certainly, if he is psychic, too."

By then Walter Camden had shed some of his controlled manners and he said, "Well, that's awfully strange. Down at the place in Pennsylvania I did see a creature, a living creature that crossed in my sight. I didn't have a feeling of seeing through him or anything odd whatever. I didn't mention it until about six

or eight months later."

How had Victoria felt about these experiences before they got really out of hand?

She answered, "I've suffered terribly with this but I've never been afraid. Now that is the peculiar part. I don't understand it. You ride a horse that's thrown you and you may say to yourself, 'I'm not afraid of this horse,' but deep down in your soul you are afraid. But I was not afraid of this. I had some misgivings about coming back here tonight. I admit that. But still and all, when Ruth takes hold of me, as she did before, I'm still not really afraid of her, though I know she can hurt me."

Walter agreed. "It has been amazing to me, too, that with all these very real wounds, bloody and scratched, and all that, she still kept an amazing morale. I'd be ready to shoot myself at half a dozen points; but seriously, she took it all — well, I don't want to say nonchalantly but — with a very positive attitude."

Mrs. Garrett looked at me over the brim of her glass. She had seen too many situations like this not to have some doubts about its total reality. So I dared to say, "There is a good deal of dramatization here, because it's certainly hard to say where the realities, or shall we say, the memories of this place stop and

where Victoria's imagination begins."

Victoria candidly admitted, "Yes, that's true."

Eileen Garrett, with her most cordial smile, said, "She should write fiction, this girl; very creative."

I do not know whether Victoria Camden became a fiction writer. Perhaps, under a pseudonym, she has become a successful author of Gothic novels. Anyway, Eileen Garrett did return to the Camden house and go over it by herself one afternoon.

Now Walter Camden has retired from the rat race of the steel industry and he and Victoria live on a ranch in Arizona. I still get a Christmas card each year. They are cheerful, as such cards usually are. Once there was a picture of Victoria, taken in the garden she has turned from desert to flowers. Come to think of it, I don't recall getting a card last Christmas. Perhaps I am part of a past which, like many a good or bad experience, has now faded and is well forgotten.



### UNLUCKY LOCK

By *Donna Barstaitis*

OUR FAMILY likes to fish and go on picnics. In 1958 we thought we were fortunate to have found an inviting spot along the Illinois-Mississippi Canal near Bureau, Ill. But Lock No. 3 turned out to be our jinx.

On our first visit we were cruising on the lock when our outboard motor caught on fire. Since my mother, Violet Mayes cannot swim, my father, Elmer Mayes unhitched the motor and let it sink to the bottom rather than risk a gasoline explosion.

The next summer when we visited the Lock Dad was walking across a small footwalk that crosses the waterfalls that enter the lock, when a loose plank came up and tossed him into the swirling waters. He managed to swim to safety but lost our fishing equipment.

Soon after this a dead man

was found along the water, apparently the victim of a heart attack. That same year some teen-agers lost control of their car along the canal and it plunged into the water ending several young lives.

The clincher came one day in 1965 when we returned to the Lock despite our earlier misfortunes. Our car stalled on the railroad tracks we had to cross to reach the canal road just as a train rounded the bend. I panicked and dragged Mother from the car, skinning her knees.

Father miraculously started the car an instant before the train would have hit it. He came up to us ashen-faced after the train had passed. Although he is not a superstitious man, he declared Lock No. 3 definitely is not a place for us to go to enjoy ourselves.

Allan Jones' den displays photos of Hollywood stars who have appeared with him in his many films.

**"I** SEEM to have the uncanny ability—a sixth sense I guess you could call it—to know when to keep off certain airplane flights," says popular singer Allan Jones. "In fact, not only did this precognitive ability once save my own life but it told me when a close friend would not be making it safely to her destination."

Before going into semireirement to breed and train



# ALLAN JONES

## *believes in Fate*

thoroughbred horses, actor and romantic tenor Allan Jones managed to carve a glittering name for himself in motion pictures and on the Broadway stage. He rose to stardom through appearances in "Reckless" with Jean Harlow and William Powell, "A Night at the Opera" and "A Day at the Races" with the Marx Brothers, "Showboat" with Irene Dunne and "Everybody Sing" with Judy Garland. His career also has included numerous hit

When an inner voice warned that danger lay ahead, the popular romantic tenor-actor listened—and lived to tell what happened.

By Timothy Green Beckley  
Photos by Andy Dalton

songs; his rendition of "Donkey Serenade" chalked up the third largest sales in the history of RCA records.

The son of a Welsh coal miner, Jones now lives with his attractive wife Maria in a lavishly decorated apartment on the upper

west side of New York City. Still in the best of shape, vocally and physically, the exuberant performer returned recently to the theater and received rave reviews from the critics for his role in the hit musical "Man of La Mancha."

I noticed a slight touch of grey showing at Jones' temples as he talked at length about his long and rewarding career in show business. When I came around to asking if he had ever had any

experiences with the paranormal Allan's facial expression changed to one of deep concern.

"I've never mentioned this previously," Jones began, "but I am a firm supporter of ESP and the ability to foresee the future."

Reliving the horrifying details of a near-tragic episode which almost took his life prematurely at the height of his stardom, Jones continued, "I am positive that thousands of Americans have benefited from precognitive

Allan Jones and his attractive wife Maria live in lavish Manhattan apartment.



hunches. My own lifesaving encounter with psychic forces took place in October 1947. At the time I was living in California but commuting regularly between the West Coast and Chicago where my business manager maintained his office.

"It all began late one night when my secretary telephoned me at home to tell me she had gone ahead and booked a passage for early the next morning on United Airlines that would put me in the Windy City before lunch time. Normally I would have been happy with her scheduling of such a convenient flight, but as my secretary's voice came over the telephone line an overpowering feeling struck me and I imagined I was hearing a voice inside my head which warned me against taking this particular plane.

"At first I said nothing about it but the 'feeling' — if you want to call it that — kept gnawing at my subconscious until I was literally driven to call my girl Friday back and tell her to cancel my passage on board United, that I had decided to take an American Airlines flight instead. While she questioned this reversal of my normal behavior my loyal secretary carried out the instructions I had given her. And a lucky thing she did!"

With a noticeable sigh Allan

Jones told me he took the American flight out of Los Angeles and arrived in Chicago without incident. However, upon landing he realized something was dreadfully wrong.

"I could sense tension in the air and on the faces of fellow travelers," Jones went on. "As I passed a newsstand in the main terminal of the airport a black banner headline on the front page of the *Chicago Tribune* — an extra at that — hit my eye. It read: UNITED PLANE CRASHES, NO SURVIVORS FOUND! My heart skipped a countable beat; I had been saved by a fluke of luck — or maybe it was more than that."

The United Airlines plane, Jones pointed out, went down soon after takeoff in Utah's Bryce Canyon. "Everyone on board died in that crash. On its way to New York by way of Chicago during the early morning hours the United Airlines plane smashed against a hillside in Bryce Canyon, Utah, scattering wreckage over a wide area and killing all the passengers. The newspapers at the time called it one of the most tragic air disasters since the start of commercial aviation in this country. Eyewitness testimony said the four-engine craft trailed smoke and flames for more than 10 miles before it virtually disin-

tegrated. All the bodies were burned; most of them were totally unrecognizable. It was an unfortunate accident but luckily for me something had forewarned me not to go on this particular flight."

Does Allan Jones have any explanation as to why he was not carried to his death on the day in question? "Of course, I do," he insists. "I believe it just wasn't my time to go. I tend to feel your life is sort of cut out in advance — you might say the script is pretty well written out 'up yonder' at your birth. I guess my demise just wasn't in that story plan."

While he seemed a little hesitant to talk about it, Allan revealed he had had yet another premonition — this one, too, of a sad earlier airline crash. A good friend of actress Carole Lombard's, Jones believes he had a precognitive feeling that the airplane she was flying on would go down, killing the onetime wife of screen great Clark Gable.

"I had a hunch that I would never see Carole again, that something tragic would soon unfold for her. Sure enough, on January 16, 1942, the plane she was aboard crashed into the side of a mountain in Nevada killing all those on the flight."

On a much more positive note the currently popular theatrical



Allan Jones shows his wife the beard and moustache he wore for his role in the musical "Man From La Mancha."

performer confesses that he often carries on telepathic communication with another famous singing Jones — his son Jack.

"We seem to know a lot about what we each are doing, even when we are separated by an entire continent. For example, after recently completing the building of my own projection room at home, which I use to show my favorite old movies, I decided to call Jack at his residence in Sherman Oaks, Calif., to tell him what I had just accomplished. Before I could inform my son of my new hobby Jack told me he had just finished constructing a similar room to house all his motion picture and

all his video tape equipment."

Both Joneses are convinced they have been drawing on the same inspiration to guide them in their individual lives.

"Part of our success has been caused by being in the right place at the right time and being prepared for what might hap-

pen," Allan Jones insists.

In addition to his fatalistic philosophy, however, Allan made it quite clear to me that he is convinced that somewhere in the universe "exists a sort of powerful and all-knowing cosmic power which, on at least one occasion, saved me from a possible catastrophic ending. . . ."



### SUICIDE CELL

A SERIES of unexplained suicides in Manhattan's ancient Women's Detention Prison were the work of a restless ghost, reported Robert Barlow in Ohio's *Toledo Blade*. Prison authorities became alarmed when every inmate of a certain cell took her own life soon after incarceration. In 1939 the warden ordered continual surveillance over the cell in order to solve the mystery.

The next prisoner assigned to the cell was a young woman charged with grand larceny and awaiting trial. A small window high up on the wall of an adjoining passageway enabled guards to observe the cell's occupant without themselves being seen.

During the daylight hours the woman paced restlessly back and forth but toward nightfall she suddenly grew quiet and sat down on the edge of her cot as

if in trance. An hour or so later she rose abruptly and began tearing her dress into shreds, then set to work weaving the strands together. As the prisoner obviously was preparing to hang herself, the guard summoned the warden who entered just in time to prevent her from doing so.

Removed to another cell, the prisoner was asked why she had decided to commit suicide. She said no such thought ever had crossed her mind until late that afternoon when she had a curious dream. In the dream an old woman had persuaded her to take her own life. Her description of the woman tallied with that of Anna Murphy, a vagabond who 25 years before had been the first suicide in that cell.

The warden ordered that no further prisoners be assigned to the cell and thenceforth it was used for storage.



# True Mystic Experiences

FATE will pay \$5.00 for each true experience published. Stories should be less than 300 words and typed double-spaced on one side of the paper. They may be sent to the TME Editor, FATE Magazine, 3500 Western Ave., Highland Park, Ill. 60035. They must be signed by the author and address must be shown. Manuscripts will not be returned unless accompanied by stamped self-addressed envelope.

## VISION IN THE JUNGLE

By Daniel A. Moore

IN VIETNAM in February 1967 our patrol was in Hobo Woods, 45 miles northeast of Cu Chi. It was one of those rainy days and quite cold. We'd had sporadic contact with the enemy all morning and a few men had been hit but we pushed on into the woods. Booby traps were not uncommon but normally were easily spotted. I had the dreaded position of point man and was unusually apprehensive, feeling trouble ahead.

In the sunlight trip wires are easily spotted but on a cloudy day they can be elusive and too often are found too late. We were picking our way when we again came under fire and were pinned down for some time. When it was over and I started to stand up I felt a definite pressure which prevented me from standing. It felt as if hands were holding me. I turned to look and thought I would have a heart attack, for there was my father, big as life.

He was frowning and pointing his finger at something above me. I turned to look and saw three trip wires crisscrossed just above my head, each leading to a fragmentation grenade. Had I stood up in just that spot I would have been killed immediately.

Thinking of nothing else at the moment I backed out of the trap and began disarming it. When I was through and safe for the moment from any present danger I turned to thank my father. But he wasn't there! The fact is, he was some 10,000 miles away



Daniel A. Moore

in Phoenix, Ariz., where he still lives.

Was this vision just the imagination of a tired soldier or was it an act of God to save my life? Perhaps I'll never know but I'm here today because of it. And I thank God, and I thank my father and, naturally, I believe just a little more in some power beyond my control because of this lifesaving mystical experience.

—Phoenix, Ariz.

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#### FAITH LEARNED EARLY

By James W. Work

MOST PEOPLE are skeptical about psychics until they have a convincing reading. As a small boy I certainly was a doubting Thomas until Mr. Jay Johnson told me about my stolen bicycle. This was about 1920 or possibly 1922.

Because I was so upset about it my mother suggested that I go with her and Dad to the "circle" that evening and put my question to the psychic in a sealed envelope. This I did. (I dyed the envelope bright red so I could identify it from among the many other envelopes on Mr. Johnson's table.)

When he picked up mine, about the third one, he came and stood directly in front of me holding the red envelope unopened to his forehead. He said, "Don't worry about your bicycle,

Sonny, you'll have it back within two weeks, unharmed."

I recovered from my astonishment enough to ask, "If you can tell me that much, can you tell me more?"

Mr. Johnson's face had been expressionless until then but now, with the most wonderful friendly smile he asked, "And what is it you would like to know, Sonny?"

I was encouraged to ask him for details, the color of the bike, the kind of tires, handlebars, equipment, seat and whether I had got it new or used. I even asked how many dollars my father had paid for it. Mr. Johnson answered all of these questions correctly.

Finally I asked, "If you know so much, who stole it?"

He closed his eyes, then began slowly nodding his head and said, "It's all right; I can tell you; you'll never know him. It was the little newsboy on the corner. He is sorry already that he took your bike but he doesn't know how to get it back to you. He has learned his lesson from this and he will never again take a thing that doesn't belong to him."

I found the bike, undamaged, almost two weeks later and I never did find out who took it, just as Mr. Johnson said.

All these years I have been

thankful that giving up my prized bike for some 13 days taught the newsboy he didn't want to steal. For if Mr. Jay Johnson was right about all the rest there is reason to think he was right about this too. — *San Diego, Calif.*

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### PICTURES OF JESUS

By Della Robinson

**I**N 1969 AND 1970 my brother John was ill with what the doctors thought was gallstones and they advised him the condition could be corrected by surgery. But when the surgery was over they spoke the dread word cancer and told him he had possibly three months to live.

We all were terribly hurt by this but John accepted it much better than did his wife, his mother or any of his six grown children. And instead of living only three months he lived nine. He was so brave about it. And although we all could see the suffering in his eyes, he never complained.

On June 26, 1971, he passed away and his body lay at the mortician's near where I live during the nights of the 26th and 27th. At this time my youngest brother William, whose wife had died in January 1971, barely six months before John's death, of another type of cancer — leukemia — spent several nights with

my mother and me (we both are widows). Around midnight on the 26th William called me. He was having an attack of asthma. Thinking he needed help I rushed into his room where I noticed a strange bluish-white light.

I asked William if I could get him anything and he said, "No, but can you see that picture on the wall?"

I looked at the north wall and saw there the most beautiful pic-



Della Robinson

ture I've ever seen. It was Jesus as we have seen Him painted by artists. When I stepped into our bathroom, there on the north wall was the same picture in the same bluish-white light. I finally went back to my bedroom and there, too, on my north wall, was the same picture.

The pictures were there again on the night of the 27th. Our brother John was buried the 28th

and the pictures never have reappeared. William and my mother still are living and can tell anyone that every word of this is true.

Seeing these pictures was a wonderful experience. My only regret is that I did not look in the other four rooms to see if the pictures were there too. — *Davis, Okla.*

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#### "MASSACRE AT RIO PUEBLA"

By David F. DeLoera

IN MAY 1968 my father Francisco DeLoera called me down to the state of Aguascalientes in Mexico to help him build a dam up in the mountains overlooking his hometown of Ojocalientes. Along with several hired men my father, my Uncle Jose and I rode mules up to the top of the mountain and began the work of surveying and measuring. But we had underestimated the amount of water six hard-working men would drink during a long hot day and by the end of the noon meal the water cans were empty.

My father told me to saddle up one of the mules and take the cans down to the south foot of the mountain where I would find plenty of cool clean water. I descended the mountain and found the stream. As I lowered a water can into the water I noticed a woman on the opposite side of

the stream washing clothes. I nodded and called "Buenas tardes." Either she didn't hear me or else she ignored me; she made no response. Behind her I noticed a small cluster of neat whitewashed adobe huts where other people were going about their daily business. This surprised me; I had not known there was a village this high up in the mountains.

I considered visiting the village but decided against it because it was late. Besides I had seen an orange grove on the way down and I wanted to pick a few oranges to take back with me. As I led the mule through the orange grove filling my sombrero with the biggest oranges I could find, I saw a man lying beneath a tree, his saddled horse munching grass. The man was young, light-complexioned and red-bearded.

"Pardon me, señor," I said, "I hope you don't mind me taking a few of your oranges." But he was asleep. I put the oranges in the saddlebag and mounted my mule. When I glanced back at where the young man had been lying he and his horse had vanished. I rode back up the mountain eating an orange and mulling over in my mind how a man who was asleep one moment could get up, mount his horse and ride away in silence.

Then I thought I heard shouts and the cracks of firearms. Back in camp I casually asked my father the name of the village on the south face of the mountain.

"There is no village there," he said.

"But there is," I protested. "I saw it. I saw the people there."

"Do not tell me there is a village," he insisted. "I own this mountain. I have been over it 100 times and there is no one living on it."

He is right. No one lives on it today. Back in the 1800's a village called Rio Pubela existed where I had seen the adobe huts. But on May 13, 1883, the headlines in the *Aguascalientes Herald* proclaimed, "Massacre at Rio Pubela." The subtitle read: "Total Village Annihilated by Bandits." — Hammond, Ind.

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#### GLORIA, CALL HOME

By Helen L. Cramer

WHEN OUR daughter Gloria was small we often laughed at her ability to say out loud the very thoughts I was thinking. Later when she was in high school I frequently returned from work to discover Gloria already was preparing for supper the very dishes I planned to start when I got home. Sometimes we even joked about it. In the morning if she asked what she should start for supper in case I wasn't

home I'd reply, "I don't know yet; I'll have to think you a message this afternoon." And it worked! The game ended when Gloria went off to college to train as a teacher.

Then at noon on July 18, 1973, a letter arrived at our trailer home addressed to Gloria from the Arizona State Teacher Agency. We guessed that it contained notice of a vacancy that Gloria would



Helen L. Cramer

want to know about right away. Since mail from our home in Colby, Kans., to Gloria's apartment at Kearney State College in Kearney, Nebr., sometimes took only overnight but often took four days, my husband Larry and I decided to open the letter. If there was a time element involving the job offer we could phone Gloria with the information.

When we read the letter, we

found that the job opening was in California, one state where Gloria wanted to go. If interested, she would have to apply in person or by phone within three days.

Immediately Larry dialed Gloria's number in Kearney but there was no answer. Then we remembered that when she had called the previous weekend she said she was leaving her apartment shortly to "visit around" with some of her school chums before going to Grand Island, Nebr., for the wedding of her friend Betty.

We tried to phone Betty's apartment in Kearney but service already was disconnected. She evidently had gone home to prepare for her wedding. I could not remember Betty's last name and had no idea of her Grand Island address. Gloria's other college

friends lived not far from Kearney but I didn't know where. We had to find Gloria and didn't know how.

As we left the house to return to our jobs I told my husband that I would just have to send Gloria a message to call home. "And how are you going to do that when you don't even know where she is?" he snorted.

"I'll think it," I replied.

All afternoon I "sent" messages to our daughter: "Gloria, call home! Gloria, call Mom tonight." That evening just before supper I sent my final message. Out of sheer frustration I mentally commanded, "All right, Gloria, call home *right now!*" As I entered the kitchen the phone was ringing. Larry answered, "Oh, hi, Gloria. Mom has a message for you." — *Dunning, Neb.*



### THE VIKING GODS RETURN

*By Per*

**A**FTER NEARLY 1000 years of exile Odin, Thor and all the other gods of the old Viking pantheon have returned to Iceland. In the year 1000 A.D. the Icelandic parliament decided to embrace Christianity and shortly afterwards believers in the old gods were declared outlaws. Now farmer Sveinbjörn Beinteinsson, 48, high priest of a newly-founded congregation of believers in the old Norse gods,

*Borgaard*

has obtained official recognition for his religion. In 1973 authorities granted legal status to the sect's baptism, marriage and funeral ceremonies, placing them on a par with the Christians.

The new believers in the Viking gods number about 100 persons in all. In one important respect they will part with ancient tradition. They will not perform human sacrifices but will substitute horses instead.

INTRIGUING mysteries of UFO lore are those diminutive disc-like objects, the mini-saucers. Like the larger UFOs their origin and purpose remain unknown. They appear to be remote-control devices sent out by larger craft (assuming some UFOs are physical craft) for reconnaissance. Their diameter varies from a few inches to several feet across. Usually they are silvery, although other colors (even transparent objects) have been reported. The mid-

his engines or the surface of his plane. He also said a disc was heard to strike the tail assembly of his B-17 but no one saw or heard an explosion.

The official report on the incident (labeled *Secret*) states that two other planes flew through disc clusters without apparent damage. Masses of black debris, in clusters, accompanied the mysterious objects. Both discs and debris were observed on at least two other occasions. According

## The MINI-SAUCLERS

These diminutive disc-like objects of various colors and sizes  
are as great an enigma as are the larger UFOs.

By Lucius Farish

et metallic-looking discs often are described as "two saucers, lip to lip" and are variously referred to by UFO researchers as monitor discs, scanning discs, recording discs, telemeter discs and "flying eyes."

The reports that follow are merely a representative sampling of the more interesting accounts which have come to my attention.

Perhaps the first small discs were seen on October 14, 1943, by American bomber crews over Germany. A cluster of tiny objects was seen gliding down from the sky above the bomber formations. No German planes were overhead at the time, according to the testimonies of all crew members. The silvery discs were approximately one inch thick and three inches across. One bomber pilot said his right wing went "directly through" a cluster of the discs with no effect whatsoever on

to aviation writer Martin Caidin, who mentions the objects in his book *Black Thursday*, no official explanation has ever been offered.

The pilots who encountered these small and mysterious flying objects during World War II both in Europe and the Pacific dubbed them "foo fighters"; "foo" probably was a corruption of "feu," the French word for fire. Nighttime sightings of foos usually were reported as bright red or orange lights that followed aircraft and seemed to be intelligently guided. Each side considered them enemy weapons of some sort and after the war Allied and German Intelligence both were surprised to learn they belonged to neither.

One particularly interesting sighting was reported by a ground observer, Lance Cpl. Carson Yorke, a Canadian fighting in northwest Europe. Yorke said the incident occurred near Antwerp, Belgium, in Sep-

tember 1944: "At about 9:00 P.M. I . . . saw a glowing globe traveling from the direction of the front line toward Antwerp. It seemed to be about three or four feet in diameter and looked as though it was of cloudy glass with a light inside. It gave a soft white glow. Its altitude seemed to be about 40 feet, speed about 30 mph and there was no sound of any sort. (It) was not simply drifting with the wind but was obviously powered and controlled. (The object) was followed by another which in turn was followed by others, five in all."

Daytime foo fighters were reported as "golden spheres" or "phosphorescent balls." One P-47 pilot told of a foo that was "about four or five feet in diameter," flying at about 2000 feet.

The variations in color, size and density of the round objects puzzled pilots. Some fliers described well-defined discs and globes while others said their outlines were soft and fuzzy. Nevertheless, most pilots agreed they were intelligently directed — by someone, from somewhere.

Following the wartime foo fighter reports no small UFOs were reported until after Kenneth Arnold's June 24, 1947, "flying saucers" sighting. Arnold himself told of seeing "a cluster of about 20 to 25 brass-colored objects" five days later, flying over Union, Ore. He was flying at 5000 feet and the UFOs came at him "head-on and at what seemed a terrific rate of speed." They veered sharply away about 400 yards from his plane and gained altitude as they fluttered and flashed. Their flight characteristics seemed the same as the much larger objects Arnold had seen before. They were round, "rather rough on top," and seemed to have either a dark or light spot on top. They disappeared to the east at a speed greater than

Arnold's plane could fly. He estimated the objects were 24 to 30 inches across, flying in a cluster "like blackbirds."

More than a year later, in October 1948, Lt. George F. Gorman, pilot with the North Dakota National Guard, was preparing to land his F-51 at the Fargo airport when he saw what he at first thought was the taillight of another aircraft about 1000 yards away. But on checking with the Fargo tower, Gorman was told the only other aircraft in the area was a Piper Cub which he could see below him.

Gorman edged nearer the strange light which he described as "clear white and completely round," six to eight inches in diameter, with "fuzzy" edges. As he approached the light, which had been blinking, became steady and made a sharp left bank. This was the beginning of a "dogfight" which lasted for nearly 30 minutes. Gorman repeatedly attempted to close with the light but its greater speed and maneuverability made this impossible. Finally, tiring of the game, the object turned north-northwest and disappeared in the distance.

As with earlier encounters there was no indication of threat or hostility. Just a demonstration of intelligent evasion and extreme maneuverability.

A small object "something like a can lid" smashed the windshield of a bread truck near Bluffton, Ind., in December 1949. Driver Max Lindsey reported he was driving along Highway 124 near Bluffton when the miniature disc hurtled out of the sky. After colliding with the truck's windshield the UFO disintegrated in a puff of fire and smoke. The police chief and deputy investigating the report found no traces of the object.

Saturday, April 8, 1950, is a day

David Lightfoot of Amarillo, Tex., won't forget. David, 12, and his cousin Charles, nine, went fishing and almost came home with a flying saucer.

Shortly before 11:00 A.M. that morning both boys, fishing in a creek northeast of Amarillo, spotted an object they believed to be a balloon. But as it came closer the boys could see it was no balloon. It passed within a few feet of them and David, the more adventurous of the two, decided to follow it.

The disc, moving slowly, disappeared behind a small hill to the north. When David topped the hill he saw the object had landed. He described it as "about as big around as a regular automobile tire and about as high as my knee—maybe a foot and a half." The UFO was rounded on the bottom and had something that resembled a flat plate on top. The top and bottom sections were separated by a space perhaps one-half inch deep and joined through the center of the disc by "some sort of screw or something."

David said the bottom portion of the object was stationary at first "but the top was spinning around real fast, and on the top of the part that was spinning around there was a little peak that had a kind of spindle sticking out of it. The spindle was still, too. It must have been connected to the bottom part." The blue-grey object had no visible openings.

David raced down the hill and dived at the grounded saucer. "My fingers just barely touched it," the boy reported. "It felt slick, sorta like I guess a snake would. It was hot, too." Before he could grasp it "the top began revolving faster, and it made a sort of whistling noise and took off without warming up or anything." He estimated that it disappeared within five to 10 seconds, going northeast in a straight line.

As the UFO took off it shot out a

gas or spray that turned young David's arms a bright red and caused small welts on his face. A skin balm was applied and the welts gradually disappeared but the redness lingered.

Reviewing his experience, David estimated the object was on the ground for only about half a minute. His cousin Charles, impressed with the UFO's performance, exclaimed, "Boy, it took off just like it was on a string or something! It didn't wobble or anything!" David added that before the saucer landed and after its takeoff he noticed the small area separating the two sections was "real red, like it was on fire in there or something."

Other persons who have come in contact with UFOs have experienced mysterious welts and red discoloration of the skin just as David Lightfoot did in 1950.

Objects closely resembling the World War II foo fighters puzzled airmen over Korea in 1952. An Associated Press dispatch of February 20 that year reported bomber crews were seeing strange lights in the night skies. According to an Air Force spokesman in Washington, D.C., B-29 crewmen had sighted "orange globes" over Wonsan on Korea's east coast and over Sunchon in west-central Korea. The globes were about three feet across, usually light orange in color occasionally changing to a bluish tint. The objects paced one B-29 for about five minutes over Wonsan and flew with another bomber for about a minute near Sunchon.

A Fifth Air Force representative in Korea stated: "To affirm or deny it would put us in the position of discussing it and we cannot discuss it."

Little more than a month after the Korean "globes" were reported another pilot saw a small silvery disc in the daytime. Lt. David C. Brigham was flying a prop-driven recon-

naissance craft over northern Japan at 11:20 A.M. on March 29, 1952, in a bright cloudless sky. Brigham was at 6000 feet when an F-84 fighter pulled alongside and the UFO was to the right of and just behind the fighter. Brigham estimated the object was traveling 30 to 40 mph faster than the F-84 which had slowed down to between 150 and 160 mph.

"It closed rapidly," Brigham reported, "and just before it would have flown into his fuselage, it decelerated to his airspeed almost instantaneously. In doing so, it flipped up its edge at approximately a 90-degree bank. Then it fluttered within 20 feet of his fuselage for perhaps two or three seconds, pulled away and around his starboard wing, appearing to flip once as it hit the slipstream behind his wing tip fuel tank. Then it passed him, crossed in front of him and pulled up abruptly, appearing to accelerate, and shot out of sight in a steep, almost vertical climb." The F-84 pilot apparently never noticed the object.

Brigham described the disc as "about eight inches in diameter, very thin, round and as shiny as polished chromium . . . (it) had no apparent projections and left no exhaust trails or vapor trails."

Brigham also described an unusual flight characteristic of the disc: "(It had) a slow fluttering motion. It rocked back and forth at approximately 40-degree banks at approximately one second intervals throughout its course." When it pulled away from the F-84 "it did so more sharply than a plane could have done. Its maneuvering throughout was always clear and precise."

During the "saucer invasion" over Washington, D.C., in the summer of 1952 there was an incident involving a small disc. According to UFO researcher C. W. Fitch of Cleveland, Ohio, a fighter pilot flying a UFO

intercept mission over Washington succeeded in getting a "radar lock" on one of the objects. The pilot opened fire and blasted a fragment from the small UFO, which was two or three feet in diameter. The glowing fragment fell to earth and was recovered by a team of searchers. According to Fitch it weighed less than one pound and was later cut into three pieces for analysis.

The late W. B. Smith, top Canadian UFO investigator, was allowed to examine a piece of the disc, Fitch says. According to Smith, a qualitative analysis showed the one *identifiable* component to be magnesium orthosilicate. It had thousands of 15 micron-diameter spheres distributed throughout its matrix. Smith later spoke of the "various items of 'hardware' (which) are known to exist," and said that such pieces of evidence were "usually promptly clapped into security and are not available to the general public."

September 7, 1956, was the day on which Thomas Hutchinson of Monymore, Northern Ireland, actually caught a flying saucer.

When Hutchinson saw an object fall from the sky into a nearby bog he investigated and found an "elongated, pointed sphere" about three-and-one-half feet long and two feet wide. It was red, with four white stripes around its middle, had a "small red knob" on top and the bottom "gathered rather like the neck of a bag, but more regular."

Hutchinson approached the object and kicked it over. It promptly righted itself. Cautiously, he lifted it by the base. The body of the object began to spin while the base remained stationary. The spinning increased as Hutchinson carried the object—at arm's length—for approximately three minutes on his way back to his house.

As he came to a hedge through

which he had to pass Hutchinson made a big mistake. He set the object down for a moment, whereupon it rapidly ascended into the cloudy sky.

Hutchinson later told British UFO researcher Desmond Leslie that the small UFO remained perfectly dry throughout the adventure despite the fact that there was a bad rain that day. Hutchinson also said the object did not attempt to rise while he was carrying it although it was spinning rapidly all the while. He estimated the object was a "wee bit lighter" than Leslie's movie camera which weighed two pounds. He described the UFO as feeling very much like canvas. Hutchinson's wife witnessed the entire episode and verified her husband's statement.

Another attempt to capture a mini-saucer took place at Balfour, New Zealand, in the early morning hours of January 13, 1957. William West and Wallace Liddell, both of Balfour, were getting a breath of fresh air at 3:10 A.M. while there was a party going on at West's home. Standing near West's garage they saw a bright object approaching from the southwest. The sky was overcast and a fine drizzle of rain had started to fall. The sky object moved rapidly over a line of trees that were some 60 to 70 feet high, then slowed and leveled out about 12 feet above the ground. It glowed a fluorescent bluish-white, considerably less brilliant than when it first was seen.

West and Liddell thought the UFO intended to land on the corner of West's house but instead it "turned away from the house and almost landed as it hovered momentarily approximately three feet above ground; its appearance was that of a bird, oblong in shape and fluorescent light." West stated, in a letter to Civilian Saucer Investigation of New

Zealand, that he "moved forward to catch it and was blinded by light and the object immediately moved quickly back six feet." It then seemed to change shape and became a sphere 15 to 18 inches in diameter and the "color of the moon," West said.

The UFO eluded all West's attempts to grab it much as a balloon does. Although the light from the UFO was near-blinding at close range, no heat could be felt. The object eventually made a big "jump," cleared an eight-foot iron fence and receded steadily in the distance. It grew brighter, with a discernible red center as it grew smaller.

At the close of the November 1957 UFO flap Mrs. Gerald Alderman encountered a glowing ball of light near Glencoe, Ont., Canada. Shortly after 5:00 P.M. on the 29th of that month Mrs. Alderman was driving along on Highway 80 about two miles north of Glencoe. She first observed the object at a considerable height in the sky. Then it dropped rapidly to near ground level. It was "a round ball about six to eight inches in diameter and aglow with a fiercely bright white light," Mrs. Alderman told the *London (Ontario) Free Press*. The UFO was spinning "as it moved in an orbit 20 or 30 feet across" and trailing a tail of light two or three feet long.

The object came within 75 feet of her car and hovered about a foot above the road in front of it. After pausing a few minutes the object angled upward and swiftly left the scene.

Those who scoffed at the idea that both mini-saucers and fireballs are propelled by unbelievable energy, had second thoughts after they heard farmer Joseph Bennett's account.

On December 30, 1958, Bennett, who lives near Portglenone, Ireland,

was walking in his fields he said "when suddenly there was a strange noise in the sky. I thought it was a rush of wind. Then I saw this thing, big and black and about seven feet across. It came hurtling through the air about 20 feet above the ground. It came from the south and traveled northwest. Then it hit a 30-foot-high oak tree, splitting it in two. In a matter of seconds it disappeared into the sky." Skeptics found the tree sure enough cut in two and had to rule out lightning because the tree showed no signs of scorching. Bennett's report indicates some type of flying object did the damage and apparently was left none the worse for wear. Was it the hardness and speed of the small disc that severed the great oak or a type of energy unknown to us?

Charles Jackson of Drew, Ore., *may* have seen the smallest UFOs on record.

The exact date of Jackson's initial observation is uncertain but it was in the late fall or early winter of 1959. Jackson was working a night shift at a lumber mill in Tiller, Ore., when he glanced up from his work and saw, very close to him, a "group of three little 'bars' of what looked like silvery light." They appeared to have substance . . . were "distinctly outlined and . . . about the length of a regular wooden kitchen match, but a little thinner. They were grouped close together—two above and one below the upper two," according to reports. The objects descended slowly until they hovered near Jackson, at about chest height. The mill's sawyer, standing nearby, squinted at them several times, shook his head and went about his business. Jackson attempted to seize the bars at least 15 or 20 times but they always glided out of reach, never losing their formation. Eventually, the objects rose upward and slowly faded away.

Jackson saw the objects again about a month later. He was driving home from work between 2:15 and 2:30 A.M. when a group of three bars appeared ahead of him. He was traveling about 50 miles an hour and as he hit his brakes the two top objects "seemed to glide up just over the right headlight and up along the fender until they disappeared." The lower object, obstructed by the headlight, was lost to view.

Charles Keith Davis, of Hobbs, N. Mex., was hospitalized with second-degree burns on June 2, 1964, after a two-foot-long flying object zoomed out of the sky and hovered momentarily over his head. The UFO "spun like a top and made whooshing sounds" according to a UPI dispatch. Charles' grandmother Mrs. Frank Smith witnessed the incident but was so frightened she couldn't scream. When the object disappeared into the sky Charles was left "covered in black, with his hair standing on end and burning."

In the month of August 1965 another UFO flap disturbed midwestern United States and Canton, Ill., residents were startled by an ear-piercing, warbling whine on the afternoon of August 1 and saw a low-flying UFO. One woman reported the object was disc-shaped, three feet in diameter, a foot to 18 inches thick and "pointy on top." Another witness said it hovered 30 feet above the ground and then flew south.

In a letter to the *London (England) Daily Mirror* of January 3, 1966, Mrs. S. Onions of Redditch, Worcs., told of a "flying bubble" she had seen years earlier. Mrs. Onions wrote, "I was looking out at (a) blizzard . . . when I saw this tennis-ball-sized bubble. It was as clear as glass and despite the gale not moving an inch. It just hung there . . . then it moved across the wind and over the housetops at an

uncannily slow speed." Similar sightings were reported to the *Mirror* after they published Mrs. Onions' letter.

Another British mini-saucer report appeared in the *Bournemouth Evening Echo* October 25, 1969. Lt. Comdr. Alastair Mackenzie of the Royal Navy said his family saw a UFO at 7:45 P.M. on the evening of October 21, 1969. They described the object as six to nine inches in diameter and said it hovered about 30 feet overhead. "It was translucent, greyish-white in colour, eerie looking and pulsating at its centre," Lt. Comdr. A. Mackenzie said. "We observed it closely for about 30 seconds before it silently and positively moved off, first slowly, then very rapidly, in a southerly direction."

Ohio UFOlogist Paul Rozich, in a recent issue of the UFO periodical *Eyewitness*, told of an Alliance, Ohio, woman who watched a mystery object at 1:30 A.M. on the morning of July 20, 1970. She was looking out the bedroom window of her cottage on Berlin Dam Reservoir when she saw the gold-colored oval object, which she estimated as about 14 inches long and 10 inches wide, resting on the grass in her backyard. As she watched it seemed to pulsate and to expand and contract in size. It was there for 10 to 15 minutes before it "disintegrated" before her eyes.

Perhaps when enough reports on the mini-saucers—and their close cousins, the glowing globes—are collected and collated researchers

will find a common denominator that will answer the puzzling question of their identity. Are the mini-saucers remotely controlled spy scouts from larger saucers and cigar-shaped UFOs? Are the colored fireballs merely a form of energy? Why do the mini-saucers appear in so many shapes and sizes? Is it because they are different kinds of *things*? If so this would explain why some persons are burned and others are not.

The late UFO "contactee" George Adamski told in his book *Inside the Space Ships*, of seeing small discs launched and returned while he allegedly visited a large interplanetary "carrier" ship. His extraterrestrial hosts explained the discs relayed information on "every kind of vibration taking place in the area under observation." Although the discs were returned to the large craft whenever possible the "spacemen" said, sometimes they had to be destroyed. In such cases, they explained, the small surveillance craft were destroyed by explosion or by slow disintegration. A magnetic ray from the carrier ship could cause the discs to soften and turn to a jelly-like state and gradually dissipate into the air as gases.

Whether or not Adamski's story is true, a process closely akin to what he described does seem to take place where the mini-saucers are concerned. There are exceptions, of course.

So the next time you see a soap bubble wafting through the air or a paper plate seemingly caught in a whirlwind, take a closer look. You may be on "Cosmic Camera!"

#### ELEGANT FELON

IN DECEMBER 1973 a lady robber with class hit the Bank of America in Richmond, Calif., reports United Press International. Dressed in a stylish green pants suit, the woman pointed her gun at a teller and then calmly walked out of the bank with \$2,974.00. The culprit fled in a new gold Cadillac with a chauffeur at the wheel.



FOR TUPPENCE:  
SEE THE  
**ELEPHANT  
MAN”**

By David Gunston

IT WAS A dank chilly day in November 1884 and London's squalid Whitechapel area was even less inviting than usual. This was the era of chirpy costermongers, appalling poverty and overcrowding, of dense pea soup fogs and horse-drawn hansom cabs, of Jack the Ripper and Sherlock Holmes. In the

"It is very strange," Merrick once said after he had entered the hospital, "for you see, Mother was so beautiful."

At the time of his death he  
was 26 years old and in his lifetime  
he had known both a torment and a happiness  
unique in human experience.

city's East End Victorian England could be seen at its worst.

Walking along the Mile End Road a rising young doctor named Treves, then an anatomy and pathology lecturer at the Royal College of Surgeons close-by, was intrigued by a garish colored poster that filled the window of a derelict greengrocer's shop.

"See The Elephant Man!" it proclaimed, "Admission 2d." Painted crudely on canvas was a life-sized portrait of a creature half-human, half-elephant, a nightmare creation backed by the palm trees of an imaginary jungle.

Treves was interested in the advertised exhibition but he found the shop closed. A small boy quickly appeared, however, fetched the showman from a nearby pub, and on payment of a shilling, the young surgeon was granted a private view. The shop was filled only with dust and damp; it was dimly lit; it smelt unpleasant; an old red tablecloth hanging on rings like a curtain screened off one end.



The man flung back the curtain with some pride to reveal a bent human figure crouching on a stool, kept warm only by a brown blanket and a single gas jet heating a large brick on a tripod. The figure seemed de-

jected, lonely, withdrawn, resigned to its fate. It did not move. In the tone one might use to an unfriendly dog, the proprietor shouted harshly, "Stand up!" The exhibit rose slowly and painfully, letting the blanket which it had held over its head and back fall to the floor.

Treves, already an experienced medical man, gasped with revulsion and stood dumbfounded. For here, indeed, was the "man who was an elephant!"

Dr. Treves' later written account of what he saw that day is too gruesome to be particularized in detail. More than 35 years later he still could call it "the most disgusting specimen of humanity that I have ever seen . . . in the course of my profession I had come upon lamentable deformities of the face due to injury or disease, as well as mutilations and contortions of the body . . . but at no time had I met with such a degraded or perverted version of a human being as this lone figure displayed."

He was naked to the waist, barefooted, wearing only a pair of threadbare trousers which once had been part of a fat man's dress suit. Unlike an elephant (and unlike the caricature on the poster) he was not of enormous size, being shorter than average and with a

hunched back that made him seem even smaller.

Of the grotesque deformities of the Elephant Man, suffice it to say that his head was of colossal size, equal in circumference to a well-built man's waist, with two repellent bony growths, each bigger than a large loaf of bread, protruding from his forehead and his upper jaw. One eye was almost completely closed by the upper protrusion. The poor creature had only a few lank hairs on his skull; his mouth was "a mere slobbering aperture" and his nose unrecognizable as such. His elephantine appearance was due not only to the rudimentary trunk or tusk jutting from his jaw but also from his swollen misshapen legs, his enormously overgrown right arm and the considerable areas of his skin, including a lizard-like dewlap, that were covered with a spongy fungoid skin that Treves described as having the texture of a brown cauliflower.

The man on show could not smile or betray any emotion other than weeping, which he did frequently. He could not wash, shave himself or lie down in comfort, and his speech, although voluble, was almost unintelligible.

He was obviously frightened, greatly cowed, shy and confused. Yet, there was something about

him that aroused the interest and concern of the kindly young medical man who nevertheless felt certain that the poor creature was and always had been a complete imbecile.

From the showman Dr. Treves learned only that the Elephant Man was English, 21 years old, although he looked twice that age, and that his name was John Merrick.

Despite his natural revulsion Treves wanted to examine this strange specimen of perverted humanity in detail and at leisure and he arranged to do this in his room at the College. To assure Merrick's swift admittance into the building Treves gave him his card — a simple act that was to play a vital part in the Elephant Man's life.

Only later did the curious doctor realize how impossible it would be for Merrick to show himself in public, even to cross the road into the Royal College of Surgeons. But Treves need not have worried anyway, for the freak had his own providential disguise at once effective, remarkable and uncanny. He wore a vast black cloak that reached to the ground and could have come only from some theatrical costumers. His grossly deformed feet were hidden in a pair of great bag-like slippers and on his travesty of a human head he



In public Merrick wore this cap and grey flannel mask to conceal his head.

wore an enormous and unique hat. This was over two feet across, looked roughly like a huge black yachting cap, from the wide peak of which hung a thick grey flannel curtain.

The Elephant Man looked out at the world with his one good eye through a horizontal slit in this mask and as he walked very bent and with a stick necessitated by the lameness a boyhood hip infection had left him, his general appearance can be imagined. But however frightening it may have been, it was harmless compared with the reality underneath.

Dr. Treves carefully examined and questioned his odd visitor at the College and wrote up his find-

ings in the *British Medical Journal*. He discovered further inexplicable deformities and established that the stench he had noticed in the empty shop emanated from Merrick's cauliflower skin.

On the credit side, however, he was amazed to notice that the man's left arm was not only normal and unmarked but had the delicate shape and beautiful fine skin of a young girl.

Humane though he was, Dr. Treves realized that this man had no future apart from his ghastly role as a publicly exhibited freak, and he knew that with his lameness he never could escape from his tormentor. He arranged for a cab to take Merrick back to the shop, from which both the captor and the captive disappeared the very next day when the Metropolitan Police closed the exhibition as being contrary to public decency.

As Treves said in his later book of memoirs *The Elephant Man and Other Reminiscences* "The episode of the Elephant Man was, I imagined, closed; but I was fated to meet him again — two years later — under more dramatic conditions."

Merrick's exhibitor had believed that in the sordid confines of London's Mile End Road their horrible show would be permitted unchecked by the law but

he had been wrong. So now for two years he took his monster all over Britain, displaying him here and there until moved on by the police. Finally, in despair he tried the Continent but with little better luck, until he ended up in Brussels where once again the exhibition was officially banned.

The Elephant Man's days as a source of profit were over, so robbed of his meager savings he was given a ticket to London, bundled onto a train — and left to perdition.

That journey to Liverpool Street Station remained the worst of John Merrick's many nightmares. Harried by thoughtless mobs of sightseers on both sides of the Channel, he finally collapsed into the third-class waiting room where he had been taken by some kindly but puzzled policeman who had rescued him from the English crowd.

He had had no food or drink, had only a few shillings in his pocket, could not speak intelligibly, knew little or nothing of the outside world, had no friends, relatives or destination. The London bobbies were used to dealing with tramps and derelicts but the like of the stinking Elephant Man they never had known before. They just did not know what to do with this grotesque monster. But one thing was certain; he could not be al-

lowed to roam at large. In desperation, Merrick produced the one other thing he had in his pocket. It was Dr. Treves' calling card.

Merrick's only acquaintance in the country was hastily summoned from the old London Hospital. This is how he later described the scene, "I had some difficulty in making a way through the crowd but there, on the floor in the corner, was Merrick. He looked a mere heap. It seemed as if he had been thrown there like a bundle. He was so huddled up and so helpless looking that he might have had both his arms and legs broken. He seemed pleased to see me, but was nearly done."

Treves drove the Elephant Man straight to the London Hospital and the distraught creature was so exhausted that he fell asleep in the cab. "He never said a word but seemed satisfied that all was well."

Through the influence of his medical friend, Merrick was given a bed — irregularly as it later turned out, for the place was not a refuge for incurables. But the chairman of the Hospital Committee took pity on him and by writing an appeal to the *Times* managed in a single week to collect enough money to maintain the Elephant Man for life without charge to the great hos-

pital that had given him sanctuary.

In a few days two small disused rooms at the back of the building were fitted out as his permanent home, one as a bed-sitter, the other as a bathroom. They were on the ground floor overlooking a large courtyard called Bedstead Square, where the hospital's iron beds were cleaned and painted. A daily bath effectively removed the man's unfortunate stench, and Bedstead Square was to remain the Elephant Man's address for the rest of his life.

This was in December 1886. In due course Dr. Treves was to rise to the top of his profession as Sir Frederick Treves, Baronet KCVO, Surgeon to His Majesty King Edward VII (he was to perform, in 1902, the fateful appendix operation on the monarch that postponed his coronation).

At this time, however, plain Dr. Treves was a frequent visitor to Bedstead Square and came to know his charge intimately. He learned to understand his weird speech and talked with him for many hours. Curiously enough, the Elephant Man revealed himself not as a monster or a deformed idiot but as a man of great charm and sensibility, an affectionate, lively and utterly delightful man with the mind of an adult but the innocent outlook

of an unspoiled child.

As Treves explained, "His troubles had ennobled him. He showed himself to be a gentle . . . creature, as amiable as a happy woman, free from any trace of cynicism or resentment, without a grievance and without an unkind word for anyone. I have never heard him complain. His gratitude to those about him was pathetic in its sincerity and eloquent in the child-like simplicity with which it was expressed."

Merrick could not believe for a long time that Bedstead Square was to be his permanent home. Snatched from his mother into a workhouse and then exhibited on the road throughout his earlier years (when, incidentally, he was not so gross a sight), he had known no security or stability. He was uneasy at first and diffidently asked Traves one day, "When I am next moved, can I go to a blind asylum or a light-house?" In either place he imagined he would be free of the prying eyes and spoken taunts that had made his 23 years a living hell.

At last he realized the unbelievable truth—and became a changed being. He roamed outside in the courtyard at night wearing his cloak. By day he read a great deal, wrote letters and talked.

In fact, his greatest passion was for talking, chattering unceasingly, for hitherto he had had no one at all to talk to. Unfortunately, on his very first night in the hospital the young nurse who brought him supper had not been sufficiently warned of the sight that would meet her gaze, propped up by white pillows, "a monstrous figure as hideous as an Indian idol." For she dropped her tray and fled shrieking down the corridor.

The experience was not new to poor Merrick, but gradually the hospital staff became used to him and befriended him.

To help him accept himself as a human being Dr. Treves one day asked an attractive widow friend of his to visit the erstwhile Elephant Man, smile a greeting and shake his one normal hand. To her great credit she did this and Merrick was so overcome that his benefactor thought he would never cease sobbing. The poor chap explained later that this was the first woman who had ever smiled at him, ever touched him.

His change from a hunted being into a civilized man continued and as Treves recounted, "It was a wonderful change to witness and one that never ceased to fascinate me."

Soon people began to visit the hospital's strange inmate. Ac-

counts of him appeared in the press and society ladies plucked up courage to call on him, vying with each other to do him kindnesses. He became a confidante of duchesses and countesses and then one day Queen Alexandra herself, then Princess of Wales, arrived to pay him a visit. His happiness knew no bounds. And in time his mantelpiece was filled with the signed photographs of many famous beauties of the day.

Even more remarkable, John Merrick who daily dreamed of his own mother's imagined beauty ("It is very strange, for you see, Mother was so beautiful," he once said) now considered himself something of a lady-killer. He grew very amorous, adoring women at a distance and secretly hoping one day to meet a blind woman whom he could love physically.

He once told Dr. Treves during those marvelous years, "I am happy every hour of the day."

A physical caricature of a man, as Dr. Maude Royden\* has

pointed out, "who had nothing, absolutely nothing, of the things that make us happy — no work, no gifts, no sense that he was of value to anyone, no wife, no child, no equality in friendship, no sense that he could give anything to anybody."

Yet he was "happy every hour of the day. Is there not something sublime in the human spirit that could remain serene and gentle under so terrible a fate?" she asked.

The former Elephant Man even managed to pay a memorable visit to a pantomime at a London theater and to enjoy a country house holiday, where he picked wild flowers and sent them in his excited letters to Dr. Treves.

Six months after his return "home," in better health than ever before, John Merrick died in his sleep in April 1890, after trying to use a pillow like other people.

The cause of his death was dislocation of the neck. His massive head must have fallen backwards as he slept. Normally he slept sitting up. He was 26 years old. In his short lifetime he had known both a torment and a happiness unique in human experience.

\*Dr. Maude Royden was a well-known British minister, authoress and educator, born in 1876. One of her numerous books, *Life's Little Pitfalls*, published in London in the early 1920's, is a collection of her sermons preached from the pulpit of the City Temple Church, London. This book contains the sermon she preached about John Merrick.





# Voodoo *worked at midnight*

The mysterious powers of Marie Laveau made her famous in 19th-Century New Orleans—but would they work today?

By Herb Stanton

IT HAD rained in New Orleans earlier that afternoon in June 1949. I made my way through puddles down St. Peter Street looking for the Coronet Book Shop which was supposed to have a choice selection of occult books. The bookstore was almost hidden by its neighbors, all of them superb examples of Old South architecture. They carried their years with grace and charm and seemed to snub the one-story bookstore.

I spotted the shop with its En-

glish bay windows and paused to admire some mind-stopping rarities, a first edition of an H. P. Lovecraft book and a rare early volume on voodoo in New Orleans by its most celebrated practitioner Marie Laveau. Yet the books were not what really boggled my mind—it was those cats.

Nestled in the display windows were nine Siamese cats of varying ages. When I opened the door to enter a bell tinkled in the distance but no one could hear it



#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

HERBERT E. STANTON was born in West Palm Beach, Fla., in 1930 and educated at Palm Beach Junior College and the University of Miami. Since 1955 he has been employed by Tropical Roofing of Delray in his hometown of Delray Beach, Fla.

In 1960 Mr. Stanton began the study of astrology and became a professional astrologer eight years later. He is a member of the American Federation of Astrologers and a regular contributor to the periodical "Rising Sign." For 14 months he wrote a weekly column "Star Talk" that was syndicated nationwide by Copley News Service.

He also makes a hobby of collecting rare first editions of occult books.

over those cats yowling and hissing as they took off into the stacks.

I stopped in wonderment, then saw a man and woman watching me with a curious mixture of dismay and anger.

"Blessed be," said the woman. "Why have you come here?"

Her greeting stumped me. "I'm

looking for a book called *The Life and Work of Marie Laveau*," I told her.

"We don't have it."

"But I saw it in the window," I protested.

"You are mistaken. We don't have it." With that, she turned her back on me.

I left, more mystified than ever.

Author's mother Catherine Stanton Strong was first woman to serve as mayor of Delray Beach, Fla.



About a block away I found another bookstore, this one with a courteous proprietor. He laughed when I told him of my experience.

"Haven't you heard about those cats?" he asked. "They're supposed to know whenever a witch enters that store. Sort of like guard dogs, you see." He regarded me suspiciously. "Are you a witch?"

I answered "No" quite truthfully. The bookseller went off to rummage in his stacks, then emerged triumphantly holding a copy of the Laveau book.

Five years later I was holding that same book in my hands when my housekeeper Jewel came into my study. She was crying and her features were swollen. Her husband Walter had beaten her.

Jewel knew of my interest in voodoo. "How can I make Walter leave?" she asked. "I don't want a divorce but I need a vacation from that man."

The dusty Laveau volume gave us the answer. I read aloud to Jewel: "Take a pure black candle and heat it in a pot. While you're waiting for it to melt, take a piece of parchment. Write Walter's name on it three times forward, three backward, then three forward. Put the parchment and some of his nail parings into the melted wax. Roll it

into a ball. Next new moon throw the ball into the Waterway at midnight. Ask St. Expedite to help. Expect Walter to leave in two weeks, by the next full moon."

It was worth a try, Jewel decided, and she set about collecting the ingredients. By the next new moon—May 3, 1954—all was ready for our experiment in the black arts. My mother Catherine Strong, then mayor of Delray Beach, agreed to be chauffeur and I would serve as lookout.

As midnight approached our black Cadillac purred down Atlantic Avenue in Delray Beach, Fla. Halfway across the bridge spanning the Intracoastal Waterway we stopped. Jewel lowered her window and threw the ball of black wax into the rushing dark waters below. "St. Expedite, make him go quick!" she yelled. As our Cadillac slowly moved away I saw the bridgetender stirring sleepily in his office.

The result? Walter grew increasingly restless. In 10 days he packed and left for Boston where he remained for the summer.

For years afterward, the lady mayor of Delray Beach would smile secretly if anyone mentioned voodoo. And to this day Jewel thinks I missed my calling when I took up astrology. I would have been a natural *papaloi*, or voodoo witch doctor, she says.

# How to Establish a

# SPIRIT CIRCLE



Combining the magnetic and vibratory powers of several persons enhances the development of any latent mediumship in the group.

Author Schlenker, a professional magician, also serves as minister for Spiritual Revelations Church.

By Barrie E. Schlenker

THE RECENT "occult explosion" surely has created a need for instruction to the novices in the field. But to establish a working set of ground rules for organizing a seance circle we first must define exactly what a spirit circle is.

In the simplest terms, a spirit circle is the gathering together of a given number of persons for the express purpose of communicating with the spirits of previously living entities who have passed from this earthly vibratory sphere to the higher world of souls. The chief advantage of a circle over an individual com-

munication attempt is that there is strength in numbers. The combined magnetic and vibratory powers of a gathering of persons with mutual intent helps the spirit forces communicate and enhances the development of any latent gifts of mediumship in members of the circle.

It is necessary to choose carefully the persons who will compose the circle. Under no circumstances should the circle include anyone who is known to have a chronic disease of any kind, unless the circle is being formed for the single purpose of healing.

The number of persons making up the circle should be no less than three and if possible, no more than 12.

No person with a negative personality or an intensely skeptical temperament should be included as any adverse vibrations which emanate from the circle will overpower the collective intentions.

It is not advisable to have more than two developed mediums in a circle. A medium has the ability to absorb the psychic emanations of other sitters; hence if too many are present the forces are divided and cannot operate successfully.

A few words must be said about the conditions of the seance room. Never overheat the room. Due to the unusual vibrations set up by the mental concentration of the sitters, the room always will become warmer than usual. Adequate ventilation must be provided. Strong light must be avoided as this produces excessive motion in the atmosphere and disturbs the manifestations. If any light is desired it should be a small red light such as that used in photographic darkrooms — either infrared or a tinted bulb. However, when the circle is large it is advisable to use a dim light rather than sit in complete darkness.

If the circle meets regularly the members should occupy the same seats if possible. Some groups prefer to sit touching or holding hands with the persons on either side. Other circles would rather use a conductor, such as the wooden table, around which they are seated and upon which they place their hands palms down, thereby charging the wood with their personal vibrations. The wooden surface amplifies the sound of a tuning fork struck and held against its solid surface. Actually, the proper positions for the sitters of any group are those which best suit the individual circle members.

Since the intent of the circle should be to induce only good vibrations and manifestations, it is recommended that the seance be opened either with a prayer or music, instrumental or vocal. It is a good idea for the sitters to join in singing a familiar hymn as this will set up harmonious vibrations and unison of thought. Subdued, quiet conversation after this is better than sitting in monotonous silence, but the conversation always should be concerned with the purpose of the gathering and never should sink into discussion or rise to emphasis. Let it be gentle, quiet and spiritual until the phenomena begin to manifest.

Never under any conditions

join a circle which espouses evil intentions; remember, evil begets evil. Even a single evil influence among the sitters can bring about disastrous results, not only to the medium but to any one of the circle members.

It is a good idea to have a pen, pencil and paper on the table. Avoid entering or departing the circle-room once the seance has begun. Do not admit late comers; if possible do not let the air of the room be disturbed in any way once the sitting commences.

The seance should last at least one hour even if there are no results. Sometimes it takes longer than an hour for the spirits to manifest. At the same time, no sitting should last longer than two hours.

Remember, also, that all circles are experimental in nature; therefore, no one should be discouraged if no phenomena are produced during the first few sittings. Stay with the same circle for at least six sessions; then if no phenomena are produced probably your circle has an imbalance somewhere in its make-up. Perhaps, without realizing it, a member of the group is destroying proper conditions by unconscious negative vibrations. Another possibility is that two or more members of the circle are producing a neutralizing effect. For a successful manifestation it

is necessary to have a power flow similar to the positive and negative forces from a battery; if there is too great a concentration of energy in one area and not enough in another this neutralizing or "shortening" can result. In any event, if nothing is happening after a reasonable trial period you should divide the circle into two groups and then play "musical chairs," so to speak, by interchanging members and rearranging the seating.

The impressions received during the sitting can be the voices of spirits speaking to you. These impressions should be shared with the group respectfully unless (and this is rare) an evil spirit enters and suggests a wrong act or word. At the start of the sitting one or more members may be impressed to change seats with others or even to withdraw completely. Let any or all of these impressions be faithfully carried out, with the mutual understanding of all members of the circle that no offense shall be taken.

If a strong impression to write, speak, sing or gesture enters any mind present, it should be followed carefully. It has some meaning even if this meaning is not clear at the time. Never feel hurt nor embarrassed, and never, never ridicule or tease your

neighbor for expressing himself at the instigation of these impressions.

Spirit control is almost always imperfect at first. Only through constant practice and yielding so that you become flexible can the spirit be readily experienced. Practice in control is just as important and necessary for the spirit as for the sitters.

If dark or evil spirits do manifest do not drive them away, rather strive to elevate them; try to help them as you would a mortal under similar circumstances. Strive for truth and rebuke error gently.

All persons are subject to spirit influence and guidance; however, not all persons can use this power on a conscious level nor can everyone become a medium.

Generally speaking, a spirit

circle can be compared to a hot-house. The heat of the greenhouse stimulates abnormal growth in plants; the spirit circle stimulates human faculties and forces dormant or latent powers into abnormal activity. However, it must always be remembered that even in the most elementary form of manifestation through a medium, the manifesting spirit is confined to the physical capacity and mental idiosyncrasies of the medium. Therefore, all spirit power is limited in its expression.

To the persons who believe it may be dangerous to participate in a seance or to contact spirits I have this to say: Spirits may temporarily control, inspire or otherwise influence the human mind but they cannot change it nor recreate it.



### RENDEZVOUS WITH DEATH

*By Steven Lee Carson*

AMERICAN NOVELIST Stanley Loomis was famous for his books on the French Revolution, especially *Paris in the Terror* and *The Fatal Friendship* dealing with Marie Antoinette and her lover. Reviewers and readers always commented on how graphically Mr. Loomis portrayed the victims of the guillo-

tine, making the reader feel as if he were witnessing the scene.

While visiting Paris in December 1972, Loomis, 49, was killed in an automobile accident on the Place de la Concorde, at the exact site of the guillotine that took the lives of Marie Antoinette and the other characters from Loomis' books.

# A POINSETTIA for SISSY

By Alice Baldwin  
as told to Beverly A. Casey



Sissy would never accept a gift without giving one in return  
—but we weren't prepared for a miracle.

ON A BITTERLY cold afternoon in 1969, the day after Christmas, my mother and I drove to Hope Cemetery in our community of Barre, Vt., to visit Sissy's grave. We parked the car and walked down the path to the lot where she is buried. It was then we first noticed the strange phenomenon that was to hold us spellbound in the weeks that followed.

We had placed a poinsettia plant on her grave on Christmas morning, a delicate plant that is native to Mexico and South America. We expected to find it blackened and shriveled. Instead it sat nestled in the snow, its leaves glistening like crimson jewels in the late afternoon sun.

Silently my mother knelt and touched a scarlet petal, a tear sliding down her seamed face. How she had loved this child, with the special fierce love that only the mother of a retarded child understands.

Sissy was 33 years old when she succumbed to uremia after three tortured weeks in the hospital. During all the wretched days and nights of her confinement she had never complained. Her courage, as it had always been, was a triumph of the human spirit. My sister, despite her mental and physical handicaps, or maybe because of them, was a remarkable person.

When she was 10 years old we were walking home from school

together one day and she was struck by a car. I never could remember clearly how it happened. Perhaps Sissy, who walked with an uneven listing gait, stepped off the curb without looking. At any rate, there was a scream of brakes and I saw her slight body thrown violently to the ground. I thought surely she was dead but suddenly she opened her eyes and said, "Pee-wee, tell Mama it wasn't my fault." Her leg was badly injured and required several skin grafts and a long recuperation before she could walk again.

In addition to Sissy's mental handicap she was born with double curvature of the spine. My parents made a stretcher-type frame for her of a sheet of heavy canvas bound tightly to two steel rods. This cradle-board helped straighten her spine and hastened the day she could walk by herself. She was also in constant torment with the growth and removal of three sets of teeth. Only a few years before her death did she finally have the last set extracted and acquire dentures.

There's a verse in the Bible that seems especially for people like Sissy and for those who love them: "But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the

world to confound the things which are mighty."\*\*

Because we were the closest in age and attended school together, Sissy and I were inseparable. Young children can be cruel and she was often the butt of childish jokes and pranks. It infuriated me to see her picked on and many were the battles I entered in her behalf.

As we grew older these encounters became less frequent because as Sissy's personality emerged people were drawn to her. She never forgot when someone was ill or in trouble; it was part of the warmth that endeared her to everyone.

She never did well with her studies no matter how hard she tried and she would become incensed with young nieces and nephews who inadvertently "showed her up" with their own skills. During her earlier years she would fly into rages and often break one of her sisters' favorite possessions. But her fury would subside as quickly as it had risen and seemed little more than an emotional release. She was incapable of remaining angry or of holding a grudge and burst into tears of relief when the recipient of her rage made the first move to make up with her.

"Listen to my new song, Pee-

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\*I Corinthians 1:27.

wee," she'd say to me and then sing a song she'd heard only once and never miss a word or a note. She had a remarkable memory for music; she never forgot a song and she learned hundreds of them. Her record player, records and radio afforded her many happy hours.

More than anything in the world Sissy loved Christmas, with all the wonder and excitement of a child. No one could be exposed to her Christmas spirit and remain untouched. She loved all holidays and doted on her birthday, but nothing matched her all-out enthusiasm for Christmas.

In October she would begin hinting, questioning, planning, suggesting and cajoling. Her lists, schemes and ideas encompassed everything from the cookie decorating to the choice of wrapping paper. This unflagging energy extended to every member of the family, every married sister, even aunts and uncles. They all were equally important to her. In our world Sissy was synonymous with Christmas.

The highlight of the holidays for her was the midnight candlelight service at our church. How eagerly she joined in this annual event, her brown eyes reflecting the soft glow of the candles as she sang the familiar carols.

Second only to the candlelight service was the decorating of the tree. "Do they have Christmas trees in heaven, Peewee?" she once asked me. I assured her they must have. She would stand before it entranced, her face glowing, her eyes shining. The lights on the tree seemed pale in comparison.

When she entered the hospital

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#### ABOUT BEVERLY CASEY

BEVERLY A. CASEY, to whom Mrs. Baldwin told this story, resides in Barre, Vt., with her son Tim and daughters Eileen and Melissa. In addition to free-lance writing Mrs. Casey works as a caterer's helper and recently has finished a novelty cookbook to be published shortly.

For several years she owned and operated a kennel for registered collies and Shetland sheepdogs. After selling her kennel she worked as a nurses' aid. Prior to that she served for three years as a substitute rural mail carrier.

---

just before Thanksgiving in 1969 I think she had a premonition of her death. She would ask such questions as, "Remember the fun we had picking apples, Peewee?" or "Mama, didn't we have good times going to the Bingo games?" And when we assured her she soon would be going again she wouldn't answer.

One day I entered her room with a gaily wrapped package. "Look, Sissy," I said, untying it

for her. "This is something really special." I held up a small mirror with attached lipstick and perfume. "See," I said, holding it in front of her. "When you look in it you can see a monkey!" She smiled weakly. For a moment, with her eyes bright with laughter, she seemed like the old familiar Sissy.

A few days later the hospital called the family to her bedside. She was extremely weak and at times comatose. A nurse said she seemed distressed because she wanted something but couldn't indicate what it was. I asked her if she wanted something from her stand and she nodded weakly.

I opened the drawer and started picking up articles, searching for what Sissy wanted. It was the mirror and she raised her hand to take it. Trembling from the effort she held it up toward me. "See, Peewee, see the monkey?" she said.

"OK, Sissy, you win but I'll catch you next time," I answered, my face aching with the effort to smile as she sank back on her pillow, totally exhausted but with a grin of triumph on her face.

Sissy died that night, on the 11th of December, and was buried in Hope Cemetery about three miles from our home.

The days flew by and Sissy seemed very close as we con-

tinued our preparations for Christmas. It never occurred to us to cross her off our shopping lists. Many times I would catch myself thinking about what I would get her for a gift. One day before Christmas I was pondering this as I worked around the house when abruptly and without warning I had a clear vision of a poinsettia plant. I tried to ignore it as I continued with my work but the vision recurred several times and I "saw" the plant clearly on Sissy's grave. Then I knew we were supposed to buy a poinsettia plant and place it on her grave for Christmas.

My thoughts were interrupted by the noisy arrival of my four children, home from school. They all talked at once as they poured milk and placed their papers on the table for me to see. My two youngest, in different grades and different rooms, had drawn and colored poinsettia plants!

I jumped up from the table and phoned my sister in St. Johnsbury, a town about 40 miles from where we live. "Ruthie," I gasped, "I just have to tell you something."

My sister's voice cut me off. "Peewee, I was just going to call you. I wanted to tell you we have to buy a poinsettia plant for Sissy's grave."

Ruthie and I purchased the

plant from our local florist and placed it on Sissy's grave, thereby establishing a yearly tradition. "There, Sissy," I whispered. "Now you have your gift. Merry Christmas, Sissy."

We should have known Sissy never would accept a gift unless she gave one in return. And the afternoon after Christmas Day we knew her gift to us was the unexplainable miracle of the poinsettia plant continuing to bloom in the snow.

Each member of the family was called and told of the miracle. Each hastened to the cemetery to see for himself. Another day came and went and the plant continued to live. The days followed one another to a new calendar and a new year. It was unbelievable.

Bone chilling cold set in. Storms shrieked out of the north; snow swirled and the raw wind piled drifts and sent temperatures plummeting to below zero. Still, each day we made the pilgrimage to the cemetery to

kneel in wonder beside a poinsettia plant blooming in the cold. It continued to bloom for nearly three full weeks.

One day as I stood looking at the plant, its leaves a splash of flame against the stark white landscape, I remembered the legend of this flower. A poor Mexican boy wept as he walked through the forest on his way to the Shrine of the Nativity. He had no gift to offer the Christ Child except a weed he had picked along the way. As he placed this offering with love before the altar the weed suddenly burst into a dazzling red flower.

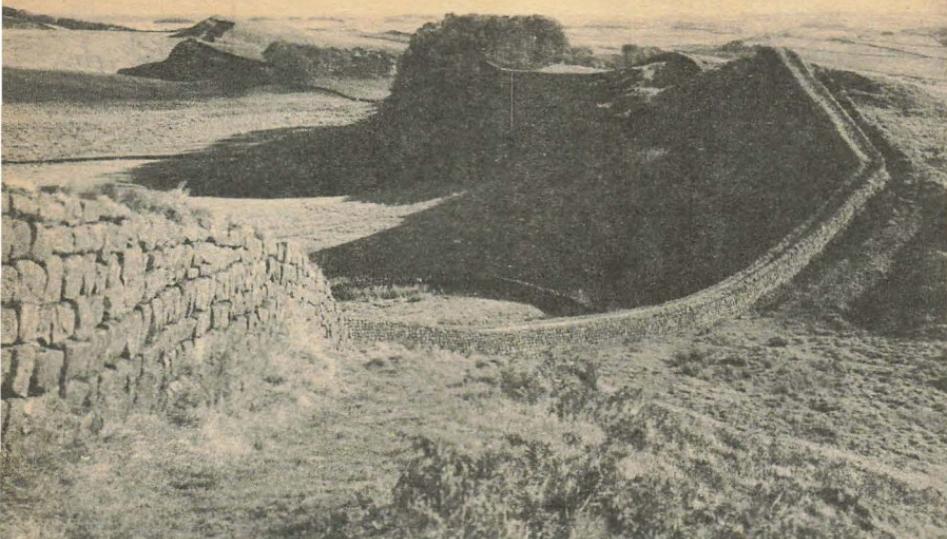
I knelt and touched a petal tenderly. "Thank you, Sissy, for making us understand that there is a plan and a purpose for every life," I said.

The next day the plant was dead. But Sissy had left us the only legacy she had to leave, the proof that love is a priceless gift; that each life is precious to God; and that Christmas is a time for miracles.



#### NATIVITY SCENE

MRS. PAT DIXON of Wallasey, Cheshire, England, should have no trouble remembering four birthdays in her family. Her daughter Beverley was born on Christmas Day 1965. Two years later her cousin Dominic also was born on Christmas Day. Her brother's son Philip arrived on Christmas Day 1968 and on Christmas Day 1972 her cousin Linda gave birth to a daughter.



In A.D. 122 Emperor Hadrian started a great wall to protect his Roman province from the barbarians to the north. (Photo courtesy Department of the Environment, England)

AFTER Se-  
tonius de-  
feated Boudicca's  
raggle-taggle  
army in the mid-  
dle of the First  
Century A.D.  
peace settled over  
Britain. Its peo-  
ple gradually be-  
came contented  
prosperous sub-  
jects of the Ro-  
man Empire—but while they  
proudly called themselves Ro-  
mans they never ceased to be  
Britons. Life always remained  
more native than Roman and  
the La Tène art forms survived  
most of the occupation.

The educated classes readily

# Britain

## *The Western Edge of Rome*

By Arnold L. Kent

PART TWO

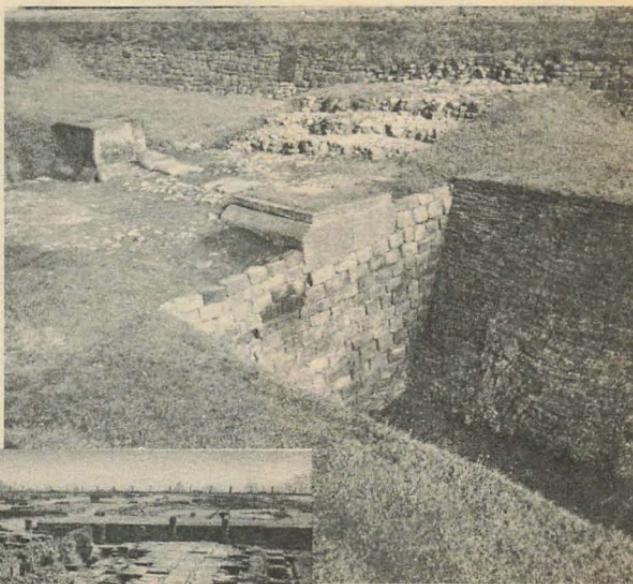
embraced the Ro-  
man classical cul-  
ture and adopted  
Latin as their  
language. Ro-  
manized to a  
lesser degree, the  
poor people re-  
tained their old  
Celtic tongues.

Thus both cul-  
tures inter-  
mingled in Ro-  
man Britain. At its peak in the  
Second Century A.D. the popula-  
tion reached about two million.

The tribal client-kings of Brit-  
ain had to make some radical  
economic adjustments. They  
could no longer fill their larders  
and coffers through the medium

Although beleaguered Rome faded away more than 1500 years ago evidence of her ancient rule is everywhere in Britain.

A broad flat-bottomed trench called the Vallum runs parallel to and behind Hadrian's wall for 66 miles. Its function is a mystery. Granaries (below) were part of large forts which stood at five- to six-mile intervals in the wall. (Photos courtesy Department of the Environment)



not understanding the full meaning of the loans, and some land fell into foreign hands.

Tribal raids eventually ceased altogether and

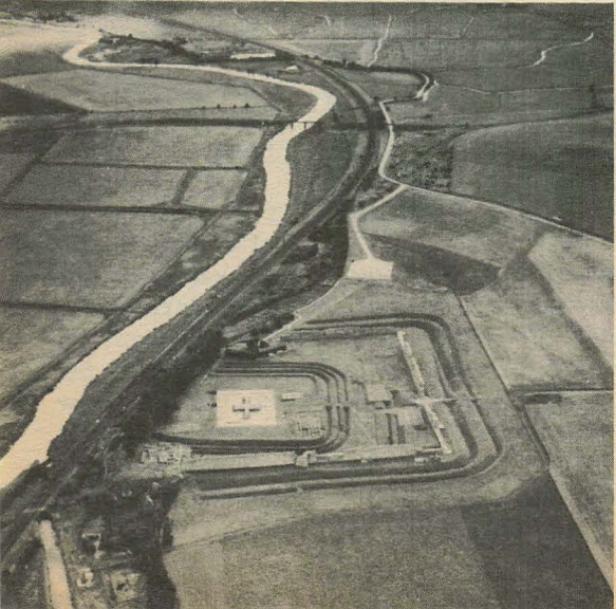
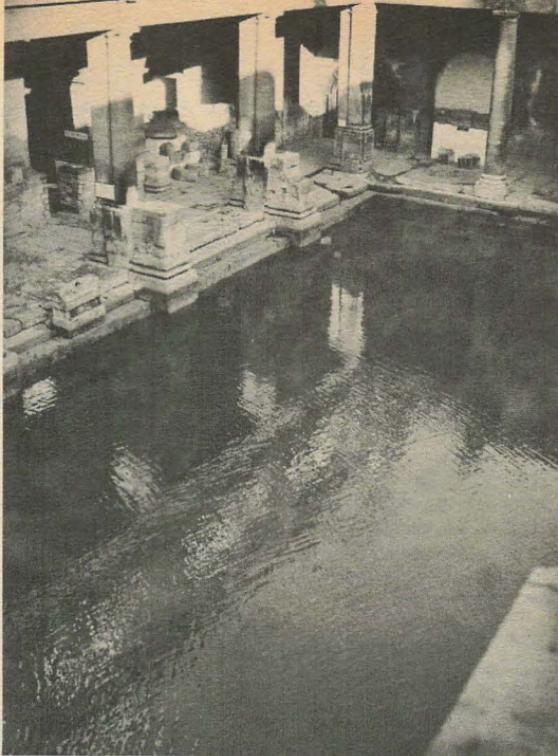
the people lived in safety for the first time. Their standard of living rose as the years went by and many Roman luxuries became necessities. Towns grew rapidly and a network of roads spread across the lowlands. People traveled more, breaking

of intertribal raids without risking Roman punishment and many kingdoms faced bankruptcy. Financiers flocked to the island to offer the kings loans on their lands—at interest rates of from 12 to 20 percent. The kings accepted this money eagerly, often

Romans discovered Bath's mineral springs and built baths which gave the city its name. (British Tourist Authority photo)

down tribal isolation and spreading Roman culture at an ever-increasing rate.

The fine woolen cloaks worn by the upper-class Britons became popular throughout the Roman Empire. In Britain, however, the Romans wore togas as a rule while the Britons preferred tunics. The lower classes



dressed in rough wool or linen tunics and footwear ranged from simple sandals to heavy iron-studded shoes.

Farming techniques improved and Britain began to export its food surplus. The village metal-

Richborough fort was built when Channel cities had to be fortified against Anglo-Saxon invaders. (Photo courtesy Aerofilms, Ltd.)



Aerial view shows Roman theater in Verulamium, a large walled Roman city which became St. Albans in honor of Britain's first Christian martyr, a converted pagan Roman soldier.

smiths tied the elements of this new economy together, making plows for the farmers and tools for the shops. Both villages and farms prospered.

Roman soldiers surveyed land and built new towns. Other cities with names ending in "caster," "cester," and "chester" had begun as settlements of traders and camp followers near Roman military camps (called *castra*). Populations of these towns averaged about 5,000 but some were twice that size. Little of the original architecture survives because modern cities have

completely engulfed most of the original sites.

Londinium (later to become London) covered about 350 acres on the River Thames at the center of a radiating road system that converged on a drawbridge. This location made the city the center of commerce as well as administration of both Roman Britain and modern England.

Sometime after Boudicca burned Londinium the city erected a defensive wall that still stood in Elizabethan times. Londinium's paved streets were lined with thatched huts standing

alongside mansions, baths and temples. An international marketplace flourished on the Thames and kilns and workshops clattered and smoked where St. Paul's Cathedral stands today.

Roman Britain's second largest city, Corinium, is today's Cirencester. Corinium's irregular oval walls enclosed 240 acres. Earthen mounds now mark the spot on the edge of town where a Roman amphitheater stood. Another large walled Roman city, Verulamium, covering 203 acres, has become St. Albans, in honor of Britain's first Christian martyr.

Little is known about Saint Alban. Historians variously related his death to different periods of Christian persecution between A.D. 249 and 305. Traditionally, it is believed Alban was a pagan Roman soldier assigned to guard a priest who converted him to Christianity. When he helped the priest escape, Alban had to face a military tribunal. He admitted to being a Christian and was beheaded and buried where his church now stands. This simple story is probably close to the truth.

Much of the brick and rubble used to build St. Alban's Cathedral came from ancient Verulamium's wall and other structures. But parts of the wall and its bastions still stand. Other

ruins of this ancient city visible today are a system for heating and storing bath water and a mosaic floor.

\* \* \*

A RUGGED frontier separated northern Britain from the Romanized south. The Pict and Caledonian tribes would not be tamed and their raids along the frontier were a common occurrence.

Rome had broken all resistance in Wales by the end of the First Century and occupied Scotland as far north as the Firth of Clyde. In A.D. 80 Governor Agricola built an earthen wall across the island at that point but it was ineffective in containing the northern tribes. Rome gradually lost faith in the wall and tried to strengthen her position with a series of forts along a line farther south.

When these forts failed to stop the marauding bands Emperor Hadrian built a second wall across England connecting the forts from the mouth of the Tyne River to Solway Firth. Hadrian's Wall, finished about A.D. 127, was 73 miles long, 20 feet high and from eight to 15 feet thick. It was far more successful than Agricola's wall but even so, it was overrun from time to time.

Peace was fragile on that long-ago frontier but Rome, considering Britain sufficiently secure,

began withdrawing her soldiers and replacing them with British auxiliaries. By the Second Century, only three Roman legions remained in Britain, supported by 40,000 natives.

The frontier began at Hadrian's Wall and extended as far as Romanized settlements and Roman forts penetrated the northland. These settlements were densest along the two walls and where military activity and general traffic were heavy. There were few isolated villas or farms on the frontier.

Despite the raids, a regulated trade developed with the barbarians and attracted merchants, middlemen and shopkeepers to the frontier. These entrepreneurs sold luxuries and entertainment to off-duty military personnel and traded local goods for merchandise from beyond the frontier and all over the Empire. The farmers prospered with this influx of people and settlements much like those in the south grew up around the forts.

On this unquiet frontier the Roman Ninth Legion vanished — six decades after its annihilation at the hands of Boudicca. The legion had been reconstituted at York about A.D. 122 while Hadrian's Wall was being built. Romantic explanations describe the legion marching north out of York to engage the

fierce Caledonian tribes — and vanishing. The truth, however close we may come to it, seems less romantic. The evidence indicates the Ninth Legion suffered a dishonorable defeat.

Some historians believe a successful rebellion inflicted heavy casualties on the Romans about that time. But if the Ninth Legion had been destroyed again it should have been later restored to full strength, as it had been after Boudicca. But if an entire Roman unit disgraced itself every 10th man was killed and the survivors were banished from camp until they redeemed themselves through acts of gallantry.

If the Ninth Legion had been dishonored while at the same time suffering heavy battle casualties, the further decimation by Roman authority would have left few survivors. This seems to have been the case.

The mystery of the vanished Ninth Legion never has been solved but the Legion is not mentioned in the inscriptions on Hadrian's Wall so it probably was no longer an effective organization when that wall was completed.

Hadrian's Wall climbed high hills and crossed streams and rivers, completely dividing north and south Britain and cutting off nearly all contact between bar-

barians and Romanized citizens. The wall, both an elevated sentry walk and a military obstacle, was defended like a fortress. The top of the wall was not wide enough to hold catapults and balistae so it was manned by soldiers armed only with short swords and spears. When an alarm announced the approach of marauding bands soldiers poured from forts and milecastles through sally ports to drive them off.

Sentries walked the wall and stood guard in its many recessed turrets or sentry boxes. These 10-by-12-foot turrets were the smallest of the wall's 254 fortified posts. Two turrets stood between each pair of milecastles which were spaced about a half mile apart. These milecastles were small forts 50 by 60 feet in size. Along with all but three of the wall's 17 large rectangular forts the milecastles were integral parts of the wall.

The forts stood at five- to six-mile intervals and housed complements of from 500 to 1,000 men. A fort consisted of two and a half to five acres of streets, chapels, offices, colonnaded courts, barracks, officers' dwellings, granaries and workshops. In hilly districts the forts were built at the highest point, on north-facing ridges, to provide the best view of the enemy.

A V-shaped trench averaging 30 to 40 feet wide at the top and 10 to 15 feet deep ran along the north side of the wall. It seems obvious it was designed to discourage mass assaults but another ditch south of the wall—the Vallum—is not so easily explained.

The Vallum is a broad flat-bottomed trench that parallels the wall for 66 miles. It is 10 feet deep and eight feet wide at the bottom; the top is 20 feet across. At one place it was cut through solid rock. Earth from the Vallum was cast into a row of mounds 100 feet apart and 24 feet back from the trench. Most of these have disappeared. A fine military road runs between the wall and the Vallum connecting the various military posts. Causeways which cross the Vallum give access to the forts.

The Vallum is a mystery. Even its name raises questions because it means "mound," not "ditch." Did the Romans intend to dig a trench or to erect earthen mounds? If the trench was simply a source of material for the mounds why was it dug to such uniform dimensions? And what purpose could the mounds have served?

Historians offer at least three explanations for the Vallum as a trench. One theory suggests that it was a further obstacle to delay

advancing barbarians — but it would also have trapped retreating defenders!

Another theory claims the Vallum was a civil boundary marking the limits of Roman political power in the north. When the barbarians ignored the ditch, Hadrian's Wall was built. However, this seems unlikely because the Romans had been fighting the Celts for more than a century. They had to know that such a trench as the Vallum would be no barrier to the wild tribes.

The third theory suggests the Vallum was dug to keep civilians away from the wall's military defense zones. Civilian settlements surrounded many of these zones and traders constantly passed through the wall in both directions. Although Rome was manning defense lines from Spain to Syria without vallums to keep civilians away, this latter theory seems the most realistic of the three. Nevertheless, it is only a speculative explanation of the flat-bottomed ditch. The Vallum remains a mystery.

\* \* \*

THE FALL OF Roman Britain began on the frontier. In A.D. 142 the Picts' and Caledonians' attacks became more frequent and Rome built the Antonine Wall between the Firths of Clyde and Forth along the same

line Agricola's Wall had been built 62 years earlier.

The Antonine Wall, little of which remains today, was 27 miles long and probably 10 feet high, tapering from a base of 14 feet to about six feet at the top. It had 19 forts but they were much smaller than those along Hadrian's Wall. The smallest covered only a half acre. The Antonine Wall had its own military road and V-shaped ditch but no vallum.

A decade after the Antonine Wall was erected unrest in the north developed into full revolt. The northern wall was breached again and again, threatening Rome's already tenuous hold on the land. When the Caledonians completely overran the northland in A.D. 180 the Romans began a systematic withdrawal. By A.D. 195 they had completely abandoned both the Antonine Wall and Scotland and had fallen back to Hadrian's Wall, thus encouraging the Picts to step up their raids.

Shortly before, Ireland's Scoti tribes\* had begun to raid Britain's coasts. Marauding bands attacked by sea so often Rome built impressive castles at the most vulnerable points along the coastline. Immense stone walls

\*These were the people who migrated to Scotland about the middle of the Sixth Century and gave that land its name.

still stand at Richborough where they were built to keep out the intruders. History proved them ineffective.

The raids grew fiercer and more frequent. The Picts and Caledonians overran all of northern Britain in A.D. 196, wrecked Hadrian's Wall and dismantled fortresses at York and Chester. This time Rome managed to drive out the barbarians and re-establish the boundary of Roman Britain at Hadrian's Wall. But the tempo of the raids increased until in A.D. 367 a major land and sea attack breached Hadrian's Wall for the last time.

Rome had grown too weak to defend her western outpost and the marauders swept across the prosperous lowlands, plundering, burning and killing. The people could only bury their valuables hoping to save them from these raiders.\* Caches of coins, tools and gold and silver utensils still are unearthed in England. We can only wonder at the fate of the owners who never retrieved them.

#### Conditions in Roman Britain

\*In one of these raids a teen-aged Romanized Briton was kidnaped by the Scoti tribes and taken to Ireland. After six years of slavery he escaped to northern Gaul, returning to Ireland later as a self-proclaimed bishop. The details of his life are mysterious and confused but he is known to have been a simple pious man who converted many to Christianity and eventually became Ireland's patron Saint Patrick.

grew progressively worse as new and more powerful invaders swept over the land. The Anglo-Saxons from Germany began to invade Britain in ever-increasing numbers at a time when Rome was growing weaker. Finally, in the year A.D. 409, Emperor Honorius wrote to the cities on the island bidding them look to their own defense against the barbarians. The natives fought on alone until they were overcome by the Anglo-Saxons in 582. Then, for the first time, England took on the status of a nation. She established contacts with European and Mediterranean nations and slid gracefully into the Middle Ages.

\* \* \*

**H**ADRIAN'S WALL is quiet to-day and much of it is gone. Tourists visiting its splendid ruins may see such things as a well-preserved bath house and the grooves of chariot wheels like those cut into the streets of Pompeii.

One of the most famous Roman cities in Britain is Bath. Its springs still bubble forth thousands of gallons of warm health-giving water every day. The Romans called the springs *Aquae Solis*, waters of the sun, and built thermae over them. These well-preserved baths give the city its modern name.

Two of Rome's most important

highways were Watling Street and Fosse Way. The former ran from Canterbury through Londinium to Chester, and the latter from Exeter to Lincoln. These two roads form a huge "X" across southern England. Almost the entire length of Fosse Way is in use today and so are some parts of Watling Street. London's

Edgware Road now marks the course of where Watling Street entered Londinium from the north.

Modern visitors encounter reminders of Roman Britain whether they tour the city or the countryside for ancient Rome still exists everywhere in England.



#### SIBERIAN FISH STORY

**S**IBERIAN FISHERMEN still are puzzling over the unusual fish they recently caught in a tributary of the Angara River in south central Siberia, reports United Press International. The fish have been identified as tropical types that naturally occur several thousand miles away.

Tass news agency speculates that someone must have dumped a tankful of pet tropical fish into the river near Lake Baikal. The fish swam upstream into a canal where a thermal power plant discharges hot water and thus were able to survive through the winter and begin reproducing.



#### JUDGES DEFIES HEX

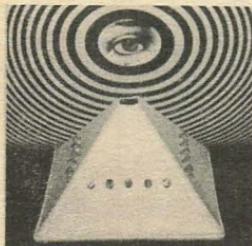
**L**AST JULY in San Antonio, Tex., Judge John G. Benavides was the target of a hex. A witch scattered black pepper around his courtroom and threatened to turn him into a frog. Undismayed, the judge had Juanita Vasquez Garcia, 45, arrested for staring at persons with her "evil eye." Specifically she was charged with trying to intimi-

date a prosecution witness in a burglary trial by threatening to cause the witness's unborn baby to be deformed. District Attorney Charles Conway said Mrs. Garcia affixed "the evil eye — a flat unblinking stare" on witnesses against her friend who was on trial. The woman was released on \$2,500 bond, according to United Press.

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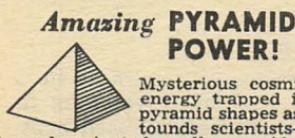
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# *My Proof of Survival*

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## THE JUDGE KEPT HIS PROMISE

By Loretta Marlin McKee

MY FIRST proof of life after death occurred on November 21, 1969, while I was living in Folly Beach, S.C., with my mother Oneva Bailey, stepfather Fred Bailey and brother Mike Marlin.

Two days before my dear friend John A. Jessen, whom I had known for about 10 years, had died of a heart attack on the front lawn of the City Hall building in Charleston, S.C. His office was at City Hall as he was at that time in charge of slum clearance in Charleston. Prior to that he had served as a magistrate judge.

Over the years he had helped and advised numerous persons and his circle of friends was large. I had come to depend on his advice in all my undertakings large and small. For years John Jessen and I had been mentally "tuned in" to one another but oddly on the day of his death I had no thought of anything being wrong. About noon that day my brother called me at my cashier's job at the finance office to tell me John had died almost instantly.

The shock must have shown in my face because Termplan's office manager Leon Robinson asked me if I wanted to go home. I spent the rest of the day and the next awaiting the

funeral, assuaging my grief by long walks on the beach.

Friday night I retired about 11:00 P. M. and awakened at 5:55 A. M. Saturday morning. My brother was preparing to leave for his job with the Charleston Fire Department and his radio gave the time as I awoke.

I lay listening to the radio about five minutes before I suddenly felt as though I were being held fast to the bed. Even with all my strength I could not raise myself. My eyes opened wide in disbelief as I beheld the figure standing by my bed.

Six-foot-four-inch John Jessen, dressed in his familiar suit and tie,



Loretta Marlin McKee

gazed down at me. As I lay there staring at him, unable to speak, he said, "There you are. I've been looking all over for you. Don't take it so hard. I will still be around to look after things for you."

We looked at each other in silence, his eyes showing an unbelievable depth of sorrow. Then, seeming embarrassed, he said, "I'll go now. I have other calls to make." As he walked through the bedroom door, he turned and added, "I will send someone for you."

A year to the day from John Jes-  
sen's death I met my present hus-  
band Arthur McKee. The judge kept  
his promise. — Ozark, Mo.

#### "TELL MOTHER NOT TO CRY"

By Elizabeth Miller Osborne

MY BROTHER'S best friend Kent Stitzer always called me his "big sister," saying it wasn't fair that he had only two younger brothers. After I moved from the little mountain town of Gunnison, Colo., where we all grew up, I still heard news of him. After finishing school he had become a lieutenant in the Navy Air Corps, had married and was stationed as an instructor at Ely, Nev.

One Saturday night in April 1942 I wakened from a sound sleep to see Kent, in full uniform except for his hat, standing at the foot of our bed



Elizabeth Miller Osborne

gripping the rail of our old-fashioned iron bedstead. The streetlight outside our window rippled over his wavy blond hair.

"Tell Mother not to cry," he said. And then again, forcefully, "Tell Mother not to cry."

Frightened, I reached over to awaken my husband Mark but by then Kent was gone. Mark said I was just dreaming and to go back to sleep. For the next week just as I was about to go to sleep I would sense Kent was there but I was too timid and never gave him a chance to appear again.

The next Saturday afternoon when we came home from shopping we found a telegram waiting. Since we had no phone my mother Annie Miller had taken this way of letting me know that just a week before, Kent had died in a crash. Because he spoke Spanish fluently he had been assigned as one of the pilots to ferry 200 planes to Colombia, South America. On the way he crashed in a tropical storm over Trinidad.

I called and told Mother about my visitor but it did no good to tell Kent's mother not to cry. Mrs. Stitzer was confined to her bed for nearly three months due to shock and tears. I think Kent knew how she would take it and he wanted to tell her it wasn't necessary. — Gunnison, Colo.

#### VANISHING VISITOR

By Ethel C. Hegewald

ONE SUNDAY morning in 1928 after the children had left for Sunday school I dressed carefully, intending to go to church. I was about to leave our house in Minneapolis, Minn., when I heard a knock on the back door.

I opened the door to find a man standing on the porch. He asked if I would give him something to eat. I was already late in starting for church and obliging him would mean further delay. I was wearing a smart new outfit and feared the other ladies

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in church would attribute my late arrival to these new clothes. Therefore my first thought was to refuse him.

While I stood hesitating I forgot about the clothes. Why go to church if I did not intend to live a Christian life? I should not turn away a hungry man from my door. I asked him to come in and sit down at the table.

I managed to fix a few plain dishes of food. He ate in silence, then rose and thanked me. He walked back out onto the porch. I was standing near a wide window that gave me an unbroken view of the porch and as he should have passed the door I glanced out the window but could not see him. I stepped through the door onto the porch but still saw no one. The porch was at least 10 feet above the ground, with a high rail encircling all but the end where the steps went down.

In the center of these stairs stood the little boy who lived on the first floor. Tommy was an unusually bright and observing child for eight years old. "Tom," I asked, "did you see a man on the porch?"

"Yes," he answered, "but he disappeared."

"He disappeared?" I asked. "What do you mean?"

The boy repeated his statement. He had been looking at the man when suddenly the stranger had vanished before his eyes. Ever since I have puzzled over the disappearance of that man. Was he a spirit sent to test the sincerity of my Christian faith? — Vancouver, Wash.

## PATSY AND PRINCE

By Helen Gale Elliott

THE SUDDEN shock of losing my daughter Patsy in May 1958 left me despondent and confused. She was not quite 17 and had a great future in the theater when she died from complications after taking Seconal pills. I had attended many

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meetings of Kay Sterner's California Parapsychology Foundation in San Diego, Calif., and Mrs. Sterner, knowing of my loss, invited me to attend a materialization seance conducted by the powerful medium Berrie Lillie.

About a dozen of us sat around in a darkened room in San Diego's Spiritualist church. Soon the lady who sat next to me gasped as a voice said, "Hello, Polly. Don't grieve for me. Go ahead and marry Jim. He was my best buddy and I want you to be happy."

Choking, Polly replied, "Thank you, darling."

I was wishing my daughter would come when a white form stepped up and said in a faint voice I knew to be Patsy's, "Hello, Mother. I'm so glad you came. I was afraid you wouldn't come."

"Hello, darling," I answered and reached out my arms.

"Don't touch me, Mother, but come close and let me kiss you."

I felt cold lips on my cheek and then she said. "I love you, Mother. Do you know something? Prince is here with me."

I was dumbfounded. We had put our dog Prince to sleep eight years before when Patsy was only a child. No one in that room knew about Prince except me. Now I knew my daughter lived and her pal too.

Patsy said, "Don't grieve, Mother, for when you do it makes me sad. It is beautiful over here and everyone is happy. My time on earth was over. I must leave now."

Then she disappeared as she had come, in a white filmy silhouette. I wish that everyone could know how close our loved ones are. — Anaheim, Calif.

## I SAW GRANDPA'S GHOST

By Alice Conway

ONE NIGHT in March 1911, when I was about three-and-a-half

# If Clark Gable, Judy Garland and Marilyn Monroe Had Known About Biorhythm—They Might Be Alive Today



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What if someone came along and offered you a little light? Would it make a difference?

Of course it would. And that's why I want to share MY little light with you. It's called the science of Biorhythm. And may have made the difference in my life between success and failure, perhaps even life and death.

Biorhythm could make a big difference in your life, too. Let me explain why.

*The Philadelphia Inquirer* (Nov. 4, 1973) reports that "Biorhythm poses such a natural and logical explanation for our fluctuating health and temperance that it simply cannot be overlooked."

## How I Discovered Biorhythm

Like you, I want to do the best for my loved ones. To insure my children's good health, my husband's financial success, my own sensitivity as wife and mother. And, of course, I want to really understand myself. But before I discovered Biorhythm, I only had "fate" and women's intuition to guide me.

I was often plagued with self-doubts and fears. What if my husband had a terrible car accident? What if his business suddenly failed? What if my children got seriously ill?

And then a miracle happened.

A scientist friend told me my fears MIGHT BE PREVENTED ONCE AND FOR ALL! How could I not listen? My friend introduced me to the science of Biorhythm. He calls it "one of the most effective life controls known to man and woman."

## Clark Gable's Death Predicted

On the John Nebel radio show in 1960 a bio-

rhythmist predicted that, according to Clark Gable's biorhythm chart, the star (who had recently suffered a heart attack) would have a "critical day" on November 16. He urged extra precautions. Gable died on that day.

ON NOV. 16 Gable died and the doctors, who had been heeding the biorhythmist's warning, stated that "Gable could have been saved had the heart machine been available quickly."

## The Difference Biorhythm Has Made For Me

Now that I've learned of Biorhythm, I'm less moody, more creative, more sensitive to my family, more aware of myself. Biorhythm might help you to make decisions more confidently, quickly. What's more, physically you'll feel more energetic, less run-down. Biorhythm might even help you stick to a diet. And as an extra bonus, try gambling during your "high" days—you might be called a "born winner."

## Nature's Secret Clock

In brief, Biorhythm operates on the basis of our natural biological cycles. You know about women's menstrual cycles. Well, scientists also chart 3 other major cycles: emotional, physical and mental. They effect each of us from the moment we're born. And their unique pattern, based on our day and year of birth.

When these cycles are at their "highs" we're most likely to give our peak performances. When they're low, the opposite is true. And when the cycles are changing, we're in our critical days. That's when we're most susceptible to accidents and poor judgement.

A recent book on biorhythm reveals some fascinating facts. All of these occurred on critical days:

- Jack Ruby's murder of Lee Harvey Oswald
- Sirhan Sirhan's assassination of Robert Kennedy
- Arthur Bremer's attempt on George Wallace
- Marilyn Monroe's death

That's more. Judy Garland and Marilyn Monroe swallowed lethal doses of sleeping pills on critical days.

## Evidence Overwhelming

Industries around the world swear by Biorhythm. They credit Biorhythm for their outstanding safety records. These include:

- the transportation system in Zurich, Switzerland
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*The Long Island Press quotes Russel K. Anderson, head of a U.S. Industrial Consulting firm (March 30, 1973). "We have analyzed more than 1,000 incidents during the past three years and the amazing thing is that we have come out with more than 90% of the accidents occurring on the critical days."*

## Biorhythm Scoops on Sporting Upsets

- Muhammad Ali lost to Ken Norton on Ali's critical day
- Floyd Patterson lost to Ingmar Johansson on a critical day

• Arnold Palmer shocked fans at the Pro Golfer's Association Play-off in 1962 when the "sure winner" tied for 17th place instead (he was at a biorhythmic low)

• Bobbie Riggs beat Billie Jean King on a day when her physical cycle was critical and his emotional cycle low (Ms. King, however, was at an emotional and intellectual high)

## Research Study Now In Progress

Biorhythm could be one of today's most powerful sources for personal knowledge and life control. Is helping you know the most important person in your life—yourself?

To help YOU discover Biorhythm's effectiveness, the Life Cycle Institute invites you to participate in a special research project. You can see for yourself how Biorhythm improves your health, your diet, financial success, family happiness, sexual responses, vacation trips, even driving. At the same time you'll be engaging in valuable life-changing research. See Life Cycle Institute's special offer below.

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years old, I was asleep in my bed in our Highland Park, Ill., home. Across the room from me my two-and-a-half-year-old brother Edward slept on a small cot.

Suddenly I woke up. Grandpa Curley, my father's father, was standing beside Ed's bed. Grandpa was dressed in white, it seemed. I heard a mumbling sound. Ed sat up and called out to Mother who was reading at the dining room table that Grandpa was there.

"Ask him what he wants," she said.

He did and told Mother Grandpa wanted to say good-bye.

"Say good-bye, Edward," she said.

"Good-bye, Grandpa," Ed dutifully repeated.

"What happened now?" Mother asked.

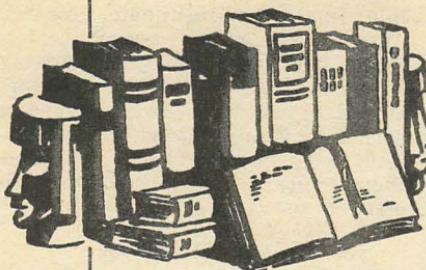
"He went away," he said.



Alice Conway

Next morning I found out what had happened. At the same time we saw Grandpa he lay dying in his house next door with his family gathered around, including my father Frank Curley. Grandpa had wanted so to say good-bye to his favorite grandson Ed that he had appeared to us either just as he died or just after.—Lake Forest, Ill.

## New Books



David Techter

## NEWS and REVIEWS



### THE STATE OF PSI

THE REAL occult explosion peaked about three years ago in terms of popular interest. While there has been no decline popular enthusiasm remains on a plateau; however, the last few years have seen an impressive advance in terms of psi's legitimization. More and more colleges and universities offer courses in the field and parapsychology is news in the mass media.

Three major announcements in the academic field were made at the recent Parapsychological Association convention at St. John's College, Queens, N. Y. C., on August 21-24, 1974. For some months Dr. Stanley Krippner, best known for his fine research in dream telepathy at Maimonides Hospital in Brooklyn, has been organizing parapsychology programs at Sonoma State College in California. The 1974-75 academic year at Sonoma will be "psychic studies" year with some 25 courses offered at the undergraduate level. In the same ASPR *Newsletter* which carried the announcement about Sonoma came word that Dr. Robert L. Morris, an associate of W. G. Roll's at the Psychical Research Founda-

tion in Durham, N. C., has accepted a position at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where Dr. Morris will set up an academic program to offer a major in parapsychology. Since Bob serves as PA president next year the annual PA conference will be held in Santa Barbara in August 1975.

When a speaker at the PA conference mistakenly announced that the Santa Barbara program would provide the first opportunity to major in the field, Dr. Richard Brooks of Oakland University, Rochester, Mich., announced that he will offer a similar program this academic year. Neither speaker pointed out that Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago, Ill., has offered a major in parapsychology since September 1973.

While all this academic interest is encouraging, I would be more excited if there were any real prospect of jobs for these newly-minted parapsychologists. Fewer than 10 persons in the United States manage to earn a full-time living as parapsychologists and the prospects of new posi-



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tions being created is bleak. The parapsychologists have tried without success to convert the enormous popular interest in the psychic field into funds for legitimate research. Alas, all the major research centers in the field are starving for funding. Programs have been sharply curtailed; personnel have had to leave to earn their livings elsewhere; publications have been cut back. Nor does there appear to be any light at the end of the tunnel.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS**

**M**EANWHILE magazines and newspapers continue to feature psychic phenomena, although not always positively, CBS has made considerable film footage for a projected documentary on parapsychology, much of it at the May conference of Spiritual Frontiers Fellowship. The producer wants to film more about the scientific approach before making up the final format. An independent producer has put together a script for an hour-long film on parapsychology aimed primarily at educational TV. BBC World Theater has produced a series of intriguing radio programs on classic cases which eventually may appear over some of the fine arts FM stations in this country.

A departure of even more promise is the projected exhibit entitled "Psi Search" being prepared by the California Museum of Science and Industry in Los Angeles. (Direct inquiries to: Suite 406, 3923 W. Sixth St., Los Angeles, Calif. 90020.) "The exhibit design," explains the preliminary brochure, "will comprise some 1,500 square feet of visuals complete with graphs, charts, models, photographs, films and some accompanying demonstrations and sounds. The design can be adapted to different settings; it is easy to assemble, compact, lightweight and durable for shipping."

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Because hypnosis taps an unseen and unmeasured force, a great aura of mystery has hung over the phenomenon for centuries. Hundreds of books are available on the subject (mostly case histories). Numerous hypnotic aids and gadgets are on the market such as brain wave synchronizers, Alpha devices, etc. (But none of them guarantee they will work for you.) But today's scientific research in hypnosis coupled with the age-old truths of the psychics and mystics has brought about a breakthrough making *Psychic Self-Hypnosis* possible. We can *guarantee* *Psychic Self-Hypnosis* will work for you because it takes the mystery and hocus-pocus out of hypnosis, allows your mind to understand that it is natural law — another sense beyond your five physical senses that works for you when you set aside your conscious reasoning mind. It allows your reasoning mind to recognize that there is *nothing at all to fear*. By subtle progression the conscious mind learns to accept the taped suggestions of the course and ultimately surrenders to the "Higher Self" or "Universal Mind," the source of all psychic power and wisdom.

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As that last sentence suggests, after the exhibit has been shown in Los Angeles from January 30 through March 1975, it will be loaned to sister museums across the country, and eventually placed on display in the Smithsonian Institution. An impressive group of parapsychologists headed by Dr. Stanley Krippner are serving as advisors for the exhibit and the production staff have agreed to give the parapsychologists veto power over any proposed material. The display may include an automated ESP testing device so the visitor can test his own ability. A conservative estimate is that over four million persons will view the exhibit and the educational effect may be significant in establishing parapsychology as an accepted discipline.

### SOUTHERN SCANDAL

DAY before the PA convention began the *New York Times* broke the story of the downfall of prominent parapsychologist Dr. Jay Levy who worked at Dr. Rhine's prestigious Institute of Parapsychology in Durham, N. C. The scientist's colleagues had noticed him lingering near one of the supposedly automatic data recording devices that was monitoring the behavior of rats during an experiment. These technicians arranged for an alternative method of recording the data and compared its results with those from the device Dr. Levy was using. This independent record yielded data far less supportive of the theory that rats possess psychic ability than Dr. Levy's results showed. When Dr. Rhine, together with the lab workers, confronted Levy with the evidence the 26-year-old scientist confessed and resigned from both the Institute of Parapsychology and the PA. This disastrous end of a promising career scarcely could have come at a worse time. Dr. Rhine said. Only recently

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critics outside parapsychology once again raised the possibility of experimenter fraud as an explanation for paranormal effects. Now one of the bright young men of parapsychology has given them a good case.

The pall this scandal has cast over parapsychology led to the first symposium ever held on the problem of ethics in the field. While some younger workers called for specific measures by the PA to verify the competence and integrity of workers in the field, the more experienced men pointed out the practical impossibility of doing this without infringing on privacy and flexibility. The weight of opinion at the recent conference was that parapsychology has policed its ranks quite effectively with no necessity for outside pressures. Left unmentioned was the enormous pressure on young workers to produce significant results in order to remain secure in their shaky positions. "Publish or perish" seems to be just as imperative in parapsychology as it is in many other academic fields. This pressure best explains many of the papers that appeared at the convention. They will be the subject of my column next month.

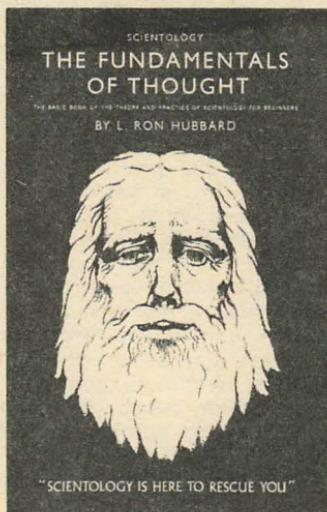
### BOOK REVIEWS

FROM ENIGMA TO SCIENCE by George W. Meek, Samuel Weiser, Inc., New York, N.Y., 1974, 199 pages, \$6.95.

If this volume doesn't lead us across the bridge from so-called "hard science" to parapsychology as Meek intended, it certainly points the way. Meek's straightforward presentation does not attempt to prove anything. While readers with a background in physics probably will appreciate some of the more profound implications in the book, a technical orientation is not required to gain new insights from it.

Meek refers to some forgotten scientific works from past decades.

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For example, he suggests that a reevaluation of the mathematics of basic wave equations is in order. "If one opens his mind to physical universe/etheric universe coupling," he writes, "one can keep both (used and unused portions of wave) solutions and visualize their interplay."

Worthy of particular mention are the excerpts from as yet unpublished papers by leading researchers in parapsychology and related disciplines. Even a cursory review of the major contributors listed on the back cover will whet the reader's appetite. The book's interesting appendices are a welcome addition to any psi-oriented library.

In general *From Enigma to Science* sets forth several interesting concepts which deserve special consideration in the light of Kirlian research and other recent advances. Scholars may be disappointed by the lack of depth in some of Meek's presentation but the volume definitely offers new clues to understanding precognition, psychometry, clairvoyance and other psi phenomena. — Michael R. Zaeske.

### FRONTIERS OF CONSCIOUSNESS

edited by John White, The Julian Press, New York, N. Y., 1974, 366 pages, \$8.95.

Until recently psychology has paid scant attention to consciousness *per se*. Now there is a pronounced up-swing as shown, for instance, by Robert Ornstein's recent textbook *The Psychology of Consciousness*. The reasons for the renewed interest are many but Ornstein lists the counter-cultural revolution and of course the availability of new research tools. The present volume is a collection of 22 articles by many authors, edited by John White.

Whether considered from the standpoint of good sense, solid substance or appropriate readership the articles are a "mixed bag." Some are

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technical or abstruse and the more speculative ones ride off in different directions replete with adventurous detail. However, more than half are adapted for the general reader, including those on biofeedback, meditation research, psychic research, paraphysics, mystical consciousness and survival of death. One interesting article discusses the hallucinations of mental patients in relation to Swedenborg's revelations. Edgar Mitchell contributes a brief thoughtful article and White himself contributes three good pieces. Thomas Tietze writes on survival but finds no answer; he considers out-of-the-body experiences but omits Robert Crookall's important comparisons with mediumistic reports of experiences at death.

Among the abstruse articles is one in which philosopher Oliver Reiser speculates with considerable assurance that "human consciousness is a synergistic result of the feedback circuitry between the field influences of the cerebral hemispheres and the cosmic field — the hydrogen-helium plasma of the galactic disc." So now you know! — Harold Steinour.

**THE PATH OF THE CHAMELEON** by Nevill Drury, Neville Spearman Ltd., Jersey, Channel Islands, England, 1974, 160 pages, £2.50.

The title of this book is Drury's phrase for the mystical journey one must make to get in touch with the powers that be. His book discusses the various routes that journey may take. The first part of the volume, called "Approaches," devotes separate chapters to differing views of magic, avatars (Zarathustra, Moses and others) and Gnostics, and magical symbolism (triangle, wand, cup, etc.).

The rest of the book discusses five pantheons or systems of archetypes the Magus may follow to realize

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spiritual perfection. Separate chapters treat the Egyptian Book of the Dead, the classical Graeco-Roman framework with its journey to the underworld, the Chaldean oracles and the Hebrew Qabalah. Appendices discuss varying viewpoints on reincarnation, archetypal correspondences (Egyptian Thoth = Greek Kronos = Roman Saturn, etc.) and "the divine names attributed to the Sephiroth."

Quite elegant in format, the book is written in a scholarly way with footnotes and an up-to-date bibliography. But the discussions are far too brief to be of much value to the neophyte. (This reviewer, for instance, felt at home only in the Platonic cosmos with its musical spheres, based upon the Vision of Er in Plato's *Republic*.) Drury himself must have realized the limitations of his work, for he states (page 63), "The Qabalah has been fully discussed in many fine specialist volumes and cannot be justly summarized in a few paragraphs." So with the rest. Only those persons who are well up on the subject and who are acquainted with "many fine specialist volumes" will find their way down or up the chameleon's path. — *Nan Cooke Carpenter.*

**SALEM POSSESSED** by Paul Boyer and Stephen Nissenbaum, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1974, 221 pages, \$10.00.

This book explores the everyday lives of men, women and children in Salem Village in 1692. I was amazed to find how innocently the dramatic events of that year began. As the authors state: "It began in obscurity, with cautious experiments in fortune telling. Books on the subject had 'stolen' into the land; and all over New England, late in 1691, young people were being 'led away with little sorceries.'"

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crystal ball and received a chilling answer to a question about her future: "a specter appeared in the likeness of a coffin." What had begun as mere curiosity about "What trade will my husband be?" or "What will happen to me in the future?" quickly turned into a cause for panic. The magic the girls were trying to control began to control them in the form of strange behavior. And so it all began — tormented girls writhing in agony, stern judges meting out harsh verdicts and eventually 19 bodies swinging on Gallows Hill.

Boyer and Nissenbaum, both history professors at the University of Massachusetts, did their research well. They delved into the archives of the First Church of Danvers, Mass. (the direct descendant of the "witchcraft" parish of 1692), and looked into community voting records, tax assessments, wills, deeds, lawsuit testimony and petitions — the residue of decades of village conflict — to provide almost a roll-call breakdown of divisions within the Colonial community.

Other books and plays of merit have treated the subject. Marion Starkey's 1947 *The Devil in Massachusetts* drew almost exclusively on Charles W. Upham's *Salem Witchcraft* written in 1867. Boyer and Nissenbaum have gone beyond Upham's research and taken a new approach. Like many modern historians they feel that studying the lives of ordinary people gives the best insights into the essential character of a culture. The inhabitants of Salem Village were ordinary people — except for one brief, dramatic moment in history when powerful forces shook them and brought about tragedy. Boyer and Nissenbaum tell us how this came about. — Rustie Brown.

**HAUNTED BRITAIN** by Antony D. Hippisley Coxe, McGraw-Hill, New York, N. Y., 1974, 201 pages, \$10.95.

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Coxe has taken England, Wales, Scotland and the Isle of Man and county by county listed 1,000 sites of hauntings or other strange events. Each entry is coded with one to seven symbols, such as a tiny skull for ghosts or a cauldron for witchcraft. Many sites have multiple coding indicating numerous things occur there, from little people to buried treasure.

In this book the psychic investigator or antiquarian in the British Isles has an invaluable tool to keep him occupied for years. The rich blend of stories, some dating back thousands of years, offer the reader a side of the English psyche not often revealed. Now, if only some dedicated American researcher would write a United States companion to this book! — Richard T. Crowe.

**THE MAGIC MAKERS** by David Carroll, Arbor House, New York, N.Y., 1974, 286 pages, \$8.95.

This history of magic and the occult begins with several pages of arguments against the validity of magic as presented by materialistic skeptics, followed by the occultist's viewpoint. Thus anyone armed with just this first chapter would be equipped to argue either pro or con in a debate over occult reality. Carroll himself accepts the reality of magic but states that in this day and age true instances are rare, magic having degenerated with the advent of technology.

Three chapters deal rather sketchily with the theory of magic, cover-

ing numerous practices and concepts in the occult world. Carroll focuses on the correspondence between the microcosm (physical universe) and the macrocosm (spiritual universe) as being the root for imitative magic as well as astrology and other divinatory methods. Four chapters deal with magic among the Egyptians, the Hebrews, the Greeks and the Romans; following chapters treat such personalities as Appollonius of Tyana, John Dee, Edward Kelley, Cagliostro, the Count de Saint Germain, Cornelius Agrippa and Faust. The final chapter was written by an anonymous contemporary magus.

Not intended as an instructional manual, *The Magic Makers* nevertheless sandwiches in some bits of practical information, including exercises and states of consciousness one should seek to achieve. Carroll's description of the astral world is better than can be found in many other books and he presents an interesting discussion of what happens to the soul after death.

The book contains many fascinating sidelights. His chapter on Egypt describes the method used for mummification, and there is a lengthy quote from Herodotus on different methods of embalming. The chapter on Hebrew magic includes a discussion of anti-Semitism, an excellent account of medieval Jewish demonology and directions for making a homunculus.

Carroll's colorful literary style makes the book read like fiction but he includes details and bits of information that indicate careful research. I wish he had gone further and explored the magical traditions of more cultures.—*Donna Cole Schultz*.

**TWENTY CASES SUGGESTIVE OF REINCARNATION** by Ian Stevenson, second edition. University of Virginia Press, Charlottesville, Va., 1974, 396 pages, \$15.00.

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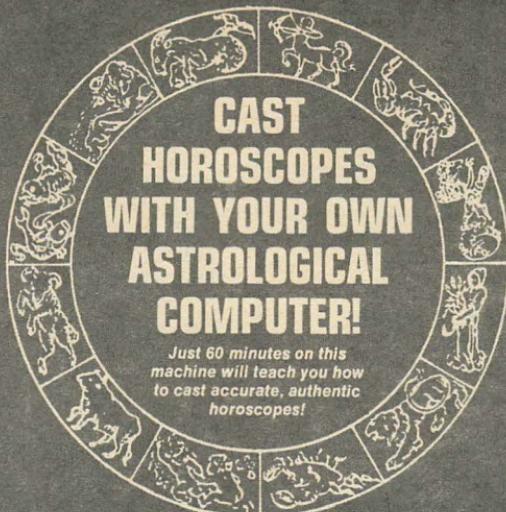
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This revised edition of Stevenson's classic study comes at a time when interest in reincarnation never has been higher and when the demand for the first edition threatened to turn it into a collector's item. At the same time, it is ironic that debate on Stevenson's work has reached almost a complete lull. Parapsychologists have shown great reluctance to question Stevenson and thus he is denied the help of their criticism. Reincarnationists, on the other hand, look upon Stevenson almost as a holy man, a scientist who offers evidence for their beliefs, but few of them have taken the time to read his book.

For those unfamiliar with Stevenson's work I will summarize: This book reports on 20 cases of children in various parts of the world who claim to recall previous lives. Stevenson has meticulously recorded strong evidence for paranormal information in each case. What is in doubt is the explanation of the material. The only new information in this second edition is a chapter reporting follow-up interviews with the children who now have reached adulthood. Little of this additional data affects the basic case but many readers will be intrigued by Stevenson's reflections on the apparent carry-over between past and present lives (karma?). He points out that Paulo Lorenz, supposedly the reincarnation of a suicide, likewise took his own life. Wijeratne was hospitalized with schizophrenia following his rejection by a girl, a repetition of an event in his alleged previous life.

The only parapsychologist to attempt a major critique of Stevenson's work is the Indian psychologist-philosopher C. T. K. Chari. In a paper as yet unpublished, Chari claims that Stevenson's weakness comes from his doing *ex post facto* research in a cross-cultural situation where he must rely upon translators and interpreters. Researchers never



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are the first to question children when possible paranormal phenomena occurs; parents and friends are. Do they impose the reincarnation hypothesis upon the data?

The cases do not occur randomly, Chari observes, but only in select cultures that have a strong belief in reincarnation. Further, the cases tend to conform to local variations of belief about reincarnation. Syrians and Egyptians believe that persons reincarnate following a violent death and the cases of Ismail and Suleiman conform to this belief. In India reincarnation cases seem to be restricted to the northern part of the country where sects with strong reincarnation beliefs prevail.

I personally have found Stevenson's research intriguing but I am left with too many questions. I prefer the mundane explanation of clairvoyance plus personation as the most likely one. — *J. Gordon Melton*.

**THE NATURE OF PERSONAL REALITY**  
by Jane Roberts, Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, N.J., 1974, 468 pages, \$7.95.

If you have read either *The Seth Material* or *Seth Speaks* and were intrigued or excited by Seth's concepts of reality, time, personality, dreams and other fascinating items, you certainly will want to read and reread this new volume.

While this book can be read separately. I strongly urge you to read *The Seth Material* to get its full impact. To those persons unfamiliar with Seth I should explain that he claims to be a personality in another dimension of reality who communicates through Jane Roberts when she is in a trance state. Trance communication itself is not unusual but the quality of information imparted by Seth is. Whether Seth actually is a separate personality or merely a part of Jane Roberts' unconscious is unimportant compared to the content

of the "revelations."

I have visited with Jane Roberts and was very impressed by what I saw and heard. Seth told me directly that *no entity* knows everything. His duty as he sees it is to inform and teach us new ways of viewing ourselves in relation to the "infinite all." He also feels compelled to correct many mistaken ideas of the past regarding God, heaven and hell, good and evil and other philosophical concepts.

*The Nature of Personal Reality* ties together and amplifies the previous two books and also gives an incredible amount of information regarding telepathy, conscience, imagination, dreams, states of grace, drugs (including LSD), insanity, prisons, disease, accidents, hypnosis, reincarnation and a multitude of other subjects. Primarily, though, Seth's urgent message is that we recognize ourselves as a vital, important and integral part of the totality of ultimate reality. We form our own personalities as a result of our beliefs and thus we have the power to change ourselves physically and mentally when motivated to do so.

Seth's dictum that there are no accidents really sums up the book. Every event, positive or negative, is leading us to a learning experience. Pain of any kind is a warning signal that internal conflicts between beliefs and actions must be resolved. Seth's prescription for changing ourselves by changing what we believe can be found in other metaphysical systems but this book is exceptionally clear and easy to read. I am excited to realize that we are not at the mercy of chance or a capricious God. We form our own demons, devils and hells by believing in them.

I personally know people whose lives have been changed by Seth's words of wisdom and advice. This volume already has left an indelible imprint on me. I could not recom-

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mend it more highly. — Paul Severson.

**ALSO NOTABLE**

**THE PSYCHIC SCENE** edited by Martin Ebon, Signet Books, New York, N.Y., 1974, 188 pages, \$1.25 (paperback).

Articles selected from popular magazines and news accounts deal with telepathy, animal and plant ESP, mysticism and reincarnation.

**EVOLUTION TOWARD DIVINITY** by Beatrice Bruteau, Theosophical Publishing House, Wheaton, Ill., 1974, 270 pages, \$10.00.

Author relates writings of Teilhard de Chardin to classical Hindu traditions.

**AN ABC OF WITCHCRAFT PAST & PRESENT** by Doreen Valiente, St. Martin's Press, New York, N.Y., 1974, 376 pages, \$4.95 (paperback).

Comprehensive dictionary of witchcraft first appeared in 1973.

**HINDU HORARY ASTROLOGY** by Govind Sri Rama Murthi, Jyotishacharya, Srikakulam, 532001, India, 1974, 100 pages, \$4.50.

Revised translation of classical Hindu text examines horary astrology as a method of divination.

**ALCHEMY: ANCIENT AND MODERN** by H. Stanley Redgrove, Barnes & Noble Books, New York, N.Y., 1974, 141 pages, \$9.00.

Reprint of author's scholarly 1911 treatise features a new introduction by H. J. Sheppard.

**A CLUTCH OF VAMPIRES** edited by Raymond T. McNally, New York Graphic Society, Greenwich, Conn., 1974, 255 pages, \$6.95.

Twenty-five selections from both fiction and nonfiction illustrate the vampire's career through the centuries.

**THE DREAMER'S DICTIONARY** by Stearn Robinson and Tom Corbett, Taplinger Publishing Co., New York, N.Y., 1974, 256 pages, \$9.95.

An Ohio journalist and noted British medium collaborate on "the complete guide to interpreting your dreams."

**THE WAYS OF MEDITATION** by J. Gordon Melton and Dorothy Melton, Stellium Press, P.O. Box 1311, Evanston, Ill. 60201, 1974, 62 pages, \$4.00 (paperback).

Methodist minister and his wife present a guide for prayer, contemplation and meditation.

**WILLIE SPEAKS OUT** by Elliott V. Fleckles, Llewellyn Publications, St. Paul, Minn., 1974, 226 pages, \$7.95.

Author presents the psychic world of Abraham Lincoln based upon alleged communications from Lincoln's son Willie.

# Report FROM THE Readers

## UFO CONVENTION REPORT

The following is my report on the Sixth Annual UFO Space and Science International Convention held at the Anaheim Convention Center on June 28, 29, and 30. The chairman was Frank E. Stranges, Ph.D. It was sponsored by International Evangelism Crusades, the president of which is the Rev. Frank E. Stranges.

It promised to be a memorable affair, according to superb media coverage. Special Guest was to be William Shatner of "Star Trek." Guest of Honor was to be astronaut Col. James Irwin. The Special Featured Guest was the former U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers.

The only trouble was, none of them showed up. Even Chan Thomas backed out. Perhaps this had something to do with two newspaper articles published in the Santa Ana, Calif., Freedom Paper *The Register* which called attention to Stranges' having got caught trying to smuggle \$120,000 (street value) worth of marijuana in from Mexico in 1972. While it was called the Sixth Annual Convention Stranges hasn't held a convention since 1969 so maybe his Fifth was conducted at Chino State Prison where he served his term for the above infraction.

There were a few men of the clergy present who probably attended because they understood Shatner

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and Irwin were coming to give personal testimony of their Christian faith.

Peter Lorre, Jr., acting as Master of Ceremonies opened the evening with the statement, "Let the consciousness be upon this convention." My consciousness was scribbling with a pen, multiplying \$15.00 (the price of the dinner) by 600, the estimated number of well-dressed cross section of society attending the affair. Not a bad take when you consider they had paid to hear Shatner and the only announcement to my knowledge that he and other featured guests weren't coming was a handwritten note above the box office. After the hassle of Friday night traffic out of Los Angeles in 100-degree smog I guess it was just welcome relief to get inside the air-conditioned hall, so I didn't hear too many demanding their money back.

The Marine Color Guard brought in the flag and we all stood to salute. I thought it ironic patriotism in view of Stranges' recent conviction for smuggling dope. Several presentations to the chairman and his wife were made—a flying saucer done in needlepoint by somebody's mother and a gold pendant UFO "which could be purchased in the lobby."

Princess Ramona sang "You Folks" for openers to the accompaniment on her electric guitar in a very good rodeo-circuit western style. She mentioned that she wasn't scheduled to sing at that time and was just filling in. That's probably because they listed her name beneath the "Menu" in the program.

Incidentally, dinner was Prime Rib Mars, Jupiter Green Beans Almondine, Neptune Salad, Baked Potato Saturn, Uranus Rolls and Pink Venus Swirl. Sorry, no martinis Pluto.

Undaunted by the adverse publicity, Stranges stood with a sheaf of letters and telegrams from those extending their regrets at not being

able to attend. "Regrets" are always colored with flowery phrases so nobody's feelings are hurt. Thus, Dr. Robert Baker of Computer Sciences wished Stranges the best of luck; Frank Sinatra sent his love and regards; Governor Wallace said he was greatly honored; warmest wishes were read from the dais for the next 15 minutes, coming from von Braun, astronauts McDivitt and Irwin, Barry Goldwater, Governor Reagan, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, William Shatner, etc. Stranges even invited Vice-president Ford who said he was sorry but he was too busy to make it. When read aloud in such quantity these regrets tended to sound as if the notables lent their support to the convention.

Now someone got up with a technical device (which of course needed a little financial backing). It was claimed that upon completion the device would enable us to see the aliens who are really here among us but in the fourth dimension. While the details couldn't possibly be explained to the lay person, the speaker said, it worked on the principles of frequency oscillations having to do with vortexes, resonances, energies and so on.

About this time I was wishing for an Alka-Seltzer Mercury but I stuck to my assignment. It got a little better when the soprano got up to sing "God Bless America" and a pinned star on the stage drapes fell off at her feet. The stage manager added his own touch when Stranges announced the convention theme "Let There Be Light" and all the lights in the house dimmed to low.

A gentleman from India stood to give a prayer, requesting that the waiters stop all movement during his solemn invocation. It was an extremely lengthy prayer which caught some of the poor waitresses with arms loaded down with dirty entree plates while others looked in dismay as the Pink Venus Swirls

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they held ready to serve melted.

I didn't hear anything scientific or credible throughout the evening. Stranges announced, "Our slides and films will give you a good idea of where we're at," but I already knew where Stranges was at. Furthermore, I saw *Phenomena* 7.7 many years ago and it wasn't any better this time.

I wandered out into the lobby where Don Como (related to Perry Como) was setting up camera equipment to interview convention personalities for a TV special. I introduced myself and explained he was approaching the UFOs from left field. Como stated he didn't believe in UFOs anyway because no one had offered him a ride in a spacecraft, so the filming of the kook faction was what he wanted to present to the public as those behind UFO investigation.

With that I went home and unfortunately was unable to attend the next two conference days as I had planned. Gabriel Green and Dan Fry don't have anything new to say anyway. — B. Ann Slate, Burbank, Calif.

## ANOTHER VIEW OF DRUGS

Concerning Frank J. Reid's letter in your June 1974 issue, "A Sober Look at Drugs," I think it is possible to take a different and more understanding view of the current illegal drug situation.

Many persons seek to feel different, if only temporarily. They may be dissatisfied with the way they normally feel or they may simply want to experience new modes of feelings as a part of a basic healthy urge to grow.

What drugs do basically is alter consciousness. Experiencing an altered state of consciousness broadens one's perspective. This is the minimum gain from drug use even when the drug does not literally expand consciousness. In any case,

drugs help stretch the mind. Everyone knows this but it is seldom clearly stated.

Some persons are afraid of using drugs because they fear they may lose control of themselves. These persons resent the benefits others obtain from using drugs.

When the motivation of drug use is understood and the motivation of opposition to drug use is understood, then the drug problem can be understood. — *Dave Reissig, Syracuse, N.Y.*

### THE MILKWEED WART CURE

As an instance of self-healing I would like to relate a childhood experience. At the age of 10 I had six unsightly warts on one of my hands. They didn't cause me any particular distress but from childhood friends I heard various ways they could be gotten rid of. One way was to put on them some sap from a certain milkweed which grew wild in Colorado. Another way was to bury a hair from the tail of a horse.

The milkweed sap seemed the more likely method to me so one summer day, mildly curious, I broke the stem of a milkweed and placed some of the milky sap on each of my warts. Then I promptly forgot about the whole thing.

Several days later I noticed to my surprise that each of the warts had grown smaller. Now with much interest I watched as my warts grew smaller daily until at the end of two weeks they had disappeared completely, leaving no trace.

Was it coincidence? Would the warts have disappeared at that particular time anyway? Did the milkweed have some medicinal value? I can't answer these questions. I believe the warts disappeared because I had successfully implanted the suggestion in my subconscious mind and that this is the agency of "self-healing." — *Paul G. Oxley, Phoenix, Ariz.*

### TO EVERYONE WHO HAS PROBLEMS:

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### DEATHBED VISIONS

In your May 1974 issue, L. Edward Durbin of Washington, Pa., asks FATE readers to report the visions seen by terminally ill persons. Just before my aunt died in May 1965 she saw her husband who had been dead for nearly a half-century. I believe God was letting her know that her husband was waiting for her to join him. — Edna Jolly, Clarksville, Tenn.

### MINERAL CONSCIOUSNESS?

Many gurus and other spiritual teachers say that the soul evolves from a state of mineral consciousness to the state of God-man. The work of Cleve Backster and others has taught us that plants are conscious. Has Mr. Backster or anyone else ever attempted to learn whether minerals or rocks have consciousness? — Christopher Linville, New Brunswick, N.J.

### A DOG NAMED FRITZ

When I had to go into Chicago's Henrotin Hospital in March 1974 for a gallbladder operation I boarded my dog Fritz with a veterinarian on Clark Street not far from the hospital. I had had Fritz since he was a pup and in June 1974 he would have been 13 years old.

On each of the first three days in the hospital I called the vet and inquired how my dog was getting along. He told me the sad news that Fritz would not eat and was drinking only a little water. I was concerned but as I was being prepared for surgery the fourth day there wasn't much I could do about Fritz. I thought he would snap out of it.

On the night of the seventh day after my operation, about 11:30 P.M., I heard Fritz bark and automatically I said, "Shut up, Fritz." Then he barked again — and I began to wonder. On the eighth day about 10:30 P.M. my phone rang. It was

the vet calling to say that Fritz had been found dead in his cage.

I wrote to Mr. Harold Sherman in Little Rock, Ark., and described what had happened. He answered me stating that animals have been known to warn their masters they are going to die. Mr. Sherman said that Fritz took that way of telling me he was going into another world.—*E. P. Ladd, Chicago, Ill.*

#### MORE TO BE SAID . . .

I am wondering why so much information on the important experiments of Raymond Bayless and Attila von Szalay was omitted from the article in your June 1974 issue ("Tape-Recording Paranormal Voices"). Could it be that parapsychologists do not want the truth established? There is much more to be said about receiving paranormal voices on tape. For example:

In April 1972 my only child, Charles Ed, was rushed to a hospital in Oakland, Calif., suffering with terminal cancer. He lived only six months and I spent the last few months at his bedside.

One morning he roused from a comatose state, looked at me in a very rational way, raised his hand high, twirled his forefinger in a circular motion and said, "I've already been up there several times. It's misty!" I was wearing one of his shirts and to see if he really was rational, I said, "Darling, whose shirt am I wearing?" He smiled and said, "Mine!"

He realized he was dying and said, "This must be awfully hard on you."

After his passing I was bewildered and upset. I determined to try to communicate with him. Having heard of the paranormal voices I wrote to the well-known parapsychologist Prof. Walter H. Uphoff of Boulder, Colo., who had done some research on Dr. Raudive's paranormal voices. I asked for information



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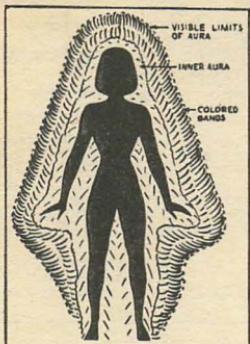


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on how to proceed. In his reply he mentioned Attila von Szalay and I immediately wrote to him. Mr. von Szalay sent me instructions as to what type of machine to obtain and how to try for the voices.

I had never had any experience with a recording machine so I was more or less learning to use it, not even thinking I would receive anything. One evening I sang a small portion of "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere" and then addressed Mr. von Szalay's guide, as he had directed me to do. When I played the tape back I was dumbfounded to hear a loud distinct voice saying, "Charles Ed's all right!"

Since that time I have heard many little voices on the tape—thanks to Mr. von Szalay.—Lucille Miller, Exeter, Calif.

### AN ANCIENT CORRELATION

Throughout the years I have been interested in the mysteries and origins of pre-Columbian cultures—the Maya, Aztec, Olmec, Toltec and Inca.

An interesting time correlation appears to furnish a strong lead as to the Incas' origin. The Incas first appeared in the valley of Cuzco about 1200 A.D. but a civilization existed in that area long before their arrival. The only clue to its existence, however, is a group of ancient ruins around the edge of Lake Titicaca in the Andes.

One of the best-preserved of these ruins shows evidence of high culture. The stones are well tooled and reinforced with bronze U-bolts. Above a gate through the wall of the ruin is a frieze. Its centerpiece is a bas-relief of a head which is known as the crying god because of sculptured tears that line the cheeks.

The following is legend but it appears to provide an explanation for the ruin. Japanese legend tells of a

(Continued on page 144)

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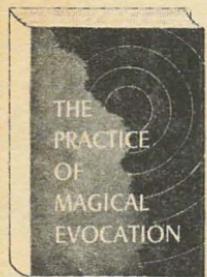
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#### REPORT FROM THE READERS

(Continued from page 132)

crying goddess who existed in their prehistoric times — before 1,000 A.D. At that time Oriental peoples invaded the island of Japan and conquered the ancestors of the Ainu. The crying goddess fled the island when it was obvious her people would be unable to stem the invasion. A fleet of ships bearing the crying goddess and some of her people sailed east, following the shoreline. After many months they reached a land far to the south and established a civilization near a lake on top of the highest mountain.

I submit that the crying god on the ruin near Lake Titicaca is not a male but a depiction of the crying goddess. As to how the story of the location reached Japan I think it is safe to assume that some of the refugees returned to Japan to lead others to safety. I think that the language peculiar to the remaining Ainu in Japan is not Oriental but similar to the Indian languages of the Americas.

Of course, the legend may be simply a condensation of the facts. Possibly the ancestors of the Ainu spent many centuries exploring and settling the Americas and their civilization here was well established when the crying goddess fled the island of Japan. — Alvino R. Vincent, Milwaukee, Wis.

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#### SPACE CANNIBALS?

The following is a United Press International release from Stanford, Calif., which I read in the *Buffalo Courier* for Saturday, May 25, 1974, under the headline "Space Cannibals Pooh-poohed":

"For those who were worrying that people from outer space might come down and eat us, Prof. Ronald Bracewell of Stanford University says, 'Relax.'

"Human beings would be no food bargain for spacemen, the professor

says. Taking note of fears expressed that creatures from another planet might be more highly developed than we are and inclined to add earth people to their diet Bracewell says don't worry.

"For one thing, he said, the cost of getting the product from the 'farm' on earth to the consumers in space would be prohibitive. It would be cheaper for them to synthesize protein out of the elements they have near at hand."

What brought on this denial of what rumors? Has there been another mysterious disappearance in California—or wherever?

Charles Fort asked the question, "Are we being fished for?" Disappearances numbering in the tens of thousands every year can't all be runaways or bankrupts.

As for calling extraterrestrials "cannibals," why should they consider us part of their species? We eat animals of all kinds. To extraterrestrials we are just another kind of animal.

Does Professor Bracewell know something we don't know? — B. G., Buffalo, N.Y.

#### UFOs AND BERMUDA TRIANGLE

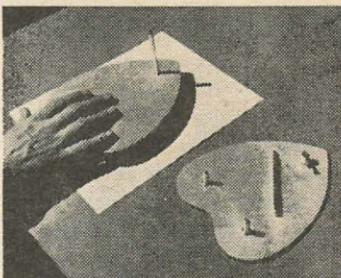
I am the president of the UFO Study Organization based in San Antonio, Tex. We believe that UFOs exist and the Bermuda Triangle is somehow related to them. The purpose of our club is to prove to nonbelievers that UFOs exist.

If FATE readers wish to report sightings and send information we will be grateful. — Ted Villalon, The UFO Study Organization, 333 W. Lullwood, San Antonio, Tex. 78212.



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