

DREAMTIME

M A G A Z I N E

PSI DREAMING

Precognition, Telepathy and Beyond



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Thoughts ON Science AND Spirituality

Charles T. Tart

In the latter part of the nineteenth century the conflict between science and religion was, if anything, more intense and overt than it is now. A number of brilliant intellectuals and scholars, however, realized that the fashionable dismissal of all religion in the name of science, materialism and modernity was too extreme. There seemed to be some human experiences that, on the face of it, would not yield to physical explanation and suggested that there was more to humans than, as it used to be phrased, “ninety-eight cents worth of chemicals.”

A reliable, educated gentleman, for example, might suddenly have had a dream that his son, currently stationed in India, had tragically been killed by an elephant. The gentleman would not be the type to worry excessively and might normally never recall any dreams. Yet



when a sailing ship arrived from India a month later, the sad letter would confirm that the son had indeed been killed at that time by a runaway elephant. This was hardly proof of a really major idea such as the existence of God, but it was (and still is) totally unexplainable in terms of physics or any reasonable extensions of physics, and suggested that the

human mind—or soul, whatever you want to call it—is something importantly more than ninety-eight cents worth of chemicals, is perhaps something “spiritual.”

Thus in 1882 the Society for Psychical Research was formed in London. Its purpose was to use the methods of science and scholarship that were working so well in so many areas of life and apply them specifically to study the kinds of unusual human experiences that seemed to imply a spiritual dimension to humans.

[*Editor's note:* Dr. Tart goes on to explain the research done

that prove beyond any reasonable scientific doubt the existence of four psychic abilities: telepathy, clairvoyance, precognition and psychokinesis.]

The primary implication is that, *using the best kind of scientific methodology, the human mind has occasional abilities to transcend space and time that are totally inexplicable in terms of the material*

Two Psychic Dreams—

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phenomena with my professors. They had nothing intelligent to say. I was becoming very frustrated. But, out of that frustration, I resolved to become my own expert in such matters. This ultimately led to my pursuing an individual, interdisciplinary doctoral degree in “parapsychology.”

One evening, out of desperation, I told myself that, like Joseph in the Bible, I would have a dream and that my dream would solve my career dilemma. I felt certain that this would happen.

That night I dreamt that I went to the apartment of some friends. They were not at home, but I knew where they hid their key and let myself in. Lying in the middle of the living room floor was a magazine called *Eye* (a popular magazine

at that time). I began thumbing through it. I had a distinct “Eureka” feeling. I knew that, somehow, the answer I was looking for was in that magazine.

I woke early and jogged across town to the home of my friends. They were not in. I did, in fact, know where they hid their key, so, although I had never done that before, I let myself in. Lying in the middle of the living room floor was a magazine called *Focus*, the magazine of a public television and radio station in the San Francisco area. It literally focused my entire life.

As I sat looking through it, the idea came to me that I could achieve my goal by working with public radio and television. So, I went to KPFA-FMI, Pacifica Radio, in Berkeley and volunteered. They asked me to work as a receptionist. Even though I had my master’s degree, I accepted this simple task. Within three weeks, I was offered my own bi-weekly

radio program.

Suddenly, my life was transformed. Twice a week I hosted intimate, hour-long, uninterrupted conversations with leaders in the human potential movement, yogis, scientists, psychics, psychologists, visionaries, and many more. I was studying positive human behavior in a way that I never could have imagined!

I am still producing *Thinking Allowed*, an interview program for public television, and still studying positive exceptional human behavior. These experiences gave me the confidence to create a unique doctoral major in parapsychology at the University of California at Berkeley, to write my doctoral dissertation on psychic training, and to write my first book, *The Roots of Consciousness*.

To this day, twenty-eight years later, I see my extensive work on national public television, with the Wisdom Radio network, and in the Intuition Network, of which I am the president, as an outgrowth of these two dreams.

My work in the world, and my joy, is to encourage all people to cultivate and apply their inner, intuitive awareness. My life is the product of doing that.

Lucid Dream Healing—

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eyeglass prescriptions. Dr. Bennett Braun reported on the case of one woman who has diabetes in one personality but not in another.⁵ Dramatic changes can take place within minutes, and point to the amazing and accelerated healing effects potentially available to all of us, through mental changes-of-state leading to physiological changes-of-state in other modalities.⁶ In the future, controlled studies on LDHs may eventually confirm the effects seen in anecdotal reports, and lucid dream healing may become one of the more accepted and practical applications of lucid dream research.

[This article is an excerpt from a paper on LDHs under preparation.]

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lucid dream healing, lucid mutual dreaming, and “The Lucidity Continuum.” He hosts the “Dreaming and Paranormal Phenomena” section of the ASD web site. He currently resides in southern Oregon.

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As host of the weekly, national public television series *Thinking Allowed*, **Jeffrey Mishlove** conducts interviews with leading figures in science, philosophy, psychology, health and spirituality.



He is author of the classic *Roots of Consciousness*, an overview of the history, science and folklore of parapsychology and consciousness exploration; which evaluates dozens of methods for training extrasensory abilities; *Thinking Allowed*, which consists of edited transcripts from the television series. His most recent book is *The PKMan: A True Story of Mind Over Matter*.

He is also past-president of the California Society for Psychical Study and past-vice-president of the Association for Humanistic Psychology. He currently serves as Director of the Intuition Network and as dean of programs for the new, distant learning college, The University of Philosophical Research.

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