



REVIEW BY JOHN L. PETERSON

Life After Near Death

By Debra Diamond

There are a handful of perennial existential questions that dominate the introspective moments of most of us. “How does this reality work?” has got to be in the top five. In a very interesting and authoritative way, this book begins to answer that question . . . and in the process engenders large amounts of hope.

In general, we can’t answer that question because, like fish in water, we have no effective “outside” perspective with which to analyze the “water” in which we swim.

Debra Diamond circumvents that structural issue in a novel way: she gathers up a diverse group of people who have stepped outside of this reality (by having near death experiences) and catalogs the many common threads of the much bigger picture.

This novel approach yields great benefits. As you traverse this quite readable book, the different NDE narratives, like pieces of a big puzzle, begin to slowly but surely, expose a larger, vibrant and very alive image of a reality that makes our lives shrink in the face of its magnificence. Consistently baffling, there is no time and space (in the terms that we understand), *all* knowledge is potentially available, and love abounds. And death? Well, death is . . . nothing.

The experiencers lose all fear of death, often chuck their previous professions, relationships and lifestyles, acquire extraordinary new physical and mental capabilities . . . and become new humans, if you will. Their descriptions of experiencing the extraordinary outside world is a little like this Omaha boy visiting San Francisco for the first time – there was just no looking back.

Life After Near Death is the latest, significant contribution to the previous work of a small group of guides. Michael Newton in his paradigm-busting books *Journey of Souls: Case Studies of Life Between Lives* and *Destiny of Souls: Case Studies of Lives Between Lives* and Robert Monroe’s well-known *Far Journeys, Journeys Out of the Body*, and *Ultimate Journey* all draw respectively from thousands of past life hypnotic regressions and a selected group of adept “explorers” of alternate levels of consciousness

to conclusively establish (if you believe these guys), that our earthly experience is a very narrow sliver indeed of a much greater truth.

That said, what this book provides for the searcher is a clear ray of hope.

Surrounded only by what we see and hear, it would be easy to believe that what we see is the whole game. What *Life After Near Death* clearly offers is the distinct (detailed and described) possibility that all of our little problems are – really little. There is a much bigger– very benign -- game going on that has almost nothing to do with the earthly things that seem important.

The problem with all of this is that we observe that the future is very fuzzy. Sure, there are bits and pieces around purporting to describe aspects of the new world, but it takes an unusually committed person to lean forward – and ultimately jump off of the cliff -- without having some confidence that something very good and relatively concrete is waiting at the end.

That's where this book comes in. In a timely way, *Life After Near Death*, offers a very real confidence in the larger process because it exposes the fact that there is order, structure and extraordinary intelligence and love that is actively influencing and shaping this *Truman Show*-like existence that dominates our human experience.

It's easier to have faith in the process and hope for the future after reading this good book.

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