

or because the hypnosis was a convenient "excuse." In the former case, hypnosis was not needed to begin with.

There are *no* objective, physiologically measurable differences between someone in hypnosis and someone in normal awareness. Talk to any stage hypnosis volunteer and you'll hear variations of, "I knew what was happening; I could have stopped anytime; I didn't want to be a poor sport and embarrass the hypnotist."

While the entire advertising industry is based on all of us being always in a light state of hypnosis, I have never felt the slightest urge to purchase tampons or lipsticks or diamonds or SUVs. This is, I promise, my last word on the subject although I concede this is an old debate that will probably never be resolved.—*Anthony O. Constantino, via email*

Is Heaven Full?

I enjoyed John Keel's column on Robert Ripley and his "Believe It Or Not" in the April 2001 issue. The short piece on "No Sprawl in Heaven" especially interested me. As a (retired) Operations Research Analyst, I am fascinated by numbers, large and small, especially Ripley's calculation that Heaven would hold just a few less than 50 quintillion people "if packed in tight." Ripley followed this by saying that Heaven had filled up in the 15th century. Did it? Well, let's play with these numbers a bit.

Several of my sources say that Heaven is a cube 1,500 miles on a side. My stubby-pencil, back-of-the-envelope calculations say that this gives a volume of about 18,663,744,000,000,000,000 cubic yards. We can give each person a box a little bit more than two yards (six feet) high and one yard (three) feet square (if we want to pack them in fairly tightly). Thus, we can get in about 9,000,000,000,000,000,000 (nine quintillion). This is considerably fewer than the 50 quintillion Ripley calculated, but maybe I gave them more room.

Is Heaven really full as Ripley said? How many people have already gone there? Let's say that mankind (soul and all) has been on Earth for one million years, and that all of us will go to Heaven (at least until it is full.) A person is born, lives his or her life, and dies in one generation of 20 years. So in one million years there are 50,000 generations. But how many people are on earth at one time? The population now is a little over six billion. One source estimates that the population in Year One of the Common Era was 150 million. Just to make the calculations easier (I used a small envelope), let's say the population of each generation was six billion. That means that six billion people went to Heaven each and every 20 years.

Since mankind has been around for 50,000 generations, we can multiply this by six billion people per generation and we

get 300,000,000,000,000. Now 300 trillion people are a lot (reminds me of the LA or DC traffic during rush hour), but just how crowded is heaven now? If we subtract the 300 trillion who have already gone from the capacity of nine quintillion we get room for 8,999,700,000,000,000,000 more.

Now (my head is swimming, too, but I'm almost finished), if we divide this "spare room" by six billion people per generation, we get 1,499,955,555 generations. Multiply this number of generations by 20 years in each and we get 29,999,111,100 years until Heaven is full.

So, rejoice! There's plenty of room for all the people and for the streets of gold and all that, at least for a few years yet (almost 30 billion.) Ripley calculated the capacity of Heaven and said "Believe It or Not!" How about "Not!"—*Charles G. Ferguson, Ed.D., Colonial Heights, Va.*

Your Godly Name

What is your Godly name? I have learned some trivial methods of *jafr* which is a method of divination. Tell me your full name with its pronunciation (if it is pronounced in a special way), and your mother's full name, and I'll tell you which name or attribute of God among his 99 names suits you. You should try to fulfill the prerequisites of being the owner of this name to see miracles.—*Amir A. Rastrow, PO Box 13465/193, Tehran, Iran* ☞



Can You Help These Readers?

Looking for reports of new Sasquatch sightings.—*Bill Green, NE Sasquatch Research Center, 21 Benham St., Apt. F, Bristol, CT 06010; website: maxpages.com/bigfoot2001*

I recently read a brief explanation of a divination tool called an "Egyptian Tablet"—a tablet with hieroglyphics used to foretell the future. I have searched but I can't find further info on this piece. I'm trying to find out if it is ancient or some recent design. Can you help?—*Ambra; email: mysticwear@msn.com*

Looking for two copies of a paperback book entitled *Witness From Beyond*. I do not remember the author's name. If you have a spare copy, please write. I will gladly buy it.—*Rev. Mickie Gable, 2875 Cowley Way, Apt. 1407, San Diego, CA 92110. Email: angelhalo@surfbest.net*

Do any FATE readers know the meaning of the Polish custom of putting six angel figurines in the casket of a loved one? Please respond via this column.—*Anna Dunn, Philadelphia, Pa.*

Looking for any or all of the works of Shirley Barber—books and illustrations about Fairies and Fairyland.—*R. Douglas Colton, PO Box 748, Angwin, CA 94508*

Cat-loving, practicing witch wishes to hear from those who also love cats and have an interest in animal rights, Bigfoot, and/or remember the TV series *ALF*. Clippings on Bigfoot also appreciated.—*Colleen Hope Rue, 12 Charlotte Ave., Trenton, NJ 08629*

Famous Richard S. Shaver letters and fogo-art photos up for bid.—*Wendy Lockwood, 3564 So. Jasper Way, Aurora, CO 80013*