



Elijah ascends into heaven in a fiery chariot—or is it a UFO?

Religion, Reincarnation, and Reptilians

The Three Forbidden "Rs" of Ufology

Part One

by Joe Lewels, Ph.D.

Ufology has, for good reason, been called "the forbidden science." In fact, well-known author Jacques Vallee wrote a book by that title about the science of Unidentified Flying Objects. For decades now,

scientists who venture even into the periphery of UFO studies have become pariahs in the scientific community. Most won't get near it with a ten-foot pole.

Perhaps the best example of this is the famous case of the late Dr. John E.

Mack, Harvard professor of psychiatry, whose own colleagues tried to get him fired when his book, *Abduction: Human Encounters With Aliens*, was first published. What galled Harvard most was his suggestion that psychiatry, and science itself, needed to accept a new, multi-dimensional universe paradigm, populated by advanced beings who commune with us in strange ways. (Mack eventually won his legal battle when Harvard was bombarded with letters in support of him, written by numerous scientists and highly credentialed individuals.)

But even as courageous as Dr. Mack was in asserting that abductees were not suffering from mental disorders and that they were not hoaxers or in any way delusional, he could not come forward and tell all he knew about the reality behind the UFO mystery. In the months before his untimely and tragic death (he was run down by a drunk driver in London in September 2004) he asked me to join him and California hypnotherapist Barbara Lamb in a project to make public the information we had each collected independently, but which he had not previously discussed in his two books on the abduction phenomenon.

This project was to deal with the three forbidden "Rs" of ufology. Mack's concept was to write a joint paper for publication, perhaps even a book, dealing with a variety of topics, including the many cases in which individuals report contact with non-human entities with distinctly reptilian features. Such reports have been known to re-

searchers since at least the early 1990s, but few have been anxious to write about them or to speak on the subject publicly.

Religion and UFOs

Additionally, Dr. Mack wanted to discuss the problematic issue of the ancient history of a sentient serpent race that is found in ancient texts, such as the Vedic literature from India and the Sumerian texts from Mesopotamia, as well as the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Bible. I say problematic, because ufologists, in general, struggle to maintain the notion that the UFO mystery began only 50 or so years ago. By maintaining this arbitrary timeline, they are able to profess that the phenomenon is either a scientific study by aliens from nearby star systems, or the early stages of an alien invasion. Those are the only conclusions one can reasonably come to if UFOs are something relatively new. But what kind of study or invasion takes thousands of years? What if these so-called "aliens" have always been here, and ancient writings portray encounters with them? What if the gods of old are the aliens of today?

If this is so, the study of ufology cannot avoid delving into both ancient religions and contemporary ones. This is a terrible dilemma for those wishing to make the study of UFOs an acceptable mainstream science. Debunkers already love to claim that those interested in UFOs are cultists, or that ufology is itself a religion and, therefore, not a science. Now an eminent scientist and UFO researcher was about to state publicly that reptilian

beings exist and that they may have been here for thousands of years! That would certainly have rocked the ufology boat and made waves in the scientific community.

Unfortunately, Mack did not live to see his project come to fruition. In the days before he left for London to speak at a conference on the life of Lawrence of Arabia (the subject of his Pulitzer-Prize-winning book), I spoke to him about our project, and he was eager to present our joint findings at the International UFO Conference in Laughlin, Nevada, in March 2005. This presentation would be a way of formalizing our thoughts and organizing our joint article. In the end, only Barbara Lamb and I were able to make the presentation, and the bulk of Dr. Mack's material is still in his files and, as far as I know, tied up in matters of his estate.

I suppose a good novelist could make an intriguing story about a grand conspiracy to silence the great scientist just before he revealed a long-lost secret, but alas, there does not appear to have been any such plot involved in the unfortunate death of Dr. Mack. It was just a case of being in the wrong place at the wrong time.

I had the good fortune to get to know Dr. Mack in 1993 when he spoke at a conference in Arkansas, and then again when we were both speaking in Australia in 1996. We subsequently became good friends. We traveled together to do research in Mexico and communicated frequently by phone and email. He endorsed my book, *The God Hypothesis: Extraterrestrial Life and its Im-*

plications for Science and Religion, with enthusiasm, even though it dealt with all three of the forbidden "Rs" that he could not pursue at the time. Since I had no scientific reputation to uphold, and could therefore care less what the scientific community thought of me, I found it easy to be blunt and forthright about my conclusions (and those of other researchers who quietly agreed with me) that UFOs are not a new phenomenon and that the Bible and other ancient texts are full of encounters with so-called "aliens." Truthfully, I don't know whether they are aliens, angels, demons, or gods. There may not be a good word in our vocabulary to describe these beings, who have had a strange, symbiotic relationship with life on earth for so long.

Privately, John Mack was very interested in the other-dimensional quality of many UFO encounters. He was convinced that many of the experiences reported actually occurred in other realities or dimensions. "If something happens in another reality, is it real?" he once asked me. We agreed that we were not in a good position to make a conclusion on the issue since we had not experienced anything ourselves. But we honored the beliefs of our research subjects in the reality of their experiences, and we knew there was ample physical evidence, such as scars, bruises, needle marks, and implants, that substantiated many of the stories were told. We finally decided that it would be foolish for scientists to ignore what goes on in other realities. There is just too much for

the human race to gain by pursuing the issue of the existence of other dimensions. By denying their existence, we will never discover how to explore them.

There is a long history of humans claiming contact with beings in other dimensions. Anthropologists who study cave art are now coming to the conclusion that many of the images, which in some cases are more than 10,000 years old, are representations of shamanic journeys into other dimensions and encounters with the beings who dwell there. Shamans commune with beings in other realities through various means including hallucinogenic plants, trance dancing and singing, fasting, drumming, and meditation. They return with knowledge that is pertinent to life on earth. Shamanism is associated with the use of plants for medicinal purposes as well as for foretelling future events and other forms of extrasensory perception.

Dr. Mack was intensely interested in primitive cultures and particularly their shamanic visions. He went around the world looking for shamans who could enlighten him about their perceptions of the modern UFO phenomenon. In one case, he received special permission from the Australian government to visit an Aborigine reservation that is normally off-limits to tourists. When his small plane landed on a tiny dirt airstrip, he quickly asked the locals if they were familiar with the issue of UFOs. The answer he received was ironic and humorous at the same time. "Sure, we know about UFOs," one fellow told him.



John Mack.

"We watch *The X-Files* every Friday night. We have a satellite dish, you know."

UFOs in Ancient Texts

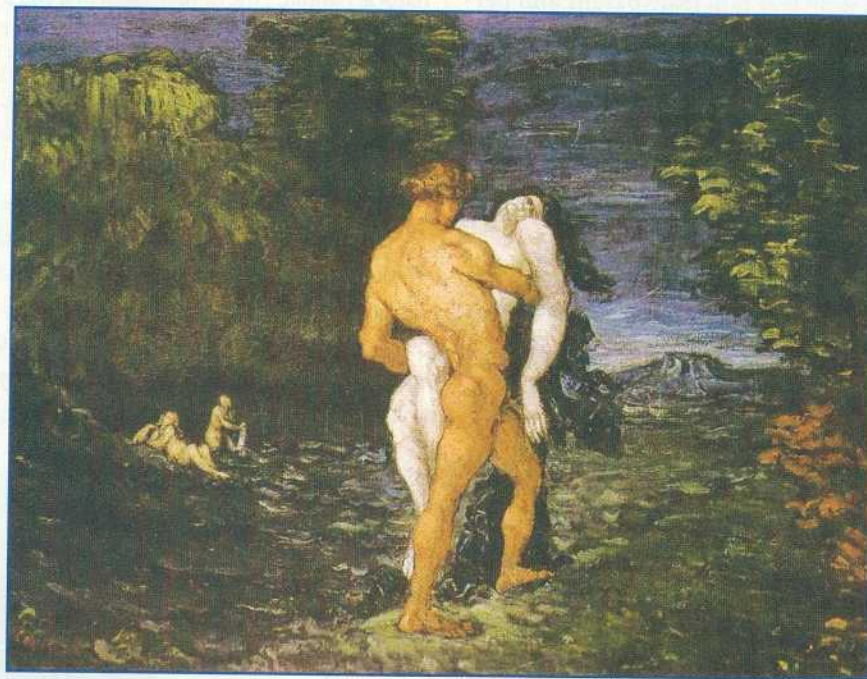
My first serious introduction to UFOs and religion came when I read the book *The Bible and Flying Saucers*, by Rev. Barry Downing, Ph.D. Dr. Downing has advanced degrees in both physics and divinity and served for 40 years as pastor of a Presbyterian church in upstate New York. In his daring book, published in 1969, he examines the Bible from the perspective of a scientist and concludes that all of the miracles described in both the Old and New Testaments could have been performed by extraterrestrials. His study of the UFO phenomenon was so intense that he became a director of MUFON, the largest civilian UFO investigative organization in the United States. By studying UFO cases

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Part II

by Joe Lewels, Ph.D.



Abduction by Paul Cezanne—god or alien?

UFO researchers have, in the main, tried hard to stay away from any aspect of the phenomenon that smacks of religion, and for good reason. Science and religion do not mix well; some would say

they are mutually exclusive. But in my research into the so-called alien abduction phenomenon, I have found that a thorough study of the subject led me directly to religious and spiritual matters. As a researcher who tries to be scientific and objective, what

and contact experiences, he came to the conclusion that the UFO phenomenon and the phenomena described in the Bible originated from the same source. That was quite a statement for a mainstream theologian to make.

Likewise, Monsignor Corrado Balducci, former chief exorcist of the archdiocese of Rome and a high-ranking member of the Catholic Church, stated publicly in 1998 that "theologians must accept the witness testimony of UFO contact experiencers because if they don't, why should they expect anyone to accept the witness testimony recorded in the Gospels, regarding the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus?"

Christianity exists because people believe the testimony of those who witnessed these events. Indeed, all religions depend on the witness testimony of someone who at some time claimed to have had contact with intelligent, non-human entities.

The Bible is full of stories about mysterious aerial phenomena: the mysterious cloud that guided the Hebrews through the wilderness toward the Promised Land, the prophet Elijah who was taken physically into the heavens by one of God's chariots, the prophet Ezekiel's story of seeing in the sky a metallic object that looked like a "wheel within a wheel," the famous star of Bethlehem, and the ascension by Jesus into the heavens in a cloud. Dr. Downing believes that there are "code" words in the Bible, such as "cloud" and "chariot of God" that refer to what we today call UFOs.

Other ancient texts tell similar stories

from different cultures. In India, the most ancient Hindu texts, known as Vedic literature, record contact with beings from the sky who flew around in aerial craft called "vimanas." The stories tell of aerial battles between different groups of "gods" as well as the abduction of humans by the gods.

Some of the most ancient texts of all, the clay tablets of the Mesopotamian cultures of Sumer and Babylonia, tell of the beings known as the Annunaki, who came from the heavens more than 200,000 years ago and created the human race. These documents, far older than the Old Testament, contain the story of human origins at the hands of extraterrestrials, the great flood that destroyed most of humanity, and the survivors who are the ancestors of today's civilization.

All of these facts and many more make it difficult for today's ufologists to limit the UFO phenomenon to modern times, and asserting that UFOs have nothing to do with religion. In fact, UFOs have everything to do with religion. ■

To be continued.

Part II, appearing in the next issue, will deal with reincarnation and the role it plays in the UFO contact phenomenon.

Joe Lewels, Ph.D., is the author of *The God Hypothesis: Extraterrestrial Life and Its Implications for Science and Religion*. His new book, *Rulers of the Earth* (Galde Press) will be available in early 2007.

am I to do with such data? If I publish it, as I did in my book *The God Hypothesis*, I risk being accused of being non-scientific at best and a "cultist" at worst.

In fact, UFO debunkers (those with a hidden agenda to discredit all UFO information), often accuse anyone who has an interest in UFOs of being a member of a cult. Such defamatory comments are designed to scare scientists away from this field of study. But what is science if it is not courageous? Paradigm-breaking discoveries are often ridiculed at first, only to be found accurate later. Copernicus' theory and Galileo's proof that the Sun, not the Earth, was the center of the solar system lay dormant for several hundred years before it became the acceptable common view.

Earth Is Sacred

So it was with my friend and co-researcher, the late John E. Mack, M.D., a Harvard University professor of psychiatry, who was bold enough to state truthfully the results of his investigation into the abduction phenomenon. In his two books on the subject and in his many lectures, he not only challenged mainstream science by concluding that there was a reality behind the phenomenon, but he also raised the ire of many UFO researchers by going beyond the predominant theory that beings from other planets were nefariously attempting to take over the earth. Dr. Mack had the deep intellect that allowed him to peer more deeply into the mystery and understand there were aspects that others were

not addressing.

What impressed Dr. Mack was that there were many individuals who did not see their experiences as negative at all. Additionally, a great many who were frightened became less frightened, and even experienced maturity and growth after facing their experiences directly. What also impressed us was the common thread that was woven into the stories we heard from hundreds of credible experiencers around the world. That thread is a warning from the beings that the earth is in trouble, due to humankind's lack of spiritual understanding. Their message is not subtle: our planet is sacred and by ruining its environment, we are, in fact, sealing our own doom.

That message resonated with Dr. Mack as it did with me, and we discussed the dilemma quite often. "How will this message ever be accepted by the human race," he asked me, "if the beings are portrayed as sinister, evil and not to be trusted?" This, of course, is how the media portray aliens, for the most part, but it is also the way some of the better known researchers portray them. "What if they aren't even aliens at all? What if they are divine beings who are trying to awaken the human race and help advance our spiritual maturity?" he asked. I thought he was right, but he and I were in a small minority of researchers who could see that possibility.

Somehow, we had both reached very similar conclusions about the phenomenon. We did our research independently of each other. We studied different cases from

and heard me speak in Brisbane in 1996. But she didn't work up the courage to try hypnosis until 2001. By age 33 her life had been a mess, she told me: "Basically sex, drugs, and rock and roll."

She was sure she was being haunted by demons and that her church and her God had forsaken her. Having been raised as a Christian, she had prayed fervently, asking that the experiences stop. But prayer did not help. Out of desperation, she tried hypnosis.

Karmic Volunteer

Her experience under hypnosis was dramatic and life-changing. She remembered being taken to a round room and placed on an operating table, where a non-human-looking fetus was extracted from her uterus. Her pain and anguish were so difficult to re-

experience that I suggested she allow herself to see the experience from above or from the side. She immediately calmed down and was able to discuss the experience without the fear and emotion.

"Are they trying to hurt you," I asked.

"No, that's not what they are trying to do."

"Well, are they trying to frighten you, are they evil?"

"No, they're not trying to frighten me and they don't seem evil," she answered in amazement.

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"So, how would you characterize their behavior?"

"They have a job to do. They're just doing their job. They're trying to help the human race."

"Why, out of all the people in the world, did they choose you to be on the table?"

"I volunteered!" she said in a disbelieving tone. "I can't believe this! I never volunteer for anything!"

"Explain to me why anyone would ever

volunteer for something like this. When did you volunteer?"

"It was before I was born. My soul agreed to do this for them; we made an agreement."

"What kind of agreement?"

She paused a moment with her eyes closed. Then a smile crossed her face. "I see Jesus standing at a chalk-

board. He's writing something in big letters. They spell K-A-R-M-A. He's explaining it has to do with my karma. I had a choice. I could have had a normal life. I could have been a housewife in the suburbs, or I could have this life. I chose this life because by doing this, it was like I would get credit for five lifetimes!"

By the end of session, she was beaming with joy. "God didn't forsake me!" she told me during the debriefing. "I have spent my whole life being pissed off at Jesus, but he was with me all along. I just didn't un-

different parts of the world. Yet we saw in the abduction experience something more complex than an alien invasion. In the very first cases I investigated, I began to see a multidimensional aspect to the phenomenon. For example, a Native American woman, who came to my research team for help and understanding regarding her almost nightly visitations by tall, blond beings, discovered under hypnosis that these were her true ancestors. She said they wanted to give her back her memories of who she really was and of her mission on earth. With tears in her eyes, she said, "I was a boy. I lived on another planet—with two suns. It was beautiful! The earth is not a good place to live. We are destroying it." She discovered her mission was to help awaken the human race to the dangers of the mistreatment of our planet. She also remembered that she (her soul) was brought here in a spaceship and that she was implanted into a special embryo to be born as a human.

All of this was totally against her Christian belief system and she had difficulty processing the information at first. But she could not deny the power of the memories and the feelings that came with them. She decided to accept it as truthful, as it explained her deep feelings as a child that she was not from here—a common complaint I have heard from my many subjects.

Double Identity

In his book, *Abduction: Human Encounters with Aliens* (Charles Scribner's and

Sons 1994), Dr. Mack wrote: "Past lives are experienced during the sessions, with strong emotion appropriate to what is being remembered...Past life experiences provide abductees (and the investigator) with a different perspective about time and the nature of human identity." This, he said, gives the abductee a "sense of possessing a double human/alien identity."

Well known author and UFO contactee Whitley Strieber once asked the beings he encountered who they were. "We recycle souls," was the answer. The implication was that the beings were intimately involved in not only the evolution of life on earth, but also the evolution of the soul.

Other researchers have found similar information in their casework. Researcher and certified hypnotherapist Deborah Lindemann says that she has found it not unusual "for the soul to show up as human" after having lived "as another intelligence in perhaps some other star system. In the end, the soul may journey into many other experiences, including non-terrestrial, all for the purpose of lessons...to teach the soul what it needs to learn next."

I also found in my own case work that spiritual and mental healing is often the result when a person confronts the experience. One such case involved a woman from Australia who came to the U.S. specifically to meet with me and to undergo hypnosis. (For the purpose of my research, I completed a course at the American Institute of Hypnotherapy and became certified in hypnosis). She had read my book

derstand. I feel for the first time that I can turn my life around and settle down in a relationship. I don't have to be afraid anymore!"


Dimensional Travelers

Numerous researchers have had case after case in which the "abductee" discovered he or she was not being abducted at all, but rather, on a higher level of reality (the soul level), they were actually co-conspirators in their experiences. They also discovered that the beings they thought were demons or evil aliens were in fact something quite different. Although there are a variety of different-looking types of beings involved in this phenomenon, they all seem to exist in both our reality and in some other dimension, or, at least, they are able to pass through to our dimension at will. Interestingly, many have discovered that their involvement in human affairs is quite ancient.

In an excellent book describing her probe into the UFO phenomenon, *Glimpses of Other Realities Vol. II* (Paper Chase Press, 1998), Linda Moulton Howe addressed the issue of reincarnation and the role the "alien" beings play in human affairs. One of her subjects suggests that "non-humans monitor both the soul-spirit matrix and DNA...They will leave 'pre-recorded' imprints...within the base codes of the human DNA that will one day be retrieved by the (encoded) human and translated into conscious communication or cognition."

UFO contactees might be programmed to one day awaken to their true identities and missions, and, in my experience, may even be prodded to seek out researchers or therapists who are trained to assist them in recovering their full memories.

Howe also reports cases in which those having contact experiences are told that interdimensional beings, like the ones interacting with humans today, were originally responsible for creating the human race by intervening, through genetic experimentation, in the normal evolutionary process. This concept, as it turns out, is the main thesis of my book—a thesis I came upon through my own independent research into ancient texts that describe events very much like those described by today's UFO experiencers.

If this is so, it begs the question: are we dealing with aliens, angels, demons or gods? Who are these beings? The answer is not an easy one to decipher. 

To be continued.

Next month, Part III will delve into the mysterious race of reptilian beings who have been reported in UFO contact cases, as well as in shamanic journeys. Find out how medical doctors and anthropologists have stumbled upon this hidden aspect of life on earth.

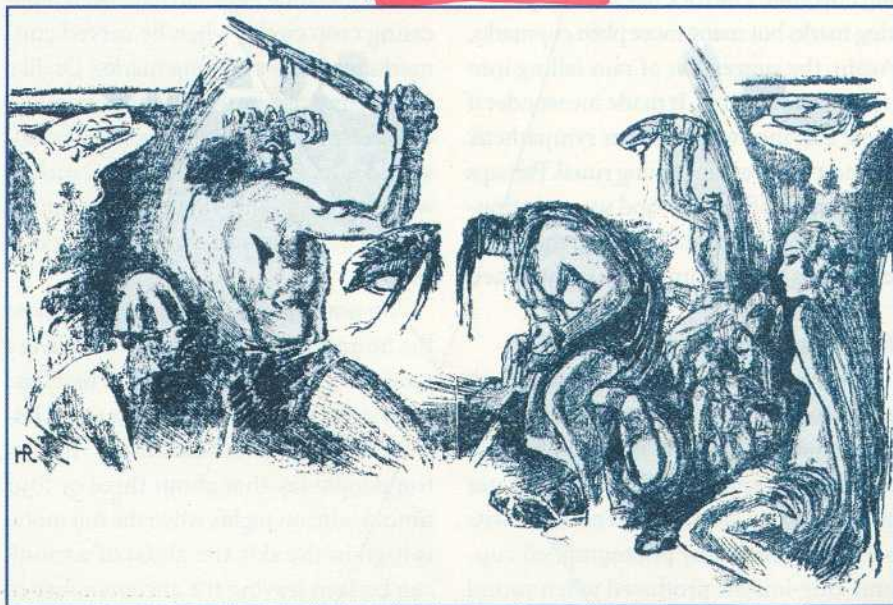
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Part III

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King Kull battles the serpent people.

Hugh Rankin, *Weird Tales*, August 1929

Most UFO researchers are not comfortable writing or speaking about the issue of sentient reptilian beings reported by many persons having UFO contact experiences. Some of the best-known researchers have said nothing at all about them.

Too Weird

It's difficult enough to be a UFO researcher without having to deal with lizard people. It's little wonder that many researchers draw the line here and say, "That's it, I just can't go there! People will really think I'm nuts." But besides being just plain weird, the issue of reptilians presents other

problems for researchers. Reptilians are too scary; they are too Biblical; and they are too Satanic-looking. If you want to be taken seriously as a UFO researcher, you really don't want to go there.

This was my reaction when I first interviewed a person who described to me her terrifying, conscious recollection of experiences with these strange, menacing, otherworldly creatures. "They are big, well over six-foot tall, and they have smooth, scaly skin, like a snake's. They have claws on the ends of their long fingers and large golden eyes with vertical slits for pupils, like cat's eyes," she told me. "They have webbing between their fingers, and they only have four fingers, instead of five." As she spoke, tears began to roll down her cheeks, and by the time she had finished, she was sobbing and doubled over in pain. I had no idea what was wrong. I tried to console her but she explained that the pain happens when she begins to talk about them. "I don't think they like me talking about them," she cried.

Listening to her heartfelt story and watching her agony, I found it hard to deny her honesty. It was obvious that something had traumatized her and that she wasn't putting on an act for my benefit. But yet, this was only one person, and at that time, in 1993, I was a beginner in the UFO field.

Additional Reports

Soon after this experience, I met and spoke to science writer and Emmy-award winning broadcast journalist Linda Moulton Howe, who explained to me that she

had come across cases of reptilian beings in her own UFO research. She had even written about them in her book, *Glimpses of Other Realities*. Additionally, I spoke to John Carpenter, a psychiatric social worker and a certified hypnotherapist who volunteered his time helping individuals to recover missing memories of contact experiences. John at that time was the director of abduction research for the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), and he wrote a column on alien abductions for their publication, *The MUFON Journal*. By 1995 he had come across a dozen or more cases in which persons reported encountering non-human entities with distinct reptilian features, much like those described to me earlier.

By that time I had begun a serious research project in association with a psychiatrist who volunteered to conduct psychiatric evaluations on each of the subjects in the study. One of our first cases involved a woman who was having ongoing experiences with reptilians. Her life had been turned upside down from the time she was a child by her all-too-regular encounters with these beings.

I ultimately decided to write a book about my conclusions regarding all that I had learned. *The God Hypothesis: Extraterrestrial Life and its Implications for Science and Religion* was published in 1997. I devoted an entire section to reptilians in UFO cases, as well as in the history of the human race, as described in ancient texts. I found many references to reptilians in the ancient writings of the Sumerians (one of their gods, Enki, was depicted as a serpent with



Dr. John Mack.

a man's head); in the Hindu Vedic literature, which refers to them as the "Nagas" and describes them as "living under bodies of water;" and even in the Bible story of Adam and Eve, which describes a sentient serpent being who offers Eve the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge. The connections were so evident to me that I wondered why some of the best-known researchers in the field had not mentioned reptilians at all in their writings. I concluded that they were withholding information because of the obvious implications. If UFOs are an ancient phenomenon, then we cannot conclude that aliens are here studying us or even preparing to invade earth. We must stretch our

minds and consider the possibility that they may not be aliens at all, but rather godlike beings that have always been part of our existence, manipulating life on earth from behind a curtain of secrecy. That conclusion is even more frightening to many than the alien invasion theory. It also forces us to discuss religion, which is something scientists really don't want to do.

Mack and Reptilians

A big breakthrough for me came in mid-2003 when I received a call from my good friend, John E. Mack, M.D., former professor of psychiatry at Harvard University and well known for his intrepid work with many who experienced UFO contact.

"Joe," he said, "I want you to work with me on a project I'm working on with Barbara Lamb [a California researcher who had a conscious experience with a reptilian]. I want to write an article about reptilians and I want to cover not only our case studies, but also the history of reptilians as described by the ancients. I want to do a thorough and scholarly analysis of the subject. I have an outline worked up and if you're interested I'll send it to you."

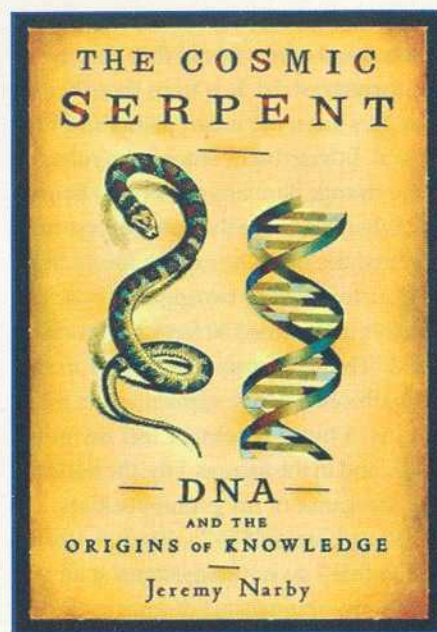
There was no way I would turn down John, no matter what kind of project he suggested. John was one of my heroes. He was the most courageous scientist I knew of, and the most honest. I had traveled with John to Mexico when he wanted to research UFO cases there and he needed someone he could trust who could also

ak Spanish. I couldn't pack fast enough. Yet, I was also aware that John was one of those well-known researchers who had been reluctant to take on the reptilian issue. It had been hard enough for him to get involved in UFO research at all, as a highly reputable member of the scientific community. This alone nearly cost him his job. But I also knew John was an honest researcher and that he would ultimately have crossed the reptilian line. I was excited when he asked me to assist him, so I agreed to take part in his project and I began putting my thoughts together mentally.

We had discussed the amazing work done by Dr. Richard Strassman, Jeremy Narby, and Michael Harner, who discovered previously unknown connections to reptilians—connections I had never dreamed were possible. I was given the task of addressing that issue in my portion of the research project, although John knew a great deal about the subject.

Hallucinogens

This aspect of the reptilian story begins in the jungles of the Amazon, where primitive peoples have for millennia been experimenting on thousands of species of plants, and have cultivated those that are useful for healing, food, and communing with otherworldly spirits. These last plants have hallucinogenic properties and are used by shamans. Harner and Narby lived with Amazonian shamans at different times and came to study their practices and belief systems. Both came away from their experi-



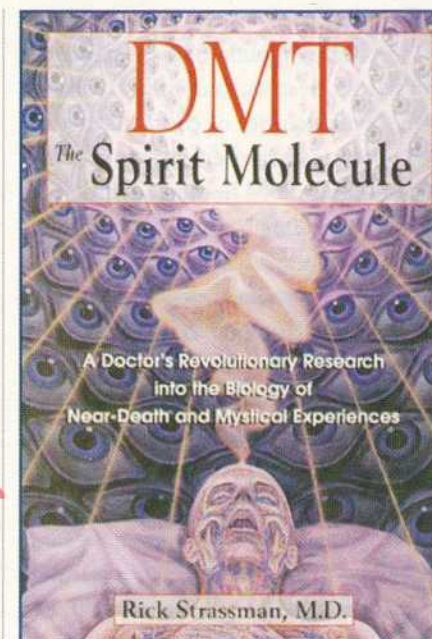
ences transformed. Narby earned his Ph.D. from Stanford University by studying shamanic secrets and then wrote about his findings in his excellent book *The Cosmic Serpent: D.N.A. and the Origins of Knowledge*, published in 1998.

The native peoples explained to him that they learned about the uses of plants by drinking a hallucinogenic brew called, *ayahuasca*, which is made from certain plants that Narby later learned contained the molecule N,N Dimethyltryptamine, or DMT for short. This molecule affects the pineal gland, found in the center of the brain, and causes the individual to feel as if he has left ordinary reality and journeyed to other, mysterious dimensions inhabited by spirit beings. Here, they communicate

from the National Institute of Health. Strassman administered high doses of DMT to more than 700 volunteers during this low-key study—the first of its kind since the 1960s, when the government banned the study of LSD and other hallucinogens.

Strassman was stunned to find that more than half of his subjects reported being transported out of their bodies into other high-tech environments, where they had contact with non-human entities, including insectoids and reptilians. In some cases, they found themselves lying on an operating table while the beings performed medical experiments on them and placed implants in their etheral bodies. Such stories are commonplace in UFO abduction cases. Dr. Strassman says that it was then that he began considering the role that DMT might play in the alien abduction phenomenon. He contacted Dr. John Mack and arranged a meeting to discuss the similarities in their research. Dr. Mack ended up writing an endorsement for Strassman's book.

When I spoke to John Mack about Strassman's findings we both agreed that DMT could have something to do with the abduction experience. Many persons reporting UFO contact are not sure whether their experiences occurred while in their bodies or out of body. In that way, we agreed, UFO experiencers are very much like unwilling shamans, although a significant number feel as if they are willing in a certain level to serve in this capacity.



They bring back with them information regarding healing methods and messages about how humans are endangering life on earth by polluting and using technology in careless ways.

John and I believed that these strange beings might be able to create a surge of DMT to be produced by the body in the pineal gland, which produces the molecule in small quantities, and thereby cause the individual to have an out-of-body journey. Neither of us believed that the UFO abduction experience was merely a case of hallucinations. There is a reality behind the abduction experience, we both agreed, but the question is, whose reality is it? If something takes place in another dimension or reality, is it real?

telepathically with a variety of beings, some ethereal and others whom they perceive to be extraterrestrial. It is from these beings that they learn the use of plants and how to heal. Interestingly, among the rulers of these strange domains are serpent beings.

When Narby, in the name of research, ingested the brew, he says he found himself "surrounded by two gigantic boa constrictors that seemed 50 feet long. I was terrified." The reptilians began to speak to him telepathically: "They explain to me that I am just a human being. I feel my mind crack, and in the fissures, I see the bottomless arrogance of my presuppositions..." He found himself in "a more powerful reality that I do not understand at all and that in my arrogance, I did not even suspect existed... I never felt so completely humble."

As a result, Narby was forced to accept the shamans' belief that spirit beings from other realities guide them and help them survive in the rain forest. He also began to see a correlation between what the shamans have known for thousands of years and what microbiologists are learning today about the DNA molecule. He concludes that primitive peoples have learned the secrets of DNA through their out-of-body journeys and may even have communicated with the consciousness of DNA, which Narby sees as a living intelligence that might not have originated on Earth.

Anthropologist Michael Harner had a similar experience years earlier and wrote about it in *The Way of the Shaman*, pub-

lished in 1980. After ingesting a similar tea, Harner also entered another reality and began receiving telepathic messages from non-human entities who revealed to him the secrets of the origins of life on earth. The givers of these secrets, he said "were giant reptilian creatures, reposing in the depths of my brain." The reptilians projected a vision in which he saw reptilians dropping down from the sky onto a primitive, lifeless earth in ancient times. They had come to earth to escape their enemy. "They showed me how they created life on the planet in order to hide within the multitudinous forms and thus disguise their presence... The dragon-like creatures were thus inside of all forms of life, including man. They are the masters of humanity and the entire planet..."

This, of course is an excellent description of the double-helix shape of the DNA molecule, which is reminiscent of two entwined serpents capable of morphing into every living plant and animal on earth.

The Spirit Molecule

Another researcher, this time a medical doctor in New Mexico, discovered reptilians during a study of the DMT molecule conducted from 1990 to 1995, under rigorous scientific conditions. In *DMT: The Spirit Molecule*, published in 2000, Dr. Richard Strassman describes the study he conducted at the University of New Mexico under the auspices of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the Drug Enforcement Administration, with funding

A Tragic Loss

After many months of correspondence and telephone calls, John grew frustrated with the difficulties of coordinating the work of three researchers by long distance. In late August 2004 he suggested that we get the ball rolling by presenting our material at the International UFO Conference in Laughlin, Nevada, to be held in March 2005. Both Barbara Lamb and I agreed to get it together by then. The plan was to make final preparations for a written article when we met at the conference. "I'll call you when I get back from London," John told me during our last conversations. He was to speak at a conference on Lawrence of Arabia, the topic of a book he wrote that won him the Pulitzer Prize in 1977.

However, the hand of fate intervened. As most readers are probably aware, John never returned from London. While walking back to his hotel after a late dinner with friends, John was run over by a drunk driver and killed. The date was September 27, 2004. The following day, I received a phone call from one of his close friends who gave me the sad news. I was shocked and horrified, to say the least. My first thoughts were, "How can anyone ever take his place? There is no one with his credentials and his brilliance capable of speaking so eloquently and with such authority about the UFO abduction phenomenon." And then it dawned on me that his tragic death also meant he would not have his chance to serve as a witness to the reptil-

ian aspect of this strange phenomenon.

His portion of the presentation was never completed and his unique perspective on this amazing topic was lost forever. Barbara and I went ahead with the presentation in Laughlin, but John's perspective and his case histories may never be revealed. Aside from the outline he sent me, the only work we were able to get after his death were a few pages of hastily written notes that he had obviously used to create the outline we had already received.

I have been asked by many if I believed John was silenced by mysterious forces so that he could not reveal what he knew. My answer is no. I am not much of a conspiracy theorist to begin with, but the reality is that information about the reptilians' existence is already in the public domain. Those who want to know the truth can find it, just as I and many others have done. There is one last postscript that he would want me to mention: neither of us had uncovered any evidence that any world leaders are, in fact, shape-shifting reptilians, as some have said. It is strange enough that the double helix structure of the DNA molecule is able to shape-shift into all living things on earth. There is no need for wild speculation when the facts themselves are so incredible.

Joe Lewels, Ph.D., is the author of The God Hypothesis: Extraterrestrial Life and Its Implications for Science and Religion. His new book, Rulers of the Earth (Gald Press) will be available in early 2007.