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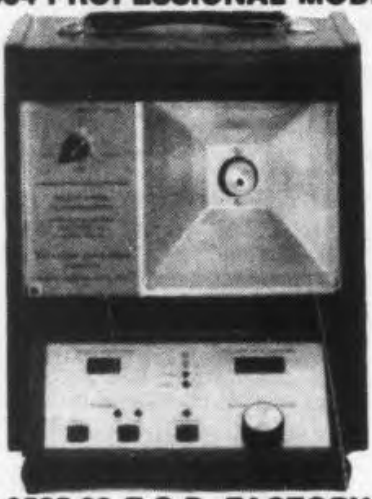
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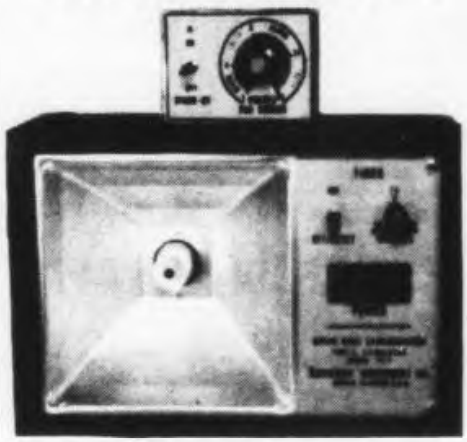
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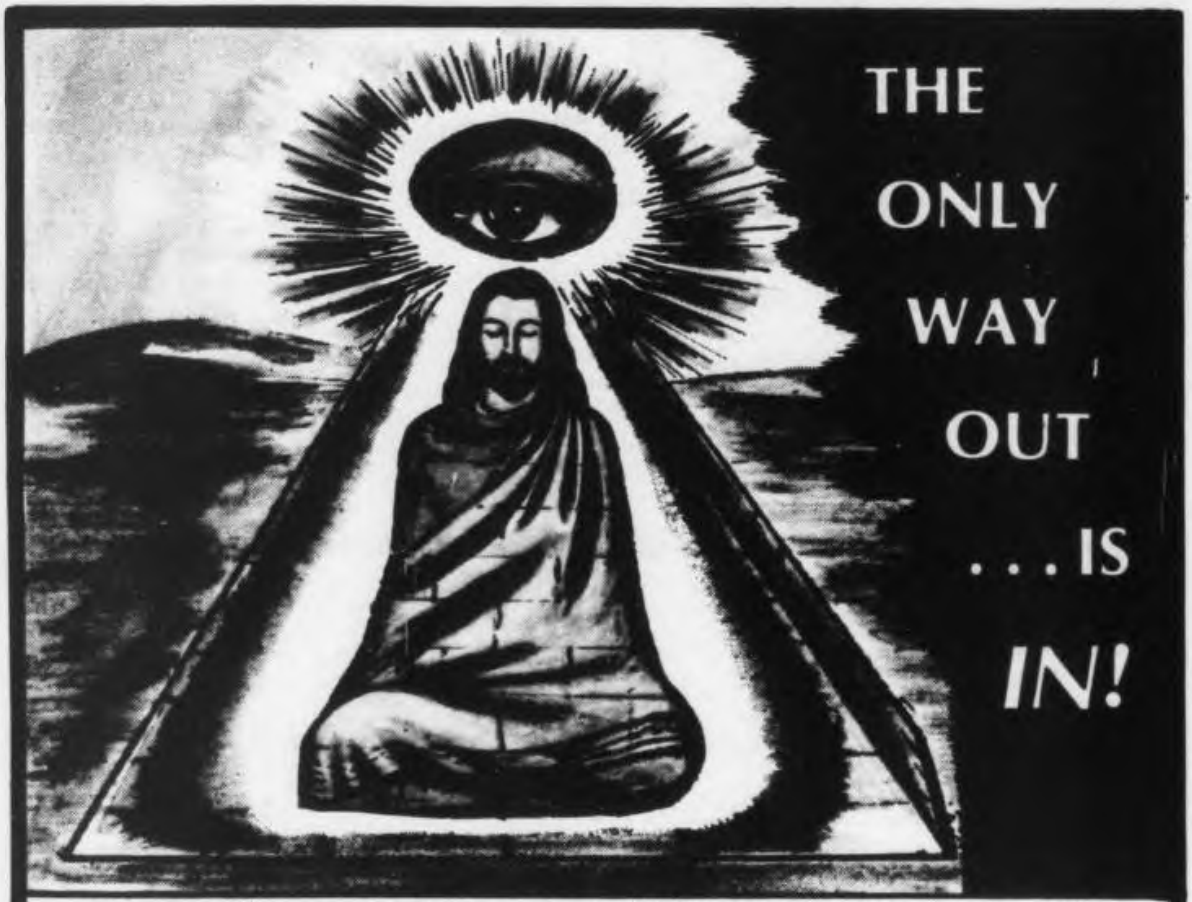
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I SEE BY THE PAPERS



by Curtis Fuller

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

It is the stuff of which science legends are made: a dedicated researcher struggles alone decade after decade, ignored by the scientific establishment, working in obscurity as the big prizes and grants and university appointments go to others who haven't begun to catch up with her discoveries.

Then, when she is almost 80 years old and scientists finally learn enough to begin to appreciate her revolutionary findings, come the long-overdue honors: in 1981, the Lasker prize for basic medical research and the first MacArthur Foundation lifetime grant of $60,000 a year, and (in October 1983) when she is 81, the Nobel Prize for Medicine.

—Joan Beck
in the *Chicago Tribune*

DEDICATED parapsychologists despairing of ever being recognized by Establishment Science will find in Barbara McClintock's story parallels with their own situations. They may derive a certain comfort from observing that any unorthodox theory is likely to be ignored by the self-appointed dictators of orthodoxy. But alas, how many of them are likely to be honored even when they are 81?

The case of America's newest Nobel prizewinner contains all the familiar orthodoxies, the reasons for ignoring her pioneering work: It was too advanced (her colleagues did not understand it); she is a self-confessed "mystic"; the subject of her experiments was simple and inexpensive—Indian corn, which she grew herself; and she is a woman and women in a male-dominated world are not supposed to make world-shaking discoveries.

What McClintock discovered is that genes are not held permanently in place in chromosomes "like the pearls in a necklace" but that some of them move around and control other genes. Barbara McClintock was ignored when she first presented this idea. It contradicted establishment doctrine and apparently was too advanced for her colleagues to grasp.

Yet today, because of her work, scientists understand how "jumping genes" can pass on resistance to antibiotics. The bacteria's genes governing that resistance may be passed on through these mobile genes to other bacteria. It has also, according to the



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New York Times, explained "how a type of single-celled parasite that causes African sleeping sickness, the trypanosome, can, through jumping genes, change its surface properties to avoid the immune defenses of humans and animals."

∞

A MAVERICK

CONSIDER the prejudices with which Dr. McClintock had to contend. She was born in 1902 in Hartford, Conn., and enrolled at Cornell University in 1919. She wanted to study plant breeding, says John Noble Wilford in the *New York Times*, but had to major in botany because the department at Cornell would not accept a woman as a major. She earned her doctorate at Cornell in 1927 and for several years taught and did research there and at other universities. But at the age of 40 she was out of a job because "she was considered too much of a maverick for university life."

Through the help of Marcus Rhoades, a colleague from Cornell then at Columbia University, she got a research position at the Cold Spring Harbor laboratory of the Carnegie Institution's department of genetics. She was not without some honors during subsequent years—in 1944 she was the third woman to be elected to the National Academy of Sciences—but when she first reported her discovery that genes "jump," at a symposium in 1951, "she was met with stony silence."

Today, James D. Watson, director of the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory and himself a Nobel laureate, explains that "it's really that science has caught up with Barbara." Her work has been

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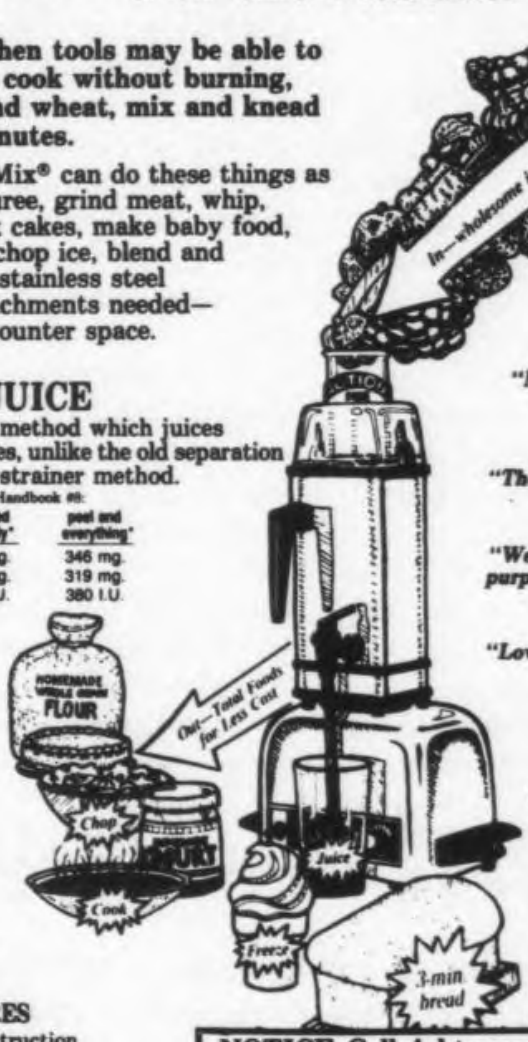
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A "MYSTIC" NO LESS

ANOTHER factor believed to have worked against McClintock's recognition is the fact that she "proudly" calls herself a mystic. Mike Ashburner of the University of Cambridge department of genetics says that McClintock thought that the movement of mobile elements was somehow programed and so, among other things, could control development by moving from gene to gene during the growth of the embryo. "We now know that they're not programed," Ashburner told *New Scientist*.

However, James Shapiro, professor of microbiology at the University of Chicago, says that earlier work by McClintock and her colleague Harriet Creighton "should have got a Nobel prize in and of itself."

In a recent biography of McClintock by Evelyn Fox Keller, Shapiro was quoted as saying: "Mystics are the people who draw up models to explain things that already go way beyond the data. I view Barbara as someone who is going to change our views of heredity. She says there are things going on for which we don't have explanations. How does an embryo know that it has a broken fourth chromosome and that it has to mend it? I don't think that's mysticism; I think that it is saying that it is very complicated and that we don't have an answer. Barbara's not a mystic. Barbara's the clearest geneticist there is."

And what did Barbara McClintock say after being ignored and even sneered

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HYPNOSIS IN DOUBT

STUDIES are raising doubts about the effectiveness and accuracy of hypnosis as it is used by police to induce memories in witnesses to crimes. The latest is a report in the October 14 issue of *Science* by Jane Dywan and Kenneth Bowers of the University of Waterloo in Ontario.

Dywan and Bowers conducted a controlled study because of scientists' increasing doubts that the anecdotal accounts with which police officials support their claims are accurate.

They presented 54 subjects with 60 slides of simple black and white drawings of common objects. Each subject viewed each slide for 3½ seconds. They were then given a recall sheet and asked to write the name of a line drawing in each of the 60 blank spaces provided—indicating which items were memories and which were guesses. The subjects were then instructed to recall as many of the line drawings as they could on each day of the subsequent week and deposit the sheets daily in a convenient drop box.

The mean number of items recalled on the first trial was 30. By trial 9 the mean had risen to 38—an increase of 27 percent. But the number of errors also increased from an average of less than one to an average of four.

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considerable new material but most of the newly recalled material was incorrect!

The researchers feel this study raises considerable doubt about the dependability of the recall of hypnotized persons. In addition, they warn, there was a surprising certainty about the accuracy of what the hypnotized subjects recalled—even when they were wrong.

∞

UFO SECRECY

MAYBE YOU thought that the federal Freedom of Information Act would shake loose a lot of secret information on UFOs. Think again! The Center for UFO Studies recently sent us a report of the attempts of the Committee Against UFO Secrecy (C.A.U.S.) to obtain releases of sighting reports.

C.A.U.S. brought several lawsuits against the government seeking to obtain the information. As a result several hundred documents previously classified have been released but they have been so massively censored as to be almost useless.

The Center for UFO Studies says, "The fact that these censored documents became available provides obvious proof that the government has been withholding sensitive information regarding the UFO subject from the public, contrary to denials previously issued by the government."

The background is as follows: On April 27, 1982, Barry J. Greenwood, a member of the C.A.U.S. Board of Advisors, wrote to the National Security Agency (NSA) requesting all legal documents, memos, records, affidavits, notes, etc., used to prepare and argue two actions against the NSA. Motion

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for summary judgment had been granted in favor of NSA on November 18, 1980. Included in the request was all or a portion of a 21-page affidavit filed with the court in both the cases "with appropriate deletions" made of descriptions of electronic monitoring and interception techniques. "This is understood to mean release of UFO incident details without revealing the means of acquiring such data."

The request, of course, was refused, except for a censored copy of the 21-page document. The June-July *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* has published a reproduction of these pages in thumbnail form. Although they are unreadable I took the trouble to count the extent of deletions. There were 572 lines in the document. Of these, *405 lines were deleted and 167 lines* remained. Thus 61 percent of the document had been censored and only 29 percent was left.

The government, despite its statements, is and has been withholding information.

∞

POLTERGEISTS

A *CONTROVERSY is under way* between parapsychologists who *believe poltergeist disturbances are* caused by persons with psychopathological problems and those who explain them as problems of the central nervous system. To us nonprofessionals the argument may seem like a tempest in a teapot because in either case the phenomena are caused by some sort of disturbed personality. The good news is that the discussions at last summer's meeting of the Parapsychology Association did not question the existence of the phenomena.

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My own major concern with poltergeists and with the entire subject matter covered in FATE is on another level—undoubtedly a more difficult one. I would like to understand more about how the world functions physically. Granting the disturbed personality theory of poltergeist activities, exactly how can the mind affect a physical object? How explain the physical mechanism of psychokinetic activity? Of all mind phenomena—precognition, telepathy, clairvoyance, etc? No researchers have opened even a crack in this closed door.

Still, it is also important to understand the major arguments of the two sets of poltergeist theorists.

The traditional view has been that the human personality responsible for poltergeist phenomena is suffering from emotional problems (psychopathology) "marked by the unhealthy use of regression, denial and sublimation." The view of such early researchers as Nandor Fodor was that poltergeist activity is related to disturbed adolescents, although obviously disturbed adults also are involved.

The view has been attacked by A. Martinez-Taboas and C. S. Alvarado who in 1981 argued that the psychological tests used to "discover" this pathology (and Fodor's work was anecdotal and observational rather than test-oriented) are unreliable, subjective and influenced by the biases of the person administering the tests.

"In other words," says D. Scott Rogo, who chaired this particular session, "the traditionally recognized pathology syndrome of the 'poltergeist agent' may be the result of self-fulfilling prophecy promulgated by poltergeist researchers themselves!"

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BETTER TESTS WANTED

THE PROBLEM with their criticism is that Martinez-Taboas and Alvarado do not offer a constructive solution. Among the followers of the psychological theory has been W. G. Roll, director of the Psychical Research Foundation. Roll, however, denies that he either began or ended with a psychopathology theory. At this past summer's meetings, nevertheless, Roll appeared to be on the defensive and offered some observations in favor of the central nervous system theory.

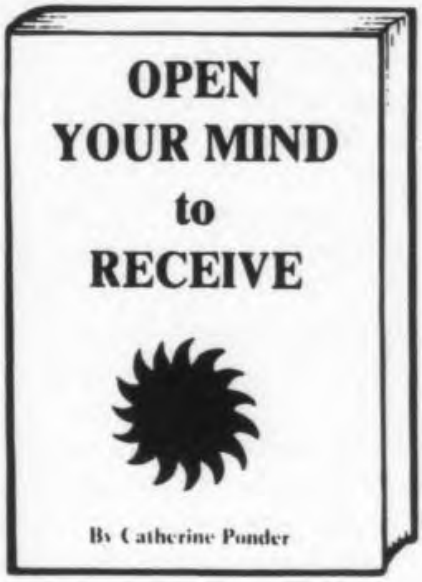
He suspects that in many cases, though by no means in all, poltergeist activity may be associated with epileptic symptoms. "What really impressed us is that for about half of the 92 RSPK agents in my survey the reports indicated medical or psychological problems, often serious," he says. Aside from those who were treated for epilepsy at the time, others were said to have muscular contractions, convulsions, fainting fits and comas. Other problems included violent alcoholism and schizophrenia. Several were said to suffer from hysteria; three children were mentally retarded and two were hyperactive. There was a person with kidney disease, another was dwarfed and lame, and a third [was] terminally ill. It is not difficult to suppose that these conditions might be associated with central nervous system disturbances though there were no epileptic symptoms."

Roll says that poltergeist activities, like epilepsy, are concentrated in young people before the age of 15. There are also more people with abnormal EEGs and no epileptic symptoms in this age group. He found more incidents among children from broken homes.

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Given all this, he asks, "Is not RSPK a psychopathological symptom after all?"

The central nervous system theory proposes that the brain neurons are firing abnormally and that this is sometimes the result of psychological or medical problems. "But there are many poltergeist agents who appear to have no such problems and are only undergoing the type of stress most of us are sometimes faced with," Roll says.

The criticisms of Alvarado and Martinez-Taboas center on the psychological testing of poltergeist agents. They believe the tests used, which point to the psychopathological conception of poltergeists, are ill-conceived and poorly done.

Scott Rogo suggested a new testing method which has not been used extensively by parapsychologists. This is the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI) which includes use of a special scale. This test has been "developed and validated in criminology."

Meanwhile, parapsychologists continue to argue about the disturbed personality problems of poltergeist agents and the unexplained phenomena continue.

∞

MORE ON BUGS

FOR A LONG TIME, as regular readers are aware, I have been fascinated by how many human problems may be solved in the future—as they have been in the past—by putting bacteria to work. Bugs and microscopic plants such as yeasts have been put to human use for millennia. Yeasts leaven bread and make alcohol; bacteria convert dilute alcohol to vinegar; bacteria work constantly to make soil more fertile and



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∞

MAN AND MONSTERS

THE BIGFOOT giants, says David Rains Wallace in a recent Sierra Club book, lure us into the wilderness . . . not to devour us but to remind us where we are, on a living planet. Wallace's book *The Klamath Knot* looks upon all living things as living fossils. Neither man nor Sasquatch escapes his speculation.

He asks, Is man halfway between animals and gods as many people believe? Or should we be viewed from a wholly different perspective as the recent ally of the grasses in their 30-million-year struggle to push back the trees?

From a metaphysical (and perhaps psychic viewpoint) is man simply a

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This interview is one of 12 in a series by Dr. Leichtman called *From Heaven to Earth.* Other spirits interviewed include Edgar Cayce, Cheiro, H.P. Blavatsky, C.W. Leadbeater, Sir Oliver Lodge, Nikola Tesla, Eileen Garrett, and Stewart Edward White.

A copy of *Arthur Ford Returns* can be purchased for $4 postpaid. All 12 books in *From Heaven to Earth* can be purchased as a set for $27. In Ohio, add 5½% tax.

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strange creature having some symbiotic relationship with a greater form of life of which he is totally unaware and unable to comprehend?

The latter idea opens the mind to all sorts of speculation. There is the question of alternate realities, for example, involving the proposal that some of the unexplained mysteries of our world are spillovers from somewhere else.

Ask James Thompson. He is a technician at the Emergency Medical Services in Harlingen, Tex. On Wednesday, September 14, 1983, he was driving his ambulance from South Padre Island back to Harlingen when a large birdlike object flew across the highway about 150 feet in front of him. He noted the time as 3:55 P. M. and the place as 4.3 miles east of Los Fresnos stoplight on Route 100.

"I saw him fly right in front of me. His tail is what caught my attention," he told Andy Warren, staff writer for the *Valley Morning Star*. "I expected him to land like a model airplane. That's what I thought he was, but he flapped his wings enough to get above the grass."

It wasn't the size of the creature but its configuration that startled Thompson. He calculated the wingspan at around five to six feet, judging it to be about the width of his ambulance. But the tail was amazing and unlike that of any known bird. Thompson estimated the entire length of the flying critter as being eight to 10 feet, including the tail.

"It had a black or grayish, rough texture," he reported. "It wasn't feathers. I'm quite sure it was a hide-type covering. I just watched him fly away."

Thompson told Warren that the flying

TALISMANIC POWER:

Using Seals and the Pendulum for Success in Life

It is pointless to try and defend the uses of talismans, seals and the pendulum against people who ridicule such things. How can the carrying of an article with meaningless insignia possibly influence the outcome of any situation?, goes the usual protestation. It simply makes no sense. It is something, they say, that belongs to the Middle Ages when ignorant minds placed credence in all sorts of superstitious nonsense.

Belief in talismans and pendulums in the micro-technology age is certainly an incongruity, and to all intents and purposes MAKES NO SENSE AT ALL.

It is wiser to *agree* with the sceptic than to argue. Supernatural matters cannot be proven in debate. Fools, not wise people, waste precious energy trying to convince disbelievers concerning the paranormal.

So whilst the sceptic may snigger at the content of this advertisement, and to him we have conceded that it *does not make any sense*, we will concern ourselves in this advertisement with the reader perceptive enough to recognise that

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These are true stories which author-occultist Marcus Bottomley has collected during his many years of extensive research into this subject. Seals and Talismans, the knowledgeable occult student will confirm, are the product of *very careful calculated magickal formulae*. Their complex symbology is the product of *extremely advanced minds* whose understanding of the Laws of the Universe far exceeded that which we call "scientific learning" today. It is NOT meaningless "mumbo jumbo" – the mind able to comprehend their symbolical meaning will readily verify that their *inner complexity and power* would, if anything, make modern day mathematical dissertions *look like* "mumbo jumbo"!!

To understand the meaning of talismanic symbology is not, thank God, necessary. One does not have to understand the principles of plumbing in order to take a shower. All that you have to understand are the very simple instructions in this book.

Unfortunately a great deal of inanity has been dispersed concerning the nature of talismans and the benefits they confer. Carry a "lucky penny" or a "lucky horseshoe" and your dreams will come true. This accounts for a great deal of the disillusionment people feel about talismans. *True talismanic philosophy* is an *exacting mystical doctrine /science*, formulated by great minds who had access to sources of knowledge denied to most people . . .it is NOT the superstitious piffle associated with the popular concept of "lucky charms". Such charms are not entirely without value because of the psychosomatic effect on their owners, but they should not be confused with the *real power* contained within GENUINELY CONSECRATED MAGICKAL TALISMANS.

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Using Talismanic and pendulum power can give you *quick and direct control over every area of your life.* This book relates true stories of how it *prevented one family's home from being burgled . . .a woman miraculously escaped rape against all odds . . .a construction worker escaped certain death before the disbelieving eyes of his workmates.* Each one of these persons was saved by the invisible protective rays emanating from their own self-created talismans. As well as assuring protection of person and property talismanic power can alter financial situations, sometimes overnight. The book relates the story of a penniless divorcee who, in an incredibly short time, acquired a beautiful home, two expensive cars, and a luxury sea cruise around the world. Another case is related of a woman, fearing failure to pass a test to gain a job promotion, carried a Seal during the test, and effortlessly passed.

Most authorities on the *pendulum* are hesistant about declaring its value in determining betting situations. This book's author has no such hesitations, asserting that whilst the pendulum cannot be too trusted in such circumstances, its use *in a magickal context* can certainly make it a very useful and beneficial aid indeed. Cases are related of how, using the pendulum in this way, a man *won a $1000 boxing bet . . .another won a huge £185,000 on the football pools.* Of course the pendulum can be used for help in a great deal of other situations. One case is described of how it even helped one man to not only discover that his wife was having an affair, but also ascertain the other man's identity and, most amazingly of all, the best time to engineer a way of how and when to catch them in the act!

Why seemingly inanimate objects, i.e. talismans drawn on pieces of paper, should exercise such apparent power and influence is baffling even to some "believers", let alone sceptics. But you are not required to understand. As a child of the Universe you only have to *accept.* And when a great sum of money or other manifestation of good fortune comes your way, take a leaf out of the sceptic's book by answering people's amazement and envy with the phrase "oh it's just a stroke of luck". Remember only a fool argues with a sceptic.

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animal's wings were only about an inch thick, "like a shark's fin" with indentations on the top and possibly the bottom of each wing. The back of the creature's head "was something like a Brahma Bull's hump." It had almost no neck and a small pouch near its throat "something like a pelican's pouch." The tail was very thin and ended in a kind of fin.

"I thought I'd grow up to see a flying saucer but I saw a bird instead," Thompson said.

If Thompson really saw the creature he describes it sounds more like a pterodactyl than a bird.

∞

THE NAHANT SERPENT

OTHER REPORTS of such flying "birds" have come out of Texas (a very similar sighting was made by three San Antonio schoolteachers on February 24, 1976) but if they really exist there, why are they so seldom seen? Where could they be nesting that their nests are never found? It's hard not to be skeptical about such stories despite the apparent veracity of the witnesses.

And yet, let us consider the history of the Nahant sea serpent which patrolled the ocean shores around Nahant, Mass., for 30 years, between 1819 and 1849, the year of the last known sighting. Some of the older residents of Nahant, when reminiscing, still talk about the 90-foot creature. They say it was probably a gimmick to attract people to the big summer hotels that existed in Nahant at that time. But if this is true, why did the sightings suddenly stop?

The first reported sighting took place on August 19, 1819. It drove terrified bathers from the water and sent fisher-

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men scrambling for their harpoons. At least two dozen sightings were reported between 1819 and 1849. One witness was Samuel Cabot (great-grandfather of former Sen. Henry Cabot Lodge) who wrote, "It gave to my mind at first glance the idea of a horse's head." He described the body as a serpent with humps that stuck up from the water at intervals. "It moved rapidly, causing a white foam under the chin and a long wake . . . . He must have been seen by two or three hundred persons . . . . "

The serpent was described as perhaps 90 feet long and thick as a barrel. It dove continuously and reappeared every eight minutes. Passengers in horse-drawn carriages lined up along the shore eager to catch sight of the creature.

Many prominent doctors, lawyers and businessmen reported seeing the serpent firsthand. Louis Agassiz, Harvard professor and world-famous naturalist, said in a speech, "The serpent has been seen by so many on whom we may rely, it is wrong to doubt it any longer."

Yet today, David Liscio says, in an article he wrote for the *Boston Herald* of August 21, 1983, "These men and women are gone and their testimony has evolved into myth . . . . "

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WHILE AT LOCH NESS . . .

AMERICAN monster hunters with sophisticated equipment were again scouring the depths of Loch Ness this past summer still hoping for a glimpse of the elusive quarry.

Erik Beckjord, an American wildlife photographer interested in Fortean phenomena, was quoted on August 4, 1983, as saying he had filmed a long

black object seemingly swimming in the lake. But he concedes that the object could have been a freak wave: "It was 15 to 20 feet long, shaped like an overturned boat and appeared to swim across the light swell on the lake, surfacing four times like a porpoise."

Two days later, on August 6, a sighting videotaped from a farm 500 feet above the loch showed a dark body, 30 feet long by seven to 10 feet thick, drifting beneath the water and surfacing twice within an hour.

On August 22 Beckjord showed a three-minute videotape he said he shot of the Scottish lake on August 6 showing what appear to be splashes that grow into a V-shape. "We think this might be two or more monsters surfacing and then diving, but it's impossible to make out a solid form . . . ." The tape also shows what appear to be three shadowy

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objects moving away from the splashes.

On September 1 the Associated Press reported that Rikki Razdan from Boston and Alan M. Kielar of Buffalo, N. Y., using $100,000 worth of electronic scanning equipment linked to a raft filled with sonar gadgetry had recorded fish but nothing else. Kielar said, "We find no scientific evidence for the claim that monsters are here."

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IN RUSSIA

DESPITE all we hear about the research on parapsychology which is going on behind the Iron Curtain, most Soviet publications seem pretty wary of the subject. The official party line has always tended to discount psychic claims which cannot be explained as physical effects. Even in telepathy they are looking for the mysterious wavelengths or energies that they believe must exist if the claims are valid.

The August 1983 issue of the English language magazine *Sputnik* contained a condensation from another Soviet magazine *Smena* which helps highlight this situation. *Sputnik* describes two precognitive hunches and then offers to explain them. In the first, an aircraft mechanic had a presentiment that one of a flight of three airplanes taking off was about to have trouble. It did. And it had to make a forced landing. In the other, a man who ordinarily slept well suddenly couldn't sleep while staying in a small town hotel. After several insomniac nights he moved his bed to the opposite corner of the room. That night a heavy beam smashed down where his bed had been on previous nights.

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leave traces on the brain but not on the consciousness. Eventually these traces work their way up into consciousness to warn the subject. "The activity enters consciousness in the form of a ready-made judgment without any proof."

Vladimir Mezentsev, Master of Science and author of the original article in *Smena*, explains the first incident saying that Engine Mechanic Fedotov spotted a malfunctioning engine but the signs were so slight that they only registered subconsciously in his mind and then only gave him an "inexplicable feeling of impending trouble." As for the falling beam, Mezentsev proposes that the beam creaked when anyone walked overhead, signaling to the traveler's brain that trouble lay ahead. "As a result, the signal that the ceiling could collapse arose in the subconscious . . . . Finally, at some point, the thought that he had to move the bed 'surfaced' in consciousness ready-made."

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UNTIL NOW the oldest crustal rocks ever found on earth were from Isua, Greenland, and estimated to be 3.8 billion years old. Samples more than 3.5 billion old have been found in seven other locations, including Minnesota, Wisconsin, Labrador and South Africa.

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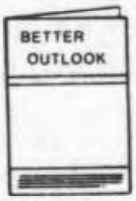
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early crust and were found embedded in river sandstone.

The find may be extraordinarily significant because the zircon appears to be of a type characteristic of the early crustal rocks of earth and not from the type found deep within the earth. If so, these grains might lead to finding the original crustal source from which they were eroded. Such a find, according to a report from Australian National University, would furnish invaluable knowledge about the chemical evolution of the earth and the kind of geological processes then in operation.

Some scientists have expressed the fear that early earth may have been subject to such heavy meteorite bombardment that nothing of the original crust could have survived.

∞

A LOUD BANG

KIDS LIVING at the Buckeye Boys Ranch's Hislop House in Grove City, Ohio, were lucky not to be in the hall outside the washroom just before dinner last March 4. A three-pound metal bolt came crashing through the cottage roof and ceiling with enough force to knock a piece out of the concrete floor.

Dottie Lenhart, a spokesman for the ranch, said, "Obviously it came from an airplane. But no one remembers hearing a airplane. The FAA is going to try to find the plane."

The bolt appears to be brass with carbon deposits on it. It is about seven inches long and an inch in diameter. It was still hot when some of the boys tried to pick it up.



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During his lifetime L. W. De Laurence achieved world-wide recognition as a teacher, author and publisher. His numerous and popular books on psychology, religion and the occult were translated into many foreign languages. Through his writings and the publishing firm which still bears his name, he did much to foster occult teachings.

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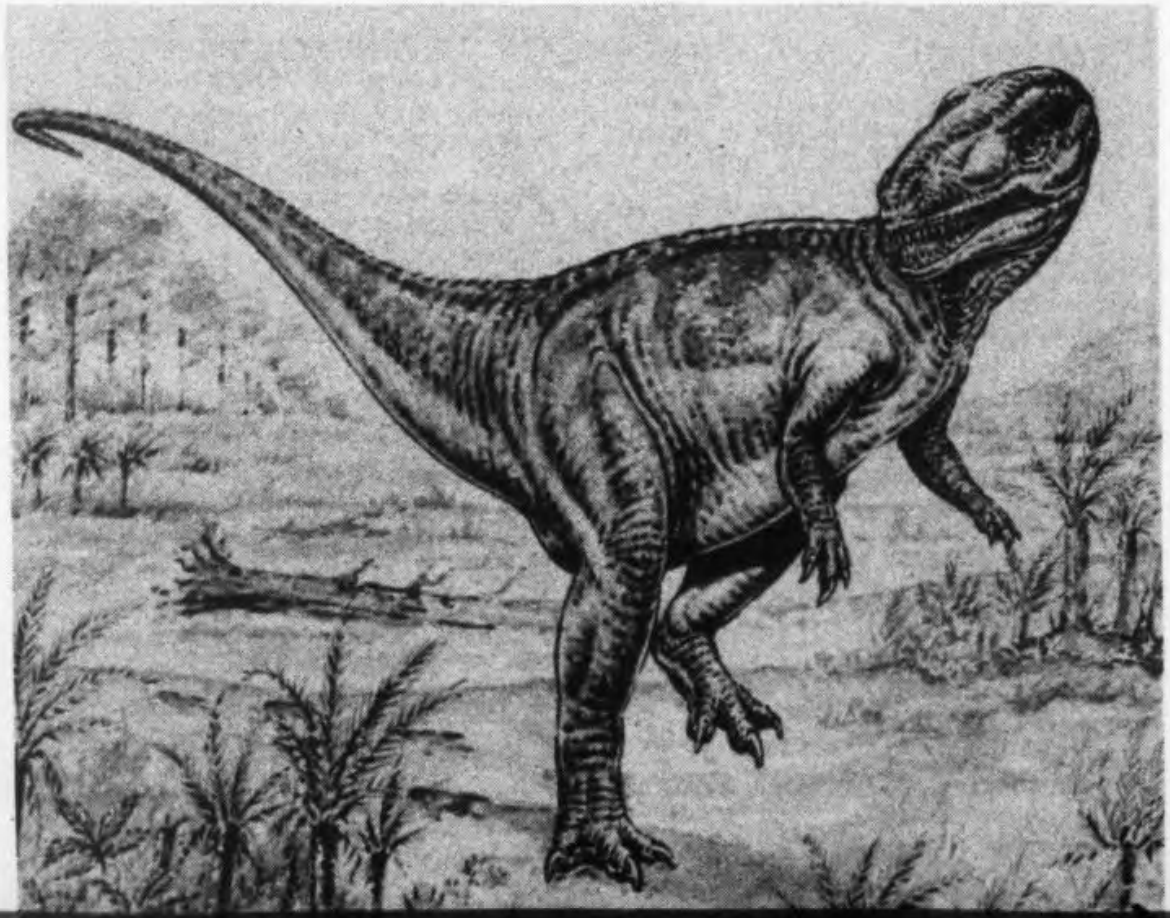
An amateur fossil-hunter's discovery of a ferocious dinosaur that nobody knew existed rocks the world of science.

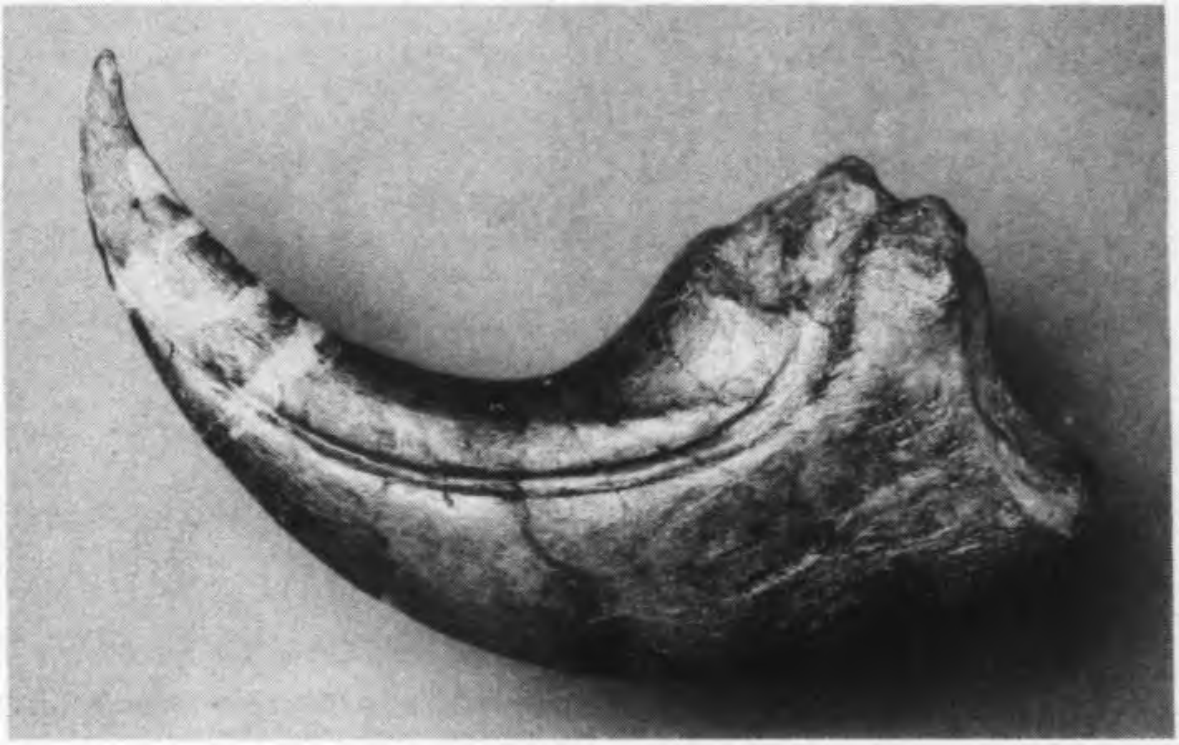
By Michael Goss

Photographs courtesy Natural History Museum, South Kensington

ONE DAY IN January 1983 a 55-year-old plumber and spare-time fossil hunter named William Walker took a stroll through Surrey, the British county that is linked to and sometimes engulfed by the boundaries of Greater London. A miserably wet winter had caused one of the local

At first thought to resemble the large carnivore Megalosaurus pictured here, the Surrey monster is now believed to have had its own distinct characteristics.





Discovery of a 12-inch claw bone in a claypit outside London was the first clue to the existence of an enormous flesh-eating dinosaur till then unknown to science.

claypits to deteriorate almost to the condition it had been in during the age of dinosaurs, when Surrey was a marshy delta landscape.

Viewing this "absolute mudbath" through driving sleet which whipped the surface to the color and consistency of chocolate blancmange, Walker several times considered giving up and going home. Luckily he didn't—because the miserable weather had uncovered an odd-looking nodule which Walker immediately suspected might contain a fossil of more than ordinary interest.

He hit it with his geologist's hammer. "When I gave it a few cracks," he was to recall later, "the whole thing disintegrated. I could have cried."

But the damage was not irreparable. Walker's son-in-law took the collected fragments to the Natural History Museum, South Kensington, London, for identification. The museum, which contains one of the foremost paleontological research units in the world, "relies quite a bit on amateurs and the good will of people digging holes in the ground," a spokesman says, for information on newly-unearthed prehistoric remains.

Usually, of course, the uncovered remains prove unexceptional. But when its scientists had pieced the Surrey fossil back together, the usually conservative museum, unable to contain its excitement, declared that the plumber had made the most important fossil find in Britain—if not in Europe or beyond—of this century.

When reassembled, the relic took the form of a gigantic, curved claw bone from the foot of a very large, decidedly



As the man who found the claw bone, William Walker, a 55-year-old plumber and part-time fossil-hunter, became an instant international celebrity.

carnivorous dinosaur until now unknown to the experts. "It is almost certainly different from anything hitherto known on the basis of the claw alone," says Alan Charig, the museum's Curator of Fossil Amphibians, Reptiles and Birds and a dinosaur authority of international standing. "It will have to have a new name, genus and species."

At a July 20, 1983, press conference Dr. Charig, lifting the claw bone, remarked, "The sheer size of this amazed us." An explosion of flashbulbs greeted his gesture. His audience consisted of camera crews and reporters from all over Britain and from as far away as New York, Germany and Japan.

William Walker became an overnight celebrity. For a few short hours that day the man, whose interest in fossils was first awakened when he was cajoled into driving his daughter Rita and her school's geology class on field trips, enjoyed the public acclaim. Pictures of him smiling obediently as he posed with the impressive claw bone in hand reached practically every newspaper in Britain and many more outside it.

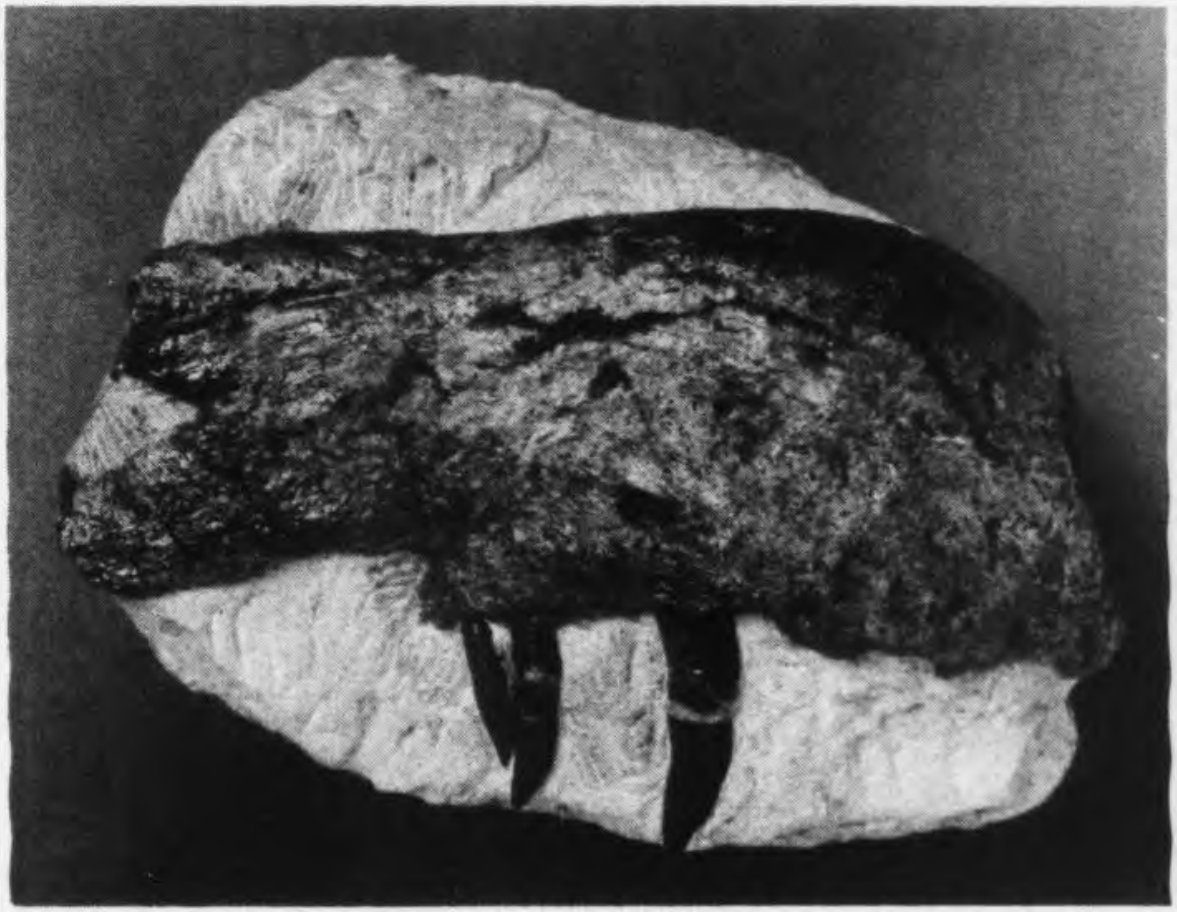
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THE CLAW BONE is worth all the fuss. Measuring a full 12 inches along its curvature, it was originally encased in a horny sheath which did not survive the decaying process; during the animal's lifetime the talon would have been even more formidable. It was found to be half again as long as the biggest claw bone on a museum cast of *Tyrannosaurus rex*, the terrifying flesh-eating giant familiar to us from countless monster movies. *T. rex* is customarily described as the largest land carnivore of all time; yet on the evidence of the claw bone alone it looked as if the "tyrant king lizard" had been dethroned by this new Surrey species.

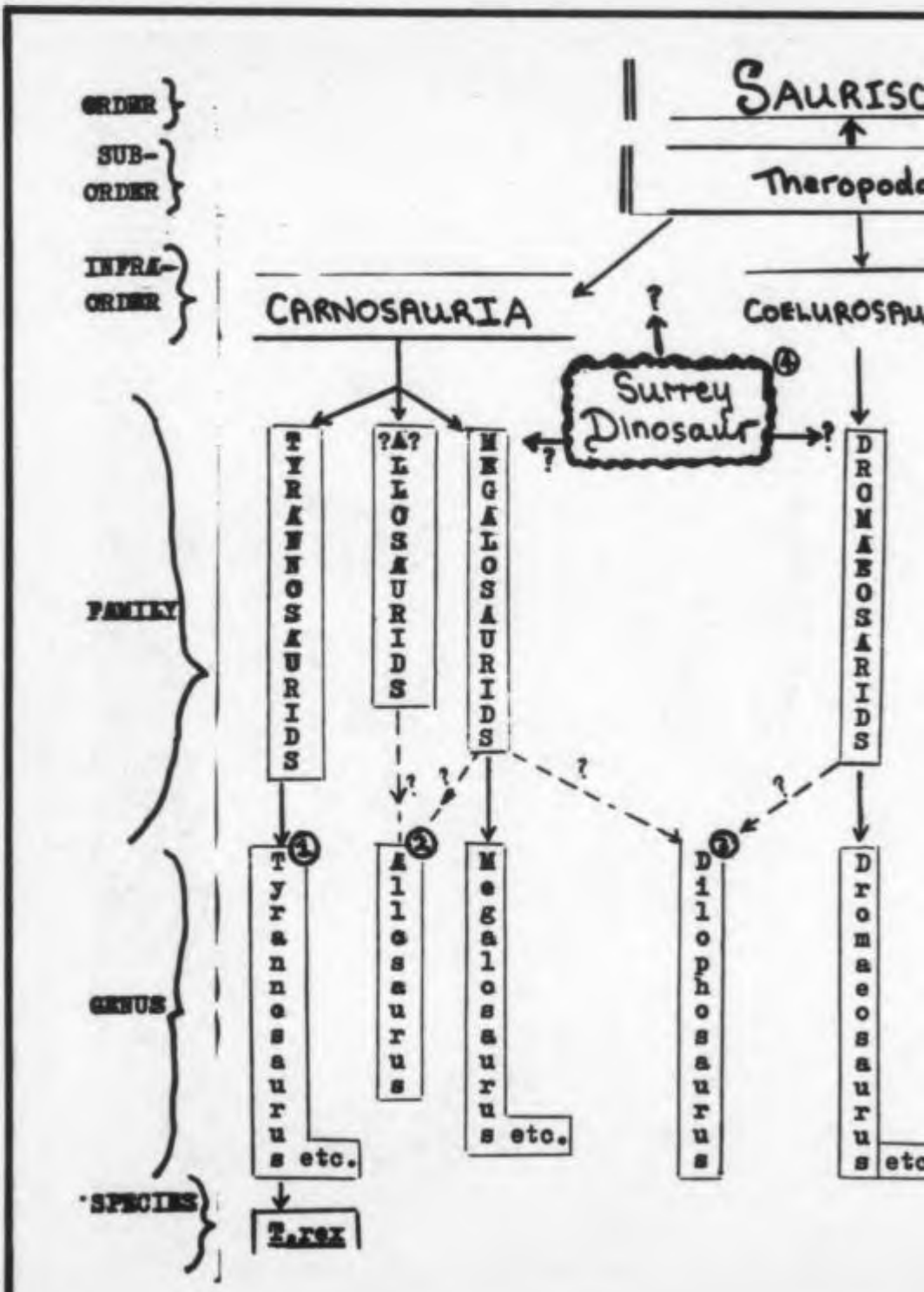
As Charig put it, "We were presented with the alternative of either a huge meat-eating dinosaur much bigger than *Tyrannosaurus rex* or one with a disproportionately large claw—for attacking prey, perhaps."

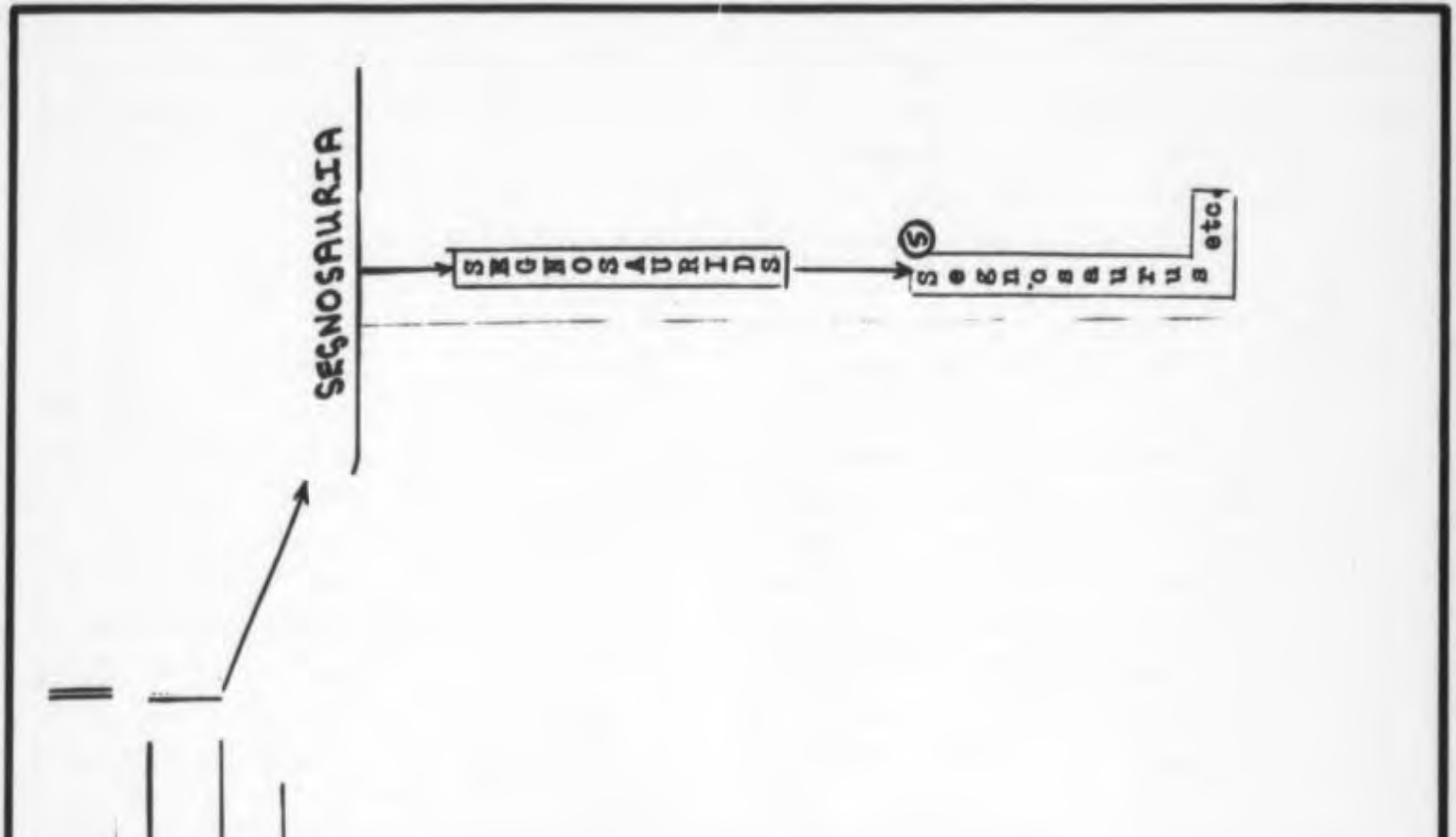
The Paleontology Lab patiently anticipated the chance to mount a serious excavation. By May the weather had cleared sufficiently for what one paper called "the great claypit grope" to commence, ironically, quite close to the spot where a year before remains of the vegetarian and relatively common Iguanodon had been recovered. The results this time were spectacular. Three vanloads of embedded bones—two tons' worth, representing more than 50 percent of the animal—were transported back to South Kensington. The most complete carnivorous dinosaur skeleton found in Britain since the mid-1800's was on its way to meet the experts and the media.

Even after a thorough search extended across the vicinity where the dinosaur's bones lay spread, virtually undisturbed from the animal's demise from causes unknown 124 million years ago, the searchers failed to locate the tail. But they could not really complain: 50 percent of a skeleton is a pretty respectable proportion where such fossils are concerned, especially since it



In this portion of the dinosaur's skull, three long sharp teeth, serrated like steak knives, remain intact after 124 million years.


ORDER
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INFRA-ORDER
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Tyrannosaurus etc.
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T.rex


SEGNOSAURIA
SMEGMOSAURHAS
etc.

included parts of the skull and a jawbone with three serrated-edged teeth intact—teeth reminiscent, said Charig, of steak knives and sure proof of a meat diet.

As it turned out, the rest of the skeleton failed to fulfill one promise the claw bone had seemed to convey. Charig and his colleagues learned that the new dinosaur was little more than half the size of *Tyrannosaurus rex*. They now believe the animal was a large carnivore—somewhere between 10 and 15 feet tall when it stood on two feet—which may have disemboweled its victims with one enormous claw on its foot.

Already the Surrey dinosaur is posing some intriguing problems for the experts. For one thing, it is not like any other carnivorous dinosaur. "We are convinced that it is something new, certainly a new genus and species," says Angela Milner, another prominent member of the Paleontology Laboratory at South Kensington. "But exactly what is extremely speculative."

The Surrey specimen is unique not just because it represents a new genus and species; it may in fact establish the existence of an entirely new family of carnivorous dinosaur. The paleontologists did not exactly jump to this radical conclusion, however. At first they had quite different ideas.

Each newly-discovered dinosaur is classified according to its structural similarities (or dissimilarities) to other scientifically-described specimens. When the Paleontology Laboratory scientists compared the anomalous claw bone with one from *Tyrannosaurus*, they did so because they thought the Surrey creature may have borne some physical resemblance to, or perhaps family relationship with, that particular example. The evidence at that stage suggested that the Surrey specimen belonged, like *Tyrannosaurus*, to the infraorder named *Carnosauria*.

The carnosaurs were heavily-built, broad-skulled predators which walked upright (most of the time anyway) on two powerful hind legs which developed at the gradual expense of reduced forearms. Like other theropods, they are thought to have descended from socket-toothed (thecodont) reptile ancestors which emerged as talented bipedal hunters during the Late Triassic period 225 million years ago. Eventually they became unchallenged occupants of a period in the Mesozoic era that was dominated by large predators. By the time the dinosaurs became extinct some 180 million years later, the carnosaur line had seen a startling increase in

This simplified diagram shows some of the problems in classifying carnivorous dinosaurs. All of the dinosaurs listed in the chart are members of the Theropoda ("beast-footed") suborder but experts disagree about the status of certain forms. Tyrannosaurus (1) is plainly a carnosaur and is distinctive enough to establish a family grouping named after it (tyrannosaurids). Allosaurus (2) is considered by some to belong to the Megalosaurid family and by others to claim a family in its own right (Allosaurids) of equal status with the Megalosaurids. The Dilophosaurus (3), usually classed as a megalosaurid carnosaur, may belong to another infraorder entirely. The Surrey dinosaur (4) has characteristics relating to both megalosaurids (a carnosaur family) and dromaeosaur (a coelurosaur family). Further research may show it is either a carnosaur or a coelurosaur—or it may be so unlike them that it will end up occupying an infraorder of its own.



Members of the excavation team from the Natural History Museum give one fragile portion of the fossil a protective coating of linen soaked in plaster of paris.

physical bulk, culminating with *Tyrannosaurus* and its Mongolian counterpart *Tarbosaurus*: giants up to 20 feet tall possessed of grotesquely-stunted forearms and nightmarishly massive skulls replete with a savage armory of dagger-like teeth.

Among the longest-lived carnosaur families are the megalosaurids. The genus for which this grouping is named, the 30-foot-long *Megalosaurus*, was a fairly typical carnosaur. At the July press conference its ferocious portrait was shown as a guide to what the Surrey monster had looked like. "There is no reason to suppose it differs from *Megalosaurus*," Charig said, "save that the claw is bigger."

But before long the museum was not so confident that the dinosaur was a megalosaurid—or any kind of carnosaur at all. "*Megalosaurus* was our *original* thought," Milner says now. "But it is beginning to look as if it may *not* be a megalosaurid."

For example, the skull has been found to end in a rather narrow snout—significantly different from the rounded jaws and domed skulls of both the megalosaurid and tyrannosaurid families. Again, the teeth can only be those of a carnivorous dinosaur; yet they are quite unlike the teeth of any known carnivore. Finally, no carnosaur unearthed so far has possessed such a highly-developed talon or "killing claw" on its foot.

A comparable piece of weaponry has already been identified elsewhere (and on a much smaller scale) in dinosaurian development. At least one of the "intelligent" and highly-specialized coelurosaur families sported a similar sickle-shaped talon arrangement—its scientific name, *Deinonychus*, translates as "terrible claw."

Deinonychus' structure, including a rigidly-reinforced tail, implies that it was built for speed. Further, its foot carried an enlarged, curving claw which did not make contact with the ground as the animal ran or walked. Most experts see these adaptions as evidence that the creature was an accomplished predator. In their view *Deinonychus* could run down its prey in a rapid sprint, the stiffened tail thrown out for balance as it went; advanced coordination allowed it to pirouette momentarily on one leg as it grappled some hapless herbivore in its strong arms, disemboweling the quarry with a powerful kick which brought the special rending talon into action.

Both *Deinonychus* and the Surrey carnivore haunted the Early Cretaceous period but the dating of *Deinonychus* fossils indicates it was the later of the two (from 108 million years ago). It could well have descended from an earlier, perhaps larger creature which was a contemporary of the newly-found mystery dinosaur. Such a relationship, however, is purely hypothetical since *Deinonychus* finds have been made only in the western United States. Moreover, *Deinonychus* was much smaller, perhaps no more than 10 feet in length with a "killing talon" five inches long. Yet all paleontologists concede that the fossil record represents only a fraction of prehistoric life on this planet. It is possible that *Deinonychus* and the Surrey animal represent an evolutionary form which occurred across a wide expanse of the northern hemisphere in Cretaceous times.

The Surrey specimen might be a carnosaur with a specialized talon

apparently "borrowed" from the dromaeosaurs. Most paleontologists agree that *Deinonychus* (a dromaeosaur) was an active predator which killed prey with its enlarged claw. The feeding habits of the more solidly-built, far heavier carnosaurs are, on the other hand, a subject of some dispute.

Although moviemakers always depict *Tyrannosaurus* as an energetic, efficient hunter of large game, some authorities suspect that the huge beast was too slow and clumsy to chase and capture its meals. They think it (as well as the slightly smaller megalosaurid) was no more than an oversized scavenger of fallen corpses. But if the Survey claw bone is not simply an apparatus used to slice up already-dead animals, it could greatly modify this inglorious reconstruction and present us with an active and well coordinated carnosaur—a genuine hunter-killer, a powerfully enlarged version of *Deinonychus* able to destroy live prey by attacking it with its deadly foot talon.

But if the Surrey dinosaur is *not* a carnosaur, then it may be a dromaeosaur of a size and killing potential undreamed of until now. A "super-dromaeosaur" rivaling all but the mightiest carnosaurs in build while retaining the speed and agility of its smaller relatives like *Deinonychus* would be as revolutionary a paleontological discovery as the *Tyrannosaurus rex* was in the early years of this century.

While reluctant to fuel speculation at this stage, Dr. Charig tentatively estimated that the dinosaur might have weighed up to two tons "and probably moved quite fast to catch its prey"—say, in the neighborhood of 20 mph. The large cache of Iguanodon bones found in the area may tell us something about the type of prey it preferred.

Charig says, "We don't even know the habits of these dinosaurs, whether they hunted singly or in packs." The presence of fishbones in the rib cage has led to speculation that the imposing talon could have been used as a gaff, just as modern bears scoop or spear salmon in shallow waters. But since the dinosaur's carcass ended up in water, it is equally likely that *it* provided a meal for the fishes rather than vice versa.

Answers to what Milner calls "tantalizing" questions may slowly emerge over the next two years—the minimum time it will take to free the skeleton from its ironstone matrix and to assemble it in intelligible form. Even so, we already have some clues to a few of the surprises that lie in store. Peter Whybrow, head of the Paleontological Laboratory, confesses that he used to be skeptical of the idea that dinosaurs, like present-day crocodiles, swallowed small stones (gastroliths) to aid the digestion process, but the finding of a small quartz pebble in the Surrey animal's stomach region has encouraged him to reassess the evidence. Since the nearest quartz deposit is several miles away, it is conceivable that the stone traveled to the site with—or, more specifically, inside—the dinosaur.

* * *

DINOSAURS ARE THE ultimate fantasy animals. In the popular mind they are spectacularly grotesque and alien as anything conceived by a science-fiction illustrator; yet unlike those fabulous dream creations they are known to have existed. At the same time they are extinct and we know therefore

they are no threat to us. They are profound mysteries. Any new piece of research stimulates that mystery; far from defining the limits of belief, it provokes exhilarating flights of fancy.

Britain's new dinosaur appears to meet expectations of the most fervent prehistory enthusiast. It has all the right qualifications—large, unknown, carnivorous—to set the imagination racing. The sense of excitement is not confined to the lay public; paleontologists who confront the challenge of examining a beast apparently outside their scientific experience feel it also.

"As a dinosaur man, I find it very exciting," Alan Charig declares. "I can't pretend it's going to revolutionize the country's economy but it's very important."



BEYOND CHANCE

IDENTICAL triplet brothers adopted 57 years ago by different families are happily reunited and marveling at their common likes and dislikes, according to an Associated Press report from Wichita, Kans. They all fear heights, had milk allergies while growing up, enjoying singing and have ringing in their ears. Each man has a son named John and a daughter named Mary.

The triplets—John Burch of Warren, Ark.; John Jones of Santa Pablo, Calif.; and James Hahn of Cape Girardeau, Mo.—were given to a St. Louis orphanage in 1926 by their mother who had been abandoned by her husband and was in financial difficulty.

Their reunion in the summer of 1983 "was the most wonderful feeling . . . I've ever experienced in my life. It was a magnetic feeling, something that I'd never felt before. It's just almost indescribable," said Hahn.

Jones said, "I don't know where to start thinking about our relationship and where it's going to lead."

Burch was the first to discover he was a triplet. The revelation came last year when he called the Children's Home Society of Missouri to get a birth certificate for a passport application. Through a phone number supplied by the orphanage Burch found Hahn and the brothers then found Jones, using clues provided by officials in the children's home.

Jones had had chance encounters with both Hahn and Burch while growing up but they did not realize they were brothers.



MISSING LINKS

IN 1964 when I was teaching school in Los Angeles I somehow lost two links from my watchband. A few weeks later a special teachers' meeting was held in the Garfield Elementary School in a classroom I had never seen before. As I squeezed behind one of the child-sized desks I found on its top my two missing watchband links.—*Ivy Burnham.*

A NOISY NIGHT IN IRELAND

The house echoed with eerie sounds—voices, footsteps, crashes, roars—but our ears registered only uncanny silence.

By Sheila St. Clair

AT GILLHALL, a country manor in County Down, Northern Ireland, two well-authenticated hauntings are separated by a span of more than two centuries. Here, in the late 17th Century, the legendary Beresford Ghost appeared, and in the mid-20th Century the mansion was the scene of a series of paranormal events. An investigation of the latter in June 1960, well covered by the press, assured that the mansion would become known as one of the most haunted in Ireland.

The Ulster Tape Recording Society,

At Gillhall in County Down, Northern Ireland, the apparition of a childhood friend appeared to Arabella Beresford and uttered a prophecy which was tragically fulfilled years later. Almost three centuries later Gillhall is still haunted.





Much of the ghostly activity occurred in Gillhall's cellar. Investigators put recording equipment in next room.

working with the British Broadcasting Corporation, invited me to participate in the investigation which resulted because the Society, a fortnight earlier, had obtained a tape bearing "noises" no one could explain. Sounds in the mansion ranged from muffled human voices to an odd roaring and crackling as of flames. I accepted the invitation, then decided to refresh my memory of the mansion and the story of the Beresford Ghost.

I was fortunate to be able to borrow original records from Lord Clanwilliam whose family owns the Gillhall estate. These records leave little doubt of the reality of Arabella Beresford's encounter with a ghost.

In October 1693, Lady Nicola Magill, then mistress of Gillhall, was entertaining her pregnant sister Arabella and her husband Sir Tristram Beresford. The house was new then, a fine three-story mansion overlooking an extensive parkland and situated near the thriving market town of Dromore and the main road to Dublin.

During the Beresfords' stay at Gillhall, a strange event occurred, one which cast a shadow over the remainder of Arabella's life. One night as she lay beside her sleeping husband in the guest chamber, she was astonished by the sudden appearance of her childhood friend John De Poer, Lord Tyrone. In their youth they had made an interesting pact: whoever died first would return to let the other know what religious belief was acceptable to the deity in the afterlife. Lord Tyrone's apparition reminded her of this and he said further that news of his death would come from Dublin the next day.

As if to leave proof of his visit he drew the bed curtains into a curious knot, wrote his name in a book and made a handprint on top of the bureau (now in the possession of the Clanwilliam family). As a more personal reminder Lord Tyrone laid his hand on Arabella's wrist.

He did not, however, explain the deity's preference in religious matters but he did utter several prophecies concerning Arabella herself. He said the child she carried was a boy, her husband would die soon after the child's birth, she would die in childbirth in her 47th year, and her older son would marry his (Lord Tyrone's) daughter. Having said these things the apparition vanished.

The next morning Arabella appeared

at the breakfast table with her wrist bound in a black ribbon. To forestall her husband's inquiry, she said to him, "Let me conjure you never to enquire the reason why I wear this black ribbon . . . . If it concerned you as a husband to know, I would not for a moment conceal it . . . . On this I must entreat you never to urge me further . . . . " It is to Sir Tristram's credit that he complied with his young wife's request; the matter was not spoken of again. It is said that contemporary portraits of Arabella show the black ribbon but I have never seen one.

News of Lord Tyrone's death did in fact reach Gillhall that day and Lady Beresford accepted it with composure, to her sister's astonishment.

In due time Lord Tyrone's prophecies came to pass. The child that Arabella bore was a boy and when he was four years old Sir Tristram died. Mindful of the third prophecy, Arabella was in no hurry to remarry but when she fell in love with a handsome rake several years her junior, she went to the altar for the second time.

The marriage was not a happy one. It was marred by long separations and uneasy reconciliations but eventually Arabella found herself pregnant again. The child was due near the time of her 48th birthday. As the fateful 47th birthday had passed without incident, Arabella decided to have a small celebration. Among the guests was an elderly clergyman who had in fact christened Arabella. When the guests toasted her 48th birthday, the old man looked puzzled.

"They would make you out to be older than you are, my dear," he said. "Just this evening I looked at my diary wherein I had noted the happy event of your birth and you may believe me when I say that you are only 47."

His words had a cataclysmic effect. Arabella swooned. In the early hours of the next day she went into premature labor and by morning she and her child were dead.

Four years later, Lady Catherine De Poer, Lord Tyrone's daughter, married Arabella's son, fulfilling the last of the apparition's prophecies.

Apart from the single incident of the Beresford Ghost, there is nothing to show that Gillhall was perennially ghost-ridden—although in later years one room was called the "haunted bedroom." In this room a young woman was said to have set fire to her bed hangings and burned to death after an unhappy love affair. But most large houses have some similar tale.

* * *

WITH THIS information fresh in my mind I set out on June 27, 1960, with the Ulster Tape Recording Society's sound engineers, technicians and photographers and a couple of journalists. I have a little reputation as a psychic investigator and William Scott, the Society's honorary secretary, explained that my observations might be helpful in attempting to unravel some of the baffling noises they had previously recorded and perhaps to explain the great sense of unease they had felt in the mansion.

In the words of the *Belfast Telegraph* reporter, "We arrived shortly before 10 o'clock at the gaunt, grey house, once proud but now derelict, with weeds creeping up the steps of its impressive entrance and gaping holes in its floors and ceilings . . . . The glass in the

windows of the 50-roomed house has long since disappeared . . . . "

Between 10:00 and 11:20 P.M. the selected locations in the house had been wired for sound and a control room, our listening post, was established on the ground floor in one of the large drawing rooms at the right of the front door. The locations selected for monitoring were those that had yielded noises on the preliminary tape: microphones were installed in the "haunted bedroom," the stairway and hall, one of the underground kitchens, the semibasement and a bedroom directly above the control room.

Only the large double doors at the main entrance were unlocked. All others were either boarded up or bolted. The windows were locked on the inside and covered with heavy wooden shutters. The semibasement had no exit door and its windows were either locked or covered with wire mesh. It was my task to sprinkle flour around paint cans and an old chair in the center of the semibasement and finally to seal the entry with sticky tape. While doing so I noticed two large planks lying flat on the floor below a window.

The ground rules for the night's observations were simple: all monitoring and recording would be done by the sound equipment. If we moved around the house at all we moved in pairs and reported our location to the control room engineer. Other members with radio equipment patrolling the grounds outside were to report in at half-hour intervals.

When all of the arrangements were completed, we returned to the control room and called the roll. (At this point I realized there were 13 of us, one member having failed to show up.) Monitoring began at 11:45 and with thermos flasks and sandwiches unpacked, we settled down to wait.

The man from the *Belfast Telegraph* wrote, "We had not long to wait before things started happening. Ten minutes before midnight . . . . some members thought they saw the door of the control room, which had been blocked by a stool, move . . . . "

One of the double doors into the control room opened quietly about 15 inches and the stool that had been blocking it toppled over. A little later both doors opened of their own volition.

The reporter continued: "A few minutes later a metallic crash was heard from the cellar . . . then another

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

SHEILA ST. CLAIR was born in 1931 in St. Austell, Cornwall, England.

A graduate of Queen's University, Belfast, Ireland, with an honors degree in English and literature, she has been a lecturer in Further Education in History and English, folk custom, history, parapsychology and occultism. She has written articles for British and Irish magazines, scripts for radio and television and two books: *Folklore of the Ulster People* and *Psychic Phenomena in Ireland*, both published by Mercier Press. She is currently doing research for two new books, one on the paranormal and one on folk customs of the British Isles.

Miss St. Clair is married to Stanley Wyllie, a transmission controller for Ulster Television, Ltd., and they have one son, Stephen Mark, a veterinary surgeon.

Among her hobbies are the theater, preservation of historical sites, and collecting first editions. Her greatest charitable concern is animal welfare and she's partial to Siamese cats.

crash, again from the cellar . . . . Seven minutes later on the stroke of midnight a gong sounded in the room . . . . "

Opinions differed on the gong sound. A few of us thought it sounded like a clock striking but whatever it was, the gong was the prelude to what I privately termed "the noisiest night on record." During the next three hours we recorded a variety of sounds: muttering and humming of humanlike voices, crashes and thuds, footsteps in the hall, the sound of furniture being moved in the room overhead (where there was no furniture) and, for one awe-inspiring moment, the scratch of fingernails across the face of a microphone which we knew for a fact was 15 feet up a wall. Paradoxically, not even a rustle came from the so-called haunted bedroom!

There was no sound at all to the naked ear. The monitored rooms were visited at hourly intervals and once the control room door was opened an uncanny silence fell on the house. When everyone had returned to the control room, the pandemonium broke out afresh. Between 2:00 and 3:00 A.M. the noise coming through the speakers reached an astounding level. The most persistent sound was the roar of a gale force wind, almost beastlike in its ferocity, accompanied by a noise that I took to be the crackling of flames.

The outside patrols were aware of none of this until later. But they did report seeing lights passing slowly through the second floor and visible through the windows. This happened twice but the times did not correlate with inside patrols which members made with flashlights. When we attempted to simulate the manifestation with hand-held lamps or torches, the outside patrol said our lights bore no resemblance to the bluish light, "almost like gaslight," that they had seen.

The activity began to decline by 3:30 A.M. and by the first streaks of dawn the house was once more undisturbed. A final inspection showed that no material changes had taken place except in the semibasement. While my seals remained unbroken and the flour undisturbed, the two planks now lay in the center of the floor, a good eight feet from their original location.

Another mystery lay in the fact that while our treks through the house produced echoes and some distortion on the tape recording, all the crashes and bangs were "clean," as if recorded in a soundproof studio. This left the technical people completely baffled. Nor could we account for the sense of being watched and the pervading chill. On that warm June night many of us donned coats and parkas.

* * *

A DECADE later, in June 1970, Gillhall mysteriously caught fire. The Territorial Army had to be called in to demolish the charred and dangerous shell—a sad end to such a gracious house. Again, for a few days, Gillhall attracted the media's attention. Strange to relate, both sound and television cameras experienced mysterious malfunctions at the site and some of my fellow journalists had narrow escapes from falling slates and slamming doors.

As late as 1981 two English journalists asked me to direct them to Gillhall. I demurred until they promised to return to let me know what they found. A couple of hours later, two rueful, disheveled gentlemen of the press arrived

at my door with a tale of woe. As they drove up the long avenue to the ruins, their car stalled. While they strove to restart it, out of a clear blue sky the clouds gathered and they were drenched in a sudden squall. When they tried to manhandle the car to head it downgrade, one of them slipped and injured his knee.

"After that we got the message," one of them said. "All of a sudden we weren't so keen to photograph the ruins."

I could have said, "Well, I did warn you that it's a house that doesn't like to be visited." But I forebore. After all, it was pure coincidence that a summer storm blew up—wasn't it?



SAINT'S BLOOD TURNS LIQUID

THE DARK crystallized substance Neapolitans believe is the blood of St. Januarius, the patron saint of Naples, liquefied after an hour and a half of praying on Saturday, April 30, 1983. (See "Miracle of the Liquefying Blood," November 1981 FATE.)

A quick liquefaction is considered a good omen. If it is slow or does not happen, believers think a disaster will befall the city. But church officials say that since the church started recording the event in 1659, the blood has failed to liquefy only twice.

According to tradition, St. Januarius was a bishop beheaded by Roman soldiers in A.D. 305. His blood was collected by a Christian. The Roman Catholic Church encourages the veneration of the saint's blood but has never proclaimed the liquefaction a miracle. It is supposed to occur on the Saturday before the first Sunday in May, on September 19 which is the saint's feast day, and on December 16.

On April 30, Cardinal Corrado Ursi was about to suspend the praying when the substance liquefied. About 2000 Neapolitans, who await the thrice-annual "Miracle of San Gennaro," cheered.



BUDDHA CAVES OPEN TO WESTERNERS

By Phillip J. McLean

"THE WORLD'S Oldest Printed Book" (August 1982 FATE) was discovered early in this century in one of "The Caves of the Thousand Buddhas" in the far northwestern part of China. This discovery, along with thousands of other old texts, drew some attention to the Caves but the remoteness of the region and the wars limited investigation.

In 1951 the Chinese government placed the Caves under the jurisdiction of the Dun Huang Institute for Cultural Relics. (Dun Huang is the modern name for Tun Huang, the town near the caves.) Sand and debris which had accumulated in the 600 years since the Buddhists abandoned the caves were cleared out and an extensive conservation project began. At the same time archaeologists and artists began to study the caves.

Now called the Dun Huang Caves, they are recognized as one of the world's greatest centers of Buddhist art. Of more than 600 caves, nearly 500 are decorated with about 50,000 square yards of paintings and some 1400 sculptured figures, all well preserved in the dry atmosphere of the region.

The area has recently been opened to Westerners and travel agencies now can arrange tours of "The Caves of the Thousand Buddhas."

LUCKY SIGNS IN YOUR PALM

Do you share the marks of all great men and women, lines that signify fame, honor and wealth?

By Marcelle Blackerby

PALMISTRY is an ancient art. It was practiced in China and India as early as 3000 B.C. and in Egypt, Babylonia and Chaldea a thousand years earlier. And it is treated in Greek literature as a commonly accepted method of divination.

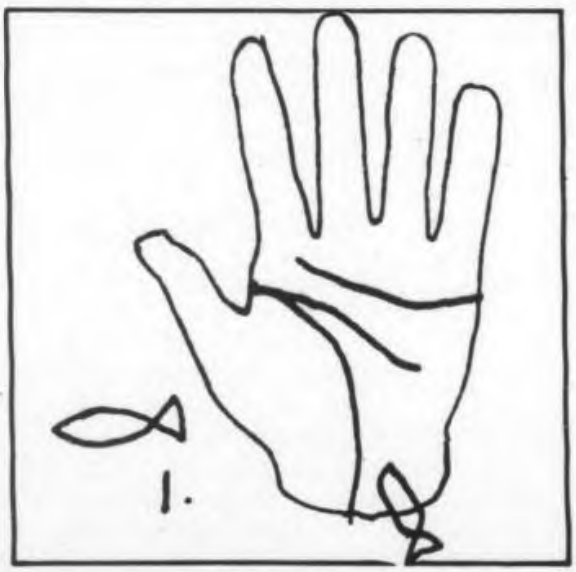
Although palmistry's reputation was somewhat tarnished by the gypsies, it was they who brought this traditional fortune-telling method from their Indian home and spread it throughout the Western world. It is practiced worldwide today, most intensively in modern India and China.

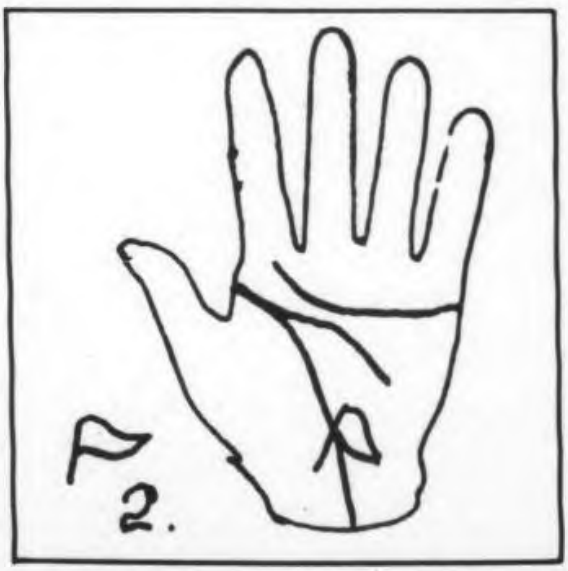
Each line and configuration on the palm has its own meaning and hidden among these are the "lucky" signs, six of which may appear anywhere on the palm. Exceptions are the "tree" (Fig. 3) and the "lotus" (Fig. 6).

According to the lore of palmistry, the hands of all great men and women bear these special marks. You may have one in your palm!

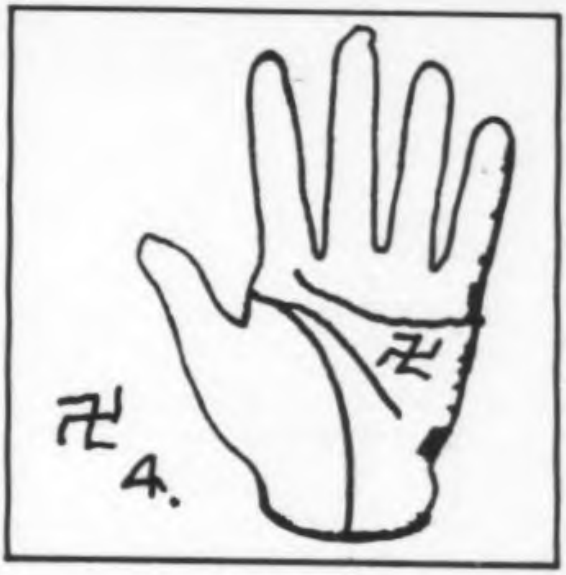
Fig. 1. THE FISH is a mark of good fortune. If it points to the side, it indicates good luck all through life. If the fish

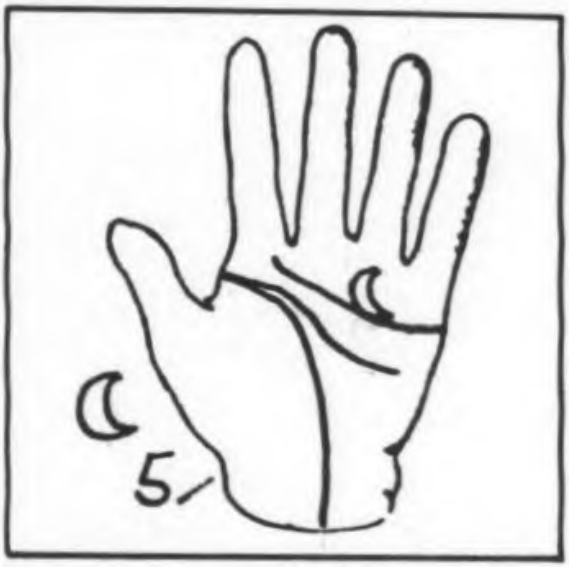
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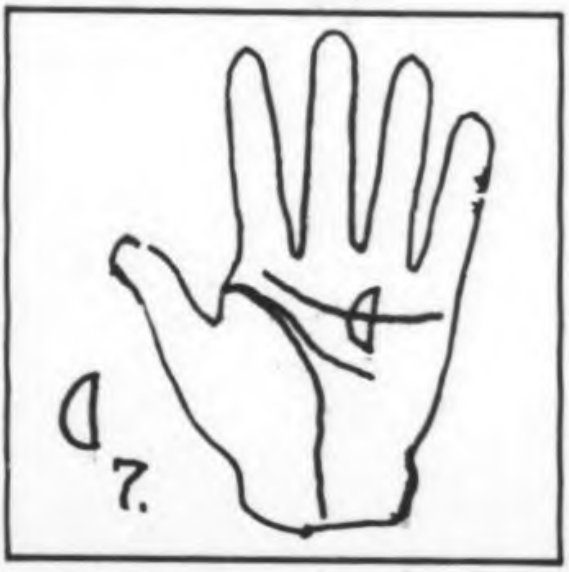


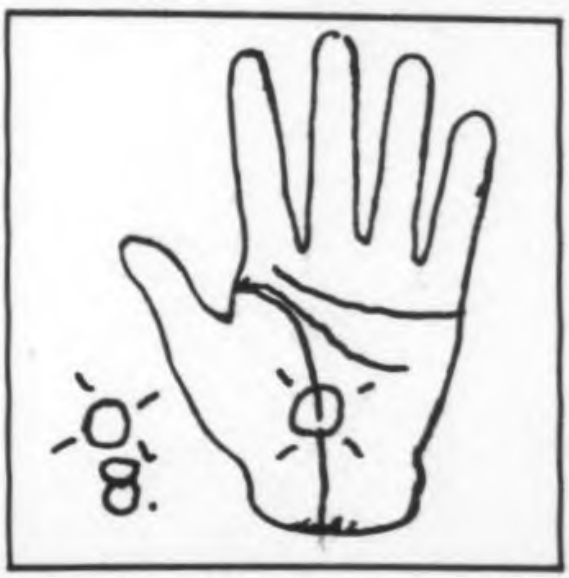

3.


4.


5.


6.


7.


8.

points up or down, the good fortune comes later in life.

Fig. 2. THE FLAG, the mark of a person who has great strength of character, indicates an individual who will deliver a special message to the world.

Fig. 3. THE TREE with its upward-branching lines is an important sign. Present in the hands of most successful people, it may be part of a main line, such as the fate line running up the center of the palm.

Fig. 4. THE SWASTIKA is considered an all-round lucky charm.

Fig. 5. THE CRESCENT MOON indicates a gentle nature and psychic powers. It is also the mark of those with honored positions in society.

Fig. 6. THE LOTUS, a fairly rare sign found on the hands of famous people, indicates that one may go from rags to riches. It appears under the ring finger.

Fig. 7. THE BOW is the mark of a keen mind. The hands of rich and famous people bear this sign.

Fig. 8. THE SUN in your palm is the luckiest sign of all. It means great good fortune.



SIXTH-CENTURY TOWN FOUND IN USSR

SOVIET NEWS agency Tass reports that a Sixth-Century town has been found under the sand dunes of the Kysylkum Desert in Soviet Usbekistan. Among objects found so far are gold jewelry and some undecipherable writing. The leader of an expedition of archaeologists from the regional academy of science said the Arab historian Makdisi had written in the 10th Century that this southern part of the desert was "a land of a thousand cities." Six old settlements have already been found in the area.



THE POTATO EATERS

BRITONS beat the Irish in the potato-eating league in 1982, consuming an average of 233 pounds of potatoes each. The Irish came in second, munching their way through 218 pounds per head. The French and the Germans shared third place with 165 pounds.



A NOT-SO-PERFECT HUSBAND

AN EAST German woman divorced her husband because he helped so much around the house. The Leubben resident told the court at first she considered him "a dream of a husband" because he did everything perfectly—cooking, baking, housecleaning, shopping, taking care of the baby, even washing windows.

"But after a while it drove me mad," she told the court. "What was left for me to do?"



ILL FEELING

ACCORDING to a report from England the new medical correspondent for London's *Daily Mail* is John Illman.

TRUE MYSTIC EXPERIENCES

FATE will pay $10.00 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, 500 Hyacinth Pl., 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.

BELOVED . . .

By Laurie Howell

ON MARCH 8, 1983, my mother Pauline Howell of Lake Grove, N.Y., awoke to tell me she had dreamed that she was buying a huge bleeding heart inscribed "Beloved—." She couldn't make out whose name followed that word.

My mother was not well. She was suffering from severe diabetes complicated by heart disease.

The next day at 5:45 P.M. Mother was sitting at the kitchen table; I was busy preparing dinner in the kitchen and my daughter was sitting near the back door watching the stray cat we often feed. Suddenly we all heard a single knock at the door.

When my daughter went to see who it was, she found no one there. I went to check for myself. As I was walking toward the door, I noticed that the cat was eating calmly. If anyone had been nearby, the animal, which didn't like people, would have behaved differently.

"Maybe it's the knock of death for me," Mother said. She died the following morning at 6:50.



Laurie Howell

At the head of her casket was a huge bleeding heart. It was inscribed "Beloved Mother."—*Lake Grove, N.Y.*

TEETER

By Lowber Tiers

I DON'T remember the exact moment it started, that strange, nagging feeling urging me to return home. At first it was just an uneasy thought in the back of my mind. I kept putting it aside. But

the feeling returned. Finally I could continue no further.

I could find no reason for this unexplainable urge to disrupt my trip. I had been only seven months photographing my way through Central America, Venezuela and now Colombia. I had gone to a lot of trouble and expense to get my visas for other countries. I had assignments from my photo agent in New York and had intended to travel all the way around South America.

Seven months out of the country was not a long time for me, since I had been out of the country for up to four years at a time. My father was not well but he had not been in good health for years. The rest of the family were okay as far as I knew. I had seen Teeter Click, my younger sister, her husband and two young children off for an army post in Germany shortly before I left home. I planned to join them there for Christmas.

Teeter and I had always been close. When we worked at different jobs in New York City, sometimes I would lift up the telephone to phone her and she, having just dialed, would be already on the other end of the line without a single ring. When we talked with each other we rarely had to finish a sentence because we already knew what the other was going to say. We were less than two years apart in age and had rarely been separated until I went to college for a year. We shared an apartment the year she graduated from school. Later when she went to Philadelphia to work and I stayed in New York to do photography, we spent most of the little money we had on phone calls and trips back and forth to see each other. When she decided to move to New York, we had an apartment there together until she went overseas with the American Red Cross; while there she met her husband.

It was now July 1958 and I was in Bogota. I simply could not continue my trip. I decided to return to the United States, perhaps just for a couple of weeks, find out what my problem was, get it out of my system and come back to South America.

I first visited a brother and his family in Florida on the way to stay with friends in Connecticut. But I still felt this strange restlessness. I decided to visit my older sister and her husband who were spending the summer on Lake Champlain. I planned to stay with them over Labor Day, then continue to Cape Cod to visit my father and after that return to South America to complete my trip.

It was a bright sunny August 30, a Saturday, when the phone rang. It was a call from Germany. Teeter had leukemia and was going to be evacuated by plane to the States. I was too disturbed at the time to realize how fortunate it was that I had been with my older sister when the call came. Otherwise it would have been very difficult to locate me.

I took off for Washington to be with some military friends who were also very close to Teeter and her family. Through them I was able to find out when her scheduled plane would arrive from Germany.

On September 5 my friends drove me to Andrews Air Force Base to meet the plane. At the base they went to check the arrival but found that the plane had been delayed. I had the disturbing feeling that something was wrong.

I soon learned that my sister had died on the way across the ocean.

My life took a different turn from that moment on. I never returned to South America. I helped care for Teeter's two young children, who were five and seven years old, for over a year until my brother-in-law remarried.

I'll never know whether my sister was consciously or unconsciously trying to let me know what was happening or whether it was simply that because we were so close I knew something was wrong.

The very last Christmas present from Teeter was a pair of nylon socks that she had knitted especially for me, one of the few pairs she ever knitted. Those socks have been with me on all my travels. Although I never went back to South America, I did continue to travel, to Africa, the Middle East, Russia, Mongolia and other areas of the world.

There have been other incidents since her death. On my birthday something unusual or special always occurs. One year it was finding my only four-leaf clover in Florida. Another time a little climbing rose bloomed for the first and only time. I feel that I have been receiving special messages and gifts from Teeter.—*Vero Beach, Fla.*

PSYCHIC LINK

By William Kinkead

MOST parents know something of what I'm about to express. Apart from the physical link between parent and child, there often is a psychic relationship which is far more profound. This psychic connection has been an immeasurably important factor in my life and the lives of my children.

On January 20, 1970, my youngest daughter Kimberle was born. She had severe bronchial problems at birth which developed into pneumonia while she was still in the hospital. She was in an incubator for some time before my wife Christine and I were allowed to take her to our Southern California home. Once at home she still required special attention. Because of the complications in her lungs, we had to keep her head elevated at all times so no mucous could flow down her throat and choke her. Needless to say, we were constantly on our toes. I spent hours beside her crib looking down at her strained yet happy face as it changed expressions during the varied levels of her labored breathing.

I'll never forget a Sunday evening in early May. We had placed Kimberle in her crib upstairs, elevated her head slightly and watched her fall asleep before going downstairs to watch television in the living room. About 20 minutes later Christine went into the kitchen to get us something to eat. As I sat on the couch watching a commercial a sudden panic stung my nerve endings. A quick surge of dread instantly filled me. Not understanding what was happening, I closed my eyes and shook my head. With the last shake I had a clear vision of Kimberle's face; it was blue. The vision left as quickly as it had come; only a few moments had passed.

Christine was on her way back into the living room when I yelled loudly, "Christine, it's Kim! She can't breathe!"

I heard my wife reply as I jetted up the stairs, "She's okay, honey. She's sleeping."

When I reached Kim, her face was

indeed blue from lack of oxygen although her head still lay on a higher level than the rest of her body. Panic-stricken, I picked her up by both feet with my right hand and, carrying her upside down, descended the stairs into the living room. Apparently each step I took down the stairs jarred her tiny body enough to dislodge the mucous from her windpipe. When I turned her right side up, she was okay. Before long her face took on its normal rosy color and she was once again breathing freely.

Kimberle would be dead today if she and I had not been psychically linked. It is my belief that some kind of energy or love from within her triggered the responding love within me. Whatever the unknown psychic connection that can exist between persons, Kim is alive today because of it.—*Carson City, Nev.*

FORESHADOWED FLOOD

By Susan Sheppard

IN THE spring of 1950 my grandmother Wanda, grandfather W. P. and mother Gwendolyn Chapman decided to take a drive in the lush green hills of the West Virginia's Doddridge County. My grandfather, who worked for the B & O Railroad, had been transferred to nearby Ritchie County and he and my grandmother always enjoyed returning to visit relatives and admire the rolling landscape near Smithburg where they had grown up.



Susan Sheppard

My grandmother had "special gifts" which many members of the family found more a source of embarrassment than of pride. Nevertheless, she was open and honest, eager to share with us her spiritual insights which in reality were premonitions of things to come. Unfortunately, most dealt with death or disaster. She also could actually "see" spirits of deceased relatives and often entered into prolonged conversations with them. This made most of the family quite uncomfortable.

Yet it was on this day in June 1950 that my grandmother's psychic powers proved most astonishing. The sky was bright blue and the clouds large and fleecy. As Grandfather drove through the warm countryside, his wife suddenly jolted upright and urged him to stop.

"Did you see that?" Grandmother cried.

"What?" My grandfather had seen nothing out of the ordinary but he knew better than to question his wife's visions. Whatever she saw no one else could see. I can only give you her description:

Over a small barn deep in a valley she saw a large ominous cloud spilling blackness and a torrential rain over the landscape.

She became quite agitated; she could not believe that the others could not see what she was seeing so clearly. And the vision stayed with her as they drove home.

That night a huge rainstorm hit the area. There had been no warning and the people were totally unaware of the scope of the flooding. About 40 persons lost their lives;* among them were many of my grandmother's close friends.

I will never forget her story of the flood. Until her death in 1972 she was convinced that the vision was a message from the spirit realm to prepare her for the terrible disaster that struck Doddridge County in 1950.
—Parkersburg, W. Va.

*According to the *Reader's Digest 1982 Almanac and Yearbook*, flooding rivers throughout the central part of West Virginia in June 1950 claimed 31 lives.

MY PROOF OF SURVIVAL

FATE will pay $10.00 for each story published in this department. Stories must deal with an actual experience proving spirit survival. They should be less than 300 words and typed double-spaced on one side of the paper. They may be mailed to FATE Survival Editor, 500 Hyacinth Pl., Highland Park, Ill. 60035. Manuscripts must show author's name and address and include a stamped self-addressed return envelope.

EVERYTHING OKAY!

By Juanita Arnsmeyer

MY MOTHER Frances Arnsmeyer died 10 years ago of a sudden massive heart attack. We all know that our parents will not always be with us but when death comes suddenly we often are not prepared for it.

Our family went through the usual mourning period and then we picked up our lives and went on as usual. However, early on a Sunday morning in July 1972 I saw my mother again!

I remember waking abruptly before sunrise; it was still dark in my bedroom. But there, right in front of my bed, my mother appeared. She was visible from the waist up, dressed in a white robe of



Juanita Arnsmeyer

some sort. What impressed me most is that she glowed and looked younger than when she had died at the age of 71. Now she looked to be around 35 years old; the gray had disappeared from her dark hair and the wrinkles that had lined her face were gone. She was smiling.

We exchanged no words. It seemed we communicated by telepathy. Her spiritual arms were around me in a loving hug. All I could think of was how I missed her and tears came to my eyes. Along with her loving embrace, these words were impressed upon my mind, "Juanita, everything is okay!"

Mom was a very religious person and a Lutheran; I wanted to know if she had seen Jesus. I was puzzled when she shook her head, "No, not yet but I am happy." She seemed radiant and joyous. Her last message to me was "I love you" and then she was gone.

I wept for a long time, so happy was I to see my mother joyful in her new state of existence. I will never forget this experience; I know now that there is nothing to fear in death and indeed there is life hereafter!—*St. Louis, Mo.*

NIGHT ATTACK

By Mary Littleford

ONE NIGHT in the spring four years ago, my husband John and I had gone to bed around 11 o'clock and I had fallen into a deep sleep from which I suddenly awoke with a start. I felt cold and thought this was the reason I found myself awake in the middle of the night. Shivering, I pulled the covers up to my chin and checked the time. It was 3:00 A.M.

It was then I became aware of a strange glow in the room. Sitting up in bed, I braced myself for whatever was coming. The light seemed to be approaching from a far corner of the bedroom. I remember wondering why the cold and the light didn't disturb my husband John. I felt as if I couldn't move. My eyes were riveted on the light. The cold was becoming unbearable and my teeth began to chatter. In the corner the glow became diffused and a foglike aura now surrounded a shape.

The light and the shape moved toward the bed and I found I was looking into the face of my father. He stood at the foot of my bed and held out his hand to me. An unearthly voice came from his mouth. "I'm cold," he said over and over. "May I come and stay with you? It's so cold where I am now." He then put his hand down by his side and emitted a low moan and the final words, "The pain in unbearable."

"You can stay here," I said. "I'll help you. It's warm here and I'll take away the pain."

But he was fading back into the corner. The light was growing dim and the fog seemed to drift out of the cracks in the walls. I called, asking him to stay. I began to sob and reach out toward the light. But the last bit of light left the room and hysterically I shook my husband awake.

John calmed me, assuring me I had had a bad dream, nothing more. It was beginning to seem unreal to me also. I convinced myself it had been a dream and somehow drifted off into a fitful sleep.

I was jolted awake by the ringing of the telephone. It was my mother Florence Raubinger, calling from Del Ray Beach, Fla. "Your father has had a heart attack," she said. "The pains started about three this morning."

I flew to Florida the very next day and stayed approximately four weeks. During this time my father had quadruple bypass surgery and recovered to find he felt better than he had in years.—*Cambridge, Mass.*

"GOD GAVE US MEMORY . . ."

By Celia R. Cullom

SHE WAS afraid to die and I was afraid to let go. My mother Bessie Rothberg was 91 years old and fighting like a tiger for every breath.

She had been the prototypical Jewish mother, feisty, overprotective, domineering—admonishing even God to make sure He did His work. Although she was a deeply religious woman, somehow she could never bring herself to talk about death and pretended she couldn't hear questions about it. Changing the subject was another ploy. Then in her final week of life in Kansas City's Menorah Hospital, as she drifted in and out of consciousness, she brought up the topic herself.

"If I don't make it," she said at one point, "remember that we'll be together in heaven."

When I didn't respond quickly enough, she rose to a sitting position and gave me her fiercest glare. "Do you always have to have proof for everything?"

The congestive heart failure took its toll and she slipped away July 10, 1983. She was buried on a hill next to my father and when the rabbi intoned the beautiful 121st Psalm—"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help"—he captured the essence of my mother. Her answer to most of life's problems had been, "God will take care of us."



Celia R. Cullom

Despite my profound belief in a merciful omnipotent Creator, I had always accepted death as the end of life. We are born, we live, we die. We cannot comprehend the ways of the Almighty. Maybe my mother was right; maybe I always demanded proof; maybe my faith was limited.

Then began the series of events that made me realize death is not the end but the beginning and I have no doubt as to who instigated the "proof."

The day after the funeral my daughter-in-law Debra, a college student in Kansas City, was studying in the living room of her apartment with her dog Zeke resting at her feet. A gentle animal, part terrier, part mutt, Zeke never makes waves. But suddenly that afternoon with no provocation, he jumped to his feet, his hackles rose, and he began a fierce barking. Glaring at an empty wall, he continued his explosive cries for 10 minutes and would not be calmed. Finally exhausted, the dog sank to his haunches inside the entrance to the bedroom, refusing to reenter the living room. When Debra related this incident, I dismissed it as the antics of

a neurotic dog. Only later did I remember my mother's distrust and dislike of dogs which stemmed from a frightening encounter with a German shepherd she had had as a child.

The next day I accompanied my sister Marian Stolov to the Jewish Geriatric Center where Mother had been a resident to collect her belongings. We performed the task mechanically, Marian bagging the clothing while I removed pictures from the walls and emptied the dresser. In the top drawer of the dresser I found Mother's Bible and alongside it a self-winding clock. To my astonishment, the clock had stopped at 3:40 P. M., the exact minute of Mother's death!

Still more "proof" awaited me when I returned to Orlando, Fla. From the airport I shared a cab with a woman whose apartment was on the way to my home. The cabdriver pulled into the darkened parking lot of her complex and as he emerged to help with her baggage, I glanced out the open door and was startled to see a candle glowing in a nearby apartment window with what appeared to be a white figure hovering over it. I suddenly remembered it was Friday night and my eyes misted. How well I remembered Mother lighting her Sabbath candles. As the cab pulled away I turned completely around so that I could look out the back window. I watched the glowing candle until the apartment complex was completely out of sight.

A serene, tranquil feeling swept over me. I could almost hear Mother's voice: "Proof! You want proof? Okay, I'll give you proof." I believe she had done everything she could to communicate the thought that there is a dimension beyond our mortality, that what we call death is simply turning a page.

William Lyon Phelps wrote, "God gave us memory so that we might have roses in December." And also, I have learned, our memories are the source of immortality, the survival of death.—*Orlando, Fla.*



STIR IN AN AIRPORT

AN ISLAMIC holy man from Pakistan created a stir at London's Heathrow Airport when he presented a passport listing his birth date as December 13, 1823, according to Associated Press. That would make him 160 years old in 1983, more than 1½ centuries.

Airline and immigration officials crowded around Sayed Abdul Mabood. When his birthday was questioned by TWA staff, his traveling companion Amir Sultan Malik told them: "There is no doubt about it. The date of birth is absolutely genuine."

The holy man wore a long gray beard and an Arab headdress; he sat in a wheelchair during the stopover Wednesday, August 17, 1983, on a flight to Chicago.

Questioned further, Malik said Mabood has 14 sons and more than 200 grandchildren and the secret of his longevity is "faith."



By Christopher Bloom

NEAR DEATH AND OUT OF THE BODY

Does this medical scientist's pioneering research irrefutably prove that we survive bodily death?

WHEN Raymond Moody brought the phenomenon of the near-death experience to public attention in 1975, the skeptics quickly put up their guard. They argued that such "fantasies" were inconsequential.

They had a harder time dealing with University of Connecticut psychologist Kenneth Ring who demonstrated a few years later that these episodes are commonly reported by people who have survived clinical death.* Now the skeptics argued that these vivid out-of-body experiences were either hallucinations caused by lack of oxygen to the brain or sophisticated episodes of depersonalization through which the experiencers try to deny what is happening to them.

Finally, however, the skeptics are going to have to admit defeat, for new evidence documenting the near-death experience has come to light, data that can't be explained away by any catchall psychological or neurophysiological theory. This documentation has been accumulated by Dr. Michael Sabom, a pleasant, soft-spoken cardiologist associated with the Atlanta Veterans' Administration Medical Center who also serves as an assistant professor of medicine at Emory University.

Sabom has been investigating the NDE since May 1976 and completed his major research project in 1981. At first he was primariiy interested in reports filed by cardiac patients at the hospitals in which he worked but soon began pursuing reports from other sources. He eventually completed 116 interviews. He was singularly impressed when he found that some of his cardiac patients and other witnesses actually *watched* their operations or resuscitations during their NDEs. It struck him that many of these informants had seen and accurately described events that were well beyond the medical knowledge of the average layman. This first came to Sabom's attention in 1977 soon after he initiated his research project.

A 52-year-old night watchman, a Floridian with a history of heart problems, was admitted to the University of Florida's medical center in November 1977 for cardiac catheterization and

*See "Near-Death Visions of the Future" by Kenneth Ring, December 1982 FATE.

subsequent surgery. Sabom was still in training at the hospital at the time and was able to do a complete follow-up on the case. The patient had undergone an NDE during a previous operation and experienced a second out-of-body experience in January 1978 during open-heart surgery.

The watchman's NDE was fairly typical. He reported that he lost consciousness during the operation but was now viewing the entire proceedings from a point about two feet above his body. From this vantage point he could look right down at what was happening. He described the sensation as "like I was another person in the room." He watched the two doctors work on him and stitch him up after the operation. His unique out-of-body perspective enabled him to make detailed observations of the surgery itself. On two occasions during the operation he saw one of the doctors plunge a syringe into his heart, once on each side. He also noticed that a sheet covered his head and was surprised that the lighting in the room was dim and diffused.

The watchman was also surprised by the appearance of his heart during surgery.

"They had all kinds of instruments stuck in the aperture," he recalled when Sabom interviewed him. "I think they're called clamps, clamps all over the place. I was amazed that I had thought there would be blood all over the place but there really wasn't much blood . . . And the heart doesn't look like I thought it did. It's big. And this is after the doctor had taken little pieces of it off. It's not shaped like I thought it would be. My heart was shaped something like the continent of Africa . . . Bean-shaped is another way you would describe it. Maybe mine is odd-shaped . . . [The surface was] pinkish and yellow. I thought the yellow area was fat tissue or something. Yucky, kind of. One general area to the right or left was darker than the rest instead of all being the same color."

The watchman became engrossed in observing the open-heart surgery and listened as his doctors discussed the procedures they were contemplating or implementing. They discussed a bypass, examined a swollen vein and twisted his heart around the better to examine it. The patient even noticed that one of the physicians was wearing patent-leather shoes and another had a small blood clot under one fingernail.

Intrigued by this report and his interview with the watchman, Sabom obtained the files on the case and read the surgeon's report. He found that the patient's description represented an amazingly accurate layman's description of the procedures used during his surgery. A self-retaining retractor had been used, the patient had suffered an aneurysm which discolored part of his heart and the heart had been twisted around during the procedure. Even the syringe he had seen inserted had played a role; it had been used twice to remove air from his heart.

The technical detail included in the watchman's report particularly impressed the Georgia physician. It seem unlikely that an unsophisticated layman could be familiar with such detail and this made it seem that the NDE might represent a more significant phenomenon than most doctors had hitherto considered it to be.

Dr. Sabom's curiosity was further

piqued when he studied the case of a Missouri woman who had undergone lumbar disk surgery in 1972. She too had witnessed her operation while out of her body and later described it accurately. A cogent aspect of this case involved the chief resident's participation in the operation when the woman had been led to believe that her physician-in-attendance would be playing the crucial role. Only later did she learn that the chief resident had directed the surgery and although she had never met him, she recognized him immediately when she saw him during her recovery.

With such cases as these on file, Sabom soon found himself actively pursuing near-death survivors' reports in which they describe the medical procedures used during their operations and resuscitations. These reports have come primarily from patients in cardiac arrest, Sabom's own speciality. He believes that, if cardiac arrest patients' observations prove accurate, these very special cases will do much to document the authenticity of the near-death experience. The cardiologist has now collected some 32 cases of individuals who saw their own bodies during their NDEs and six cardiac arrest victims in particular who have recalled specific and accurate details of their resuscitations. This isn't a great number but their quality makes up for their sparse number.

One case Dr. Sabom investigated was that of a 60-year-old housewife who had been hospitalized for back strain. Sitting in her hospital bed, she apparently had a heart attack and lost consciousness. Regaining consciousness moments later, she fould herself at the side of her bed watching the efforts being made to revive her. A nurse rushed to her inert body and a team of attendants began working on her, punching her chest, inserting an IV, giving her an injection, checking for a pulse and examining her eyes. While out of her body the patient also noted the equipment the attendants were using. She saw what she called a "breathing machine" and "a cart with a whole bunch of stuff on it." This cart stood beside the one bearing the IV equipment. She also overheard the doctor tell the nurse that she (the patient) must be rushed to the intensive care unit and the woman watched as her belongings were taken from drawers and stuffed into bags and suitcases.

When Sabom interviewed this woman, he concentrated on her description of the equipment cart and asked if the doctors had taken any instruments from it. The woman replied that they hadn't but added, " . . . the breathing thing they put on my face. It was just a cone-shaped thing that went over my nose. When the doctor was pushing on my chest, they had this on me. They didn't leave it on very long . . . . I guess they thought it was useless."

To validate this patient's experience, Sabom contacted the hospital where she had been treated and read the report on the emergency. The record confirmed everything the woman had reported, although she had never had access to the hospital report. He concluded that her description of the cardiac resuscitation was "extremely realistic from a medical point of view: the starting of an IV, external cardiac message, the administration of oxygen by mask, the checking of carotid pulsations and pupillary response and the gathering

and labeling of personal effects."

Sabom didn't stop there. He was also curious about the woman's claim that she had been given an injection right at the start of the cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) attempt. The hospital's medical report documented this as well: the patient had been given an injection of concentrated glucose in case her coma was a result of low blood sugar.

An even more vivid description of a cardiac arrest resuscitation came from a 46-year-old laborer who lived in a small town in Georgia. He had gone into cardiac arrest after a heart attack in January 1978. He was hospitalized at the time and while out of his body he watched the steps taken to save his life. Sabom interviewed this man in January 1979 when the events were still fresh in his mind. The patient had vivid memories not only of the NDE but also of the events that led up to it.

"I thought I was getting sick," he told the cardiologist at the beginning of their conversation. "I got up on the side of the bed and heaved—and that's the last thing I remember until I was floating right up on the ceiling."

The patient then saw his body lying in bed; its sides were still up. He saw his wife and his doctor there and a third person whom he didn't recognize. His wife was crying but the laborer's attention was focused not on her but on the attempts being made to save him. He watched passively as a nurse with a defibrillation machine placed the pads on his body ("them shocker things," he called them). His body jumped almost a foot when the electrical charge was sent through his body and the shock aborted his out-of-body experience. He felt as if he had been forced back to his body and pushed into it.

Sabom pressed the man for more details about the use of the defibrillation paddles which had been so instrumental in saving his life. The man explained that he had seen the nurse rubbing the pads and that she had turned on the current by flipping a switch at the right-hand side of the apparatus to which the paddles were connected. Everyone was warned to stand clear.

Once again Sabom checked hospital records to document the accuracy of the patient's report. The cardiologist was especially impressed by the patient's description of the defibrillation paddles because he had mentioned certain procedures associated with their use which are familiar only to persons with medical training. The paddles are spread with a lubricant and routinely touched together, just as the patient said, to spread it evenly for maximum skin contact. The patient had also correctly designated just where on his body the paddles had been placed. The patient had seen his weeping wife in the room and Sabom also interviewed her about the emergency. She verified her husband's account, saying that she had seen him vomit right before he became unconscious. She had started to cry only *after* she thought her husband was unaware of what was happening.

The patient's wife was flabbergasted by the whole affair—especially when her husband told her what he had seen after he had apparently lost consciousness. His recollections, she told Sabom, matched what she recalled of the scene and the attempts to get his heart beating again. "I thought if you were unconscious, you really didn't know what's going on," she said.

THROUGH these investigations, Dr. Sabom became more and more convinced that the near-death experience cannot be dismissed as hallucination or a dream—but he was plagued by a lingering doubt. Could these patients be fantasizing or dreaming about what a cardiac resuscitation might entail? Since some of his star witnesses had undergone more than one heart attack, he considered it a real possibility that they might know something about cardiac resuscitation from reading, exposure to television shows such as *Medical Center*, or exposure to CPR techniques and medical equipment through earlier hospital experiences. Most of his witnesses denied having any such knowledge but Sabom was far from sure that they couldn't have picked it up quite unintentionally.

To investigate this possibility, Sabom began to interview seasoned cardiac patients about their familiarity with standard CPR techniques. Some of these patients had undergone open-heart surgery, elective cardioversion* or heart attacks which entailed various forms of treatment. Most of them had at least had the opportunity to observe the use of standard cardiac monitors, defibrillators and other such equipment. Each patient was asked to imagine that he or she was watching a medical team reviving a heart arrest victim and to describe the procedure in as much detail as possible. These interviews were tape-recorded and then analyzed.

The results were nothing short of amazing. *Just about every one of the patients described the procedures incorrectly.*

*Cardioversion, an electrical shock given to a heart patient while he is seimiconscious, is used in cardiac resuscitation to regularize heart rhythm.

Their most common error reflected the widespread belief that mouth-to-mouth resuscitation would be attempted. It is rarely used in hospitals because more effective methods are readily available. The patients also tended to misunderstand the way a victim's air passage might be cleared and were confused about cardiac massage and electrical defibrillation. Only three of Sabom's control patients gave reasonably accurate descriptions of some CPR procedures but even these accounts were not precise. Sabom concluded that in general even seasoned heart patients have little idea of what is involved in reviving a cardiac arrest victim. Their conjectures, he noted, were certainly far less accurate than the accounts of those persons who have watched these procedures while out of their bodies. As a result Sabom doesn't hold with the idea that people who have experienced NDEs are only "dreaming" about their resuscitations or drawing their information from prior exposure to CPR techniques. "Some other explanation must be sought to explain these findings," he says.

The case of a retired air force pilot demonstrates the fact that medical observations made by near-death survivors can be incredibly detailed. The Florida airman had suffered a massive heart attack one day in 1973 and the next day, while recovering in a hospital, he went into cardiac arrest—apparently while he was asleep. He found himself standing beside his body as a team of attendants rushed into the room. His description of how they revived him contained extraordinary detail.

"The first thing they did," he said, "was put an injection into the IV, the

rubber gasket they have there for pushes. I was getting a lot of lidocaine . . . pushes because I had an arrhythmia. Then they lifted me up and moved me onto the plywood. That's when [the doctor] began to do the pounding on the chest and it didn't hurt, though it cracked a rib. I felt no pain."

Next came the administration of oxygen which the patient heard and saw accurately.

"They had oxygen on me before," he continued, "one of those little nose tubes, and they took that off and put on a face mask which covers your mouth and nose. It was a type of pressure thing. I remember instead of oxygen just being there it was hissing like under pressure. Seems someone was holding that thing most of the time."

He further described it as "sort of a soft plastic mask, light green color." It was attached to a hose leading to the oxygen. He also recalled the use of the defibrillator; he had watched its meter with rapt attention. The meter, he explained, was square with two needles. A nurse set one in a fixed position and the other moved up and down the scale. This second needle "seemed to come up rather slowly," he recalled. "It didn't just pop up like an ammeter or a voltmeter or something registering." The first needle remained preset and the patient described the other rising higher and higher on the meter before each successive jolt of electricity was applied to his body. He concluded his account with a detailed description of the defibrillator itself and the application of its paddles to his body.

Sabom was amazed by the pilot's account. His description of the CPR procedures was accurate and his account of the needles and their movement was uncannily precise, certainly beyond the scope of anyone who has not had personal experience with a defibrillator and has not been trained in its use. The meters on machines used in the 1970's did indeed have two needles. One remained stable; it was used to preselect the amount of electricity to be discharged. The other needle indicated that the machine was being charged up to the selected amount and thus it moved gradually up the meter. More modern models, designed without the meter, are now in use but the pilot's recollections were totally consistent with the machine in use at the time of his cardiac arrest.

Is it possible that the pilot had seen such an instrument in operation at some previous time? Sabom thinks this is unlikely. The patient denied having any familiarity with the apparatus and he tended to downplay the importance of his experience. To this day the former cardiac patient insists it was not unusual!

"It hasn't changed my thinking about life, death, the hereafter or anything else," he told Sabom.

The former air force pilot has no vested interest in using his experience to prove anything and it therefore seems unlikely that he would deliberately lie about it to make it sound impressive.

* * *

THE CASES summarized here represent only a few of many similar incidents Dr. Sabom has collected. These incidents all point to the fact that persons who undergo NDEs during cardiac arrest—or any other medical emergency—really are aware of what is happening to them, what procedures are being used to revive them, who is

caring for them and what is being said by the attending medical staff. Subsequent research by Sabom and his colleagues has also demonstated that the technical level of what patients see and hear is well above the base-level information most people have about standard CPR techniques.

Dr. Sabom's research is probably the most important line of evidence showing that the NDE cannot be dismissed as a quirk of the brain, hallucination resulting from lack of oxygen or some obscure psychological anomaly. Sabom also rejects the possibility that these reports can be accounted for as subconscious fabrications, endorphic release in the brain, temporal lobe seizures or any other physiological manifestation. All the evidence suggests that these events are precisely what they are reported to be: the release of awareness from the body resulting from a close brush with death.

Could the NDE represent the first stages of the release of the soul from the body? Dr. Sabom isn't sure. "As a physician and scientist," he concludes in his book *Recollections of Death,* "I cannot, of course, say for sure that the NDE is indicative of what is to come at the moment of *final* bodily death. These experiences were encountered during waning moments of life. Those [persons] reporting these experiences were *not brought back from the dead* but were rescued from a point *very close to death.* Thus, in the strictest sense, these experiences are encounters of *near*-death and not of death itself. Since I suspect that the NDE is a reflection of a mind-brain split, I cannot help wondering why such an event should occur at the point of near-death. Could the mind which splits apart from the physical brain be, in essence, the 'soul,' which continues to exist after final bodily death, according to some religious doctrines?"



FRUITFUL FEBRUARY

By Ida M. Pardue

VALENTINES in February? Not in the ancient world—where the importance of the month sacred to Februus, an Etruscan god, was fruitfulness. And to the Romans it was a "month of purification."

February really means "purification." It comes from the Latin *februum*, "to atone" or "to purify by sacrifice." And that was exactly the purpose of the popular Roman holiday called the Lupercalia which was held each February 15 until Christianity edged it out.

After goats and a dog had been sacrificed to Faunus (or Lupercus), a half-man, half-goat fertility god, priests donned the skins of the slain animals, then ran around one of Rome's sacred hills, the Palatine, carrying goat-hide strips called *februa*.

Women who wanted to become pregnant turned their backs as the priests came by or held out their hands to receive lashes with the *februa*. This February rite insured fruitfulness for people, crops and cattle.

Whether or not it was successful, the Lupercalia disappeared—first transmuted in A.D. 494 into the Catholic Feast of Purification and later, into St. Valentine's Day. But February is still with us and still means "month of purification."

UFOs STILL UNEXPLAINED

A scientist takes a hard look at the evidence—and concludes that some UFO reports will remain forever mysterious.

Part I

By Bruce Maccabee

IN HIS BOOK *UFOs: The Public Deceived* (1983) Philip J. Klass claims that "roughly" 98 percent of all UFO reports are honest misidentifications of known phenomena and the remainder are hoaxes. In my review of the book* I wrote that I might be willing to believe Klass if I had found satisfactory his explanations for puzzling UFO cases. My analysis revealed, however, that his "explanations" did not fit the facts.

What is a "satisfactory explanation"? Before I answer that question, I would like to introduce a new term to ufology: TRUFO, or TRue UFO. A TRUFO is the phenomenon that gives rise to a UFO sighting which cannot be satisfactorily explained because the available information contradicts mundane explanations and which, in the opinion of the sighting analyst, *could not be explained in terms of known phenomena even if further information about the sighting were obtained.* The report of such a sighting is a TRUFO report. In order to determine whether or not it is a TRUFO report, the analyst needs all available information on witness reliability, on the physical characteristics of the reported phenomenon and on the context of the sighting (what the witnesses were doing before and after, what the weather conditions were, and so on).

After the investigation and analysis are completed, the analyst will be left with one of four possible results:

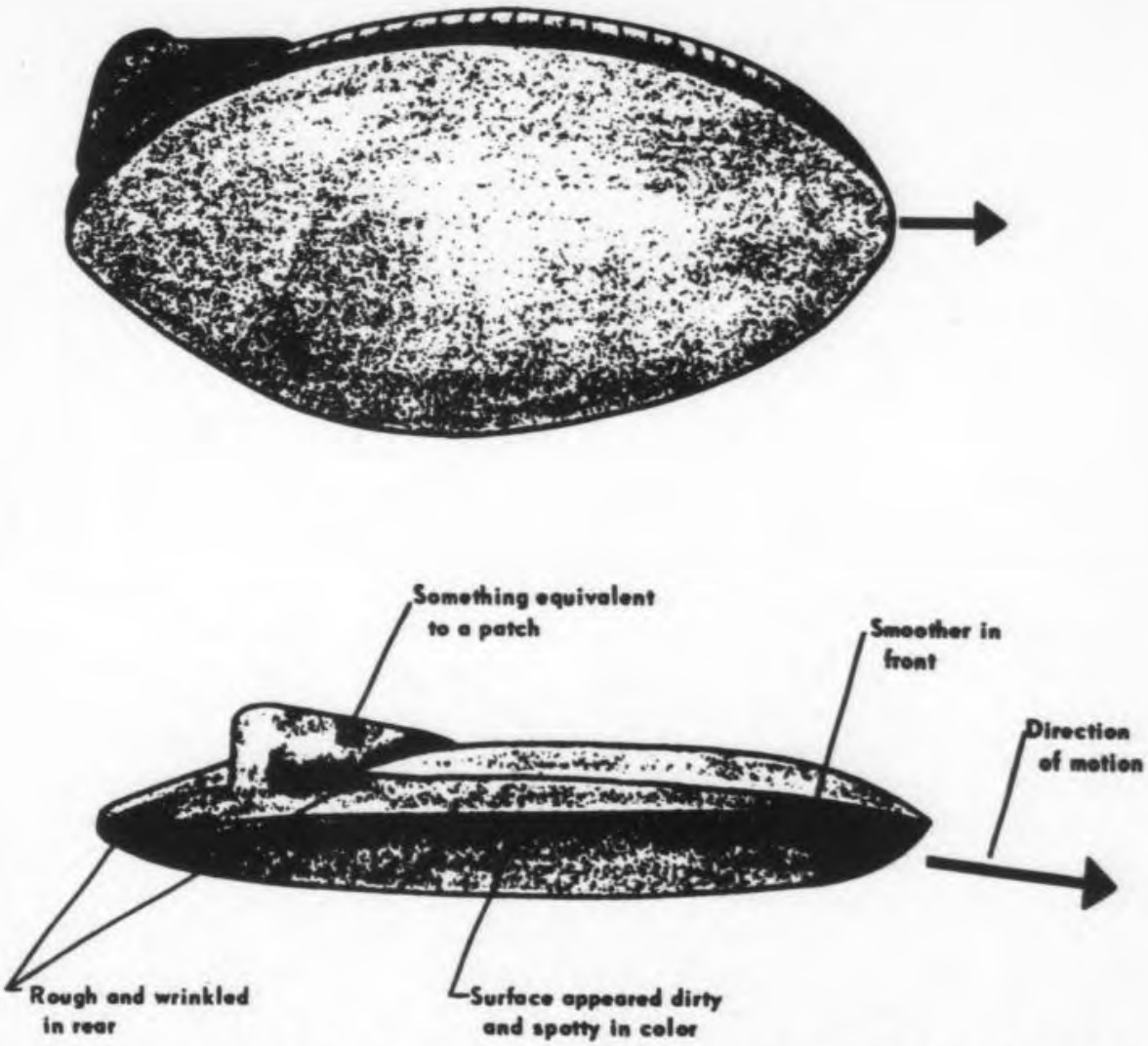
(1) He can either identify the phenomenon or explain the sighting in some other way (hoax, delusion).

(2) He cannot definitely identify the phenomenon but at the same time the sighting information does not contradict one or more possible explanations. In short, the sighting contains *insufficient information* (I.I.) for positive identification.

(3) Although the available information contradicts all suggested mundane explanations, he cannot rule out the possibility that further investigation will lead to an explanation.

(4) The available information is so

*"The Wrath of Philip J. Klass," November 1983 FATE.



On May 24, 1949, two aeronautical engineers saw a "pancake"-shaped object flying over Rogue River, Oreg., and produced these sketches of the craft. Scientists who have analyzed this report consider it one of the most credible sightings in UFO history.

specific in contradicting suggested explanations that in the analyst's view any further information that might be acquired would also contradict all suggested explanations.

Result (3) recalls J. Allen Hynek's definition of a UFO: a phenomenon that remains unexplained *after investigation*. Hynek's definition has been largely accepted by the scientifically-oriented portion of the UFO community. But generally speaking, the term "UFO" has been used so loosely that it has come to mean anything "flying" through the sky which the witness cannot identify. This in fact was the definition of UFO adopted by the Condon Committee.*

Hynek's definition has a serious flaw: it does not specifically address the question of whether or not a sighting which is currently unexplained could be explained in the future if more information were available. The failure to

*Edward U. Condon (ed.), *Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects* (1969), page 9.

address this question in the definition has allowed debunkers to claim that there always will be unexplained sightings because there always will be sightings that do not have sufficient information for a definite explanation —that is, there will always be "I.I." sightings.

So anyone considering the UFO problem must confront this issue: Are there any sightings that have such credible, accurate information that (1) it is impossible to find a satisfactory explanation (in terms of known phenomena) based on the information available at the time of the analysis and (2) the available information strongly suggests that any further information will also contradict mundane explanations? Or—to put it more succinctly—are there any sightings that are not explainable and are not I.I. sightings? The answer is yes.

As we search for a satisfactory explanation for a UFO report, we must first divide the available information into "bits" or *characteristics*. We then compare these characteristics with the corresponding characteristics of the proposed "candidate" explanations. If all of the characteristics of some candidate explanation match the sighting characteristics, the analyst can claim to have explained the case. If some of the characteristics don't match or if it is necessary to ignore certain characteristics to force a match, then the candidate explanation is not satisfactory.

For example, suppose that the characteristics of a sighting were the following: *four adult witnesses* saw a *bright white light* in the *east* in the *early morning before sunrise*. The first characteristic lends considerable credibility to the sighting. The astute reader will realize that the next four characteristics of the sighting are also basic characteristics of the planet Venus when it appears as the "morning star." Therefore the analyst might tentatively identify the light as Venus.

Now let us suppose that upon further investigation the analyst learned of another characteristic of the sighting: it took place in June. It might also be that Venus that month was the evening star, not the morning star. In this case the Venus explanation would have to be rejected because not all of the characteristics match. Of course the Venus explanation could be "forced" to agree with the sighting if the analyst ignored the claim that the sighting was in June and assumed instead that it was in July, when Venus had become the morning star. But to justify rejection of the accuracy of the month of the sighting the analyst would have to ignore another of the sighting characteristics, namely the credibility implied by the presence of four adult witnesses.

To sum up, a candidate explanation is "satisfactory" if it obeys these rules: (a) all of the characteristics of the candidate explanation agree with the corresponding characteristics of the sighting and (b) none of the available sighting information will have to be rejected in order to satisfy rule (a). A further test of an explanation is to determine whether or not it obeys physical laws. The test is embodied in rule (c): a conventional explanation must obey conventional physics.

In order to prove that a UFO report cannot be explained, the analyst must try all possible candidate explanations

and show that they are unsatisfactory. Then the analyst must show that the information in the report eliminates the likelihood that any satisfactory explanation will emerge even if further information should become available.

Now let us consider several UFO sightings for which conventional explanations have been suggested. Are these explanations satisfactory—or are the phenomena described in the reports TRUFOs?

May 24, 1949: Rogue River near Gold Beach, Oreg.

Five adults were fishing in a boat several miles north of the mouth of the Rogue River in Curry County, Oregon. About 5:00 P.M. one of them spotted a shiny object in the east. He pointed it out to his companions, two of whom were aeronautical engineers. The engineers had a chance to look at the object through eight-power binoculars which they shared. Each watched the object through the binoculars for about a minute. The entire sighting lasted between 2 1/2 and three minutes.

The witnesses who saw the object with the naked eye described it as a "round mirror" or "silver dollar." But through the binoculars other structural details became visible.

According to the first engineer, the object looked like a 50-cent piece (which has a milled edge) viewed from below and to one side. It appeared solid with no visible openings and had a slight fin on the upper trailing surface. The observer estimated the object to be about 30 feet in diameter and 5000 feet high. It turned on its vertical axis without banking. When first viewed through the binoculars, the object was

BRUCE MACCABEE, a physicist who works for the navy, is one of the world's most respected UFO investigators. Recently the editors of FATE asked Dr. Maccabee to review the case for UFOs from a scientist's point of view. The two-part article that begins in this issue is the result. It will be followed in later issues by an examination of a number of highly evidential UFO incidents, both famous and obscure, which comprise the case for UFO reality.

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moving slowly but it suddenly accelerated, departing at a speed comparable to that of a jet although there was no sound. No propeller was visible and the object left no exhaust in its wake.

The second engineer said that the object, which he also estimated to be about 30 feet in diameter, was pancake-shaped, perfectly flat on the bottom and somewhat thicker at the center with a small fin arising at "midship" and growing gradually higher toward the rear of the object. He reported it appeared to be made of a metal like aluminum. He could see no openings or protuberances other than the fin. As the object moved silently away, the engineer noticed that the trailing edge looked wrinkled or "dirty."

It is obvious from the amount of detail the engineers provided that they could see the object clearly and had plenty of time to think about what they were seeing. These descriptions were given, in independent interviews, to an air force investigator about a month after the sighting. The three other witnesses, in separate interviews, confirmed the sighting in all respects except that they hadn't seen as many details because they hadn't used the binoculars. The Battelle Memorial

Institute scientists and engineers whom the air force hired to study some 3000 sighting reports made between 1947 and 1952 picked this sighting as one of the 12 most detailed and credible.*

This clear, unambiguous report of a pancakelike flying craft leads us to conclude that either the witnesses saw a "real" UFO or they are pulling our legs. Which is it?

First, we should note that the witnesses did not seek publicity. They did not rush off to tell their story to the newspapers. In fact, there is no evidence that this case was mentioned anywhere outside official Air Force Office of Special Investigation (AFOSI) records—except, of course, for the brief mention in *Project Blue Book Special Report No. 14*. We will probably never know if the witnesses told anyone else because their names were removed before the air force records were released to the National Archives (where they are stored on microfilm). We do know, however, that the engineers reported this sighting to the security officer of the National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics (predecessor of NASA) at the Ames Research Laboratory (near San Francisco) where they worked. They made their report within two weeks or so of the sighting. Subsequently the engineers were each interviewed twice and the other witnesses were each interviewed once by AFOSI investigators.

These engineers worked on military projects related to aircraft research. They were well aware of the consequences of breaking security or of acting in an unreliable manner. If this was a hoax, they certainly wouldn't have reported it to the security establishment where they worked. The records of the investigation show that the AFOSI investigator checked with many persons who knew the engineers and who described them as reliable.

Although the AFOSI investigator rejected the hoax explanation, he proposed his own solution, which is now the official air force explanation. The investigator learned that "radar kites," balloons with radar reflectors attached, were launched twice each day from San Francisco, some 300 miles south-southeast of the sighting area. He speculated that one of these had drifted northward and caused the sighting.

I was immediately suspicious of this candidate explanation because of the differences in appearances between a "pancake" and a balloon with a radar reflector and also because of the reported maneuvers and speed of the object. I pursued the investigation a little further, securing weather records for the San Francisco area and for a location somewhat east of the sighting area. One "characteristic" of balloons, of course, is that they travel with the wind. I learned that on both May 23 (the day before the sighting) and May 24 the winds were blowing from the west (toward the east) at all altitudes where the balloon would have been. Thus the balloon could not have blown northward. Scratch the radar-kite explanation.

The detailed description contained in this report makes it impossible, in my opinion, to identify the phenomenon as anything mundane. Moreover, the action of the engineers in reporting directly to their security office makes it

*See *Project Blue Book Special Report No. 14* (1955), Case 10, page 86.

exceedingly difficult to believe the report is a hoax.

April 17, 1970: Mount Jackson, Va.

The major witness, a county official holding an elective office at the time of the sighting, wanted no publicity in connection with this sighting. But he did tell some close friends in Virginia government and eventually one of them informed the local Washington-area NICAP subcommittee. As a member of the subcommittee (since disbanded), I learned of the sighting. Unfortunately the press of other business kept me from investigating this sighting until May 1973, when I first traveled to the area and interviewed the witness.

I determined the date of the sighting by combining the witness' statement that it occurred on a clear Friday evening before the onset of daylight saving time with the area weather reports, which gave April 17 as the latest Friday to satisfy those conditions.

According to his account, the witness started home from work at about six o'clock on a "brilliantly clear" evening. As he was driving south along Route 11 from Woodstock toward Mount Jackson, he came to a place where the road was straight and he was facing south-southwest. Ahead of him he saw a black "dot" in the sky above the ridgeline of a distant mountain. It attracted his attention because "it didn't belong up in this perfectly clear sky." He continued to watch it during his 20-minute drive home. At first he thought it was a plane but it didn't seem to be moving. He came to another straight stretch in the road and found that again it appeared to be straight ahead of him.

A few miles farther on he stopped his car and watched the object for several minutes, still failing to detect any movement. When he arrived at his home in Mount Jackson, he used the overhead power wires as fixed reference markers to determine that the object was indeed not moving. He got his binoculars and invited his family out to observe the object.

He determined that the angular size of the object was about three times the angular size of the power wires that lay along his line of sight to the object (he "split" the object with the wires). A subsequent calculation revealed that the length of the object was therefore about one quarter of the angular size of the moon. The seven-power binoculars increased the angular size to about twice that of the full moon.

Now he was able to see details not visible without the binoculars. The object was shaped like a "thin" football, or rocket, with a pointed upper end and a pointed lower end. The surface was somewhat dark over the upper half and over a small portion near the lower end. The rest was shiny like aluminum. A sort of reddish-orange glow, which the witness thought might have been a reflection of the sun (which was setting in the west as he looked eastward), shone at the lower end.

Trailing outward from the lower end of the object was a white fog or vapor. This fog extended outward only a short distance, less than one-half the length of the object.

The witness and his family observed this object periodically until dark and it was lost to view around 8:00 P.M.

The major witness told me that he was not thoroughly convinced that he

had seen something unusual until the next day when he got a map and plotted his sighting lines from the positions on the road and from his home. When he found that these several sighting lines crossed, he realized that the object could not have been moving during all the time that he watched it; it had hovered motionless for about two hours. In my investigation I traveled the same road and observed that the alignments he had claimed were indeed accurate to within several degrees.

An analysis of the data in his report indicates that the object was about two miles southeast of his home at an altitude of about 4600 feet over a well-forested mountain which itself is about 2700 feet high (altitudes above sea level). The mountain is part of a chain of mountains within the Shenandoah valley. At that distance the length of the object would have been about 20 feet and the width would have been about four feet, perpendicular to the witness' line of sight.

I considered many possible explanations: insect, bird, plane, helicopter, balloon, kite, delusion and hoax. Because his first sighting of the object was from a distance of about 12 miles and because it was observed to be "perfectly" stationary with respect to stationary reference points (overhead wires), I immediately ruled out objects that cannot hover. I dismissed the delusion idea because other witnesses confirmed the sighting.

The remaining "candidate phenomena" were helicopter, balloon, kite and hoax. I ruled out the last because of the witness' government position, his request that his name not be used and the confirmatory testimony of his family. The helicopter hypothesis seemed unconvincing because the witness surely would have been able to identify the craft when he used binoculars, if not before.

I was left with balloon and kite as possible explanations. A balloon would rise continually and blow in the wind unless it were held down, so for the balloon hypothesis to work, a tether—i.e., a rope to the ground several thousand feet below—would have to be used. The same requirement for a tether would apply to a kite. I noted from the witness' account that the tilt of the object was such that its upper end was to the north and its lower end was to the south. But a kite, suspended by a wind from the south, would have its upper end to the south and its lower end to the north; otherwise the wind would push it downward. Furthermore, it is difficult to imagine a kite that would remain motionless in the wind for several hours.

The only remaining explanation was that the object was a tethered balloon with an extremely unusual shape. But this explanation has its problems as well, such as how the balloon could look like a narrow football pointed at each end. Even if the tether at the bottom could pull the balloon into a pointed shape at its bottom, the top of the balloon would be rounded, unless it were a *rigid* balloon. Even if it were rigid in a rocket shape, it is unlikely that in the rather weak breeze of the day it would have maintained a nearly 45-degree tilt. Instead, the tether at the bottom should make the balloon orient itself nearly vertically. And of course there would be no "fog" at the bottom.

But what if the witness suffered from poor memory and his description of the

object was inaccurate? I decided to test the accuracy of his recall. During my first interview with him I had him draw the object as he remembered it. He drew a rocket-shaped object. A year and a half later I visited him again and without showing him his first drawing, I asked him to redraw the object. Although the first time he had made a single drawing, this time he drew four illustrations in succession, each in turn more descriptive than the one before it but each having the main overall characteristic of a "stretched football" or double-ended rocket. His third and fourth drawings were nearly identical, varying only in the shape of the fog at the lower end of the object. The drawings prepared during my second visit agreed in all major respects with the drawing he made during my first visit.

I can only conclude that he was remembering what he saw and that he hadn't created a hoax drawing for my benefit during the first visit. To verify his ability to see the details he reported, I obtained, with his help, a report of his visual acuity from his optometrist. He wears glasses for close work but the optometrist said that "his uncorrected vision and with glasses has always been 20/20."

In 1974 I discussed this case with Phil Klass. He was "suspicious," he said, of the fact that the witness did not try to get closer to the motionless object. But the witness told me that he didn't know how far away it was, so he didn't try to get closer. He knew in any case that it would have been very difficult to get much closer because the forest beneath the object extended to the bottom of the mountain, not far from the witness' home, and travel would have been difficult. A suggestion was made that this was a tethered balloon used in logging but the forest service said no balloons (or kites) had ever been used in the area for any kind of logging work.

In my judgment, based on the information available, this sighting will never be satisfactorily explained.

This is Part I of a two-part article.

THE SINKING OF THE *CHRISTINE ANN*

By Dennis Ambrose

FIVE MILES off the southern New Jersey coast, in clear calm weather the *Christine Ann*, a 65-foot clam boat, sank so quickly that her three-man crew didn't have time to take to their automatically inflatable lifeboat.

Concluding a three-day clamming run, the *Christine Ann*'s captain called his port at 9:00 A. M. Friday, January 21, 1983, and gave his estimated arrival time as an hour later. When the clam boat did not appear, a Coast Guard search began. On Tuesday, January 25, a New Jersey State Police diving team found the lifeboat and soon thereafter the *Christine Ann* lying on her side in 48 feet of water off Brigantine, N. J. The bodies of the three crewmen were never recovered.

The boat's pilothouse had been destroyed and the booms, rigging and heavy steel clam cages on deck were severely damaged. The sides of the boat were intact. Whatever hit the *Christine Ann* came from above.

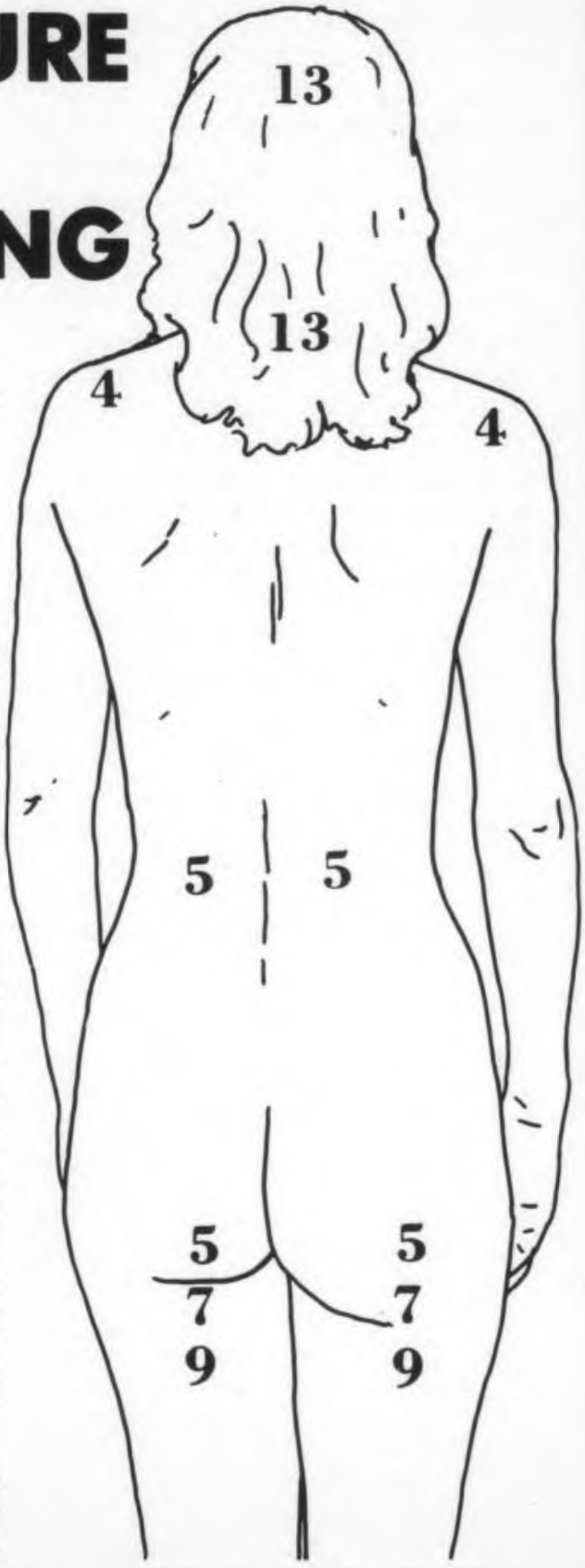
ACUPRESSURE FOR SELF-HEALING

Learn G-Jo (Chinese "first aid") to release the mysterious power in your fingertips.

By Michael Blate

ONE OF THE oldest and most effective natural healing techniques known to man is as much a mystery today as it was when first discovered thousands of years ago in ancient China. But mysterious as it is, you can apply its simple principles to your own life for relief of everyday aches and pains.

The technique is called "G-Jo"—which is the English approximation of the sound of the Chinese word meaning "first aid." G-Jo is simplified *acupressure*, a form of acupuncture without needles. Oriental doctors (who use this technique as a regular supplement to herbs, diet therapy and other methods of natural healing) explain that acupressure works through the body's "energy system." I can't say whether this is true but I can say that the technique works and works well. You can relieve and often heal nearly all but



The human body has more than 1200 known acupuncture points but only 116 of these qualify for G-Jo pressure.

the most grievous ailments using only the tip of your finger.

To promote this "self-health" technique, I appear regularly on radio and TV talk shows. Members of the audience are invited to call in—but only if they are suffering at that moment with an ache or similar discomfort. I give each caller specific instructions for finding and "triggering" the G-Jo point that best controls the ailing bodily area. Following my instructions, the caller finds and stimulates his or her acupressure point. Then—live, over the air—he nearly always reports that he has brought himself amazing instantaneous relief. I have appeared on more than 600 talk shows and the "success rate" among callers is higher than 97 percent.

There are no tricks or hypnosis involved. Nor am I doing "psychic healing" from afar. G-Jo is a physiological process—not psychological or emotional. And you don't have to be a "believer" to obtain results. It is not surprising that callers are astounded by their early success.

I have more than 1000 letters on file attesting to that success. A few of these testimonials are now on file in FATE's editorial offices:

"I heard your program on radio station WGN in December 1982 and located the tender spot between thumb and index finger. I was astonished to discover my headache left . . . . "—*Chicago*.

"I listened to your WGN talk . . . . I had a pain in my back for years and



No. 5 is used for fast relief of back pains, strains, sprains and disorders of the knees, ankles and other joints.



No. 7 announces itself with a sharp twinge and thus is one of the easiest G-Jo acupressure points to find.



Acupressure at point No. 10 relieves menstrual cramps, seasickness and many problems of the chest area.



No. 13 has broad applications. Nearly 50 different problems may be relieved and often reversed with this point.

tried pressing on my arm two inches below the elbow. The pain is all gone."—*Dolton, Ill.*

"A person from your group was interviewed on a Houston radio station. Following his instructions, I applied pressure to places on my hands. Lower back pain, experienced for years, is completely gone."—*Lake Jackson, Tex.*

"I heard you on the October 12, 1981, 'Viewpoint' talk show on WRVA, Richmond, Va. I must tell you this: I'd been on my feet all day and my toes were hurting and cramping . . . . As you talked to the various callers I followed along on each set of instructions. I really worked on No. 116, the one you gave the man calling for his wife who had a painful arthritic shoulder blade. I wasn't thinking of my hurting feet—rather I wanted to learn this one for when my arthritic hip would be hurting. But after doing this exercise I realized that my toes felt great."—*Smithfield, Pa.*

* * *

OF THE several different types of acupressure, G-Jo is the most basic form. It is used only when symptoms occur—through either illness or accidental injury. While G-Jo isn't effective for chronic or degenerative disorders, it works astonishingly well for a broad variety of acute and emergency symptoms. Headaches, low back pains, menstrual distress and literally hundreds of other problems respond to a few seconds of G-Jo acupressure.

There are 116 G-Jo points—pinhead-sized spots that control specific body areas or functions. When you know the

point that controls the afflicted area, you simply trigger the spot in the special G-Jo way and relief follows immediately. While there may be as many as 20 G-Jo points for a specific symptom (such as headache), usually one or two "best" points not only bring instant relief but actually stimulate the body's own self-healing mechanisms as well.

Everyone should know the six primary acupressure points, each of which controls a large portion of the body. While not always the "best" G-Jo points for specific symptoms, one of them can usually relieve minor or emergency problems. Three of these points are to be found on the hands and arms and three on the feet and legs. (You may obtain a free chart of these six primary points by sending a business-size No. 10 self-addressed stamped envelope to The G-Jo Institute, P. O. Box 8060, Dept. F, Hollywood, Fla. 33084.) The points are described in detail on the chart so I will synopsize only a few of them here:

No. 5 (in the hollow between the bony bulge of the outer ankle and the Achilles tendon) is used for fast relief of back pains, strains and sprains. It's also useful for hip injuries, rectal disorders and pain in many parts of the body. Disorders of the knees, ankles and other joints also respond well to triggering this point.

No. 7 (about three inches above the bony bulge of the inner ankle, between the shinbone and the calf muscle) will announce itself with a sharp twinge and thus is one of the easiest G-Jo points to find. It is useful for problems on the front of the body, especially from the stomach downward. It may be used for relief of sprained ankles, knee problems and the like, but its best use is for indigestion, menstrual cramps, prostate and sexual ailments and nausea.

No. 10 (about two inches back from the crease of the inner wrist, in line with the middle finger) is useful for relieving menstrual cramps, seasickness, nausea and many problems of the chest and breasts.

No. 13 (on the back of the hand in the fleshy area just behind the "webbing" between thumb and index



This . . .



this . . .



this . . .



or this . . .



but not this!

G-Jo acupressure points are pinhead-sized and if missed by even a quarter of an inch the technique won't be effective. One is found by probing in general area of its location with fingertip or bent knuckle held perpendicularly. The eraser end of a pencil will work equally well in probing for the "ouch point."

finger) is the main acupressure point for problems of the head and neck. This point helps relieve sprains and strains in the upper torso, headaches, bloody noses—even tired feet! In all, nearly 50 different health problems may be relieved and often reversed with G-Jo No. 13.

All 116 G-Jo points (and the more than 250 symptoms, illnesses and discomforts they can relieve) are described in *The Natural Healer's Acupressure Handbook** but with the knowledge of just the primary six points, a basically healthy person has at his fingertips a means of relieving most common ailments.

This ancient Oriental self-help technique is a simple three-step procedure:

(1) *Find the G-Jo acupressure point that controls the affected body area.* This is done by probing as deeply as you can in the general area of the location of the point. Use the tip of the thumb (or if you have a long thumbnail, the bent knuckle of the index finger or the eraser end of a pencil will work equally well) and probe until you contact a tender "ouch point." It should feel like the twinge of a toothache or pinched nerve when you find it. Because the points are tiny, you must find the exact spot. If you miss it by even a quarter of an inch, the technique won't be effective. The twinge you feel when you find the point is the only way you'll know you've found it.

(2) *Trigger the spot deeply.* Dig into it and massage it with your fingertip. The more sensitive the point, the more likely it is to be a good control point. If you feel warm or clammy or a bit lightheaded, so much the better. These are called "acupressure reactions" and usually occur when the correct point is triggered. Do this deep stimulation for about 15 to 30 seconds, then stop.

(3) *Trigger the identical spot on the opposite side of the body.* (Almost without exception, these points can be found on either left or right limbs.) Then "test" your symptom. Your headache, back pain or other ailment should be gone, or nearly so. If discomfort remains, repeat the procedure for another 30 seconds or so and test again. If the pain is gone, stop. Do no more unless and until your symptom returns. A G-Jo point may be triggered for a maximum of four minutes. If you get no relief in that time, you have probably not found the G-Jo point.

All of the points are below the skin, embedded in the flesh—not the bones. Thus, they tend to "float" a little. To be sure you are on the point, you must make sure the stimulation is deep enough to be uncomfortable. It is difficult to stimulate your own points *too* deeply but it is easy not to stimulate them deeply enough. Because each point is less than a millimeter or two in diameter, it must be precisely located. The illustrations and printed instructions give only approximate locations or starting points. The "loud" twinge of sensitivity is your *true* indicator.

While G-Jo is safe and easy, it should be avoided in some situations. Not everyone can make broad use of the technique. You should generally avoid using G-Jo if:

- you are a pregnant woman, especially beyond the third month of pregnancy;

**The Natural Healer's Acupressure Handbook* is available by mail from the G-Jo Institute, P. O. Box 8060, Dept. F, Hollywood, Fla. 33084, for $14.50.*

● you are a chronic heart patient, especially one who wears a pacemaker or similar energy-regulating device;

● you take regular daily medications for a serious health problem such as cancer or diabetes. Acupressure and medicine usually do not mix well.

Furthermore, it is best to:

● wait about four hours after taking drugs, medications or alcohol before applying G-Jo;

● wait for a half hour after taking a hot bath, eating a heavy meal or doing strenuous exercise before applying G-Jo;

● avoid any G-Jo points which lie beneath scars, moles, warts, varicose veins or blemishes. Use only the opposite point (if one exists).

If you have to use G-Jo more than four or five times daily or for more than four days in a row for an apparently minor problem, it usually means either that you're not using the best G-Jo point or that your symptoms are more serious than you think. It's time to see your doctor.

* * *

OVER THE past 10 years I have successfully used G-Jo to relieve numerous health disorders, some of them emergencies. For instance, in 1974, while I was hoisting a roost on our organic egg ranch in southern Florida, a heavy steel ladder I was using as a jack dropped on my face, slicing completely through my nose and upper lip. The pain and bleeding were so intense I nearly fainted. Almost instinctively I grabbed for G-Jo point No. 13 and stimulated it on either hand for less than a minute. When I stopped, the pain and bleeding also had stopped. When these symptoms returned I simply used G-Jo again—and again. To aid the healing I placed a butterfly bandage on the lacerated halves of my nose to hold the skin in place. Within three days—without drugs, doctor's care or suturing—the wound had healed; I didn't need



MICHAEL BLATE is the executive director of The G-Jo Institute in Davie, Fla., a nonprofit natural health educational organization which he founded in 1978. He is the author of more than a dozen books and numerous magazine articles on the subject of self-applied natural healing techniques. His first book *The Natural Healer's Acupressure Handbook* was a Psychology Today Book Club selection and is now in its ninth printing; it has been translated into several languages.

A former executive officer in several corporations and principal of his own stockbrokerage firm until 1969, Blate has been a student and teacher of drugless and alternative healing methods for more than 20 years.

to use G-Jo any longer. Today only a small scar remains.

Barry A. Sultanoff, a physician who is now medical director of the G-Jo Institute and was formerly Associate Professor of Health Education at State University of New York at Brockport, also had occasion to use G-Jo in a serious emergency situation. He is a backpacker and goes into the wild whenever he can get away. He carries a simple lightweight first-aid kit but relies on his knowledge of G-Jo when he comes up against a potentially dangerous health problem. A backpacking trip on the South Island of New Zealand was nearly ruined for two members of the group when they developed severe abdominal cramps. He describes the experience:

"We had stopped at our primitive lodging place after a full day of hiking with heavy packs. Shortly after our meal, two of our party were curled up on the floor in great distress and exhibiting the classical symptoms of food poisoning. I worked briefly with each of them, triggering G-Jo points No. 7 and No. 9 which led in both cases to vomiting (the body's natural way of ridding itself of 'poisoned' stomach contents). Soon they were asleep and within a few hours fully recovered."

G-Jo is not a complete alternative to proper health care and medical attention. When my own accident occurred I was already knowledgeable in the G-Jo technique and simply used a convenient situation to test its reaches. It was comforting to learn that I have a measure of control over what happens to my own body and health. You too can release the mysterious power in the tips of your fingers.

★

ATTILA THE HEN RULES ROOST

ASSOCIATED Press reported from Miami that Attila the hen likes to survey her domain from a horse's back. She is right at home at trainer Eddie Plesa's barn at Calder Racecourse.

The chick is lucky to be alive. She was bought in July 1983 as food for a pet python. The snake ate one chick, then went for Attila. "But he couldn't catch her," said foreman Rafael Gonzalez. "He chased the chick but Attila was too fast. The python got tired out and gave up."

The chicken's favorite roost is the back of a two-year-old colt named Mandated. Exercise girl Joanne Norman says, "When she was really tiny I started putting Attila on Mandated's head. When she got too big to stand on his head, the chicken moved back. Mandated is rambunctious but as soon as Attila gets on his back he calms right down. Attila is really a neat chicken."

Attila kills roaches and other bugs in the stables, according to Gonzalez. "She once caught a mouse but it was too big to swallow so she threw him back."

★

PARAMEDIC'S SISTER IS VICTIM

A LOS ANGELES paramedic arrived at the scene of a fatal auto accident in Van Nuys early Thursday morning, August 5, 1982, and discovered that the victim was his sister. The California Highway Patrol said Mike Coulter reached the crash scene to find his sister Jane Christensen of Burbank dead.

By Fleur Tamon

CHAIN OF CHANCE

I thought it was nothing more than a series of happy coincidences—until I reached the deadly climax.

ON THE MORNING of March 20, 1976, I was plowing through a pile of old letters, rejected manuscripts and yellowed newspaper clippings, quickly tossing all into a wastebasket. Then I suddenly discovered an old red spiral notebook bearing the inscription "St. Mary's University, San Antonio, Texas, 1972." Upon opening the cover I saw the first page headed by the title *"18th and 19th Century American Literature.* Instructor: Mr. Rodney Noonan." On the next page there was a list of illustrious authors: Poe, Hawthorne, Emerson, Thoreau, Melville and Whitman.

As I thought back to the time I had taken that college course, I was assailed by a flood of fond and funny memories. I remembered my professor, Rodney Noonan, a young-looking, handsome bachelor who seemed to be involved in an ongoing love affair with the English language. Despite the hot spring weather he invariably wore a succession of tweedy sport jackets with leather elbow patches and he was forever cleaning and tamping the tobacco in a well-chewed pipe that never stayed lit.

Although his appearance may have been a cliche of academia, there was nothing absentminded about this professor. At the beginning of the semester he lulled our class into a false sense of security with his calm, cool manner and with his lectures, delivered in a soft, mellifluous voice which was spellbinding but never theatrical.

Two weeks after the semester's start, when we were given our first Friday quiz, the class came awake with collective shock. It was one of the toughest tests we had ever taken. Mr. Noonan had written objective questions that left no space for nuances. Either you knew an exact, unambiguous answer or you didn't. He was demanding our total memorized retention of every major or minor nit-picking detail of every story or poem that we had covered in class, including some story assignments that had not yet been discussed.

The highest grade anybody got on the test was a C-minus and I received an ignominious F, the first failing grade of my scholastic life. We anxiously asked Professor Noonan if the grades would be "curved." His answer was a succinct "Nope. Sorry. Tough luck. You'd better study harder for the next one."

We were all now well aware that our teacher was a demanding perfectionist and we had to either shape up or flunk

out. We all began cramming with compulsive fervor for those Friday quizzes. At the end of the semester I received a final grade of B, which I considered a blessing; actually I had never worked harder in any college course.

Now, years later as I sat cross-legged on my bedroom floor reading that old spiral notebook, I started to throw it away but for some silly reason I couldn't quite part with it. Idly I began turning its pages and found copious notes in outline form, headed by titles such as "Annabel Lee," "Rappacini's Daughter," "Walden Pond," "Self-Reliance." Then one title seemed to jump out at me. It was "Bartleby the Scrivener," a story by Herman Melville.

I recalled that when I had first read that story as a class assignment the problem of poor old Bartleby had left me bemused and bewildered but utterly fascinated. It was a deceptively simple tale of an obscure, impecunious law clerk or scrivener (one who writes deeds and contracts) who had been hired to work for a prosperous attorney-at-law in old New York.

Bartleby had done his writing with a quill pen while seated on a tall, narrow stool in front of an up-slanted wooden table. He was sequestered from the other two senior law clerks by a surrounding screen, behind which he did his "scrivening" in total privacy. There were no difficulties with his work at first; his penmanship was perfect and precise. Then came a day when his solitude was disturbed by one of the other law clerks, who requested that Bartleby perform a special writing task. He refused to do this assignment and when asked why not, he stated simply, "I would prefer not to."

This intransigence was, of course, reported to the attorney-employer himself who then personally went to Bartleby and asked him to explain why he had refused to do this work. Once again Bartleby replied, "I would prefer not to."

From that moment on Bartleby refused any and all new assignments with the same negative response, neither explaining nor arguing but only repeating with monotonous persistence, "I would prefer not to." His employer, a rational, compassionate man, begged, cajoled and pleaded with Bartleby but the latter simply retreated behind his screen and spent his time silently staring at his blank corner cubbyhole wall.

At last the attorney reached the limit of his patience and informed Bartleby he was dismissed from his job and was to leave at the end of the week. Bartleby did not respond and the attorney thought the matter was closed.

But the following Sunday, propelled by some strange instinct, the attorney decided to stop at his office. When he tried to enter, he found his door barricaded by Bartleby. Understandably astonished, the lawyer realized that the scrivener had been eating and sleeping in his office cubbyhole in total isolation. He sharply reminded Bartleby that he had been fired but Bartleby firmly responded, "I would prefer not to go."

At last the lawyer concluded that the man was demented; he summoned the police who came and forcibly removed pathetic, mad Bartleby from the premises. As Bartleby was being carried away bodily, his last and only cry of protest was, "I would prefer not to."

In the final scene of the story the

attorney went to the Tombs prison to visit Bartleby. At the Tombs the jailer in charge informed the attorney that Bartleby, since the first moment of his incarceration, had deliberately rejected all offers of food and water. The authorities had begged him to eat or drink but Bartleby had just responded with the inevitable "I would prefer not to."

The attorney was then taken to the prison yard where Bartleby lay curled in the fetal position in a dark corner, facing a wall. His body was skeletal and his voice was mute. Shortly thereafter he died. Thus ended the story of "Bartleby the Scrivener."

* * *

THAT STORY had seized my imagination because it was a 19th-Century psychological mystery that remained forever unsolved and unexplained. Had such a story been written by a 20th-Century author, it might possibly have been filled with pat platitudes about paranoid obsessional psychosis and all the usual clinical causes and effects. But then all the narrative magic would be missing and the singular splendor of Bartleby's stubborn, triumphant tragedy would be dissipated. It was to the far greater glory of Herman Melville's skill that he offered no glib explanations.

As I turned the last page of that old notebook, I knew that I could never throw it away and there was no neat and ready explanation for that either; I just keenly felt it would hold some future importance. I could not yet know, of course, that the future was here and now.

After I finished reading the notebook, I put it aside in a safe place and then went about my duties for the rest of the day. That night, shortly before eight o'clock, I turned on the television set, idly switching from one commercial channel to another, and finding nothing of interest, I settled on the PBS Channel 9. It was here that I heard an announcer state, "We are now going to present a live dramatization of Herman Melville's classic story 'Bartleby the Scrivener.' "

I sat back stunned at this unbelievable juxtaposition of events. I was immediately galvanized by the thought that I must inform my past professor, Rodney Noonan, that this story was on the air. I remembered that Mr. Noonan had resided in Castroville, Tex., a small town 30 miles from San Antonio, where I live. I telephoned the information operator in Castroville to ask for his phone number. She replied, "We do have a Rodney Noonan living here but at the customer's request the telephone number is unlisted."

Feeling frustrated, I ran back to my chair to watch the television play. The role of Bartleby was played by a gifted young actor whose name was unknown to me but whose face and physical presence I could never forget. He was well over six feet tall and ectomorphically skinny. His posture was stooped and his face was long and gaunt, with cavernous dark eyes that looked like two black holes burned into a sheet of white paper. He looked the quintessential Bartleby. He was perfect in the part and so were the performances of all the other players from start to finish. When it was over, I sat motionless, still transfixed by the image of poor dead Bartleby inscribed in my brain. Fervently I hoped that Professor Noonan had also witnessed that play.

The following day I ate my lunch at

a local restaurant and as I waited in line to pay my check, an attractive young woman directly in front of me turned around and said, "Hello," addressing me by name.

I looked at her. Her face was familiar but I couldn't remember who she was or where I'd met her.

Sensing my embarrassment, she smiled and said, "You don't remember me, do you? I sat next to you in Rodney Noonan's class in American Lit at St. Mary's."

Startled, I replied, "What an amazing coincidence! Just yesterday morning I reread my old notebook from that class and last night on PBS there was a dramatization of one of our class stories, 'Bartleby the Scrivener.' "

"I'm sorry I missed it," she said.

"It was a marvelous production," I said, "and I think Mr. Noonan would have loved it. As a matter of fact, as soon as I saw it was on TV, I tried to telephone him in Castroville but the operator said his number was unlisted."

Now she was no longer smiling. Averting her eyes, she spoke in a quiet, slow voice. "But didn't you watch the 10:00 P.M. news?"

"No. What happened?"

"Rodney Noonan committed suicide around eight o'clock last night at his home in Castroville."

"Oh, my God! Why did he do it?"

"There were no further details given," she said.

There was a brief silence between us in which I felt the rhythmic roaring of my pulse in my ears. Finally I said, "Well, anyway, it was fortunate you were here today and thank you for telling me."

She replied—I swear it—"I would have preferred not to."

* * *

SEVERAL DAYS later I phoned the *Castroville News Bulletin* to inquire whether there were any further explanatory facts about the death of Rodney Noonan. The newspaper editor said, "I would prefer not to divulge any personal details of this case but I will read to you the obituary notice exactly as it was published this week."

Feeling a morbid sense of fascination and suspense, I listened intently as this seemingly disembodied, detached voice droned the following:

"Rodney Ralph (Joe) Noonan, 45, died Saturday, March 20, at his Castroville home. He was a professor of English at St. Mary's University in San Antonio. His death was caused by a self-inflicted gunshot wound. He was pronounced dead by Justice of the Peace Harold Herring. He was cremated March 23, 1976."



THIEVES OVERLOOK REAL LOOT

ASSOCIATED PRESS reports from Portland, Oreg., that a man who got back his stolen car after six days was astonished to find the thieves had overlooked $10,000 in gold and silver stashed in the trunk. Michael Meyers, who works for a precious metals brokerage firm, had put five 100-ounce silver bars, more than 200 gold and silver coins and an unknown amount of cash in several old ammunition boxes in the trunk, thinking the valuables would be safer in the car than in his apartment. He was right!

by Harold Helfer

STRANGE TO SAY

In a 30-minute period, Barbara Hedrick of Dallas, Tex., became a grandmother twice. Her daughters Deborah Cagle and Donna Davis each became mothers and aunts in that half hour and their newborn girls became nieces and cousins and granddaughters.

●

Four Cambodian girls drowned when they went swimming in a restricted area of St. Petersburg, Fla. Their parents couldn't read the "No Swimming" sign that warned of sudden drop-offs.

●

Charles Talley of Washington, D. C., on emergency leave from his army post for the funeral of his slain brother, was shot dead on the street just a few yards from the spot where his brother had been killed.

●

Giuseppa Caggia of Cosimo, Italy, blew out the candles on her 101st birthday cake, went to bed and died in her sleep.

●

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Poole of Marilla, N.Y., were married on Valentine's Day, had one son born on Mother's Day and another son born on Father's Day.

●

A TV news cameraman in Kansas City went to the scene of a fire and was ticketed for driving over a fire hose. After handing out the ticket, the policeman drove away—over the fire hose, an event duly recorded by the cameraman.

●

Testifying in a court case in Middlesex, Mass., treasury agent Richard Riley was describing the imperfections in a counterfeit bill when Judge Henry Chmielinski pulled a $5 bill out of his pocket and asked, "How does this compare with the counterfeit one?"

Riley studied the bill for a few seconds and said, "I hate to tell you this but your bill is counterfeit too." The agent gave the judge a receipt for his $5 and told him not to feel bad. He could deduct the loss on his next income tax return.

●

An Argentine man trying to avoid paying his taxi fare paid for it with his life. Buenos Aires police report the 40-year-old man, trying to run away from the cabdriver at the city airport, ran into an airplane propeller.

●

Mrs. Billy Tresner and her daughter Pamela Morgan ended up as roommates in a Salt Lake City maternity ward. They gave birth to babies within a few hours of each other.

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NEWS & REVIEWS

by Jerome Clark



THE VANISHING WILDMEN

IN SOUTHEASTERN Siberia they are called Mulen and people are afraid of them. The Mulen follow travelers and attack them with arrows or stones. During the Russian Civil War, when people began moving into previously uninhabited areas, many of the Mulen were driven from the remote regions in which they lived; a considerable number are said to have been killed. Even more were slaughtered during World War II; their corpses were secretly buried.

In the Yakut region of northern Siberia, natives speak of the Chuchunaa. One report describes an incident in which a Chuchunaa broke into a barn at night and stole the food that was being stored there. The next day hunters followed his tracks to a cave in the mountains. When they confronted the unarmed Chuchunaa, according to one account, he "just fell as though begging for mercy, said something in an inarticulate language like the cry of an animal and bared his teeth." But the hunters killed him anyway.

Recently, when 60 students of vocational schools in northwestern Siberia were asked if they or any of their relatives had ever seen "wildmen" on the tundra, 48 answered in the affirmative. Four said they themselves had seen them; the rest asserted that members of their families—the children are the offspring of nomadic reindeer herders—had encountered the creatures, which they called *tungus*. Further investigation among adult fishermen and reindeer breeders in the area uncovered other reports, all of which agreed in their descriptions of the *tungus*. Both young and old informants agreed that in the past 20 years sightings of *tungus* had become increasingly infrequent; perhaps, they speculated, the growing incursion of civilization into the desolate areas had forced the *tungus* to move away.

One of the themes of Myra Shackley's *Still Living?* (Thames and Hudson, New York, N.Y., 1983, 192 pages, $16.95) is that in addition to all the *known* forms of life that are disappearing from this earth, creatures unknown to science may also be vanishing—and the tragedy is all the more acute because these creatures may be our closest living relatives.

Her book, subtitled "Yeti, Sasquatch and the Neanderthal Enigma," argues that manlike apes and apelike men long thought to be extinct survive in Asia, although constant human encroachment into the mountains, valleys and forests into which these creatures have retreated imperils their continued existence. So do violent episodes in which hunters and other armed persons have killed them, often without provocation. The wildmen are typically described as shy, reclusive and harmless. The aggressive behavior ascribed to the Mulen is unusual, although perhaps understandable in view of the long unhappy history of human-hominid interaction.

As an archaeologist and student of Neanderthal man, Dr. Shackley, formerly of Oxford University, now of the University of Leicester, brings her impressive scientific expertise to bear on a controversial subject which until recently (at least in the West) was almost entirely dominated by well-meaning but unschooled Fortean amateurs. Despite the absence so far of indisputable physical evidence (i.e., a body or a skeleton) Shackley



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is convinced of the authenticity of the many reports describing such creatures. (Not all of the reports, by the way, are of brief encounters; some describe cases in which human beings and wildmen have lived side by side for extended periods of time.) Drawing on previously untranslated Soviet studies and on her own investigations in the field, she demonstrates that the accounts are remarkably consistent; moreover, the variations in description (of such features as hair color) from one locale to the next reflect the kinds of biological differences one would expect to find in the particular ecological environments.

Unless one imagines a massive conspiracy whose sole purpose is to fool inquiring scientists—or informants who are so stupid that they are incapable of understanding what they have seen or of describing it accurately—there seems no alternative to Shackley's conclusion that such things as supposedly prehistoric hominids are still living. Her belief that the Sasquatch, yeti, *tungus* and related creatures are descendants of *Gigantopithecus,* a great ape believed to have become extinct half a million years ago, is both reasonable and (as she herself admits) unoriginal; it has also been suggested by Chinese anthropologists and Canadian Bigfoot investigator John Green.

Less convincing, however, is Shackley's contention that the creatures she calls Almas (as they are known in Mongolia and parts of Siberia; Mulen and Chuchunaa are merely local names for Almalike creatures) are Neanderthals. Soviet scientist Marie-Jeanne Kofman, who has been investigating Alma reports since 1960, holds a similar view but Shackley is the first Western scientist to champion the idea.

Long exposure to Bigfoot and yeti reports has led most of us to think of wildmen as huge and gorillalike, but Almas are something else entirely. Shackley describes them thus:

"Almas are similar in height to modern man (perhaps slightly shorter than the average Westerner), although much hairier, with a characteristic head shape including a jutting-out jaw, receding chin and very prominent eyebrow ridges. The creatures . . . apparently [are] able to use tools but [are] incapable of coherent speech. They appear to be confined to high mountainous areas

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where there are a number of lakes, especially the Mongolian Altai ranges and the desert fringes of the Caucasus. Reports go back to the 13th Century and are remarkably similar in their content, but it would seem that the geographical distribution of Almas is shrinking under increasing pressure from our own species, and the area where they can still be found is confined to a small corner of the Mongolian Altai mountains. However, they are still being sighted, either as solitary individuals or as family groups, and would seem to be surviving by keeping out of our way as much as possible, which is not really very difficult, since the high mountains are not suitable for agriculture or anything more than the occasional visit by nomadic herdsmen moving from pasture to pasture. Almas seem to eke out a living at a bare subsistence level by hunting small mammals and eating wild plants, unassisted by fire although with shelter available in the form of caves. A crucial point, however, is that they do not appear to be *afraid* of fire, unlike all nonhuman species."

In 1979, during her own investigations in the Altai mountains of Outer Mongolia, Shackley found what she believed to be Neanderthal tools in open-air sites in river terraces. They seemed surprisingly fresh and unworn, as if they had been fashioned in the recent, not the prehistoric, past. Unfortunately, in the absence of associated wood and bones, there was no way to date them through radiocarbon testing. So she showed them to a number of local people who told her the tools were made by Almas. Shackley considers this strong reason to accept the Alma-Neanderthal connection.

Those of us who are nonauthorities on Neanderthal man may be inclined to take Shackley's word for all this, but someone who does know a great deal about the subject, scientist Chris Stringer, has written a highly critical review of her book in England's *New Scientist* (August 11, 1983). Stringer says that there is nothing distinctly Neanderthal-like about the stone tools she describes; he thinks they bear a far closer resemblance to tools made by other types of early man. He also notes significant differences between what is known of Neanderthal physiology and what is reported of Alma physiology. And he cites a number of mistakes in her remarks about Neanderthals'

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appearance and geographical distribution.

As a layman who has long been interested in Bigfoot, I was disappointed by Shackley's rather superficial treatment (in one chapter) of our own native wildman and surprised at her acceptance of the dubious tale of Jacko, an apelike creature which supposedly was captured in British Columbia in 1884 but which in fact appears not to have existed outside a newspaper writer's imagination.

Nonetheless, these criticisms and cautionary notices aside, *Still Living?* is an important contribution to the growing scientific literature on a subject which is finally getting the serious attention it deserves. Let us hope that the book serves to alert scientists not only to the reality of wildmen but also to the urgent need to save them from extinction. If we don't move fast, we may find that the question posed in the title has to be answered in the negative.

OTHER REVIEWS

THE TRAVELLER'S GUIDE TO THE ASTRAL PLANE by Steve Richards, Aquarian Press, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, England, 1983, 110 pages, £3.95, paperback.

Is the world experienced during astral projection objective, subjective or a composite of both?

One possible approach to this difficult question is to compare and contrast a large number of such experiences drawn from many times and cultures, reasoning that any recurrent similarities between them must be due to some factor other than chance. A large number of striking similarities would at least indicate an orderliness about such experiences that would not exist were they purely private affairs.

Steve Richards uses this method of comparative analysis in his *The Traveller's Guide to the Astral Plane.* Drawing upon a host of ancient and modern authorities from both East and West, Richards presents a panoramic view of the astral landscape, including the various planes of existence and their inhabitants, heaven and hell, and even what may be expected in the way of connubial delights once we have quit the terrestrial sphere.

Unfortunately Richards has strayed far beyond the limits of scholarship or even good

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Lady Di's Horoscope promised she'd find her Prince Charming and bear England a King



By Tom Kennedy

Lady Di grew up a poor little rich girl, with everything but love. When she was only 8 years old, her mother left her father for another man. This desertion left Diana a lonely, sensitive child, who conjured up dreams of romantic adventures. However, astrologers examining her natal horoscope agree that these childhood dreams were destined to become reality.

In Lady Di's horoscope, Capricorn lies in the cusp of her 7th house. This strongly suggests that she will marry a father figure who will shower her with the love she longs for. And just as important, a man who will satisfy her passion for luxuries.

Her Cancer rising sign shows that she has an intense love for children and a deep need to surround herself with them. It's only natural that Lady Di chose to teach kindergarten and to become pregnant early in her marriage. And the royal couple could not have chosen a more favorable day for the birth of their son. Astrologers say the planets and stars at the moment of his birth were in a magnificent position for the birth of a king.

Astrology experts agree that Princess Di is a perfect match for her Scorpio Prince. Because of her compassionate nature, she will be greatly loved by the people of England.

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sense. In a study of this kind we would expect some attempt to discriminate between veridical, mythological, fictional and bogus reports; yet Richards welcomes all with the same unblushing credulity. Some of the accounts he cites are simply fables, such as the story that Plato was the offspring of an illicit union between the god Apollo and a mortal woman.

Other sources are nearly as dubious. Guazzo's infamous *Compendium Maleficarum,* for example, is cited as an authority for a number of cases, although Guazzo's unreliability as a reporter is evident to anyone who has read his work. As another illustration, Edgar Allan Poe's horrific tale "The Premature Burial," a fantasy having nothing to do with Poe's personal experiences, is treated by Richards as a serious autobiographical account of the poet's own "cataleptic trances." Other examples of Richards' aversion to sound scholarship occur throughout the book, making it read at times more like a fairy tale than a serious contribution to psychic or occult literature.

Without denying that there exists a broad family resemblance among the reports Richards considers, one cannot help wondering what part of that likeness may be due to a genuine relationship among the accounts and what part to Richards' facility in selecting them. With so much material to choose from, spanning the entire history of human speculation about the supernatural, one can create virtually any vision of astral reality one wants.

Consider, for example, his discussion of astral sex, which he affirms on the basis of medieval and modern stories of amorous spirits. In arguing this thesis, however, he

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makes no mention of the vast number of mediumistic reports that deny the very possibility of sex after separation from the physical body. These reports seem every bit as credible as those he cites; yet nowhere does he even acknowledge their existence, let alone provide reasonable criteria for rejecting them as false.

As long as contradictions such as this continue to be reported by astral observers, the world of experience beyond the physical plane will remain a shrouded land of unknown possibilities.—*Rodger I. Anderson.*

THE ELDER BROTHER by Gregory Tillett, Routledge and Kegan Paul, Boston, Mass., 1982, 337 pages, $24.95.

Charles Webster Leadbeater, probably the most influential occultist of the 20th Century, almost single-handedly popularized such concepts as the aura, "vibrations," the ascended masters, the astral plane and the Akashic records and introduced them into everyday language. He was not only a leader of the Theosophical Society until his death in 1934 but also a leading light in his own occult offshoot of the Catholic Church. He was also the source of endless controversy.

Gregory Tillett's *The Elder Brother* is the first full-length biography of Leadbeater. Why has it taken so long for such a book to appear, while biographies of other Theosophical luminaries such as Helene Blavatsky, Henry Olcott and Annie Besant were published years ago? Tillett explains that Leadbeater left several contradictory accounts of his life. The fact that various factions within the occult movement considered him either a saint, a charlatan, a pervert or a black magician has also made



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Science is generally agreed that theoretically, at least, there is no medical reason why people should not live *much longer* than they do. T. Salar and D.I. Peake, authors of this thought-provoking new book are convinced that there is simply no reason why ordinary men and women should not live to be 200 years of age, and in some cases, LIVE INDEFINITELY IN THE SAME BODY. "You can postpone death . . .even circumvent it", write Messrs. Salar and Peake. Whilst theoretically the possibility of immortal life is not a far-stretched notion, the sixty-four thousand dollar question is, of course, HOW TO MAKE IT A PRACTICAL REALITY rather than a mere hypothesis.

This new, controversial book gets right down to grips with creating this reality. "It *can* be accomplished", say the authors, ". . .the secret is multi-dimensional, and can be understood and mastered by anyone wishing to take the time to work on it". The person who thinks that no such secret can exist as "no one has ever managed to avoid death" has simply not given any real thought to the matter. "Mankind is deluded in this subject", according to the authors, and add that "it is merely ASSUMED that no one has ever escaped death . . .and because no one has ever publically announced that he has been living in the same body for many centuries it is simply TAKEN FOR GRANTED that persons of such longevity just do not exist". Interestingly enough there is no way, in spite of its sophisticated technology, in which medical science can actually DISCOVER THE AGE OF ANYONE. In other words, the person of insight can see that the "Immortality Issue" is very much a "Catch 22" situation; longevity cannot actually be DISproved, but neither can it be proved! The intelligent, enquiring person will, however, want to KNOW WHAT THE OPTIONS ARE. "You *do* have a choice about dying", declare the authors. "You have *several* choices, in fact . . .*death* being only one of them".

This extraordinary book looks at those choices. Some of its content includes:

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The authors do not say that their book is going to make you live forever: only you can do that. What you do, or how you react, to the information in this book is a matter only you can decide. You may still disbelieve everything after you have read it, but you will find it hard to deny that it has given you something really challenging to think about. Some of you will doubtless be deeply impressed by its content, but will still fail to avoid death. A few others of you, however, may never reveal what you have achieved . . . .

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it difficult to write an objective biography of the man. The author reports that many old associates refused to talk to him and that valuable sources of information about Leadbeater were often kept from him.

Despite these problems Tillett has managed to write an entertaining and perceptive chronicle of Leadbeater's years as a clergyman, his defection to Theosophy, his rise to leadership in the movement, his homosexual relationships with his young male students, his role in the Liberal Catholic Church and his death and legacy. All that is missing is an account of Leadbeater's childhood, about which little apparently will ever be known.

Tillett is not an occultist and he doesn't seem to take most of Leadbeater's "teachings" very seriously. Nonetheless he clearly respects Leadbeater's influence on modern occult thinking. In the last chapter he makes the surprising—and to me unconvincing—suggestion that Leadbeater's world view anticipated discoveries in quantum physics. More to the point, he sees Leadbeater as a flawed visionary, a genuine clairvoyant caught up in a concept of reality partially of his own making and a man willing

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to lie when it suited his ends.

The Elder Brother no doubt will enrage some partisan readers. But most readers, I think, will find it spellbinding.—*D. Scott Rogo.*

STONEHENGE COMPLETE by Christopher Chippindale, Cornell University Press, Ithaca, N.Y., 1983, 296 pages, $29.50.

Stonehenge Complete is a pretty grandiose title. The subtitle reads, "Everything important, interesting or odd that has ever been written or painted, discovered or imagined, about the most extraordinary ancient building in the world." That sounds like sheer publisher's puffery. Christopher Chippindale's book doesn't really live up to the title or subtitle. What book could? In his conclusion the author admits that he had to leave a lot out and that his selection is, of necessity, unbalanced.

So this Stonehenge isn't really "complete" and it doesn't contain "everything." But it contains an awful lot and it is a wonderful book, well worth the hefty price. It is no mere coffee-table collection of pictures and captions strung together by an uninspired and often irrelevant narrative. *Stonehenge Complete,* an intelligently organized, wittily written book, contains some pictures that will be new even to most megalith maniacs.

Chippindale's view of what Stonehenge was and how it was built is conventional and conservative, so leyline hunters and devotees of other forms of "alternative archaeology"

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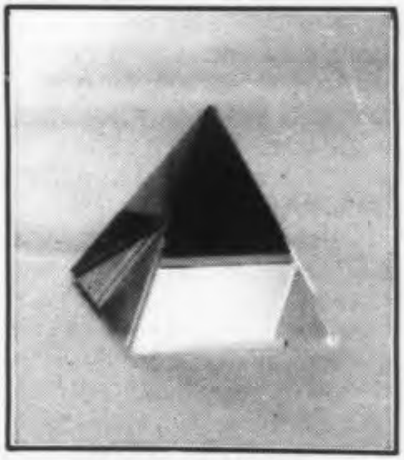
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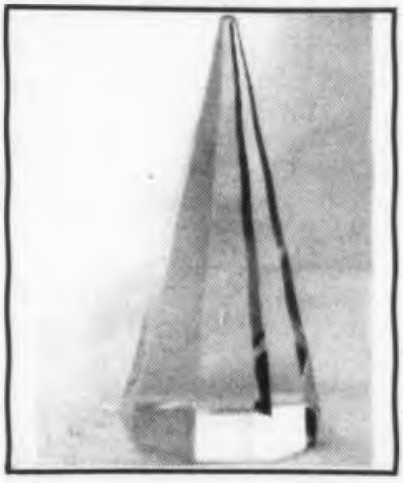
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may feel he is giving them short shrift. Druids will doubtless object, as will those who follow Gerald Hawkins' "ancient astronomy" view of the monument. But Chippindale is never snide or cruel. He appreciates the diversity of theories about Stonehenge even if he thinks some of them are a bit nutty.

The largest and most interesting portion of the book is not concerned with the ancient history of Stonehenge but with what might be called its modern history, since its existence was first acknowledged in writing around A.D. 1130. Among the fascinating items Chippindale mentions is the fact that Stonehenge was once owned by George Washington's family.

The story is a rather harrowing one as well, for Chippindale reminds us how close we came to actually losing Stonehenge entirely. Up until the 20th Century, years of neglect and pillage by rock-hunting farmers and souvenir hunters threatened the very existence of the monument. During World War I the British army had its Salisbury Plain headquarters close enough to Stonehenge to cause much more damage. Later Stonehenge was threatened by hordes of tourists attracted by the monument's growing popularity. That threat continues today, although the physical survival of the monument is probably assured.

The unlikely hero of this book is Dr. William Stukeley. I had always thought of Stukeley as little more than an interesting eccentric who started the Druid delusion but as Chippindale shows, he was a great deal more than that. Perhaps we should pay more attention to our eccentrics.

The villain of the book is Col. William Hawley who labored obsessively at Stonehenge from 1919 to 1926, discovering little and destroying much in the process. Hawley should have been the model of the patient and careful excavator.

So *Stonehenge Complete* contains some surprising insights. This book would be a delightful item to give or receive on summer solstice day.—*Daniel Cohen.*

THE BOOK OF RUNES by Ralph Blum, St. Martin's Press, New York, N.Y., 1983, 123 pages, $21.50.

In *The Book of Runes* Ralph Blum has written "a primer for oracular play" which

reintroduces the oldest known form of Western divination. Credited with miraculous occult powers, runes were used in the Scandinavian north as early as the Third Century A.D. and last seriously consulted in Iceland in the late Middle Ages.

Blum, a Fulbright scholar and Harvard graduate with a longtime interest in philology, used sources that predate the Bible in devising a system for making the ancient Viking runes accessible to modern minds. Among the scholars who approve of his handiwork was the late Margaret Mead, to whom the book is dedicated. She said, "It is high time someone treated the runes as part of living Western shamanism. We still need our shamans, after all, and you don't have to make an appointment to see your runes."

The Book of Runes is boxed and in a plastic slipcover but undoubtedly the accompanying suede cloth bag holding 25 ceramic tiles contributes to the steep price of the package. One tile is blank ("The Unknowable") and the other 24 bear the glyphs of the traditional Germanic futhark. The tiles are evocative—a little rough, as if each one were handmade; they have great tactile and visual appeal.

Blum cites the antiquity and ongoing mystery of the oracle but makes no attempt at comprehensive history in this small book. (A bibliography is provided for readers who want to pursue runology.) The author gets the reader quickly involved and then proceeds immediately to the practical application of rune-casting as a means "to locate timely right action" or "undertake self-change." His distillations of the meanings of the runes occupy about half the pages of the book in well-ordered sections for quick referral.

Rune-casting may be a kind of magical play. In fact, Blum shows that a game of "Rune Poker" can develop a better relationship with a loved one or remove blocks to understanding among colleagues. Another game, for those who regard reincarnation as a viable possibility, is the "Three-Lifetimes Spread" through which the runes record the past, the present and the future.

In approaching the ancient oracle, whether in fun or in reverence, one must be open-minded and free of constraints, for the runes speak to each of us according to our ability to hear. And strangely, as you lay out the tiles—a single Odin's rune in a time of crisis,

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a three-rune spread to see what lies ahead, or a six-rune cross for a complete picture of your situation—the runes exert their own fascination, somehow gripping and expanding your consciousness.—*Betty Lou White.*

STARGAZERS AND GRAVEDIGGERS by Immanuel Velikovsky, William Morrow & Co., New York, N.Y., 1983, 346 pages, $14.95.

Over three decades after publication of Immanuel Velikovsky's *Worlds in Collision*, the controversy continues. If *Stargazers and Gravediggers* does not succeed in fanning those fires anew, at least it will show that the "witch hunts" of the 1950's were not confined to those instigated by the late Sen. Joseph McCarthy.

For readers who came in late, Velikovsky proposed in *Worlds* and subsequent books that catastrophic astronomical events a mere 3500 years ago substantially altered the earth and induced collective amnesia in its people.

Although published posthumously, *Stargazers* was written in the mid-1950's when the furor over *Worlds* was at its height. In it Velikovsky records his many attempts to obtain scientific testing of the hypotheses he developed as a result of extensive research in ancient records.

Harvard astronomer Harlow Shapley was offered the opportunity to review the manuscript of *Worlds* four years *before* it was published. After first agreeing to read it, he reneged—and then began criticizing the contents he had not seen!

Velikovsky cites reviews of *Worlds* written by scientists who boasted they had not read the material they denounced! Later reviews were clearly based on earlier reviews—the blind led the blind.

Recently I asked *Science,* which claims it is willing to publish "minority or conflicting points of view" on scientific matters, if it planned to review *Stargazers*. It took several calls before an editorial aide coolly informed me that there would be no review because "we have such a backlog of already accepted material." Yet among that material, as a later issue showed, was a lengthy review of six "creation science" books!

Poor Velikovsky! Creationism gets more respect than he does.—*George W. Earley.*

REPORT FROM THE READERS

These columns of FATE are set aside each month for your comments. Send your opinion of articles and stories of unusual occurrences to FATE Magazine, 500 Hyacinth Pl., Highland Park, Ill. 60035.

"A" FOR OBSERVATION

In "Your Future in the Runes" by Garman Lord (September 1983 FATE) you give both the original futhark and the Anglo-Saxon Woden's futhark on page 75. Then on pages 78 and 79 you give the rune, letter, Anglo-Saxon name, translation, meaning and interpretation.

What I am getting at is that on page 75 you have 33 of Anglo-Saxon futhark (new runes) but on pages 78 and 79 you have only 29 of these listed with their meanings and so forth. You left out the last four runes. Also the last two listed on page 79 are reversed.

I would like to know the letter, Anglo-Saxon name, translation, meaning and interpretation of the missing four runes. *—L. R. Childress, Kannapolis, N. C.*

THE AUTHOR REPLIES:

Let's give Mr. Childress an "A" in runic studies for his acute observation. I should have offered an explanation for these inconsistencies.

First, let it be said that in ancient inscriptions depicting the entire runic "alphabet" (futhark or futhorc), of which few complete examples are still in existence, the order of some runes sometimes varies. The usual order is simply the one that most scholars agree must have been the original or at least the most "correct" one. Page 75 in my article shows the one that scholars call the "Northumbrian futhorc." I chose that one to depict because it is one of the longest and most complete that were in use among the Anglo-Saxons. In other parts of ancient England, of course, there were variations. Whole books could be and have been written about this.

The Anglo-Saxon runes used for divination, however, depicted on pages 78 and 79 are a different matter. Our best remaining source for the divinatory meanings of the Anglo-Saxon runes is a poem printed hundreds of years ago in a book known as *Hickes' Thesaurus*. Hickes transcribed this poem from an Anglo-Saxon manuscript that was later lost in a fire and thus the Thesaurus is our only remaining source for it. This poem contains a stanza for each rune, and I used two of these stanzas as examples in my article. The poem, however, has only 29 stanzas and they run in the traditional futhorc order—except that the order of the last two stanzas is reversed, as your sharp-eyed reader has noticed. The two stanzas could be switched but no one ever does because the poem does not read as well that way.

Traditional divinatory meanings of the runes are heavily based on this one ancient poem. It ends, however, with the stanza for *ea* so we are left in the dark about what meanings the last four runes might have had, if they had any. They came into use late in England and are fairly rare in inscriptions. They may merely have been invented for use as letters and not for use in divination. *Hickes' Thesaurus* lists them at the end of the rune-poem but gives no stanzas or meanings for them. Of course there would be nothing to stop the modern rune-diviner from using them as "wild cards" by inventing

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meanings for them. This opens a whole field of speculation.

Runology is rife with speculation—and this explains why respectable rune scholars tend to be conservative. It's a lot easier to get laughed out of academia than it is to stay respectable on the subject of runes. On the other hand, though, what you do, say or think about runes in the privacy of your own home is entirely between you and the gods. May they always laugh with you and not at you.—*Garman Lord, Watertown, N. Y.*

SEARCH FOR POW

The negative psychological effects of prolonged captivity on American prisoners of war in Southeast Asia have been documented. What is not studied in depth and reported in detail are the positive adaptive coping strategies that prisoners employ when living under such stressful conditions. An example is that of my brother Eugene who became a Pathet Lao prisoner in Laos on September 5, 1963, and escaped in July 1966. I have had reports as late as summer 1982 that he is alive 19 years after his capture and I am now attempting to verify this report. I personally believe that my


Eugene DeBruin

brother is alive and will someday be released and allowed to return to the United States. I have devoted many years to searching for him.

A man who escaped with Eugene is a Thai

national named Pisidhi Indradat. In 1971, after he had reached safety in his home in Udorn, Thailand, I interviewed Pisidhi and it was he who told me how my brother had adapted both psychologically and physically to his environment.

Before his imprisonment, Eugene, a forester, wore glasses to correct myopic vision; these were quickly taken away by his captors. In the three and a half years that Indradat and Eugene were in prison, my brother's vision improved remarkably, even to the point that he could read a propaganda leaflet without his glasses.

The secret, according to Indradat, was that Eugene would spend eight hours a day staring at the auras around green leaves. The Thai believed this practice strengthened Eugene's eye muscles and accounted for his improved vision. Medically, the ciliary muscles may possibly have been strengthened and this in turn may have adjusted the nearsightedness by relaxing the suspensory ligament and allowing the lens to become more convex. The psychological effects of aura observation in this case may be even more intriguing.

I would like to hear from FATE readers who have knowledge of this subject and who may shed some light on Eugene's present condition. I ask this as I wait for Eugene to be permitted to come home and stare at leaves on trees in the United States instead of in Laos.—*Jerome E. DeBruin, The University of Toledo, College of Education and Allied Professions, Toledo, Ohio 43606.*

SPIRIT OF '76

Much more interesting than Deborah Sampson ("War Hero of a Different Kind," August 1983 FATE) is the story of Margaret Cochran Corbin (1751-1800) reported in *The Colonial Spirit of '76* by David C. Whitney.

Corbin is buried in the West Point Military Cemetery for her part in the Battle of Fort Washington on November 16, 1776.—*John Vitomski, Englishtown, N. J.*

MYSTERY VOICES

I have recorded about 300 hours of cassette music from an FM "big band" station and an FM classical music station, both in Pittsburgh, Pa. Replaying these cassettes I find I have captured about 10 mystery voices which were *not* heard during the recordings.

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"tum-tah" during Russ Morgan's "The Poor People of Paris"; a young lady's voice saying "turn to, turn to" against an orchestral background; an elderly woman's voice saying "I need it" and later, "the same old John Benton."

Other sounds are the voice of a young girl saying "Humph" and an elderly man's "Hey, old buddy!" Another says, "Get in here," and one man uses crude language.

Can anyone explain these?—*J. P. Bessor, Route 4, Butler, Pa. 16001.*

QUASI-SYNCHRONICITY

I noticed a quasi-synchronicity in the October 1983 issue of FATE: the juxtaposition of my story "Ghost Towns' Happy Haunts" and Michael Frizzell's "The Riddle of the Ringing Rocks."

In researching my story on the ghosts of Cripple Creek and Victor, not only did I interview a man named Frizzell but the telluride gold ore which led to the two mining towns' booms was a "ringing rock." The clinking or ringing sound it made when tapped with a pick led the miners to call it "phonolite"—but I don't think this example of mining-camp Greek ever made it into the geology texts.—*Chas S. Clifton, Colorado Springs, Colo.*

JAMESIAN COVER-UP

I have been pleasantly enlightened by Felix Morrow's article "Secrets of Mind Expansion" (October 1983 FATE).

In a very general way I was aware of my grandfather William James' interest in the work of F.W.H. Myers and in Mrs. Piper. I have the feeling of being the victim of a cover-up conducted by a lot of people—including Ralph Perry and perhaps my uncle, author Henry James, Jr., who was in fact William James' eldest son.—*William James, Santa Fe, N. Mex.*

PSYCHIC PHOTOGRAPHS, ANYONE?

I am an engineer, a professional writer in the field of patents and a psychic photographer. I am writing a book on psychic and spirit photography and I need to learn about others' experiences.

I would like to hear from FATE readers who can capture these images on film, without lens or shutter, and would appreciate copies of such photos and the details of how,

when, where and with what camera the phenomena were produced.—*Beau Compass, c/o FATE, 500 Hyacinth Pl., Highland Park, Ill. 60035.*

STILL IN BUSINESS

Since the publication of my story "Three-Way Dream Alarm" (September 1983 FATE) I have had a letter from a FATE reader who is not aware that the *Indianapolis Times* is currently in publication. The confusion is to be expected from Indianapolis readers who remember the old *Times* which went out of business in the late 1960's.

The new *Times* is not a daily; it is published twice monthly. All we took from the old paper was the name. The caption under my photo reads, correctly, that I am currently a staff writer for the *Times.—Marilyn J. Mayer, Zionsville, Ind.*

POLICE INVESTIGATION

I am a police officer-investigator in Pennsylvania, currently pursuing a master's degree in Criminal Justice Administration at the University of Pittsburgh. For my proposed thesis—"The Use of Psychics in Law Enforcement and the Criminal Investigation Process"—I need information on law enforcement agencies or officers who use or have used psychics as a criminal investigation tool or who have witnessed or investigated events that cannot be explained by normal investigative techniques.

Articles, clippings, reports, all information will be welcome and correspondents' names will be kept confidential if necessary.—*Fred Richard Saluga, Box 246, Cardale, Pa. 15420.*

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(October 1983 FATE) truly rang a bell in my mind—or more accurately, set off a chorus of bells. As a researcher and writer of New Jersey history, I have searched aged documents and have traced the origins of towns and regions to their earliest habitation by white men.

One of my articles on the history of the athletic field of Columbia High School of South Orange and Maplewood referred to chiming rocks which were heard by a band of gypsies who camped nearby in 1916. The article reads, in part:

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(Continued on page 127)

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REPORT FROM THE READERS

(Continued from page 118)

fieldstones, the rocks revealed their magical properties only when one was struck against another. It was then that eerie chimes echoed through the woods.

"No one knew if the stones were indigenous to the field or if at some unknown, distant period of time they were placed there."

Before the year 1927 the athletic field was part of a dense forest inhabited three centuries earlier by the Lenni Lenape, or Delaware, Indians. In 1714 the field was part of a 100-acre plantation issued to Robert Campbell, the first white man, by proprietors of East Jersey. The plantation was sold in

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1741 to Aaron Ball, a cousin of George Washington, and it passed from generation to generation. It still belonged to the Ball family in 1916. The forest remained in its natural state until about 1915 when a neighborhood organization cleared a small section for a baseball field and named it "Dirt Diamond."

In view of the fact that the site has been owned by only two families since it was the Lenni Lenape's hunting ground, it seems improbable that anyone in the 18th Century would have transported the mysterious rocks into the forest.

After the ball field was formed and children discovered the stones, many of them were carried away. Yet their centuries-old resting place in the forest remains a baffling, unsolved mystery.—*Beatrice Peppard Herman, Maplewood, N. J.*

CASE DISMISSED

My letter about my arrest in Milwaukee was published in "Report from the Readers" in the June 1983 issue of FATE. Under an ordinance prohibiting telling fortunes for money, the vice squad ticketed me and several others who were working in an occult shop.

In late summer 1983 the case against us was dismissed because the judge felt the law had too many loopholes in it. Now it is up to the council to rewrite the ordinance.

At the moment psychics in Milwaukee are in a precarious situation because the old law is still on the books. While we think it abridges our civil rights and the Constitution, the city can harass us with repeated arrests even though we cannot be prosecuted. —*Kathleen Binger, Milwaukee, Wis.*

SCIENTOLOGY SCHISM

Whether L. Ron Hubbard is alive, as Curtis Fuller insists in "I See by the Papers" (October 1983 FATE), is not even known among members of the Church of Scientology. But this is only the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the controversy between the executives of the church and its members.

A major schism has developed. Hubbard has officially withdrawn from the leadership of the church and the only visible leadership is in the hands of a cadre of youthful executives who manage its doctrines with tyrannical aplomb.

Many members, field counselors, missions and some of the branch churches have severed their ties with the main church and formed an independent Scientology movement. Many missions and centers have been reincorporated as autonomous entities. The revealing facts behind this revolutionary development are emerging from a detailed investigation being conducted by the free Scientology movement.—*William F. Hamilton III, Glendale, Ariz.*

HELP WANTED . . .

It is important to me to locate a teacher I had in Toronto from June to July 1971. His name is Swami Ganesh Govinanda Jaya Dasa.

After the course was finished, he moved either to Chicago or Green Bay, Wis., but he may have returned to Canada. Swami Jaya Dasa, who would be about 55 years old now, taught groups of only 10 at a time.

I would like to hear from anyone who knows his whereabouts.—*Peter Ming, 4 Ranters Row, Beccles Road, Hales, Norfolk, NR14 6QJ, England.*

* * *

Recently a friend and I were discussing the Nazi concentration camps of World War II and some questions arose that we would like to have answers to:

(1) Has anyone ever heard of ghosts appearing in the Nazi concentration camps?

(2) Does anyone know of a supernatural occurrence at the scene of the Warsaw ghetto?

(3) The atmosphere throughout Nazi-occupied Europe has to be emotionally charged as a result of the loss of millions of lives there. Have there been any supernatural manifestations?—*Robert T. Petrone, P. O. Box 5012, Hollywood, Fla. 33083.*

* * *

I have been studying ghosts for the last six years and currently I teach classes on this phenomenon at a local college. I am now seeking information on ghosts in Hollywood and southern California. Can FATE readers help me?—*Richard L. Senate, 46 North Santa Rosa "F." Ventura, Calif.*



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∞ Scattered across the slopes and plains of North America are enigmatic stone "diagrams" of indeterminate age and unknown purpose. About all scientists know is that considerable astronomical know-how went into their construction.

∞ From all over the British Isles come eerie reports of panthers, lions and other giant cats. Scientists claim such creatures could not possibly exist in well-populated Britain but the sightings and the controversy continue.

∞ Do we contact the dead in our dreams? A researcher who has conducted an extensive investigation says yes—and it happens all the time. "The dead are as alive as you and I," she says.



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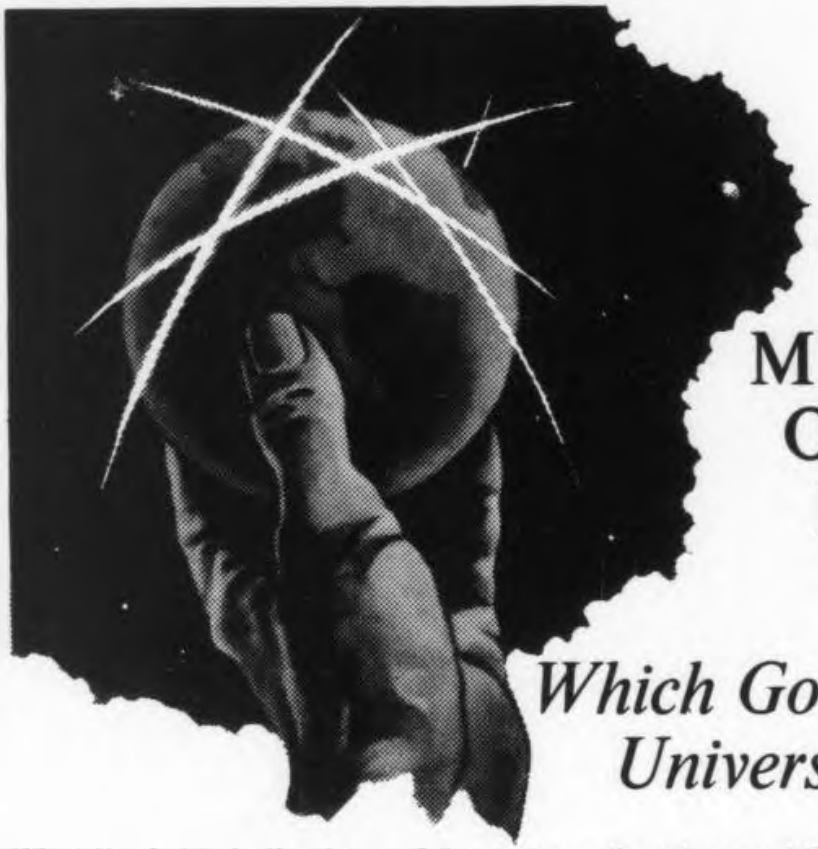
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