



REVIEWED

Between Now and When

By Richard House, M.D.

A review by **David Snyder:**

A Curious Doctor Comes out of a Near-Coma, Travels the Universe and Discovers He is God

In his new book *Between Now and When*--which is being marketed as a “metaphysical memoir”--Richard House has put himself in the category of mystics such as Meher Baba--those who have claimed to be an incarnation of the Divine.

Yes, to put it bluntly, Richard House, an ENT surgeon turned acupuncturist and practitioner of eastern medicine, says in his book that his life’s journey has led him to see that he is God.

It is a claim that is bound to make a lot of people’s hair stand on end. Many will call him a narcissist, I am sure; some will say he deserves to be stoned, others will say he is deeply psychotic, or just plain garden-variety crazy. Some will be infatuated by him and probably ask if they can follow him, a few may even ask him to run for president.

This book will be very easy to pick on—and pick holes in—if in reading it you find yourself to be outraged. As a man of science, House undoubtedly knows that when he states as a simple matter of fact that Meher Baba’s tomb is the central vortex from which all creation springs that many folks are going to tell him that he needs to go on some very heavy meds. He makes numerous assertions of this kind, without batting an eye. He states that his love for Meher Baba and that his spiritual evolution caused him to get very sick while his earthly vessel was being reconfigured, and that at the end of it all, he came to discover it was only a milestone in a journey that led to him becoming not only God but the living vessel or conduit through which earthly events are being orchestrated even as we speak, including the destruction of the U.S. economy.

And that’s just the beginning. It gets even weirder than that.

Just as weird: out of all the authors on the planet he could have chosen to review his book, he chose me, although he knows perfectly well because we have discussed it at length that I am a devout, practicing Christian, albeit an open-minded one.

So, having read the book, do I believe Richard House is crazy? No. Do I believe he is God? No. Do I think he is a heck of a nice guy? Yes. Do I think he is incredibly genuine and warm? Yes to that as well. Do I think his book has value and is worthy of being read and considered?

Absolutely. And here is why:

Even the Christian Church knows that we have reached a point in history where many people are sick and tired of religion. They are leaving the church in droves. They want to bask in joy and love and transcendence, but every time they feel they are beginning to see and feel God, someone with a lot of dogma and a big sledgehammer of guilt comes along and beats them on the forehead.

House makes no bones about the fact that he could be called the black sheep of God's family. Much of the book describes in excruciating detail his lengthy battle with severe alcoholism that almost killed him and led him to go on a spiritual journey in seek of a new life, a new way. The book also describes his lifelong obsession, since childhood, with God, God-consciousness, the God inside all of us, and Christ-Consciousness, which he states he has achieved. (This Christ-Consciousness includes a love of Christ.)

The book is too complex to describe in 750 words, but this I can say—it is thought-provoking.

Hanging over my own writing desk is an ancient-looking, cross-like plaque with an inscription from Jeremiah 29:13. "As I seek God with my whole heart, I will surely find Him." I believe that is a true statement. Jesus emphatically urged his followers to seek God above all else, and the New Testament is full of verses that state we can become, in fact, sons and daughters of God, through Christ. Beyond these pronouncements, the world of metaphysics becomes potently mystic, and the only universe that can support such pronouncements has to be infinitely rich and complex, without borders, or limitations—much or exactly like God.

So, God has numbered Richard House among his creations, and House has avowed his complete, utter, unwavering, and—by most conventional definitions—completely strange, weird and wacky love for God.

Now, what does one say?

I see a man crouching in the dirt, writing with a stick. This man is God. He looks up and says: "Let there be no stonings today."

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