]Chapter two: Who's UFOs?

More Filters for False Reports

As we established in the previous chapter, less than 10% of all documented reports of UFOs remain after simply filtering out those that are misinterpretations of natural phenomena. In the first part of this chapter, we will institute two other large-scale filters, both pertaining to "abduction experiences."

The first has to do with abductions experienced while driving, sometimes referred to as "missing time" experiences. There are many reports of drivers suddenly encountering spaceships or other strange things while on the road and afterwards feeling very disoriented and lost, as if they were gone for a while or were placed in a new location by an unknown force. How could such a phenomenon be the effect of a natural occurrence?

There's a pretty sound theory that explains just how this can be, using only natural conditions. Being large masses of metal in motion with energy circulating through them, cars possess their own magnetic fields, as does the Earth. These two separate magnetic sources can, under the right conditions, connect with each other via their fields (e.g. via the magnetization of the metal chords of a wheel on the car), which ultimately creates an AC magnetic field around the car. During the monotonous time when the driver is paying attention to the road, the sustained pulsing of the Earth's electromagnetic fields easily hypnotize his/her (and any passenger(s)') brain(s.) Consequently, time will appear to him/her to pass very slowly. As we established in the previous chapter, the substantia nigra (part of the basal ganglion) plays a huge role in pacing the bodily clock of many organisms (including all of the New World mammals.) Hypnotization distorts this pace by inducing a new signal: the brain loses its normal endogenous polarized signal which constantly runs up and down the calcarine fissure. An equal but opposite signal from the Earth may contact the brain's, cancelling this time-keeping signal. This would leave people with feelings of being lost and not knowing why or how they've arrived wherever they have once a new pace is established. (Arnold pp.146-7)

Combining that with their previous dream-like hypnotic state, one is free to add any personal memories and imaginative additions to the experience; and since the dreamer becomes bewildered by his/her feelings of displacement, using these creations for the purpose of answering their own mysterious questions regarding what exactly happened to them comes natural. Ergo, we see stories of ghosts, spaceships, lost loved ones, etc. in the tales of those who have "missing time" experiences. Although it isn't a terribly common phenomenon, it is another natural explanation for a certain component of the UFO enigma.

Obviously, this does far from describing all "alien abduction" cases. Almost every other "abduction" scenario occurs at night, and, as they are almost always told, right after the "abducted" wake up. In order to dissect this phenomenon, we must first look into it a little closer and apply a bit of cultural knowledge to the investigation.

"Alien abductions" almost always occur at night and in bed -- an important tie. Do any other weird phenomena only happen in bed? Most every culture tells of another type of nocturnal visitation. The British tell of incubi and succubae: male and female demons (respectively) that come in the night and sit on the chests of their victims, rendering them paralyzed, perhaps then engaging in sexual activity. It sounds like a normal dream, but those who experience this report being awake, and the phenomenon is just too widespread to dismiss it as being just a typical dream. New Zealand harbors tales of basically the same phenomenon, but they call it "Old Hag." China has a similar phenomenon, which they call the "Depression Ghost." There are numerous names for this global phenomenon. They all tell a similar tale of a figure walking into the room in which they are sleeping and sitting on their chests or just pinning them down. How can something this strange possibly be a natural phenomenon?

Let's delay this answer until we further examine the "alien abduction" phenomenon. What is most commonly reported by "abductees?" The "abduction" almost always includes a bright light with skinny, large-headed aliens emerging from it. An alien head is typically described as being similar to an upside-down egg, bearing giant eyes, small ears, a small mouth, and a very small nose, which is also typically described as solely being small nostril slits. "Abductees" commonly say that they are experimented on or perhaps even taken up into a spaceship. Most often, all that is recalled is that they were on a table-like pedestal, surrounded by very brightly lit surroundings, while the aliens performed various experiments on them. Almost all of the aliens reported are grey and naked, but some have also been reported as wearing clothes. The feeling of being paralyzed, for at least a part of the experience, is basically unanimous. It is clear that there is some kind of validity to what is said, and that it is not just some fanciful concoction of a deranged individual, when all of the reports from all across the country are so similar. Once again we ask, how can this phenomenon possibly be a natural one?

To begin to answer this question, let's go back to the incubi phenomenon. There is a scientific explanation for "incubi," "succubae," "Old Hag,", "Depression Ghost," and any other label for this common phenomenon. As we sleep, our brains shift through different states of consciousness. We already know that Rapid Eve Movement is one of these stages. If you recall, the brain instates sleep paralysis in this stage to keep us from acting out our dreams. Sometimes (and in some people more often than others) the brain improperly shuts off this paralysis, and when one partially awakens during it, one is unable to move. In fact, this just happened to me the other day. Since we are still partially dreaming, the brain includes this awareness of paralysis in one's dream. Here's where the incubi come in. It is dreamed that he sits on a woman's chest: what is the significance of this? The chest is the center of one's balance: as any wrestler knows, pressure on it renders one unable to move. The mechanics of movement are subconsciously imprinted in all of our nervous systems, the part that allows us to be aware of the location of our body parts without using the other senses and without using the sensation of touch to found them (try touching your belly button without using anything but your intuition of its location, you will come very close to contacting it perfectly.) If one combines flawed sleep paralysis and this subconscious creation with the idea existing in the public mind of a related type of night visitor, one will likely experience their own version of the phenomenon. So, it is basically a matter of what one will dream during sleep paralysis. Just because one experiences dysfunctional sleep paralysis doesn't mean that they will see an incubus, as I didn't in my experience, nor have I in previous experiences. It was the fault of whatever my subconscious could come up with, whether it was a log, or a person, etc. The phenomena reported all over the world is not a nightly visitor; it is just a flaw in our awakening process combined with the imagination of the individual.

"Alien abduction" cases are similar to this, and probably aren't as complex to explain as one may think. There is a very strong correlation between the commonly reported aspects of "abduction" and something that most of us have experienced: a hospital birth. Other birthplaces will vary a bit in their total degree of correlation, but many correlations still exist. The "abduction" experience begins with dysfunctional sleep paralysis. How does this correlate with a hospital birth? When we were first born, we couldn't control our muscular movements, rendering us completely powerless over our limbs, digits, etc. We struggle for this control but can not gain it. I suggest that experiencing dysfunctional sleep paralysis triggers in "abductees" a deeply embedded subconscious memory of being unable to control movement at birth.

Once this memory is triggered, the other aspects of a classical "abduction" case will likely emerge. Let's start with the visual aspects of "abduction" cases, which make up the bulk of the description in the accounts. When babies are born, their eyes don't automatically function the way that they are meant to. It may take days or weeks for them to start operating as we know them to. When babies first open their eyes, one can loosely compare their light reception to someone who is watching a very poorly tuned picture on a black and white TV (babies are colorblind at first.) To get an idea of this difference, one can imagine that the newborn's eyes' contrast is set to 3 times lower than the TV's controls may allow. Babies see lots of bright light, and where there isn't light, they mainly just see negative spaces. Anything that gets in the way of the light source becomes a silhouette. Basically, all that is seen is white, black and grey, with very little definition. Another characteristic of the newborn's eye is that its light receptors, which are located in the retina, don't operate as do those of a mature eye. The vast majority of all of the retina's light-receptors receive light from our focus of vision, but relatively very few receive it from the edges surrounding the focus. The brain receives the information collected by these little camcorders and then interprets what is seen in the occipital cortex. Imagine an infant, who is just opening his/her eyes to the new world. Used for the first time, his/her eyes' light receptors are ultra sensitive, and only a portion of them are as of yet operating -- they are still turning on, so to speak, as the eyes adapt. So, the infant has even fewer receivers picking up the light that exists outside of his/her direct line of focus. Consequently, when an infant first looks at something, it interprets its focus of vision as being convex, and very little light outside of this focus is even received. The occipital cortex simply doesn't know any better than to interpret this image as reality.

How does this apply to "abduction" cases? It explains the strange, "alien-like" features so commonly reported. Humans instinctively look at each other in the eyes more so than any other feature, so, being in the focus of vision, the eyes should appear to be the most out of proportion in relation to the other facial features, and the infant's concave-type viewing would make them appear more Asian-like than, for instance, European. To the infant, the nose would be difficult to distinguish, as it is the same shade of skin as the rest of the face; and -- depending on the infant's angle of sight -- the only particularly memorable feature would be either the absence of nostrils, or the presence of them, appearing more like slits than nostrils because of the concave nature of the infant's vision. Also, the mouth would appear almost perfectly horizontal and much smaller than it really was. Ears would look like small clumps on the side of the head, if such out of focus detail is remembered. Although darker or lighter than skin, hair and clothes would likely not be noticed because of the poorly-tuned "contrast" of the baby's eyes. Consequently, the rest of the body would also appear quite a bit thinner than reality. And thus you have the description of a typical "grey" type alien.

Other common details in "alien abduction" reports also originate in the hospital scene. The newborn is placed on a surgical counter while "experiments" and cleaning procedures are performed. In the infant's perspective, this would look like the "grays" were surrounded by a blindingly bright white light, as is reported. Beyond the fact that they were occurring, the actual details of the "experiments" aren't understood by the infant, and also aren't by the abductees. Any added details are a mix of individual memory, "knowledge" of so-called "alien abductions" spread by the media and word-of-mouth, and pure subconscious imagination.

This leads to yet another interesting detail about the phenomenon. When one examines reports of alien abductions, the small population of the United States, relative to the rest of the world, has by far the most of all such reports. Why would aliens focus on this country when abducting people? Is it because of the wonderful tourism? The answer lies in the public mind, itself. Aliens don't focus on this country; the abduction scenario is just a more widespread and accepted belief here. When one begins to remember one's own birth scenario, triggered by the feeling felt during flawed sleep paralysis, his/her mind is much quicker to half-consciously associate this with an "abduction" than is someone from another nation. The foreigner, perhaps an Englishman, may, see a succubus, instead.

The "victims" of "alien abductions" are in a half-awakened and half-R.E.M. state. Consequently, other details described in independent accounts are substantially more inconsistent than the basic details that we've covered. The task of filling in the holes of the perceived "abduction" is left to the dreamer's subconscious mind. An example of such an added detail may be the type of spaceship that they were taken in. Regarding this specific detail: there will obviously be some similarity from account to account, as the media tells us what a spaceship from outer space should look like. "Abductees" may use this template and switch some of the details around, ultimately creating the hundreds and thousands of different types of spaceships reported. This is the recipe for all of the extra details reported in "abduction" accounts besides the basics that were derived from the individual's birth memories.

After understanding this theory, abduction cases quickly begin to lose their credibility, no matter how real (as it does seem utterly real to them -- their brains remember the incident just as they remember any while awake) they claim the experience to be. There is, otherwise, an utter lack of evidence to support their claims. (The only great exception to this statement is some cases where mysterious objects are removed from bodies. These cases may be candidates for being associated with the final UFO filter, discussed next.) As reports of abductions continue to grow in the United States, we will now know that this is not an alien epidemic; it is just dreamers experiencing dysfunctional sleep paralysis and associating their experiences with the "abduction" scenario, simply because of their ever-growing exposure to such a perception, via the media.

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By passing the documented reports of UFOs through these filters, we are left with only about 1-2% of the original amount. Is this ground to just dismiss the phenomena and blame the remainder of the reports on dishonest or negative reporting? Such a presumption wouldn't be a scientific one. Further exploration is always required, even if the amount of cases is transformed from a "UFO epidemic" to just being some mysterious accounts. If even one case from a truly reliable witness goes unexplained, dismissing the evidence doesn't result in anything but a bad

scientific procedure; however, scientists may have to label the report inconclusive if there is nothing that can be or has been gained by studying it.

Almost every remaining account falls into our final filter. The remainder left after this filter may be either other, less common misinterpretations of some sort of natural or psychological phenomena that we shall skip for the purpose of conserving space, or simply reports that as of yet must be labeled inconclusive.

To determine if the miniscule remainder of the reports does in fact describe reports of extraterrestrial UFOs, we must first explore the possibility that they may actually be *terrestrial* airships. According to my personal studies, the great majority of the remaining accounts are those of people who actually bore witness to aircraft of an unknown origin -- not just the lights, but other features as well. What forces us to make the connection that this aircraft must be extraterrestrial in nature? The media projects certain ideas of what an alien aircraft should look like, and, when one imagines what an entirely independent force of creativity may produce using completely different technology, they're generally very similar to our own aircraft. Is it possible that UFOs are our own government's top secret technology, and that it was this creation that gave the media its ideas of what UFOs from outer space should look like?

There is a great mass of evidence that the government may be withholding such technology from the public and experimenting with it for military purposes. In fact, there is actual proof of this provided in a declassified government report on such technology. In a document dated Oct. of 1962, titled "Environment Control Systems Selection for Manned Space Vehicles" -- prepared for the Air Force Systems Command at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base by the North Atlantic Aviation Inc. -- there contained a written blueprint for a craft very closely resembling what we refer to as a "flying saucer." Designed as a reentry vehicle from outer space, this disk-shaped craft is equipped with weapon systems, including a bombing system, control surfaces, flaps and speed brakes to make the lenticular shape more stable, landing configurations, two separate power systems -- one for its boost and reentry phases and another for the normal 6-week orbital operation that it is designed to run. It was designed for a gross launch weight of 45,000 pounds and boasted a diameter of 40 feet. Also, these airships were intended to orbit the Earth at a height of 300 miles for up to six weeks using nuclear reactors for their power sources. (This in much more detail in Redfern pp.95-8) Imagine what is in the government documents that remain classified!

The U.S. government doesn't appear to be very innocent regarding the overdone hype about UFOs in recent decades. "At the very least the U.S. intelligence community was using the UFO mystery as a convenient cover for its own aerospace activities. An unclassified Central Intelligence Agency report titled 'CIA's Role in the Study of UFOs, 1947-90,' written by CIA historian Gerald Haines, makes no bones of that fact." (Redfern pp. 95-8) If the government is experimenting with such strange, new aircraft, it is no wonder why people think that they see alien spacecraft!

Cattle Mutilations

Before finishing the chapter, let's cover one other mystery attached to the UFO enigma. Farmers all across the country have reported very mysterious, fatal mutilations of their cattle, of which they don't know the culprit. Completely dry of blood, missing their left ears, rectums and

sex organs, but otherwise unharmed, the cattle certainly don't look like victims of animal predation or death by natural causes. There usually won't be any footprints or tire tracks in the immediate area, seemingly ruling out the possibly that people are doing this. Some farmers have said that the surgery is so precise, it couldn't have been done by humans. So, who does the public blame? You guessed it, UFOs. It is popularly assumed that UFOs pick them up using an anti-gravity beam and drop them back down to the ground when they are finished. These strange cattle mutilations certainly exist, and usually occur around the same region over and over in small outbreaks. How can we explain all of this?

New Mexican state police investigator, Officer Gabe Valdez has an idea of what this is all about. He is very adamant in thinking that these mutilations are the work of the U.S. government. He believes that either the CIA or the Department of Energy is at the root of the phenomenon, and also that it is connected to some kind of research in the field of biological warfare. His main reason for believing this is that he feels he was given the "run around" by Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, which he further concluded was a sign that its workers are attempting to cover up the situation. (Redfern p.291) Valdez concludes that there are four possible explanations for why the government is doing this: 1) they may be undergoing experimental research on the use of Vitamin B12; 2) they may be doing some testing on the cows' lymph node systems; 3) they may be running tests pertaining to germ warfare; or 4) perhaps some combination of the three. (Redfern p.287) (After seeing reports of strange objects being extracted from self-proclaimed abductees, one can't help but wonder of this sinister UFO experimentation doesn't just apply to cattle.)

This explanation has a few holes. Most of all, why would the government, with its deep pockets, filled by our willingness to give them obscene amounts of tax dollars, not buy its own cattle to experiment with? There is a better answer.

Robert D. Hick's "Police Pursuit of Satanic Crime: The Satanic Conspiracy and Urban Legends" did a wonderful job of dismantling the cattle mutilation mystery. (Frazier) Retired Police Captain Dale Griffis of Ohio investigated the phenomenon and found a very different conclusion than did Valdez: that the mutilations are carried out by satanic cults. Occultists stun the animals with an electric probe to put them on their backs. Then they spray Freon on their throats. Their hearts are still pumping, and the occultists will utilize this, as well as an embalming tool, to get the blood out. The process is fast and efficient -- a farmer may hear a whine and, five minutes later, all the evidence of the mutilation will be gone. (Kahaner)

In one case, a "sheriff's investigator, in a memorandum about cattle mutilations, interviewed a young woman who claimed to be a former satanic-cult member who had mutilated animals. Her cult, which consisted of 'doctors, lawyers, veterinarians,' were taught by the vets how to perform the requisite fatal surgery. The animal's blood and removed organs, it seems, were used for baptismal rites. She further related: 'When using the helicopter [the cult member] sometimes picked up the cow by using a homemade ... sling ... and they would move it and drop it further down from where the mutilations occurred. This would account for there not being any footprints or tire tracks.... When using the van trucks they would also have a telescoping lift which ... was about 200 feet long mounted outside the truck and would use that to extend a man out to the cow, and he would mutilate it from a broad platform on the end of the boom and he would never touch the ground.... They sometimes do three or four cows." (Frazier p.148)

And if a satanic cult doesn't get to the corpse, another, natural cause may ensue. Blow flies clean up cattle carcasses by laying their young in them, preparing the maggots for a birthday feast. The organs commonly removed from the carcasses are typically considered delicacies in the animal kingdom, being very soft and accessible. These explanations seem to be the correct ones for the mutilations, UFO free.

So, does the buck stop here on all stories of aliens and UFOs? There are still unanswered questions, like where did the government get the technology to create such spacecraft? Is it alien in origin? Next, we'll do a little probing of our own, deeper into the alien aspect of the UFO enigma.