



Mystical Experiences of the Dying and Bereaved

An Interfaith, Multi-Cultural Perspective

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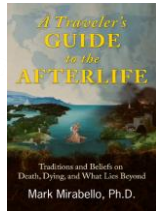
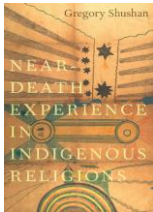
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1

Experiences Just Inside the Threshold are Culturally Subjective



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The Abrahamic Trilogy is Full of These Experiences

Talking to angels and animals

NDEs (nearing death experiences) and OBEs (out-of-body experiences)

- Receiving divine guidance
- Talking to the dead

The experience of interacting with "spirits" is believed to mark the first human steps toward the development of religion



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6

The term "nearing death awareness" refers to an intuitive awareness that another world awaits, prompted by visions, dreams and other extraordinary experiences. *The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5)* has other ideas...

NDE	DSM
A sense of separation from the physical body	Depersonalization disorder; a sense of split self, with one part observing and other participating

American Psychiatric Association 2013, p. 303

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10

NDE	DSM
Enhanced cognitive abilities; intensification of feelings	Delusions of grandiosity because the experience speaks of an important discovery or great insight

American Psychiatric Association 2013, p. 90

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11

NDE	DSM
A cosmic encounter with Light, God, or other manifestations of great ontological significance A recall of past lives or possible future events	Bizarre delusions, defined as "clearly implausible and not understandable to same-culture peers, and do not derive from ordinary life experiences"

American Psychiatric Association 2013, p. 90

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12

The Pioneers (1970s)

Dr. Melvin Morse (*Closer to the Light*)
Study of children's NDEs

Dr. Raymond Moody (*Life After Life*)
Raymond coined the term "near death experience"

NOTE: During the last 20 years of **Elisabeth Kübler-Ross'** life, she worked exclusively with dying children. She found that many of the children had premonitions about their deaths and were at peace with dying.



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16

Jim Tucker, MD Bruce Greyson, MD

University of Virginia
Division of Perceptual Studies



Children Who Report Memories of Previous Lives

Getting Comfortable with Near-Death Experiences



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17

Pim Van Lommel, MD

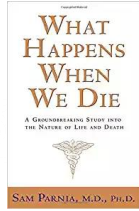
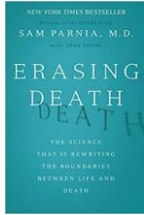


Of the 62 patients reporting an NDE, all of them experienced some of the following ten characteristics:

- Awareness of being dead (50%)
- Positive emotions (56%)
- Out of body experience (24%)
- Moving through a tunnel (31%)
- Communication with light (23%)
- Observation of colors (23%)
- A celestial landscape (29%)
- Meeting deceased persons (32%)
- Life review (13%)
- Presence of border (8%)

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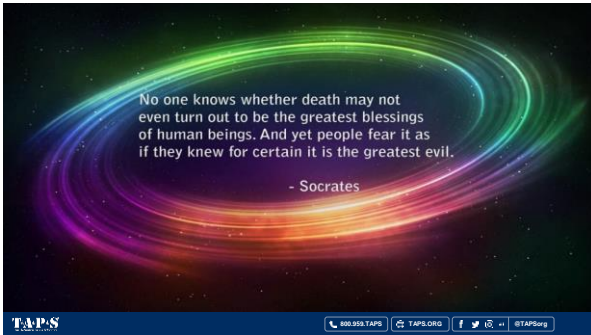
18



The **AWARE study** (Awareness during Resuscitation)



22



23

Questions?



24

Contact Information



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25



Please note: The information provided on this program is intended for educational purposes only.

If you or a loved one needs professional support, please contact TAPS 24/7 at 800-959-TAPS (8277).



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26

About the TAPS Institute for Hope and Healing®

Launched in March 2018 through an alliance with HFA, the TAPS Institute for Hope and Healing® serves as a resource and training center, providing programs for both professionals working in the field of grief and loss and the public.



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27

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Upcoming TAPS Institute Programs

July 1 **A Conversation on Loss & Resilience in a Life of Adventure**

Live Webinar, Noon-1:00 p.m. ET

Vern Tejas, Mountain Climbing Expert

Will Gadd, Ice Climbing Expert

With **Gabriel Rao**, TAPS Men's Program Manager
and **Rachel Hunsell**, TAPS Programs Manager for Outdoor
Engagement

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28

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29

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30
