

ANOMALOUS EXPERIENCE

A Modern Ghost Story

by Joe Hanrahan

STAGE SETTING

A lectern in the middle of the space.

Two chairs on the right of the lectern.

Two chairs on the left of the lectern.

Slides can be used to illustrate Collins' lectures

LIGHTING/SOUND

During Collins lecture, lights focused on lectern, rest of the stage dark.

As Collins shifts to either Virginia or Scott, he will click a tv remote, simulating start of a video.

When introducing or talking about Virginia or Scott, lights may stay up on lectern and stage right or left.

When interviewing Virginia or Scott, lights will focus on interview, rest of the stage dark.

Lights and Sound Effects should be used to enhance encounter scenes - whether they be sightings, abductions or dreams.

Different Lights should be used for hypnosis period.

CHARACTERS

James Collins Psychiatrist

Virginia

Scott

(House Lights are still on. They will remain so until first subject is interviewed. JAMES COLLINS enters. Surveys the space. Goes over and talks to the stage manager. Takes place at lectern. Shuffles papers. He will move from the lectern at certain points of the solo section of his presentation.)

COLLINS: Good evening (or afternoon). Thank you, all, for attending this...for attending this. I understand that, for many of you, perhaps, even being here was not an easy decision.

I understand that. And I'd like to address that issue. In some fashion.

My name is James Collins. I've been a practicing psychiatrist for almost thirty years. I've treated many, many private patients during that time, with the focus on, and the treatment of, psychotherapy. I'm a professor at the State University here, I've been associated with several major hospitals, and have been involved with numerous Community Centers who do invaluable work concerning mental health issues.

I've been a guest lecturer at many colleges and health organizations, and I'm the author of a number of textbooks that are used in schools across the world.

So the road to this presentation, as you might imagine, has not been an easy one for me.

But again, thanks to all of you for taking the risk, and risking the disapproval...the ridicule, in some instances...that could come your way.

Our topic - our specific topic tonight - Abduction: Human Encounters with Aliens. Now that is a specific segment of a general topic - a topic that neatly lends itself to ridicule — and that general topic is one of visitors to our planet - visitors from another planet, or from somewhere else - and, of course, the ships, the crafts, the Unidentified Flying Objects - that may bring them. This topic has been a constant, and sometimes sensational, part of our culture since just after World War II. 75 years.

(COLLINS strolls away from lectern as he recited this mini-history.)

I think it important to give a quick overview of the historical UFO phenomenon, which will, perhaps, put tonight's session - which deals with a specific segment of this topic - in context.

In our time, the first widely reported sightings of unusual things in the sky began in 1947, popularized by a pilot, Kenneth Arnold, in the skies over the state of Washington, who saw something in the sky, and described that as a flying saucer. And so it began. Soon after, there were many, many sightings, around the globe. And it was just a bit later, in that same year, 1947, that the infamous Roswell, New Mexico crash supposedly happened, with reports of a government cover-up, and the retrieval of an alien ship, and even alien bodies.

(COLLINS steps right into the audience.)

Now, as I'm going to, kind of, rush through this overview, in the interest of time, please, anyone, if there's anything I say that makes no sense at all to you, please raise your hand and I'll try to clarify. OK? OK.

(COLLINS steps back)

So, back to 1947- when the wave of incidents began that, actually, continue to this day. Of course, people have speculated, through research of classic texts, visits to remote sites and archaeological studies, and then expressed through theories and then books and documentary films, that there have been visitors to our planet since ancient times. Visitors who, some claim, influenced our evolution, our development, imparting language and technical skills that advanced our species. In those ancient times, people who saw things in the sky characterized them as gods, chariots of the gods, arriving in their chariots of the gods. This of course was based on the traditions and the religions of their culture. In our time, due to science and astronomy and the development of aircraft, things spotted in the skies have been seen as physical objects, aircraft from space. So, in a sense, when we see something in the skies, it surely reflects the culture and technology of our times.

The interest in UFOs - which was a government term coined in 1953 - continued and perhaps peaked in the 1950's, somewhat due to Hollywood, but also due, perhaps, to the fears that people felt at the dawn of the atomic age.

And indeed, there's theories that the appearance of these crafts from other worlds, just after World War II, was due to their awareness that we, human beings, had discovered the means

to...destroy the planet...as the use of atomic bombs in Japan to end the war was noticed from other parts of the universe.

But suffice to say that - after the explosion of interest in the 50's, and then again in the 60's particularly, and up to today - there have been thousands upon thousands of sightings, cases, unexplained cases, often involving very credible witnesses - pilots, civilian and military, police, very sober citizens— some involving photographs and film, documenting experiences of an encounter with something that seemed like a ship, a space ship. And then, sometimes, occupants of these ships were also seen - we call them aliens - beings, perhaps, from another world. And as humans witnessed these UFOs, sometimes these UFOs, and their occupants, seemed to look back at them. And sometimes, these humans reported that they had been taken, against their will, onto these UFOs. And, subsequently, examined, often undergoing very unusual, often medical of a sorts, procedures. This became popularly known as alien abduction.

The first classic, and widely known, abduction case, the landmark case of the phenomenon, occurred in 1963, in New Hampshire. Betty and Barney Hill. They were a married couple driving on an isolated road, when very bright lights, and a seeming solid craft in the sky interrupted their journey. It was only later, as they began to think about and question and try to remember the incident, that, under hypnotic regression, their memories of that night were recovered.

And what may have happened to them - as their case became public and eventually a book about what may have happened was released - became the structure, the story, of the many, many abduction incidents that followed. All over the world.

It should be noted here that though many abduction cases are similar, actually a small percentage of people involved remember seeing anything about these incidents before an abduction - in books or newspaper reports with details. And indeed, even with the many, many UFO movies that Hollywood has turned out, a very few of them has detailed what has become the classic case and goings-on inside a UFO.

Now the government, our government specifically, has always, until recently, firmly denied the existence of such events. As well as any sightings of UFOs. They established research groups, whose main job, according to skeptics of these groups, was to spread misinformation about the phenomenon, aggressively establishing all, and only, natural explanations for any sighting. These groups went under names like Project Sign, Project Grudge, Project Blue Book. At the same time, however, other governments around the world, actually, have been more forthcoming in their release of their findings, and in their openness to the reality of the phenomenon.

Of course, most of us are aware of recent activity. UFOs, or the now favored description, Unidentified Aerial Phenomena, UAPs, have once more caught the attention of the government and the public. There've been many sightings by, for example, U.S. military pilots, and those sightings, recorded on cameras from planes, and on radar, have generated new interest from the military. And indeed, it was just this past May, that congress held the first open hearings on UFOs since 1970.

(COLLINS returns to lectern)

But we are not here tonight to examine the long history of unusual sightings in the sky, or to look at the current UAP flap. We're here tonight to examine a real-life psychological phe-

nomenon. We're here tonight to look at two examples of this, cases of two individuals whose lives and well-being have been seriously impacted by their perceived experience of alien abduction. Two people who will represent the untold number of human beings who believe they may, just may, have been abducted by someone or something not of this earth.

Like anything to do with the general topic of UFOs, alien abduction has been quickly and perhaps too easily dismissed by experts, often from the government or medical field, as well as the mainstream media.

Abduction experiences have been explained away by factors that include sleep paralysis, psychopathology, suggestibility or false memory syndrome.

But examination of the individuals who have gone through this reveals more. Far from people with some disparate psychological issues, studies of these cases reveal people that, indeed, have had something - something real - happen to them...something profound...something they didn't want or seek, something they didn't invent, something for which they wanted no publicity, and indeed, were reluctant to even admit...and something that they, simply, just wanted some answers about.

(COLLINS steps from the Lectern, addresses audience directly.)

One can't say for certain that aliens are taking people. But there is compelling, powerful evidence that something is happening...and that which is happening is difficult to account for.

What I ask of you, as you observe this...presentation...is to...maybe...suspend any...final judgment at this moment. What we'll be looking at is a true, real-life mystery. A modern ghost story.

(COLLINS heads back to the Lectern)

We'll be talking with two different people. My interviews with them have taken place over time, during several separate sessions. And you'll be seeing videos recorded of those sessions.

(COLLINS flashes remote)

The individuals have given their permission to share this. In addition to seeking answers for their own experiences, they are motivated to help others who may have gone through the same thing.

(House lights off. VIRGINIA enters stage right. Sits. Still. Collins clicks remote. Lights on lectern and stage right on.)

This is Virginia. While the other person we talk to had a different path to abduction, Virginia represents a true textbook case of. Many, most of these, cases involve a similar pattern of events, and Virginia's case echoes this pattern.

First is Capture.

The second step is Examination.

Three is Conference. Communication between the aliens and the abductee. Usually, via telepathy.

Missing Time is almost always a characteristic, and is almost always a very confusing element for the abductee.

And finally, the Aftermath. when the abductee must cope with what happened - the psychological or even physical effects - and what they might be expected - or compelled - to do next.

Not all abductions involve all of these steps. And when an abductee has been taken more than once, as many have, these events become , somewhat, fluid.

The two cases we will look at are representative of, literally, hundreds of cases that I have investigated personally. And the many thousands that have been recorded by fellow researchers.

(House lights off. VIRGINIA enters stage right. Sits. Still. Lights on lectern and stage right on.)

While the other person we talk to had a different path to abduction, Virginia represents a true textbook case of. Many, most of these, cases involve a similar pattern of events, and Virginia's case echoes this pattern. Let's meet Virginia.

(COLLINS moves stage right, sits. Lights off on lectern)

COLLINS: Hello, Virginia.

VIRGINIA: Hello.

COLLINS: Thank you for agreeing to do this.

VIRGINIA: You're welcome

COLLINS: Your participation may help others who have...

VIRGINIA: Yes. Sorry, Yes. That's why I wanted to...

COLLINS: Yes. Thank you. Now, the first incident we'll be talking about happened...twelve...

VIRGINIA: Yes, twelve years ago.

COLLINS: Let me ask, what was your life like then - twelve years ago?

VIRGINIA: I was married. For about five years then. I worked. Shop And Save.

COLLINS: You'd been to High School...

VIRGINIA: Yes, I graduated.

COLLINS: But not college.

VIRGINIA: No.

COLLINS: What was life like then for you? With your husband. And friends. What did you do?

VIRGINIA: Oh...y'know. Swimming. Soft Ball. Bowling. We'd go to movies. It was a small town where we lived.

COLLINS: Uh-huh. Now the movies...or television...or maybe what you read...did you ever come across any movies...or stories...about alien abduction?

VIRGINIA: No. No. I was never interested in...science fiction. Or anything like that. I'd never come across anything...like that.

COLLINS: OK.

(COLLINS stands. Walks to lectern. Clicks remote. Lights down on VIRGINIA. Lights up on Lectern.)

COLLINS: Now let's meet Scott.

(SCOTT enters stage left. Sits. Still. Lights up stage left. Lights down on Lectern. COLLINS moves stage left, sits.)

COLLINS: Scott. Hello.

SCOTT: Hello, Doctor.

COLLINS: I'd like to thank you for participating in this.

SCOTT: Sure.

COLLINS: Scott, what do you do? What's your job...your profession?

SCOTT: Computers. I was a programmer for several years. But, the last few years, I've been part of a team that plans...other companies' websites and online strategies...

COLLINS: So you work at an IT agency?

SCOTT: Yes. We're independant contractors.

COLLINS: So. You had an incident, so to speak (laughs)...you were just a young teenager?...concerning UFOs that impacted you...?

SCOTT: Yes...impacted me...(laughs a bit)...I certainly remembered it, it was always a joke kind of thing, y'know...I was probably twelve or so. This isn't a...part of the...stuff we'll be talking about...looking at...later...

COLLINS: No...

SCOTT: I mean not a real part of it. It was just...something...it was so funny. But it kept UFOs kind of at the top of my mind.

COLLINS: Yes.

(at some point in this story, Scott will get up for the full, animated effect)

SCOTT: Well, I was just about twelve, and I liked Rock 'N Roll, I used to listen to these two radio stations all the time, sometimes online. I'd listen for the latest stuff, y'know. Well, I...I'd never heard the expression "talk radio," I think...I mean I didn't listen to other stations, and I just hadn't heard that term, "talk radio." I was a kid.

But one day on my Rock 'N Roll station, they said they were going to be doing something new. They had a new guy coming in, and starting next Monday, every week, Monday-Friday, starting at 9 o'clock at night, he was going to be doing a "talk radio" show. I think it was the first step in them changing their format.

So I decided to listen. So the guy comes on - 9 o'clock Monday night - and he gives a little bit about his background. And he says he's going to be on Monday-Friday with all kinds of guests. He says a little bit about who tomorrow night's guest is going to be, but tonight, it's going to be open calls. Anybody can call in and bring up any topic. And he'll do this occasionally, he said, open phones.

He gives the phone number and cuts to a commercial. Comes back, says a little more about himself, a little more about tomorrow night's guest. Another commercial.

This goes on. And on.

Nobody's calling in. It gets to be about 9:45, and this guy is dying! He's getting frantic on the air. He keeps repeating the phone number.

So I decide to call in. I'd been reading a few UFO magazines, which I did as a kid, so I dial his number and he picks up, I think only halfway through the ring, and shouts 'Hi! Hello! Thanks for Calling! What do you want to talk about?'

I'm just a kid, I go..."We-e-e-elll...I'm...kinda interested in UFOs..."

And he goes "Have you ever seen one?"

And I say "No, but I've read about 'em, and they seem like..."

"OK! Thanks!" He says. And hangs up on me.

And his switchboard just lights up! Everybody started calling. Everybody wanted to talk about UFOs.

I listened for an hour or two, then I got tired and went to bed.

So I listen the next night. And the guy comes on, talks about tonight's guest a bit, and then he says "Last night was our first night, and we had open phones. Some nut called in about UFOs, and that's all anybody wanted to..."

And I was like "Some nut! I saved your career, buddy!"

(laughs, sits)

But that's always the way it is with this, huh? Some nut!"

(laughs)

(COLLINS up, stage left lights out, lectern lights on, he moves to lectern)

COLLINS: Some nut. That's usually the way it is. (smiles) I talked to Virginia about her first encounter.

(COLLINS lectern lights off, lights up stage right. Sits.)

COLLINS: Virginia, tell us about the first sighting.

VIRGINIA: OK. It was the middle of the night.

(VIRGINIA stops, thinks, up as she acts out encounter)

(LIGHTS/SFX) LIGHTS simulate middle of the night. SFX a hollow, but real sound

VIRGINIA: Something woke me up. My husband was sleeping. I got up and, for some reason, went to the window. Our bedroom was on the second floor, and I could see out into the yard. There...there was...there were these people...standing there. There were three or four of them. They were small. It looked like they had some kind of metal colored suits on, maybe. I don't know how long I stood there, and looked at them. They didn't move, but I could tell...it seemed they knew I was there. I don't know how long I stood there.

(VIRGINIA sits)

(LIGHTS/SFX) out

COLLINS: But, you didn't remember anything else happening then?

VIRGINIA: No.

COLLINS: Were you very frightened?

VIRGINIA: Not this first time. It was just so strange.

COLLINS: And you...just went back to bed.

VIRGINIA: I woke up the next morning. In bed.

COLLINS: But you remembered what happened the night before?

VIRGINIA: Yeah. Yeah. I thought it must have been a dream. But...(shakes head)

(COLLINS up, moves to lectern. Stage right lights out, lectern lights on)

COLLINS: This is something you'll find in many reported cases. An encounter - usually a sighting - and an undetermined amount of time passing. People cannot recall how long an encounter lasted...or when it ended. Missing time. As, possibly, the case was with Scott. And his first time.

(COLLINS lights out center, moves stage left, lights up stage left. Sits.)

COLLINS: So the first time, you think, that you may have been visited...you never saw anything?

SCOTT: No. This was just a year or two after my famous phone call. That's kinda funny. The phone call...and then. But I didn't really think about that a lot. I remembered it. But...

COLLINS: What happened?

SCOTT: I had this job. Bus boy job. Weekend job, I was a teenager. It was at a local restaurant. The place was a good place, dinner place, steakhouse. We'd take care of dinners all night, then 11 so it would slow down, we'd clean up, get ready. And about 2 in the morning, after the bars closed, it filled up again. People eating late, after drinking. We'd take care of that, then we'd finish up about 4.

I didn't live far, so I'd walk home those nights. Sounds dangerous now, I guess, I was only 14 or so, but it was different then. It was a quiet part of the city. Residential.

(SCOTT stands, illustrating the walk and encounter)

SCOTT: So I'm walkin' home, 4 in the morning. Nobody on the streets. No cars, nothing. And I'm about 2 blocks from home, and I hear this sound.

(LIGHTS/SFX) Lights waver a bit, in time with SFX. SFX are what SCOTT is imagining - sound of UFO hovering just overhead.

SCOTT: I barely noticed it at first. But as I walked, it just kept up. It sounded...it felt... like it was right over me. Right behind me. Following me. And it sounded like...if I had to imagine what a UFO would sound like, that's how it sounded to me. I was too...afraid to look up. I just kept walking.

I wasn't that far from home. It seemed like it was following me forever, though, y'know. I don't how long it followed me. But at some point...it just seemed to stop.

(SFX abrupt out)

SCOTT: And I...just went home. I never did look up. Or behind me.

(SCOTT sits)

COLLINS: But you're not convinced...now...that that's all happened?

SCOTT: No. I'm not sure. After everything else...I'm pretty sure something might have happened that night.

COLLINS: That you may have been...abduct...

SCOTT: Maybe. (pause) I mean I didn't look at the clock when I got home. I should have gotten home about...I don't know...4:15 or so. But...I don't know...it seemed like...I don't know.

(COLLINS up, Lights out stage left. Lights up on lectern.)

COLLINS: That was all Scott truly remembered...the sound he heard...that he thought followed him. But he remembered it.

For her second time, for Virginia, it was a more vivid encounter.

(COLLINS Lights out on lectern. Lights up stage right. He sits.)

COLLINS: So, Virginia. It happened again?

VIRGINIA: Yes. More than once.

COLLINS: When was the next time?

VIRGINIA: Um...

COLLINS: The second time. How long after the first...?

VIRGINIA: Several weeks.

COLLINS: And what happened?

(LIGHTS/SFX) Lights middle of the night. SFX: Hollow.

VIRGINIA: It was...like the first time. I woke up. I went to the window. It was like...I was expected to go. And I wanted to see. I stood there. And...they were there. But...

(VIRGINIA rises)

COLLINS: But...

VIRGINIA: But this time...

COLLINS: Yes?

VIRGINIA: This time...all of a sudden...I was outside. I was with them. And I think...I think they were taking me somewhere...on...their ship...or something...

COLLINS: Your husband...?

VIRGINIA: I thought...I thought about calling out to him...but I remembered seeing him..I know...for some reason...he was out...he was sleeping, and he couldn't help.

(pause)

COLLINS: But you don't...

VIRGINIA: I didn't remember anything else...from that night...just that.

COLLINS: This time...were you frightened this time?

VIRGINIA: I woke up...the next morning...I was...I was still...I felt terrified. I could remember thinking...Oh, No! They're taking me...they're taking me on that thing.

COLLINS: That was all. The terror. That was all you remmed...

VIRGINIA: That was enough.

(VIRGINIA sits)

COLLINS: OK. (pause) But again, your husband...during this...?

VIRGINIA: He was always there. Every time it happened. But sleeping...or just...out of it... I think...they made sure he was...not aware what was happening. Y'know.

(COLLINS up, Lights out stage right. Lights up lectern.)

COLLINS: Virginia felt that after seeing something from the window, that, all of sudden, she was out there. With them. But she didn't go through the second story window. She didn't go down the steps. She was just out there.

This is typical of abduction cases. The abductee is in bed, or maybe in a car. And then outside of it. Taken against their will.

How could this happen? We don't know but there are two current, possible explanations. I'll touch on them quickly.

There's something called "quantum tunneling." This deals with electrons that are not just solid particles moving around the nucleus of an atom, but also act as waves in terms of quantum physics. As waves, electrons have the possibility of passing through a barrier without going around it. There's only a slight possibility that this can happen naturally. But, possibly, more so if it's artificially controlled.

And, then in many of these encounters, there's a light beam. This could allow electrons to rise to higher orbital levels so that someone could pass through a wall in a slightly different frequency state than the wall itself for a temporary period of time.

These are being researched in chemical and metallurgical laboratories today.

And now...to Scott. After his first experience hearing something, he saw something.

(COLLINS Lights out lectern. He moves left, sit. Lights up stage left)

COLLINS: Tell me about...the time you...

SCOTT: (a bit more subdued) Yes, uh...The time I saw one...This was just a couple years after that...first one.

I was in high school. A friend, who knew I was interested in these things...he lived a little bit north of me, where I lived, and he called me one night, and said..."Hey, look out your window. Look out towards me, look north, where I live."

I had a room on the second floor of my house. With a window looking north. I went up there... my parents were out, doing something, I was alone...

I got up to my room, and looked out the window...

(SCOTT stands, mimes looking out his window)

(LIGHTS/SFX) LIGHTS give a subtle glow to scene. SFX hollow sound

SCOTT: I looked out...and there...just what seemed like a block away...was this thing in the sky. It was like a big disc...(grudging chuckle)...a big saucer. I couldn't make out too many details...but on the top of the saucer, was a row of windows...and what looked like, maybe, some people, or somebody, I thought, looking out.

I just stood there and stared.

I don't know how long I stood and looked at that thing. I don't remember if it went away. Or if I walked away, if I just stopped looking. I just don't remember
(LIGHTS/SFX) stop

The next day at school, I talked about it. But no one was that interested.

(SCOTT sits)

SCOTT: But you know, it was...funny thing...several years later...it was some alumni gathering, my class, y'know...and this guy came up to me. I didn't know him well, I hardly knew him in school.

But he said, and he was, I don't know, real serious, I don't know, all serious, and he said, "That UFO. You saw. Back then. I saw it, too."

I don't know, maybe it was the drinks, the party or something. He walked away. And I didn't follow, or talk to him again. I should have.

(COLLINS Lights out stage left. COLLINS stand, moves to lectern. Lights up on lectern)

COLLINS: This was how Virginia and Scott...in different ways...received their first glimpses of something new, something unexplained in their lives.

My introduction was more prosaic. A friend - a professional colleague, another psychiatrist - told me about some things he'd been looking into. He has a friend, an artist. This artist, one night, was buying some wine at a local store. He started talking to the store owner, someone he'd known for a while. And this store owner told him about some sightings - and an abduction - that supposedly happened to people he knew.

The artist was fascinated. And he embarked upon some serious study. He contacted, and interviewed dozens of abductees. With the help of a hypnotist, he went further into the memories, and the experiences, of these people.

And he told my friend, my psychiatrist friend, about it.

This intrigued my friend. He looked into it. And the next time we talked, he told me. And I started looking into it.

And as I looked further, people like Virginia and Scott were referred to me.

I've done some writing about the phenomenon. And, as you might guess, it's met with...some serious skepticism.

Let's move on.

(COLLINS Lights out on lectern. Lights up stage right. COLLINS moves right, sits)

COLLINS: So this happened several times.

VIRGINIA: Yes.

COLLINS: And do you think you were taken on board a ship several times?

VIRGINIA: (pause) I don't think. I know. Now.

COLLINS: Yes, what did you do, did you try to talk about it? Tell someone...your husband?

VIRGINIA: Yes, yes, I was afraid to...I was so confused...I thought, maybe, I was going crazy, or...

COLLINS: Now, did any of these incidents happen after...drinking...some drinking...or...?

VIRGINIA: I never drank much. Couldn't. Lightweight. He did. Gary did. But no...

COLLINS: And...drugs...?

VIRGINIA: We'd smoke some stuff once in a while. But not much, y'know. Just some parties or...

COLLINS: So who'd you try to talk to?

VIRGINIA: Well, Gary. My husband.

COLLINS: What happened?

VIRGINIA: He laughed. At first. I mean, we were young. We'd never had...never had to deal with anything... before...

COLLINS: He laughed. At first.

VIRGINIA: When it happened again, I talked to him again. But...he was there, but he never woke up. He never saw anything. He...just didn't want to deal with me. I think he thought I was crazy. Or that I was just trying to get some attention.

COLLINS: So, then, what did you do?

VIRGINIA: I talked to a friend. She was my friend. But she didn't...she didn't know what to do. I talked to my doctor. I could see he was trying not to laugh. He prescribed some pills. I talked to the minister. At our church. We didn't go much, but we knew him. He wanted to pray with me.

COLLINS: So, you talked to everybody.

VIRGINIA: Everybody. Except my mother. I know she would have told me I was imagining all this.

(pause)

COLLINS: It sounds very hard.

VIRGINIA: Yeah, yeah. I really felt like I was going crazy. I knew something had happened. But I didn't know what. But I could remember...parts of it...flashes...I tried not to think about. I took the pills. I prayed some. But every time, I'd remember some of it...I'd just get so scared again. I was afraid to go to sleep at night. I was afraid to be by myself. Which I was. More and more. Gary didn't want anything to do with it. He started going out with his friends, by himself, more. Sleeping on the couch. And I was, usually, alone. Trying not to remember.

COLLINS: So that's when you went...

VIRGINIA: There was a junior college right near our town. Right outside of it. I just...took a shot. I went there, and I went to the offices, the office of a psychology teacher. I made an appointment to talk with him. I think he thought I was a possible, future student, y'know. But once I got there...I had a hard time bringing it up...but when I finally started talking, I didn't stop. And I started crying...

COLLINS: The teacher...listened...he was...sympathetic?

VIRGINIA: Yes, he was. He listened. He...wasn't...he never did any study or anything on this. But he'd heard a little about it, he'd read some things. He started checking some things out. And he was the one that suggested I get in touch with MUFON.

COLLINS: And so you did.

VIRGINIA: Yes, I wrote them a letter. They suggested I come talk to them.

COLLINS: OK.

(COLLINS nods; stands. Lights out stage right; Lights up lectern)

COLLINS: What Virginia did is very typical of people who have been through an abduction experience.

These people are very confused, very afraid. They're reluctant to talk with anyone, but they have to. They don't want this experience to be known. They don't want publicity. They don't feel that they're special.

They just want some answers. They want to know...what happened? What happened to me? What was it? Was it real? And whether it was or not...why did it happen to me?

They are truly desperate for answers.

Scott's case...his questions...were different.

The things that happened to him happened years apart. He'd process them. Wonder about them. But they didn't seem to affect his life in any major way.

But then came something that put a different focus on the matter.

(COLLINS Lights out on lectern. Lights up stage left. COLLINS moves left, sits.)

SCOTT: It was a dream. I thought...it was a dream.

I was in a hotel room. Or what looked like a hotel room. Or maybe it was an apartment. But it was a very...spare apartment. It didn't look like anybody lived there. But, really, it felt more like an apartment.

And I don't think I looked out the window, but I knew it was a street out there...a neighborhood I knew.

There was a woman in the room. It seemed like I knew this woman. But I really didn't.

But she looked like somebody I'd maybe met. Just once.

The woman I thought I met once...she was a job candidate. At my work. I was at work alone one day. I mean, it wasn't a big office. Maybe everybody was at lunch. This is when I met this woman.

She just kind of drifted in, looked around. She said she was interested in working here, that's why she was there. But she didn't ask any questions, or...just looked around. She seemed kind of distracted. Or sad, maybe.

So I tried to talk to her a bit. But she just...walked around...and looked around.

I remember...something about her...I was...really attracted to her. She just seemed...the way she looked, her voice, everything. Somebody I really liked. I didn't know anything about her, but I was ready to offer her a job.

(laughs)

This had happened a few years before my dream, when I met this woman at work. But I think she was the woman in this apartment. In this dream.

(SCOTT stands)

In the dream, she looked around. Kind of like she did when she was at my work. She felt...like she was kind of sad, again, maybe. I don't know.

Then she said...that we...we could make love...have sex. Right now. In this...apartment.

And then she said that...this would be the only time. And then...we would never see each other again.

(SCOTT sits)

COLLINS: And that's all you remember. From the dream.

SCOTT: Yeah. But the dream...I mean, I'm sitting here with you. And if I think about this...right now, here with you...later, if I think about it, or tell somebody about it, it's real. I mean it happened. It's happening right now, and I'll remember this as real.

A dream's different. If I have a dream and tell you about it, it's a dream.

But this...thing...with the woman. It's been several years now. But it still feels real. It wasn't just a dream.

(COLLINS up, Lights out stage left. Moves to lectern, lights up on lectern.)

COLLINS: This incident...with Scott. It gets us into something...many people who have been abducted...primarily women...remember a sexual component to their experience.

Examinations, of course. But also...the concept of a breeding. Breeding human/alien hybrids.

Many, many women who claim to have been abducted talk about pregnancies. Unexpected, short-lived pregnancies. And times when they didn't even know they were pregnant.

Some women remember, while on a UFO...some remember...sexual relations. With an alien.

Never do they talk about sexual...pleasure, of any kind. Indeed, never do they talk about any...warmth, or feeling, or any kind of concern. When remembered, it's always a clinical action.

And many of those will also remember, at a later time, a...fetus, a baby...being taken...out of them.

(pause)

This is something that characterizes many women's experiences, always women who have been through several abductions.

It doesn't happen often with men who are abducted. Though we've just heard about something that happened with Scott.

Now Virginia, in memories - brought forth by hypnosis, we'll look at this later - never remembered a sexual, or breeding component. But her abductions did lead her to seek answers.

And she wound up at MUFON. Which stands for the Mutual UFO Network, a respected organization, which takes a very professional and dispassionate approach to this phenomenon.

(COLLINS lights out on lectern, lights stage right. COLLINS moves right, sits.)

COLLINS: So, what happened when you went there...to MUFON?

VIRGINIA: Well, first, Gary went kind of nuts. Their headquarters is in a city away from here... you know that...

COLLINS: Yes.

VIRGINIA: Well, I had to take a bus, and miss some time at work. Gary was getting tired of me, going on about this. And he didn't like the money thing...

COLLINS: Yes. But when you got to MUFON...

VIRGINIA: It was...good. I mean, they were good. They...I could tell...they listened to me. I guess that's their job, huh? But I could tell...they believed me. They really did. I met with several people. And all of them, asked questions, and wanted to know...everything.

COLLINS: Good visit then. Good decision to go there.

VIRGINIA: Oh, yes. And then, they suggested, they wanted to come visit me. To our house. And see where it happened.

COLLINS: And they did.

VIRGINIA: Yes. About three weeks later, two of their investigators...that's what they called them...investigators...came to my house. They spent time talking to me. And then they wanted to look at my bedroom. Where I first saw them. From the window. And they spent a lot of time out in the yard. Where I went. They took readings. Looking for radioactive readings. In the soil. And everything.

COLLINS: And what did they find?

VIRGINIA: They didn't tell me a lot. But it seemed they were very interested in what they saw. They asked me about the...visits...again, and they had me walk them through it. They were very good.

COLLINS: Was Gary...uh, supportive? Did he...

VIRGINIA: He didn't like them coming at all. He stayed away from the house while they were there. We...the thing was driving us both crazy.

COLLINS: So how'd did the meetings end up? What happened...next...?

VIRGINIA: After they left, a week later or so, they called me. It was a conference call. There were several people on their side of the call. They kind of repeated back to me, everything I said, and things they saw when they came to my house. In a shorter version, y'know. They said...I was a...classic...case...of...abduction.

(pause)

VIRGINIA: Alien Abduction.

COLLINS: And...they...

VIRGINIA: They said they were sure, from our talk, that there was more to it. More that I didn't remember. Missing Time, they call it. They were hoping I'd agree to come to their place again. And undergo hypnosis. To bring back what I didn't remember. Back to their place. But they'd pay this time. Airplane. They flew me up there. And they were going to pay for a night at a hotel.

COLLINS: Mmmm-mm.

(pause, as we watch VIRGINIA's face reflect expectations, relief, doubt etc)

(COLLINS up, Lights out stage right. Moves to lectern. Lights up on lectern.)

COLLINS: I want to emphasize here that in my research - which has involved hundreds of abduction cases - that in almost all cases, the subjects were of sound mind. By that, I mean there was no evidence of psychiatric categories which could explain these experiences.

No histories of child abuse, neurosis, organic brain disease, serious depression, fantasy-prone personalities, alcohol or drug abuse.

These people were, in general, healthy adults, with no underlying factors that could have determined what happened to them.

And once again, the consistency of their stories - from all types of people, from all walks of life... from all over the globe, indeed...is remarkable.

On a trip overseas, I interviewed a man from South Africa. A Zulu medicine man. I talked to him when he was seventy-four years old. When he was thirty-eight, he had a classic abduction experience. He was in the bush, and suddenly found himself in an enclosure, a metal enclosure...something like he'd never seen or experienced in his life...surrounded by humanoid beings with large black eyes. He was terrified, and underwent the classic range of experiences. His people call them 'mandindas'...and they believe they are trying to teach us about the threat to earth that our destructive actions are causing.

(COLLINS Lights up stage left, lights down on lectern.)

COLLINS: And so, Scott...there was another dream.

SCOTT: Yes. This one was a dream. But it was a dream that made me think...something was going on with me.

See, I'd seen some video...somewhere...I wasn't looking for it, but it popped up on YouTube, maybe.

But it was video of a UFO sighting. But a very unusual one. It was in Texas, I remember. And there were some heavy clouds. And coming out of the cloud...not flying horizontally...but coming down vertically out of the cloud...this big, what looked like big, black rectangle...

(SCOTT uses his hands to demonstrate)

...coming down vertically...coming straight down, out of the cloud.

It stopped at a certain point, and then clouds covered it again. But it was so unusual. This black rectangle, coming straight down.

It must have...it really did affect me. And that night, I had this dream.

(SCOTT stands)

I was on some city street. And I looked up, and that black rectangle was up there. In the sky.

And it was...the UFO was sending these beams, these light beams, down to the street.

And these beams would hit the street, and there was kind of a little explosion, and coming out of the explosion, were these people...

and this might not sound scary, but...but, I gotta tell you they were terrifying!

There was...a ballerina. A ballerina, for God's sake! And then there was, like a ringmaster, from a circus. With the top hat and outfit and everything...

but these people...they were moving and everything...and they had these doll-like faces, with these evil kind of eyes...

and they were looking right at me. They were moving, and with these eyes, they were looking right at me.

I woke up pretty quickly I think, but when I woke up...I was still so scared...I couldn't get those people out of my head. I just sat there...for hours, I think. Couldn't get back to sleep.

(SCOTT sits)

Something about it. I don't know what. But it made me think about those other things...that happened when I was younger.

And I felt they were all related, kind of, in a way.

COLLINS: And that's when you decided to seek help?

SCOTT: Yes. I just wanted some answers, y'know.

COLLINS: And that's when we met.

SCOTT: Yes. That's when I was referred to you.

(COLLINS stands, lights out stage left. Moves to lectern. Lights up on lectern.)

COLLINS: We'll now be moving into an area that may be...somewhat uncomfortable. Under hypnotic regression, subjects begin to recall memories...details, descriptions...of their abductions which were not a part of their conscious minds. Some believe that hypnosis brings about distorted memories, but I have found in my work that I trust people's recollections more under hypnosis than in face-to-face interviews. In these, specific cases, under hypnosis, their feelings can be intense and disagreeable, even humiliating. When someone is consciously recalling something, they do tend to organize their thoughts, and make them more appropriate to a positive self-regard and worldview.

Under hypnosis, feelings can be disagreeable, unpleasant...and honest.

Though Virginia had been a subject in hypnosis with MUFON experts, she also agreed to do it again with me. We'll pick this up in the midst of her session, and we will see various sections from several sessions. From what could have been several abductions.

(COLLINS lights out on lectern. Moves stage right, sits. Lights up stage right. Lights are a bit dimmer/more blue? for hypnosis session. VIRGINIA eyes closed, head slightly down, as if sleeping)

COLLINS: Virginia...so you're outside of your bedroom, your house, what happens next?

VIRGINIA: I'm...I'm...I'm inside a round room. A little round room. There's windows. Different shapes. There's light...a pink kind of light coming from somewhere.

I'm looking out a window. And I see...the earth. It's not too far away...but we...we're high. It's not a picture. It's real. It's blue. It's pretty.

COLLINS: And then...

VIRGINIA: Then they take me into a bigger room. It's like an operating room...one of those big operating rooms where people watch doctors...

They put me on a table. And one of them touches me. He's...trying to calm me down.

COLLINS: Who are...they? (pause) What do they look like?

VIRGINIA: They move around the room. They have...like, suits on. All kind of white, like the suits are molded on their bodies. They're sliding...or floating around the room.

Their eyes, their eyes are big, black. They don't...they never blink. Just look.

No nose. No mouth. Long, long fingers. Not soft. Hard.

It seems like they're talking to each other...or communicating...it seems. But I can't hear anything.

When he touches me, he puts his hands on my head, he...makes me calmer.

I'm in kind of a chair. A metal chair. There's something...straps around my ankles...and then, then, they....(stifled moan/scream)

(COLLINS VIRGINIA in a semi-freeze, hypnosis lights stay on. COLLINS moves to lectern; lights on lectern.)

COLLINS: We'll move forward. To a point where her panic has quieted some, and the examination continues.

(COLLINS lights out on lectern, moves stage right, sits)

VIRGINIA: There's a taller one. He's...kind of, the doctor or something. I'm kind of...almost...asleep...but they...they put something in my nose...some kind of pick or something. Then they...there's something going in my belly button...

(pause)

Aaaah, aaaah, they're taking something....and...and...(moans, screams)

(COLLINS VIRGINIA semi-freeze, hypnosis lights on. COLLINS moves to lectern, lights on lectern)

COLLINS: The examination phase, for the abductee, is usually chaotic. They're typically sedated. And the examination involves the taking of specimens...blood, hair, eggs if a woman, sperm if a man. And also what seems to be a reproductive exam, where the sexual organs would be probed or examined. After the exam, they're brought out of sedation.

(COLLINS moves stage right, sits, lights out on lectern)

VIRGINIA: Then it seems like we're floating...we're getting lower...and lower.
And then one of them, he does something with his hand.
And I'm back in my yard. And back in my house.
Before I fall back asleep...I still feel it. Where I just was. What happened to me.
I still feel it.

(COLLINS VIRGINIA semi-freeze, hypnosis lights on.)

COLLINS: After a session, a subject may still recall some of what was learned under hypnosis.

(COLLINS normal stage right lights on. Lectern lights off. COLLINS moves stage right, sits.)

COLLINS: You remember some of what they...told you.

VIRGINIA: Yes. After they did...stuff to me...examined me...we were going back, I thought, we're going back, home...they said they were working for advancement...advancement for our species, for the planet earth.
What they said to me, I didn't really hear...it was...telepathy. I know what they wanted me to know.
They...communicated about...genetic coding...I didn't understand it all...but something about genetic coding...that helps them in what they're doing...I...

(COLLINS Lights out stage right. COLLINS moves to lectern, lights up)

COLLINS: Virginia's memories under hypnosis follow the classic structure of many, many abduction experiences. Capture, examination, conference. During this communication, the abductors often indicate a very protective sense concerning the earth. A mission involving deep worries about the presence of nuclear weapons on the planet, and more recently, worries about ecological crises threatening our survival.
Again, I have found it remarkable that so many of these - from people I met with, and from many others - follow a similar pattern of events. They vary in small details, but in general are so alike. Remarkable.

Virginia began to understand she was abducted, many times, over several years. Her desire to know what was happening to her put her in touch with people...including me...who were able to find her some answers, and some semblance of peace.

Scott's journey was very different. It was only after many years following what might have been abductions that he was driven to learn more. I was the person he was referred to.

He agreed to hypnosis. Our sessions covered what might have been earlier experiences. Like this one. A caution, about the language.

(COLLINS lights out on lectern. Hypnosis lights on SCOTT. COLLINS moves stage left, sits)

SCOTT: I'm in a room...there's...there's different types of...things around me. Some are moving like bugs.

Oh...Oh No...they're looking...they're doing something...they're examining me...

Stop It! Stop It! Fuck! Stop it! Fuck! There's a cup...the cup...it's over my cock! Stop it!

You can't do this to me! You can't do this any more!

They're doing whatever...they're taking...they're taking...

Fuck You! Fuck You! You can't do this any more! You can't do this any time you want!

(scream)

(COLLINS hits remote, lights out stage left. COLLINS moves center, lights up lectern.)

COLLINS: Breeding. Breeding human/alien hybrids is a major component of many abduction cases. Typically, these involve females. Many who feel they've been impregnated, and then had the fetus removed from their bodies. Fewer involve men. Though, in tonight's cases, it was the man...Scott...who was part of this.

He had...one more...dream that may not have been a dream. It was only during hypnosis that this came forth.

(COLLINS lights out on lectern, hypnosis lights up stage left. COLLINS moves left, sits.)

SCOTT: I'm somewhere...I don't know if it's outside somewhere...I think it's indoors...but there's a...vast...vast space.

And in the distance I can see some people.

I get a little closer. But I understand...I can't get that close.

And I'm aware...I don't see her...see clearly...but it's the woman from the apartment...from the dream.

And standing right next to her, I can see...a smaller person...a child.

(pause, SCOTT almost in tears)

It's my daughter. She's my daughter.

And she's so beautiful. She has...golden hair. Her eyes are a little...(SCOTT's hands try to describe)...they're a little different...but that doesn't matter. She's just beautiful.

Her skin is...so...it's luminous. Beautiful.

And she's just looking at me...with this serious look. Right at me.

My daughter.

I'm feeling so...grateful...that they'd...let me see her.

I've never felt so much love in my life.

I'm...grateful. They didn't have to do this. Let me see her. But they did.

And I understand.

She's part of a new race. She'll know, she'll understand the love that we have. That human beings can have. And she'll know her own soul and consciousness in ways that we don't. Maybe never will. And she'll live here...and take care of this place...and make it beautiful again.

I...hope I get to see her again some day.

(COLLINS lights out stage left. Lights up lectern. COLLINS moves to lectern.)

COLLINS: After our sessions, findings from those sessions were shared with Scott and Virginia. They wouldn't have remembered what happened under hypnosis, but they wanted to know what did happen. For Virginia, it was frightening. But ultimately a relief, that she could

put he experience into some context. For Scott, it was shattering. But ultimately, in some way, fulfilling. And for both, turning points in their lives.

(COLLINS lights out lectern, COLLINS moves stage right, sits, stage right lights up.)

COLLINS: So, Virginia, how long has it been now since your first experience?

VIRGINIA: Twelve years.

COLLINS: And since your last...?

VIRGINIA: Seven years. (pause) But...

COLLINS: But...

VIRGINIA: I still feel like they might come back.

COLLINS: Mmm-mmm.

VIRGINIA: But I'm not afraid. Anymore.

COLLINS: Good. Good. And you're not still living in the same town where these took place?

VIRGINIA: No. Gary and I...we were divorced about three years ago.

COLLINS: Sorry...

VIRGINIA: No...no. It's good.

COLLINS: OK. And...there've been some other changes in your life.

VIRGINIA: Yes. I've been going to school. To college. I have an Associate's Degree. In Social Work.

So I have a new job. At a clinic. It's good. I like it.

And I'm continuing at school. I'm going for a Bachelor's Degree.

COLLINS: That's great. Congratulations.

VIRGINIA: Thank you.

COLLINS: Yeah. So...the experiences you had...

VIRGINIA: I think...I know...they changed me. Y'know, I was living in this little town. Had a few friends. That was pretty much it.

After these...happened...I was not only...bothered, disturbed, (laughs) crazy because of these visits, whatever...but after a while, it started to make me think, realize...that...it's a bigger world out there. A bigger universe.

While I was questioning myself...my own sanity...I started questioning everything. My marriage, my life.

And I realized...I wasn't really...happy. I certainly wasn't satisfied. With my life. With me. I didn't blame Gary. He never understood. And he didn't want any part of it. But I wanted more. More out of life. There was more. Out there. And I wanted more in my life.

(COLLINS stands, lights out stage right, lights up on lectern)

COLLINS: What happened with Virginia...after her experience...is typical of what happens...in different ways...to people after an abduction.

They're certainly...almost always...changed. Often, profoundly.

They see a different world. They're aware of a world...of life...that is so much bigger, so much more complex, than they ever dreamed of.

It changes people in different ways. In some, there are significant lifestyle changes, like Virginia. They begin to make different choices with what they want in their lives.

Some...inspired by what they feel is the real concern for our planet...expressed in their encounters with what they perceive was an alien intelligence...become activists. They become involved with...and work for...solutions to the challenge of climate change, for example.

Or other issues. Sometimes their activism becomes more local, work within their community for change and betterment.

And occasionally, they become more immersed in the overall quest for more knowledge of the abduction and UAP phenomenon. They believe they understand more.

Like what happened with Scott.

(COLLINS lights out on lectern, moves stage left, lights up stage left, sits)

SCOTT: Seeing my daughter...it all..all of it, everything before...it all led up to that.

I knew...I learned...that I'd been taken many times. That I was part of their breeding program.

And I think...I'm pretty sure...I mean, this breeding thing...I mean, think about it, it can't be easy, huh?

Even if your technology is so far ahead?

So I was part of it. And they tried...and I guess, that time, with the woman...in the hotel room.

I think maybe that was the time we...conceived a child. That's why I remember it so clearly.

COLLINS: And all of that led up to you meeting your daughter? Why did...? How...?

SCOTT: I think that was my reward. I mean, it was...I deserved it, I'm not saying I didn't! She was my daughter, I had the right to see her! Whatever "the right" means...wherever they come from.

But no, I felt nothing but good about it. Even if it only meant seeing her once...I saw her. I know her. I know she's here somewhere.

I mean I'm her father, but I know what this is. I may never see her again. But...

I understand. I understand what's happening.

COLLINS: And what do you think is happening?

SCOTT: Well, y'know I've always been interested in this, and I read a lot even when I didn't really know I was involved...

...but now, I was involved. It happened to me. And I've thought a lot about it. And read more about. And met with...a lot of people...who are interested...and a few people...who seem to know a few things. Y'know the people. You've met them. People who worked for the government. And know a few things.

And I'm pretty sure I understand what's happening.

COLLINS: And what would you say...is happening?

SCOTT: Everybody says that Oh, they can't come here from outer space. (pointing up) It's too far! Aaah, it's too far!

Even if they have advanced technology, they can fold space, or use black holes or whatever.

They still say it's too far!

But, see, they don't come from up there. (pointing up) They come from there. (point sideways)

Or there (point down)

Different dimensions.

And it all makes sense. They showed up right after World War II. They saw we had nuclear bombs now. And they wanted to come down and say "Hey, slow down, sport model."

But how would they do that? How can they get us to stop that? Land somewhere and make an announcement? Land at all the capitals of the world, maybe? How would that have gone over?

During the cold war? Everybody with nukes? The paranoia. No way.

Or just have a secret meeting with the President, make a secret agreement? We get some technology, they get a few of our people? Could have happened, but probably not.

But that's when they got the idea to cut the middle man, go right to the people.

Abduct the people. Abduct us. Figure out what makes us tick. And almost every time they met with anybody, they'd always get in your head.

"We're here to help. We want to save the planet." Guess they thought they could just tell a few of us, we'd tell everybody else, "get rid of the nukes" cause that's what it was when they started taking us, talking to us. Nukes.

Now...it's still nukes...but climate change is getting the headlines these days.

They thought they'd tell a few of us, we'd tell other people, and we'd just rid of nukes, clean up climate change.. Sure.

So I think...

what they decided...maybe the only way to save us...was to put some more people on the planet. People who are part us, but part them, too. People who might understand that we have to do something for the earth. It wouldn't be easy, but they were going to try to do it.

I mean...it starts with love. That's what I felt, what I still feel. When I saw my daughter.

Love. Now, love from them, I don't now, I don't know if it was any love from them...

For them, maybe it's love for life, or some kind of love for the universe...

COLLINS: And who do you think...who are 'they?'

SCOTT: They. I think they...are us. Coming back from the future. To try to save their home.

And I'm...I'm grateful that they're going to give my daughter a chance to save the planet.

I just hope I get to see her again.

(COLLINS lights out left. He stand, moves center, lights up on lectern.)

COLLINS: Scott. Virginia. Just two of the many, many people I've worked with that have had similar experiences.

Similar. Each one unique...as each person is unique. But the vast majority of them with very... similar characteristics...very similar experiences...that beg the question...what on earth is happening here?

That's one thing I've learned in my fairly intensive investigations with alien abductees: In meeting them, talking with them, hearing what they believe happened to them...I've learned...I believe that something is happening to many, many people on this planet. And we don't know exactly what it is. Yet.

These may seem...especially in this context, if you or someone you know hasn't had direct experience with this...these may seem like isolated, purely strange incidents.

But as an anthropologist wrote...an anthropologist that I respect deeply...wrote

"Things look like weeds when they begin to push their way up in cracks and unintended spaces. But the roots are deep."

I believe the roots of this phenomenon...whatever it is...go very, very deep.

I believe these may be part of the mysteries that the human consciousness has been encountering for a long, long time. Ancient astronauts. Near-Death...and Out-of-Body experiences... apparitions of the Virgin Mary. Different cultures read visitations in different ways.

As for abductions, I don't know if I can say for sure that I believe love is any kind of a guiding principal, or even an existing emotion, of these visitors. But I don't think there's evil. I believe whatever...it is, they are...they operate in a realm beyond simple human morality.

If someone asks me, do you believe in...UFOs? UAPs? I say "No. No, I don't believe in them. It's not a question of belief. They're here. Something's here."

In the end, as a professional, I tend to fall back, as professionals comfortably do, on the training I've had, the teachings, the philosophies, that I've always followed.

In my academic life, there were two gods - Sigmund Freud and Carl Jung. Now while they were colleagues and great friends for a time, these two were very different.

Freud was very practical, in a sense...Jung, more of a dreamer. I think of Freud as a doctor of the head, the brain, Jung of the mind.

Simplistic, but it works for me.

I don't know how Freud would have reacted to UFO's, but Jung...did react.

Freud had passed on, but Jung was still here when UFOs appeared. As early as 1951, he wrote to a colleague about the phenomenon.

And then, in 1959, he actually wrote a short book on the subject - Flying Saucers: A Modern Myth of Things Seen In The Skies.

Alien Abductions had not been reported yet, but one can extrapolate them Jung's thinking that he would have seen them as a more intense, perhaps more meaningful experience than something just seen in the sky.

Jung was not ready to accept the crafts seen in the sky as actual, physical facts...hardware. He just didn't have enough information to make any judgment, as we still don't.

But he wondered if UFOs might not be "materialized psychisms"...actual physical or parapsychical objects created by the unconscious.

We know he believed in a collective unconscious that we all share. And he believed that this unconscious...in times of personal and collective distress and danger...in response to vital psychic needs... sent forth visions...

in these cases, the visions were the round shapes of the objects that were reported... the shape suggesting to him the mandala...the magic circle that is the recurring image of wholeness, of psychic totality...an image found in mythologies...around the world.

Jung felt mankind was in a time when that wholeness, that totality had been severely damaged, had been split right down the middle, leaving us in a state of separation...of schizophrenia.

The basic root of that word...schizophrenia...is "broken heart."

He believed mankind was desperately in need of regaining a sense of psychic wholeness... because of that, that mankind was, perhaps, on the verge of a time of profound transition. And we were projecting our desperation...our critical desire for some semblance of psychic wholeness...out...out into the skies.

So, UFOs. UAPs. Alien abduction. Mandals.

It may be a case of visitors...from somewhere else...telling us to save our planet.

It may be a case of own psyches...engaged in a cosmic battle...to save our souls.

Or it may be...something in between.

Thank you for being here. Thank you for your attention. Thank you for your consideration.
Good Night. (or Afternoon.)

LIGHTS OUT

SFX/MUSIC: Perhaps some carefully chosen music. a la Philip Glass?

END