# True Real Life Stories Of Reincarnation

Amazing
Past Life
Memories

**Richard Bullivant** 

# True Real Life Stories Of Reincarnation: Amazing Past Life Memories

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I hope you will enjoy this book, and if so, I'm sure you will also want to read the first book in this series about Reincarnation:

"12 Real Life Reincarnation Stories in the News: Global Evidence of Reincarnation and Past Lives"

This first book in my Reincarnation series can be found by clicking the following links:

Kindle USA - www.amazon.com/dp/B00AVE3EWQ/

Kindle UK - www.amazon.co.uk/dp/B00AVE3EWQ/

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#### Introduction

Just a few years ago most stories about reincarnation were obscure tales that came to us from remote villages in India.

Now and then a modern western newspaper reporter would travel to the East and return with a remarkable tale about a Hindu boy or girl who had recalled a past life.

The story is always more or less the same. It plays out this way:

A child inexplicably begins to speak of the 'person I used to be'. He remembers living in a different village, eating different foods, living at a higher or lower economic level, and so on. He may even remember his former name, or the name of his wife. The parents, if only to allay the distress of the child, decide to investigate.

Lo and behold, they visit a nearby village and locate the exact house where the child said he used to live. They meet his former relatives, spouse, and his old neighbours. The child reels off a series of remarkable facts about the life of the deceased, most of which can be verified – it seems obvious that a bona fide case of reincarnation has been uncovered!

While fascinating, just about all of these stories were easy to dismiss.

First of all, most of these tales seem to come from obscure locations deep within the Indian continent. Initially, because people in modern nations held preconceived notions about 'Hindu mysticism', it was easy to write off these stories as being the product of cultural biases and arcane belief systems.

But things began to change.

In the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century and early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Great Britain, the topic of reincarnation was infused with renewed interest as occult groups such as Madame Blavatsky's Theosophy emerged. Other more scientific groups, such as the British Society for Psychical Research founded in 1882, brought together cutting edge thinkers who were at least willing to look at paranormal phenomena which most scientists considered outside the realm of mainstream science.

So, beginning about one hundred years ago, the idea of reincarnation was at least partially brought out of the mysterious depths of ancient India and into at least some segments of the Western mindset – although belief in reincarnation remained well on the fringe.

Then in 1952, a remarkable story emerged from a small town in the American state of Colorado called Pueblo. A businessman who was from this area was dabbling in hypnotism as a hobby and decided to put a local housewife in a trance. His goal was to alleviate her persistent headaches.

The businessman, Morey Bernstein, was in for the surprise of his life when his subject, Virginia Tighe, spontaneously began to speak of a past life in Ireland. The woman believed she had been a little Irish girl by the name of Bridey Murphy who had lived in Cork in the year 1806. What followed was a detailed description of an entire life lived thousands of miles away and in a previous century.

When a local newspaper got hold of the story, the result was a sensation. The original article was soon picked up by major media outlets around the globe, and a book was eventually published. The book was followed by a Hollywood movie.

Suddenly the idea of reincarnation had gripped the rank-and-file American middle class. There was just something about the story that produced a wave of resonance within the consciousness of modern society. It seemed to have struck a chord.

The Bridey Murphy case also became extremely controversial. Sceptical investigators travelled to Cork and found dozens of inconsistencies with the facts of the life of Bridey Murphy as told by Colorado housewife Virginia Tighe.

Tighe herself would later say the whole situation ruined her life. The media attention, the virulent negative criticism, the accusations of mental instability – all of it took a toll on what had once been the normal happy life of a small-town American housewife.

However, what even the harshest critics and sceptics of the Bridey Murphy case did not understand was this: It proved that a modern audience was not only ready to confront the possibility of reincarnation, but that there was something about the story that gripped imaginations in a way that was more than mere sensation.

It seemed like the time had come for an awakening – or perhaps a reawakening. It was almost as if the idea of reincarnation had been buried in the subconscious minds of everyone all along – that is, it had been stamped down and pushed aside by modern science but now this concept was eager to burst forward again.

Today, hardly a week goes by when there is not a story of reincarnation presented in any given newspaper in any given country around the world. Furthermore, stories of reincarnation are carried by the most respected and venerable of mainstream newspapers, not just sleazy tabloids.

The growing number of new and exciting cases of reincarnation covered in today's modern media is the inspiration for this book. We will be taking a deeper look at some of the most intriguing stories taken from recent headlines. Our survey of major newspapers around the world reveal not only amazing personal

stories of people who say they have been reincarnated – but it demonstrates what appears to be a growing public acceptance of the possibility that all of us will live again after we finish our present 'go-around' on the planet Earth.

What's even more intriguing is that cutting edge science truly seems to be getting on board.

No segment of society has held the idea of reincarnation in greater contempt than has the scientific community but, as you will see in these pages, a growing number of the world's brightest scientists are now actually coming out in favour of reincarnation. They say it is a viable way to explain certain fundamental features of our reality and consciousness. Scientists – medical doctors, biologists, physicists and neurologists – are taking a second look at reincarnation simply because that's where the science is leading them.

These are exciting times.

Just a few decades ago, a book like this one could not have been written. Even the height of the burgeoning 1960s New Age movement could not have anticipated the amazing breakthroughs in biology, neuroscience and quantum mechanics that are happening today – and what these mean to the concept that after we die, we can come back to life again.

# **Bentreshyt – A Priestess of Isis**

The New York Times called the story of Irish born Dorothy Eady:

'One of the Western World's most intriguing and convincing modern case histories of reincarnation.'

For most of her long life, Eady came to be known as Omm Sety, which means *Mother of Seti*. This is because she named her son Seti, and Omm is the Egyptian word for *mother*.

Seti was a powerful Egyptian pharaoh who lived around 1300 B.C. He was the father of one of the most well-known Egyptian rulers, Ramesses II. Also known as Ramesses the Great, he is the pharaoh sometimes purported to be the pharaoh of the Bible's Book of Exodus. It was Ramesses II who refused the demands of Moses to free the Hebrew people from slavery, only to face the devastating wrath of God. The role of Ramesses II in the story of Moses has never been verified by historians or archaeologists, however, and is hotly disputed by many others. This is also fiercely contested by Omm Sety herself, as we shall see, because she knew him personally.

# **Early Life**

However, before we get too far ahead of our story, let's go back to the beginning of the remarkable journey of Omm Sety, born as Dorothy Eady in 1904 in London. Her parents, Reuben and Caroline Eady, were Irish and had come to England to find better economic opportunities.

Raised in a small English coastal village, little Dorothy Eady was a normal child until the age of three when she took a tumble down a stairway. She landed on her head and sustained a major injury. Unfortunately her condition was so serious that doctors told her parents to prepare themselves for the worst and, in fact, pronounced her dead at one point.

But Dorothy clung to life, and somehow survived. Doctors were stunned by this turn around and called her recovery a miracle.

However, when Dorothy awoke from her coma she was a changed person. Her behaviour was described, with typical British reserve, as 'strange'.

But even more bizarre was that this three year old girl now seemed to have developed an intense interest in all things Egyptian. Little Dorothy began to

speak of the ancient Egyptian religion and even of obscure, forgotten or unknown rituals and customs. How she had come to gain this kind of knowledge was a profound mystery.

Her personality was also different. It was almost as if there was another person inside her, sharing the same body. Dorothy was still Dorothy, but there was the tantalizing feeling that 'someone else' was there too and that this 'other' personality had merged with the Dorothy personality.

Whatever the case, her sudden alarming knowledge and love of ancient Egyptian culture got her kicked out of her Sunday school classes. Her teacher said that Dorothy began comparing Christianity unfavourably to the pagan deities of the faraway lands of the Nile. Although her teachers and parents were scandalized by this turn of events, they were also left feeling profoundly perplexed by the situation.

A major turning point came when Dorothy's parents brought her to the British Museum on a family outing one day. Here she encountered a series of photographs showing sites of ancient Egypt's New Kingdom, an era identified by historians as extending from about 1550 B.C. to 1070 B.C. Upon seeing the photos, little Dorothy became energized and animated. She cried out:

'This is my home! But where are the trees? Where are the gardens?'

She proceeded to run through the rest of the museum excitedly, sometimes stopping to kiss the feet of statues and shouting out her joy to be amongst her people.

Dorothy's dumbfounded parents coped as well as they could. They struggled to come to terms with the strange behaviour of their daughter, and perhaps compensated by coming to an acceptance that she had somehow developed a natural, although unusually intense, interest in Egyptology.

Dorothy went on to shape her schooling around the study of ancient Egypt, including learning the language and reading and writing hieroglyphics.

Her absorption into Egyptology also took a number of paranormal turns. At the age of fifteen, Eady claimed to have been visited by 'the mummy' of Pharaoh Seti I. She also developed a tendency to sleepwalk and spontaneously entered into a trancelike state, during which she seemed to be communicating with unseen beings who spoke an ancient form of Egyptian.

She also reported out-of-body experiences and the 'transportation of her

consciousness to strange realms'. This behaviour resulted in commitment to a sanitarium on a number of occasions.

After Eady grew to womanhood her great knowledge of Egypt helped her get a job writing articles and creating cartoon illustrations for an Egyptian public relations magazine which was produced in London. Through a connection at work, she met and married an Egyptian man living and studying in England. Her new husband was an English teacher and when he was offered a job back in his native country, he and his British bride returned to Egypt.

On the day Dorothy arrived in Egypt, she immediately dropped to her knees, fell to the ground and kissed the soil. She said:

'I'm finally home, and I'm never leaving again.'

She would keep that promise over the next fifty years until the end of her life. Two years after arriving in Egypt, her husband was offered a much higher paying job in Iraq which would mean that Omm Sety would have to leave Egypt to continue her married life with her husband. But rather than leave, she filed for divorce. She was staying put.

Before her marriage broke down, Dorothy gave birth to a son whom she named after her 'spiritual mentor' Seti I, and thus came to be known as Omm Sety, Mother of Seti.

# Visitations by Ho-Ra

Sometime during her early years in Egypt, Omm Sety began receiving visitations from an ancient Egyptian spirit figure that identified itself as Ho-Ra. Over a period of twelve months, Ho-Ra visited Dorothy (now known as Omm Sety) a number of times and dictated to her the details of a previous life he said she had lived in ancient Egypt.

Ho-Ra told her that her name had been Bentreshyt, which means 'Harp of Joy'. Her parents in her previous life were of humble means as her mother was a vegetable seller and her father, a blonde haired blue eyed man of Greek descent, was a soldier in the army of Seti I. The mother of Bentreshyt died when she was three and because her father was away at war, and also could not afford to support a child, Bentreshyt was brought to a religious temple where she was raised to be a priestess of Isis.

As a priestess of Isis, Bentreshyt was to live her life as a consecrated virgin, taking her vows at the age of twelve. She would play an important role in rituals

related to the annual celebration of the passion and resurrection of Osiris, the god of the underworld and husband of Isis.

Ho-Ra told Omm Sety that Bentreshyt lived to the age of fourteen, and died under tragic circumstances by taking her own life. Her end was the direct result of a chance meeting with the Pharaoh himself, Seti I. It seemed that Seti had visited the temple of Isis on one occasion and in a garden had spotted the young priestess, Bentreshyt, who was just thirteen or fourteen years old. He instantly became infatuated with the beautiful young girl, particularly because she had inherited the blonde hair and stunning blue eyes of her Greek father, setting her apart from the standard dark hair and eyes of the average Egyptian female of the day.

Seti took her as his lover and she became pregnant.

Because a priestess of Isis was expected to remain virginal for life, and because her pregnancy was the result of a dalliance with the Pharaoh himself, the resulting scandal would have been enormous. Bentreshyt only admitted to being pregnant and naming the father after being tortured. Once admitting her guilt, she was still to face trial - but it was a foregone conclusion that she would be found guilty based on her own confession. The penalty, she knew, would be death. Thus, rather than face it all, Bentreshyt killed herself.

# **Life as Omm Sety**

After an intensive year channeling the spirit of Ho-Ra, Omm Sety came to fully understand and accept herself for who and what she really was – the reincarnation of an ancient priestess of Isis who had lived and died under tragic circumstances some three thousand years ago.

The knowledge she had gained through her remarkable paranormal experience, combined with her formal education, meant that Omm Sety commanded skills and knowledge that would serve her well in Egypt. She was equipped like practically none other to play a key role in assisting the many scholars and archaeologists who were swarming all over Egypt at the time, uncovering the secrets of the ancient kingdoms.

Her unique knowledge was extremely fortunate in terms of allowing her a way to support herself and her son financially, and without a husband. Most of the early to mid- $20^{th}$  Century was a time when women were second-class citizens

and expected to stay home, have children, be mothers and keep the home fires burning. For a woman to work and hold an important position was frowned upon. It was the men who were expected to earn a living for their families.

This was especially true in Egypt where there was even stronger cultural pressures for women to maintain their place in society as a secondary adjunct to men.

#### **Uncommon Knowledge**

After she divorced her husband, Omm Sety moved to Nazlat al-Samman, situated near the Giza pyramids, where she met Selim Hassan, the archaeologist who would one day write an amazing sixteen volume *Encyclopedia of Ancient Egypt*. Accomplishing this monumental task probably would have been far more difficult if it had not been for the uncanny, unnatural knowledge and strong writing skills of Omm Sety.

She worked for Hassan as his secretary and draughtswoman. In this position she was able to meet and interact with dozens of other scientists, historians, archaeologists and Egyptologists who were uncovering the secrets of the pharaohs. She became a well-known figure and her amazing skills, combined with an unparalleled knowledge of where major archaeological finds might be uncovered, contributed to her legend.

For example, after the discovery of the Temple of Seti I in Abydos, Omm Sety said that she remembered a garden area that was a part of the temple complex. Few believed that a garden would have been included in such a temple, but Omm Sety told them exactly where to dig, and it would be found. It was. Omm Sety said she remembered spending time in the garden during her life as Bentreshyt.

Omm Sety described entering the Temple of Seti as being like accessing a time machine. When she was inside, she said it was as if the past and present 'combined as one' and she was able to compare the vastly different outlooks and mindset of the ancient people as opposed to modern people of her era. She said that he modern mind had extreme difficulty in comprehending a world in which magic was the norm. She also said:

'And the magic really worked.'

She explained that scenes depicted on temple walls could 'be activated' by

the mind of ancient Egyptians to produce real world results.

As for Ramesses the Great, Omm Sety considered him to be the most slandered pharaoh of her time. As we said earlier, Ramesses II is often tagged with being the wicked pharaoh who defied the God of Moses, who ordered the death of all first-born sons in his kingdom, and who kept the Hebrew people in a state of cruel slavery.

But Omm Sety claims to have personally known and met Ramesses II in her previous life as Bentreshyt. At the time, Ramesses was a teenage boy, who went on to become a kind and just ruler upon the death of his father, Seti I. She said the connection of Ramesses II with the actions depicted in the Book of Exodus had nothing to do with him, and that his reputation had been falsely maligned by history. She also clearly remembered Ramesses as a teenage boy who was energetic, noisy, curious and intelligent.

Ramesses went on to become perhaps the greatest of New Kingdom pharaohs. Scholars agree he lived to an amazing age of ninety or ninety-one years old, that he was a brilliant military leader, and also created a climate of economic prosperity and security for his subjects at home in Egypt.

# **Lasting Legacy**

Omm Sety stayed true to her word and never left Egypt. She died at the age of seventy-seven in Abydos. Throughout her life in Egypt she never attempted to hide her belief that she was the reincarnation of an Isis priestess of some three thousand years before – in fact she spoke of it openly, and didn't care whether people believed her or not. It helped that she was able to back up her claims time after time with astounding revelations about ancient Egyptian culture and religion that had been long forgotten, or completely unknown.

Many times a particular description of a ritual or custom as described only by Omm Sety would be verified with the discovery of a previously unknown manuscript found buried in some tomb or lost for centuries in the dusty halls of a museum warehouse.

Omm Sety not only claimed to be the reincarnation of an ancient priestess but was known to keep up the practices of the ancient religions. She brought offerings to the Temple of Seti and continued to perform rituals associated with the worship of Osiris. She was also known to practice ancient healing techniques used by the ancient Egyptians both on herself and others – and was credited with

many amazing cures of chronic conditions.

Much of the knowledge that can be found today in textbooks and popular literature about the religions, culture and practices of ancient Egypt may have never been uncovered without the remarkable insights of Omm Sety. There are dozens of scholarly works - books, papers and reference materials, such as encyclopedias, that pay tribute to and acknowledge the deft assistance of Omm Sety as writer, interpreter, draughtswoman and researcher.

What modern science cannot acknowledge is the fact that a huge portion of the information she provided was the result of taking out-of-body trips to ancient Egypt itself, meetings with strange gods and wise beings, and her own personal memories of the life she lived three thousand years ago as a priestess of Isis.

The long life of Dorothy Eady, a little Irish-English girl who came to be known as one of the greatest Egyptologists of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, remains one of the most stunning and rock-solid cases for the validity of reincarnation. From the age of three until her death at the age of seventy-seven, she never recanted her claim to be the reincarnation of a fourteen year old priestess of Isis who lived in Egypt's New Kingdom some three thousand years before.

Her claims were backed up by decades of knowledgeable revelations about the life, times and customs of ancient Egypt, much of which was eventually proven to be true by the diggings of archaeologists and the study of historians.

If there ever was a case to prove the validity of the theory that people transcend death and can live again in a new body in a different era of time, it is the life of Dorothy Eady - Omm Sety.

# The Reawakening of Marty Martin

Marty Martyn seemed to 'have it all' until a massive heart attack killed him in 1964.

Martyn lived the classic lifestyle of the rich and famous in Hollywood, California. He enjoyed all the trappings of the most successful movie stars. He owned a fabulous mansion with a large swimming pool in an exclusive Beverly Hills neighbourhood. He drove a Rolls Royse – well, we should say, *his chauffeur* drove the Rolls Royce for him.

He was surrounded in beautiful women and although he had been married and divorced four times, this hardly mattered to him as there was always another beautiful starlet on hand to attend to his needs. All of his friends were A-list movie stars or powerful studio executives. He also had influential friends outside the movie business, including high-ranking politicians from Washington D.C. They were eager to be his friend, or at least get friendly with his cash.

Marty Martyn was a classic rags-to-riches American success story. Born Morris Kolinsky in Philadelphia, he was the son of humble immigrants from the Ukraine. His father owned a small clothes press and tailor shop. As a young man Morris, along with his sister, decided to relocate to New York. He changed his name to Marty Martyn and got a job as a dancer in a Broadway play. His sister also successfully acquired theatre roles in dance and, after a short while, the brother and sister team made their way to Hollywood where they tried to break into the film industry.

Marty Martyn was able to land just one film role, a bit part in the 1932 film *Night After Night* starring the then popular gangster turned movie star, George Raft. That small role turned out to be the peak of his acting career.

The connections he made whilst trying to make it as an actor eventually enabled him to open the Marty Martyn Talent Agency. Success and boat loads of cash soon followed. One of his early clients was Glenn Ford, who would go on to be a major Hollywood star.

Marty was also clever in his marriages, especially his fourth. He married the niece of Spyros P Skouras, who was the president of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox Studios. His new wife and her family were unimaginably wealthy. Marty's fourth wife

owned one of the most palatial mansions in Hollywood – and this is where Marty was living when his luck ran out.

Morris Kolinsky, better known as Marty Marytn, contracted leukemia. But before this disease could take him, a major heart attack ended his life suddenly in 1964 at the age of sixty-one years old.

#### Did Marty Reawaken in a Small Oklahoma Town?

But perhaps Marty Martyn is not so dead after all.

Recently a number of American newspapers began running the story of a five year old boy named Ryan who lives with his mother and father in a rural area of Muskogee County, Oklahoma.

Ryan began to experience terrible nightmares which caused him to wake up screaming:

'My heart is exploding!' and,

'Help me! I can't breathe!'

He would jump from his bed, white with terror and suffer numerous episodes of breathing difficulties and chest pains.

At the onset of the nightmares, little Ryan also began to speak of strange things – of people and places he should have no knowledge of. His parents first interpreted all this as gibberish. But the child was insistent about whatever he was talking about, and some of the things he had to say started to form a coherent story.

Ryan began to speak of 'the person who I really am.' He said this man had a much better and more interesting life than he. He said this person lived in a house with a swimming pool on Rocks Drive. He frequently mentioned missing one of his best friends who was 'very powerful' – this was a man he identified mysteriously as *Senator Five*.

Ryan eventually began to remember more. He started to talk about incidents of a life he once seemed to have lived in Hollywood and how glamorous, fun and interesting it was. He said that he had famous friends and knew a lot of beautiful women. He said he enjoyed dancing, wearing fancy clothes and going to the best restaurants – he especially liked Chinese food.

He then began to remember even more astonishing details. For example, he said he was a personal friend of the legendary movie star Rita Hayworth. He also

knew Mae West. Little Ryan also said he had a sister who was a famous dancer, and that he had a daughter whom he dearly missed.

He told of trips to Paris and spending a lot of time on a 'big boat' in the Mediterranean off the shores of France and Italy. On one of these trips he got a terrible sunburn. Imagine a five-year-old boy commenting:

'If you want to see the world, there's no better way than to do it on a boat.'

He talked often of a favourite café in the streets of Paris, and also the fabulous nightclubs of that city.

Ryan's stories contained tantalizing detail. For example, one time he said he was 'punched out' by the bodyguards of Marilyn Monroe just for trying to talk to her. Whenever Ryan would see an image of the famous white letters of the Hollywood sign on television, he would cry out:

'That's my home!'

Ryan began to urge his parents to 'find him'. His parents were completely dumbfounded by the strange behaviour of their son. They are small-town conservative, Bible-believing Baptists. His father, Kevin, is a police officer with thirteen years of experience, and his mother, Cyndi, works as a clerk for the county.

Kevin and Cyndi knew next to nothing about reincarnation and as conservative Christians, completely rejected the notion. It was antithetical to their strict Bible beliefs. But Ryan was so persistent in his claims of having lived a previous life in Hollywood, his mother began to document some of the specifics of what he was talking about. She eventually formed a list of one hundred and two items that might be checked against actual historical records.

The trouble was, Ryan could not recall what his name was in his supposed former life. He didn't think he was a famous movie star with a well-known name. If he was a significant figure in Hollywood, he must have been someone more obscure or who worked behind the scenes, yet well-connected in the movie and entertainment industry.

Cyndi went to the local library and brought home dozens of books about Hollywood, especially old Hollywood. One day, flipping through pictures taken from old black and white films, Ryan grew excited when he saw a picture of an actor standing next to the famous Hollywood star, George Raft.

'That's me, mama!' Ryan shouted out. 'That's me and that's George. Mama,

you found me!'

The picture of the actor standing next to George Raft was, of course, Marty Martyn, in a scene from the movie *Night After Night* – the only movie Martyn ever had a role in, and that was merely a 'bit' role. One of Ryan's specific memories was of a movie that had a 'closet full of guns'. Cyndi found out more details concerning *Night After Night*, and discovered that it included a scene wherein gangsters had collected a stash of guns kept in a closet.

Kevin and Cyndi then rented the movie *Night After Night*. Watching it was enough to convince them that whatever Ryan was talking about, there had to be something to it. Without seeing the film Ryan had described the plot of *Night After Night* in almost perfect detail. There was no chance that the little boy had ever seen the movie on TV – it was an obscure film that came and went from the theatre scene in just a few months back in 1932.

There was still a big problem, however. Because Marty Martyn's role was such a small part, he was not credited in the film. His small scene was even edited out in some releases of the film. His name did not appear in the credits rolling at the end of the movie, nor in any of the film's documentation.

Searching through a lot of photos, the closest they could come to finding a guy who looked like Marty was an actor by the name of Ralf Harolde – but this name did not ring a bell with Ryan.

Despite everything, Ryan's parents still refused to accept the possibility that their son was the reincarnation of a dead Hollywood movie star. On the other hand, they had learned that when children develop such reincarnation-like fixations, one of the best therapies for ridding them of their nightmares and anxieties is to learn as much as they can about the past life they seem to remember.

Ryan's memories were more than a curiosity. The child was obviously deeply troubled by his memories as he continued to suffer frequent nightmares and an agonizing feeling of loneliness and alienation. He said he found his current life as a boy in Oklahoma boring and that he wanted to go back to his house with the pool, dancing with pretty ladies and boating around the world.

His parents contacted Dr Jim Tucker, Medical Director of The Child and Family Psychiatry Clinic and Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Neurobehavioral Sciences at the University of Virginia.

Dr Tucker said that the best way to help Ryan was to assist him with identifying with the past-life personality in question. He said this might actually resolve the fixation Ryan had developed, whether his past-life memories were real, or some kind of delusion.

To this end, Kevin and Cyndi flew their son to southern California for a personal visit to Tinsel Town, still thinking that the actor they were looking for might be Ralf Harolde. Through careful research, they were able to find the neighbourhood and likely locations where Harolde lived during his life, but nothing seemed familiar to Ryan.

There were also other problems associated with Ralf Harolde. Ryan said that in his previous life he had a sister who was a famous dancer but Ralf Harolde had no sister. Other details of his life did not match up as well.

Still desperate to find answers for their son, Ryan's parents then hired a woman by the name of Kate Coe who was a professional film footage researcher. She searched through old Hollywood documents to find every scrap of information she could about the movie *Night After Night* and eventually she found the mysterious man who had just a brief cameo in the movie. He was finally identified – it was Marty Martyn, who went on to become a successful Hollywood talent agent.

Kate Coe was also able to collect numerous photos of Marty Martyn at various stages of his life. Ryan's parents and Dr Tucker used the photographs to formulate a test for the boy. They gathered the pictures of numerous other people, including old film stars, and placed photos of Martyn among groups of other photographs. They asked Ryan to point out which picture was the man he claimed to be in his previous life.

Ryan pointed to the correct photo one hundred percent of the time. He was able on all occasions to point to Marty Martyn among groups of diverse photograph collections.

Dr Tucker also took the one hundred and two points of Ryan's past-life incidents documented by Ryan's mother and was able to verify ninety-two of them as being accurate events that coincided with the life of Marty Martyn. Ryan was even able to correctly identify a picture of Martyn's former wife, and of his daughter.

After this research was complete, Dr Tucker suggested that Kevin and Cyndi

bring their young son to Hollywood one more time as the doctor had arranged a meeting between Ryan and the woman he had identified as the daughter of Marty Martyn. Martyn's daughter agreed to meet the child – even though she was now the same age as Ryan's grandmother.

When Ryan and the woman met, Ryan felt deep sadness and surprise at how old his daughter had become. He said:

'I feel so bad, she got so old. Why didn't she wait for me?'

Martyn's daughter asked Ryan a barrage of questions about her father and life, including incidents that were private family moments that only the real Marty Martyn could have known - and Ryan was able to answer just about every question correctly.

They were even able to uncover who the mysterious *Senator Five* Ryan spoke of as being one of his best friends. It turned out that Marty Martyn was good friends with a U.S. Senator from New York whose name was *Senator Irving Ives*. It also transpired that Marty's last place of residence – the one with the big swimming pool which Ryan said was on Rocks Drive - was located at 825 N. Roxbury.

Fortunately for the long-distressed parents of little Ryan, his meeting with the daughter of the man whom he thought he previously was and learning about his life, had the effect of easing his anxiety and quelling his nightmares. The indepth investigation of the life of the former Hollywood talent agent seemed to bring a measure of peace and resolution to the young child. His memories of his past life began to fade into the background, and he began to more fully embrace who he was today - an ordinary boy in a small Oklahoma town.

To this day, Kevin and Cyndi say the incidents with their son have not brought them over to a belief in reincarnation. Even Dr Jim Tucker is hesitant to label the case as one that provides actual proof that people die and come back again as new individuals living in a different time and place. All he will admit is that time and time again, when such cases come up, the treatment for allying the anxieties of children with apparent past-life memories is to confront those memories directly, which enables them to forget and move on.

Yet the facts of the case speak for themselves. Is there any other logical explanation for how Ryan could remember so many details of the life of a now obscure and all but forgotten Hollywood talent agent? If this is not a case of

actual reincarnation, then what is it?

#### **Past Lives on Other Planets**

Many people today still find the idea of reincarnation as a 'way out there' concept. If they consider the idea at all, they relegate the suggestion of past lives to either 'wacky New Agers' or those who subscribe to eastern religions, such as Hinduism or Buddhism.

On the other hand, belief in reincarnation has been gaining steady acceptance among the general European and American populations, with some surveys showing that as many as twenty-five percent of people in Western industrialized nations now believe in reincarnation.

But just when you think things can't get any stranger, they often do.

Perhaps it was only a matter of time before the world of reincarnation and the highly strange realm of UFOs and alien abduction phenomenon collided.

Today dozens of people have come forward to make the claim that not only are they reincarnated but in their previous existence they were an alien from another planet, or possibly another dimension in time or space. They also claim that extraterrestrials are deeply involved in a kind of long-term process of engineering the human race - and reincarnation is the 'engine which drives that process'.

Some UFO researchers says that ETs are directing the evolution of the human species toward certain specific goals, a large part of the process involving the manipulation of how people, or their souls, reincarnate.

One person who said she has had direct experience with 'alien manipulation of souls' is Suzanne Hansen of New Zealand. Hansen just also happens to be director of UFOCUS NZ, which is the largest UFO research group in New Zealand.

In a television interview with a New Zealand news team, Hansen told reporters that when she was an eight year old child she was abducted and taken aboard an ET spacecraft where she met a crew of the classic 'grey aliens'. On board the ship, the greys introduced her to a 'ball of light' which Hansen sensed was more than a mere energy orb, but possessed a kind of intelligence - as if it were a free floating 'soul'.

The aliens then had something astonishing to tell her: They said that many years later she would marry and become pregnant with the fetus of a male child.

At some point, the aliens said they would return to 'insert' the ball of light Hansen encountered as a child into her fetus, and that this ball of light was a specially engineered 'soul' which would shape the life and consciousness of her future son.

Years later, Hansen married and became pregnant with a male child, and the 'soul insertion' procedure was carried out by the ETs, as promised.

All of these events were recalled via the process of hypnotic regression, in this case carried out by one of the world's leading proponents of such work — Mary Rodwell, an Australian who began her career as a nurse, and transitioned to becoming a highly respected psychological therapist who specializes in helping people who say they have been traumatized by an alien abduction experience. Rodwell has conducted thousands of such sessions with patients from all over the world.

With Mary Rodwell's help, Hansen recalled being told by the ETs that her son would embody a special set of abilities, including greater psychic capabilities, powers of healing and an aptitude to work with exotic levels of inter-dimensional energies, as well as being able to communicate with non-human beings. The child would also become involved with certain 'greater projects' such as healing the planet and raising the consciousness of other human beings in terms of developing more harmonious ways to live within the ecosystem of the earth.

Hansen said that the ETs explained that her son would have no conscious memory of any of these abilities, but that he would begin to become more aware of his custom-engineered talents when he reached the age of about thirty-five years old.

Hansen describes herself as a 'lifetime abductee'. She believes that extraterrestrials have been visiting her, taking her aboard their crafts, and working with her throughout her life. She has come to accept that the ETs are benign and working for the betterment of the human species, including their work to imbue a specific population of people with advanced abilities – all directed toward 'improving the species' and rescuing the planet from the majority of the current human population which is on a dangerous path of war, over-population and widespread ecological destruction.

#### **Other Lives - Other Planets**

But reincarnation from lives on other planets does not necessarily need an ET-UFO connection. Long before researchers in the ufology community began considering the reincarnation process as part of the abduction experience, some of the more recent pioneers in past-life regression therapy have been finding instances of people who claim to recall past lives that originate on far-off planets or alien worlds.

One of the most well-known and respected advocates of past-life regression therapy is Dr Michael Newton, a counselling psychologist who has performed thousands of hypnotic sessions in which he has regressed patients to memories of past lives.

Dr Newton's ground-breaking 1994 book, *Journey of Souls*, found a large public audience and helped both popularize and legitimize the idea of not only life after death and reincarnation, but the situation of life-between-life – that is, the activities of the soul in that time after a person dies, but before the person decides to reincarnate again physically into a new life and time.

Early on in his practice, Dr Newton was initially surprised when some of his patients would spontaneously begin speaking of past life scenarios. At the time, Newton was an avowed atheist. He has stated bluntly that in his early career he would have never considered past-life regression therapy to be something that would be even remotely legitimate. But it was the spontaneous reports of his own patients that changed his mind.

Memories of past lives would surface during a hypnotic session in which Newton was attempting to guide a patient back to early childhood, hoping to uncover some trauma that was causing the person trouble in his or her current adult life. But instead of stopping at say the age of one year or six months, many people would just 'keep going' until they found themselves living in a previous century with a different name, body and identity.

Although highly resistant to the idea at first, Dr Newton also could not help but notice that once a person revisited a past life, the problems in their current life would be alleviated. For example, if a person reports a past life in which he or she drowned, they may have an inexplicable phobia about water in their current life. By reliving the past-life incident of drowning, the present-life fear of water vanishes for the patient.

Once Dr Newton became more familiar and comfortable with past-life

regression therapy, he also began to notice that some people would report the experience of being 'a soul' or perhaps spirit that was in between reincarnations. It would seem that there is a certain period of time where a person/soul has time to pause, rest and evaluate their experience in the life they have just completed before entering into a new life.

But a certain percentage of hypnotically regressed people also had even something more bizarre to report – that of being an intelligent life form living on another planet. One of the most common of these kinds of reports were people who claimed to live as underwater beings in an ocean environment – sometimes on a planet which was composed entirely of water, or with just a single tiny continent.

In other instances, Newton had people tell him that they recalled being an intelligent winged being living in an exotic forest environment on a strange planet.

In a television interview, Dr. Newton said:

'What is interesting in talking to people who have incarnated on other worlds is that there is a similarity here ... it may be that people who come here also like to go to other worlds because what appeals to them about earth appeals to them about another environment that is somewhat similar.

'For instance, when I'm talking to large audiences I ask how many people have had dreams where they could fly. Usually seventy-five percent of them will raise their hands. Then I will say how many of you have had dreams where you could swim under water and breathe, and that you are a very intelligent life form. About half will do that. Then I really narrow the field down, I will ask, how many have been giants in their dreams ... only a few hands ... and then I ask how many have been really tiny beings where everything else is larger than you are, and just one or two out of a group of one hundred or two hundred people will raise their hands.

'And what this indicates is that ... many people who incarnate on earth also incarnate on flying or water worlds. And so I have had a number of clients who have talked to me about being flying creatures, highly intelligent flying creatures on other worlds and what those worlds were like, and the same for water and how they can swim deep into an ocean kind of atmosphere, how there are cities under the ocean, and they look like not whales or dolphins so much ... but

creatures that are so strange that we see them only in mythology ... I think a lot of our mythologies may well come from our early memories ...'

Some incarnation on other worlds would seem to almost defy any familiar description. For example Dr Newton states:

'In one case, a man is regressed to another planet where he began his incarnations on a dark, quiet world with intelligent, although unemotional, life forms who were dying as a race. This was a world devoted to reason and logic. Eventually, (he) asked for a transfer to a brighter world where he could incarnate into a more sensitive being. He was given Earth.'

Michael Newton is not the only hypnotherapist who has encountered subjects who claim to be reincarnated from strange life forms on other planets. Another is professional hypnotherapist Dolores Cannon who has authored seventeen books (to date) cataloguing the thousands of subjects she has regressed over a remarkable fifty years of hypnosis practice.

Among the past life incarnations Cannon's subjects have reported are:

- \*A woman who said her previous life was that of an energy sun being.
- \*A man who was an intelligent robot with 'real consciousness' in a far off planet.
- \*A man who lived as a Bigfoot or Sasquatch-like creature.
- \*Souls who have never incarnated on earth before.
- \*Other dimensional beings.
- \*Citizens of lost civilizations such as Atlantis and Lemuria.

What cases like these show is how the idea of reincarnation is not only gaining more acceptance today among a modern audience – including a population that is not necessarily religious – but that the very nature of reincarnation itself is also evolving to a more complex form, and rapidly.

Part of the reason is that people today are naturally applying the findings of modern science and quantum mechanics theory to the ancient concept of reincarnation. Just a few decades ago, for example, most people would have naturally assumed a linear time progression for incarnational lives – a person who died in 1885, for example, could only be born again in some year after that time, say, 1910.

The assumption was that a 'soul' began its reincarnation journey in ancient

times, perhaps even the Stone Age, and progressed century-by-century to the modern times. But after the work of Albert Einstein and others showed that time is a 'relative' quantity or phenomenon, that time is fluid, can flow backwards and forwards, and is not linear at all – well, the implications for reincarnation become obvious as well.

Beyond that, quantum theory has also opened up our conception of the universe from being a singular kind of existence to that of a 'multiverse' – that our reality may actually be one of multiple dimensions, perhaps even infinite dimensions, and that 'souls' can cross over between dimensional time and space, backwards and forwards, sideways and other ways – creating a much more rich and complex dynamic of how reincarnation actually works.

Since just about everyone today believes that there is life on other planets, and most likely intelligent life, it is not a great leap to consider the possibility that human beings can incarnate as other beings living on other planets, and vice versa — and indeed, the evidence from actual hypnotic regression sessions seems to be showing that is exactly the case.

It seems that just when more people are becoming comfortable with the traditional and ancient concept of reincarnation, the game is about to change again, or we should say, the game is changing and evolving before our very eyes.

# The Interesting Case of Sherrie Lea Laird and Marilyn

One of the biggest points of ridicule directed at people who claim to have been reincarnated is when they declare to be the rebirth of a famous or powerful person, such as an Egyptian queen, an American Civil War general, an ancient wise man, or perhaps a famous movie star.

Sceptics ask in sneering tones:

'Why don't people ever seem to be the reincarnation of some Average Joe, like some bored housewife, a bum or homeless man?'

Well the fact is the vast majority of people claiming to be reincarnated *do not* remember the past life of a famous person. The overwhelming majority of people who have undergone hypnotic regression describe utterly ordinary past lives – a lowly slave, a farm worker, a truck driver, a failed artist.

This is affirmed by the pioneers of past-life regression, such as Dr Michael Newton, Dr Brian Weiss, Dolores Cannon, Dr Ian Stevenson and many others. These researchers have collectively regressed thousands of people. They report that only a tiny fraction of the patients – less than one-half of one percent – remember the past life of a famous or powerful person.

But sometimes it does occur.

Furthermore, when a person who happens to be already famous proclaims to be the reincarnation of some other famous person - well, that's a double whammy, and the sarcastic sceptics have an even greater field day.

Such is the case of a woman who gained a significant amount of celebrity when her Canadian pop band scored a flurry of charting hits in the late 1990s and early 2000s. The band was called *Sulk*. Its lovely blonde, talented and charismatic lead singer was Sherrie Lea Laird, a native of Edinburgh, Scotland, now living in Canada.

Laird began having visions and disturbing memories from around the age of nine years old. She felt as if there was another person inside of her. This 'inner person' was a powerful, artistic, yet deeply disturbed woman who seemed to be in a steady state of distress, unhappiness and sometimes morbid depression.

In most reincarnation cases, the memories of past lives fade as a person grows older and comes fully into their own personality. In the case of Sherrie Lea Laird, the opposite occurred. The inner woman that began troubling her as a little girl grew only louder and more controlling as the years passed. By the time she reached her mid-thirties, Laird was suicidal. In fact, she attempted suicide twice. The powerful woman who was haunting her in dreams, and also in

waking memories, was making her life a living hell.

In desperation Laird sought the help of psychologists, but she found traditional therapies – talk therapy, Freudian-style psychoanalysis, antidepressant medications – all of little or no value.

Laird eventually learned of a unique doctor of psychiatry who was practicing in Los Angeles. His name was Dr Adrian Finkelstein. He was extremely accomplished and highly respected as a medical doctor and therapist, but he had also dared to go against the grain of his profession to embrace the controversial practice of hypnotic past-life regression therapy.

In October of 1998, Dr Finkelstein was contacted by Laird, who by this time was convinced she was being tormented by past life memories of none other than one of the most iconic movie stars of all time.

It seems that the powerful 'inner woman' that had been tormenting Laird all her life was none other than Marilyn Monroe.

# **Extraordinary Claim, Extraordinary Proof**

After many years of working with Laird, Dr Finkelstein concluded that Sherrie Lea was not delusional and that she was indeed the bone fide reincarnation of Marilyn Monroe.

He also emphasized that in his opinion this was conclusive beyond a reasonable doubt.

The case was so convincing that Dr Finkelstein wrote a best-selling book about it titled, *Marilyn Monroe Returns: The Healing of a Soul*.

His conclusion about Laird as Monroe is based not only on the astonishing amount of information garnered from Laird's past-life memories as Marilyn Monroe but is also backed up by something much more solid and measurable - biometric identifiers.

Biometric identifiers are distinctive measurable characteristics used to label and describe individuals. They are physiological characteristics related to the shape of the body. For example, fingerprints, palm veins, face recognition, DNA, palm print, hand geometry, iris recognition, retina and odour/scent are all biometric identifiers. Biometrics are used by computers that can scan faces and recognize them according to the measurement of facial features, such as nose width, eyebrow placement, chin size and shape, and more.

Governments are using this technology today in airports, for example, to track terrorists or criminals. Video cameras can scan thousands of faces every second, relay the information to a biometrics database, and the computer can make an almost instant assessment of a person and match them to existing photographs of suspects using the characteristics of their facial structure.

When the biometrics of the face of Marilyn Monroe were measured against the face of Sherrie Laird, there were so many exact matches it meant that there was less than an 0.001 percent chance that so many 'hits' could have occurred by accident. Even if Monroe and Laird had been actual biological twins the biometrics could not have been as close a match.

There is another class of biometrics which can be measured in addition to those mentioned above. These are behavioural characteristics related to the pattern of how people speak, act and move, rather than specific features of the physical body. Behavioural traits include, but are not limited to, factors such as typing rhythm, walking gait, voice modulation and more. Here again, Monroe and Laird were a remarkable match.

Biometric data combined with the fact that Sherrie Laird could recall historically verifiable facts about Marilyn Monroe - including details never revealed in books or articles – makes this case of reincarnation among the most rock solid ever documented.

#### Life Stories

Of course, we all know that Marilyn Monroe led one of the most sensational, glamorous and tragic lives of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, including three marriages, two of them to other famous luminaries, baseball superstar Joe DiMaggio and playwright Arthur Miller.

Among her most salacious and scandalous exploits was her not-so-secret sexual relationship with the President of the United States, John F Kennedy.

Under hypnosis, Laird recalled numerous sexual encounters with the President, beginning when he was still a U.S. Senator from Massachusetts. The affair engendered little in the way of love or comfort for the troubled blonde bombshell. Under hypnosis, and speaking as Marilyn, Laird described Kennedy as 'horrible'. Channelling Marilyn, Laird said she also had sex with the brother of the President, Bobby Kennedy, who was the U.S. Attorney General at the time. One of these sleazy liaisons took place in the back seat of a chauffeured limo.

Laird poured cold water on the numerous conspiracy theories that have persisted over the death of Marilyn Monroe. One such theory says she was murdered by the CIA or U.S. Secret Service to cover up her illicit relationship with the President and his brother. But none of these agencies had anything to do with her death Laird revealed under hypnosis. It was an accidental overdose of drugs and alcohol during a typical bout of severe depression.

She also quashed the long-standing rumour that she had a fling with Elvis

Presley. 'Never happened,' Laird said to a BBC reporter who was invited to sit in on one of her regression sessions with Dr Finkelstein.

Under the guidance of Dr Finkelstein, Laird re-experienced her death as Monroe, which she described as an event proceeded by difficulty breathing and then a crushing pain in the chest. Monroe's official cause of death was an overdose of barbiturates combined with alcohol and a cocktail of other drugs. These medications would have worked by shutting down her cardio-pulmonary system, so this too supports Laird's account.

In fact, Sherrie Laird had been tormented with chest pains and difficulty breathing from the time she was fourteen years old. Doctors never found a medical cause for this trauma, and considered her condition psychosomatic – although nothing specific in the life of the young Sherrie Laird could be identified to have precipitated such a psychological effect.

After Dr Finkelstein helped Laird relive her perceived death as Marilyn, the chest pains and breathing problems were relieved, never to bother her again.

As Laird progressed through her therapy, numerous coincidental elements between the lives of Monroe and Laird were uncovered. For example, Sherrie was making her living as a singer and entertainer, and Marilyn was an actress and singer. In one of Monroe's movies, *Bus Stop*, she played a singer named Cherie. Both Monroe and Laird married and divorced a former military service man early in their lives. Both women had an Aunt Anne in their family history ... these kind of coincidences, which Dr Finkelstein prefers to call 'synchronicities' were many.

# Mother and Daughter Return Together

But there is an even more incredible twist to the Monroe-Laird story. While Dr Finkelstein was treating Sherrie Laird, her daughter asked to be hypnotically regressed - and she promptly recalled a past life in which her name was Gladys Baker. Gladys Baker was the mother of Marilyn Monroe, whose birth name was Norma Jean Mortenson, but soon after changed to Norma Jean Baker.

Amazingly, Gladys Baker died on 11 March 1984 – and Kezia Laird, the daughter of Sherrie Laird, was born almost exactly nine months later.

This revelation would seem to explain the strange dynamic between mother and daughter. While Sherrie Lea Laird was struggling with her life difficulties, which included involvement in the typical drug and alcohol abuse associated with the fast life of a rock star, her daughter Kezia took on the role of doting mother. Everyone who knew the pair said that Kezia struggled to restrain her mother from the excesses of her lifestyle, offered comfort during her periods of

deep depression, and handled countless domestic chores. Kezia even sought to ensure that her mother was eating properly.

Thousands of reincarnation case files show that two people or groups of people often agree to return together. Therapists note that a husband and wife will frequently return to a new life together – but just as often with the roles reversed. The husband will reincarnate as the wife and the wife as the husband.

It appears that Marilyn and her mother had a pact to come back and experience life together again, this time with roles reversed.

# **Outstanding Credibility and Direct Experience**

Even the most caustic of critics find it difficult to dismiss Laird's belief that she is the reincarnation of Marilyn Monroe (although dozens of highly critical articles have been published). But what the sceptics tend to gloss over is that Dr Adrian Finkelstein is a consummate medical professional who has achieved levels of success that few others have attained in his field.

Finkelstein was born in Romania to a Jewish family. With his mother and father, he escaped the great suffering and cruel oppression of the political situation in his home country by immigrating to Israel. Here Finkelstein continued the study of medicine he had begun while in Romania, even though he spoke no Hebrew or English. His nimble mind picked up a working understanding of both languages in about six months.

After completing his residency in Israel, Finkelstein made his way to the United States to practice medicine and psychiatry at the Menninger School of Psychiatry in Topeka, Kansas, which is widely considered the best facility of its kind in the United States. His work there on dream therapy was honoured with prestigious awards by both the Menninger School and Central Neuropsychiatric Association. He was also the first recipient of the A E Bennett Award, one of the highest honours in psychiatry.

After leaving Menninger, Finkelstein became Director of the Outpatient Psychiatry Division of Mount Sinai Hospital in Chicago. He also served as Professor of Psychiatry at the Chicago Medical School's University of Health Sciences.

Before he became involved in past-life regression therapy, Finkelstein had earned a reputation as one of the preeminent psychiatric doctors in the United States, and the world – but it was a special experience that launched him into a realm that most of his peers simply could not accept as legitimate.

One day while deeply involved in preparing a research paper in his office, Dr Finkelstein suddenly and unexpectedly felt an odd feeling come over him and he fell into a spontaneous reverie. He felt as if he had entered that state of mind that we sometimes experience between sleeping and wakefulness - what sleep researchers call the hypnogogic state. While in this hinterland between sleep and wakefulness, Finkelstein began to see himself, or experience himself, as being a different person.

Much to his wonderment, he was now a woman!

Information flooded into his mind about the woman he had inexplicably come to embody within his trance state. He described her as being unattractive, unmarried and middle-aged but also that she was a competent doctor. He could easily perceive the country she lived in – it was Iran. Other details of her life became known to him. Her father was a carpenter, for example. He even perceived her name - Thelma Sangiavi.

Finkelstein found himself being carried through the life of the woman as if watching it all in a movie, although it was as if he was an actor in that movie, playing the main character. When he came to the end of her life, he relived her death, the result of cancer. After death she floated out of her body, and her spirit proceeded to enter an area of bright glowing light.

Finkelstein realized that the woman was himself in a previous life.

The vision ended as suddenly as it began. When he came back to his normal senses, he was left in a state of astonishment. The vision had been as real — even more real — as anything he had ever experienced in his life. There was no question in his mind about what the vision meant. He had a knowingness, a certainty that he had lived previously as a female doctor in Iran.

This experience prompted Dr Finkelstein to pursue a further series of pastlife regressions. Under hypnosis, he was able to remember twenty-four past lives, eleven of which were male and thirteen female.

After completing this thorough self-examination of who he was and where he had been through centuries of time, Dr Finkelstein realized it was necessary to end his career as a practitioner with established medical institutions to enter private practice. He came to believe that past-life regression was an incredibly powerful tool that could be used to heal people who are here today, but suffering from mental anguishes anchored in the past. These kinds of psychological problems were highly resistant to mainstream therapies, but past-life regression yielded near miraculous results.

His distinguished accomplishment in medicine, combined with his personal experience in past-life regression, placed him in a unique position of understanding, and enabled him to become a healer quite unlike any other.

Thus, if Dr Adrian Finkelstein has concluded that Scottish-Canadian pop star Sherrie Lea Laird is the bona fide reincarnation of Marilyn Monroe ... well, there's probably no better authority on the planet to make that claim, and for that claim to be true.

#### Life on Mars

Just when it seems that so many of us are becoming comfortable with the idea of reincarnation, a new twist to the phenomenon comes along that challenges our minds to stretch to a new level. In a previous chapter we got a taste of this when we discussed people who reported being reincarnated from other planets or other dimensions or who may have come from various other forms of non-human beings in previous lives.

In this chapter we discuss some cases belonging to a special group of people who remember past-lives from one of our closest neighbours in the solar system – the planet Mars.

In the past century, there have been many well documented examples of people who claim to have past-life memories when they not only lived on Mars, but embodied the lives of a highly advanced race of humanoid beings that once lived there, hundreds of thousands or possibly millions of years ago. They claim that these humanoids may be the ancestors of all people on earth today.

One of the first and most famous known case of a Martian reincarnation was a woman who called herself Hélène Smith, born in Geneva, Switzerland, in 1861. She died in 1929.

Her birth name was Catherine-Elise Müller. Her father was a fairly successful Hungarian merchant. Catherine led a normal life working in a commercial house until about the age of thirty when she became attracted to spiritualism and the occult.

The environment of the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century in Europe might be compared to the 1960s and 1970s in America and Great Britain when the New Age movement burst onto the scene, emerging from a generally more conservative, scientific era. In the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century and early 20<sup>th</sup> Century, people such as Madam Blavatsky were forming new modes of thought, such as Theosophy; others, such as C.W. Leadbeater and Annie Besant, were stirring up great interest in spiritualism – from astral travel and séances, to spirit channelling and meditation.

Hélène Smith embraced all the exciting new spiritualist activities and quickly discovered that she was a gifted medium and psychic, and also easily mastered the esoteric art of automatic writing. She had a natural ability to enter into deep trance states, during which she channelled an impressive variety of spirits and entities. She gained a considerable amount of fame by claiming the ability to channel the famous writer Victor Hugo, recording his words via automatic writing. Not only did she channel Hugo's after-death communications, but an

analysis of Smith's automatic writing was a close match to that of the late great writer.

One of the spirits Smith frequently channelled was that of Alessandro Cagliostro, a famous occultist and notorious Italian adventurer who died in 1795. His real name was Giuseppe Balsamo, a scoundrel and professional conman who claimed to be the lover of Marie Antoinette. He is believed to have played a role in the famous *Affair of the Diamond Necklace*, a bold scheme to steal a set of priceless jewels from the French Crown.

As her reputation grew, Catherine-Elise Müller changed her name to Hélène Smith. She was clearly among the most gifted mediums of the day and continued to gain traction among Europe's high society.

Reincarnation and remembering past lives soon became a part of Smith's repertoire, but one of the many past lives she recalled was unlike any other spiritualist or occultist of her day.

Hélène Smith claimed to have lived a previous life on the planet Mars. Not only could she recall vivid imagery of her former life on Mars, but she had enough sketching and painting talent to create intriguing pictures of the Martian landscape. She even channelled a unique Martian language and

produced a strange hieroglyphic-like Martian alphabet.

All of this might be written off by sceptics as the wild imagination of a woman gifted with the talents of a science fiction writer, except much of her Mars work was conducted under the direction of one of the leading European psychologists of the day, Théodore Flournoy, a Professor of Psychology at the University of Geneva. Flournoy was a student of Freud himself, and also a close collaborator with the great Swiss psychologist Carl Jung.

Flournoy wrote a book about the amazing abilities of Hélène Smith titled *From India to the Planet Mars* published in 1899. It was an international best seller and it certainly helped Smith's reputation in that the book was taken seriously by the scientific-psychology community. Even Carl Jung was so impressed by the book he sought rights from the publisher to be its official German translator.

As the title suggests, Smith also claimed a previous life in ancient India, where she said she lived as Princess Simandini, eleventh wife of Prince Sivrouka Nayaka. This claim was bolstered by her incredible ability to speak an ancient version of the Sanskrit language. Some sceptics said she might have simply learned the language on her own, but the likelihood of this happening was impossibly remote. For one thing, the Sanskrit she spoke was an antiquated version which was significantly dissimilar to modern Sanskrit – which is what

one would expect because all languages evolve considerably from their original forms over centuries of time.

Another of her incarnational lives is a bit more sensational – she claimed to have been Marie Antoinette, the ill-fated Queen of France who was executed in 1793. She learned this though her psychic connection with Giuseppe Balsamo. Of course, history says that Balsamo purportedly had an affair with the French Queen, and perhaps planned to rob her of a diamond necklace. It is known at least that he travelled within the circles surrounding the queen – thus, it seemed appropriate that Smith would make after-death contact with this man.

Incidentally, the spirit of Balsamo became an important intermediary for Smith as she channelled a variety of entities, including those who proclaimed to be Martians. In trance, Balsamo referred to himself as 'Leopold' and he became a significant gatekeeper through which much of the information was channelled through Hélène Smith.

But it was her tales of life on Mars that enthralled many. Her descriptions of Mars, its environment, flora, strange animals, Martian beings and landscape were complex and detailed. She said the Red Planet was populated by a race of humanoid beings that were roughly Asian in physiognomy. They got around Mars in both self-powered vehicles and aircraft. Smith described dog-like animals that had 'heads like cabbages' but which were highly intelligent. They were close companions to the Martians, and could even take dictation if required.

Smith also described two distinct ages, or perhaps eras of Mars. The age of her original incarnation on the planet gave way to what she called 'Ultra-Mars'. This version of the Red Planet was populated by troll-like beings who bore little resemblance to humans. They were different from the more humanoid Martians in many ways, including the use of an ideographic language rather than a phonetic script.

Smith said that the Martian race was destroyed by some kind of catastrophic disruption in the planet's atmosphere, forcing a few survivors to make their way to earth to start over.

Smith's version of events is extremely interesting since many similar theories have recently been advanced today after the discovery of a number of curious structures on Mars, such as 'The Face on Mars', along with an array of objects that look like ancient pyramids.

Theories for an ancient, extinct civilization on Mars have also recently garnered support from an elite cadre of former U.S. Military spies who were trained as the world's first remote viewers. Remote viewing is a highly controlled and disciplined form of psychic ability developed by some of the top

scientists in the world at California's prestigious Stanford Research Institute. U.S. Military Intelligence and the CIA used remote viewers to spy on the Soviet Union during the height of the Cold War, and the programme achieved an astonishing level of success.

Remote viewers were tasked to cast their minds to Mars and, to make a long story short, all of them confirmed that Mars was once inhabited by a highly advanced civilization of both human-like beings, and other advanced life forms. They also found via remote viewing methodology that Mars had suffered a catastrophic collapse of its atmosphere and environment, as Smith had already said, and that some of the Martian survivors escaped to Earth.

Keep all of this information in mind when considering our next incident of Mars reincarnation – this time a recent case reported in newspapers around the world about a small boy in Russia.

## **Russian Boy Claims Previous Life on Mars**

This story of Mars reincarnation comes from a well-respected source - Gennady Belimov, a Russian Professor of Engineering and Physics.

When not working on high technology projects for industrial clients, or teaching courses at the Volzhsky Institute of Humanities at the Volgograd State University, Belimov travels throughout Russia exploring what he calls anomalous zones – areas where paranormal activities seem more prevalent than others.

Belimov was told of a seven year old boy living in one such anomalous zone, in a remote area called the Medveditskaya Ridge which is north of Volgograd. The boy's name is Boriska, and his parents noticed something unusual about him almost from the day he was born.

When just fifteen days old he could hold up his head unsupported, and seemed totally aware of and curious about his environment. He started speaking his first words at the age of four months. By seven months he was speaking in complete sentences. His first sentence as a seven month old baby was:

'I want a nail.'

He said these words while pointing to a nail poking out of the wall. His parents were surprised that he even knew what a nail was. By the time he was one year and six months old, Boriska began to read the large type of newspaper headlines.

Professor Belimov was invited by the boy's family to meet the child because they wanted the professor's opinion on the strange stories Boriska had to tell – stories of having lived a previous life on the planet Mars.

Belimov tells of his first encounter with the boy:

'Imagine, when everyone was sitting around the bonfire in the evening, this little boy, about seven years old, suddenly and loudly demanded silence: he was going to tell us about the inhabitants of Mars and about their trips to Earth ... someone was still chatting in a low voice, and then the boy strictly demanded our full attention, or else there would be no story.'

Belimov described Boriska this way:

"... a round faced child with the big eyes, in a summer t-shirt and a cool baseball cap, completely unafraid of the adults ... he began an unbelievable story. About the Martian civilization, about megalith-cities and Martian space ships, about flights to other planets, and about the country of Lemuria on Earth, about the life of which he knew personally, having at some point flown here from Mars to this huge continent in the middle of the ocean and had friends there..."

Boriska's mother is a doctor and dermatologist, and his father is a retired military officer. They said their little boy began to speak of outer space and cosmic topics when he was two years old. His parents confessed to being utterly perplexed about where he might have learned of such subjects, having never been exposed to astronomy, science fiction shows, not even any space cartoons or such movies as *Star Wars*.

Boriska expressed no fear at the thought of dying because he remembered clearly dying before, many times, only to experience his soul being reborn to enter an all new life, and into an all new era of time. Many of those previous lives were on Mars with his final Mars incarnation occurring when a planetary catastrophe was slowly destroying the Martian oceans and atmosphere.

Boriska said he came to earth more than eight hundred thousand years ago when there was an advanced civilization that many today call Lemuria, an Atlantis-type population that is said to have eventually disappeared from the earth under tragic circumstances, as did Atlantis. Boriska said he flew an interplanetary vessel to and from earth and conducted trade with the Lemurians, who he described as people who were giants, averaging some nine meters tall. He said it was also around eight hundred thousand years ago that the Lemuria was destroyed by some kind of massive continental disruption that was precipitated by super advanced technology gone wrong.

Boriska said life on Mars was dangerous and difficult. Not only was the natural environment deteriorating, but the planet was at war with a mysterious something he called 'the station' which he said that everyone fought against. There was a partial nuclear war and that, combined with natural calamities, all but wiped out most life on Mars.

Some Martians escaped to earth, but he said others remained behind and survived, and are still there today living miserable lives in bleak underground dwellings. The evil station he spoke of is still at least partially operational. Boriska said this facility is the agent that destroyed a number of recent Russian space probes sent to Mars.

Boriska was able to describe in detail one of the spacecraft used to travel between planets.

'We just launched and we were already near the Earth,' he told Professor Belimov.

Boriska then used a piece of chalk to draw a triangular shaped spacecraft. He explained:

'There are six layers,' he said. 'The outer layer takes 25% of the durable material, the second layer takes 30% and is like rubber, the third takes another 30% and is again metal, 4% is a layer with magnetic properties ... If you power the magnetic layer with energy, the apparatus can fly all over the universe...'

Boriska recalled not just a single past life on Mars, but many. He said he lived, died and reincarnated numerous times across a number of eras that perhaps spanned a million years, or more. He said that in the last hundreds of thousands of years, Mars struggled with serious water problems. That was because, due to natural causes which included a radical pole shift, Mars began to gradually lose its atmosphere and water. Boriska said that special ships were sent to Earth to get water and these were huge cylindrical crafts which also served as 'mother ships'.

Boriska said that the Martians developed an ambitious plan to alleviate the deterioration of the Martian environment by igniting a second sun in the solar system – they planned to do this by increasing the mass of the planet Jupiter to force its vast store of hydrogen gas to ignite into nuclear fission, and thus begin burning like a small sun. The project failed, however, when it was determined that not enough additional mass existed in the entire solar system to jump start Jupiter.

Boriska described the race of Martians he belonged to as being 'human like'. After seeing a picture of the classic 'grey aliens' he said:

'We didn't look like that. We were closer to the Atlanteans and Lemurians that used to live on earth.'

Bioriska said he knew of the greys, but described them as not human and cruel and from another galaxy. Like Hélène Smith before him, Boriska also described a race of troll-like beings that maintained a presence on Mars. These beings he also described as not human.

Professor Belimov said that after the story of Boriska had leaked out to the

press, his life has become difficult. Local people consider him to be a freak and unnatural. His superior intelligence is frightening to most adults and alienates him from children his own age. Boriska is a brilliant mathematician, reads at an advanced level and doesn't fit in at local schools and so cannot be placed with other students of his age group. At the same time, he is not welcome at university level – he has nowhere to go.

Belimov said Boriska's problems have been further compounded by his parents' recent divorce – he seems a child out of place, out of time, and perhaps even someone who stands outside his own race or species.

Professor Belimov said he is attempting to provide as much support to this remarkable child as he can under incredibly difficult cultural restraints. Belimov calls Boriska 'an Indigo child' which is a term many are using today to describe a new class of children who appear to have been born with advanced mental abilities. Some claim Indigo children began to appear worldwide in the 1980s and they may represent a new stage in the evolution of the human race. Others believe they may be the result of alien-human hybrid projects developed by UFO ETs.

## Sceptics Say....

Of course, sceptics relegate all of this to the 'nonsense bin'. They point out that the planet Mars has long enthralled and captured the imagination of the human race. They cite the enormous popularity of books, such as *The War of the Worlds* by H.G. Wells and *The Martian Chronicles* by Ray Bradbury – and many others.

It has also been noted that even respected mainstream scientists have set off waves of Mars enthusiasm with well-intentioned, but false theories, about life on Mars. One of the most enduring was ignited when Italian astronomer Giovanni Schiaparelli announced that he had telescopically observed a system of canals on the Red Planet. However, Shiaparelli used the Italian word 'canali', which better translates to 'channel' describing a natural waterway. But to the English speaking world, 'canali' sounded more like 'canal' – and the implication was that a canal was something of artificial construction. The Italian astronomer probably did not mean to suggest that the 'canali' he observed were of artificial construction – but it was too late. The idea caught fire with the public imagination.

The impression that desperate Martians were heroically building canals to fight off natural disaster on Mars took hold, and even highly respected scientists such as Percival Lowell (the man who predicted the location of Pluto) became convinced that the canals were real, and being built by Martians. Sceptics say

the Martian canal controversy demonstrates how easy it is for an erroneous idea to take hold in the public consciousness, especially when it comes to the planet Mars, and even among highly intelligent scientists.

It's not surprising then, sceptics say, that people who believe in reincarnation would adopt the idea that some of their previous lives were lived on our nearest neighbour in the solar system.

On the other hand, the details which come out of past-life memories of Mars are incredibly consistent across wide groups of people from all walks of life and different cultures. Just about everyone who claims a Mars past-life tells of the terrible ecological cataclysm that delivered a death blow to most life on the planet. Many also tell of the once close relationship between advanced Martians and highly advanced earth-bound civilizations, such as Atlantis and Lemuria.

That so many people who claim to be reincarnated Martians, and who also tell of a desperate fight to salvage its ravaged environment, may help to explain why observations such as Schiaparelli's 'canali' so easily gripped the public imagination – it may be that a genuine memory of such an actual event still haunts the subconscious minds of millions of people here on earth.

As we have seen, such reports have gained support from an entirely different front – that of remote viewing – but also from those who are taking a closer look at the imagery gathered from U.S. and Russian space probes. When some people look at satellite photos of Mars, they see pyramids, monuments and domes of artificial construction.

Theories abound. All are fascinating and ignite the imagination. The idea that people on earth are reincarnated Martians only adds to an already spicy and intriguing subject.

# **Group Reincarnation**

On 22 December 1991, the normally business-as-usual *Baltimore Sun* published a remarkable feature story about a case of reincarnation. A paper such as the *Baltimore Sun* is not a likely venue for esoteric articles but, because this case was so unusual, the editors just probably couldn't pass it up, being as the subject was about group reincarnation.

It seems that dozens of residents of a small town in California had collectively uncovered past-life memories of living together in another small town in another century, and on the other side of the nation on the American East Coast, in Virginia.

It all started when a newspaper reporter working in the city of Lake Elsinore, a small community east of Los Angeles, sought the help of a hypnotherapist. The thirty-four year old woman was living in a state of persistent anxiety and stress. She was perplexed because the symptoms she was having had no apparent cause that she could think of in her daily life, or in recent memory. She had tried everything, from seeing psychologists and taking medications, to self-help books and meditation. Nothing seemed to work. So she thought she would give hypnotism a try.

The reporter, Maureen Williamson, contacted Dr Marge Rieder, a hypnotherapist accustomed to helping people stop smoking, lose weight or get rid of phobias. Rieder found that Williamson was an excellent subject for hypnosis as she went under quickly and deeply. After sending Williamson deep into trance, Rieder was able to uncover a number of Williamson's repressed childhood memories, including one of being sexually molested at age five, in fact, on the day of her fifth birthday.

Rieder was certain that uncovering and working through this traumatic childhood event would bring healing to Williamson, relieving her persistent feelings of anxiety and stress. To some extent, it did. But about a week later when Williamson was making some notes for a newspaper story she was working on, she suddenly wrote down a name: John Daniel Ashford.

It was as if her hand had scribbled the note by itself. It was like automatic writing.

Overtly, the name meant nothing to Maureen Williamson, but she couldn't forget about it. It was just so odd the way it popped out of nowhere, the way her hand moved by itself. She had a nagging feeling about the name – an intuitive feeling that it meant something important. But it was a mystery. There was no one in her life she knew by the name of John Daniel Ashford.

She decided to explore the issue with her hypnotherapist. Back on Marge Rieder's couch, in deep trance, Williamson was instructed to reach out with her mind to the name of John Daniel Ashford. She immediately had the feeling that she was someone else – that her name was Rebecca Ashford, the wife of John Ashford – and that she had lived more than a hundred years ago in the era of the American Civil War, which was fought between 1861 and 1865.

She was also able to pinpoint that Rebecca and John had lived in the small town of Millboro, Virginia.

But that was only the beginning. As Rieder encouraged Williamson to go further, she brought forth troubling details about the life of Rebecca Ashford. It seems she was a woman of loose morals, especially for the conservative times of the 1860s. She was a wife with children, but she had a number of sexual affairs with other men, including one with a dangerous man who was a Confederate army spy. When this affair was exposed, Sarah was raped and strangled as punishment. She remembered her death in gruesome detail, including the memory of 'blood coming out of her ears'.

It became clear that this horrible death and troubled past-life experience was a major contributor to the stress and anxiety for which she sought treatment. Uncovering these past-life traumas went even further towards helping Williamson find a sense of peace and balance.

But little did she know that her encounter with reincarnation was only just beginning.

As difficult as it was for Maureen Williamson to accept that she had lived before, she was in for another shock. That was because she would soon begin meeting the people she knew in her past-life as they were living along with her in her present-day community of Lake Elsinore.

The first person she recognized from her past-life was Joe Nazarowski, a man who worked as a security officer in downtown Lake Elsinore. Williamson was stunned because she clearly remembered seeing Mr Nazarowski in her past vision of Civil War-era Virginia!

A short while later, Williamson realized that the woman who was her editor at the newspaper, Barbara Roberts, was also a former Millboro past-life resident. In fact, she knew with certainty that her editor was her mother-in-law in her previous life.

This was getting just too strange!

Williamson thought she might be going over the edge somehow. On the other hand, she didn't feel unhinged. This all seemed like normal, matter-of-fact knowledge. She had clearly seen Nazarowski and Roberts in her past life regression images, of that she had no doubt. It came with the certainty of 'just

knowing'.

There was one way however to find out if she wasn't just getting carried away. Williamson wondered if her fellow Lake Elsinore residents could also be regressed - without telling them the details of what she knew and experienced – to see if they also remembered lives in Millboro.

Williamson and Rieder asked Joe Nazarowski if he would agree to undergo hypnotic past-life regression. A straight-laced sceptic, Nazarowski couldn't imagine why he was being approached with such an offer. At first, he refused – he was a total non-believer. He was an atheist who didn't belief in an afterlife or even heaven or hell. He was of the opinion that reincarnation was impossible, and the complete and utter nonsense of gullible New Agers.

However, Nazarowski finally agree to be hypnotized – but only because he wanted a free session to help him quit smoking. Rieder agreed to address his nicotine habit with hypnotism, and got his permission to suggest that he reach further back in time, just as an experiment, to see if he could recall a past life.

Under hypnosis, Joe Nazarowski easily slipped back through time and found himself in the body of a man whose name was Charles F. Patterson. He was a high-ranking military officer and graduate of West Point. He was a contemporary of General George Armstrong Custer, and knew the famous general well enough to have put molasses in his shoe as a prank. And yes, Nazarowski confirmed that Charles F. Patterson had been a resident of Millboro, Virginia.

Even after his regression, Nazarowski still considers himself a sceptic, although he says he simply cannot explain the certainty he felt about the many details he could remember of his life as Charles. F. Patterson. But what really floored Nazarowski was what came next.

Marge Rieder decided to do some research. She travelled to Salt Lake City, Utah, to search the massive collection of genealogical records stored at the Family History Center of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Reader, please remember that this was still the early 1990s before the Internet became what it is today. Searching genealogical records is easily done now with a few strokes of the keyboard, but before the Internet, the task was far more difficult. One of the best options for anyone living in any American state was a visit to Salt Lake City, where massive paperbound records of millions of family histories from all over the nation are stored. The Church of Latter Day Saints collects such data for religious reasons, although we won't go into such detail here.

Searching the massive Salt Lake City archives, Rieder was able to locate a man by the name of Charles Patterson, born and raised in Millboro, Virginia, and who fought in the American Civil War.

Upon learning of the reality of Charles Patterson, and comparing this with his vivid hypnotic recall of the man, Nazarowski reached an impasse with himself. Now he had to admit that the situation was, in his words:

'Not all nuts.'

While he maintains a level of disbelief, he stated:

'The facts here are simply indisputable.'

Williams recognized other Lake Elsinore residents as past-life residents of Millsboro – including her own husband, Ralph Williamson. He was a man, one of several apparently, with whom she had an affair with as Rebecca Ashford.

Marge Rieder and Maureen Williamson were able to identify at least two dozen people in California who had past lives in Millboro. They in turn recognized even more. As more people were uncovered, further evidence to prove that this was a real case of reincarnation was made possible.

For example, one of the 'regressed' people recalled that although Millboro was a town in Confederate territory, and therefore pro-slavery, there was a hidden sanctuary within the village where runaway slaves could temporarily hide on their way to freedom in the North.

Again most people, including historians in Millboro, declared this to be certain nonsense. No such sanctuary for slaves was ever uncovered or documented in Millboro. After the Civil War ended with a Union victory, freeing the slaves, there was still no mention or revelations about a hidden safe house.

However, the person who recalled the secret sanctuary was able to provide exacting information about where it was, what it looked like, how big it was, and more. The secret hiding place for runaway slaves would be found underground near a small church. It would have green plaster walls and the dimensions of the room would be such and such. In fact, this person remembered that the underground room was part of a larger structure of several subterranean chambers originally constructed by Indians. There were a number of connecting rooms and tunnels.

Marge Rieder travelled to Millboro and obtained permission to dig at the location where the underground slave sanctuary was said to be located by the reincarnational memory. Donning a pair of work gloves and boots and armed with only a spade, this elderly woman started hacking away at the rocky topsoil. Using what she learned from books about basic archaeological methods, she began excavating a narrow trench, hoping to run into a secret underground chamber beneath the well-trodden surface of the two century old community of Millboro.

She found what she was looking for – an underground room that had the exact odd kind of green coloured plaster just as described by her hypnosis

subject.

Local historians were stunned. Absolutely no records in any archive, museum or historic study, or even archaeological study, knew of any underground chambers where escaping slaves were housed. Local experts agreed that digging for such a site was ludicrous – until it was found – and using only the past-life memories of people regressed by hypnotic therapy.

There are other interesting factors which make this case of group reincarnation even more tantalizing. For example, when Maureen Williamson first recalled the name of the Virginia town where she lived in a past life, she pronounced it *Marlboro* like the famous cigarette brand. Other people who were subsequently regressed also pronounced the name of their town *Marlboro*.

It was this pronunciation and the *Marlboro* spelling that Marge Rieder used when first searching for the town in Virginia – but found nothing in the location where it should have been. By chance she saw the name of a village called Millboro. Since that was the closest to the name her patients had been using, she flew to the east coast and visited Millboro and discovered that most people pronounce the name of their town as *Marlboro* using their unique southern drawl, or dialect.

To date, more than fifty people now living in Lake Elsinore believe they had previous lives in Millboro, Virginia.

Dr Marge Rieder once regressed a roomful of those with past-life memories from Millboro. She put them all under simultaneously, asked them to embody their past-life personality, and then speak to each other as the people they once were.

The results were fascinating – and partially so because these long dead people picked up on their lives where they left off. That is, they discussed both issues of importance of their day, but also engaged in petty arguments. They talked of major and minor issues pertinent to the life of 1860s Millboro. It was as if more than a century had never passed and they were given a chance to live again.

The case of the Lake Elsinore-Millboro case is perhaps the most thoroughly documented case of group reincarnation in history. The evidence that was uncovered, including dozens of verifiable details checked out by many visits to Millboro, makes this an almost air-tight example for the reality of reincarnation.

It also implies something amazing: That literally an entire community of individual souls can somehow all agree to come back to earth after they have died – and all return to the same location. But why choose a small town in California for the next go around? How are these decisions made by the

individual souls? One must assume that all of these people – their souls – met at some mutual location in the afterlife, and that they all sat down, perhaps for a conference, to plan their next life.

There are countless examples of other group reincarnation cases, but on a much smaller scale. For example, members of a family have discovered that they once knew each other in a previous life. In a family of five, for example, it is often discovered that all five of these people knew each other in previous lives — but that they all played different roles. The mother and father may have been the children in the previous life. The wife may now be the husband, or the daughter, or the son, and so on.

Again, the implications are enormous when considering the true nature of reality – the reality of who and what we are. According to the reincarnation scenario, all of us have lived both as men and women. All of us have embodied lives of different races, nationalities and sexual orientations. We seem to be experimenting with experiencing every kind of human incarnation we can to learn as much as we can.

Dr Marge Rieder went on to write three books about the Millboro case: *Mission to Millboro* and *Mission to Millboro: A Study in Group Reincarnation* and *Millboro and More.* Sceptics have struggled to explain away the virtual mountain of incontrovertible evidence that has resulted from Rieder's investigations.

About the best that most sceptics can come up with is that they all just made the thing up. Others accused Dr Rieder of orchestrating the whole story by 'leading the witness' so to speak. They said she consciously, or unconsciously, planted the Millboro suggestion into the minds of her subjects – causing them all to buy into and believe the same invented story.

But it seems that Marge Rieder did just the opposite. For example, after the fame of the story grew, many other Lake Elsinore residents also came to believe they had lived past lives in Millboro. Through hypnosis, Rieder was able to help most of them conclude they were mistaken – often to their disappointment. So, if anything, Rieder disabused people from the notion of their own reincarnation more often than she uncovered an actual member of this strange, but select group.

What sceptics simply cannot explain is how a person in California, who has never been to Virginia, could know about a secret underground chamber with green plaster walls – something even the people of Millboro never knew about their own town – and many other verified details of historic fact.

The Millboro case remains a source of wonder. Now, a quarter of a century

later, the case has never been debunked by even the hardest working sceptics. It seems it is a remarkable bona fide case of not just reincarnation – but group reincarnation.

#### The Druze

The members of one of the most mysterious and obscure religious groups in the world are native to the mid-east countries of Syria, Israel, Jordon and Lebanon, but they are not Jewish, Muslims or Christians – and yet, they are somewhat all of the above.

They are known to history as the Druze. This group incorporates elements of the three major religions, but is also heavily influenced by Gnosticism, Neoplatonism and Pythagoreanism. There is one aspect of their belief system that is especially important to them – reincarnation.

It is estimated that there are fewer than seven hundred thousand Druze worldwide, although their faith is ancient, dating back to at least the 7<sup>th</sup> Century. The term 'Druze' is derived from the name of a man, Ad-Darazi, who is believed to have founded the religion, although he was later banished from the movement he helped create. Essentially, he wound up on the wrong side of an internal political struggle within the group. Perhaps because history is written by the victors, Ad-Darazi is considered a heretic among the modern Druze. He was executed about one thousand years ago in Egypt in the year 1018.

Thus, although historians and scholars today call them the Druze (also Druse) the secretive members of this mysterious faith prefer to call themselves the Muwa ḥḥ idū, which translates roughly as 'monotheism'. The precept that there is only one true God is a critical element for the Druze. They say that the Adam of the Bible was not the first man, but rather the first man to accept the idea of monotheism.

The Druze consider the Koran a sacred text, but they think of it merely as an 'outer shell' of a greater truth. Many Druze live in Israel, and are fiercely loyal citizens and supporters of Israeli policy – making many to mistakenly believe that the Druze are a Jewish sect. Others live in Syria, however, where they are generally taken as an offshoot or sect of Islam, similar to the Sufi. For the Druze, loyalty to one's country is held in high regard, no matter what the prevailing religion of that country, although they hold to their own belief system.

The Druze are mysterious in many ways. They even have a strict level of secrecy within their own ranks. For example, only a select few are allowed to know the true 'inner precepts' of the religion, while the rank-and-file Druze are kept in the dark — which they accept. The Druze have a self-regulated internal hierarchy. Some are 'elite' and 'in the know' but most are not.

But all of the Druze maintain a central relationship with what they call 'the Notq'. This is basically their word for reincarnation, but they also call those

people who seem born with natural and powerful past-life memories 'the Notq'. About a third of Druze are of the Notq.

Stories of reincarnation abound among the Druze, but one such case recently uncovered is so amazing it captured national media attention. The story was first documented by a German researcher and therapist by the name of Trutz Hardo. The story was picked up by the *Epoch Times*, an international news organization based in China. The *Epoch Times* is a respected multimedia platform, from print to broadcast and Internet, and has won many national awards for unbiased coverage and solid journalism around the world.

On 17 May 2014, the *Epoch Times* ran the story of a three year old boy living in the Golan Heights, an area controlled by Israel, although claimed as legal territory by Syria. Israel took control of the Golan Heights after the 1967 war and has since refused to relinquish control of the land.

The Golan Heights boy was born with a long red birthmark across the top of his head. This was an immediate sign to his Druze family that their new son was of the Notq. Like many mainstream researchers believe today, birthmarks can be a strong indicator of a previous life – they usually indicate a site of severe trauma to the body of the previous-life individual, and this wound is what probably ended their life.

In fact, all Druze examine their newborns thoroughly for birthmarks.

The boy had already developed good language skills by three years of age. One of the first things he began to speak of was his belief that he had been murdered by an axe blow to the head. He also remembered the village where this event took place.

Because reincarnation is a central tenet of their religion, the Druze take all such reports as extremely important – in fact, they believe it is almost mandatory that they investigate such accounts. And so the parents decided to take their son to the village he remembered. As soon as they arrived, the location stimulated the boy's memory. He recalled his name in his previous life. It didn't take long before they found someone who knew the man in question – and said that the whereabouts of this person was a mystery – because he had gone missing four years ago.

The little boy said:

'He is not missing! He is dead! I was that man! I was murdered with an axe!' Incredibly, as more information was uncovered, the boy began to remember even more, including the name of the murderer. This accused killer was still a resident of the small community. Based on the boy's remarkable past-life memories, village elders agreed to confront the man in question.

When hearing the charges, local observers said that the man's eyes bulged and his face turned white – yet, he denied having anything to do with the brutal axe murder. However, new revelations from the small boy were beginning to spill forward at a rapid rate, further implicating the man. Still, it was all highly circumstantial.

But then the boy delivered the nail in the coffin. He said he could recall exactly where his body had been secretly buried. Authorities went to the location and after excavating a shallow grave, they found the skeleton of a man, and the skull had been bashed in with what was obviously a sharp-edged instrument of some kind. In case there was any doubt left, an axe was found buried near the body.

After all the evidence had come out, the man confessed to the murder.

All of these events – the boy's return to the village, his memories, the confrontation of the suspect, the exhumation of the body – were witnessed and documented by Dr Eli Lasch, a famous doctor of impeccable credentials. He is the man who developed the medical system for Gaza as part of a large-scale Israeli government improvement project. He died in 2009, among the most famous of all Israeli medical professionals.

Thus, it cannot be said that the amazing case of the Druze boy was a tale concocted by gullible people who belonged to an obscure cult-like religion, and who were all too willing to tailor facts to fit a preconceived belief system.

Furthermore, when the skull of the dead man was examined, the wound in the head almost exactly matched the birthmark of the boy who said he has was this man in a previous life. By all measures, the case of the reincarnated Druze boy is an iron-clad case for the reality of reincarnation.

The issue of birthmarks alone tends to be a major point of verification in reincarnation cases. Another example is the following account which was also originally uncovered by Trutz Hardo, and was investigated by one of the premier reincarnation investigators, Dr Ian Stevenson who worked at the School of Medicine at the University of Virginia.

The case has many striking similarities with that of the Druze boy of the Golan Heights.

In the small Turkish village of Hatun Köy, a boy named Semih Tutusmus told his parents that Semih was not his real name. He began insisting so as soon as he could speak well enough at about the age of four. He said his real name was Selim Fesli, and that he had been murdered by a neighbour of their village.

Semih has been born with a strangely shrunken and deformed ear. When he began to speak of his past life, he said that he was murdered by being shot with a rifle in the right ear. He soon remembered the name of the man he once was, and

other details about his previous life. His former life was in the same village of Hatun Köy.

At four years of age, Semih took it upon himself to walk to the home of the deceased Selim Fesli. He knocked on the door and announced to the widow of Selim:

'I am Selim, you are my wife Katibe.'

Katibe was stunned, of course, but as she continued to speak with little Semih, it was clear that he knew an astonishing number of details about the life and family of the deceased Selim Fesli. Katibe also confirmed dozens of details that only she and her husband could have known.

It wasn't long before Semih recalled more details of the death of Selim. It seems that he was shot by a neighbour, a man by the name of Dirbekli. This man had claimed that the incident had been purely accidental. But Semih said it had been premeditated murder, precipitated by a dispute over grazing land for Selim's mule. Dirbekli continued to deny this version of events, however, and was never charged with a crime.

Due to the failure of authorities to accept that the death of his former self had been a murder, little Semih developed a grudge. The boy would sometimes throw rocks at Dirbekli when he encountered him in their small village, or shout curses at him. Although his parents and others could understand his motivation, a child treating an elder in this manner was considered scandalous. There was nothing else to do other than to try to convince the boy to cease this behaviour. A local village elder persuaded Semih that if he continued to persecute the man whom he believed killed him in a previous life, it would set up an endless cycle of conflict and revenge. He told Semih that when Dirbekli died, he might then reincarnate as well and visit persecution upon Semih in this life.

As Semih grew older, he accepted that his former life as Selim was gone. He came to understand that it was his current life that was important, and that he must make the most of it. Living a good life was the only way that negative Karmic entanglements could be alleviated, no matter who was at fault.

The case of Semih Tutusmus is yet another example where a variety of evidential factors come together to make a powerful circumstantial case that the mechanics of reincarnation are at play. Some say the facts are more than circumstantial. They think that the deformed ear Semih Tutusmus was born with is an almost undeniable connection and direct evidence of the way Selim Desli was killed by Dirbekli. That, combined with the detailed knowledge of a four year old boy about the life of Selim, makes for an intriguing body of evidence supporting the reality of reincarnation.

#### The Evidence of the Druze

The rich tradition of reincarnation among the Druze is what originally attracted the attention of Dr Ian Stevenson of the University of Virginia, who searched the world for the most striking cases of reincarnation. As we said, Stevenson was a pioneer in this field and was perhaps the first qualified academic with a respected scientific background who dared to look further into what could be considered an 'occult' subject in modern western nations.

After Dr Stevenson learned of the Druze traditions, he travelled to Lebanon in the late 1970s. He walked unannounced into a Druze village and began asking local residents if they knew of any families where children spoke of past lives. Many immediately referred him to a boy by the name of Imad Elawar.

This boy began using complex language very early in his life and could speak by the age of one. His very first words were two names: Jamileh and Mahmoud.

At the age of two, Imad broke away from his mother to run up to a man in the streets whom he said had once been his neighbour. Using this as a starting point, Dr Stevenson located an area on the other side of the village where the boy had claimed to live in his previous life and he planned to take the boy back to see what he could remember. But before the visit, Stevenson worked closely with Imad, asking him to recall as many specific details as possible about the neighbourhood in which he believed he once lived before.

Stevenson compiled a list of fifty-seven items of information which he determined would be verifiable, but also impossible for the boy to learn or fake in any way. A subsequent investigation enabled Stevenson to verify fifty-one of the fifty-seven items. These included:

\*He discovered that the name 'Mahmoud', which was among the first words that Imad spoke, turned out to be the name of his uncle in his previous life.

\*He also found that the name 'Jamileh' was the name of a woman whom he had fallen in love with in his previous life.

\*Stevenson tracked down the secret location of a rifle that Imad had cleverly hidden in the home of the man of his previous life, and which no one else knew about.

\*Imad correctly identified his former self in a photograph, and also correctly identified another photograph of a man who was his brother. He recalled his brother's name and that of other family members.

\*In one amazing situation, Stevenson sat in on a conversion between the toddler Imad and an older man whom he said he had been in military service with during his previous life. The boy and the man recounted numerous experiences they had whilst in the army.

Dr Stevenson published his findings among the Druze in a 1978 academic paper which remains among the best pieces of scientific research validating the reality of reincarnation.

Today the Druze are a small population representing a unique culture which is experiencing perhaps the most dangerous era of its millennium long existence. Extremists in Syria are persecuting and murdering any group — including offshoots of Islam, such as the Sufi — who are considered heretical to Islam from their extremist viewpoint.

The Druze are a primary target for those who consider this rare culture to be heretical. Because of their small numbers, the Druze and their unique culture and special relationship with reincarnation are in danger of vanishing or, at the very least, having their numbers and culture scattered across the globe.

#### The Genius Connection

Many people believe the best explanation for childhood genius is reincarnation.

But the same explanation is sometimes invoked for people who achieve greatness later in life – and sometimes these giants of history are the ones to make the claim that they have been here before.

But first, let us look at a remarkable six year old boy who recently made news across Great Britain and was also featured in a 27 February 2013 front page story by the *Jamaica Times*.

The boy is Joshua Beckford, born of Jamaican parents but adopted at four years of age by Knox Daniel of South Tottenham, England. Mr Daniel began to suspect that his son was special when the boy started to speak in complete sentences before the age of one. It seems that he taught himself to read signs in the supermarket by the age of two. Mr Daniel was stunned when this two year old toddler began calling out the names of food products and advertisements while shopping.

By the age of six, Joshua was certified a genius, having scored off the charts on an IQ test.

He was accepted to study philosophy at Oxford in a special programme for children aged eight to thirteen. Although only six years old, an exception was made for Joshua and he finished the programme with distinction, easily staying with his 'much older' classmates.

By eight years of age, Joshua was already well on his way to mastering two foreign languages — Japanese and Mandarin Chinese. He now speaks both fluently. He also has a keen interest in human anatomy and has successfully performed simulated surgeries on the human brain. One of his goals is to become a neurosurgeon. He is also deeply interested in Egyptology and is nearing completion on his first children's book on the subject. He is a wizard at mathematics, and all other subjects of basic education.

Joshua is also convinced he is reincarnated, even though the man he was in his former life was more ordinary. Joshua says he has definite past-life memories of being a soldier who was killed on the battlefield. The memory of his death is so powerful that Joshua is determined to find a way to manipulate DNA in way that will 'switch off' the aging process, and possibly death itself.

Joshua has also been diagnosed with a form of autism, a trait often associated with genius abilities.

Some say the fact that Joshua remembers a previous life has little bearing on

the genius he is today, especially since his past-life memories would seem to have few similarities to his current life. And yet, the suggestion of a connection is there.

There are many other cases, however, where a direct connection between a past life of great accomplishment and a present life of genius is undeniable. A superb illustration of this is the case of Dr Norm Shealy.

#### The Doctor Returns

Norm Shealy began telling everyone that he was going to be a doctor when he was four years old. Few doubted this because the child was a prodigy, or nearly so. He was brilliant across the educational board, excelling in maths, science, history and the study of languages.

He was allowed to enter college at the age of sixteen to study human biology as he was determined to become a neurosurgeon. He finished his undergraduate studies and was accepted into one of the best medical schools in the United States, Duke University, at the age of nineteen. He breezed through medical school and after being awarded his medical degree, the young Dr Shealy began on a remarkable career of groundbreaking discovery.

Dr Shealy specialized in the relief of pain. His first major invention was the TENS unit, a device which distributes electrical charges through the skin to block pain. He also invented the Dorsal Column Stimulator, a device that places electrodes near key points in the spinal cord that will block pain signals from getting to the brain. His next development was a surgical breakthrough, a procedure called Facet Rhizotomy, which is a safe way to cut highly sensitive nerve endings near the spine that transmit pain.

In 1972 Dr Shealy was attending a lecture at the Neuroelectric Society in Colorado when a speaker mentioned the name of an 18<sup>th</sup> Century British physician who was a pioneer in the use of hypnotism as a way to perform surgery on people without excessive pain. The British doctor's name was John Elliotson – and as soon as Dr Shealy heard this name, his world changed.

Dr Shealy said he immediately felt as if someone had thrust an iceberg down his back. He said afterwards that at that point he had an immediate sense of knowing and as he walked out of the conference in a daze, a thought came into his head. He said to himself:

'Dr John Elliotson, my God, that's me!'

Before this unexpected encounter, Dr Shealy had never given reincarnation a single thought. He had been busy in the world of medicine, conducting pure science and research and treating patients on the operating table. But now

something astounding seemed to have come crashing into his life – the certainty that he had lived before as another doctor in the previous century.

After the conference, Dr Shealy attempted to find historical data on Dr John Elliotson, but there was very little information. He was determined to find out more, so he travelled to England where he hoped to track down the life of the man he now seemed to remember as being himself.

Once in London, Dr Shealy hailed a cab and asked to be driven to the Royal College of Surgeons, assuming Elliotson had been a surgeon, and thus records of his work and life should be found there. Driving through the busy streets of London, Dr Shealy's driver happened to pass by the University College Hospital of London, and again he felt the 'iceberg on his back'. He turned around and looked at the venerable building and knew instantly that this was where Dr John Elliotson had kept his office in the 1800s. Dr Shealy told his driver to stop the car and as he got out and walked into the hospital, aspects of his life as John Elliotson immediately became known to him. He said it was as if he had returned to a familiar home.

A subsequent investigation of the life of Dr Elliotson uncovered an amazing number of similarities between the two men. Like Dr Shealy, Dr Elliotson had been a pioneer in the treatment of pain. Elliotson was among the first to use narcotics to assist surgery, and also hypnotism to reduce or eliminate pain. Like Dr Shealy, Elliotson was the first to adopt groundbreaking medical devices, including the use of the stethoscope.

Both men became disenchanted with much of what happens in mainstream medicine, and both wrote books decrying the 'hypocrisy of modern medicine'. In the days of Dr Elliotson, hypnotism (then called mesmerism) was considered to be fringe science and smacked of the occult. Even though Dr Elliotson found that it worked perfectly in hundreds of surgical procedures, Britain's medical community never accepted it.

Dr Shealy is also an advocate today of many natural healing techniques that are widely criticized and not accepted by mainstream science. He has developed a number of products, from aromatic oils and electronic treatments of 'power points' along the human body which he says can relieve pain and heal far more effectively than drugs or invasive surgical techniques.

There are other small points of confluence between the lives of the two doctors, separated by a century. For example, John Elliotson had black curly hair, and Dr Shealy had always felt that his own hair was somehow 'wrong'. In fact, just before leaving for his first day of medical school, he had dyed his hair black and had it curled – although later abandoned the practice because it was too time consuming.

Both men had a peculiar but powerful dislike of wearing knickers. It was common in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century for young men in England to wear knickers, and this was also the case in 1930s South Carolina where Shealy was born in 1932. Both young men adamantly objected to wearing knickers from an early age.

Both men walked with a limp. Dr Elliotson was afflicted with a congenital condition which produced a slight limp as he grew to adulthood. Dr Shealy fractured a tibia bone which became infected, resulting in a permanent limp throughout the rest of his life.

Finally, photographs of Dr John Elliotson compared side to side with Dr Norm Shealy show faces that are strikingly similar.

Once again, note that Norm Shealy is widely considered to have been a 'medical child prodigy'. Not only did he begin declaring his intention to be a doctor at four years old, but he could also read and write by that age, and was developing a deep understanding of the sciences, especially biology.

Today Dr Shealy himself has no doubt that reincarnation is a fact, and that he lived before as a maverick physician in London. He returned to practice again, determined to widen the art of healing beyond the 'materialism' of science, and by recognizing that all people are more than their physical bodies, meaning we can tap into nonphysical means to heal illnesses.

# The Boy Surgeon

In the remote village of Himachal Pradesh in India, local residents have no doubt that Akrit Jaswal is the product of reincarnation. In the year 2000 he performed his first medical surgery at the age of seven on a girl who was one year older than he, being eight years old.

The story was covered in depth by journalist Cosmo Landesman of the British newspaper, *The Sunday Times*.

Akrit was well prepared by the age of seven to perform surgery. That was because when he was four years old he had already finished reading Grey's Anatomy, absorbing a thorough knowledge of the human body. He was also allowed to observe surgical techniques by doctors at a local hospital.

A little girl from his village suffered a severe burn on her hand which left her with a cramped, closed fist and fingers jammed tightly together. She was in constant pain and her family was too poor to afford medical treatment. Akrit offered to perform surgery that would release her muscles, free her fingers and cure her pain – the operation was a complete success.

When asked if he was nervous during the operation, Akrit said:

'No, I wasn't. I have read many medical books and attended many

operations. I think I did a better job than most surgeons. They would have opted for plastic surgery, but I didn't need to.'

Like many child prodigies, Akrit began speaking by the age of one and reading by the age of two. By the time he was three years old he was tackling Shakespeare, but then soon discovered human anatomy, and became almost unusually absorbed with learning how the human body works. He was also interested in other aspects of human biochemistry. A short while after achieving fame for his successful surgery, Akrit announced that his mission in life would be to find a cure for cancer.

Akrit began attending Punjab University when he was eleven years old, and was also invited to London to meet with researchers at Imperial College. Medical researchers were eager to get his innovative perspective on oral gene therapy, which is an area of particular interest to him.

Akrit's genius has unfortunately lead to difficulties in his life. His highly public declaration that he would 'cure cancer' invited both unrealistic expectation and derision from some. His parents eventually divorced and his father was accused of milking his brilliant son's fame for money and publicity, robbing Akrit of a normal childhood.

Akrit denies this, and even calls it ridiculous. He said he has enjoyed all the normal experiences of childhood. Some experts have also noted that although Akrit's IQ is in the genius range, he is normal or below normal in certain areas of learning.

Today Akrit is a student of biology, zoology and chemistry and plans to attend Harvard.

Of course, the local Hindi culture that Akrit Jaswal was born into is steeped in the concept of reincarnation and so ironically this aspect of his amazing abilities has been understated. In other words, when a child such as Akrit emerges seemingly from the womb with advanced abilities, it is just naturally assumed that reincarnation is at play.

When the same phenomenon occurs in other cultures however, such as in the case of American Dr Norm Shealy, the reincarnational connection uncovered by Dr Shealy takes on a vivid contrast with society norms.

#### Is it Proof of Reincarnation?

Of course, there are many cases of childhood genius wherein the gifted youngster has no past-life memories, or at least the gifted person never makes mention of such. But many argue that there simply is no better explanation for a child born with advanced talents.

One of the most commonly cited examples from history is the case of Mozart

who composed his first sonata by the age of four and wrote a complete opera by the age of eight. These were not works of mere childlike quality, but had all the flavour of works produced by a mature composer.

Mainstream sceptics would say that some children are just born with brains that work remarkably fast, and are somehow genetically superior to the majority of the population. But as to the 'how' of why a brain works at a superior rate — well, there simply is no explanation for that. To say that genius children are simply born with 'superior brain power' is not a sufficient explanation. It is a theory with no mechanical details, yet sceptics grasp at it eagerly because anything is better for them than acknowledging the perfectly good explanation of reincarnation.

Additionally, even a superior brain would not explain how some children have skills and abilities that their supposed 'super brains' had no time to learn. In other words, they possess skills they were never exposed to. So it would make no difference if their brains are superior or not – the abilities they have seem to have been 'front end loaded' upon birth – and the source of that loading can be logically explained by memories obtained from a previous life. This is more than a theory because as we have seen in the case of Dr Norm Shealy and many others, they have direct experience of exactly that. Not only do they remember previous lives, but they have gone further to find direct evidence that they share many of the same traits, skills, talents and interests as the previous life they remember.

Sceptics, of course, will never buy the argument – but that won't stop genius children from being born and coming into the world with advanced talents they had little or no time and opportunity to learn the old fashioned way. Furthermore, the case for a reincarnation connection is bolstered when the child has definite past-life memories. In the latter case, it seems there is only one logical and reasonable conclusion – that skills learned in a past life can survive death and reappear in the life of a new person.

#### The Science of Reincarnation

The New York Times called him 'one of today's three most important living scientists'.

And if you ask this brilliant man about reincarnation, he says that it is not only a possibility, but almost certainly a reality.

His name is Dr Robert Lanza, and he is among a growing list of the world's most advanced thinkers who now say that reincarnation not only makes sense scientifically, but it would be surprising if life did not go on after we die. More and more mainstream science is coming to the conclusion: *We never die. When we leave this body, we will live again.* 

Lanza is among a cadre of cutting edge scientific innovators who say it's time to stop thinking of the biological human brain as the source of consciousness. Rather, Lanza says that consciousness is sourced from outside the human brain. The brain is perhaps closer to a 'receiver' and 'tuning' device that is immersed in a universal field of consciousness. Consciousness is encoded data existing as electromagnetic energy that can never be degraded or destroyed. It's out there – it's all around us. We're swimming in it.

Lanza says that consciousness is the primal base that makes up the universe.

Born in Boston in 1956, Lanza can be said to have been a child prodigy. As a boy he conducted experiments in his basement involving the biology of chickens. He found a way to alter the genetic structure of chicken cells. The results of these experiments were brought to the attention of scientists at Harvard Medical School. Lanza was invited to consult with such giants of medical research as Dr Jonas Salk, the man who cured polio, and Christian Bernard, the man who performed the first heart transplant. Both men mentored Lanza as he proceeded to earn a medical degree.

The list of accomplishments acquired by Dr Lanza are almost too numerous to mention here, but they include being involved in the development of the first cloned human embryos. He was among the first to generate stem cells from adults using something called somatic-cell nuclear transfer. Lanza was the first man to clone an endangered species, a type of bull known as a gaur.

Today Dr Lanza is Chief Science Officer to Ocata Therapeutics, a cell technology company. He is also Professor of Regenerative Medicine at Wake Forest University School of Medicine.

In 2007 Dr Lanza released a paper which outlined what he calls his theory of 'Biocentrism' and expanded on the concept in his 2009 book, *Biocentrism: How Life and Consciousness are the Keys to Understanding the Universe*.

In this book Dr Lanza makes a case that the very structure of the universe is made up of laws, forces, energies and constants that clearly show how intelligence, or the mind, exists before matter. That is, the brain does not generate consciousness. It is the other way round. Our 'minds' and 'personalities' are not trapped inside the 'meat' of our brains, and consciousness is flowing into the brain and through it.

Lanza calls space and time 'tools of our animal understanding'. We carry space and time around with us 'like turtles with shells' - meaning that when our shell wears out and we cast it off, we're ready to don a new shell to have another go at physical-biological life.

Dr Lanza says that human beings as a species have developed the wrong idea about what death is because we have become confused about the nature of biological reality. He says we are too 'biocentric' thinking biology and physical matter are everything. We have come to identify solely with our physical bodies based on that which we see in the mirror every day, what we feel (be it pain or pleasure) and so on. But all of these sensations are not 'coming from within' but are being transmitted 'from without'.

Dr Lanza is boldly acknowledging what the vast majority of today's material scientists have long refused to do – that one must take into account the quantum nature of physical reality when considering the human body's place in the universe. He is attempting to show how the physical body interlaces with all of the non-physical energies that are swirling all around us at every moment.

# Support from a Physicist

NASA physicist Tom Campbell is onboard with the idea that reincarnation is not only possible, but a certainty.

Campbell has enjoyed a long career working at the very top of his field as a physicist and computer expert for the highest-tier clients – including U.S. Missile Defense firms and NASA. In fact, it was Campbell's work that helped the American fleet of space shuttles get back into orbit after two catastrophic explosions which had killed all on board. Campbell's work on statistical risk analysis gave NASA engineers the information they needed to bring back a level of flight safety that would enable the U.S. to return to space.

When Campbell was not working twelve hour days in the aerospace industry, he was leading a kind of second life, exploring the more esoteric world of subjects that are taboo to mainstream science. This included such phenomenon as out-of-body travel, remote viewing and the non-local nature of consciousness. Campbell was instrumental in the early development of the Monroe Institute, which is among the leading consciousness exploration organizations in the world

today.

Along with an electrical engineer in a crude laboratory set up in an old mobile home, Campbell conducted experiments for Monroe using specific sound frequencies which, when fed to the human brain, could be shown to produce transcendent states of mind, such as out-of-body experiences or deep states of meditation that might otherwise take Zen monks decades to achieve.

Over some thirty years of research, Campbell eventually produced a massive three volume series of books called *My Big TOE* with 'TOE' standing for 'Theory of Everything'.

In short, Campbell makes an extremely detailed scientific argument that consciousness is not generated by the brain – just the opposite – that consciousness comes first, and enters the brain only after a person is born and develops a biological body. The 'mind' of that person already exists, and could easily have inhabited another body in another time period.

Campbell presents a complex cosmology which describes our reality as a virtual reality. Life, Campbell says, is more like a gigantic computer. Our bodies are akin to avatars in a video game. Our true self – our consciousness – is no more 'inside' our physical bodies than the player of a computer game is inside the character in the game he or she is playing.

'What happens when your character in a video game gets killed by a dragon or a troll?' Campbell asks before answering:

'It just gets up again as soon as the player restarts the game. The avatar is not dead – its information is stored in the hard drive of the computer. It can be brought back to fight again another day.'

One of Campbell's favourite phrases is:

'It's all just data.'

What he means is that everything we do, feel, see, taste and smell in our lives is essentially raw data that our biological brains are capturing from a kind of overarching 'supercomputer' that is generating a virtual reality scenario we find ourselves living within.

One of the questions many sceptics ask about the reincarnation scenario is this:

'If people truly have immortal souls that never die, why do they have to enter physical bodies that live only for a few decades — usually less than a century — only to start all over again? Why can't this soul live five years, or a thousand years, rather than having to die every seventy-five to eighty-five years, or so?'

Campbell says that lives partitioned into shorter spans make it easy for the soul to concentrate on learning specific lessons about life. The tendency is for most individuals to 'paint themselves into a corner' after a life of perhaps eight or nine decades. It's akin to a 'fruit that has ripened and now is ready to pick'. It's easiest to cash in all of the data collected in that lifespan, and then take a rest to evaluate everything that was learned. Once all the data is tabulated and sorted and meanings interpreted and understood, the soul can then rest before choosing its next go-around.

# The Anesthesiologist

Another leading doctor who comes at this from yet another angle is Dr Stuart Hameroff who undertook his medical training at the Drexel University College of Medicine. His career in medical research was with the University of Arizona where he was a Professor in the Department of Anesthesiology and Psychology and Associate Director for the Center for Consciousness Studies.

Dr Hameroff's research led him to the study of microscopic cell structures called microtubules, which are components of the cytoskeleton which makes up cellular cytoplasm. This is the very basic structure of what human cells are made from at the most fundamental level.

Neurons or brain cells also have microtubule structures. They are so complex that Dr Hameroff realized that it was in these microscopic structures that the actual computation needed to produce conscious awareness takes place. Information is processed far below the atom or even subatomic level – and on the quantum level. Dr Hameroff says that the information being processed in the microtubules of the brain can 'leak' out and connect directly to the surrounding universal field of consciousness. He argues that our experience of consciousness is the result of quantum gravity effects in these microtubules, a theory which he dubbed 'orchestrated objective reduction'.

Interestingly, another world-famous scientist came to precisely the same conclusion about microtubules working wholly independently of Dr Hameroff – it was Sir Roger Penrose, a British mathematical physicist, who is most famous for making major contributions to relativity theory and cosmology.

Penrose says that consciousness, or at least proto-consciousness, is a fundamental property of the universe, and it was present even at the first moment of the universe during the Big Bang.

'In one such scheme proto-conscious experience is a basic property of physical reality accessible to a quantum process associated with brain activity,' Penrose said.

According to Penrose, our souls are constructed from the very fabric of the universe and may have existed since the beginning of time. Like Dr Lanza, Penrose says that our brains are just receivers and amplifiers for the proto-

consciousness that is intrinsic to the fabric of space-time.

Dr Hameroff said in a recent TV documentary on the Science Channel:

'Let's say the heart stops beating, the blood stops flowing, the microtubules lose their quantum state. The quantum information within the microtubules is not destroyed, it can't be destroyed, and it just distributes and dissipates to the universe at large.'

Hameroff said if the patient is revived, he or she may have a near-death experience. The person's 'quantum information' (or soul) would temporarily disassociate from the body and return when all systems return to normal. If the body dies, the quantum information is still viable and can be born, as in reincarnation, into a new life in a new time.

#### **Full Circle**

You might say we are living in the most amazing time in history. For centuries, science and mysticism have been at odds with each other on the most fundamental questions: What is life? What is consciousness?

About three hundred years ago, the total dominance of the materialist world view began with Isaac Newton who crystalized the idea of a 'billiard ball universe'. In Newton's view, all reality was made up of physical matter. His 'billiard balls' are what we came to call 'atoms' and these were seen as the most fundamental units of reality. No matter how 'alive' something seemed, the materialist point of view said there was no escaping the fundamental fact that everything is made up of basic building blocks of matter. That meant that what we experience as 'mind' or 'emotions' were basically illusions created by the interaction of 'dead stuff' which is temporarily put into motion by some form of energy. But when that energy is removed from the system – it falls apart and ceases to exist.

But just a little more than one hundred years ago quantum theory emerged. Furthermore, the atom proved not to be so solid and 'fundamental' after all. Break down an atom and you get electrons, neutrons and protons. These in turn can be broken down further into even more exotic particles, such as quarks, muons, bosons, neutrinos and more. It seems that no matter how far scientists attempted to break things down, there was always a deeper level.

We now recognize that an atom is 99.99999% empty space! All physical matter is basically an illusion created by the interaction of matter with energy. And as Einstein demonstrated, energy can never be destroyed. Energy can only be transformed to a new state. It can act as solid matter for a time, but then 'go back' or 'go on' to take on a purely flowing wavelike form of organized ... something.

It was only a matter of time before biologists began to consider the fact that the human body is made up of atoms, which in turn are made up of smaller and smaller particles – to the point that no physical matter reality can be found at all. Only energy is constant. That means that our human bodies are a form of pure energy as well ... and immortal.

Mystical and religious tradition had been holding this as fact all along, but because these forces had no way to prove what they were saying was true, it was relegated to the margins of society. Now, thanks to its former antagonist – science – mysticism has new ground upon which to stand.

Included in all of this is the concept of reincarnation.

Finally, what tens of thousands of people have been reporting based on their own direct experience or information accessed via hypnosis, can be validated as true.

# **Conclusion**

The ancient concept of reincarnation has not only re-emerged into our modern consciousness, but seems to have become a more natural and accepted part of our world view.

Some studies show that twenty-five percent of people in modern western countries now agree that reincarnation is not only possible, but a reality. The implications of this are enormous.

For example, how would our society change if more and more people accepted the idea that the death of our current physical body is not the end? Psychologists tell us that the fear of death is a fundamental factor at the root of what makes people feel miserable in their daily lives. Even if one does not think about one's own death on a daily basis, it looms, ever present, in the background. It's a primal fear, and fear makes people act in ways that are destructive and counter-productive. Many of the ills of society today can be traced back to how some people are feeling cut-off, hopeless and ultimately meaningless.

But now imagine a population that has been released from the fear of death. Suddenly, we have all the time in the world – eternity, in fact! Life now takes on a new dimension of meaning. We realize that *this is not all there is* and we also understand that *we are more than our physical bodies* and because we are more than our physical bodies, we can access that which is beyond the physical. Our potential is virtually unlimited.

Freedom from the fear of death is a kind of universal freedom that can flow across all aspects of life and living. Knowing that we are not mere physical lumps of biological matter, but indestructible souls constructed of pure consciousness is a magnificent vision for humanity.

Knowing that we are 'souls' means that we can live out our lives from that basic understanding. It is the ultimate empowerment.

No doubt many will remain sceptical about the possibility of reincarnation. But it seems this is a concept and a phenomenon that is not going away. Those amazing headlines in the media just keep coming. Every day more people – average, ordinary everyday people – are discovering that they have an undeniable connection to something larger, something infinite and something absolutely amazing.

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