

Near-Death Newsletter

November 1, 2006

Volume 05, No. 11



The Near-Death Newsletter is a free monthly newsletter from www.near-death.com. The mission of this newsletter is to provide the latest news on the subject of near-death experiences and related phenomena and to promote IANDS (International Association for Near-Death Studies), near-death researchers, experiences, events, and multimedia resources. Although this newsletter is not affiliated with IANDS, the author of this newsletter, Kevin Williams, is a member of IANDS and is dedicated to the IANDS mission. IANDS is the premier organization for near-death research. Membership gives you access to their prestigious *Journal of Near-Death Studies* and *Vital Signs* newsletters. You can join IANDS at their website.

Download this newsletter in PDF format

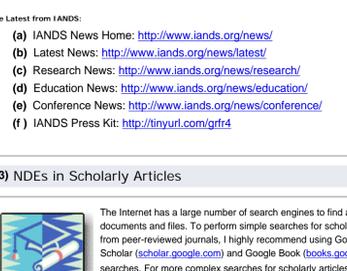
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(1) News From P.M.H. Atwater

Latest Headlines From P.M.H.



Dr. Atwater is back on tour promoting her latest book, *Beyond the Indigo Children: The New Children and the Coming of the Fifth World*. There will be a delay while she looks over her accumulated e-mail. But she will try to keep up with her work. She is available for consultations, readings, talks, workshops, or her Prayer Chaplaincy service.

Latest Headlines From P.M.H.

- Get the latest news from P.M.H. Atwater's News Blog - <http://atwaterandnews.blogspot.com/>
- "Conversations with God" and "The NDE Sourcebook" - <http://tinyurl.com/yxh2b>
- IANDS Conference Special Award - <http://tinyurl.com/y99t8f>
- Books About Child Experiences That are Written by the Child - <http://tinyurl.com/yw9ly>
- Move Past the Indigo Hype - An Important Conference on the New Kids - <http://tinyurl.com/yxv3gb>
- P.M.H. Atwater's Blogger Profile - <http://www.blogger.com/profile/256614103>
- P.M.H. Atwater's Q & A Blog - <http://nyp.net/researcher.blogspot.com/>

Book Freebies From P.M.H.

- [Beyond the Indigo Children "Extras"](#)
- ["The Challenge of September 11"](#)
- [Dr. P.M.H. Atwater: Her Contributions to the Understanding of Life and Death](#)

(2) News from IANDS

IANDS's mission is to build global understanding of near-death and near-death related experiences through research, education, and support. IANDS's goals are (1) to encourage thorough exploration of all facets of near-death and near-death related experiences; (2) to provide reliable information about near-death and near-death related experiences; and (3) to serve as a contact point and community for people with particular interest in near-death and near-death-like experiences.

- A message from the IANDS President Regarding the Recent IANDS Conference - <http://tinyurl.com/qwqk>

The Latest from IANDS:

- IANDS News Home: <http://www.iands.org/news/>
- Latest News: <http://www.iands.org/news/latest/>
- Education News: <http://www.iands.org/news/education/>
- Conference News: <http://www.iands.org/news/conference/>
- IANDS Press Kit: <http://tinyurl.com/qtrf4>

(3) NDEs in Scholarly Articles

The Internet has a large number of search engines to find a variety of documents and files. To perform simple searches for scholarly articles from peer-reviewed journals, highly recommend using Google Scholar (scholar.google.com) and Google Book (books.google.com) searches. For more complex searches for scholarly articles, I recommend using Stanford University's HighWire Press (<http://www.highwire.stanford.edu>). Many scholarly articles on the internet require that you pay a fee to read or download them. But if you want to read a lot of scholarly articles, you are going to have to spend a lot of money. Thankfully, Stanford has a HighWire Press search engine for free or inexpensive scholarly articles (<http://www.highwire.stanford.edu/lists/freeart.dll>). You can also examine lists of scholarly journals which provide free access to their articles (www.dcpnclips.org/signatories.htm).

Journal of Near-Death Studies

- Join IANDS as a Research Member and receive all the benefits of membership for free including this journal every quarter - <http://www.iands.org/joincard.html>

JOURNAL TABLE OF CONTENTS (Summer 2006 edition)

- Editor's Foreword - Bruce Greyson, MD - All articles by Bruce Greyson, MD - <http://tinyurl.com/uxoe4>
- "The Divine Light and Ecstasy in Religious and NDEs: A Retrospect and a View for the Future" - by Brian A. Bain, MA - All articles by Brian A. Bain, MA - <http://tinyurl.com/3o9sp>
- "An Anthropological Perspective on NDE-like Experiences in Three Men's Pregnancy-Related Spiritual Crises" - by Gregg Lohood, PhD, Psych., PhD. - Dr. Lohood and Holotropic Breathwork - <http://tinyurl.com/y6m46>
- Book Review: "The Uttermost Deep: The Challenge of NDEs" - by Gracia Fay Ellwood, Reviewed by Nancy Evans Bush, M.A. - Book listing on Amazon.com - <http://tinyurl.com/yx3vby>
- "Is There Life After Death? An Examination of the Empirical Evidence" - by David Lester, Reviewed by Alexander Moreira-Almeida, MD, PhD. - Book listing on Amazon.com - <http://tinyurl.com/yk497>

Journal of Near-Death Studies home page: <http://www.iands.org/journals/jnds/>

Vital Signs Newsletter -- Summer 2006 Index of Articles

- Join IANDS as a Research Member and receive all the benefits of membership for free including this newsletter every quarter - <http://www.iands.org/joincard.html>

VITAL SIGNS TABLE OF CONTENTS (Summer 2006 edition)

- IANDS - Welcome to Houston! - Ken R. Vincent, Ed.D. - All articles by Ken R. Vincent, Ed.D. - <http://tinyurl.com/y2kth>
- The President's Message: Who is IANDS? - Jan Holden, Ed.D. - All articles by Jan Holden, Ed.D. - <http://tinyurl.com/y42ws>
- Transformative Experiences - Dave Bennett - Website of Dave Bennett - <http://www.dharma-talks.com/>
- IANDS Octogenarian Hosts Raymond Moody in China - Jan Holden, Ed.D.
- Or Explorers, Pioneers, and Settlers in the Field of Near-Death Studies
- Of Action Items: The Art of NDEr Jack Bybee - <http://tinyurl.com/y74wvs>
- 2006 IANDS Conference Synchronicities - Jan Holden, Ed.D. and Debbie James - Wikipedia listing on "Synchronicity" - <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Synchronicity>

Vital Signs Newsletter home page: http://www.iands.org/vital_signs/

"Near-Death Experience, Consciousness, and the Brain: A New Concept about the Continuity of Our Consciousness Based on Recent Scientific Research on Near-Death Experience in Survivors of Cardiac Arrest" - by Pim van Lommel, MD

(January - March 2006) (World Futures: The Journal of General Evolution)
ABSTRACT: In this article first some general aspects of near-death experience will be discussed, followed by questions about consciousness and its relation to brain function. Details will be described from our prospective study on near-death experience in survivors of cardiac arrest in the Netherlands, which was published in the *Lancet* in 2001. - <http://tinyurl.com/y3c2zi>

- BIOGRAPHY: IANDS Biography of Pim van Lommel - <http://tinyurl.com/nryko>
- JOURNAL: World Futures: The Journal of General Evolution - <http://tinyurl.com/y42m7k>

"Near-Death Experiences and Spirituality" - by Bruce Greyson, MD

(June 2006) (Zygon: Journal of Religion and Science)
ABSTRACT: NDEs lead to a shift from ego-centered to other-regulated consciousness, disposition to love unconditionally, heightened empathy, decreased interest in status symbols and material possessions, reduced fear of death, and deepened spiritual consciousness... <http://tinyurl.com/n6jhu>

- JOURNAL: Zygon: Journal of Religion and Science - <http://tinyurl.com/yv55f>
- BIOGRAPHY: IANDS Biography of Bruce Greyson, MD - <http://tinyurl.com/mak46>

"Are They Hallucinations or Are They Real? The Spirituality of Deathbed and Near-Death Visions" - by L. Stafford Betty

(Spring 2006) (Omega: The Journal of Death and Dying)
ABSTRACT: The focus here is mainly on visions of deceased relatives and friends that persons near death often report. Are they visions of real people who live in an afterlife environment or are they hallucinations? Most social scientists assume they are hallucinations, but a thorough and careful analysis of the evidence does not point to this conclusion... <http://tinyurl.com/y6umg>

- JOURNAL: Omega: The Journal of Death and Dying - <http://tinyurl.com/yd2y2>
- WEBSITE: The Official Site of L. Stafford Betty - <http://www.csuabk.edu/~sbetty/>

"Do Prevailing Societal Models Influence Reports of Near-Death Experiences? A Comparison of Accounts Reported Before and After 1975." - by Geena Athappilly MD, Bruce Greyson MD, Ian Stevenson MD

(Spring 2006) (Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease)
ABSTRACT: We compared the frequency of phenomena categorized as near-death experiences in 24 accounts collected before 1975 and in 24 more recent accounts matched on relevant demographic and situational variables. Near-death experience accounts collected after 1975 differed from those collected earlier only in increased frequency of tunnel phenomena, whereas other research has suggested may not be integral to the experience, and not in any of the remaining 14 features defined by Moody as characteristic of near-death experiences. These data challenge the hypothesis that near-death experience accounts are substantially influenced by prevailing cultural models... <http://tinyurl.com/yb4f4>

- JOURNAL: Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease - <http://tinyurl.com/yb9q45>
- EBOOK: "Half A Career with the Paranormal" - An essay by Dr. Ian Stevenson as it appeared in the *Journal of Scientific Exploration*, vol. 20 (1) Spring, 2006. - <http://tinyurl.com/y54r5>
- EBOOK: "The Flora Leyra Lecture in the Humanities" - An important autobiographical lecture given by Dr. Ian Stevenson in 1989 - <http://tinyurl.com/yx3c3o>
- BOOKS: All Titles by Dr. Ian Stevenson at Amazon.com - <http://tinyurl.com/y8vho>

Film Review: "Elisabeth Kubler-Ross: Facing Death" - Reviewed by Karen Flood

(Spring 2006) (Bulletin of the History of Medicine)
ABSTRACT: How does the most famous spokesperson for the needs of the dying confront the end of her own life? This is the subject of *Elisabeth Kubler-Ross: Facing Death*. Consisting primarily of interviews with Kubler-Ross, her sisters, and her colleagues, interspersed with archival material from her life and "Bites of the Dead" by a non-fiction portrait of the author of the 1969 best-seller *On Death and Dying*. - <http://tinyurl.com/yv2n4>

- JOURNAL: Bulletin of the History of Medicine - <http://tinyurl.com/yv2n4>
- FILM: "Elisabeth Kubler-Ross: Facing Death" - <http://tinyurl.com/yh9z8>
- REFERENCE: Wikipedia listing for Elisabeth Kubler-Ross - <http://tinyurl.com/ykeouf>
- WEBSITE: The Official Site of the Late Elisabeth Kubler-Ross - <http://tinyurl.com/yx6mxf>
- WEBSITE: The Elisabeth Kubler-Ross Foundation - <http://ekfoundation.org/>
- BOOKS: All Titles by Elisabeth Kubler-Ross on Amazon.com - <http://tinyurl.com/yv2zhu>

"The National Spiritual Transformation Study" - by Tom W. Smith

(June 2006) (Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion)
ABSTRACT: The first nationally representative study of spiritual transforms among Americans that spiritual/religious change is a common and powerful experience in America. About half of all adult Americans report having had such an experience. Such change is strongly related to current religious beliefs and behaviors, but shows little relationship to most nonreligious demographics... <http://tinyurl.com/y236d>

- JOURNAL: Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion - <http://tinyurl.com/yf98e>
- WEBSITE: The Official Site of Tom W. Smith - <http://www.jssr.org/y236d>
- ARTICLE: "Moments of Truth: A New Study Finds That Half of All Americans Have Had a Spiritual Experience That Altered Their Lives" - <http://tinyurl.com/y6vwxv>
- EBOOK: "The National Spiritual Transformation Study" - <http://tinyurl.com/y9a9lm>

(4) NDEs in the News



Archive of NDEs in the News - Read all the major news articles covering the NDE and related phenomena from 1995 to current. This is a permanent archive to ensure that these news articles will always be available on the internet. The Near-Death News section of this Near-Death Newsletter will soon be available in syndicated so stay tuned!

"Shedding Light on 'Near-Death': Doctors, Nurses, Public Tackle the Phenomenon at M.D. Anderson"

(October 25, 2006) (Houston Chronicle)
Facing surgery for a tumor behind her eye, Kathi Beasley felt weak and frightened one night in 2004. Standing in her bathroom, she noticed "little shimmering lights." Suddenly, she said, something came rocketing toward her like a comet. It approached so fast, the Bellare resident expected to be "blown away" instead. It shot right through her. "I was walking, not floating. She says she was carried toward the ceiling. Don't say it's a tunnel. It was a tunnel. The gate of heaven was my brother second, and you see all colors at one time, but they're crystal clear," Jacquin says. "I can remember how sad my mom and dad were and I could tell how panicky they were and then my gaze went to my brother Bobby. And I said I have to go back to Bobby - he's going to be in a lot of trouble if I don't go back," she says. She chose to go back. - <http://tinyurl.com/ywmyt>

ONLINE VIDEO: "Shedding Light on Near-Death Phenomenon" - <http://tinyurl.com/y6276g>

"Conference Probes Near-Death Experience"

(October 25, 2006) (KTRK)
The first national conference has been held on the subjects of movies and books, the KTRK talky topic at medical conferences. That is changing. Dr. Pam Kircher is a physician who practices family medicine in Houston. She had a near death experience when she was dying of meningitis at age 36. "What I remember next is being out of my body and being wonderfully free of pain," she said. "Having a vintage point of being in the corner of the room and I was not frightened by it, though I just turned six." - <http://tinyurl.com/y3JdU>

- ONLINE VIDEO: "KTRK Show on IANDS Conference" - <http://tinyurl.com/y6j8ky>
- REFERENCE: IANDS Conference Information - <http://www.iands.org/y6j8ky>
- WEBSITE: The Official Site of Pam Kircher - <http://www.pamkircher.com/>
- BOOKS: "Love is the Link: A Hospice Doctor Shares Her Experience of Near Death and Dying" - <http://tinyurl.com/y6k89g>

"Researchers, Medical Workers Debate Near-Death Experiences"

(November 7, 2006) (KLTU)
Cologist Dr. Jeffrey Long says 98.9 percent made him believe. "Is what they saw reasonable? Does it look like hell? And the answer is that's not true. This is a permanent archive to ensure that these news articles will always be available on the internet. The Near-Death News section of this Near-Death Newsletter will soon be available in syndicated so stay tuned!"

- ONLINE VIDEO: "Back From The Dead: Woman Says She Visited Heaven's Doorstep" - <http://tinyurl.com/yf32e>
- WEBSITE: Near-Death Experience Research Foundation - <http://www.nderf.org/>

"Delving Into Near Death Experiences: Questions Are A Plenty As Researchers Attempt To Understand Phenomenon"

(October 25, 2006) (CBS 11)
Corday says two life-changing questions were asked of her: "What did you learn?" and "How did you learn to love and forgiveness was a very big part of the love component." "NDEs have a lot to tell us about the nature of consciousness and the experiences have a lot to tell us about what they are convinced is the nature and purpose of life," Lani Holden says. Corday says she received a message that everything she was to do others from that moment forward she would experience. "I always have a feeling I'm never supposed to do harm to others," Holden says. Research has shown that many people report the same feeling. "They review and re-experience every moment of their lives and experience actually being on the receiving end of their own actions," she explains. - <http://tinyurl.com/yd2e4>

- ONLINE VIDEO: "North Texas Scholar Studies NDEs" - <http://tinyurl.com/y6y2ds>
- WEBSITE: IANDS Biography of Jan Holden, EdD - <http://tinyurl.com/yfvmv>

"Death: A Last Spark Before the Gasp? Can Science Explain Near-Death Experiences?"

(October 28, 2006) (The Australian Times)
Peter Fenwick recently found himself at the centre of a lively spat when delegates to Britain's premier science forum objected to his views on death and the afterlife. "Why were those people - his peers in the science community - so vituperative? 'Fear,' he says. 'Fear that magic would come back into science, and an inability to tolerate ambiguity.' ... Fenwick has been badgering his colleagues for years to let him rig up cameras and monitors around the beds of cardiac patients to observe what might happen in the few crucial minutes between arrest and resuscitation... "If when all brain functions are down, the patient is able to receive information, then it follows that the mind can act independently of the brain," Fenwick says. "We must be able to demonstrate this objectively if we are to move forward; it's vital for neurological science and our understanding of human consciousness." - <http://tinyurl.com/yvcoz>

- BIOGRAPHY: IANDS Biography of Dr. Peter Fenwick - <http://tinyurl.com/ybtdzm>
- ARTICLE: "Science and Spirituality: A Challenge for the 21st Century" - <http://tinyurl.com/yv3u8n>
- BOOKS: All Titles by Peter Fenwick at Amazon.com - <http://tinyurl.com/y3k49b>

"Southeast Kansas Center Explores Near-Death Experiences"

(October 4, 2006) (The Grid Press)
The people who have undergone a NDE, Hoyer said, loved that they had become more spiritual and less religious, more generous and charitable, convinced that they have a purpose in life, less stressed, have an increased hunger for knowledge and learning and are more creative and inventive. Hoyer believes that most anxiety people face is rooted in the fear of death. "If you fear, you can live the life you want to live. I can't say that," he said. "If you can get over your fears, you can live the life you want to live." Many people who have had an NDE may not just believe in God, they know that God exists. - <http://tinyurl.com/yvqpm>

- WEBSITE: Free Spirit Center - <http://www.freespiritcenter.org/>
- ARTICLE: Dr. Stephen Hoyer's Faculty page - <http://tinyurl.com/y4ywu4>
- BOOK: "Firewreath: The Story of a Life, a Near-Death, and Beyond" - by Dr. Stephen Hoyer - <http://tinyurl.com/yfvmn5>

"Near-Death Experiences As Children Change Lives"

(November 8, 2006) (KLTU)
Linda Jacquin recalls the night from above her wife. "I saw blond hair floating on water, which was my mother's hair. I was perfectly happy where I was. I felt safe, I felt loved, and I didn't want to go back in my body - but in the place where I was." Linda spent moments, she says, with her grandmother. Also with Jesus amid colors she says were more beautiful than any rainbow. "The hospital staff would say that I was in a tunnel there. She wasn't walking, not floating. She says she was carried toward the ceiling. Don't say it's a tunnel. It was a tunnel. The gate of heaven was my brother second, and you see all colors at one time, but they're crystal clear," Jacquin says. "I can remember how sad my mom and dad were and I could tell how panicky they were and then my gaze went to my brother Bobby. And I said I have to go back to Bobby - he's going to be in a lot of trouble if I don't go back," she says. She chose to go back. - <http://tinyurl.com/y8589>

ONLINE VIDEO: "Near-Death Experiences As Children Change Lives" - <http://tinyurl.com/y8589>

"The Near-Death Experience: Mysticism or Madness?"

(October 2006) (Mind Body Spirit Magazine)
If brain tissue has been assumed to die when deprived of oxygen for more than 8 minutes, how can we account for the revival of persons 30 or more minutes after their clinical death, exhibiting all the attributes of consciousness that they possessed before? This is a permanent archive to ensure that these news articles will always be available on the internet. The Near-Death News section of this Near-Death Newsletter will soon be available in syndicated so stay tuned!"

- WEBSITE: The current Board of Directors of IANDS - <http://iands.org/board.html>
- MAGAZINE: Mind Body Spirit Magazine - <http://www.sakworld.com/>

"Back From The Dead: Woman Says She Visited Heaven's Doorstep"

(November 6, 2006) (KLTU)
Her heart stopped. Richter says that was where the journey began. "I went up. It was very, very dark. There were no stars. And I don't know if there was a world, that I cannot tell you. But I did see things that I would never see in this world. I saw a hand; it looked like an angel. She says she was carried toward the ceiling. Don't say it's a tunnel. It was a tunnel. The gate of heaven was my brother second, and you see all colors at one time, but they're crystal clear," Jacquin says. "I can remember how sad my mom and dad were and I could tell how panicky they were and then my gaze went to my brother Bobby. And I said I have to go back to Bobby - he's going to be in a lot of trouble if I don't go back," she says. She chose to go back. - <http://tinyurl.com/y53ce>

ONLINE VIDEO: "Back From The Dead" - <http://tinyurl.com/yf32e>

"Couple Say Near-Death Experiences Give Hope After This Life"

(November 13, 2006) (KLTU)
"It is the most wonderful, most peaceful place, there's no way to describe it. You don't talk with your lips. Whatever you think, God communicates with you. You know you're talking to God," Darlene explains. She says medical help arrived just in time, and she was brought back. "If you wonder if it's such a peaceful feeling that I can't tell you how wonderful it was." And the urge to stay in that heavenly place was overwhelming. "If I ever do that again, don't bring me back," says Darlene. - <http://tinyurl.com/y23u3>

ONLINE VIDEO: "Couple Say NDEs Give Hope After This Life" - <http://tinyurl.com/yd252>

"From the Brink of Death, a Mission is Born"

(October 28, 2006) (The Gainesville Times)
In 1992, Matthew Bostford had the shock of his life. "I just felt a hot pain in the back of my head and I was in a black cell," he Bostford said. "It was void of all things good and went forever in all directions. Then I saw a finger coming toward me and then a hand; it looked like an angel. She says she was carried toward the ceiling. Don't say it's a tunnel. It was a tunnel. The gate of heaven was my brother second, and you see all colors at one time, but they're crystal clear," Jacquin says. "I can remember how sad my mom and dad were and I could tell how panicky they were and then my gaze went to my brother Bobby. And I said I have to go back to Bobby - he's going to be in a lot of trouble if I don't go back," she says. She chose to go back. - <http://tinyurl.com/yf72g>

- WEBSITE: "The Seeds of Love" website - <http://tinyurl.com/y6vne/>
- ARTICLE: "Matthew Bostford: To Hell and Back" - <http://tinyurl.com/y5r34>
- BOOK: "Johnny Rocket and His Confessions in Faith" - <http://tinyurl.com/y2k3ky>

"Dead Man Lives at Heaven's Gate"

(October 2006) (CBN.org)
Don Piper found himself standing in front of a divine portal, surrounded by familiar faces. Don Piper recovering in the hospital "I did not see a single person that I did not know," he says. "They were relatives, they were friends that died in high school, they were teachers - they were people I had seen and known all my life who died to go to glory. They were smiling; they were embracing me; they were welcoming me; they were in the process of taking me through the gate of heaven." The angelic material from his friends and "Bites of the Dead" by a non-fiction portrait of the person of the existing belief system, who have confirmed atheists come back after their NDE convinced there is a God? And why have religious believers returned from their NDE with unorthodox changes to their prior dogmas? - <http://tinyurl.com/y7umb>

- WEBSITE: The current Board of Directors of IANDS - <http://iands.org/board.html>
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