

close encounters of the fourth kind

Understanding Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind

Close encounters of the fourth kind (CE4K) represent one of the most intriguing and controversial classifications in UFO lore and extraterrestrial research. Unlike the earlier categories, which involve sightings, interactions, or contact with alien craft or beings, CE4K specifically refers to situations where individuals report direct, involuntary, or voluntary human-alien interactions that often include abductions or other forms of physical or psychological contact. These encounters have captivated the imagination of skeptics, believers, scientists, and conspiracy theorists alike, fueling debates about extraterrestrial visitation, government cover-ups, and the nature of consciousness itself.

In this article, we will explore the origins and definitions of CE4K, examine notable cases, discuss possible explanations, and analyze the cultural and scientific implications of these extraordinary encounters.

Origins and Definition of Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind

The Origins of the Classification System

The classification of UFO encounters was first introduced by astronomer Dr. J. Allen Hynek in the early 1970s. Initially, Hynek's system categorized encounters as follows:

- First Kind: Visual sighting of a UFO.
- Second Kind: A UFO event with physical effects (e.g., interference with objects or animals).
- Third Kind: Encounters involving alien beings or entities.

Later, Hynek and other researchers added the Fourth Kind to describe encounters involving human abduction or direct contact with extraterrestrial beings.

What Is Close Encounter of the Fourth Kind?

CE4K specifically involves the following:

- Alien Abductions: Situations where individuals claim to have been taken against their will aboard spacecraft or in alien environments.
- Direct Contact: Physical or psychological interactions with extraterrestrial beings, often including examinations or communication.
- Perception of Abduction: Some cases involve vivid, often traumatic memories of being taken, examined, or experimented upon.

While some skeptics attribute these reports to sleep paralysis, psychological factors, or hallucinations, many abductees insist their experiences are real and often describe detailed, consistent accounts.

Notable Cases of Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind

Several cases have gained widespread attention and have become central to the discourse surrounding CE4K. Here are some of the most well-documented and debated incidents:

Billy Meier and the Plejadian Contact

- The Swiss farmer Billy Meier claims to have been in contact with extraterrestrial beings called the Plejadians since the 1970s.
- He reports frequent abductions, medical examinations, and communication with alien entities.
- His case remains controversial, with supporters citing photographs and physical evidence, while skeptics argue it is a hoax.

Betty and Barney Hill Abduction

- The most famous early abduction story from 1961, involving a married couple who claimed to have been taken aboard a spacecraft in New Hampshire.
- Their detailed accounts included medical examinations and communication with alien beings.
- This case popularized the idea of alien abductions and has been extensively analyzed in UFO literature.

The Travis Walton Incident

- In 1975, logger Travis Walton reported being struck by a beam of light and taken aboard an alien craft.

- His colleagues witnessed the event, and Walton's subsequent medical examinations and interviews have added credibility to some skeptics.
- Walton's story has inspired books, documentaries, and movies.

Modern Abduction Reports

- Thousands of individuals around the world report similar abduction experiences, often describing missing time, medical examinations, and communication with alien entities.
- Many of these cases include detailed drawings, physical marks, or psychological effects.

Common Characteristics and Themes in CE4K Encounters

Understanding the typical features of CE4K experiences can help in analyzing these reports:

Physical and Psychological Symptoms

- Missing time episodes
- Memory gaps or repressed memories
- Physical marks such as scars, bruises, or implant-like objects
- Sleep disturbances or night terrors

Descriptions of Alien Beings

- Often described as humanoid, with large eyes, elongated heads, and slender bodies
- Sometimes depicted as robotic or insectoid
- Communication often occurs telepathically or through strange sounds

Environmental and Contextual Factors

- Encounters often occur in rural or isolated areas
- Many reports happen during the night or in sleep states
- Some individuals experience recurring encounters over years

Theories and Explanations for CE4K Encounters

The phenomenon of CE4K has prompted various interpretations, ranging from extraterrestrial hypotheses to psychological explanations.

Extraterrestrial Hypothesis

- Many believe CE4K experiences are genuine encounters with alien civilizations visiting Earth.
- The physical evidence, eyewitness testimonies, and consistent descriptions lend some credibility.
- Supporters argue for advanced alien motives, such as scientific research, genetic experiments, or spiritual contact.

Psychological Explanations

- Sleep paralysis and hypnagogic hallucinations can produce vivid, realistic experiences resembling abductions.
- Cultural suggestions and media portrayals influence the content of reports.
- Psychological conditions like Dissociative Identity Disorder may also play a role.

Government Cover-Ups and Secret Experiments

- Some theorists posit that CE4K reports are disinformation or cover stories for secret military or technological experiments.
- Allegories of government involvement in alien abduction cover-ups are common in popular culture.

Spiritual and Metaphysical Interpretations

- Some view CE4K as spiritual awakenings, multidimensional travels, or contact with non-physical entities.
- These perspectives often emphasize personal growth, enlightenment, or cosmic consciousness.

Implications and Controversies Surrounding CE4K

The phenomenon raises numerous questions about reality, consciousness, and the universe.

Scientific Challenges

- Lack of verifiable physical evidence makes CE4K difficult to study scientifically.
- The subjective nature of experiences complicates validation.
- Nonetheless, some researchers advocate for serious investigation into the psychological and neurological aspects.

Legal and Ethical Issues

- Abductions often involve medical examinations without consent.
- The psychological trauma experienced by victims requires sensitive handling and support.

Cultural Impact

- CE4K stories influence popular media, literature, and conspiracy theories.
- They contribute to the broader UFO and alien abduction narratives shaping modern culture.

Future Research Directions

- Advances in neuroimaging and psychology could shed light on the phenomena.
- Collaboration between UFO researchers, psychologists, and neuroscientists may lead to better understanding.
- Open-minded scientific inquiry is essential to uncovering the truth behind CE4K encounters.

Conclusion

Close encounters of the fourth kind remain one of the most compelling and mysterious aspects of UFO phenomena. Whether viewed as literal extraterrestrial abductions, psychological experiences, or metaphysical encounters, CE4K challenges our understanding of reality and consciousness. As technology advances and scientific inquiry deepens, future research may provide clearer answers, potentially transforming our perspective on humanity's place in the universe. Meanwhile, the stories, testimonies, and cultural images associated with CE4K continue to inspire curiosity, skepticism, and wonder across the globe.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are close encounters of the fourth kind?

Close encounters of the fourth kind refer to interactions between humans and extraterrestrial beings, such as abductions or direct contact, where humans are physically affected or involved with aliens.

How does close encounter of the fourth kind differ from other types?

While other types involve sightings or visual encounters, the fourth kind specifically involves direct physical contact or abduction experiences with extraterrestrial entities.

Are there credible reports or evidence of fourth kind encounters?

There are numerous anecdotal reports and some cases investigated by UFO researchers, but mainstream science has not verified any definitive evidence of fourth kind encounters.

What are common experiences reported by individuals claiming fourth kind encounters?

Reports often include abduction experiences, medical examinations, communication with aliens, missing time, or physical marks left after the encounter.

Are close encounters of the fourth kind scientifically proven?

Currently, there is no scientific consensus or verified evidence confirming the occurrence of fourth kind encounters; most are considered anecdotal or unproven.

How do researchers investigate alleged fourth kind encounters?

Researchers analyze witness testimonies, look for physical evidence, and study patterns in reports to assess the credibility and possible explanations for such encounters.

What psychological effects are associated with

fourth kind encounters?

Individuals may experience trauma, anxiety, sleep disturbances, or post-traumatic stress, especially if the experience is perceived as involuntary or frightening.

Has any government or organization officially acknowledged close encounters of the fourth kind?

No government or official agency has publicly acknowledged verified fourth kind encounters; however, some declassified documents suggest investigations into UFO abductions and related phenomena.

Additional Resources

Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind: Exploring the Phenomenon of Human-Alien Contact

Introduction: The Enigma of Close Encounters

The term close encounters of the fourth kind (CE4) has captivated the imagination of UFO enthusiasts, researchers, and skeptics alike for decades. Coined in the context of ufology, it designates a scenario where a human being experiences direct physical contact with extraterrestrial beings. Unlike sightings or merely close visual observations—classified as the first, second, or third kinds—CE4 involves tangible, often personal, interactions that go beyond observation or passive witnessing. This phenomenon raises profound questions about the nature of consciousness, the existence of extraterrestrial life, and the potential implications of such encounters for humanity.

The idea of CE4 has fluctuated between scientific inquiry, folklore, conspiracy theories, and popular culture. While mainstream science remains skeptical, numerous anecdotal reports, alleged government disclosures, and cultural portrayals have kept the subject alive. This article delves into the history, types, evidence, theories, and implications surrounding close encounters of the fourth kind, aiming to provide a comprehensive, analytical perspective on this elusive phenomenon.

Defining Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind

Historical Origins and Classification

The classification of UFO encounters was popularized in 1972 by astronomer and UFO researcher J. Allen Hynek, who developed a systematic framework to categorize human interactions with unidentified flying objects. His scale includes:

- First Kind: Visual sightings of a UFO within close proximity.
- Second Kind: A UFO leaves physical evidence (e.g., scorch marks, indentations).
- Third Kind: Encounters involving direct interaction with extraterrestrial beings.
- Fourth Kind: Human-initiated contact involving direct physical interaction with extraterrestrial entities—this is the focus of our discussion.
- Fifth Kind: Human-initiated contact, such as communication or contact through consciousness or telepathy.

While Hynek's original scale did not explicitly include CE4, the term gained popularity through later UFO literature and media to describe encounters where humans not only see or interact but are physically, emotionally, or psychologically involved with extraterrestrial entities.

What Constitutes CE4?

A close encounter of the fourth kind involves a range of phenomena, including:

- Physical contact: Touching, being touched, or physical examination by extraterrestrial beings.
- Abductions: Being taken aboard an alien craft involuntarily.
- Bilateral interactions: Speaking, telepathic exchanges, or other forms of communication.
- Experiences of trauma or health effects: Sightings accompanied by unexplained injuries or physiological changes.
- Psychic or spiritual contact: Encounters involving profound spiritual experiences or visions facilitated by extraterrestrial beings.

The common thread is the undeniable directness and physicality of the interaction, which distinguishes CE4 from other more observational or indirect encounters.

Historical and Cultural Perspectives

Early Reports and Anecdotal Evidence

Accounts consistent with CE4 are scattered throughout history, often cloaked in mythology, folklore, or religious narratives. Examples include:

- Medieval and Renaissance texts describing angelic or demonic visits that, in modern reinterpretation, resemble alien contact.
- 19th-century reports of "airship" sightings that sometimes included stories of physical contact or abductions.
- 20th-century abduction reports, especially from the 1960s onward, where individuals claim to have been taken aboard extraterrestrial craft, examined, and sometimes returned with physical marks or memories.

One of the most famous cases is the 1961 Betty and Barney Hill abduction, which involved claims of physical examination and alien contact during a UFO encounter, later cited as a prototype CE4 case.

Popular Culture and Media

Films, books, and television have both shaped and reflected cultural perceptions of CE4. Notable examples include:

- The movie *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* (1977), which, despite focusing on visual contact, helped popularize the idea of meaningful extraterrestrial-human interaction.
- Literature by authors like Whitley Strieber (*Communion*, 1987), who detailed personal accounts of abduction and physical contact.
- Conspiracy theories suggesting government cover-ups of CE4 incidents, with claims that some abductions are conducted covertly by clandestine agencies.

Cultural portrayals have often emphasized the mysterious, sometimes terrifying aspects of CE4, fueling both fascination and fear.

Types of Human-Extraterrestrial Contact

Understanding CE4 requires examining the different modalities through which contact occurs:

Physical Abductions

Perhaps the most controversial and widely reported form of CE4, abductions involve individuals claiming to be involuntarily taken aboard alien spacecraft, subjected to examinations, and then returned. Common elements include:

- Missing time episodes
- Physical markings (scars, implants)
- Memory repression or repressed memories
- Psychological trauma or confusion

While skeptics attribute these accounts to sleep paralysis, vivid dreams, or psychological phenomena, many abductees report consistent details and physical evidence supporting their claims.

Direct Physical Contact

In some cases, individuals report being touched or examined by extraterrestrial beings during sightings or encounters. These interactions might involve:

- Feeling a hand or object touch the skin
- Hearing telepathic commands or messages
- Witnessing beings performing experiments or procedures

Such encounters often occur in the context of a sighting or abduction scenario but can also happen during spontaneous visits.

Telepathic and Spiritual Encounters

Some reports describe CE4 instances where contact occurs through mental or spiritual channels rather than physical touch. These include:

- Receiving messages or visions from extraterrestrials
- Feeling a profound sense of connection or enlightenment
- Experiencing shared consciousness or collective awareness

This category blurs the lines between physical and metaphysical contact, raising questions about consciousness and perception.

Evidence and Skepticism

Physical Evidence and Its Limitations

Proponents of CE4 cite various types of evidence:

- Physical marks, scars, or implants allegedly left by extraterrestrials.
- Photographs and videos claimed to capture alien beings or craft during contact.

- Psychological profiles and testimonies from credible witnesses, including military personnel and pilots.

However, critics argue that such evidence is often anecdotal, anecdotal, or susceptible to hoaxing, hallucinations, and cognitive biases. The lack of conclusive, independently verified physical artifacts or biological samples has hindered scientific validation.

Psychological and Sociocultural Explanations

Many scientists and psychologists posit alternative explanations:

- Sleep paralysis and hypnagogic hallucinations can produce vivid experiences resembling CE4.
- Memory confabulation and suggestion during hypnotic regression.
- Cultural influences shaping perceptions and narratives about extraterrestrial encounters.
- The role of trauma, stress, or psychological disorders in creating or reinforcing these experiences.

While these explanations do not dismiss individual accounts outright, they highlight the importance of critical evaluation and scientific rigor.

Theories and Interpretations of CE4

Extraterrestrial Hypothesis

Most mainstream ufologists and researchers support the idea that CE4 results from genuine contact with extraterrestrial beings. This hypothesis suggests that:

- Alien civilizations have visited Earth and are capable of complex physical and psychological interactions.
- Encounters serve various purposes, such as exploration, research, or communication.
- Abductions and physical contact could be part of a broader interstellar contact program.

Critics argue that there is no concrete empirical evidence to substantiate this and that many reports lack verifiable physical artifacts.

Interdimensional or Multiversal Theories

Some alternative theories propose that CE4 involves contact with entities from higher dimensions or parallel universes:

- These encounters might occur through altered states of consciousness or dimensional gateways.
- Such experiences could be misinterpreted as physical contact but are rooted in non-physical realms.
- This perspective aligns with certain spiritual or metaphysical frameworks.

While intriguing, these theories remain speculative and lack empirical support.

Psychosocial and Cultural Constructs

Another interpretation views CE4 as a manifestation of collective consciousness or societal archetypes:

- Encounters are projections influenced by cultural narratives, fears, and hopes.
- They serve psychological functions, such as coping with trauma or existential anxiety.
- This view emphasizes the subjective nature of experience rather than objective contact.

It underscores the importance of understanding personal and societal contexts in interpreting CE4 reports.

Implications and Future Directions

Scientific Challenges and Opportunities

Studying CE4 poses significant challenges due to:

- Lack of verifiable physical evidence
- The subjective nature of experiences
- Potential biases and psychological factors

However, advancements in neuroscience, psychology, and technology could facilitate more systematic investigation:

- Developing standardized protocols for interviewing witnesses
- Utilizing neuroimaging and biometric tools during encounters
- Encouraging interdisciplinary research combining ufology, psychology, and physics

Such efforts could help differentiate genuine phenomena from artifacts of perception or suggestion.

Ethical and Societal Considerations

If CE4 encounters are genuine, they could have profound implications:

- Rethinking humanity's place in the universe
- Addressing potential risks or benefits of contact
- Ensuring ethical treatment of individuals claiming to have experienced contact

Public disclosure and open scientific inquiry are crucial

Close Encounters Of The Fourth Kind

close encounters of the fourth kind: Close Encounters Of The Fourth Kind C.D.B. Bryan, 2011-11-02 Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind: cases in which personal contact between an individual or individuals is initiated by the "occupants" of the spacecraft. Such contact may involve the transportation of the individual from his or her terrestrial surroundings into the spacecraft, where the individual is communicated with and/or subjected to an examination before being returned. One might expect that a "scientific conference" devoted to people who have reported being kidnapped by "little green men" would be dismissed out of hand. But C.D.B. Bryan, the greatly admired journalist and author of *Friendly Fire*, did not dismiss it: the conference was to be held at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and would have as its chairmen a Pulitzer Prize-winning Harvard psychiatry professor and a professor of physics from M.I.T. Bryan attended the conference throughout its five days. He approached the subject with no prior stand, no agenda, and an open (if slightly skeptical) mind. As the conference progressed, he was astonished by the quality of the stories told by the hundreds of men and women who came forward hesitantly and reluctantly with their utterly amazing—and utterly convincing—accounts of having been abducted and then examined aboard extraterrestrial spacecraft by spindly limbed, telepathic gray creatures with outsized foreheads dominated by huge, compelling, tear-shaped black eyes. What most astonished Bryan were the similarities found again and again in these accounts and the consistency of their details. It is here that the heart of the mystery lies: as the Harvard professor John E. Mack asked at the conference, "If what the abductees are saying isn't happening to them, then what is?" This question—and the possible answers—are at the center of this richly explicit, serious, and riveting book. Bryan recreates the conference. He interviews ufology's most prominent psychiatrists, psychologists, hypnotherapists, researchers, physicists, physicians, and folklorists. He interweaves throughout the testimony of the abductees themselves, who tell us their stories in chilling detail. He presents, in depth, the Close Encounter experiences of two women whose stories he tells on the basis of both their spontaneous recollections of the events and their memories that were retrieved through sessions of hypnosis of which Bryan himself was a witness. Finally, Bryan examines the current theories—psychological, psychiatric, medical, parapsychological—that have been put forward by the unconvinced to explain the abduction phenomenon. Are the abductees suffering from some sort of false memory syndrome? . . . a multiple or dissociative personality disorder? . . . Are they fantasy-prone? *Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind* is a detailed, objective exploration—the

most concrete to date—of one of the enduring and amazing mysteries of our time. It is a book that will equally fascinate believers and nonbelievers.

close encounters of the fourth kind: Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind C. D. B. Bryan, 2001-04-01 A serious, explicit, riveting investigation into the bizarre world of UFOs and alien abduction. At its center is a 5-day UFO conference at MIT, under the chairmanship of a physicist from MIT and a psychiatrist from Harvard. For 5 days a mixed group of delegates asked the questions: Do UFOs exist? Is it possible to believe that aliens have landed on earth and abducted ordinary men and women to experiment on them? Bryan attended the conference and met, interviewed and listened to the testimony of psychiatrists, researchers, hypnotherapists, physicists, and folklorists. Includes the experiences of abductees who came forward to tell their stories in chilling detail.

close encounters of the fourth kind: Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind C. D. B. Bryan, 1995

close encounters of the fourth kind: Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind C. D. B. Bryan, 1995 Alien abduction-what the scientists think. This book will fascinate equally believers and non-believers alike.

close encounters of the fourth kind: *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* Ray Morton, 2007-11 (Applause Books). Morton has written the definitive book on this innovative movie by Steven Spielberg...Meticulous research of this caliber is not found in other books on Close Encounters . Fans will find Morton's take informative and fascinating. Library Journal . Steven Spielberg's 1977 masterpiece used all of the power and magic of cinema to tell a story of man's first meeting with extraterrestrial beings. Renouncing the fear and pessimism of the day, writer/director Spielberg boldly envisioned this as a peaceful, spiritual event full of hope and possibility. This awe-inspiring message made a powerful impact on audiences desperate for something to believe in. The film was a massive box-office hit and revolutionized the movie industry; along with Star Wars , it helped to create the modern blockbuster and ushered in a new era of hi-tech effects. Based on in-depth research and the recollections of many of the film's principal creators, Close Encounters is the first book to chronicle the making of this classic film from its inception through its tumultuous production to its many releases in special editions. The book features new interviews with star Teri Garr, producer Michael Phillips, photographic effects supervisor Douglas Trumbull, production designer Joe Alves, and several cinematographers, screenwriters, and special-effects legends. John Hill, Jerry Belson, Hal Barwood, and Matthew Robbins; and special effects legends Richard Yuricich, Robert Swarthe, Dennis Muren, Scott Squires, Greg Jein, and Rocco Gioffre.

close encounters of the fourth kind: Close Encounters Warren Agius, 2024-10-29 An investigation into abductions by extra-terrestrial beings: captivating accounts from the edge of the universe. In recent years sightings of unidentified flying objects have received more traction and public attention than ever before, with an increasing dialogue surrounding the UFO phenomenon. However, what has received less attention in popular culture and media is the sinister world of alien abductions. Warren Agius' trailblazing second title focuses on the many case studies of close encounters with extra-terrestrial beings, delving deeper into the ways in which they have been observing and experimenting on human beings for decades. Agius' work is not indented to convince the sceptical reader of the plausibility of alien encounters. Rather, through his thorough research and compelling prose, Agius presents readers with carefully considered case studies of abductions, complete with each individuals background, other plausible hypotheses and supporting evidence for each theory, allowing the reader to come to their own conclusions about alien abductions. The first section of the book looks at close encounters of the third kind, which relate to cases where the individual was not abducted but was in close proximity to or witnessed an extra-terrestrial entity. The second section moves on to explore a number of actual alien abductions. The book also includes information on Hynek's UFO classification scale. Close Encounters illuminates a complex yet pertinent phenomenon, which has spiritual, philosophical and existential implications for the human race as a whole. Ultimately, this book is a thrilling and captivating invitation for readers to consider

the infinite universe we inhabit, and what it might mean for us to share such a space with other intelligent and conscious lifeforms.

close encounters of the fourth kind: Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind C. D. B. Bryan, 1995

close encounters of the fourth kind: Aliens and UFOs Sarah Leveté, 2016-12-15 Some think UFO lore began sometime in the 1940s with the sighting of so-called "flying saucers," but ancient Egyptians recorded sightings of mysterious unidentified objects in the sky as well! These couldn't have been experimental aircraft, as is so often the explanation for UFO accounts. This entertaining guide to all things alien presents the facts and lore of UFO and alien sightings. The motivating text also considers the impact and influence of alien movies and space discoveries. Readers will weigh the well-balanced evidence with the aid of fun images and photographs and assess whether they are true believers.

close encounters of the fourth kind: Encyclopedic Psychic Dictionary June G Bletzer Ph D, 2011-05-01 Standard dictionaries and grammar books do not offer adequate language when it comes to describing invisible mind impressions, internal body sensations, and altered states of consciousness. Newly awakened interest in psychics, mystics, shamans, mediums, their philosophy of life and their experiences within invisible dimensions has extended everywhere. Organizations, seminars, weekend workshops, classes, and therapies in para-psychology and humanistic psychology spring up over night. Medical doctors and researchers in holistic health are assembling a startling body of evidence that intimately connects parapsychological theories with both physical and mental well-being. One may now openly speak about one's new attitudes, changes in beliefs, successful alternative healings, meditative and psychic experiences, and one's personal quest of a more qualitative lifestyle, without under the breath ridicule and harrassment. This is a global shift in consciousness occurring in all levels of awareness. Legions of individuals and other living organisms are beginning to sense the surge of a consciousness shift within themselves, from the ant and the tree, to the layman and government official. Some name this shift in consciousness the age of transformation. Whatever one names it, it is here! Changes....change....changed and semantic confusion! People are groping for words to express new dimensional concepts, sensations, and experiences with third-dimensional language. Instructors, authors, psychics, and laymen in this field are coining new words and giving standard words new meanings in trying to explain the variety of experiences of other levels of consciousness and new inner levels of awareness. Mankind has not yet evolved a language or a communication system that can adequately explain these new experiences, sensations, and concepts. This is quite normal in a pioneer field but these descriptive terms are multiplying faster than research and study can evolve. The written media system is flooded with newly coined words. The aim of this volume is to make the groping for words easier when describing noncustomary experiences and theories with the customary language. Any situational shift requires a shift in language variety. This book contains a concise grouping of the present day shift in language variety and a comparison of this new language variety to words and phrases used in the past in similar philosophies, activities, and inner-dimensional experiences. To accomplish this I have recorded words and phrases from 2000 B.C., the I Ching, to interviews of new-age workers such as seen on the Phil Donahue Show. Terms used in the mystical and parapsychological field over the years are defined, described, annotated, or theorized. This literary reference volume is a twofold book in which a textbook interweaves with a dictionary. The same wordage synchronizes a dictionary, a textbook, and a psychic skill development course. This means no unnecessary reading of valueless words. The material is concise and to the point. Every word is important! You could say, this volume is a shift in a literary style of writing to accommodate the new global shift in consciousness. It is a tool for an accelerated style of learning! As a teacher in this field for over four decades, Dr. Bletzer found that students drawn to the study of parapsychology were people of all ages and all walks of life. She observed this human potential movement and consciousness shift becoming alive among her students with an accelerated speed in the later years of her life. From the sixteen hundred students she taught to develop psychically, the amount of time to acquire good

psychic skills lessened by half during the last few years. She was finding that the public demand for information relating to parapsychology was coming faster than anyone could teach it. She found a strong desire to understand the multitude of new terms and new meanings for standard words used to describe new and rediscovered states of awareness and experiences as well as a concrete need for a comprehensive study of the parapsychological field. Human beings all over the world will continue to seek means to transform themselves under the new vibrations of the Aquarian Age and the common-ground on terminology given in this book will make this easier. With no standard textbooks in this field, during her many years of teaching metaphysics and psychic development, she researched and prepared all her class lectures, experiments, and course material. With knowledge gleaned from this research, she taught psychic development, and received feedback from the students being instructed. She also read and scanned hundreds of additional books written in the past and present. Words and phrases were taken, not only from these books, but also from magazines, pamphlets, newspaper articles, lectures, seminars, television and radio programs, record jackets, and even from herb tea boxes. Therefore one will find colloquialisms, as well as technical and philosophical terms. The bibliography at the end of the volume describes many of these sources. Because astrology, demonology, psychology, mythology, and many religions have their own glossary, these words are not reprinted in this volume, unless the term frequently interfaces with parapsychology. This book is intended to serve as a reference tool for the beginning student, the researcher, and the professional. First, consider this volume as an easy-to-use, comprehensive, annotated, technical dictionary, complete with cross references to ninety percent of the entries. The cross references add to the meaning, description, annotation, or sometimes simply presents another person's viewpoint to the reader. Although the definitions emphasize simplicity and clarity, I tried to retain and reflect the beauty and profoundness given by the mystic, philosopher, and parapsychologist. The annotations are concise and to the point in order to get all the categories in one volume. This gives a holistic view of the parapsychology field. One may feel there are too many relating subjects, but once one is open to this field, he or she will be exposed to many of these other fields. There are guidelines as to the format used in the dictionary wordage. It is suggested that one turn to the categories of his or her interest to see what terms exist. In spite of acceleration of popular growth in this field, one can quickly acquaint her or himself with the many words which have recently come into usage. Also, consider this volume as a condensed, comprehensive, technical, para-psychology textbook, complete with do-it-by-yourself instructions. Because the entries are categorized under their particular field and in alphabetical order, one can very quickly find much information about the subject of their choice. And for a full basic, but in capsule form, education in this field, there are instructions outlining graduated steps for not only the individual just becoming interested but also the long-time instructor. Language varies in different cultures, time periods, and even in small groups of one cause. It varies because the users of language change it to adapt to their needs. Words are alive, powerful, and constantly growing. As a dictionary researcher, Dr. Bletzer felt it her duty to record the words as they were used, not to pass judgment and offer corrections. She tried to keep the definition, description, or annotation as unvarnished and natural as possible so one can more easily understand the philosophy, or a new dimension, that may be completely foreign to him. The overall aim is to make some kind of common-ground, melding, psychic-knowledge-pot, which will bring together time periods and cultures showing similarities and differences in psychic skills and philosophies. Language today is being individually designed, different meanings and different parts of speech are being given to standard words, and old words are being revitalized. The reason for this is because there is no common-ground, melding, psychic-knowledge-pot. Humankind needs a synthesization of communication in this discipline today more than ever before. Hosts of individuals are finding an inner desire to increase their psychic skills in order to better understand themselves, and to understand how and why the planet is bringing a consciousness shift. Psychic skills and parapsychological information are tools to help understand this consciousness shift and these accelerated times. They are also good tools for those who wish to add to the shift in the earth's consciousness. The hope is that in some small way this volume will aid compatibility, co-operation,

and conformity in parapsychological affairs among psychics, humanistic psychologists, holistic health practitioners, scientists, researchers, ministers, meditators, etc. and lessen the semantic confusion! As you study from these references, the hope is that you find it as comforting and educational in learning that man, as a universal creature, has been using psychic skills, holistic health therapies, etheric world intelligences, etc., in other time periods and in every culture of the world. Confucius said: Without knowing the force of words, it is impossible to know men.

close encounters of the fourth kind: *Alien Chic* Neil Badmington, 2004 From *The War of the Worlds*, *Mars Attacks!*, *Mission to Mars* and *Independence Day*; Neil Badmington explores our relationship with aliens and how thinkers such as Descartes, Barthes, Freud, Lyotard and Derrida have conceptualised what it means to be human (and post-human).

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