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00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:03,000

Wondrous Wizards.

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00:00:03,000 --> 00:00:10,000

Merlin is the authority really, the advisor behind the throne.

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00:00:10,000 --> 00:00:13,000

Mysterious sorcerers.

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00:00:13,000 --> 00:00:19,000

Their job was really to communicate with the sacred in order to bring about change here on Earth.

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00:00:19,000 --> 00:00:23,000

And heavenly beings possessed of unimaginable power.

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00:00:23,000 --> 00:00:30,000

So what had begun as a battle of magic becomes a horrific bloodbath.

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00:00:30,000 --> 00:00:38,000

Throughout the ancient world, magic was used for everything from healing to communicating with the gods.

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00:00:38,000 --> 00:00:42,000

But did real magic really exist?

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

And if so, could it have come from another worldly source?

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00:00:48,000 --> 00:00:57,000

Certain human beings seem to have somehow mastered the power of the universe to an extent that even we don't understand.

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00:00:57,000 --> 00:01:03,000

The ancients believed that they learned magic from their gods.

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00:01:03,000 --> 00:01:08,000

And these extraterrestrial gods had taught them these powers.

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00:01:08,000 --> 00:01:16,000

Millions of people around the world believe we have been visited in the past by extraterrestrial

beings.

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00:01:16,000 --> 00:01:19,000

What if it were true?

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00:01:19,000 --> 00:01:24,000

Did ancient aliens really help to shape our history?

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00:01:24,000 --> 00:01:30,000

And will we find proof by exploring the magic of the gods?

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00:01:46,000 --> 00:02:06,080

The

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00:02:16,000 --> 00:02:19,000

in an instant.

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00:02:19,000 --> 00:02:22,000

Everyone, join hands.

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00:02:22,000 --> 00:02:25,000

All right.

21

00:02:25,000 --> 00:02:28,000

There's 40 people around the Hummer.

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00:02:28,000 --> 00:02:31,000

Watch this. Do it.

23

00:02:31,000 --> 00:02:33,000

Now!

24

00:02:33,000 --> 00:02:35,000

Ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha.

25

00:02:35,000 --> 00:02:38,000

The continued popularity of illusions like these

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00:02:38,000 --> 00:02:41,000

is a huge part of the story.

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00:02:41,000 --> 00:02:43,000

Ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha.

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00:02:43,000 --> 00:02:46,000

The continued popularity of illusions like these

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00:02:46,000 --> 00:02:51,000

speaks to a worldwide fascination with magic

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00:02:51,000 --> 00:02:55,000

that can be traced back thousands of years.

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00:02:55,000 --> 00:03:00,000

We long for some kind of connection to the supernatural,

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00:03:00,000 --> 00:03:03,000

and we can have it for a couple of hours

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00:03:03,000 --> 00:03:07,000

on the price of a ticket by attending a magic show.

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00:03:07,000 --> 00:03:11,000

When we go to the theater and see a stage magician,

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00:03:11,000 --> 00:03:15,000

we know supernatural events are not happening before our eyes,

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00:03:15,000 --> 00:03:18,000

no matter how much it seems like they are.

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00:03:18,000 --> 00:03:23,000

We sometimes think of the people of the ancient world as simple.

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00:03:23,000 --> 00:03:26,000

They lived in a world saturated with magic.

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00:03:26,000 --> 00:03:30,000

There really was no distinction between ordinary life and the supernatural.

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00:03:30,000 --> 00:03:34,000

They were completely embedded in each other,

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00:03:34,000 --> 00:03:38,000

and the belief in magic was absolutely universal.

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00:03:38,000 --> 00:03:42,000

It was a way of looking at the world as an interconnected whole,

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00:03:42,000 --> 00:03:47,000

as well as a technology through which you could make things happen

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00:03:47,000 --> 00:03:50,000

in the everyday material world.

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00:03:50,000 --> 00:03:55,000

Magic offered people an opportunity to influence the outcome of important events,

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00:03:55,000 --> 00:04:01,000

and to know the will of the gods and to communicate directly with those gods.

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00:04:01,000 --> 00:04:06,000

In the ancient times, it is actually said that magic was of the gods.

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00:04:06,000 --> 00:04:12,000

Somehow other worlds, somehow beyond the confines of ordinary reality.

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00:04:12,000 --> 00:04:17,000

What we see is that certain human beings seem to have somehow

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00:04:17,000 --> 00:04:23,000

mastered the power of the universe to an extent that even we don't understand.

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00:04:23,000 --> 00:04:29,000

Magic in the ancient world was primarily viewed as, in some ways, coercive,

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00:04:29,000 --> 00:04:32,000

which is that people are attempting to control the spiritual realm

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00:04:32,000 --> 00:04:36,000

to do something in their daily lives.

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

So whereas modern magic is primarily driven to engage in sort of trickery,

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00:04:42,000 --> 00:04:45,000

in the ancient world there was an attempt to sort of coerce spirits

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00:04:45,000 --> 00:04:49,000

to sort of affect one's life and the direction of one's life,

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00:04:49,000 --> 00:04:53,000

whether that would be one's fate or in some ways nature as well.

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00:04:53,000 --> 00:04:57,000

But did magic really exist in the ancient world?

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00:04:57,000 --> 00:05:05,000

Not as a form of theater, but as a means of replicating the power of the gods.

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00:05:07,000 --> 00:05:12,000

Shanxi Province, China, 7th century AD.

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00:05:12,000 --> 00:05:15,000

The Jiangchao Mountain Range.

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00:05:15,000 --> 00:05:19,000

Here, according to Chinese mythology, live Zhang Golao,

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00:05:19,000 --> 00:05:23,000

a Taoist saint thought to possess unique magical abilities

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00:05:23,000 --> 00:05:27,000

and a profound understanding of the secrets of nature.

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He was one of what were referred to as the Eight Immortals.

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So the Eight Immortals are these semi-mythical figures in Chinese history.

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00:05:39,000 --> 00:05:43,000

The majority of them, they're based on people who actually existed

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00:05:43,000 --> 00:05:48,000

and then certain legends accrued around these people as time passed.

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00:05:48,000 --> 00:05:54,000

The historical figure of Zhang Golao started to have lived in the mid-7th to the mid-8th centuries,

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00:05:54,000 --> 00:05:59,000

and he was very renowned for his magical skills, even at the time.

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Shan Kuolao is possibly the most interesting of the Eight Immortals.

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00:06:04,000 --> 00:06:06,000

He is depicted as an old man.

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00:06:06,000 --> 00:06:08,000

He can make himself invisible.

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00:06:08,000 --> 00:06:11,000

He can go without food for days.

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00:06:12,000 --> 00:06:14,000

According to Chinese mythology,

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00:06:14,000 --> 00:06:19,000

Zhang Gouao first emerged at the very beginning of the universe,

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00:06:19,000 --> 00:06:24,000

where he appeared out of chaos in the form of a white bat.

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00:06:26,000 --> 00:06:31,000

He was thought to be a gifted alchemist, necromancer, and sorcerer.

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00:06:31,000 --> 00:06:36,000

So Zhang Golao is often depicted as writing a magical mule,

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00:06:36,000 --> 00:06:41,000

and what's peculiar is that he is seated facing backwards on this mule.

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00:06:42,000 --> 00:06:50,000

The mule can ride divine winds and also cross thousands of miles in a single day

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00:06:50,000 --> 00:06:53,000

without ever stopping once for rest.

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00:06:53,000 --> 00:06:58,000

When Zhang Golao finds a place that he wants to settle for the night,

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00:06:58,000 --> 00:07:03,000

he actually folds up his mule as one would fold a piece of paper

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00:07:03,000 --> 00:07:07,000

until it is the size that you can fit in your pocket.

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00:07:07,000 --> 00:07:12,000

And then he would reactivate it by sprinkling water on it,

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00:07:12,000 --> 00:07:15,000

and it would reappear again.

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00:07:15,000 --> 00:07:18,000

So you have to ask yourself,

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00:07:18,000 --> 00:07:25,000

is this white mule actually some kind of incredible alien technology

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00:07:25,000 --> 00:07:29,000

that allowed him to travel around China?

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00:07:30,000 --> 00:07:34,000

It's entirely possible that what they're describing here

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00:07:34,000 --> 00:07:39,000

is some type of a craft, and that Zhang Golao himself

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00:07:39,000 --> 00:07:42,000

may possibly have been an extraterrestrial.

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00:07:42,000 --> 00:07:45,000

And in order to explain his abilities and technology,

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00:07:45,000 --> 00:07:50,000

our ancestors described him as a magical being.

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00:07:53,000 --> 00:07:57,000

But is it possible that extraterrestrials could develop a technology

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00:07:57,000 --> 00:08:00,000

in which you have some sort of flying machine

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00:08:00,000 --> 00:08:03,000

that can fold itself into hyperspace?

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00:08:03,000 --> 00:08:06,000

It runs on an advanced energy propulsion source.

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00:08:06,000 --> 00:08:09,000

You can travel with it. It's short. It's compact.

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00:08:09,000 --> 00:08:12,000

And when you're done, you just fold it into hyperspace,

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00:08:12,000 --> 00:08:15,000

and it's something that you hold in your hand,

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00:08:15,000 --> 00:08:17,000

and the whole thing just folds up.

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00:08:18,000 --> 00:08:22,000

Is it possible that Zhang Golao really existed?

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00:08:22,000 --> 00:08:26,000

And if so, could his amazing powers of transformation

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00:08:26,000 --> 00:08:32,000

have been based on an advanced, perhaps extraterrestrial form of transportation?

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00:08:33,000 --> 00:08:37,000

Ancient astronaut theorists believe further clues can be found

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00:08:37,000 --> 00:08:43,000

more than 1,700 miles away in Patna, India,

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00:08:43,000 --> 00:08:47,000

situated on the southern shores of the Ganges River.

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00:08:47,000 --> 00:08:50,000

This ancient city is believed to be the place

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00:08:50,000 --> 00:08:53,000

where the great spiritual leader, Buddha,

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00:08:53,000 --> 00:08:58,000

embarked on an incredible journey in 483 BC.

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00:08:59,000 --> 00:09:03,000

Guatama Buddha was a messenger and sage

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00:09:03,000 --> 00:09:06,000

who was born in what is now Nepal,

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00:09:06,000 --> 00:09:11,000

sometime around 500 to 600 before the Common Era.

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00:09:11,000 --> 00:09:17,000

And he was the original figure in the teachings that became Buddhism.

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00:09:18,000 --> 00:09:24,000

When the Buddha was born, his father was told by a seer

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00:09:24,000 --> 00:09:29,000

that your son is going to become a great teacher.

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00:09:30,000 --> 00:09:33,000

The Buddha's message, his teaching,

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00:09:33,000 --> 00:09:36,000

is supposed to bring people out of suffering.

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00:09:36,000 --> 00:09:40,000

He made up a religion to solve what he considered

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00:09:40,000 --> 00:09:43,000

as the basic problems of living.

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00:09:44,000 --> 00:09:48,000

The Buddha traveled around India spreading his teachings.

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00:09:50,000 --> 00:09:52,000

His followers and the monastic community

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00:09:52,000 --> 00:09:54,000

grew increasingly.

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00:09:55,000 --> 00:10:00,000

He was perceived as a human but an extraordinary human.

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00:10:01,000 --> 00:10:03,000

In the process of gaining enlightenment,

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00:10:03,000 --> 00:10:08,000

he had these realizations that were marked by supernatural powers.

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00:10:09,000 --> 00:10:14,000

He actually projected and built through pure psychic power

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00:10:14,000 --> 00:10:17,000

this bejeweled walkway up in the sky.

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00:10:17,000 --> 00:10:20,000

And he paced up and down that walkway filled with jewels

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00:10:20,000 --> 00:10:22,000

for about a week.

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00:10:25,000 --> 00:10:27,000

According to ancient texts,

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00:10:27,000 --> 00:10:31,000

near the end of his life, Buddha and his many disciples

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00:10:31,000 --> 00:10:33,000

attempted to cross the Ganges,

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00:10:33,000 --> 00:10:36,000

but were blocked by raging floodwaters.

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00:10:37,000 --> 00:10:39,000

Well, it happened to be the time of the year

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00:10:39,000 --> 00:10:41,000

when the Great River is flooded.

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00:10:41,000 --> 00:10:43,000

It's at its high peak, not only is it very, very wide,

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00:10:43,000 --> 00:10:45,000

almost a mile wide at that time of the year,

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00:10:45,000 --> 00:10:48,000

but it's going very fast, something like 70 miles an hour,

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00:10:48,000 --> 00:10:50,000

virtual rapid.

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00:10:51,000 --> 00:10:54,000

And he sees people on one side of the Ganges

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00:10:54,000 --> 00:10:56,000

trying to build up these frail rafts,

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00:10:56,000 --> 00:10:59,000

trying to cross the river.

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00:11:00,000 --> 00:11:04,000

And what he does is in an instant,

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00:11:04,000 --> 00:11:07,000

and the text says that in the time it takes for a strong man

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00:11:07,000 --> 00:11:11,000

to stretch out his bent arm or to bend his outstretched arm,

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00:11:11,000 --> 00:11:15,000

the Buddha appears on the other side of the river.

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00:11:16,000 --> 00:11:20,000

Now, there was no boat, no form of transportation whatsoever,

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00:11:20,000 --> 00:11:22,000

and people witnessed this.

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00:11:22,000 --> 00:11:25,000

So was this some sort of a miracle?

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00:11:25,000 --> 00:11:27,000

Of course not.

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00:11:27,000 --> 00:11:30,000

So are we talking about teleportation here?

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00:11:30,000 --> 00:11:35,000

Some type of technology that was misinterpreted as a miracle?

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00:11:36,000 --> 00:11:40,000

Might the incredible feats performed by beings like Buddha

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00:11:40,000 --> 00:11:43,000

and Zhongolau be based on real-life,

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00:11:43,000 --> 00:11:46,000

extraterrestrial encounters?

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00:11:46,000 --> 00:11:49,000

And if so, could they have been the inspiration

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00:11:49,000 --> 00:11:52,000

for what we now call magic?

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00:11:53,000 --> 00:11:56,000

Perhaps further evidence can be found

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00:11:56,000 --> 00:12:00,000

by examining the stories of a famous sorcerer

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00:12:00,000 --> 00:12:06,000

whose supernatural powers help to build a mighty nation.

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00:12:07,000 --> 00:12:11,000

Tintagel Island, England, 500 A.D.

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00:12:13,000 --> 00:12:16,000

Here, hidden along the rugged Cornwall coastline,

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00:12:16,000 --> 00:12:19,000

is the entrance to a mysterious cave

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00:12:19,000 --> 00:12:23,000

thought to have housed the great wizard Merlin.

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00:12:24,000 --> 00:12:26,000

We first see Merlin historically

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00:12:26,000 --> 00:12:29,000

in the writings of Geoffrey of Monmouth.

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00:12:29,000 --> 00:12:32,000

He tells the story of this extraordinary man,

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00:12:32,000 --> 00:12:36,000

who most famously shows up during the time period of Arthur.

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00:12:36,000 --> 00:12:39,000

I think that there is this tendency to think of him

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00:12:39,000 --> 00:12:41,000

as the man in the pointed cap

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00:12:41,000 --> 00:12:45,000

and to be a little bit sort of comical or ridiculous,

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00:12:45,000 --> 00:12:47,000

when in fact the real Merlin

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00:12:47,000 --> 00:12:51,000

has a very, very serious and very important character.

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00:12:52,000 --> 00:12:57,000

According to stories, King Arthur lived around for a long time.

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00:12:57,000 --> 00:13:03,000

According to stories, King Arthur lived around 500 A.D.

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00:13:03,000 --> 00:13:08,000

and he was advised by this wise man called Merlin.

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00:13:09,000 --> 00:13:14,000

Merlin is attributed as having all sorts of miraculous powers.

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00:13:14,000 --> 00:13:18,000

He is said to be able to bring lightning down and thunder.

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00:13:18,000 --> 00:13:21,000

He can levitate rocks.

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00:13:23,000 --> 00:13:25,000

He can foresee the future.

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00:13:25,000 --> 00:13:30,000

He can call upon a mist to cover the battlefield.

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00:13:31,000 --> 00:13:34,000

Merlin seems to have been based on this idea of the Druids.

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00:13:35,000 --> 00:13:39,000

Druids were the sort of religious figures in a lot of this early society.

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00:13:39,000 --> 00:13:45,000

In some cases, we see them associated with the more Celtic warrior groups

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00:13:45,000 --> 00:13:48,000

where they might function as a king's advisor.

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00:13:49,000 --> 00:13:51,000

Druids appear as very magical

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00:13:51,000 --> 00:13:54,000

and having various other ways that they could interact with the supernatural world

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00:13:54,000 --> 00:13:56,000

for the benefit of the mundane world.

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00:13:59,000 --> 00:14:03,000

There is a manuscript in the British library

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00:14:03,000 --> 00:14:08,000

called the Annals Cambre, which means the Welsh Annals.

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00:14:08,000 --> 00:14:12,000

And in there it refers to a man by the name of Merlin

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00:14:12,000 --> 00:14:14,000

living in a forest somewhere in the north.

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00:14:14,000 --> 00:14:17,000

And the way it refers to this Merlin

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00:14:17,000 --> 00:14:22,000

is it could very well be the same Merlin as the Merlin in the stories of Arthur.

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00:14:23,000 --> 00:14:28,000

According to legend, it is Merlin who was the mastermind behind a plan

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00:14:28,000 --> 00:14:32,000

which would unite the various kingdoms of Britain into one nation,

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00:14:32,000 --> 00:14:36,000

capable of fending off invasion by Saxon forces.

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00:14:37,000 --> 00:14:41,000

He launches a quest to install the young Arthur as king,

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00:14:41,000 --> 00:14:43,000

using his formidable powers.

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00:14:44,000 --> 00:14:49,000

Merlin is stage managing the Union of Britain

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00:14:49,000 --> 00:14:53,000

from before the time Arthur is conceived.

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00:14:54,000 --> 00:15:00,000

He essentially manipulates things so that Arthur can be born

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00:15:00,000 --> 00:15:03,000

in a way that has royal blood, but he does not grow up in the castle,

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00:15:03,000 --> 00:15:08,000

which was a dangerous place for a divinely ordained leader to be.

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00:15:08,000 --> 00:15:14,000

He was able to be a tutor to Arthur in his childhood, teach him ways of nature.

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00:15:15,000 --> 00:15:20,000

He makes him king by getting Arthur to perform all sorts of feats

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00:15:20,000 --> 00:15:24,000

that no one else can do, like drawing the sword from the stone.

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00:15:24,000 --> 00:15:29,000

And it seems that he wants to make Arthur into a sort of immortal figure

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00:15:29,000 --> 00:15:33,000

in the eyes of the people, so that they will readily follow him

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00:15:33,000 --> 00:15:35,000

and make him their one and only king.

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00:15:35,000 --> 00:15:42,000

In other words, Merlin is the authority, really, the advisor behind the throne.

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00:15:44,000 --> 00:15:49,000

Did Merlin use supernatural or otherworldly knowledge to empower Arthur?

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00:15:50,000 --> 00:15:54,000

And in so doing, create the British Empire.

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00:15:55,000 --> 00:15:56,000

But why?

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00:15:57,000 --> 00:16:00,000

And who, or what, was Merlin?

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00:16:01,000 --> 00:16:04,000

Ancient astronaut theorists believe clues can be found

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00:16:04,000 --> 00:16:08,000

in the strange circumstances surrounding Merlin's birth.

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00:16:09,000 --> 00:16:12,000

The birth of Merlin is a miraculous tale.

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00:16:12,000 --> 00:16:18,000

His mother was a nun, a virgin, who has a steamy erotic dream,

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00:16:18,000 --> 00:16:21,000

and she wakes up just knowing she is pregnant.

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00:16:22,000 --> 00:16:25,000

So Merlin's father could have been an incubus.

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00:16:25,000 --> 00:16:30,000

That would be a dark angel, one of the devil's legion, a monstrous figure who,

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00:16:30,000 --> 00:16:36,000

in this case, came and had sex with innocent women while they slept in their dreams.

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00:16:36,000 --> 00:16:41,000

The most common legends about Merlin say that he got his powers

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00:16:41,000 --> 00:16:43,000

through this demonic father.

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00:16:43,000 --> 00:16:46,000

Merlin was baptized and the demonic nature melted away,

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00:16:46,000 --> 00:16:49,000

but he maintained all of the magic from the demon father.

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00:16:51,000 --> 00:16:53,000

When we're confronted by the story of Merlin,

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00:16:53,000 --> 00:16:59,000

we're looking at a medieval figure who is possibly another example of

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00:16:59,000 --> 00:17:04,000

an otherworldly being who is half human, half extraterrestrial,

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00:17:04,000 --> 00:17:09,000

and that he, in fact, is a representative of this long line of otherworldly beings.

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00:17:11,000 --> 00:17:14,000

This is the real core of British history.

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00:17:14,000 --> 00:17:16,000

It's very revered.

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00:17:16,000 --> 00:17:20,000

It doesn't seem that someone just made this up out of nowhere.

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00:17:20,000 --> 00:17:24,000

It could be that the stories help cover up the truth,

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00:17:24,000 --> 00:17:27,000

which was that human extraterrestrial contact did occur,

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00:17:27,000 --> 00:17:31,000

that Merlin was actually an extraterrestrial being

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00:17:31,000 --> 00:17:35,000

who was sent here to help King Arthur establish his kingdom,

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00:17:35,000 --> 00:17:39,000

and that Merlin's advanced capabilities might be nothing more

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00:17:39,000 --> 00:17:43,000

than the use of technology that he had available to him.

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00:17:45,000 --> 00:17:51,000

Is it possible that Merlin had what many believe to have been otherworldly origins?

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00:17:51,000 --> 00:17:56,000

If so, might his magic really have been based not on occult forces,

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00:17:56,000 --> 00:18:00,000

but on advanced extraterrestrial technology?

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London, 1966

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The British Museum acquires an unusual Aztec artifact

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thought to possess magical powers.

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Known as the Devil's Looking Glass,

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this mirror made of black volcanic glass

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once belonged to the influential 16th century scholar John D.

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D. was a respected mathematician, astrologer,

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and close advisor to Queen Elizabeth I.

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He was also considered to be a powerful magician,

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and claimed he used the mirror to communicate with angels.

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John D. was a famous magician in the Elizabethan period in England.

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Probably the most famous Renaissance mage,

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at least from England from that time.

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And he became very obsessed with trying to conjure angels.

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Later magical practitioners started to refer to it as a Nokia magic.

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John D. believed that there was an angelic language,

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that there was a sound, a real sound,

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not just a concept, a voice that the universe spoken,

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that the angels, that those with supreme knowledge

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had their very, very own language.

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And he was trying to tap into that.

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He believes this information was given to him

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because God originally wanted it to go to mankind

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throughout all of time.

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This Nokia magic was given to man before,

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but has been lost throughout the ages.

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God originally gave it to Adam, the legend goes,

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and then to the prophet Enoch,

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and maybe to others in between.

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Did early magicians like John D.

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really have access to extraterrestrial technology?

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Technology that was mistakenly believed

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to be of a supernatural or divine origin.

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In the ancient world, magicians were religious specialists

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whose job was to interact with the spirit world

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on behalf of their social group.

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Their job was really to communicate with the sacred.

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In order to bring about real and lasting change here on Earth.

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Centers of power would have magicians,

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the courts of the time, whether a king, a Caesar, or a pharaoh,

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would have vizars.

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Wizards, magicians, advising them, protecting them,

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using their secret powers to heal, to guide in battle.

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It was an important part of leadership in ancient times.

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These figures had enormous power and enormous influence,

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not only helping a leader, but helping a country stay together.

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Is it possible that the early practitioners

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00:21:00,000 --> 00:21:03,000

of what we call magic were really individuals

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in possession of advanced extraterrestrial knowledge?

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Knowledge that could change the course of human history.

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Ancient astronaut theorists believe that such an audacious notion

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is, in fact, possible.

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And believe further evidence may be found

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in the legends of a mysterious device.

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One so powerful it could make its user disappear.

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Dallas, Texas.

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2011.

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Researchers at the University of Texas' Nanotech Institute

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discover a process that can actually make objects invisible.

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These scientists spin tiny carbon fibers into sheets

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and submerge them into water.

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An electrical charge heats the material

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00:22:01,000 --> 00:22:05,000

and changes the way the surrounding water bends light,

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00:22:05,000 --> 00:22:07,000

making an object appear to vanish

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00:22:07,000 --> 00:22:09,000

at the turn of a switch.

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We are not actually seeing around the object we're cloaking.

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What we're doing is we're using the heated carbon nanotube sheet

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00:22:20,000 --> 00:22:24,000

to bend light.

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So when we think we're looking in a particular direction,

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00:22:27,000 --> 00:22:32,000

we're actually looking at neighboring seawater.

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00:22:32,000 --> 00:22:36,000

We're using very extraordinary techniques

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to make our objects look like they're being very extraordinary

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materials to accomplish our mirage cloaking.

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But as innovative as this remarkable technology is,

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stories of devices with similar powers

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can be found throughout history.

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Serifos, Greece.

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In the Aegean Sea, the ancient Greeks believed the hero Perseus

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set off on his seemingly impossible mission

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to kill the fearsome Gorgon, Medusa.

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So Perseus had this incredible challenge

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because Medusa was powerful and you just look at her and die.

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So it is a true dangerous situation for the hero.

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According to mythology, Perseus is given a magical helmet

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that ultimately ensures his success.

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Called the helm of darkness, the cap belonged to Hades,

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the god of the underworld.

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Perseus goes on this adventure with the help of a number of the Greek gods.

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He is given a number of mythological items

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that are going to help him on his journey.

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He is given the cap of Hades, which will make him invisible.

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He then successfully kills Medusa.

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And the other two Gorgons try to find him, but they can't see him

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because he's wearing the helm of invisibility.

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Did the helm of darkness really make Perseus disappear?

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Or might there be another, perhaps more scientific explanation?

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This could be an ancient example of an advanced technology

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using the bendable nature of light and laws of physics that we're now aware of

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to make something that seems to be impossible very attainable

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and with a technology that anyone could use if they wanted to.

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Is Hades' helmet evidence of an alien technology once used in ancient times?

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And if so, might the tales of other magical devices in the distant past

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offer proof that our ancestors had access to other,

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even more highly advanced extraterrestrial tools?

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Ponsa, Italy.

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Located in the Mediterranean Sea, this crescent-shaped island

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is thought to be the legendary home of the Greek goddess Circe,

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a goddess thought to possess a wand with remarkable power.

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But the notion of a wand as an instrument of magic can be traced back even farther.

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Back to the very origins of magic itself.

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The idea of magic comes from the area known as Persia or Iran.

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This is from Zoroaster, the Zoroastrian traditions and rituals.

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The Magi, the priest of that belief system, would use a handful of wands

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as a magical intercession, a way to connect the unseen world and the scene.

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00:26:15,000 --> 00:26:23,000

Magicians and leaders of all kind use staffs and verges and rods and wands.

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Sceptres, maces, all from similar traditions.

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The ancient accounts of Circe's famous wand describe it as a formidable weapon,

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capable of producing astonishing physical transformations.

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According to Greek mythology, Circe was the daughter of Helios, the god of the sun.

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And according to those legends, she was incredibly beautiful.

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In fact, she was radiant.

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She was glowing because she was not of this earth.

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The ancient Greeks considered her the goddess of magic.

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The stories surrounding Circe usually refer to her powerful wand,

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with which she was able to transform people into animals.

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So there's a famous story in the Odyssey where Odysseus and his men land on a mysterious island,

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and they come upon a house where there's a woman inside who's singing songs.

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And the songs that she sings sort of lure the men into the house,

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and Circe says that she's going to entertain them.

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And in the course of her interactions with them, she pulls out a wand and touches them with it.

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As a result, the men are then transformed into pigs.

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The idea of transformation is fascinating.

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There was fear in the ancient world that you could be changed into a wolf or some other animal.

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And then it was imagined that some people with extraordinary powers could do this to you against your will.

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That was greatly feared, and a good deal of magical practice was to try to avoid such a calamity.

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Was Circe's magic wand simply a mythological invention?

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One rooted in mankind's primitive imagination and superstition, as mainstream scholars suggest.

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Or might this incredible device have actually existed?

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Because we all know that all of these myths have a core of truth to them, something that happened in real life.

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And so when we talk about powerful wands that are used in order to transform people into animals,

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the only thing that something like this could have happened is if it was a technological device.

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Is it possible, however, that an extremely advanced technology could actually somehow generate a shape-shifting effect

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and completely retool the DNA, the physical tissues, the flesh of a living human being?

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Many different ancient legends describe some sort of handheld device that had incredible capability to do things that would seem to be magical or even impossible.

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We see Vishnu's spear. We see Thor's hammer.

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We see Zeus's thunderbolt. This could very well all be examples of a handheld technology that extraterrestrial humans who look like us did possess.

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Might Circe have come from a divine, possibly extraterrestrial lineage?

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And if so, could her wand have been based on highly advanced alien technology?

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Ancient astronaut theorists believe such an idea is possible and believe more evidence can be found in the stories of one of the most epic and destructive confrontations in religious history.

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Contyr, the Nile Delta, Egypt, 60 miles northeast of Cairo.

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Many historians believe that beneath these fields lie the ancient ruins of the lost city of Pyramus.

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In the 13th century BC, during the reign of Pharaoh Ramses II, this city served as the capital of Egypt.

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And according to some theologians, was the historical site of the Ten Plagues of Egypt, as described in the Biblical book of Exodus.

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We have the story of the Exodus, which is the story of the Hebrew people leaving Egypt. And so Moses is going to be the liberator.

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He's chosen by God, i.e. Yahweh, to go to Pharaoh and say, let my people go.

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Moses is told by this angel inside the burning bush that he must go to Pharaoh and convince him to release 700,000 Hebrews.

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The next thing that most people know is that he's in the court of Pharaoh, challenging Pharaoh's magicians.

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In the very ancient civilization of Egypt, Magician played an important part in the court of the Pharaoh.

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They protected the Pharaoh from dark powers. They healed him from time to time. They gave him legitimacy with the people.

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They were vital in the court life in ancient Egypt.

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The Egyptians had no word for religion. For them, magic was the religion. It was around them. It was part of them.

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It was the power of their deities. It created their deities. It was a constant force in their life.

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So to study magic, to understand magic, was to understand the world.

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Egyptians were the masters of natural magic. They understood how magic really works, how you could use nature and use the power of a human mind to create an effect.

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According to the biblical account, God instructs Moses to give the Pharaoh a demonstration of his divine power, one that will force him to free the Israelite slaves.

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In order to help compel Pharaoh, Moses throws down his staff so it turns into a serpent. The Egyptian magicians, they look at that and they go, gosh, we can do this too.

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All of the magicians throw their rods down on the ground. They all turn into snakes. But Moses' snake eats all those other snakes.

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And that's the beginning of what we know as probably the greatest magic contest ever recorded.

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00:33:26,000 --> 00:33:35,000

God is equipping Moses to face off Pharaoh and Pharaoh's magicians. It is a literal battle of sorcerers.

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The confrontation quickly escalates as God proceeds to unleash a series of ten increasingly devastating plagues on the people of Egypt.

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In the first plague, Moses touches his staff to the Nile River and it becomes blood. But the magicians are able to do this as well.

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In the second plague, Moses multiplies frogs. But so can the magicians, although once they do it, they can't get rid of the frogs.

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In the third plague, Moses brings about gnats or something like lice. So for each of these plagues,

they begin to increase in their severity.

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And up through the third plague, the Egyptian magicians are able to replicate everything Moses is doing.

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But finally they have to concede that, you know, this is the finger of God. But beyond this, we can't challenge him anymore.

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What we're seeing here is very strange. We're seeing a magic competition that God is continuing, forcing a continuance of this.

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And it eventually leads to the death of every firstborn male in Egypt, which finally ends the entire thing.

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And Moses takes not only the 700,000 Hebrews out, but generally considered to be between one and two million Egyptians go with him as well on what we now know as the Exodus.

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00:35:07,000 --> 00:35:16,000

So what had begun as a battle of magic tricks, turning staffs into serpents, becomes really a horrific bloodbath.

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That is, as the resistance continues, Yahweh keeps upping the ante. The plagues get worse and worse. Now these are supernatural events.

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We don't know how they were done, how they transpired, but the shift in history happened because of the plagues, so magic prevailed.

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Theologians will say, this was God that did this. I have a different theory. I don't think God is mean. I don't think God goes out in kills.

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And so it could have been extraterrestrial.

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Might the story of the 10 plagues of Egypt really be an account of a deadly contest between humans in possession of extraterrestrial technology, as ancient astronaut theorists believe?

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Ancient Egyptians believed that they learned magic from their gods, and these extraterrestrial gods had taught them these powers.

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Suddenly they found out that they were up against a more powerful force, a more powerful magic than they had.

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We're not dealing with two indigenous human cultures battling it out here on Earth. We're dealing with people on Earth in a war that they could not win against extraterrestrials.

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In many of the ancient texts, it seems apparent that the gods actually took sides. They were involved in battles, so to suggest that they might have been also involved in plagues is plausible.

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So the question is, was it really God who unleashed these plagues upon Egypt, or was it in fact an extraterrestrial?

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And according to the ancient astronaut theory, it was a misunderstood, misinterpreted extraterrestrial who, in this particular case, sided with the Israelites.

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Might the incredible power wielded by Moses against the Egyptians have been of an extraterrestrial origin?

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A power based as much on science as on an extraordinary knowledge of the powers of the human mind?

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Many ancient astronaut theorists believe the answer is yes, and that the key to what many perceive as magic can be found not only on other worlds, but right within the human body.

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New York City 2012

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Magician David Blaine begins a 72 hour stint standing in the middle of a million volts of electrical current protected by only a suit of armor.

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00:38:02,000 --> 00:38:12,000

But is it a mere trick, an illusion, or is it evidence that what we call magic actually exists?

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We're interested in people like David Blaine because we find those things amazing.

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It just pushes the boundaries of what human beings are capable of, and I think that we ask ourselves, could we be capable of such a thing?

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We will embrace the endurance effects. We will embrace them because we think this might be real.

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Maybe there's something to this. Maybe there isn't a trick. Maybe I can evolve into a person able to do this kind of magic.

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We are quite literally searching for the supernatural in ourself.

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Izu Oshima, 60 miles south of Tokyo. It was here in the 7th century BC that a legendary Japanese mystic, known as Ennoyoja, was banished for his so-called magical powers.

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Ennoyoja was the founder of an aesthetic teaching. Shigendo means the practice of training and testing.

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This tradition from the 7th century, done up in the mountains, with great physical, arduous exercises and discipline, is said to lead to an access to supernatural powers beyond our understanding.

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Ennoyoja's magic differs from our European concepts of magic in many ways. This is something that you bring out of yourself.

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He would go high into the mountains, less oxygen, isolated, less food, just one lapse of concentration and you die.

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And then also meditating in the middle of a waterfall. That's where he finds silence. That's where he finds control.

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Even historical records depict Ennoyoja as someone who was endowed with magical capacities and the ability to also summon and control demons and spirits.

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Ennoyoja was also known for his ability to ride five-colored clouds. He was also said to be executed in other earth times and every time the executioner's axe landed on the back of his neck, the axe actually shattered to pieces.

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Still today we're making ongoing discoveries about the capabilities and potential of the human brain and body.

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So it's possible that in the stories and legends of Ennoyoja we're seeing someone who was able to somehow access knowledge that was already hardwired into our own DNA by extraterrestrials.

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Is it possible that ancient magicians like Ennoyoja were able to tap into incredible extraterrestrial abilities embedded within the human body?

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And might this explain similar feats performed by more modern magicians like Harry Houdini and David Blaine?

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00:41:26,000 --> 00:41:41,000

Magic appears to be a derivation of extraterrestrial technology. It's the accessing of the human potential using the technology of the human form.

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00:41:42,000 --> 00:41:51,000

Magic, derived from extraterrestrial beings, seems to be the linkage that they gave us to enable us to become more like them.

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Do ancient accounts of magic really suggest evidence of advanced otherworldly knowledge?

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A knowledge given to early humans as a means of helping them unlock their own, some might say divine potential.

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00:42:08,000 --> 00:42:20,000

We are drawn to magic. We need something extraordinary that allows us to transcend everyday life and what we sense as profound limits and frustrations.

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00:42:21,000 --> 00:42:35,000

It is both a fantasy release and to a degree a bit of a map that we might be able to reach further than we think.

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00:42:36,000 --> 00:42:41,000

We might be able to do more than humans have done before, that we might be more than this.

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00:42:41,000 --> 00:42:54,000

Magic enables latent potentials that we're not supposed to have, but throughout history many people have demonstrated those capabilities.

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They've been witnessed, it's been written down and passed along with great excitement and enthusiasm.

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And then of course the question is where did they get this from? Did they develop this on their own or was it somehow given to them by the gods?

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00:43:09,000 --> 00:43:23,000

In each occasion we find that our ancestors specifically state that magic is given to mankind by the gods, by non-human intelligences, by extraterrestrial beings.

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Did ancient magic really have another worldly origin? And was it based not on mere trickery, but on

advanced knowledge of science and the powers of the human brain?

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Perhaps we will discover the answer when we open our eyes to the possibility that what we think we know is an illusion.

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00:43:48,000 --> 00:43:54,000

And what we think is illusion may very well be real.