



## DR. JACK HUNTER

PARANTHROPOLOGY, SPIRIT CONTACT, & CHARLIE

PRESENTED BY THE HIGHERSIDE CHATS



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1  
00:00:05,679 --> 00:00:02,790

[Music]

2  
00:00:08,170 --> 00:00:05,689

congratulations YouTube you did it you

3  
00:00:10,660 --> 00:00:08,180

wore me down and you sucked me back in I

4  
00:00:13,270 --> 00:00:10,670

have too many subscribers here just to

5  
00:00:15,790 --> 00:00:13,280

walk away entirely especially with no

6  
00:00:18,010 --> 00:00:15,800

alternative that truly stacks up and so

7  
00:00:21,400 --> 00:00:18,020

many copycat channels uploading my shows

8  
00:00:24,580 --> 00:00:21,410

for me anyway but we can't forget the th

9  
00:00:26,410 --> 00:00:24,590

C's account here is on thin ice and so

10  
00:00:29,290 --> 00:00:26,420

the YouTube version of the show has to

11  
00:00:32,200 --> 00:00:29,300

be prefaced with this little PSA only to

12  
00:00:33,370 --> 00:00:32,210

say that episodes that contain the kinds

13  
00:00:36,250 --> 00:00:33,380

of themes that have been regularly

14

00:00:38,710 --> 00:00:36,260

banned on YouTube will not appear here

15

00:00:40,660 --> 00:00:38,720

and even with that precaution there's

16

00:00:42,940 --> 00:00:40,670

already enough in the archive to get us

17

00:00:45,310 --> 00:00:42,950

removed so remember that the higher side

18

00:00:48,160 --> 00:00:45,320

chats could be banned or put in timeout

19

00:00:50,229 --> 00:00:48,170

again at any time and I won't be able to

20

00:00:52,000 --> 00:00:50,239

tell you guys about it so if you feel

21

00:00:53,500 --> 00:00:52,010

like it's been too long since you've

22

00:00:56,619 --> 00:00:53,510

heard from me here on this digital

23

00:00:59,410 --> 00:00:56,629

dystopian draconian data-mining monster

24

00:01:00,910 --> 00:00:59,420

of a police state seeking platform your

25

00:01:03,179 --> 00:01:00,920

first step should be to check the higher

26

00:01:08,859 --> 00:01:03,189

side chats calm for the latest shows

27

00:01:10,570 --> 00:01:08,869

alright alright enjoy embrace yourself

28

00:01:12,490 --> 00:01:10,580

because you're about to dive into

29

00:01:14,380 --> 00:01:12,500

another free first hour episode of the

30

00:01:15,580 --> 00:01:14,390

higher side chats and we just want to

31

00:01:17,200 --> 00:01:15,590

let you know that whether you're looking

32

00:01:19,179 --> 00:01:17,210

for a companion through your paranoid

33

00:01:21,340 --> 00:01:19,189

insomnia entertaining yourself through

34

00:01:22,960 --> 00:01:21,350

one of life's mundane activities we're

35

00:01:24,969 --> 00:01:22,970

trying to ward off the internal scream

36

00:01:27,789 --> 00:01:24,979

to all those sad smothered souls around

37

00:01:29,020 --> 00:01:27,799

the office THC is here and you should

38

00:01:30,999 --> 00:01:29,030

know that every episode of the higher

39

00:01:33,399 --> 00:01:31,009

side chats has an entire second hour

40

00:01:36,039 --> 00:01:33,409

four plus members sign up at the higher

41

00:01:38,590 --> 00:01:36,049

side chats plus calm and you get years

42

00:01:40,660 --> 00:01:38,600

of Plus show archives lifetime forum

43

00:01:43,690 --> 00:01:40,670

access the special invite to Greg Carl

44

00:01:46,929 --> 00:01:43,700

woods monthly joint sessions mp3s of THC

45

00:01:49,630 --> 00:01:46,939

music and bonus episodes for videos and

46

00:01:51,190 --> 00:01:49,640

10% off t-shirts grinders and whatever

47

00:01:54,160 --> 00:01:51,200

else ends up in the higher side store

48

00:01:55,990 --> 00:01:54,170

it's \$8 a month that you won't miss so

49

00:01:57,670 --> 00:01:56,000

become a plus member and treat yourself

50

00:01:59,950 --> 00:01:57,680

in these trouble times always

51  
00:02:01,749 --> 00:01:59,960  
action-packed and commercial free which

52  
00:02:04,530 --> 00:02:01,759  
means you'll unfortunately never hear my

53  
00:02:04,540 --> 00:02:15,790  
[Music]

54  
00:02:21,890 --> 00:02:19,130  
the planets puppet-masters on my shirt

55  
00:02:24,640 --> 00:02:21,900  
you have a plan it's clearly maybe

56  
00:02:27,500 --> 00:02:24,650  
something there beyond the realm of man

57  
00:02:30,710 --> 00:02:27,510  
till we've thoroughly tested every last

58  
00:02:33,210 --> 00:02:30,720  
clips just did you find the more you

59  
00:02:38,380 --> 00:02:33,220  
think you know less you really do

60  
00:02:42,320 --> 00:02:38,390  
[Music]

61  
00:02:45,490 --> 00:02:42,330  
see we know the lying to us just don't

62  
00:02:55,540 --> 00:02:45,500  
know what to green where would we be

63  
00:03:06,760 --> 00:03:03,510

[Music]

64

00:03:09,070 --> 00:03:06,770

all right higher side chatters we have

65

00:03:10,630 --> 00:03:09,080

talked ad nauseam about the carefully

66

00:03:12,850 --> 00:03:10,640

crafted worldview that has descended

67

00:03:15,100 --> 00:03:12,860

upon academia and the wider culture

68

00:03:17,190 --> 00:03:15,110

which carefully filters out many

69

00:03:19,660 --> 00:03:17,200

important aspects of self-discovery

70

00:03:22,470 --> 00:03:19,670

creativity independence coming-of-age

71

00:03:24,910 --> 00:03:22,480

ritual alternative energy spirit contact

72

00:03:26,949 --> 00:03:24,920

paranormal experiences and anything that

73

00:03:29,380 --> 00:03:26,959

falls outside of the paradigm of rigid

74

00:03:32,230 --> 00:03:29,390

materialism or distracts the individual

75

00:03:33,520 --> 00:03:32,240

from getting some sad safe mid-level job

76

00:03:36,820 --> 00:03:33,530

at one of the elites well-established

77

00:03:38,350 --> 00:03:36,830

corporate pipelines to mediocrity but we

78

00:03:40,510 --> 00:03:38,360

have also discussed the impressive

79

00:03:42,820 --> 00:03:40,520

foresight of people like Charles fort

80

00:03:44,710 --> 00:03:42,830

who saw this as just a phase and knew

81

00:03:46,360 --> 00:03:44,720

that on the other side of scientism we

82

00:03:48,940 --> 00:03:46,370

would have bright minds who no longer

83

00:03:51,070 --> 00:03:48,950

ignored the anomalous but engaged with

84

00:03:53,170 --> 00:03:51,080

it we've been lucky enough here to host

85

00:03:55,300 --> 00:03:53,180

a few of these academically accredited

86

00:03:56,530 --> 00:03:55,310

pioneers of the paranormal pushing up

87

00:03:59,020 --> 00:03:56,540

against the boundaries of their

88

00:04:00,490 --> 00:03:59,030

disciplines from parapsychology with dr.

89

00:04:02,949 --> 00:04:00,500

Dean Radin earlier in the year

90

00:04:05,440 --> 00:04:02,959

- now para Anthropology with today's

91

00:04:07,030 --> 00:04:05,450

guest dr. Jack hunter if you're

92

00:04:09,190 --> 00:04:07,040

unfamiliar dr. hunter is an

93

00:04:10,960 --> 00:04:09,200

anthropologist exploring the borderlands

94

00:04:12,910 --> 00:04:10,970

of consciousness religion and the

95

00:04:15,190 --> 00:04:12,920

paranormal living in the hills of Mid

96

00:04:16,960 --> 00:04:15,200

Wales his doctoral research with the

97

00:04:19,030 --> 00:04:16,970

University of Bristol examines the

98

00:04:20,770 --> 00:04:19,040

experiences of spirit mediums and their

99

00:04:23,650 --> 00:04:20,780

influence on the development of self

100

00:04:25,650 --> 00:04:23,660

concepts and models of consciousness he

101  
00:04:28,210 --> 00:04:25,660  
is the founder and editor of Perak

102  
00:04:30,430 --> 00:04:28,220  
anthropology journal of anthropological

103  
00:04:32,530 --> 00:04:30,440  
approaches to the paranormal he is the

104  
00:04:34,810 --> 00:04:32,540  
author of why people believe in spirits

105  
00:04:37,330 --> 00:04:34,820  
gods and magic as well as his recently

106  
00:04:39,730 --> 00:04:37,340  
released engaging the anomalous he's

107  
00:04:41,740 --> 00:04:39,740  
also the editor of damned facts 40 and

108  
00:04:44,380 --> 00:04:41,750  
essays on religion folklore and the

109  
00:04:46,560 --> 00:04:44,390  
paranormal as well as co-editor with dr.

110  
00:04:48,790 --> 00:04:46,570  
David Luke on talking with the spirits

111  
00:04:51,040 --> 00:04:48,800  
ethnographies from between the worlds

112  
00:04:52,630 --> 00:04:51,050  
but that is not all folks he's also the

113  
00:04:54,730 --> 00:04:52,640

founding member of the afterlife

114

00:04:57,070 --> 00:04:54,740

Research Center and Jack is currently

115

00:04:58,840 --> 00:04:57,080

working on the one school one planet

116

00:05:01,600 --> 00:04:58,850

project to develop a mainstream

117

00:05:03,550 --> 00:05:01,610

permaculture curriculum for schools if

118

00:05:05,320 --> 00:05:03,560

he was doing any more I'd never get this

119

00:05:07,000 --> 00:05:05,330

introduction over with the freshly

120

00:05:08,590 --> 00:05:07,010

minted PhD advic

121

00:05:11,020 --> 00:05:08,600

of the reinstatement of the world an

122

00:05:13,270 --> 00:05:11,030

ally of the spirits dr. Jack my man

123

00:05:16,120 --> 00:05:13,280

welcome to the higher side thanks so

124

00:05:17,560 --> 00:05:16,130

much for having me you got it I'm

125

00:05:18,910 --> 00:05:17,570

psyched to have you here I think this is

126

00:05:20,860 --> 00:05:18,920

gonna be a hell of a time

127

00:05:23,380 --> 00:05:20,870

I think the work you've done is super

128

00:05:25,510 --> 00:05:23,390

impressive you've had great interviews

129

00:05:27,580 --> 00:05:25,520

on rune soup and skeptical with two of

130

00:05:30,460 --> 00:05:27,590

my favorite people and you've made some

131

00:05:32,680 --> 00:05:30,470

great points about what anthropology and

132

00:05:34,090 --> 00:05:32,690

religious studies could be saying that

133

00:05:36,400 --> 00:05:34,100

they have the potential to be the

134

00:05:38,350 --> 00:05:36,410

x-files of the humanities which I like a

135

00:05:40,750 --> 00:05:38,360

lot and maybe that's a good place to

136

00:05:43,390 --> 00:05:40,760

start tell us a bit more about your

137

00:05:45,250 --> 00:05:43,400

approach to anthropology or why it might

138

00:05:47,320 --> 00:05:45,260

be a good discipline to actually

139

00:05:50,140 --> 00:05:47,330

incorporate more of the weird things we

140

00:05:52,380 --> 00:05:50,150

like around here yeah my approach to

141

00:05:55,240 --> 00:05:52,390

anthropology has been quite broad really

142

00:05:57,700 --> 00:05:55,250

so I basically treat anthropology as the

143

00:05:59,710 --> 00:05:57,710

study of human beings which is what it

144

00:06:01,870 --> 00:05:59,720

is if you break the word anthropology up

145

00:06:04,660 --> 00:06:01,880

into two parts you've got anthropos

146

00:06:06,970 --> 00:06:04,670

which means human beings and ecology is

147

00:06:09,370 --> 00:06:06,980

the study of human beings and you know

148

00:06:11,560 --> 00:06:09,380

all of the stuff that we associate with

149

00:06:15,520 --> 00:06:11,570

the paranormal and the strange and the

150

00:06:18,040 --> 00:06:15,530

weird all of it is you know bound around

151  
00:06:20,590 --> 00:06:18,050  
human beings so from the very GetGo

152  
00:06:22,120 --> 00:06:20,600  
anthropology is kind of uniquely placed

153  
00:06:24,760 --> 00:06:22,130  
as the study of human beings to

154  
00:06:26,590 --> 00:06:24,770  
investigate the paranormal it's also

155  
00:06:28,230 --> 00:06:26,600  
uniquely placed to investigate the

156  
00:06:30,280 --> 00:06:28,240  
paranormal because of the things that

157  
00:06:31,510 --> 00:06:30,290  
anthropologists have investigated you

158  
00:06:33,610 --> 00:06:31,520  
know going right back to the very

159  
00:06:35,680 --> 00:06:33,620  
beginnings of the discipline they've

160  
00:06:39,530 --> 00:06:35,690  
always been interested in questions of

161  
00:06:42,800 --> 00:06:39,540  
belief questions of religion

162  
00:06:44,480 --> 00:06:42,810  
engaging with the possibility of spirits

163  
00:06:46,880 --> 00:06:44,490

while I say engage with the possibility

164

00:06:48,320 --> 00:06:46,890

of spirits existing but actually for the

165

00:06:51,410 --> 00:06:48,330

most part many anthropologists have

166

00:06:53,960 --> 00:06:51,420

tried to kind of reduce spirits away try

167

00:06:56,090 --> 00:06:53,970

to explain them away in different you

168

00:06:58,850 --> 00:06:56,100

reduce them down to like medical

169

00:07:00,710 --> 00:06:58,860

materialist models or cognitive models

170

00:07:02,570 --> 00:07:00,720

and things like that but there's been a

171

00:07:04,880 --> 00:07:02,580

continuous stream throughout from the

172

00:07:06,590 --> 00:07:04,890

very beginning of anthropologists who

173

00:07:09,710 --> 00:07:06,600

have kind of pushed against that kind of

174

00:07:12,860 --> 00:07:09,720

reductionism so what I'm doing really is

175

00:07:15,320 --> 00:07:12,870

a continuation of that line of research

176

00:07:18,260 --> 00:07:15,330

going right back to people like EB Tyler

177

00:07:20,720 --> 00:07:18,270

and his work on animism the work of

178

00:07:23,870 --> 00:07:20,730

people like Andrew Lang he was a famous

179

00:07:25,430 --> 00:07:23,880

folklorist and he proposed something way

180

00:07:28,340 --> 00:07:25,440

back in the 19th century called

181

00:07:30,440 --> 00:07:28,350

comparative psychical research which

182

00:07:33,350 --> 00:07:30,450

really is parent apology as I understand

183

00:07:35,000 --> 00:07:33,360

it and then this whole long line of

184

00:07:38,000 --> 00:07:35,010

researchers who have engaged with

185

00:07:40,190 --> 00:07:38,010

ontological possibilities particularly

186

00:07:42,800 --> 00:07:40,200

people like edith turner who I'm very

187

00:07:44,120 --> 00:07:42,810

very fond of as an anthropologist and

188

00:07:45,650 --> 00:07:44,130

maybe we'll talk about her a bit later

189

00:07:47,480 --> 00:07:45,660

but yeah that's what I've been doing

190

00:07:49,760 --> 00:07:47,490

I've been tapping into that current of

191

00:07:52,310 --> 00:07:49,770

interest in pushing the boundaries of

192

00:07:54,650 --> 00:07:52,320

anthropology yeah I think it's really

193

00:07:57,200 --> 00:07:54,660

interesting because to some degree the

194

00:07:58,880 --> 00:07:57,210

emphasis tends to be on Oh consciousness

195

00:08:01,100 --> 00:07:58,890

is such a component of these experiences

196

00:08:03,670 --> 00:08:01,110

we need to be focused on parapsychology

197

00:08:05,720 --> 00:08:03,680

which is useful of course but there are

198

00:08:07,430 --> 00:08:05,730

communities of people experiencing

199

00:08:09,470 --> 00:08:07,440

paranormal and magical things all the

200

00:08:12,140 --> 00:08:09,480

time engaging with spirits all the time

201  
00:08:13,930 --> 00:08:12,150  
and in anthropology instead of

202  
00:08:17,000 --> 00:08:13,940  
researching them from that condescending

203  
00:08:18,650 --> 00:08:17,010  
position of saying oh well it's really

204  
00:08:20,990 --> 00:08:18,660  
fun to study what other people believe

205  
00:08:22,460 --> 00:08:21,000  
in their superstitions but we in the

206  
00:08:24,110 --> 00:08:22,470  
West have figured it all out

207  
00:08:26,300 --> 00:08:24,120  
and we know that there's really nothing

208  
00:08:28,280 --> 00:08:26,310  
there it's an arbitrary study at that

209  
00:08:30,320 --> 00:08:28,290  
point if you're really not gonna assume

210  
00:08:33,170 --> 00:08:30,330  
that what they're interacting with is

211  
00:08:35,960 --> 00:08:33,180  
real and we could learn a lot more if we

212  
00:08:37,670 --> 00:08:35,970  
just took them at their word exactly I

213  
00:08:39,860 --> 00:08:37,680

know that's what I've tried to do with

214

00:08:42,140 --> 00:08:39,870

my research with spirit mediums in

215

00:08:44,150 --> 00:08:42,150

Bristol is not to go in there with

216

00:08:47,510 --> 00:08:44,160

assumptions about what they do but to

217

00:08:49,520 --> 00:08:47,520

kind of experience it firsthand and kind

218

00:08:51,590 --> 00:08:49,530

of take their understandings on board

219

00:08:53,420 --> 00:08:51,600

and see where it leads and not

220

00:08:56,630 --> 00:08:53,430

surprisingly it's led down some in

221

00:08:59,420 --> 00:08:56,640

ting rabbit holes right because you have

222

00:09:01,490 --> 00:08:59,430

had some rather strange paranormal

223

00:09:04,250 --> 00:09:01,500

experiences or sightings over the years

224

00:09:05,780 --> 00:09:04,260

that seemed pretty hard to put back in

225

00:09:08,329 --> 00:09:05,790

the box right could you tell us about a

226

00:09:10,220 --> 00:09:08,339

couple of those there's a few different

227

00:09:11,660 --> 00:09:10,230

things that come to mind I mean going

228

00:09:13,370 --> 00:09:11,670

back to my kind of involvement in

229

00:09:15,980 --> 00:09:13,380

anthropology and these kinds of

230

00:09:18,829 --> 00:09:15,990

questions there's a few experiences that

231

00:09:21,019 --> 00:09:18,839

have led me down this path one of them

232

00:09:23,210 --> 00:09:21,029

was a psychedelic experience that I had

233

00:09:26,540 --> 00:09:23,220

the very first time that I had magic

234

00:09:28,160 --> 00:09:26,550

mushrooms and I saw these small very

235

00:09:30,139 --> 00:09:28,170

light creatures they call them fairies

236

00:09:32,960 --> 00:09:30,149

at the time but perhaps they look a

237

00:09:35,269 --> 00:09:32,970

little bit more like goblins or gremlins

238

00:09:37,519 --> 00:09:35,279

or something that was a big experience

239

00:09:39,800 --> 00:09:37,529

for me and it was a big influence on the

240

00:09:41,000 --> 00:09:39,810

direction that my career is taking I

241

00:09:42,579 --> 00:09:41,010

supposed mm-hmm

242

00:09:45,829 --> 00:09:42,589

sure we could talk a lot about

243

00:09:50,329 --> 00:09:45,839

psychedelics and entity encounters and

244

00:09:52,490 --> 00:09:50,339

that kind of thing sure and then a few

245

00:09:54,829 --> 00:09:52,500

years later when I first went to

246

00:09:57,139 --> 00:09:54,839

university I started to realize that

247

00:09:59,060 --> 00:09:57,149

anthropology provided this like a really

248

00:10:01,670 --> 00:09:59,070

useful framework for investigating all

249

00:10:04,370 --> 00:10:01,680

of these fringe topics and strange

250

00:10:06,260 --> 00:10:04,380

extraordinary experiences because it's

251  
00:10:08,480 --> 00:10:06,270  
been dealing with you know other world

252  
00:10:10,460 --> 00:10:08,490  
views and things for a long time and I

253  
00:10:12,920 --> 00:10:10,470  
became interested in the question you're

254  
00:10:14,660 --> 00:10:12,930  
drawing on my experiences of seeing

255  
00:10:17,210 --> 00:10:14,670  
these fairy creatures and things at that

256  
00:10:20,630 --> 00:10:17,220  
of why it is that people come to believe

257  
00:10:22,940 --> 00:10:20,640  
in these beings so I started from a

258  
00:10:24,980 --> 00:10:22,950  
position of thinking about belief really

259  
00:10:28,519 --> 00:10:24,990  
but I've moved away from that I think

260  
00:10:30,380 --> 00:10:28,529  
over time and I came across this group

261  
00:10:32,690 --> 00:10:30,390  
at Bristol called the Bristol spirit

262  
00:10:35,390 --> 00:10:32,700  
Lodge that seemed to provide a really

263  
00:10:36,590 --> 00:10:35,400

useful it was useful because it was only

264

00:10:38,180 --> 00:10:36,600

about ten minutes down the road from

265

00:10:39,949 --> 00:10:38,190

where I was living which is kind of like

266

00:10:42,860 --> 00:10:39,959

a bit of a weird synchronicity in itself

267

00:10:45,650 --> 00:10:42,870

and it was like a small group of people

268

00:10:48,590 --> 00:10:45,660

who regularly gathered during the week

269

00:10:50,990 --> 00:10:48,600

to basically develop trance and physical

270

00:10:52,699 --> 00:10:51,000

mediumship and it seemed like the

271

00:10:54,230 --> 00:10:52,709

perfect opportunity for me to delve a

272

00:10:55,850 --> 00:10:54,240

little bit deeper into this question of

273

00:10:58,040 --> 00:10:55,860

why it is that people come to believe in

274

00:10:59,780 --> 00:10:58,050

spirits and ultimately the conclusion

275

00:11:01,510 --> 00:10:59,790

that I came to was that people come to

276  
00:11:04,050 --> 00:11:01,520  
believe in spirits because people have

277  
00:11:05,790 --> 00:11:04,060  
experiences of spirits

278  
00:11:09,360 --> 00:11:05,800  
and obviously when you start to engage

279  
00:11:11,310 --> 00:11:09,370  
with experience then again it opens up

280  
00:11:13,470 --> 00:11:11,320  
lots of different avenues that you can

281  
00:11:15,840 --> 00:11:13,480  
start to explore and it leaves you into

282  
00:11:16,710 --> 00:11:15,850  
questions of ontology and what really

283  
00:11:19,080 --> 00:11:16,720  
exists

284  
00:11:22,620 --> 00:11:19,090  
i chi said that moves you away from

285  
00:11:25,200 --> 00:11:22,630  
thinking about beliefs to thinking more

286  
00:11:28,500 --> 00:11:25,210  
about experiences and ontological

287  
00:11:31,770 --> 00:11:28,510  
possibilities mm-hmm and the Bristol

288  
00:11:33,900 --> 00:11:31,780

spirit large stuff is so interesting can

289

00:11:35,400 --> 00:11:33,910

you paint us a picture of what a typical

290

00:11:38,640 --> 00:11:35,410

session looked like they're at least

291

00:11:40,590 --> 00:11:38,650

procedurally what seemed to be important

292

00:11:43,500 --> 00:11:40,600

for opening up these channels of

293

00:11:46,140 --> 00:11:43,510

communication yeah basically the

294

00:11:49,110 --> 00:11:46,150

understanding that I came to with the

295

00:11:51,120 --> 00:11:49,120

seances I attended was that everything

296

00:11:53,400 --> 00:11:51,130

in the seance is geared towards the

297

00:11:56,760 --> 00:11:53,410

induction of altered states of

298

00:12:00,330 --> 00:11:56,770

consciousness in both the medium and in

299

00:12:02,790 --> 00:12:00,340

the sitter's so the usual protocol of

300

00:12:04,680 --> 00:12:02,800

the seances was that first of all you'd

301

00:12:07,380 --> 00:12:04,690

have kind of like an informal chat in

302

00:12:08,700 --> 00:12:07,390

the house and you discussed know what

303

00:12:10,200 --> 00:12:08,710

you've been doing in the week they'd

304

00:12:12,470 --> 00:12:10,210

have a cup of tea and all those kinds of

305

00:12:15,780 --> 00:12:12,480

things and I mean these are really

306

00:12:18,930 --> 00:12:15,790

normal people whatever normal is these

307

00:12:21,510 --> 00:12:18,940

are kind of like mainstream people with

308

00:12:23,160 --> 00:12:21,520

an interest in spirit mediumship and so

309

00:12:25,800 --> 00:12:23,170

it was very interesting in that sense

310

00:12:28,040 --> 00:12:25,810

and then you go out into the lodge which

311

00:12:30,990 --> 00:12:28,050

was a wooden shed in the garden

312

00:12:33,240 --> 00:12:31,000

literally is like a five foot by five

313

00:12:36,150 --> 00:12:33,250

foot shed so it's quite small and

314

00:12:38,910 --> 00:12:36,160

intimate space inside the lodge they had

315

00:12:40,110 --> 00:12:38,920

a circle of chairs laid out and in the

316

00:12:43,830 --> 00:12:40,120

very middle of the room there was a

317

00:12:46,320 --> 00:12:43,840

wooden platform kind of like a wooden

318

00:12:47,880 --> 00:12:46,330

panel right on the floor which they

319

00:12:50,040 --> 00:12:47,890

would put objects on for spirits to

320

00:12:52,050 --> 00:12:50,050

manipulate the other reason that the

321

00:12:54,390 --> 00:12:52,060

panel was there was so that

322

00:12:56,130 --> 00:12:54,400

if there was any suspicion that the

323

00:12:57,300 --> 00:12:56,140

medium was sneaking around the room or

324

00:13:00,060 --> 00:12:57,310

anything you'd be able to hear them

325

00:13:02,220 --> 00:13:00,070

walking on this wooden panel so that was

326

00:13:04,680 --> 00:13:02,230

kind of like a safeguard and then in the

327

00:13:07,470 --> 00:13:04,690

very corner of the room they had a

328

00:13:10,170 --> 00:13:07,480

curtain doff area called the cabinet

329

00:13:12,300 --> 00:13:10,180

which is a you know something that

330

00:13:13,920 --> 00:13:12,310

spiritualists have been using since you

331

00:13:16,350 --> 00:13:13,930

know way back when the spiritualist

332

00:13:19,470 --> 00:13:16,360

movement began in the 19th century so

333

00:13:21,900 --> 00:13:19,480

the medium sits in the cabinet

334

00:13:24,660 --> 00:13:21,910

the circle leader will put on some music

335

00:13:27,210 --> 00:13:24,670

and they'll put on red lights usually

336

00:13:30,240 --> 00:13:27,220

the circle leader reads a prayer which

337

00:13:32,220 --> 00:13:30,250

invites spirits to come down into the

338

00:13:35,580 --> 00:13:32,230

lodge to make themselves known through

339

00:13:37,440 --> 00:13:35,590

the medium this prayer is also like a

340

00:13:39,540 --> 00:13:37,450

prayer of protection because obviously

341

00:13:41,760 --> 00:13:39,550

if you're inviting spirits down you

342

00:13:44,340 --> 00:13:41,770

don't want to be inviting down negative

343

00:13:47,130 --> 00:13:44,350

entities so they do try to cover their

344

00:13:51,020 --> 00:13:47,140

bases in that sense they call themselves

345

00:13:53,520 --> 00:13:51,030

a non-denominational spiritualist group

346

00:13:56,280 --> 00:13:53,530

because they don't affiliate themselves

347

00:13:58,800 --> 00:13:56,290

with big organizations like the

348

00:14:00,510 --> 00:13:58,810

spiritualist National Union they don't

349

00:14:03,120 --> 00:14:00,520

consider themselves to be religious in

350

00:14:05,160 --> 00:14:03,130

any way when they're doing these prayers

351

00:14:08,280 --> 00:14:05,170

they do still kind of call out to a

352

00:14:10,740 --> 00:14:08,290

higher power or you could call it God or

353

00:14:12,690 --> 00:14:10,750

some kind of a great spirit that will do

354

00:14:15,000 --> 00:14:12,700

the protecting so that was interesting

355

00:14:17,810 --> 00:14:15,010

as well the way the religion and the

356

00:14:19,890 --> 00:14:17,820

paranormal kind of merged together and

357

00:14:21,450 --> 00:14:19,900

from the middle of them you get this

358

00:14:23,100 --> 00:14:21,460

whole of the way of thinking about the

359

00:14:25,790 --> 00:14:23,110

nature of God so that was pretty

360

00:14:28,590 --> 00:14:25,800

interesting it is interesting because

361

00:14:31,080 --> 00:14:28,600

it's the religious listeners I have that

362

00:14:34,500 --> 00:14:31,090

anytime I do a show focused on magic or

363

00:14:36,480 --> 00:14:34,510

a figure in magical history they get

364

00:14:37,860 --> 00:14:36,490

real nervous about it and it's almost

365

00:14:40,680 --> 00:14:37,870

like they've made their mind up that

366

00:14:42,750 --> 00:14:40,690

these are negative people and that you

367

00:14:46,260 --> 00:14:42,760

know and the big conspiracy most of it's

368

00:14:48,420 --> 00:14:46,270

all occultists and that occult equals

369

00:14:50,430 --> 00:14:48,430

bad and all that stuff but in a previous

370

00:14:52,710 --> 00:14:50,440

interview I heard you mention upbeat

371

00:14:54,270 --> 00:14:52,720

music as being helpful in the seance

372

00:14:55,800 --> 00:14:54,280

that spirits like a jovial atmosphere

373

00:14:58,350 --> 00:14:55,810

I've never heard that before

374

00:15:00,120 --> 00:14:58,360

but we have that religious residue that

375

00:15:01,890 --> 00:15:00,130

says if spirits are real then they're

376

00:15:04,470 --> 00:15:01,900

just demons and they're bad did you

377

00:15:06,510 --> 00:15:04,480

encounter anything more demonic or

378

00:15:08,160 --> 00:15:06,520

something you felt was dangerous along

379

00:15:10,380 --> 00:15:08,170

the way that would jive with that sort

380

00:15:13,680 --> 00:15:10,390

of belief I don't think I did actually

381

00:15:15,060 --> 00:15:13,690

to be honest I didn't encounter any you

382

00:15:18,120 --> 00:15:15,070

know anything that we would think of as

383

00:15:20,640 --> 00:15:18,130

demonic or evil motives that come

384

00:15:23,190 --> 00:15:20,650

through our well basically how it works

385

00:15:25,620 --> 00:15:23,200

is each medium has their own they call

386

00:15:27,570 --> 00:15:25,630

them spirit team which in my experience

387

00:15:29,760 --> 00:15:27,580

at the Bristol Spirit lodge could be you

388

00:15:32,820 --> 00:15:29,770

know anything from like two to sixteen

389

00:15:35,370 --> 00:15:32,830

different individuals who come through

390

00:15:37,860 --> 00:15:35,380

but the point is that they are regular

391

00:15:39,510 --> 00:15:37,870

communicators so it's not like when you

392

00:15:41,940 --> 00:15:39,520

go to a spiritualist Church and you want

393

00:15:44,370 --> 00:15:41,950

to make contact with the spirit of a

394

00:15:46,050 --> 00:15:44,380

dead loved one or anything like that you

395

00:15:48,120 --> 00:15:46,060

go to these seances because you want to

396

00:15:51,270 --> 00:15:48,130

communicate with a set group of spirits

397

00:15:53,220 --> 00:15:51,280

so they weren't actively inviting in new

398

00:15:54,960 --> 00:15:53,230

spirits every time you would just go and

399

00:15:57,120 --> 00:15:54,970

you'd meet with this same group of

400

00:15:59,040 --> 00:15:57,130

spirits which was really interesting

401  
00:16:01,800 --> 00:15:59,050  
because you get to know the spirits over

402  
00:16:04,410 --> 00:16:01,810  
a long period of time you get to notice

403  
00:16:06,720 --> 00:16:04,420  
quirks that they have you get to notice

404  
00:16:09,060 --> 00:16:06,730  
whether their vocal tonality changes

405  
00:16:11,610 --> 00:16:09,070  
over time and things like that and I was

406  
00:16:13,770 --> 00:16:11,620  
impressed to see that actually the

407  
00:16:15,870 --> 00:16:13,780  
individual spirit personalities in these

408  
00:16:19,050 --> 00:16:15,880  
spirit teams were quite consistent over

409  
00:16:22,770 --> 00:16:19,060  
weeks and months mmm and even years I

410  
00:16:24,900 --> 00:16:22,780  
like that and it is sort of my general

411  
00:16:27,360 --> 00:16:24,910  
worldview of course nothing is absolute

412  
00:16:30,870 --> 00:16:27,370  
but I just feel like it's mostly residue

413  
00:16:32,430 --> 00:16:30,880

from religious authorities that want to

414

00:16:34,320 --> 00:16:32,440

paint this picture that it's all bad

415

00:16:36,330 --> 00:16:34,330

it's not people who have real experience

416

00:16:37,890 --> 00:16:36,340

in magic saying that it's generally

417

00:16:40,770 --> 00:16:37,900

people who are just afraid to try I mean

418

00:16:43,380 --> 00:16:40,780

isn't it coincidental that we don't

419

00:16:46,080 --> 00:16:43,390

teach meditation in our culture we say

420

00:16:47,640 --> 00:16:46,090

magic is evil or dumb and then also

421

00:16:49,740 --> 00:16:47,650

psychedelics are illegal I mean these

422

00:16:51,510 --> 00:16:49,750

are the components that all get you

423

00:16:53,850 --> 00:16:51,520

there these are all the roads that lead

424

00:16:56,820 --> 00:16:53,860

to learning that there's more than the

425

00:16:58,350 --> 00:16:56,830

material world and yet they're all road

426

00:17:01,110 --> 00:16:58,360

blocked I find that to be pretty

427

00:17:03,330 --> 00:17:01,120

convenient yeah I think it also has

428

00:17:05,699 --> 00:17:03,340

something to do with the rise of

429

00:17:08,780 --> 00:17:05,709

priesthood and things like that we're

430

00:17:11,010 --> 00:17:08,790

dealing with the leftovers of that where

431

00:17:14,250 --> 00:17:11,020

communication with the gods or with the

432

00:17:15,780 --> 00:17:14,260

spirits was the job just for one person

433

00:17:18,420 --> 00:17:15,790

I mean before the rise of the

434

00:17:20,160 --> 00:17:18,430

monotheistic religions obviously there

435

00:17:22,650 --> 00:17:20,170

were priests but we might be able to

436

00:17:24,540 --> 00:17:22,660

speculate on whether the spiritual world

437

00:17:28,710 --> 00:17:24,550

was a little bit more democratic perhaps

438

00:17:31,380 --> 00:17:28,720

but over time and as a hangover of you

439

00:17:33,390 --> 00:17:31,390

know Christianity all of these

440

00:17:34,770 --> 00:17:33,400

techniques that are available to human

441

00:17:37,170 --> 00:17:34,780

beings to make contact with that world

442

00:17:39,390 --> 00:17:37,180

have been demonized literally demonized

443

00:17:41,910 --> 00:17:39,400

so yeah it's pretty interesting stuff

444

00:17:44,490 --> 00:17:41,920

right and a certain kind of personal

445

00:17:46,300 --> 00:17:44,500

power comes from engaging with that so

446

00:17:48,070 --> 00:17:46,310

again convenient that some

447

00:17:50,380 --> 00:17:48,080

else would want to say actually give me

448

00:17:53,050 --> 00:17:50,390

some money and I'll facilitate this

449

00:17:55,000 --> 00:17:53,060

stuff for you and I'll tell you what God

450

00:17:57,160 --> 00:17:55,010

wants you to do I think it's a little

451

00:17:59,200 --> 00:17:57,170

silly that people don't they they're

452

00:18:01,240 --> 00:17:59,210

just not more curious about that

453

00:18:03,580 --> 00:18:01,250

motivation and that and that what might

454

00:18:05,320 --> 00:18:03,590

actually be behind the proverbial door

455

00:18:07,420 --> 00:18:05,330

number three so this is a lot of fun

456

00:18:10,300 --> 00:18:07,430

yeah you know you talk about a lot of

457

00:18:11,590 --> 00:18:10,310

anthropologists in the book and what you

458

00:18:13,630 --> 00:18:11,600

liked and didn't like about their

459

00:18:15,460 --> 00:18:13,640

various approaches to studying this sort

460

00:18:17,350 --> 00:18:15,470

of stuff and you say that you were

461

00:18:18,670 --> 00:18:17,360

greatly influenced by the work of edith

462

00:18:21,280 --> 00:18:18,680

turner who you mentioned earlier to

463

00:18:23,020 --> 00:18:21,290

quote you you write in the same way that

464

00:18:25,390 --> 00:18:23,030

if one follows the recipe for a

465

00:18:27,280 --> 00:18:25,400

chocolate cake in detail a chocolate

466

00:18:30,430 --> 00:18:27,290

cake will result from the procedure if

467

00:18:32,530 --> 00:18:30,440

one follows a ritual properly the ritual

468

00:18:34,360 --> 00:18:32,540

outcome will be achieved this is

469

00:18:37,450 --> 00:18:34,370

precisely what edith turner found when

470

00:18:40,330 --> 00:18:37,460

she participated in the i humba ceremony

471

00:18:43,420 --> 00:18:40,340

in zambia can you tell us about what she

472

00:18:45,250 --> 00:18:43,430

witnessed in that ceremony yeah I first

473

00:18:46,690 --> 00:18:45,260

heard about this during I think it was

474

00:18:50,200 --> 00:18:46,700

in the final year of my undergraduate

475

00:18:52,330 --> 00:18:50,210

degree I was taking a module on religion

476

00:18:56,260 --> 00:18:52,340

and cosmology with Fiona Bowie he would

477

00:18:58,570 --> 00:18:56,270

go on to be my PhD supervisor and when I

478

00:19:02,110 --> 00:18:58,580

heard this story of Edith owners I was

479

00:19:04,870 --> 00:19:02,120

totally blown away because she's full-on

480

00:19:07,450 --> 00:19:04,880

talking about the experience you know as

481

00:19:10,600 --> 00:19:07,460

an ontological event or as a you know as

482

00:19:12,310 --> 00:19:10,610

a real experience that she had that

483

00:19:14,830 --> 00:19:12,320

seemed to record well with the beliefs

484

00:19:17,770 --> 00:19:14,840

of her informants so basically what

485

00:19:20,830 --> 00:19:17,780

happened was she had been to participate

486

00:19:22,480 --> 00:19:20,840

in this a hand the ceremony with her

487

00:19:24,880 --> 00:19:22,490

husband Victor Turner who was a very

488

00:19:26,320 --> 00:19:24,890

influential anthropologist and it's from

489

00:19:28,750 --> 00:19:26,330

Victor Turner that we get all of these

490

00:19:31,300 --> 00:19:28,760

concepts of liminality and things like

491

00:19:33,570 --> 00:19:31,310

that and communitas so he was a very big

492

00:19:37,360 --> 00:19:33,580

important anthropologist but they were

493

00:19:40,420 --> 00:19:37,370

relatively reserved anthropologists to

494

00:19:43,060 --> 00:19:40,430

begin with observing the rituals but not

495

00:19:44,740 --> 00:19:43,070

necessarily participating in them and

496

00:19:45,820 --> 00:19:44,750

then a few years later after Victor

497

00:19:48,610 --> 00:19:45,830

Turner had passed away

498

00:19:51,310 --> 00:19:48,620

Edith Turner went back out into the

499

00:19:54,700 --> 00:19:51,320

field back out to Zambia with the in

500

00:19:56,590 --> 00:19:54,710

Denver people and she decided that she

501  
00:19:59,290 --> 00:19:56,600  
was gonna allow herself to kind of

502  
00:19:59,890 --> 00:19:59,300  
participate in this ritual fully bodily

503  
00:20:02,340 --> 00:19:59,900  
and

504  
00:20:05,290 --> 00:20:02,350  
emotionally for the first time really

505  
00:20:08,170 --> 00:20:05,300  
the ritual basically that takes place

506  
00:20:10,300 --> 00:20:08,180  
over a bunch of hours and the idea is

507  
00:20:11,860 --> 00:20:10,310  
that there is an afflicted person a

508  
00:20:14,350 --> 00:20:11,870  
member of the community who's been

509  
00:20:16,840 --> 00:20:14,360  
afflicted by any hand or spirit and this

510  
00:20:19,030 --> 00:20:16,850  
spirit enters into the body of the

511  
00:20:20,410 --> 00:20:19,040  
person and it kind of moves around and

512  
00:20:23,260 --> 00:20:20,420  
they say that it moves around the body

513  
00:20:25,000 --> 00:20:23,270

in the form of a human tooth that kind

514

00:20:26,220 --> 00:20:25,010

of moves around inside and causes all

515

00:20:30,130 --> 00:20:26,230

sorts of problems

516

00:20:32,140 --> 00:20:30,140

so they do a bunch of ritual actions

517

00:20:33,940 --> 00:20:32,150

they have a medicine man kind of

518

00:20:36,970 --> 00:20:33,950

thinking that's probably not the best

519

00:20:40,540 --> 00:20:36,980

term to use the you know a healer or

520

00:20:43,780 --> 00:20:40,550

Shaymin and over the period of this

521

00:20:46,270 --> 00:20:43,790

ritual of dancing and chanting and you

522

00:20:47,320 --> 00:20:46,280

know all sorts of ritual actions at the

523

00:20:50,710 --> 00:20:47,330

very climax

524

00:20:52,630 --> 00:20:50,720

Edith Turner felt that she was about she

525

00:20:55,570 --> 00:20:52,640

said she felt as if something was about

526  
00:20:57,460 --> 00:20:55,580  
to be born and it was a kind of a

527  
00:20:59,590 --> 00:20:57,470  
palpable feeling amongst the whole group

528  
00:21:02,620 --> 00:20:59,600  
that something was about to happen and

529  
00:21:04,210 --> 00:21:02,630  
at the very climax she saw the medicine

530  
00:21:06,580 --> 00:21:04,220  
man scooping out the back of the

531  
00:21:10,660 --> 00:21:06,590  
afflicted patient what she described as

532  
00:21:14,110 --> 00:21:10,670  
a gray ectoplasmic kind of blob thing

533  
00:21:16,000 --> 00:21:14,120  
yes he's totally crazy stuff and this

534  
00:21:19,060 --> 00:21:16,010  
was the amber spirit this was the entity

535  
00:21:21,850 --> 00:21:19,070  
itself and the medicine man held the

536  
00:21:24,010 --> 00:21:21,860  
spirit in his hands quickly put it into

537  
00:21:28,000 --> 00:21:24,020  
a jar and they capped it over with a

538  
00:21:29,710 --> 00:21:28,010

castor oil leaf of castor leaf and when

539

00:21:31,600 --> 00:21:29,720

they went to have a look inside the jar

540

00:21:33,510 --> 00:21:31,610

afterwards to see what was in there sure

541

00:21:35,710 --> 00:21:33,520

enough there was a human tooth in there

542

00:21:38,110 --> 00:21:35,720

so it was a pretty crazy kind of

543

00:21:39,790 --> 00:21:38,120

experience to have and she said it was

544

00:21:43,540 --> 00:21:39,800

this experience that basically led her

545

00:21:46,510 --> 00:21:43,550

to include that in order to understand

546

00:21:49,090 --> 00:21:46,520

ritual and we can extend that to you

547

00:21:51,010 --> 00:21:49,100

know religion or the paranormal or any

548

00:21:54,250 --> 00:21:51,020

of these kinds of things in order to

549

00:21:56,230 --> 00:21:54,260

understand them we have to learn to see

550

00:21:58,630 --> 00:21:56,240

them the way that the native sees them

551  
00:22:00,790 --> 00:21:58,640  
and by native she doesn't mean you know

552  
00:22:02,580 --> 00:22:00,800  
like primitive tribal people or anything

553  
00:22:04,960 --> 00:22:02,590  
that she means like the people who

554  
00:22:07,330 --> 00:22:04,970  
participate and created those rituals

555  
00:22:10,150 --> 00:22:07,340  
and all of those kinds of things so it

556  
00:22:11,590 --> 00:22:10,160  
was big influence on me anyway yeah

557  
00:22:13,340 --> 00:22:11,600  
that's a wild story sounds like

558  
00:22:15,830 --> 00:22:13,350  
something out of Constantine

559  
00:22:18,230 --> 00:22:15,840  
but I do like that attitude that

560  
00:22:20,539 --> 00:22:18,240  
studying the edges of reality and these

561  
00:22:23,029 --> 00:22:20,549  
most epic of experiences is how we

562  
00:22:25,789 --> 00:22:23,039  
should map our world not by studying the

563  
00:22:27,320 --> 00:22:25,799

mundane that's the obvious part you know

564

00:22:30,529 --> 00:22:27,330

we should know where the boundaries are

565

00:22:31,880 --> 00:22:30,539

if there even are any but I hear a story

566

00:22:33,409 --> 00:22:31,890

like that I think listeners hear

567

00:22:36,320 --> 00:22:33,419

something like that and it's definitely

568

00:22:38,840 --> 00:22:36,330

fascinating but it doesn't jive with the

569

00:22:41,779 --> 00:22:38,850

experiences we have or anyone we know

570

00:22:45,680 --> 00:22:41,789

has generally and you hear about the

571

00:22:48,919 --> 00:22:45,690

ideas of possession or that entities can

572

00:22:51,140 --> 00:22:48,929

cause us a mince or be a contributing

573

00:22:54,830 --> 00:22:51,150

factor like maybe you have a headache or

574

00:22:58,669 --> 00:22:54,840

something or back pain and I just don't

575

00:23:01,340 --> 00:22:58,679

really know what is a good way to think

576

00:23:04,190 --> 00:23:01,350

about that stuff do you have a model for

577

00:23:06,470 --> 00:23:04,200

the influence that entities have on us

578

00:23:07,970 --> 00:23:06,480

or how to draw those lines especially in

579

00:23:10,640 --> 00:23:07,980

the Western world when people don't even

580

00:23:12,980 --> 00:23:10,650

believe they exist it's like well not

581

00:23:15,049 --> 00:23:12,990

believing they exist doesn't really make

582

00:23:17,539 --> 00:23:15,059

them not exist so do they still affect

583

00:23:19,279 --> 00:23:17,549

people that sort of thing yeah that's

584

00:23:22,640 --> 00:23:19,289

interesting I mean I don't have any kind

585

00:23:25,130 --> 00:23:22,650

of formalized model to think about it

586

00:23:25,940 --> 00:23:25,140

but I definitely think that it's a

587

00:23:28,490 --> 00:23:25,950

possibility

588

00:23:30,070 --> 00:23:28,500

and if we take seriously that evidence

589

00:23:32,779 --> 00:23:30,080

that we have from you know

590

00:23:35,090 --> 00:23:32,789

parapsychology and the evidence that we

591

00:23:36,980 --> 00:23:35,100

have from mediumship research and all

592

00:23:38,360 --> 00:23:36,990

those kind of things it certainly seems

593

00:23:40,430 --> 00:23:38,370

to suggest that there's at least the

594

00:23:42,590 --> 00:23:40,440

possibility that these entities are out

595

00:23:43,909 --> 00:23:42,600

there and if they are out there then

596

00:23:46,159 --> 00:23:43,919

they've always been out there and

597

00:23:48,830 --> 00:23:46,169

they've always been interacting with

598

00:23:52,100 --> 00:23:48,840

human beings so you know if we take that

599

00:23:53,510 --> 00:23:52,110

as our starting point then you know the

600

00:23:54,830 --> 00:23:53,520

fact that we don't believe in them

601  
00:23:56,810 --> 00:23:54,840  
anymore doesn't mean that they're not

602  
00:23:59,350 --> 00:23:56,820  
still interacting with us in certain

603  
00:24:02,419 --> 00:23:59,360  
ways and that they might be spiritual or

604  
00:24:04,070 --> 00:24:02,429  
metaphysical causes behind different

605  
00:24:06,140 --> 00:24:04,080  
kinds of ailments and things that we

606  
00:24:09,049 --> 00:24:06,150  
just don't think in those kinds of terms

607  
00:24:10,370 --> 00:24:09,059  
anymore it's a hard thing to parse out

608  
00:24:12,289 --> 00:24:10,380  
because I've also heard people talk

609  
00:24:14,299 --> 00:24:12,299  
about maybe if you're just irritable or

610  
00:24:16,580 --> 00:24:14,309  
if you're acting shitty to your spouse

611  
00:24:18,950 --> 00:24:16,590  
for a week maybe you need a clearing in

612  
00:24:20,450 --> 00:24:18,960  
your house or a protection spell yeah or

613  
00:24:22,549 --> 00:24:20,460

it's like maybe it's just been hot

614

00:24:24,380 --> 00:24:22,559

lately or maybe you're just pissed about

615

00:24:27,150 --> 00:24:24,390

your economic situation it's really hard

616

00:24:29,370 --> 00:24:27,160

to isolate causes but I

617

00:24:31,320 --> 00:24:29,380

spirits are in the mix somewhere I just

618

00:24:33,780 --> 00:24:31,330

don't want to give them too much credit

619

00:24:35,670 --> 00:24:33,790

or not enough and it's hard to really

620

00:24:38,970 --> 00:24:35,680

find where that dial should be

621

00:24:41,400 --> 00:24:38,980

calibrated to yeah it's true it makes me

622

00:24:45,120 --> 00:24:41,410

think of the weird relationship in the

623

00:24:47,970 --> 00:24:45,130

19th century between spiritualism and

624

00:24:51,630 --> 00:24:47,980

things like multiple personality

625

00:24:53,670 --> 00:24:51,640

disorders and hypnosis instead of the

626  
00:24:56,340 --> 00:24:53,680  
paranormal researcher david scott Rogow

627  
00:24:58,830 --> 00:24:56,350  
called this an an infinite boundary that

628  
00:25:00,720 --> 00:24:58,840  
there's this constant crossing over of

629  
00:25:02,400 --> 00:25:00,730  
this boundary between spirit possession

630  
00:25:04,260 --> 00:25:02,410  
and multiple personality and all those

631  
00:25:05,760 --> 00:25:04,270  
kind of things and actually when you

632  
00:25:07,860 --> 00:25:05,770  
start to think about it in those terms

633  
00:25:10,370 --> 00:25:07,870  
as well it becomes very difficult to

634  
00:25:12,379 --> 00:25:10,380  
pull the threads of our

635  
00:25:15,169 --> 00:25:12,389  
that's a great point I live here in San

636  
00:25:19,070 --> 00:25:15,179  
Diego we have a real homelessness crisis

637  
00:25:21,529 --> 00:25:19,080  
and sometimes I will sit and just kind

638  
00:25:24,259 --> 00:25:21,539

of from a distance like really observe

639

00:25:26,990 --> 00:25:24,269

someone who's you know screaming on the

640

00:25:29,120 --> 00:25:27,000

corner to no one and I'm like is that is

641

00:25:30,799 --> 00:25:29,130

that that person is that a sputer what's

642

00:25:32,360 --> 00:25:30,809

going on there what really is that and

643

00:25:34,460 --> 00:25:32,370

I've you know there's a hundred people

644

00:25:36,769 --> 00:25:34,470

walking by them just kind of crossing

645

00:25:39,080 --> 00:25:36,779

the street and clutching their purse but

646

00:25:40,610 --> 00:25:39,090

it is kind of fascinating to think about

647

00:25:42,950 --> 00:25:40,620

it you know if someone's like well

648

00:25:45,409 --> 00:25:42,960

spirits aren't real well maybe you just

649

00:25:47,480 --> 00:25:45,419

walked past one who was possessing

650

00:25:50,480 --> 00:25:47,490

someone I mean I don't I just don't know

651

00:25:52,940 --> 00:25:50,490

no yeah it's really interesting stuff it

652

00:25:55,060 --> 00:25:52,950

also brings to mind all of the that's

653

00:25:57,200 --> 00:25:55,070

kind of therapeutic potentials of

654

00:25:59,090 --> 00:25:57,210

mediumship development and all of those

655

00:26:00,350 --> 00:25:59,100

kind of things that's one thing that I

656

00:26:03,049 --> 00:26:00,360

started to think about when I was doing

657

00:26:05,600 --> 00:26:03,059

my research was a lot of the mediums

658

00:26:07,129 --> 00:26:05,610

that I spoke to said that throughout

659

00:26:10,460 --> 00:26:07,139

their lives as they were growing up

660

00:26:12,560 --> 00:26:10,470

they'd had strange experiences one

661

00:26:15,440 --> 00:26:12,570

medium for example said you know issues

662

00:26:17,570 --> 00:26:15,450

to go into old houses and things she

663

00:26:19,580 --> 00:26:17,580

would get this horrible feeling she said

664

00:26:21,919 --> 00:26:19,590

it felt like something passing through

665

00:26:24,049 --> 00:26:21,929

her body and she described it as like

666

00:26:26,960 --> 00:26:24,059

you're trying to pull a jumper off

667

00:26:29,119 --> 00:26:26,970

inside out it's a really strange way of

668

00:26:31,700 --> 00:26:29,129

describing it but she felt some kind of

669

00:26:32,990 --> 00:26:31,710

like a pull and it used to really freak

670

00:26:34,970 --> 00:26:33,000

her out and you know it made her really

671

00:26:37,789 --> 00:26:34,980

scared because it's such a strange

672

00:26:40,070 --> 00:26:37,799

sensation and then it was only you know

673

00:26:42,950 --> 00:26:40,080

few years down the line following a few

674

00:26:45,259 --> 00:26:42,960

other kinds of trajectories that they

675

00:26:47,720 --> 00:26:45,269

started to develop mediumship kind of

676

00:26:50,539 --> 00:26:47,730

formally and realized that all of these

677

00:26:52,490 --> 00:26:50,549

feelings and experiences that they've

678

00:26:55,430 --> 00:26:52,500

had these anomalous experiences they

679

00:26:57,880 --> 00:26:55,440

have had were indications of their inner

680

00:26:59,710 --> 00:26:57,890

future mediumistic calling

681

00:27:01,090 --> 00:26:59,720

and it was through developing mediumship

682

00:27:03,400 --> 00:27:01,100

that they were able to kind of

683

00:27:05,860 --> 00:27:03,410

domesticate those wild anomalous

684

00:27:07,930 --> 00:27:05,870

experiences and put them to some kind of

685

00:27:10,090 --> 00:27:07,940

use and I just wonder about that you

686

00:27:11,920 --> 00:27:10,100

know the possibilities of the

687

00:27:13,330 --> 00:27:11,930

therapeutic potentials of these

688

00:27:16,030 --> 00:27:13,340

different traditions that are being

689

00:27:19,090 --> 00:27:16,040

totally ignored by mainstream Western

690

00:27:21,700 --> 00:27:19,100

medicine the whole load of stuff there

691

00:27:24,460 --> 00:27:21,710

should be explore right and it is very

692

00:27:27,130 --> 00:27:24,470

very frustrating that this hasn't been

693

00:27:29,080 --> 00:27:27,140

done already with like all the years

694

00:27:32,260 --> 00:27:29,090

that the sciences have had and all this

695

00:27:33,820 --> 00:27:32,270

stuff I am super grateful that you're

696

00:27:36,010 --> 00:27:33,830

deciding to do this work but it's also

697

00:27:37,630 --> 00:27:36,020

so frustrating it's like you know what

698

00:27:39,100 --> 00:27:37,640

have you been doing this to me is like

699

00:27:41,110 --> 00:27:39,110

really where the rubber meets the road

700

00:27:44,170 --> 00:27:41,120

if you want to study reality and the

701  
00:27:46,030 --> 00:27:44,180  
human experience and to maybe elaborate

702  
00:27:48,850 --> 00:27:46,040  
on a portion of your work tell the

703  
00:27:50,320 --> 00:27:48,860  
people what ontological flooding is this

704  
00:27:54,730 --> 00:27:50,330  
seems to be a big part of the Jack

705  
00:27:57,730 --> 00:27:54,740  
hunter soup isn't it yeah my ontological

706  
00:28:00,540 --> 00:27:57,740  
flooding is basically the term that I've

707  
00:28:03,160 --> 00:28:00,550  
developed for my approach to

708  
00:28:04,780 --> 00:28:03,170  
investigating well anything with it

709  
00:28:07,000 --> 00:28:04,790  
doesn't have to be the paranormal but

710  
00:28:11,050 --> 00:28:07,010  
you know it works very well with the

711  
00:28:16,170 --> 00:28:11,060  
paranormal and basically the idea is we

712  
00:28:18,640 --> 00:28:16,180  
need to entertain multiple possibilities

713  
00:28:21,070 --> 00:28:18,650

simultaneously if we start to reduce

714

00:28:22,810 --> 00:28:21,080

ourselves down to a single explanation

715

00:28:26,050 --> 00:28:22,820

then there's a whole load of other

716

00:28:28,960 --> 00:28:26,060

things that be really missing out on the

717

00:28:32,710 --> 00:28:28,970

idea kind of came out of my research on

718

00:28:34,540 --> 00:28:32,720

mediumship and I saw that especially in

719

00:28:36,730 --> 00:28:34,550

anthropology there's been so many

720

00:28:40,270 --> 00:28:36,740

different explanatory frameworks applied

721

00:28:42,010 --> 00:28:40,280

to it so for example a very popular

722

00:28:43,540 --> 00:28:42,020

explanation of spirit mediumship and

723

00:28:45,820 --> 00:28:43,550

possession at the moment is that kind of

724

00:28:48,520 --> 00:28:45,830

cognitive explanation but they explain

725

00:28:50,410 --> 00:28:48,530

mediumship in terms of like cognitive

726

00:28:52,180 --> 00:28:50,420

processes in the brain and it's just a

727

00:28:54,220 --> 00:28:52,190

way that we perceive the world and the

728

00:28:57,210 --> 00:28:54,230

way we think about things and there's no

729

00:28:59,330 --> 00:28:57,220

real you know there's no ontological

730

00:29:00,830 --> 00:28:59,340

basis to it

731

00:29:02,739 --> 00:29:00,840

another explanation is the kind of

732

00:29:05,739 --> 00:29:02,749

social functional explanation where

733

00:29:08,299 --> 00:29:05,749

mediumship performs a function of

734

00:29:11,830 --> 00:29:08,309

providing an opportunity for social

735

00:29:14,659 --> 00:29:11,840

protest in societies where women

736

00:29:17,499 --> 00:29:14,669

particularly are suppressed it gives

737

00:29:20,110 --> 00:29:17,509

them an opportunity to kind of speak out

738

00:29:22,279 --> 00:29:20,120

another explanation is the medical

739

00:29:25,220 --> 00:29:22,289

reductionist model where they basically

740

00:29:27,710 --> 00:29:25,230

say that spirit mediumship and spirit

741

00:29:30,230 --> 00:29:27,720

possession are a form of a pathological

742

00:29:32,180 --> 00:29:30,240

condition and so they might associate it

743

00:29:33,909 --> 00:29:32,190

with multiple personality disorder or

744

00:29:36,889 --> 00:29:33,919

schizophrenia or things like that and

745

00:29:38,749 --> 00:29:36,899

basically I was like well there's so

746

00:29:41,590 --> 00:29:38,759

many different explanations here for

747

00:29:45,529 --> 00:29:41,600

spirit possession and I can see that

748

00:29:48,049 --> 00:29:45,539

lots of them kind of make sense but

749

00:29:50,149 --> 00:29:48,059

we've we take them in themselves as a

750

00:29:51,590 --> 00:29:50,159

single complete explanation they don't

751  
00:29:54,109 --> 00:29:51,600  
seem to account for everything that's

752  
00:29:55,909 --> 00:29:54,119  
going on so for example social

753  
00:29:58,310 --> 00:29:55,919  
functional explanations don't really

754  
00:29:59,989 --> 00:29:58,320  
take into account the experience of

755  
00:30:02,539 --> 00:29:59,999  
mediumship and what mediumship feels

756  
00:30:05,899 --> 00:30:02,549  
like to the person who's undergoing it

757  
00:30:07,369 --> 00:30:05,909  
or none of those kind of dominant

758  
00:30:09,710 --> 00:30:07,379  
anthropological approaches take

759  
00:30:12,560 --> 00:30:09,720  
seriously the possibility that genuine

760  
00:30:15,710 --> 00:30:12,570  
SCI phenomena are a possibility or that

761  
00:30:17,119 --> 00:30:15,720  
spirits might actually be real so you

762  
00:30:19,369 --> 00:30:17,129  
know I kind of came to the conclusion

763  
00:30:21,710 --> 00:30:19,379

that when we're thinking about these

764

00:30:24,889 --> 00:30:21,720

things we need to include all of these

765

00:30:27,739 --> 00:30:24,899

possibilities and more and that's what I

766

00:30:29,629 --> 00:30:27,749

mean by ontological flooding is that we

767

00:30:31,279 --> 00:30:29,639

need to kind of flood ourselves with all

768

00:30:32,980 --> 00:30:31,289

of these possibilities if we're going to

769

00:30:36,009 --> 00:30:32,990

get anywhere near close to understanding

770

00:30:39,230 --> 00:30:36,019

the true complexity of these issues

771

00:30:41,840 --> 00:30:39,240

right instead of an either/or approach

772

00:30:44,330 --> 00:30:41,850

it's both and like let's throw all the

773

00:30:46,220 --> 00:30:44,340

ideas up there and whichever are the

774

00:30:48,249 --> 00:30:46,230

most valid will stay around and the

775

00:30:50,299 --> 00:30:48,259

other ones will fall by the wayside and

776

00:30:52,820 --> 00:30:50,309

it's like altered states of

777

00:30:54,710 --> 00:30:52,830

consciousness are so key to these

778

00:30:57,470 --> 00:30:54,720

experiences you can almost empathize

779

00:30:59,539 --> 00:30:57,480

with those camps that feel like it it's

780

00:31:01,659 --> 00:30:59,549

all in the head but that's still so

781

00:31:05,450 --> 00:31:01,669

dismissive and maybe it's about

782

00:31:08,869 --> 00:31:05,460

arbitrary categorization between real

783

00:31:10,940 --> 00:31:08,879

and all in your head because I mean to

784

00:31:13,310 --> 00:31:10,950

the person who's experiencing it ask

785

00:31:15,590 --> 00:31:13,320

them and they'll tell you like this was

786

00:31:18,950 --> 00:31:15,600

necessarily an illusion or a

787

00:31:21,370 --> 00:31:18,960

hallucination this is a very real thing

788

00:31:24,289 --> 00:31:21,380

to them and so it does get into that

789

00:31:27,620 --> 00:31:24,299

kind of semantics of categorization to a

790

00:31:30,379 --> 00:31:27,630

degree yeah definitely it makes me think

791

00:31:33,110 --> 00:31:30,389

of what you're saying there a quote that

792

00:31:36,769 --> 00:31:33,120

I found from Jung where he was talking

793

00:31:38,990 --> 00:31:36,779

about psychological truths and he said

794

00:31:41,120 --> 00:31:39,000

that psychological truths that just as

795

00:31:44,210 --> 00:31:41,130

real as any other kind of like physical

796

00:31:47,860 --> 00:31:44,220

or biological truths so we can't really

797

00:31:50,570 --> 00:31:47,870

put these arbitrary brackets around

798

00:31:51,919 --> 00:31:50,580

experiences and you know the leaks and

799

00:31:55,009 --> 00:31:51,929

things like that we can't say that they

800

00:31:57,769 --> 00:31:55,019

don't have any ontological validity in

801  
00:32:00,860 --> 00:31:57,779  
themselves mm-hmm yeah it's good stuff

802  
00:32:03,889 --> 00:32:00,870  
yeah I like that and so let me also ask

803  
00:32:06,200 --> 00:32:03,899  
you about Charlie this was a specific

804  
00:32:07,879 --> 00:32:06,210  
entity that you seem to have ongoing

805  
00:32:10,999 --> 00:32:07,889  
communication with this is pretty

806  
00:32:13,490 --> 00:32:11,009  
provocative yeah Charlie was a spirit

807  
00:32:16,669 --> 00:32:13,500  
that I met at the Bristol spirit lodge

808  
00:32:19,490 --> 00:32:16,679  
and he came through a medium called John

809  
00:32:21,649 --> 00:32:19,500  
who was a regular sitter at the lodge so

810  
00:32:23,419 --> 00:32:21,659  
he would come to seances he would sit in

811  
00:32:26,330 --> 00:32:23,429  
with other mediums who are developing

812  
00:32:28,789 --> 00:32:26,340  
but he was also quite an advanced trance

813  
00:32:30,320 --> 00:32:28,799

medium himself and he'd done a lot of

814

00:32:33,730 --> 00:32:30,330

training in different mediumship

815

00:32:36,139 --> 00:32:33,740

techniques he'd done a lot of platform

816

00:32:38,960 --> 00:32:36,149

mediumship in spiritualist churches

817

00:32:41,060 --> 00:32:38,970

where they if they say is there a J

818

00:32:42,769 --> 00:32:41,070

coming through and anyone except that he

819

00:32:45,139 --> 00:32:42,779

done all of that kind of stuff he done

820

00:32:48,399 --> 00:32:45,149

shamanic trance development and things

821

00:32:51,529 --> 00:32:48,409

like that and eventually he moved on to

822

00:32:52,930 --> 00:32:51,539

developing his mediumship at the Bristol

823

00:32:56,230 --> 00:32:52,940

Spirit Podge

824

00:33:00,040 --> 00:32:56,240

and Charlie was his main spirit guide

825

00:33:02,620 --> 00:33:00,050

he was the spirit that would kind of

826

00:33:05,680 --> 00:33:02,630

take control of his body during séances

827

00:33:08,200 --> 00:33:05,690

and would act as a kind of a gatekeeper

828

00:33:12,040 --> 00:33:08,210

to let other spirits come through during

829

00:33:14,770 --> 00:33:12,050

the transition and he was also very keen

830

00:33:16,990 --> 00:33:14,780

on telling us about his kind of

831

00:33:18,400 --> 00:33:17,000

philosophical views and his ideas about

832

00:33:20,290 --> 00:33:18,410

the nature of reality and all those

833

00:33:21,730 --> 00:33:20,300

kinds of things so people who were going

834

00:33:23,470 --> 00:33:21,740

to the lodge would really enjoy his

835

00:33:25,570 --> 00:33:23,480

conversations they would love to sit

836

00:33:28,000 --> 00:33:25,580

with him and talk about philosophy and

837

00:33:31,420 --> 00:33:28,010

ask him questions and stuff and he was

838

00:33:34,480 --> 00:33:31,430

really impressive because he was pretty

839

00:33:35,200 --> 00:33:34,490

consistent over a number of weeks months

840

00:33:40,270 --> 00:33:35,210

and years

841

00:33:41,860 --> 00:33:40,280

his philosophy didn't really change the

842

00:33:44,530 --> 00:33:41,870

messages that he were giving were

843

00:33:46,960 --> 00:33:44,540

consistent and yeah so I spent a lot of

844

00:33:50,140 --> 00:33:46,970

time just after I finished my

845

00:33:53,410 --> 00:33:50,150

undergraduate degree I spent a lot of

846

00:33:55,660 --> 00:33:53,420

time transcribing recordings of the

847

00:33:57,520 --> 00:33:55,670

seances that we had with him and just to

848

00:33:59,470 --> 00:33:57,530

capture these ideas that he was talking

849

00:34:01,810 --> 00:33:59,480

about it's pretty interesting I really

850

00:34:04,480 --> 00:34:01,820

enjoyed it the funny thing about Charlie

851  
00:34:06,220 --> 00:34:04,490  
was that I can't remember his real name

852  
00:34:09,460 --> 00:34:06,230  
at the moment but he told us that in a

853  
00:34:10,720 --> 00:34:09,470  
previous life he had been a Chinese monk

854  
00:34:12,520 --> 00:34:10,730  
which is prettier

855  
00:34:15,460 --> 00:34:12,530  
you know stereotypical has these spirit

856  
00:34:17,050 --> 00:34:15,470  
guides but he'd been the Chinese monk he

857  
00:34:18,790 --> 00:34:17,060  
said he was called Dowlen or something

858  
00:34:21,460 --> 00:34:18,800  
like that which again sounds very

859  
00:34:23,580 --> 00:34:21,470  
stereotypical but he then took on this

860  
00:34:25,930 --> 00:34:23,590  
name of Charlie to make himself more

861  
00:34:27,940 --> 00:34:25,940  
relatable to the people at the Bristol

862  
00:34:29,710 --> 00:34:27,950  
spirit lodge and it kind of stuck so he

863  
00:34:31,780 --> 00:34:29,720

was like an ancient Chinese philosopher

864

00:34:35,710 --> 00:34:31,790

really talking through the body of

865

00:34:37,180 --> 00:34:35,720

suburb and Bristolian yeah I really

866

00:34:39,700 --> 00:34:37,190

found that to be super fascinating to

867

00:34:41,710 --> 00:34:39,710

cite a paragraph from engaging the

868

00:34:43,150 --> 00:34:41,720

anomalous you had this contact with the

869

00:34:45,040 --> 00:34:43,160

spirit called Charlie through a medium

870

00:34:47,500 --> 00:34:45,050

or acted as a host and you say but

871

00:34:49,930 --> 00:34:47,510

rather than using him as an informant to

872

00:34:52,090 --> 00:34:49,940

examine the social makeup of the lodge I

873

00:34:54,550 --> 00:34:52,100

asked him questions about the spirit

874

00:34:56,290 --> 00:34:54,560

world and what exactly he was his

875

00:34:58,180 --> 00:34:56,300

answers offered intriguing food for

876  
00:35:00,100 --> 00:34:58,190  
thought perhaps most revealing was his

877  
00:35:02,580 --> 00:35:00,110  
assertion that he was not the product of

878  
00:35:04,930 --> 00:35:02,590  
a single source but rather a collective

879  
00:35:07,570 --> 00:35:04,940  
manifestation there are three sides

880  
00:35:10,210 --> 00:35:07,580  
involved the spirit the conscious host

881  
00:35:12,550 --> 00:35:10,220  
and the subconscious host when in a

882  
00:35:13,990 --> 00:35:12,560  
trance State Charlie explained all three

883  
00:35:16,720 --> 00:35:14,000  
components must be

884  
00:35:18,820 --> 00:35:16,730  
in a state of common trust without this

885  
00:35:20,920 --> 00:35:18,830  
blending Charlie would not have been

886  
00:35:23,020 --> 00:35:20,930  
able to manifest now that's what I'm

887  
00:35:25,690 --> 00:35:23,030  
talking about man that is interesting

888  
00:35:28,570 --> 00:35:25,700

Intel yeah I guess could you elaborate

889

00:35:30,849 --> 00:35:28,580

on what that says to you about the

890

00:35:34,390 --> 00:35:30,859

mechanisms between spirits and people is

891

00:35:37,450 --> 00:35:34,400

a little more clear post Charlie that's

892

00:35:38,859 --> 00:35:37,460

part of my desire to push anthropology a

893

00:35:41,109 --> 00:35:38,869

little bit further than it's usually

894

00:35:43,690 --> 00:35:41,119

willing to go so usually anthropologists

895

00:35:46,540 --> 00:35:43,700

just focus on know the social group the

896

00:35:48,700 --> 00:35:46,550

social facts if you like the makeup of

897

00:35:49,839 --> 00:35:48,710

the group the how they interact with

898

00:35:51,940 --> 00:35:49,849

each other and all those kind of things

899

00:35:54,430 --> 00:35:51,950

but I wanted to find out more about the

900

00:35:56,080 --> 00:35:54,440

spirit world and trying to do a kind of

901  
00:35:58,240 --> 00:35:56,090  
anthropology of the spirit world so

902  
00:36:01,599 --> 00:35:58,250  
obviously the best people to talk to

903  
00:36:04,089 --> 00:36:01,609  
about that our spirits and yeah it was

904  
00:36:05,770 --> 00:36:04,099  
really interesting to hear that he was

905  
00:36:09,010 --> 00:36:05,780  
aware of the fact that he was the

906  
00:36:11,230 --> 00:36:09,020  
product of multiple influencing parts I

907  
00:36:12,970 --> 00:36:11,240  
think we could take that a step further

908  
00:36:15,070 --> 00:36:12,980  
as well and say that he was also partly

909  
00:36:16,570 --> 00:36:15,080  
the product of the influence of the

910  
00:36:19,480 --> 00:36:16,580  
people who were sitting in the seance

911  
00:36:20,770 --> 00:36:19,490  
and communicating in fact that's one of

912  
00:36:22,450 --> 00:36:20,780  
the things that I've found most

913  
00:36:26,200 --> 00:36:22,460

interesting about the spirits is how

914

00:36:28,210 --> 00:36:26,210

they are socially manifested if you like

915

00:36:30,040 --> 00:36:28,220

that they are the product of all of

916

00:36:31,900 --> 00:36:30,050

these different influencing parts yeah

917

00:36:34,060 --> 00:36:31,910

different influences different

918

00:36:37,089 --> 00:36:34,070

consciousnesses interacting with each

919

00:36:38,770 --> 00:36:37,099

other and then this personality of

920

00:36:41,650 --> 00:36:38,780

Charlie kind of emerges at the

921

00:36:43,800 --> 00:36:41,660

intersection something that I noted

922

00:36:46,440 --> 00:36:43,810

during my research as well was that

923

00:36:49,210 --> 00:36:46,450

there were similarities with other

924

00:36:52,240 --> 00:36:49,220

mediumistic traditions where they also

925

00:36:54,460 --> 00:36:52,250

see this kind of communal manifestation

926  
00:36:57,280 --> 00:36:54,470  
going on so there was an anthropologist

927  
00:37:01,990 --> 00:36:57,290  
called Nurit Burt David who was studying

928  
00:37:04,720 --> 00:37:02,000  
this tribal Indian group in India

929  
00:37:06,910 --> 00:37:04,730  
and they interact with these spirits

930  
00:37:10,300 --> 00:37:06,920  
called davara which are kind of like

931  
00:37:13,570 --> 00:37:10,310  
nature spirits and she wrote about how

932  
00:37:16,840 --> 00:37:13,580  
the process of manifesting these spirits

933  
00:37:19,600 --> 00:37:16,850  
was one of social interactions through

934  
00:37:22,270 --> 00:37:19,610  
conversations and through dialogue so

935  
00:37:23,860 --> 00:37:22,280  
they would do very similar things to the

936  
00:37:25,270 --> 00:37:23,870  
kind of things that I was seeing in the

937  
00:37:27,160 --> 00:37:25,280  
Bristol spirit lodge they would start

938  
00:37:30,460 --> 00:37:27,170

talking to the spirit they were kind of

939

00:37:32,830 --> 00:37:30,470

coax it forward the spirit might be kind

940

00:37:34,600 --> 00:37:32,840

of sluggish to begin with and slow and

941

00:37:36,460 --> 00:37:34,610

then eventually it would kind of come up

942

00:37:38,770 --> 00:37:36,470

to speed and it was dialog that

943

00:37:40,630 --> 00:37:38,780

reinforced the presence of the spirit so

944

00:37:43,330 --> 00:37:40,640

obviously if no one was talking to the

945

00:37:46,240 --> 00:37:43,340

spirit during the seance then the spirit

946

00:37:48,460 --> 00:37:46,250

wouldn't be able to manifest the dialog

947

00:37:50,530 --> 00:37:48,470

seemed to be an important part the

948

00:37:52,450 --> 00:37:50,540

spirits are kind of the product of

949

00:37:55,090 --> 00:37:52,460

relationships between us and the spirit

950

00:37:58,090 --> 00:37:55,100

world and between the medium in the

951  
00:38:00,580 --> 00:37:58,100  
spirit and basically the spirit seemed

952  
00:38:02,650 --> 00:38:00,590  
to be quite complex in the way that they

953  
00:38:04,300 --> 00:38:02,660  
manifested lots of different influencing

954  
00:38:07,180 --> 00:38:04,310  
factors going on hmm

955  
00:38:09,280 --> 00:38:07,190  
so fascinating and you mentioned nature

956  
00:38:12,870 --> 00:38:09,290  
spirits and that got me thinking lately

957  
00:38:15,490 --> 00:38:12,880  
I've had this impression that there is a

958  
00:38:19,450 --> 00:38:15,500  
connection as much as there is between

959  
00:38:21,520 --> 00:38:19,460  
altered states and this contact there's

960  
00:38:24,790 --> 00:38:21,530  
also a connection between nature and

961  
00:38:26,260 --> 00:38:24,800  
entity contact I think maybe one reason

962  
00:38:27,970 --> 00:38:26,270  
why we have hundreds of millions of

963  
00:38:29,920 --> 00:38:27,980

people who deny the existence of a

964

00:38:33,250 --> 00:38:29,930

spirit world is because the Western

965

00:38:35,380 --> 00:38:33,260

world these concrete cities they kind of

966

00:38:39,100 --> 00:38:35,390

gear us to thinking that way or they

967

00:38:40,480 --> 00:38:39,110

allow us the luxury of ignoring the

968

00:38:43,120 --> 00:38:40,490

spirit world but if you look at

969

00:38:45,580 --> 00:38:43,130

indigenous cultures obviously not

970

00:38:47,260 --> 00:38:45,590

without exception but a great deal of

971

00:38:49,090 --> 00:38:47,270

them kind of just take for granted there

972

00:38:52,330 --> 00:38:49,100

are spirits and I've had people talk to

973

00:38:54,520 --> 00:38:52,340

me about just think about the the state

974

00:38:57,940 --> 00:38:54,530

of consciousness you would be in if you

975

00:39:00,070 --> 00:38:57,950

spent a night in the wilderness alone no

976  
00:39:01,300 --> 00:39:00,080  
we don't do that you know we never do

977  
00:39:03,520 --> 00:39:01,310  
that and we might go our whole lives

978  
00:39:06,910 --> 00:39:03,530  
without doing that and you can imagine

979  
00:39:08,770 --> 00:39:06,920  
that that state of consciousness that's

980  
00:39:11,200 --> 00:39:08,780  
like a natural altering and you might

981  
00:39:14,080 --> 00:39:11,210  
start to see forms in the darkness or

982  
00:39:15,170 --> 00:39:14,090  
here things that aren't there and maybe

983  
00:39:18,470 --> 00:39:15,180  
that's the spirit

984  
00:39:21,260 --> 00:39:18,480  
creeping back into your life after

985  
00:39:23,030 --> 00:39:21,270  
you've ignored it for so long I'm not so

986  
00:39:25,250 --> 00:39:23,040  
sure but it is funny because you study

987  
00:39:26,420 --> 00:39:25,260  
people in the Western world and

988  
00:39:28,430 --> 00:39:26,430

generally people think of

989

00:39:31,400 --> 00:39:28,440

anthropologists as like the Jane Goodall

990

00:39:33,470 --> 00:39:31,410

of people and I do think there might be

991

00:39:36,109 --> 00:39:33,480

a nature component what do you think

992

00:39:37,700 --> 00:39:36,119

about that yeah it definitely ties in

993

00:39:40,819 --> 00:39:37,710

with something that I'm working on at

994

00:39:44,120 --> 00:39:40,829

the moment I just had a short article

995

00:39:46,339 --> 00:39:44,130

published about the possible role of

996

00:39:49,640 --> 00:39:46,349

things like permaculture and practical

997

00:39:51,589 --> 00:39:49,650

ecology of actually you know hands-on

998

00:39:54,260 --> 00:39:51,599

engagement with the natural world and

999

00:39:56,390 --> 00:39:54,270

how that leads to extraordinary

1000

00:39:58,099 --> 00:39:56,400

experiences and a lot of the time these

1001  
00:40:01,460 --> 00:39:58,109  
extraordinary experiences are kind of

1002  
00:40:03,890 --> 00:40:01,470  
like personified experiences so you

1003  
00:40:05,630 --> 00:40:03,900  
might be working observing and

1004  
00:40:07,309 --> 00:40:05,640  
interacting with the land which is kind

1005  
00:40:09,740 --> 00:40:07,319  
of like a permaculture principle and

1006  
00:40:13,240 --> 00:40:09,750  
through that observation and interaction

1007  
00:40:15,319 --> 00:40:13,250  
begin to realize that the trees and the

1008  
00:40:17,270 --> 00:40:15,329  
different kinds of plants and the soil

1009  
00:40:20,359 --> 00:40:17,280  
and the water and all these kinds of

1010  
00:40:23,660 --> 00:40:20,369  
things have a kind of personal quality

1011  
00:40:25,010 --> 00:40:23,670  
to them right so I do think that there

1012  
00:40:26,270 --> 00:40:25,020  
is something going on here and it's

1013  
00:40:28,309 --> 00:40:26,280

something that I'm exploring at the

1014

00:40:30,920 --> 00:40:28,319

moment here but you know you think about

1015

00:40:33,530 --> 00:40:30,930

these traditional societies in the past

1016

00:40:35,539 --> 00:40:33,540

and they have been fully interacting

1017

00:40:37,430 --> 00:40:35,549

with the natural world and their

1018

00:40:40,670 --> 00:40:37,440

awareness of these spiritual beings is

1019

00:40:42,079 --> 00:40:40,680

much more marked than our own and I

1020

00:40:43,750 --> 00:40:42,089

think you're right in pointing out the

1021

00:40:47,690 --> 00:40:43,760

fact that we spend so much of our time

1022

00:40:49,549 --> 00:40:47,700

indoors not connected with the natural

1023

00:40:51,200 --> 00:40:49,559

world and I don't think it's a

1024

00:40:54,349 --> 00:40:51,210

coincidence that you know we don't

1025

00:40:56,480 --> 00:40:54,359

believe in spirits as much and you know

1026

00:40:59,839 --> 00:40:56,490

we don't have these experiences often as

1027

00:41:01,430 --> 00:40:59,849

other people do mm-hmm and now I don't

1028

00:41:03,740 --> 00:41:01,440

want to drag you down in the

1029

00:41:05,900 --> 00:41:03,750

conspiratorial muck with me any more

1030

00:41:08,059 --> 00:41:05,910

than a half - you're an accomplished PhD

1031

00:41:09,559 --> 00:41:08,069

but you know you mentioned the river

1032

00:41:12,020 --> 00:41:09,569

spirits thing I did a previous episode

1033

00:41:13,910 --> 00:41:12,030

with a guest Michael Wan who just as an

1034

00:41:15,530 --> 00:41:13,920

example took the Susquehanna River

1035

00:41:17,569 --> 00:41:15,540

because he lives near it and you looked

1036

00:41:19,190 --> 00:41:17,579

at all the points on the river the

1037

00:41:22,190 --> 00:41:19,200

mouths of the river where they converge

1038

00:41:24,799 --> 00:41:22,200

and there's all kinds of monuments and

1039

00:41:27,410 --> 00:41:24,809

structures and in some cases rituals

1040

00:41:28,970 --> 00:41:27,420

like even the Groundhog's Day ritual

1041

00:41:32,090 --> 00:41:28,980

takes place right

1042

00:41:34,280 --> 00:41:32,100

where the or the rivers converge and his

1043

00:41:37,550 --> 00:41:34,290

premise overall is just that there are

1044

00:41:39,740 --> 00:41:37,560

people high up above us or older

1045

00:41:42,560 --> 00:41:39,750

traditions or secret societies that

1046

00:41:45,440 --> 00:41:42,570

carry on these offerings to River

1047

00:41:48,140 --> 00:41:45,450

spirits or place their monuments on

1048

00:41:50,720 --> 00:41:48,150

certain ley lines and that there is

1049

00:41:53,060 --> 00:41:50,730

high-level magic going on engaging with

1050

00:41:55,370 --> 00:41:53,070

the natural world it's just not on the

1051  
00:41:57,050 --> 00:41:55,380  
radar of the regular person and of

1052  
00:41:59,000 --> 00:41:57,060  
course that would suit the benefit of

1053  
00:42:01,190 --> 00:41:59,010  
someone who is trying to engage with

1054  
00:42:02,750 --> 00:42:01,200  
something for personal gain if no one

1055  
00:42:04,670 --> 00:42:02,760  
else knows about it of course that's

1056  
00:42:07,010 --> 00:42:04,680  
gonna help you as well but I'm just

1057  
00:42:10,910 --> 00:42:07,020  
curious what you think about that nexus

1058  
00:42:12,380 --> 00:42:10,920  
of conspiracy and ritual the idea that

1059  
00:42:14,890 --> 00:42:12,390  
some of this stuff does go on in the

1060  
00:42:17,720 --> 00:42:14,900  
Western world just above our pay grade

1061  
00:42:20,930 --> 00:42:17,730  
yeah I wouldn't be surprised if it does

1062  
00:42:22,790 --> 00:42:20,940  
I mean people who have money and power

1063  
00:42:25,940 --> 00:42:22,800

and all these kinds of things can pretty

1064

00:42:29,359 --> 00:42:25,950

much do what they want and we know that

1065

00:42:30,950 --> 00:42:29,369

you know through things like Freemasonry

1066

00:42:33,740 --> 00:42:30,960

and all of these other kinds of secret

1067

00:42:35,810 --> 00:42:33,750

societies that once you get up to higher

1068

00:42:38,660 --> 00:42:35,820

levels then it does start to become very

1069

00:42:41,390 --> 00:42:38,670

much like ritual magic and all of those

1070

00:42:43,130 --> 00:42:41,400

ideas are kind of floating around so I

1071

00:42:45,500 --> 00:42:43,140

really really wouldn't be surprised if

1072

00:42:47,780 --> 00:42:45,510

there were people who are continuing to

1073

00:42:49,340 --> 00:42:47,790

practice these kinds of traditions in

1074

00:42:51,859 --> 00:42:49,350

the upper echelon Ziff you want to call

1075

00:42:53,750 --> 00:42:51,869

it upper but that's one side of thing

1076

00:42:55,880 --> 00:42:53,760

but there's also the undercurrent of

1077

00:42:58,280 --> 00:42:55,890

folk magic and all these kinds of things

1078

00:43:00,109 --> 00:42:58,290

that's still going on as well probably

1079

00:43:02,200 --> 00:43:00,119

there are still people just like I've

1080

00:43:04,370 --> 00:43:02,210

discovered people in the West who

1081

00:43:07,270 --> 00:43:04,380

communicate with spirits you know on a

1082

00:43:10,190 --> 00:43:07,280

daily basis there are still people who

1083

00:43:11,660 --> 00:43:10,200

practice natural magic and wicker and

1084

00:43:14,120 --> 00:43:11,670

all these kinds of things obviously

1085

00:43:16,010 --> 00:43:14,130

these are movements that are growing so

1086

00:43:19,930 --> 00:43:16,020

it's coming from the bottom up as well

1087

00:43:22,490 --> 00:43:19,940

and I think tying all this stuff in with

1088

00:43:24,349 --> 00:43:22,500

climate change and the Paris climate

1089

00:43:26,030 --> 00:43:24,359

agreement and all of that kind of stuff

1090

00:43:29,150 --> 00:43:26,040

and the realization that we're going to

1091

00:43:30,590 --> 00:43:29,160

have to have major social and cultural

1092

00:43:32,960 --> 00:43:30,600

transformations if we're going to

1093

00:43:35,120 --> 00:43:32,970

prevent our planet from going into the

1094

00:43:37,550 --> 00:43:35,130

total collapse that we're going to have

1095

00:43:39,290 --> 00:43:37,560

to re-engage with these older traditions

1096

00:43:41,760 --> 00:43:39,300

and we're going to have to interact more

1097

00:43:43,650 --> 00:43:41,770

with the spirits and the

1098

00:43:45,870 --> 00:43:43,660

different entities that inhabit the

1099

00:43:48,420 --> 00:43:45,880

world around us if we don't start to do

1100

00:43:50,190 --> 00:43:48,430

that then we're never gonna bring about

1101  
00:43:53,760 --> 00:43:50,200  
that social and cultural change that we

1102  
00:43:56,940 --> 00:43:53,770  
need mm-hm I'm with you there cheers to

1103  
00:43:58,920 --> 00:43:56,950  
that and I of course think that by

1104  
00:44:03,000 --> 00:43:58,930  
better educating ourselves we might

1105  
00:44:05,100 --> 00:44:03,010  
better recognize rituals or monuments or

1106  
00:44:07,110 --> 00:44:05,110  
things that have been going on that we

1107  
00:44:09,960 --> 00:44:07,120  
haven't been able to recognize once we

1108  
00:44:12,090 --> 00:44:09,970  
learn the context of how these spirit

1109  
00:44:14,700 --> 00:44:12,100  
interactions work and how magic might

1110  
00:44:16,590 --> 00:44:14,710  
work then we can say oh that is

1111  
00:44:18,270 --> 00:44:16,600  
something we should look at or that's

1112  
00:44:19,890 --> 00:44:18,280  
not it

1113  
00:44:22,620 --> 00:44:19,900

you know because an conspiracy shows

1114

00:44:24,060 --> 00:44:22,630

people can get all crazy about all kinds

1115

00:44:26,400 --> 00:44:24,070

of things and it's like well if you have

1116

00:44:28,980 --> 00:44:26,410

real context a real education about

1117

00:44:32,190 --> 00:44:28,990

magic you can kind of dial that in more

1118

00:44:34,950 --> 00:44:32,200

appropriately so I just I like the work

1119

00:44:37,800 --> 00:44:34,960

you're doing and you know I have weird

1120

00:44:39,630 --> 00:44:37,810

applications for it but just kids

1121

00:44:41,430 --> 00:44:39,640

to go back to Charlie a minute you know

1122

00:44:44,340 --> 00:44:41,440

we talked about the Gateway we talked

1123

00:44:47,160 --> 00:44:44,350

about the channels of communication how

1124

00:44:49,320 --> 00:44:47,170

they can be opened but you also asked

1125

00:44:51,240 --> 00:44:49,330

him about his world about the spirit

1126  
00:44:54,300 --> 00:44:51,250  
world itself can you give us any insight

1127  
00:44:56,490 --> 00:44:54,310  
into how you conceptualize the spirit

1128  
00:44:57,870 --> 00:44:56,500  
world based on Charlie's insight I think

1129  
00:45:00,900 --> 00:44:57,880  
a lot of people just think of it as like

1130  
00:45:02,390 --> 00:45:00,910  
a big cloud I don't know what does it

1131  
00:45:05,100 --> 00:45:02,400  
look like to you

1132  
00:45:07,980 --> 00:45:05,110  
well one of the things that most struck

1133  
00:45:10,980 --> 00:45:07,990  
me about Charlie's explanations of the

1134  
00:45:13,260 --> 00:45:10,990  
spirit world it's not like a physical

1135  
00:45:15,560 --> 00:45:13,270  
landscape with fixed features for

1136  
00:45:18,530 --> 00:45:15,570  
example it seems to be something that

1137  
00:45:20,850 --> 00:45:18,540  
shifts and can change depending on

1138  
00:45:23,580 --> 00:45:20,860

basically what it seems to be is a realm

1139

00:45:25,650 --> 00:45:23,590

of consciousness that makes sense it's

1140

00:45:28,260 --> 00:45:25,660

something that is affected by our

1141

00:45:29,220 --> 00:45:28,270

beliefs and our expectations and all of

1142

00:45:31,890 --> 00:45:29,230

those kinds of things

1143

00:45:33,210 --> 00:45:31,900

the Charlie would talk about you know

1144

00:45:34,860 --> 00:45:33,220

this is pretty common knowledge in

1145

00:45:36,780 --> 00:45:34,870

spiritualist circles and those kind of

1146

00:45:39,510 --> 00:45:36,790

places but the things that we believe

1147

00:45:43,050 --> 00:45:39,520

when we die they affect the kind of

1148

00:45:44,130 --> 00:45:43,060

place that we go to after we're dead we

1149

00:45:46,200 --> 00:45:44,140

believe that we're going to go to

1150

00:45:48,810 --> 00:45:46,210

Valhalla for example if that's what we

1151  
00:45:50,910 --> 00:45:48,820  
firmly believe then the kind of spirit

1152  
00:45:53,160 --> 00:45:50,920  
world that we enter into will be you

1153  
00:45:54,280 --> 00:45:53,170  
know like a Valhalla Norse kind of

1154  
00:45:57,180 --> 00:45:54,290  
spirit world

1155  
00:45:59,380 --> 00:45:57,190  
so I mean it's a fluctuating place I

1156  
00:46:00,250 --> 00:45:59,390  
think perhaps one of the best ways to

1157  
00:46:06,760 --> 00:46:00,260  
think about it

1158  
00:46:08,260 --> 00:46:06,770  
is maybe as a kind of a dream land and

1159  
00:46:11,080 --> 00:46:08,270  
when I was teaching religious studies

1160  
00:46:14,290 --> 00:46:11,090  
for a level a few years ago and came

1161  
00:46:17,620 --> 00:46:14,300  
across this guy HH price who is a

1162  
00:46:20,650 --> 00:46:17,630  
philosopher interested in psychical

1163  
00:46:22,420 --> 00:46:20,660

research which is pretty cool and that

1164

00:46:25,200 --> 00:46:22,430

was his idea basically was that the

1165

00:46:28,030 --> 00:46:25,210

afterlife is kind of like a dream world

1166

00:46:30,640 --> 00:46:28,040

it's a realm of pure consciousness and

1167

00:46:32,380 --> 00:46:30,650

it can be negative you know depending on

1168

00:46:34,030 --> 00:46:32,390

the way that we think about or it can be

1169

00:46:36,160 --> 00:46:34,040

positive depending on the way we think

1170

00:46:36,670 --> 00:46:36,170

about it I think that seems to be what

1171

00:46:38,580 --> 00:46:36,680

it's like

1172

00:46:41,110 --> 00:46:38,590

based on what Charly's told me anyway

1173

00:46:43,960 --> 00:46:41,120

well I think that makes a lot of sense

1174

00:46:47,050 --> 00:46:43,970

because some people talk about that

1175

00:46:49,870 --> 00:46:47,060

there's baked-in mechanisms in life that

1176  
00:46:51,970 --> 00:46:49,880  
prepare you for death if you engage with

1177  
00:46:54,220 --> 00:46:51,980  
them one could be sleep just the fact

1178  
00:46:56,470 --> 00:46:54,230  
that we dream at all that we go to this

1179  
00:47:01,090 --> 00:46:56,480  
place every night we forget most of it

1180  
00:47:02,560 --> 00:47:01,100  
but we do it every 12 hours like and

1181  
00:47:04,000 --> 00:47:02,570  
then when we're on our deathbed we're

1182  
00:47:05,710 --> 00:47:04,010  
like oh my god what's this gonna be like

1183  
00:47:08,380 --> 00:47:05,720  
you know I'm so scared I'm so worried

1184  
00:47:11,530 --> 00:47:08,390  
well you've been practicing with

1185  
00:47:13,090 --> 00:47:11,540  
training wheels every day of your whole

1186  
00:47:14,800 --> 00:47:13,100  
life you just haven't been thinking of

1187  
00:47:18,100 --> 00:47:14,810  
it in that context and there's probably

1188  
00:47:20,680 --> 00:47:18,110

other baked-in mechanisms as well that

1189

00:47:22,210 --> 00:47:20,690

help us to prepare for that I mean if

1190

00:47:24,220 --> 00:47:22,220

you look at secret societies not to

1191

00:47:27,510 --> 00:47:24,230

bring it back to that constantly but

1192

00:47:29,740 --> 00:47:27,520

their whole philosophy is kind of about

1193

00:47:31,030 --> 00:47:29,750

self-determination and enlightenment and

1194

00:47:32,560 --> 00:47:31,040

then they go back to the Egyptian

1195

00:47:35,260 --> 00:47:32,570

mystery schools where they seem to be

1196

00:47:37,660 --> 00:47:35,270

really focused on real engagement with

1197

00:47:39,460 --> 00:47:37,670

that spirit world prolonged contact and

1198

00:47:41,650 --> 00:47:39,470

journeying and all that kind of stuff so

1199

00:47:43,540 --> 00:47:41,660

you can even push it even further but

1200

00:47:46,420 --> 00:47:43,550

even if you don't want to you at least

1201  
00:47:49,420 --> 00:47:46,430  
have your nightly journey to the dream

1202  
00:47:51,130 --> 00:47:49,430  
world and that could be relatively the

1203  
00:47:53,200 --> 00:47:51,140  
same thing I mean maybe I'm thinking

1204  
00:47:55,510 --> 00:47:53,210  
maybe making it way too complex and it

1205  
00:47:58,060 --> 00:47:55,520  
really is just that simple you know I

1206  
00:48:00,640 --> 00:47:58,070  
think it makes sense isn't it yeah it

1207  
00:48:02,710 --> 00:48:00,650  
makes sense that we would be constantly

1208  
00:48:04,360 --> 00:48:02,720  
with our dream cycles and all these

1209  
00:48:06,910 --> 00:48:04,370  
kinds of things dipping in and out of

1210  
00:48:07,540 --> 00:48:06,920  
that world and preparing ourselves for

1211  
00:48:10,150 --> 00:48:07,550  
the transit

1212  
00:48:12,040 --> 00:48:10,160  
it makes sense yeah well if it's not

1213  
00:48:13,840 --> 00:48:12,050

that then you have a whole nother world

1214

00:48:15,400 --> 00:48:13,850

you need to explain because we need to

1215

00:48:16,870 --> 00:48:15,410

explain in the dream world too so I

1216

00:48:19,890 --> 00:48:16,880

would assume that hopefully they're

1217

00:48:23,950 --> 00:48:19,900

probably the same just for simplicity's

1218

00:48:26,020 --> 00:48:23,960

and you have a an essay titled an

1219

00:48:28,300 --> 00:48:26,030

anthropology of the spirit world and

1220

00:48:30,910 --> 00:48:28,310

that's really provocative I wish that

1221

00:48:32,590 --> 00:48:30,920

was a field of study if it was a field

1222

00:48:34,630 --> 00:48:32,600

of study or something you could get a

1223

00:48:36,550 --> 00:48:34,640

PhD in what would it look like to you I

1224

00:48:36,940 --> 00:48:36,560

guess kind of like shamanism really

1225

00:48:40,090 --> 00:48:36,950

right

1226

00:48:43,090 --> 00:48:40,100

well yeah but an anthropology of the

1227

00:48:45,820 --> 00:48:43,100

spirit world would be very much like

1228

00:48:49,900 --> 00:48:45,830

anthropology as a discipline as it is

1229

00:48:52,720 --> 00:48:49,910

now making use of these ideas about

1230

00:48:54,880 --> 00:48:52,730

ontological flooding and this idea of

1231

00:48:57,940 --> 00:48:54,890

cognitive empathetic engagement which is

1232

00:49:00,160 --> 00:48:57,950

an idea that my supervisor has been

1233

00:49:02,500 --> 00:49:00,170

using to explore the spirit world and

1234

00:49:04,810 --> 00:49:02,510

kind of trying to engage with that as an

1235

00:49:06,400 --> 00:49:04,820

ethnographic field in itself with the

1236

00:49:07,560 --> 00:49:06,410

afterlife and the spirit world as

1237

00:49:09,760 --> 00:49:07,570

something that we can study

1238

00:49:11,830 --> 00:49:09,770

ethnographically and that could be in

1239

00:49:14,580 --> 00:49:11,840

any kind of way it could be through

1240

00:49:18,520 --> 00:49:14,590

studying shamans in the Amazon or

1241

00:49:19,750 --> 00:49:18,530

shamanic traditions up in Siberia or

1242

00:49:23,380 --> 00:49:19,760

wherever it could be dealing with

1243

00:49:25,180 --> 00:49:23,390

mediums in suburban Bristol or it could

1244

00:49:28,200 --> 00:49:25,190

be some other kind of like an

1245

00:49:30,640 --> 00:49:28,210

anthropology of dreaming you know

1246

00:49:34,210 --> 00:49:30,650

phenomenological approach trying to

1247

00:49:35,830 --> 00:49:34,220

understand the experience of dreams you

1248

00:49:37,630 --> 00:49:35,840

know things like that that's how I

1249

00:49:40,270 --> 00:49:37,640

imagine an anthropology of the spirit

1250

00:49:42,280 --> 00:49:40,280

world would work be engaging with all of

1251

00:49:45,100 --> 00:49:42,290

those different lines of inquiry and

1252

00:49:47,860 --> 00:49:45,110

trying to build up as clearer picture as

1253

00:49:49,330 --> 00:49:47,870

we can aware of the fact also that this

1254

00:49:53,500 --> 00:49:49,340

picture is probably going to be quite

1255

00:49:55,420 --> 00:49:53,510

complex yes well so many little case

1256

00:49:57,460 --> 00:49:55,430

studies you have in the exploring the

1257

00:49:59,260 --> 00:49:57,470

anomalous book or engaging with the

1258

00:50:01,690 --> 00:49:59,270

anomalous book they're little clues

1259

00:50:03,790 --> 00:50:01,700

they're bread crumbs - fleshing out this

1260

00:50:05,740 --> 00:50:03,800

map and you touch on a guy named Patrick

1261

00:50:07,690 --> 00:50:05,750

Giesler and the results of his work that

1262

00:50:10,090 --> 00:50:07,700

seemed to show that culturally

1263

00:50:12,040 --> 00:50:10,100

significant symbols are more potent than

1264

00:50:14,290 --> 00:50:12,050

something like a random number generator

1265

00:50:17,170 --> 00:50:14,300

when engaging with the paranormal and

1266

00:50:18,670 --> 00:50:17,180

that's interesting what does that say to

1267

00:50:19,670 --> 00:50:18,680

you or how would you explain that to

1268

00:50:22,940 --> 00:50:19,680

people who are trying to

1269

00:50:25,160 --> 00:50:22,950

pack that yeah so Patrick Easter's

1270

00:50:27,170 --> 00:50:25,170

really interesting anthropologist who

1271

00:50:29,359 --> 00:50:27,180

has been fully engaged with

1272

00:50:31,579 --> 00:50:29,369

parapsychology and you know not ashamed

1273

00:50:33,490 --> 00:50:31,589

to say that he's been doing that for you

1274

00:50:37,790 --> 00:50:33,500

know like 30 years or so so he's a real

1275

00:50:39,829 --> 00:50:37,800

pioneer of this parent apology for the

1276  
00:50:42,200 --> 00:50:39,839  
Anthropology the paranormal but what it

1277  
00:50:44,870 --> 00:50:42,210  
suggests is that kind of like what I've

1278  
00:50:48,230 --> 00:50:44,880  
been saying already that our cultural

1279  
00:50:51,260 --> 00:50:48,240  
beliefs and expectations are important

1280  
00:50:54,260 --> 00:50:51,270  
that they facilitate our our psy

1281  
00:50:57,819 --> 00:50:54,270  
abilities so what he found was that he

1282  
00:50:59,930 --> 00:50:57,829  
would get negative results if he did

1283  
00:51:01,970 --> 00:50:59,940  
experiments with random number

1284  
00:51:04,010 --> 00:51:01,980  
generators and symbols that we

1285  
00:51:06,140 --> 00:51:04,020  
recognized from our culture because they

1286  
00:51:08,480 --> 00:51:06,150  
don't mean anything to people down in

1287  
00:51:10,490 --> 00:51:08,490  
the Amazon it's not relevant to them but

1288  
00:51:12,440 --> 00:51:10,500

if you shift the symbols to something

1289

00:51:14,270 --> 00:51:12,450

that means something to them that has

1290

00:51:17,750 --> 00:51:14,280

relevance to their everyday lives and

1291

00:51:19,819 --> 00:51:17,760

they understand culturally then the side

1292

00:51:21,570 --> 00:51:19,829

effect seemed to be much stronger much

1293

00:51:25,380 --> 00:51:21,580

more powerful

1294

00:51:27,690 --> 00:51:25,390

I ties in with the work of Italian

1295

00:51:31,140 --> 00:51:27,700

anthropologist called an esto DiMartino

1296

00:51:34,490 --> 00:51:31,150

and he basically came to the conclusion

1297

00:51:38,460 --> 00:51:34,500

that para psychological experiments

1298

00:51:41,780 --> 00:51:38,470

reduced paranormal phenomena to you know

1299

00:51:44,220 --> 00:51:41,790

really small effects so when we think of

1300

00:51:47,220 --> 00:51:44,230

the kinds of experiments that they do in

1301  
00:51:49,950 --> 00:51:47,230  
the lab the effects that they get are so

1302  
00:51:53,160 --> 00:51:49,960  
small they're only just statistically

1303  
00:51:55,260 --> 00:51:53,170  
significant when we compare that to the

1304  
00:51:57,660 --> 00:51:55,270  
experiences that people have in in real

1305  
00:51:59,730 --> 00:51:57,670  
life or especially to the kinds of

1306  
00:52:02,190 --> 00:51:59,740  
experiences that people like the people

1307  
00:52:04,950 --> 00:52:02,200  
in shamanic traditions have there's no

1308  
00:52:07,410 --> 00:52:04,960  
comparison the real life experiences are

1309  
00:52:11,250 --> 00:52:07,420  
always much more kind of vivid they're

1310  
00:52:12,990 --> 00:52:11,260  
more potent it's not just statistically

1311  
00:52:16,200 --> 00:52:13,000  
significant events it's like major

1312  
00:52:18,420 --> 00:52:16,210  
synchronicities and major apparitions

1313  
00:52:22,410 --> 00:52:18,430

and crazy stuff like the really crazy

1314

00:52:24,300 --> 00:52:22,420

stuff so it seems to be that the

1315

00:52:27,990 --> 00:52:24,310

paranormal or whatever we want to call

1316

00:52:30,810 --> 00:52:28,000

it thrives in its natural environment

1317

00:52:32,730 --> 00:52:30,820

that makes sense and we we try to bring

1318

00:52:35,700 --> 00:52:32,740

it into the laboratory we kind of kill

1319

00:52:37,410 --> 00:52:35,710

it in a way yeah it's a difficult thing

1320

00:52:40,890 --> 00:52:37,420

to do to take it out of the environment

1321

00:52:43,230 --> 00:52:40,900

because it is kind of all in the soup

1322

00:52:46,610 --> 00:52:43,240

that makes these experiences happen and

1323

00:52:49,950 --> 00:52:46,620

uh one example that I really liked is

1324

00:52:53,610 --> 00:52:49,960

some neuroimaging research conducted by

1325

00:52:55,860 --> 00:52:53,620

Julio Fernando Perez regarding automatic

1326  
00:52:58,170 --> 00:52:55,870  
writing mediums claimed to be taken over

1327  
00:52:59,610 --> 00:52:58,180  
by enemies while going into these trance

1328  
00:53:01,770 --> 00:52:59,620  
States and these entities are

1329  
00:53:04,050 --> 00:53:01,780  
communicating messages from these human

1330  
00:53:06,420 --> 00:53:04,060  
husks well let's see if we can test that

1331  
00:53:09,630 --> 00:53:06,430  
turns out there is something measurable

1332  
00:53:12,000 --> 00:53:09,640  
in that instance right yeah they found

1333  
00:53:13,590 --> 00:53:12,010  
really interesting things like when

1334  
00:53:15,930 --> 00:53:13,600  
these mediums were doing automatic

1335  
00:53:17,940 --> 00:53:15,940  
writing which is where they kind of let

1336  
00:53:19,560 --> 00:53:17,950  
the spirit do the writing for them they

1337  
00:53:22,170 --> 00:53:19,570  
found that the areas of the brain that

1338  
00:53:24,930 --> 00:53:22,180

are usually associated with doing

1339

00:53:26,280 --> 00:53:24,940

complex activities like writing and

1340

00:53:29,070 --> 00:53:26,290

speaking and things like that were

1341

00:53:31,800 --> 00:53:29,080

actually the activity in those areas was

1342

00:53:33,750 --> 00:53:31,810

actually reduced which it kind of goes

1343

00:53:35,430 --> 00:53:33,760

contrary to what we would expect and you

1344

00:53:37,200 --> 00:53:35,440

know from a common sense perspective

1345

00:53:38,999 --> 00:53:37,210

we would expect to see if someone's

1346

00:53:40,829 --> 00:53:39,009

doing a complex activity like writing

1347

00:53:43,680 --> 00:53:40,839

that those areas are going to be lit up

1348

00:53:45,630 --> 00:53:43,690

and then I linked this up with some more

1349

00:53:48,870 --> 00:53:45,640

research on psychedelics where they

1350

00:53:51,359 --> 00:53:48,880

found under the influence of psilocybin

1351  
00:53:53,279 --> 00:53:51,369  
at the kind of peak of the experience

1352  
00:53:55,920 --> 00:53:53,289  
when their experiences are most vivid

1353  
00:53:58,769 --> 00:53:55,930  
and most extraordinary the activity in

1354  
00:54:00,329 --> 00:53:58,779  
the brain seemed to be lower and the

1355  
00:54:02,670 --> 00:54:00,339  
blood flow was decreased and all those

1356  
00:54:04,549 --> 00:54:02,680  
kind of things and all of that kind of

1357  
00:54:06,990 --> 00:54:04,559  
lends credence to the possibility that

1358  
00:54:08,700 --> 00:54:07,000  
during these psychedelic states and

1359  
00:54:11,819 --> 00:54:08,710  
during these trans States we are

1360  
00:54:13,499 --> 00:54:11,829  
actually surrendering control we are no

1361  
00:54:17,069 --> 00:54:13,509  
longer in control and something else

1362  
00:54:18,269 --> 00:54:17,079  
seems to be kind of coming through just

1363  
00:54:19,890 --> 00:54:18,279

goes to show that you know when these

1364

00:54:22,609 --> 00:54:19,900

mediums say that they are having a

1365

00:54:24,900 --> 00:54:22,619

trance state or some kind of anomalous

1366

00:54:28,460 --> 00:54:24,910

psychological processes they probably

1367

00:54:31,930 --> 00:54:28,470

are because it's demonstrated that

1368

00:54:34,120 --> 00:54:31,940

something actually happens

1369

00:54:37,240 --> 00:54:34,130

yeah I love when we can actually get

1370

00:54:38,849 --> 00:54:37,250

that recorded data I mean it's harder to

1371

00:54:43,259 --> 00:54:38,859

deny that it's harder to have

1372

00:54:46,029 --> 00:54:43,269

presumptions about hard evidence and so

1373

00:54:49,390 --> 00:54:46,039

what's up next for you man talk to us

1374

00:54:52,660 --> 00:54:49,400

about the realms you plan to tackle

1375

00:54:54,849 --> 00:54:52,670

going forward yeah well what I'm doing

1376

00:54:57,640 --> 00:54:54,859

at the moment is I'm working on the

1377

00:54:59,950 --> 00:54:57,650

edited book called I think I'm gonna

1378

00:55:01,289 --> 00:54:59,960

call it greening the paranormal which is

1379

00:55:04,539 --> 00:55:01,299

about these connections between

1380

00:55:06,910 --> 00:55:04,549

anomalistic s-- between parapsychology

1381

00:55:10,240 --> 00:55:06,920

and parents Rapala G and all that's kind

1382

00:55:12,819 --> 00:55:10,250

of stuff and ecology yeah so thinking

1383

00:55:15,880 --> 00:55:12,829

about different ways of conceiving of

1384

00:55:16,839 --> 00:55:15,890

intelligence in nature and all of the

1385

00:55:18,789 --> 00:55:16,849

things that we've been talking about

1386

00:55:21,099 --> 00:55:18,799

today so I've been gathering a lot of

1387

00:55:22,509 --> 00:55:21,109

really interesting articles from

1388

00:55:24,549 --> 00:55:22,519

different scholars working in these

1389

00:55:26,589 --> 00:55:24,559

kinds of areas and just trying to work

1390

00:55:29,620 --> 00:55:26,599

out what this connection is between the

1391

00:55:30,670 --> 00:55:29,630

paranormal and the natural world some of

1392

00:55:32,799 --> 00:55:30,680

the things we've been talking about I

1393

00:55:34,569 --> 00:55:32,809

like the role of culture in modulating

1394

00:55:36,640 --> 00:55:34,579

the paranormal and the

1395

00:55:38,710 --> 00:55:36,650

neurophysiological correlates of the

1396

00:55:40,870 --> 00:55:38,720

paranormal and all of that stuff we're

1397

00:55:42,339 --> 00:55:40,880

starting to build up a bigger picture of

1398

00:55:44,740 --> 00:55:42,349

how it fits in with all of these

1399

00:55:46,930 --> 00:55:44,750

different domains of life and I think

1400

00:55:51,279 --> 00:55:46,940

that the next step is to connect it into

1401

00:55:53,650 --> 00:55:51,289

the wider ecological context all the

1402

00:55:55,029 --> 00:55:53,660

networks between organisms and all of

1403

00:55:58,089 --> 00:55:55,039

that kind of stuff so that's where I'm

1404

00:56:02,319 --> 00:55:58,099

at at the moment exciting I think that's

1405

00:56:03,849 --> 00:56:02,329

a perfect place to go and man as as

1406

00:56:06,549 --> 00:56:03,859

we're closing this thing out do also

1407

00:56:08,170 --> 00:56:06,559

remind people about your previous work

1408

00:56:09,759 --> 00:56:08,180

your journal all that good stuff

1409

00:56:12,490 --> 00:56:09,769

of course we probably want to give them

1410

00:56:14,799 --> 00:56:12,500

your URL info because when you just

1411

00:56:16,480 --> 00:56:14,809

google Jack hunter you might not be in

1412

00:56:19,900 --> 00:56:16,490

the mood for everything that comes up

1413

00:56:21,670 --> 00:56:19,910

okay yeah there's a weird like cheap

1414

00:56:23,950 --> 00:56:21,680

ripoff of Indiana Jones called Jack

1415

00:56:27,370 --> 00:56:23,960

hunter as well she's really annoying

1416

00:56:28,809 --> 00:56:27,380

anyway yeah there's my journal parent

1417

00:56:30,910 --> 00:56:28,819

apology which has been on a bit of a

1418

00:56:33,999 --> 00:56:30,920

hiatus for about a year but it hasn't

1419

00:56:35,890 --> 00:56:34,009

died and I am planning to do new issues

1420

00:56:37,450 --> 00:56:35,900

of it's just finding the time to fit it

1421

00:56:39,069 --> 00:56:37,460

in with everything but if you're

1422

00:56:40,960 --> 00:56:39,079

interested to look at all the back

1423

00:56:43,630 --> 00:56:40,970

issues of that which has been going for

1424

00:56:45,870 --> 00:56:43,640

about eight years now you can go to

1425

00:56:47,550 --> 00:56:45,880

parent through Paula G Co UK

1426

00:56:50,760 --> 00:56:47,560

and you can access all of the journal

1427

00:56:52,590 --> 00:56:50,770

there for free and download it and if

1428

00:56:55,050 --> 00:56:52,600

you want to find out more about all of

1429

00:56:57,840 --> 00:56:55,060

my work as a whole you can check out my

1430

00:57:01,020 --> 00:56:57,850

personal website which is Jack - hunter

1431

00:57:03,480 --> 00:57:01,030

dot web starts com I'm sure we can put a

1432

00:57:05,430 --> 00:57:03,490

link up on your site to link to that and

1433

00:57:07,770 --> 00:57:05,440

then you can find all the news and

1434

00:57:09,780 --> 00:57:07,780

different ideas that I've been thinking

1435

00:57:12,000 --> 00:57:09,790

about recently on the blog and a

1436

00:57:14,980 --> 00:57:12,010

collection of all my articles and books

1437

00:57:18,320 --> 00:57:14,990

and everything it's all up there so

1438

00:57:19,880 --> 00:57:18,330

awesome Wow man well I am just really

1439

00:57:22,310 --> 00:57:19,890

impressed with all the work you've done

1440

00:57:25,430 --> 00:57:22,320

you are a great example of how a person

1441

00:57:27,440 --> 00:57:25,440

can navigate the academic system and

1442

00:57:29,030 --> 00:57:27,450

bring it around to how you want it to be

1443

00:57:30,950 --> 00:57:29,040

rather than just dismissing the whole

1444

00:57:32,690 --> 00:57:30,960

process and then limiting your life's

1445

00:57:36,410 --> 00:57:32,700

options to just what's on the outside

1446

00:57:37,940 --> 00:57:36,420

edges like I did so much respect keep

1447

00:57:39,560 --> 00:57:37,950

doing what you do and keep fighting the

1448

00:57:40,100 --> 00:57:39,570

good fight that's great thank you very

1449

00:57:42,500 --> 00:57:40,110

much

1450

00:57:45,200 --> 00:57:42,510

you got it

1451  
00:57:48,200 --> 00:57:45,210  
happy ghosts a Halloween ease what an

1452  
00:57:50,060 --> 00:57:48,210  
appropriate episode for Halloween and I

1453  
00:57:52,370 --> 00:57:50,070  
didn't even plan it that way and I

1454  
00:57:55,070 --> 00:57:52,380  
usually don't but sometimes we have

1455  
00:57:57,260 --> 00:57:55,080  
these happy accidents and speaking of

1456  
00:57:58,490 --> 00:57:57,270  
happy accidents or synchronicities as

1457  
00:58:01,700 --> 00:57:58,500  
some people like to call them

1458  
00:58:04,130 --> 00:58:01,710  
I had heard dr. hunter on both skeptic

1459  
00:58:05,900 --> 00:58:04,140  
oh and rune soup and thought yes jack is

1460  
00:58:09,140 --> 00:58:05,910  
doing exactly the kind of thing that I'd

1461  
00:58:12,290 --> 00:58:09,150  
like to highlight and literally as I was

1462  
00:58:14,930 --> 00:58:12,300  
writing and emailed to him for an

1463  
00:58:16,610 --> 00:58:14,940

interview request one came in from him

1464

00:58:19,910 --> 00:58:16,620

about seeing if we could do a show

1465

00:58:21,980 --> 00:58:19,920

together and that has never happened we

1466

00:58:24,950 --> 00:58:21,990

had never spoken before so that was

1467

00:58:26,870 --> 00:58:24,960

about as unlikely as anything big thanks

1468

00:58:29,270 --> 00:58:26,880

to the ethereal string pullers for

1469

00:58:30,890 --> 00:58:29,280

putting us in contact we're trying to

1470

00:58:34,970 --> 00:58:30,900

find you a place in the Western world

1471

00:58:37,160 --> 00:58:34,980

spirits we are trying but it all worked

1472

00:58:40,820 --> 00:58:37,170

out clearly the universe knows what

1473

00:58:42,440 --> 00:58:40,830

makes for a good fit on THC but this

1474

00:58:44,630 --> 00:58:42,450

just gets back to my whole thing about

1475

00:58:48,260 --> 00:58:44,640

studying or testing the paranormal

1476

00:58:50,540 --> 00:58:48,270

head-on if it's real and it works and it

1477

00:58:53,600 --> 00:58:50,550

is and it does then it should stand up

1478

00:58:55,190 --> 00:58:53,610

to scrutiny and that means a PhD doing

1479

00:58:57,590 --> 00:58:55,200

professional research yeah I know some

1480

00:59:00,080 --> 00:58:57,600

of these things don't translate to being

1481

00:59:02,630 --> 00:59:00,090

tested in the lab but others do we

1482

00:59:05,150 --> 00:59:02,640

talked about some of those things but as

1483

00:59:07,280 --> 00:59:05,160

a side effect of propping up a guy like

1484

00:59:10,880 --> 00:59:07,290

dr. hunter I think we might put more

1485

00:59:12,470 --> 00:59:10,890

cracks in that academia armor so I like

1486

00:59:15,890 --> 00:59:12,480

this one for a lot of reasons and this

1487

00:59:17,330 --> 00:59:15,900

magic paranormal nature next this is

1488

00:59:19,940 --> 00:59:17,340

probably going to get hit on a lot more

1489

00:59:22,370 --> 00:59:19,950

going forward in this connection it

1490

00:59:24,920 --> 00:59:22,380

might seem like a no-brainer on one hand

1491

00:59:26,390 --> 00:59:24,930

but on the other we spend so little time

1492

00:59:28,730 --> 00:59:26,400

in the natural world that it's hard to

1493

00:59:31,430 --> 00:59:28,740

even take the paranormal magical

1494

00:59:34,520 --> 00:59:31,440

opinions of a person who's never engaged

1495

00:59:36,740 --> 00:59:34,530

with nature seriously I guess I'm saying

1496

00:59:38,660 --> 00:59:36,750

that I think that Association is so

1497

00:59:40,420 --> 00:59:38,670

strong that it's kind of like a person

1498

00:59:42,980 --> 00:59:40,430

who has only ever lived in the desert

1499

00:59:45,230 --> 00:59:42,990

pontificating about penguins your

1500

00:59:46,910 --> 00:59:45,240

opinion is of limited value to me if

1501  
00:59:49,430 --> 00:59:46,920  
you've never been in the environment in

1502  
00:59:51,590 --> 00:59:49,440  
which penguins thrive you can say you've

1503  
00:59:53,840 --> 00:59:51,600  
read books about them you can tell me

1504  
00:59:55,210 --> 00:59:53,850  
you bought a five-star rated penguin

1505  
00:59:57,099 --> 00:59:55,220  
call on Amazon

1506  
00:59:59,770 --> 00:59:57,109  
you can't get it to work but you're

1507  
01:00:02,020 --> 00:59:59,780  
using it in the wrong environment call

1508  
01:00:03,820 --> 01:00:02,030  
penguins all you want in the desert they

1509  
01:00:05,589 --> 01:00:03,830  
will not show up it doesn't mean the

1510  
01:00:08,410 --> 01:00:05,599  
tools to call them don't work and it

1511  
01:00:10,660 --> 01:00:08,420  
doesn't mean they don't exist I think

1512  
01:00:12,970 --> 01:00:10,670  
you know what I'm saying but I don't see

1513  
01:00:15,160 --> 01:00:12,980

that need to be vague or shy about

1514

01:00:18,250 --> 01:00:15,170

really going after these weird things if

1515

01:00:21,220 --> 01:00:18,260

we do it right I'm just sort of seeking

1516

01:00:23,800 --> 01:00:21,230

that higher-level conversation no pun

1517

01:00:25,930 --> 01:00:23,810

intended about these things and that's

1518

01:00:28,750 --> 01:00:25,940

something we've sought out to do for a

1519

01:00:30,370 --> 01:00:28,760

long time it's not really new but when

1520

01:00:32,770 --> 01:00:30,380

it comes to some of the more out there

1521

01:00:35,020 --> 01:00:32,780

episodes I've done things that involve

1522

01:00:38,560 --> 01:00:35,030

something like perhaps and Andromeda

1523

01:00:42,310 --> 01:00:38,570

Council I used to think that was fun or

1524

01:00:45,160 --> 01:00:42,320

entertaining just for its boldness even

1525

01:00:46,839 --> 01:00:45,170

if I couldn't verify it of course but

1526

01:00:50,589 --> 01:00:46,849

some of those sorts of things are

1527

01:00:52,650 --> 01:00:50,599

becoming less fun to me or maybe I

1528

01:00:56,109 --> 01:00:52,660

should just say I'm not as proud of

1529

01:00:58,750 --> 01:00:56,119

releasing those episodes as I am one

1530

01:01:01,510 --> 01:00:58,760

like today and I'm not alluding to any

1531

01:01:04,390 --> 01:01:01,520

kind of sweeping change to THC it's just

1532

01:01:06,310 --> 01:01:04,400

how I'm feeling and to be honest I was

1533

01:01:08,440 --> 01:01:06,320

actually just approached by one of the

1534

01:01:11,140 --> 01:01:08,450

biggest names in the conspiratorial

1535

01:01:14,230 --> 01:01:11,150

underbelly who was associated with just

1536

01:01:18,970 --> 01:01:14,240

this sort of super wild can't really

1537

01:01:20,890 --> 01:01:18,980

verify it pop conspiracy sagas and I

1538

01:01:22,630 --> 01:01:20,900

don't know what to do with it it

1539

01:01:26,470 --> 01:01:22,640

actually feels like a well-timed

1540

01:01:29,530 --> 01:01:26,480

challenge from the universe we will see

1541

01:01:31,930 --> 01:01:29,540

every experience on this THC journey is

1542

01:01:33,730 --> 01:01:31,940

new to me and there is no manual so I

1543

01:01:37,000 --> 01:01:33,740

really appreciate listeners who aren't

1544

01:01:40,420 --> 01:01:37,010

too critical or too harsh on me over the

1545

01:01:42,400 --> 01:01:40,430

small things or when I misstep because I

1546

01:01:45,310 --> 01:01:42,410

really am just a regular guy doing the

1547

01:01:47,470 --> 01:01:45,320

best I can I kind of have a large

1548

01:01:49,390 --> 01:01:47,480

audience that's always growing everyone

1549

01:01:51,849 --> 01:01:49,400

has different opinions on me or what I

1550

01:01:53,770 --> 01:01:51,859

should be doing and we've had some drama

1551  
01:01:55,540 --> 01:01:53,780  
over the past few months over little

1552  
01:01:58,000 --> 01:01:55,550  
things that I probably just gave too

1553  
01:02:00,430 --> 01:01:58,010  
much attention to lesson learned I

1554  
01:02:03,190 --> 01:02:00,440  
talked about some of that drama on grrah

1555  
01:02:05,530 --> 01:02:03,200  
merica recently and for some people even

1556  
01:02:07,130 --> 01:02:05,540  
that seemed to cause more problems than

1557  
01:02:09,830 --> 01:02:07,140  
it solves

1558  
01:02:12,800 --> 01:02:09,840  
you just can't please everyone I'm also

1559  
01:02:15,410 --> 01:02:12,810  
a guy who is dealing with this increased

1560  
01:02:17,540 --> 01:02:15,420  
success for the first time and maybe not

1561  
01:02:20,630 --> 01:02:17,550  
always with the grace and poise of a

1562  
01:02:23,270 --> 01:02:20,640  
trained media personality ultimately it

1563  
01:02:25,100 --> 01:02:23,280

doesn't matter and it's all good and I

1564

01:02:28,670 --> 01:02:25,110

think the shows have been pretty solid

1565

01:02:31,100 --> 01:02:28,680

lately and the guests on point although

1566

01:02:33,770 --> 01:02:31,110

the last one was a bit unbalanced if

1567

01:02:35,720 --> 01:02:33,780

that's the worst of our problems then

1568

01:02:38,120 --> 01:02:35,730

we're doing pretty great but getting

1569

01:02:39,890 --> 01:02:38,130

back to dr. Jack I look at his career

1570

01:02:41,870 --> 01:02:39,900

and I think about what sort of things I

1571

01:02:43,940 --> 01:02:41,880

could have done if I hadn't been so

1572

01:02:46,310 --> 01:02:43,950

stubborn in school and only focused on

1573

01:02:48,470 --> 01:02:46,320

where it was broken rather than what I

1574

01:02:50,090 --> 01:02:48,480

could do with it and I hope some

1575

01:02:51,530 --> 01:02:50,100

listeners may be younger ones than me

1576

01:02:53,690 --> 01:02:51,540

reflect on that as well

1577

01:02:56,060 --> 01:02:53,700

it reminds me of one of my favorite

1578

01:03:00,410 --> 01:02:56,070

lines from Hamilton at one point Aaron

1579

01:03:02,150 --> 01:03:00,420

Burr says talk less smile more don't let

1580

01:03:05,300 --> 01:03:02,160

them know what you're against or what

1581

01:03:07,970 --> 01:03:05,310

you're for and that's wise you can be a

1582

01:03:10,900 --> 01:03:07,980

rebel without wearing it on your sleeve

1583

01:03:13,700 --> 01:03:10,910

especially in such a polarized climate

1584

01:03:16,160 --> 01:03:13,710

obviously doctor Jack's thesis was on

1585

01:03:19,370 --> 01:03:16,170

spirit mediumship nothing subtle about

1586

01:03:21,380 --> 01:03:19,380

that but he stated before that academia

1587

01:03:23,570 --> 01:03:21,390

hasn't really been a huge problem for

1588

01:03:26,600 --> 01:03:23,580

him and I think part of it is his

1589

01:03:28,700 --> 01:03:26,610

attitude he's not abrasive to academia

1590

01:03:30,910 --> 01:03:28,710

but he's actually Jack Sparrow in his

1591

01:03:33,530 --> 01:03:30,920

way right into the best of both worlds

1592

01:03:35,900 --> 01:03:33,540

pushing the needle further for us fringy

1593

01:03:38,240 --> 01:03:35,910

folks and also maintaining a sort of

1594

01:03:40,370 --> 01:03:38,250

credibility and professionalism accepted

1595

01:03:42,830 --> 01:03:40,380

in the mainstream one foot in and one

1596

01:03:45,110 --> 01:03:42,840

foot out so to speak and why is that

1597

01:03:47,000 --> 01:03:45,120

important well if we don't bridge the

1598

01:03:49,130 --> 01:03:47,010

gap between the two worlds then we just

1599

01:03:51,110 --> 01:03:49,140

have to separate groups of people who

1600

01:03:53,960 --> 01:03:51,120

have already made up their minds talking

1601  
01:03:56,570 --> 01:03:53,970  
amongst themselves it doesn't seem like

1602  
01:03:57,950 --> 01:03:56,580  
we get too far with that if we want to

1603  
01:04:00,650 --> 01:03:57,960  
change the world we have to learn how to

1604  
01:04:04,070 --> 01:04:00,660  
communicate with the non-believers with

1605  
01:04:06,140 --> 01:04:04,080  
a bit more nuance and that burden is on

1606  
01:04:08,540 --> 01:04:06,150  
us because we actually have the more

1607  
01:04:10,550 --> 01:04:08,550  
accurate model but we have to sight

1608  
01:04:11,990 --> 01:04:10,560  
better information and make better

1609  
01:04:14,330 --> 01:04:12,000  
arguments whether we're talking about

1610  
01:04:16,730 --> 01:04:14,340  
the paranormal or conspiracy or the

1611  
01:04:18,260 --> 01:04:16,740  
esoteric just to stick with the

1612  
01:04:19,890 --> 01:04:18,270  
paranormal because that's what this show

1613  
01:04:21,510 --> 01:04:19,900

is about someone who doesn't believe

1614

01:04:24,120 --> 01:04:21,520

even that stuff probably puts a lot of

1615

01:04:27,059 --> 01:04:24,130

blind faith in science academia and

1616

01:04:29,370 --> 01:04:27,069

official accreditation so now instead of

1617

01:04:32,190 --> 01:04:29,380

saying you're wrong at Israel I know it

1618

01:04:33,990 --> 01:04:32,200

we say to those people oh you might be

1619

01:04:36,120 --> 01:04:34,000

interested in this guy dr. Jack hunter

1620

01:04:37,529 --> 01:04:36,130

he's got a PhD in anthropology and he's

1621

01:04:39,240 --> 01:04:37,539

written a pretty interesting book that

1622

01:04:41,160 --> 01:04:39,250

contains some hard data and recorded

1623

01:04:44,670 --> 01:04:41,170

results that you might find convincing

1624

01:04:46,740 --> 01:04:44,680

and yes I know we can lead these man

1625

01:04:50,430 --> 01:04:46,750

horses to truth water but we can't make

1626

01:04:53,309 --> 01:04:50,440

them drink sure but it is just a better

1627

01:04:55,319 --> 01:04:53,319

approach I'm never gonna be the Jack

1628

01:04:56,849 --> 01:04:55,329

hunter I'm coming to terms with this I'm

1629

01:04:59,490 --> 01:04:56,859

never going to be the professional

1630

01:05:03,240 --> 01:04:59,500

that's taken seriously it's just too

1631

01:05:05,490 --> 01:05:03,250

late for me but I can connect people to

1632

01:05:08,010 --> 01:05:05,500

that person and I think we should all

1633

01:05:10,559 --> 01:05:08,020

sort of have that outlook because we

1634

01:05:12,029 --> 01:05:10,569

aren't wrong and a lot of the time it's

1635

01:05:13,380 --> 01:05:12,039

not really even about who's right or

1636

01:05:15,930 --> 01:05:13,390

wrong it's about who makes the most

1637

01:05:18,450 --> 01:05:15,940

convincing arguments and sometimes a

1638

01:05:20,279 --> 01:05:18,460

guest will be spot on in one area but if

1639

01:05:23,099 --> 01:05:20,289

they use examples that are out of their

1640

01:05:25,230 --> 01:05:23,109

lane like the moon landing or they cite

1641

01:05:28,769 --> 01:05:25,240

some odd attachment to conventional

1642

01:05:30,809 --> 01:05:28,779

politics I just let that go and bring

1643

01:05:34,230 --> 01:05:30,819

them back to what they're good at to

1644

01:05:36,329 --> 01:05:34,240

their expertise so overall I think dr.

1645

01:05:38,670 --> 01:05:36,339

hunter checks a lot of those positive

1646

01:05:41,180 --> 01:05:38,680

boxes and makes a killer ally in our

1647

01:05:43,769 --> 01:05:41,190

mission to shape the world in our image

1648

01:05:46,620 --> 01:05:43,779

with eyes open to the fringes and the

1649

01:05:48,180 --> 01:05:46,630

Empire at our backs that said if you

1650

01:05:50,069 --> 01:05:48,190

like the first hour maybe it's time to

1651  
01:05:51,660 --> 01:05:50,079  
join the higher side chats plus maybe

1652  
01:05:54,750 --> 01:05:51,670  
this is the one that gets you to jump on

1653  
01:05:57,210 --> 01:05:54,760  
over I will say we talked about a lot of

1654  
01:06:00,059 --> 01:05:57,220  
interesting stuff we got into that old

1655  
01:06:01,950 --> 01:06:00,069  
idea of cedar cultures versus spiritual

1656  
01:06:04,620 --> 01:06:01,960  
teachers how did these ideas get around

1657  
01:06:07,740 --> 01:06:04,630  
the world talked about alien channelers

1658  
01:06:11,279 --> 01:06:07,750  
floating green goat heads animism the

1659  
01:06:13,920 --> 01:06:11,289  
agency of rocks and rock mouths which I

1660  
01:06:17,640 --> 01:06:13,930  
still stand by is probably the strangest

1661  
01:06:19,650 --> 01:06:17,650  
thing in any episode and we threw a

1662  
01:06:21,690 --> 01:06:19,660  
little more icing on that cake by

1663  
01:06:23,970 --> 01:06:21,700

talking about receiving signs from

1664

01:06:26,549 --> 01:06:23,980

plants and animals more wild stories

1665

01:06:29,579 --> 01:06:26,559

from the field of anthropology dr.

1666

01:06:32,849 --> 01:06:29,589

hunters possessed hands story and a deep

1667

01:06:33,700 --> 01:06:32,859

dive into ectoplasm which was pretty

1668

01:06:36,940 --> 01:06:33,710

damned

1669

01:06:39,640 --> 01:06:36,950

fascinating - so if you're listening on

1670

01:06:41,650 --> 01:06:39,650

a podcast player on your phone just look

1671

01:06:43,930 --> 01:06:41,660

at the show notes and click the text of

1672

01:06:46,540 --> 01:06:43,940

the plus pitch and the form comes up

1673

01:06:49,510 --> 01:06:46,550

right away username password payment

1674

01:06:52,780 --> 01:06:49,520

information and boom you're in you don't

1675

01:06:55,510 --> 01:06:52,790

even have to go to your PC and type in

1676

01:06:58,450 --> 01:06:55,520

the URL for the higher side chats + comm

1677

01:07:00,400 --> 01:06:58,460

slash subscribe I'm a lazy guy I know

1678

01:07:02,140 --> 01:07:00,410

that we don't all want to go through

1679

01:07:03,760 --> 01:07:02,150

those steps well I've tried to make it

1680

01:07:06,849 --> 01:07:03,770

easy for you it's right there

1681

01:07:09,700 --> 01:07:06,859

your hand is probably close to on it in

1682

01:07:12,250 --> 01:07:09,710

this very moment signing up for Plus

1683

01:07:13,390 --> 01:07:12,260

would be a huge help to me but you don't

1684

01:07:16,750 --> 01:07:13,400

really know me what do you care about

1685

01:07:18,190 --> 01:07:16,760

helping me you actually get to double

1686

01:07:19,870 --> 01:07:18,200

your higher side experience and you

1687

01:07:22,780 --> 01:07:19,880

obviously like it you're here right now

1688

01:07:26,710 --> 01:07:22,790

why not hear a full show or all the full

1689

01:07:29,020 --> 01:07:26,720

shows and then we can also as a nice

1690

01:07:30,849 --> 01:07:29,030

little side effect sidestep all the D

1691

01:07:33,670 --> 01:07:30,859

platforming drama because we're in a

1692

01:07:36,730 --> 01:07:33,680

closed tight-knit system that doesn't

1693

01:07:38,500 --> 01:07:36,740

rely on any of that but that's a show

1694

01:07:41,320 --> 01:07:38,510

guys and that's the month of October

1695

01:07:44,020 --> 01:07:41,330

another five in the can I know we got

1696

01:07:46,480 --> 01:07:44,030

real close to down to the wire it is the

1697

01:07:48,040 --> 01:07:46,490

31st with a show yesterday and one day

1698

01:07:50,770 --> 01:07:48,050

but we are going to be better for the

1699

01:07:54,640 --> 01:07:50,780

rest of the year because I have a more

1700

01:07:57,040 --> 01:07:54,650

open and simpler life ahead of me for

1701

01:07:59,140 --> 01:07:57,050

the next two months thanks for listening

1702

01:08:01,000 --> 01:07:59,150

enjoy the holiday give a hi there and

1703

01:08:03,070 --> 01:08:01,010

hello to dr. hunter if you liked hearing

1704

01:08:05,680 --> 01:08:03,080

him on THC and I'll see you next time

1705

01:08:07,900 --> 01:08:05,690

your move conventional paradigm proper

1706

01:08:09,760 --> 01:08:07,910

paranormal data deniers and people

1707

01:08:15,050 --> 01:08:09,770

standing in the way of the coming wave

1708

01:08:18,349 --> 01:08:15,060

of wider inclusion you're [h\_\_h]

1709

01:08:20,900 --> 01:08:18,359

lucid dreams are so vivid cuz you go to

1710

01:08:23,930 --> 01:08:20,910

bed at 7:00 and your brain comes alive

1711

01:08:26,599 --> 01:08:23,940

cuz your hatred 9:00 to 5:00 you wake up

1712

01:08:28,610 --> 01:08:26,609

with a dread and make sure your cats are

1713

01:08:31,130 --> 01:08:28,620

fed did your brain talk to a ghost

1714

01:08:35,120 --> 01:08:31,140

removed your coffee and your toast as

1715

01:08:37,640 --> 01:08:35,130

you listen to the higher side chats you

1716

01:08:40,730 --> 01:08:37,650

get to your desk and your boss says it's

1717

01:08:43,190 --> 01:08:40,740

a mess and your soul slowly goes to a

1718

01:08:47,849 --> 01:08:43,200

place where nothing grows when you think

1719

01:08:50,940 --> 01:08:47,859

he's not around you insert a SETI sound

1720

01:08:55,290 --> 01:08:50,950

vom says turn it down and you say it's

1721

01:08:58,170 --> 01:08:55,300

just the higher side chats hello do you

1722

01:09:03,060 --> 01:08:58,180

think you're being invited to Bohemian

1723

01:09:06,690 --> 01:09:03,070

Grove to a Bilderberg Club oh do you

1724

01:09:10,810 --> 01:09:06,700

think could be invited by Rasta to a

1725

01:09:12,459 --> 01:09:10,820

party on a submarine

1726

01:09:15,530 --> 01:09:12,469

diving down

1727

01:09:18,169 --> 01:09:15,540

to the center of the earth to the

1728

01:09:22,189 --> 01:09:18,179

Marianas Trench your teeth begin to

1729

01:09:26,510 --> 01:09:22,199

clinch from the sulphureous stench the

1730

01:09:30,520 --> 01:09:26,520

mask you give in doesn't fit cuz you're

1731

01:09:36,080 --> 01:09:33,470

starting today you'll make plans to get

1732

01:09:38,780 --> 01:09:36,090

away there's no one to hold you down and

1733

01:09:41,630 --> 01:09:38,790

the what if start to drown then you wake

1734

01:09:44,510 --> 01:09:41,640

to the glare of a co fluorescent stare

1735

01:09:46,850 --> 01:09:44,520

and the light winks at you cuz its life

1736

01:09:50,690 --> 01:09:46,860

is almost through but it's holding gone

1737

01:09:53,700 --> 01:09:50,700

to quit time just like you it's time for