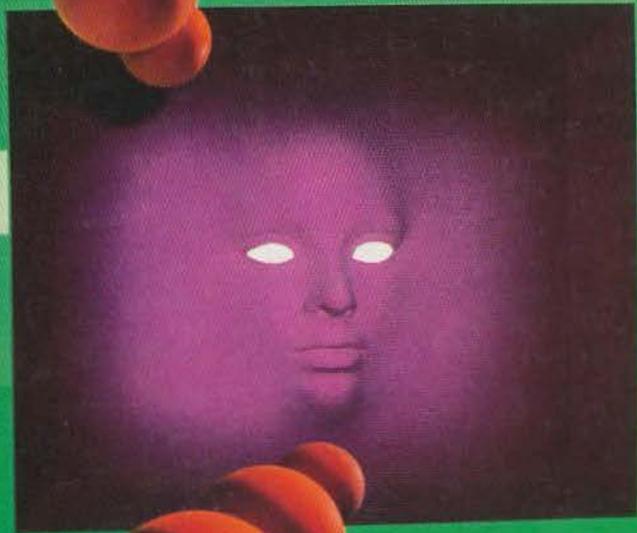


# Omni

MARCH 1984 \$2.50



**HUMAN HIBERNATION:  
CURE FOR AGING AND OBESITY?**

**KILLER ROBOT**

**INTELLIGENT CELLS**

**PLUS: FRANK HERBERT'S  
NEW DUNE NOVEL**



◌At first I thought  
these people had it together,  
but then I realized  
they really believed this junk.◌

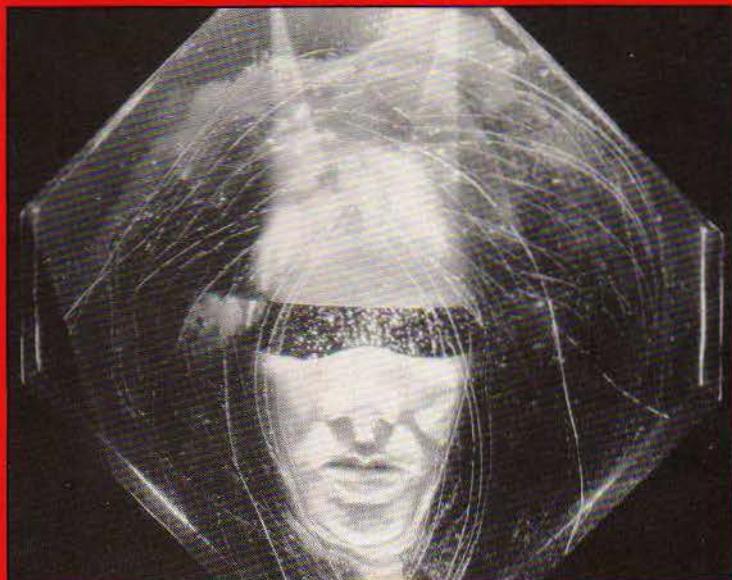
## ANTI MATTER

She fell into a deep sleep and woke seconds later in a glowing "organic" chamber on the planet Ancore. Her host, a ten-foot-tall creature named Aranon, took her to a small, egg-shaped spacecraft, and in just seconds they arrived at Colony Five, a planet for displaced Earthlings. Their next stop was a rocky world with oaklike palm trees and menacing cavemen. Fortunately, Aranon uttered a secret word, stopping the savages in their tracks. Then the travelers reentered their spacecraft, arriving at Ancore in a matter of seconds.

That, at least, was the story told by Christy Dennis, thirty-seven, a housewife from Phoenix. While meditating at home after breaking her hip in a traffic accident, she says, she momentarily lost consciousness, waking up in another world. Though she blacked out for only a minute on Earth, she claimed she spent 14 days in space. By the time she returned, her hip had healed so well that she could walk across the room. Afterward, she wrote a book about her experiences, sketched the aliens, and drew schematics of the spacecraft and its power drive.

The Dennis story caught the attention of Leo Sprinkle, a counselor at the University of Wyoming and a leading finder of supposedly repressed UFO abduction experiences. Sprinkle accepted Dennis's story and recruited her help in a 1981 conference for abductees.

Participating in the conference, Dennis soon met Dan and Eileen Edwards, of UFO Contact Center International, a support group for UFO contactees. "It seemed like a



good avenue for me to investigate," says Dennis, who decided to visit the center. "At first I thought these people really had it together. But slowly I began to realize that this was screwy. They really believed all this junk, despite a great deal of missing or twisted information."

After Dennis got back from her second week-long session with the Edwardses, in fact, she rocked the nation's UFO establishment by admitting that her dramatic "UFO abduction" was a hoax. "I am not a contactee," she told the UFO world in an open letter.

"I never had an extraterrestrial experience. The stories I have told and the book I have written are nothing more than fair science fiction." She concluded her letter with a warning to UFO investigators: "Take a good look at what you are willing to believe. If I could get your attention, how many other frauds have been able to do the same?"

Now, however, Dennis is repudiating her earlier repudiation. She admits she was never abducted by aliens but insists her story was not a hoax. "I was just barking up the wrong tree," she says. "I was meditating and I simply experienced a space-time continuum shift. When we encounter something alien to our symbolic reference patterns, we have to make up the words to explain it."

Though Dennis can't validate her story, she claims the experience has had some tangible results. "My I.Q. went from 110 to 165," she explains, "and I developed a sensitivity to earthquakes, as well as a deep knowledge of nuclear physics."—ROBERT SHEAFFER

## UFO UPDATE