

1  
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:04,169  
our character trying to interpret what

2  
00:00:01,679 --> 00:00:05,370  
you're hearing so there's not much of

3  
00:00:04,169 --> 00:00:08,609  
this research done here there's a lot

4  
00:00:05,370 --> 00:00:12,929  
done in Europe still though and then we

5  
00:00:08,609 --> 00:00:16,138  
have decoding of encrypted messages back

6  
00:00:12,929 --> 00:00:18,289  
in the late 1800s some of the founders

7  
00:00:16,138 --> 00:00:21,750  
of the Society for psychical research

8  
00:00:18,289 --> 00:00:25,590  
decided to plan evidence for survival so

9  
00:00:21,750 --> 00:00:27,000  
they would leave encrypted messages with

10  
00:00:25,589 --> 00:00:30,300  
the idea that after they died

11  
00:00:27,000 --> 00:00:34,350  
they would communicate postmortem the

12  
00:00:30,300 --> 00:00:36,989  
key to decipher the message now back in

13  
00:00:34,350 --> 00:00:38,460  
the 1800s that would have been hard to

14  
00:00:36,988 --> 00:00:41,128  
do you that we've been hard to decipher

15  
00:00:38,460 --> 00:00:45,780  
messages without knowing the key now

16  
00:00:41,128 --> 00:00:47,399  
it's very simple with the computer so

17  
00:00:45,780 --> 00:00:50,820  
Ian Stevenson developed a modification

18  
00:00:47,399 --> 00:00:54,448  
of this and we have combination padlocks

19  
00:00:50,820 --> 00:00:55,710  
that you can set the combination to now

20  
00:00:54,448 --> 00:00:58,079  
the idea is that you would set the

21  
00:00:55,710 --> 00:01:00,509  
combination to your lock and then

22  
00:00:58,079 --> 00:01:02,730  
memorize a mnemonic device a phrase or a

23  
00:01:00,509 --> 00:01:04,500  
word that can be translated into a

24  
00:01:02,729 --> 00:01:07,859  
series of numbers that will open the

25  
00:01:04,500 --> 00:01:11,040  
lock you never write down the

26  
00:01:07,859 --> 00:01:12,840  
combination or the mnemonic so the key

27  
00:01:11,040 --> 00:01:16,560  
to open the lock exists only in your

28  
00:01:12,840 --> 00:01:20,850  
mind and nowhere else and then after you

29

00:01:16,560 --> 00:01:23,450  
die you will communicate the key we have

30  
00:01:20,849 --> 00:01:25,559  
some two dozen locks in our office and

31  
00:01:23,450 --> 00:01:27,390  
none of them four none of them have we

32  
00:01:25,560 --> 00:01:32,490  
gotten the combination committed to

33  
00:01:27,390 --> 00:01:34,019  
transmitted to what you to us yet the

34  
00:01:32,489 --> 00:01:35,929  
third hypothesis I mentioned was that

35  
00:01:34,019 --> 00:01:38,149  
oops

36  
00:01:35,930 --> 00:01:41,189  
was that the mind can function

37  
00:01:38,150 --> 00:01:44,909  
independent of the brain now this is not

38  
00:01:41,188 --> 00:01:47,039  
a sufficient condition for survival but

39  
00:01:44,909 --> 00:01:49,020  
it is a necessary condition for survival

40  
00:01:47,040 --> 00:01:50,759  
if you don't have mind functioning

41  
00:01:49,019 --> 00:01:53,219  
without brain then you don't have

42  
00:01:50,759 --> 00:01:57,329  
survival because the brain most likely

43  
00:01:53,219 --> 00:02:01,158

does die we have lots of evidence for

44

00:01:57,328 --> 00:02:01,158  
this in fact

45

00:02:03,109 --> 00:02:06,900  
several of my colleagues recently

46

00:02:05,040 --> 00:02:09,750  
published this book irreducible mind

47

00:02:06,900 --> 00:02:13,760  
with 800 pages of very densely packed

48

00:02:09,750 --> 00:02:16,889  
evidence mostly from medical journals of

49

00:02:13,759 --> 00:02:21,359  
mine functioning without the brain or

50

00:02:16,889 --> 00:02:25,709  
independent of the brain I won't read it

51

00:02:21,360 --> 00:02:28,010  
to you now I will mention some more

52

00:02:25,710 --> 00:02:30,510  
dramatic lines of evidence

53

00:02:28,009 --> 00:02:32,280  
first is deathbed recovery of lost

54

00:02:30,509 --> 00:02:35,789  
mental function this happens typically

55

00:02:32,280 --> 00:02:37,590  
in people who have dementia who've been

56

00:02:35,789 --> 00:02:39,569  
unable to recognize people for decades

57

00:02:37,590 --> 00:02:42,360  
people with chronic schizophrenia who

58  
00:02:39,569 --> 00:02:44,669  
have been psychotic for decades and then

59  
00:02:42,360 --> 00:02:47,340  
on their death beds they suddenly become

60  
00:02:44,669 --> 00:02:50,669  
rational lucid remember family members

61  
00:02:47,340 --> 00:02:53,849  
speak coherently now this is extremely

62  
00:02:50,669 --> 00:02:57,719  
rare most people with dementia do not

63  
00:02:53,849 --> 00:02:58,430  
recover before death but that it happens

64  
00:02:57,719 --> 00:03:00,930  
at all

65  
00:02:58,430 --> 00:03:07,530  
is something material science cannot

66  
00:03:00,930 --> 00:03:09,959  
explain how often does it happen we

67  
00:03:07,530 --> 00:03:12,390  
don't know if you talk to hospice

68  
00:03:09,959 --> 00:03:14,879  
workers they will say oh yeah I've got

69  
00:03:12,389 --> 00:03:16,199  
lots of examples of that but there's

70  
00:03:14,879 --> 00:03:17,430  
almost nothing written in the medical

71  
00:03:16,199 --> 00:03:20,329  
literature about it nevertheless we

72  
00:03:17,430 --> 00:03:23,159  
found 79 cases in the medical literature

73  
00:03:20,330 --> 00:03:25,560  
of people with severe dementia or

74  
00:03:23,159 --> 00:03:27,209  
chronic psychosis who in the hours

75  
00:03:25,560 --> 00:03:32,120  
before death or sometimes in the days

76  
00:03:27,209 --> 00:03:32,120  
before death suddenly became lucid again

77  
00:03:32,389 --> 00:03:37,159  
then we had people with normal

78  
00:03:34,620 --> 00:03:39,330  
intelligence with minimal brain tissue

79  
00:03:37,159 --> 00:03:42,959  
this is for to our attention by a

80  
00:03:39,330 --> 00:03:45,830  
British neurologist John Lorber who was

81  
00:03:42,959 --> 00:03:48,810  
specializing in severe hydrocephalus

82  
00:03:45,830 --> 00:03:50,040  
usually children who have the cerebral

83  
00:03:48,810 --> 00:03:52,229  
ventricles which are filled with fluid

84  
00:03:50,039 --> 00:03:54,509  
tremendously swollen so that presses on

85  
00:03:52,229 --> 00:03:57,209  
the brain in some of these cases you

86

00:03:54,509 --> 00:03:59,849  
have just a tiny couple of millimeters

87  
00:03:57,209 --> 00:04:03,539  
of cerebral cortex around the outside of

88  
00:03:59,849 --> 00:04:05,039  
the ventricles some of these are so

89  
00:04:03,539 --> 00:04:06,870  
severe it's hard to imagine the child

90  
00:04:05,039 --> 00:04:09,449  
even living that along having a normal

91  
00:04:06,870 --> 00:04:12,000  
intelligence and in fact most of them do

92  
00:04:09,449 --> 00:04:13,199  
not have normal intelligence but some do

93  
00:04:12,000 --> 00:04:17,040  
in fact some have

94  
00:04:13,199 --> 00:04:18,629  
hi intelligence one of Laura's

95  
00:04:17,040 --> 00:04:20,970  
colleagues at the University of

96  
00:04:18,629 --> 00:04:24,540  
Cambridge where he worked was a math

97  
00:04:20,970 --> 00:04:26,970  
professor and said to Laura one day I've

98  
00:04:24,540 --> 00:04:28,410  
got a grad student whose head is so big

99  
00:04:26,970 --> 00:04:30,200  
looks like one of your side ghost Valley

100  
00:04:28,410 --> 00:04:33,930

kids would you take a look at him

101

00:04:30,199 --> 00:04:36,539

so Laura did on the left is a normal

102

00:04:33,930 --> 00:04:38,699

brain scan the stippled area is cortex

103

00:04:36,540 --> 00:04:42,000

and the dark area in the middle is the

104

00:04:38,699 --> 00:04:44,459

vegetables full of fluid on the right

105

00:04:42,000 --> 00:04:48,660

there's 26 year old grad student in math

106

00:04:44,459 --> 00:04:54,239

at Cambridge with virtually no cerebral

107

00:04:48,660 --> 00:05:03,600

cortex but functioning as a grad student

108

00:04:54,240 --> 00:05:06,290

at Cambridge who else we got we have

109

00:05:03,600 --> 00:05:08,280

evidence from near-death experiences a

110

00:05:06,290 --> 00:05:12,510

variety of things about near-death

111

00:05:08,279 --> 00:05:14,369

experiences that relate to survival of

112

00:05:12,509 --> 00:05:17,009

death first

113

00:05:14,370 --> 00:05:19,918

almost all near-death experiences report

114

00:05:17,009 --> 00:05:22,469

that their thinking processes during the

115  
00:05:19,918 --> 00:05:25,049  
NDE was faster and clearer than it ever

116  
00:05:22,470 --> 00:05:28,229  
has been before at a time when their

117  
00:05:25,050 --> 00:05:29,430  
brains were impaired and in some of

118  
00:05:28,228 --> 00:05:30,959  
these cases we have very good

119  
00:05:29,430 --> 00:05:32,250  
documentation of their brains being a

120  
00:05:30,959 --> 00:05:34,379  
parrot for example a cardiac arrest

121  
00:05:32,250 --> 00:05:38,610  
where there was no blood going to the

122  
00:05:34,379 --> 00:05:40,918  
brain and yet these people say my

123  
00:05:38,610 --> 00:05:44,520  
thinking was better than ever almost as

124  
00:05:40,918 --> 00:05:50,069  
if as they say my mind was free of the

125  
00:05:44,519 --> 00:05:52,409  
limitations of the physical brain one

126  
00:05:50,069 --> 00:05:56,009  
fellow that I interviewed was a guy who

127  
00:05:52,410 --> 00:05:59,010  
had overdosed on medications in a

128  
00:05:56,009 --> 00:06:02,310  
suicide attempt and then started

129  
00:05:59,009 --> 00:06:05,788  
hallucinating and he was seeing little

130  
00:06:02,310 --> 00:06:07,199  
humanoid figures around him and then he

131  
00:06:05,788 --> 00:06:09,959  
had started having second thoughts about

132  
00:06:07,199 --> 00:06:11,310  
the suicide attempt so he tried to make

133  
00:06:09,959 --> 00:06:14,310  
it from his bed where he was to a

134  
00:06:11,310 --> 00:06:15,750  
telephone and he was having very hard

135  
00:06:14,310 --> 00:06:18,509  
time because these humanoid figures were

136  
00:06:15,750 --> 00:06:22,389  
stopping we're getting in his way and at

137  
00:06:18,509 --> 00:06:24,579  
that point he drew out of his body

138  
00:06:22,389 --> 00:06:27,069  
and for a position about ten feet behind

139  
00:06:24,579 --> 00:06:30,279  
his body his thinking suddenly became

140  
00:06:27,069 --> 00:06:32,680  
crystal clear and he looked at his body

141  
00:06:30,279 --> 00:06:35,679  
and his body was looking around confused

142  
00:06:32,680 --> 00:06:38,250  
li and from where he was ten feet behind

143

00:06:35,680 --> 00:06:40,569  
he could not see these humanoid figures

144  
00:06:38,250 --> 00:06:43,839  
but he remembered being in the body

145  
00:06:40,569 --> 00:06:46,420  
hallucinating so here we have a brain

146  
00:06:43,839 --> 00:06:48,729  
that's still hallucinating while the

147  
00:06:46,420 --> 00:06:53,560  
subject the person out of the body is

148  
00:06:48,730 --> 00:06:58,140  
not hallucinating so how does medical

149  
00:06:53,560 --> 00:07:00,339  
science make sense of that we also have

150  
00:06:58,139 --> 00:07:05,019  
accurate perceptions from an out-of-body

151  
00:07:00,339 --> 00:07:09,000  
perspective we have lots of examples of

152  
00:07:05,019 --> 00:07:11,229  
this lots of quote anecdotes about this

153  
00:07:09,000 --> 00:07:13,269  
one of my favorites is a fellow that I

154  
00:07:11,230 --> 00:07:16,180  
knew in Connecticut named Al Sullivan

155  
00:07:13,269 --> 00:07:19,439  
who was a truck driver and during

156  
00:07:16,180 --> 00:07:22,569  
open-heart surgery he left his body and

157  
00:07:19,439 --> 00:07:23,860

as he described it he saw the search and

158

00:07:22,569 --> 00:07:28,029

flapping his wings as if he was trying

159

00:07:23,860 --> 00:07:29,470

to fly I've been in medicine for four

160

00:07:28,029 --> 00:07:32,589

decades I've never seen a surgeon do

161

00:07:29,470 --> 00:07:38,470

this but I'll describe the to me he said

162

00:07:32,589 --> 00:07:39,429

yep he's born like this I said with

163

00:07:38,470 --> 00:07:43,210

these you're asking about it you say

164

00:07:39,430 --> 00:07:43,600

yeah after the surgery I asked the

165

00:07:43,209 --> 00:07:46,629

surgeon

166

00:07:43,600 --> 00:07:48,430

why were you doing that and he said the

167

00:07:46,629 --> 00:07:52,360

surgeon got very red faceless said who

168

00:07:48,430 --> 00:07:56,400

told you about that and I said nobody

169

00:07:52,360 --> 00:07:59,170

told me I saw it when you killed me I

170

00:07:56,399 --> 00:08:02,169

would do with left my body and I watched

171

00:07:59,170 --> 00:08:03,790

it and the surgeon got very angry and

172  
00:08:02,170 --> 00:08:05,800  
said well you're here now aren't you

173  
00:08:03,790 --> 00:08:08,700  
message I must done some right and that

174  
00:08:05,800 --> 00:08:08,699  
was into the conversation

175  
00:08:09,100 --> 00:08:12,520  
by the time al told me this as it was

176  
00:08:11,319 --> 00:08:14,050  
several years later so I think it was

177  
00:08:12,519 --> 00:08:17,639  
safe for me to talk at searching so I

178  
00:08:14,050 --> 00:08:20,770  
did and I asked him about this and he

179  
00:08:17,639 --> 00:08:23,949  
said that he had developed this habit of

180  
00:08:20,769 --> 00:08:26,919  
letting his residents start the surgery

181  
00:08:23,949 --> 00:08:29,349  
and then he would go in after they got

182  
00:08:26,920 --> 00:08:31,810  
started and he had scrubbed his hands

183  
00:08:29,350 --> 00:08:32,889  
they were gallant and gloved and he

184  
00:08:31,810 --> 00:08:34,929  
wasn't going to operate he's going to

185  
00:08:32,889 --> 00:08:36,250  
watch them for a while we wanted to make

186  
00:08:34,929 --> 00:08:39,098  
sure he didn't touch anything that was a

187  
00:08:36,250 --> 00:08:40,149  
sterile and contaminated his hands so he

188  
00:08:39,099 --> 00:08:41,910  
put the boy he knew it they wouldn't

189  
00:08:40,149 --> 00:08:45,459  
touch anything

190  
00:08:41,909 --> 00:08:49,329  
and maybe supervise them no floor over

191  
00:08:45,460 --> 00:08:52,629  
there oval bar no cover there we go I've

192  
00:08:49,330 --> 00:08:55,210  
never seen anybody else do this this

193  
00:08:52,629 --> 00:08:57,389  
doesn't happen on house or er I don't

194  
00:08:55,210 --> 00:09:02,259  
think I would have seen it

195  
00:08:57,389 --> 00:09:05,470  
so are these just anecdotes Jan Holden

196  
00:09:02,259 --> 00:09:07,480  
has looked at the literature of vertical

197  
00:09:05,470 --> 00:09:10,480  
perception in near-death experiences and

198  
00:09:07,480 --> 00:09:16,029  
she found 107 cases in the published

199  
00:09:10,480 --> 00:09:18,940  
literature of those there were 98 that

200

00:09:16,029 --> 00:09:22,029  
were completely accurate there were only

201  
00:09:18,940 --> 00:09:24,640  
eight that had any inaccuracy at all in

202  
00:09:22,029 --> 00:09:28,089  
them all of those ninety-eight that were

203  
00:09:24,639 --> 00:09:34,449  
completely accurate 41 where corroborate

204  
00:09:28,090 --> 00:09:37,360  
is being accurate by a third party now

205  
00:09:34,450 --> 00:09:40,330  
in spite of all these quote anecdotes we

206  
00:09:37,360 --> 00:09:43,000  
don't have any experimental verification

207  
00:09:40,330 --> 00:09:45,400  
of this control studies there happened a

208  
00:09:43,000 --> 00:09:49,330  
few people who try to plant targets

209  
00:09:45,399 --> 00:09:51,279  
where patients might have NDEs now the

210  
00:09:49,330 --> 00:09:52,300  
skeptics like to say with all the

211  
00:09:51,279 --> 00:09:54,370  
control studies you've done you've never

212  
00:09:52,299 --> 00:09:56,439  
had a single person out of their body

213  
00:09:54,370 --> 00:09:58,450  
seeing something accurately well all

214  
00:09:56,440 --> 00:10:01,710

these studies we've done have looked at

215

00:09:58,450 --> 00:10:01,710

a total of 12 people so far