

A smiling man with short dark hair, wearing a dark, patterned long-sleeved shirt, is positioned on the left side of the frame. The background features a glowing globe with a grid of latitude and longitude lines, and a white DNA double helix structure. The overall lighting is dark, with the globe and DNA helix providing a bright, futuristic aesthetic.

THE 5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT SKEPTIKO

ALEX TSAKIRIS
skeptiko.com

1
00:00:09,430 --> 00:00:07,909
welcome to skeptica where we explore

2
00:00:12,310 --> 00:00:09,440
controversial science with leading

3
00:00:14,789 --> 00:00:12,320
researchers thinkers and their critics

4
00:00:16,630 --> 00:00:14,799
i'm your host alex sicaris and on this

5
00:00:20,390 --> 00:00:16,640
episode of skeptico

6
00:00:23,109 --> 00:00:20,400
well we have an episode about skeptico

7
00:00:25,429 --> 00:00:23,119
now i don't do many shows about the show

8
00:00:27,269 --> 00:00:25,439
in fact i don't think i've ever done one

9
00:00:30,550 --> 00:00:27,279
but i know from my own experience of

10
00:00:33,670 --> 00:00:30,560
visiting other podcasts you sometimes

11
00:00:36,310 --> 00:00:33,680
need an entry point into what the show

12
00:00:40,069 --> 00:00:36,320
is all about or it winds up sounding a

13
00:00:42,790 --> 00:00:40,079

lot like inside baseball kind of that is

14

00:00:45,110 --> 00:00:42,800

techy talk with a lot of acronyms and

15

00:00:47,110 --> 00:00:45,120

abstract references to material that's

16

00:00:49,510 --> 00:00:47,120

been covered in previous shows that you

17

00:00:51,990 --> 00:00:49,520

never quite get like i said i've been

18

00:00:55,270 --> 00:00:52,000

there enough times to realize that that

19

00:00:57,990 --> 00:00:55,280

can be on one hand kind of exhilarating

20

00:01:00,470 --> 00:00:58,000

to dip into a different world but also

21

00:01:02,630 --> 00:01:00,480

kind of frustrating to not really know

22

00:01:05,030 --> 00:01:02,640

what people are talking about

23

00:01:08,710 --> 00:01:05,040

so i don't know why i think now at

24

00:01:09,510 --> 00:01:08,720

episode 229 is the right time to do it

25

00:01:12,149 --> 00:01:09,520

but

26

00:01:15,510 --> 00:01:12,159

i just kind of felt like it was and i

27

00:01:17,109 --> 00:01:15,520

wanted to lay out for you if i could the

28

00:01:20,230 --> 00:01:17,119

five things

29

00:01:21,910 --> 00:01:20,240

you need to know about skeptico and i

30

00:01:24,550 --> 00:01:21,920

think this would apply to you if you're

31

00:01:26,950 --> 00:01:24,560

a new listener or you may even find it

32

00:01:29,670 --> 00:01:26,960

somewhat interesting if you've been with

33

00:01:31,990 --> 00:01:29,680

the skeptico show for a while so let's

34

00:01:34,789 --> 00:01:32,000

get right to it the first thing you

35

00:01:38,789 --> 00:01:34,799

should know about skeptico is that i

36

00:01:41,109 --> 00:01:38,799

approach skeptico as my personal journey

37

00:01:43,590 --> 00:01:41,119

towards answering the biggest questions

38

00:01:46,550 --> 00:01:43,600

about life who are we why are we here

39

00:01:49,830 --> 00:01:46,560

and most importantly how should i live

40

00:01:53,429 --> 00:01:49,840

my life based on those questions so i

41

00:01:55,990 --> 00:01:53,439

try and wrap skeptico in a nice itunes

42

00:01:58,630 --> 00:01:56,000

interview wordpress format that

43

00:02:01,030 --> 00:01:58,640

hopefully you find accessible and

44

00:02:03,749 --> 00:02:01,040

enjoyable and entertaining but at the

45

00:02:05,990 --> 00:02:03,759

end of the day that dressing up is

46

00:02:09,669 --> 00:02:06,000

mainly so that i can keep talking to the

47

00:02:12,710 --> 00:02:09,679

people i want to talk to which of course

48

00:02:15,589 --> 00:02:12,720

includes you and that's also why you'll

49

00:02:17,589 --> 00:02:15,599

never see any advertisements on skeptico

50

00:02:20,630 --> 00:02:17,599

you'll never hear me ask for any

51
00:02:23,830 --> 00:02:20,640
donations or anything like that the show

52
00:02:26,470 --> 00:02:23,840
is really about my personal journey i'm

53
00:02:29,589 --> 00:02:26,480
not trying to get anywhere with it i'm

54
00:02:31,750 --> 00:02:29,599
not trying to advance any cause run for

55
00:02:34,869 --> 00:02:31,760
office create a name for myself or

56
00:02:37,350 --> 00:02:34,879
anything else i just want to do my best

57
00:02:40,790 --> 00:02:37,360
to answer these questions and along the

58
00:02:43,990 --> 00:02:40,800
way share my journey with everyone else

59
00:02:46,790 --> 00:02:44,000
point number two the second thing you

60
00:02:49,830 --> 00:02:46,800
should know about skeptico is that the

61
00:02:51,750 --> 00:02:49,840
show is about following the data

62
00:02:54,390 --> 00:02:51,760
wherever it leads

63
00:02:56,630 --> 00:02:54,400

or at least it started out that way but

64

00:02:58,710 --> 00:02:56,640

let me not digress into that for a

65

00:03:01,509 --> 00:02:58,720

minute the point i want to make here is

66

00:03:03,750 --> 00:03:01,519

that when i started out i had this idea

67

00:03:06,149 --> 00:03:03,760

that if i wanted to find out about this

68

00:03:08,949 --> 00:03:06,159

stuff even this really big stuff like

69

00:03:11,589 --> 00:03:08,959

questions about who am i then i could

70

00:03:14,390 --> 00:03:11,599

just go out and find the data i could go

71

00:03:17,030 --> 00:03:14,400

talk to the very best experts i could go

72

00:03:19,190 --> 00:03:17,040

then talk to critics of those experts

73

00:03:21,670 --> 00:03:19,200

and then critics of those critics i

74

00:03:24,710 --> 00:03:21,680

could follow the data wherever it led

75

00:03:27,110 --> 00:03:24,720

and i would get to some sort of answer

76

00:03:28,790 --> 00:03:27,120

and to a certain extent that works but

77

00:03:31,110 --> 00:03:28,800

now back to my little digression because

78

00:03:32,869 --> 00:03:31,120

i have to tell you that in the process

79

00:03:34,789 --> 00:03:32,879

of doing that following the data

80

00:03:37,830 --> 00:03:34,799

wherever it leads i came to the

81

00:03:40,710 --> 00:03:37,840

realization that it's not just about the

82

00:03:42,630 --> 00:03:40,720

data it's about all the other stuff

83

00:03:45,750 --> 00:03:42,640

and this has turned out to be a really

84

00:03:48,710 --> 00:03:45,760

important part of my little skeptico

85

00:03:51,030 --> 00:03:48,720

journey here because it opened me up to

86

00:03:53,750 --> 00:03:51,040

two things one that people can have

87

00:03:56,550 --> 00:03:53,760

worldview differences that dramatically

88

00:03:57,910 --> 00:03:56,560

alter their ability to objectively look

89

00:04:00,710 --> 00:03:57,920

at data

90

00:04:02,949 --> 00:04:00,720

and number two it pushed me beyond that

91

00:04:06,550 --> 00:04:02,959

to then ask the question of whether or

92

00:04:08,710 --> 00:04:06,560

not that process of worldview formation

93

00:04:10,309 --> 00:04:08,720

is always under our control or whether

94

00:04:12,309 --> 00:04:10,319

there are other

95

00:04:15,589 --> 00:04:12,319

influencers that are trying to

96

00:04:17,749 --> 00:04:15,599

manipulate our worldview it's a topic

97

00:04:21,349 --> 00:04:17,759

that i've returned to several times

98

00:04:23,510 --> 00:04:21,359

because it does seem to keep popping up

99

00:04:25,990 --> 00:04:23,520

so this idea that it's not just about

100

00:04:29,030 --> 00:04:26,000

the data it's about all the other stuff

101
00:04:31,030 --> 00:04:29,040
has been a reoccurring theme on skeptico

102
00:04:33,350 --> 00:04:31,040
but i want to play for you a clip from

103
00:04:36,469 --> 00:04:33,360
an episode of skeptico that i think for

104
00:04:38,790 --> 00:04:36,479
me was really the turning point in this

105
00:04:40,950 --> 00:04:38,800
understanding and it had to do with this

106
00:04:43,909 --> 00:04:40,960
series of interviews that i did with

107
00:04:46,710 --> 00:04:43,919
science writer and skeptic ben radford

108
00:04:50,070 --> 00:04:46,720
about psychic detectives so i have an

109
00:04:53,430 --> 00:04:50,080
extended clip here from episode 151 of

110
00:04:56,629 --> 00:04:53,440
skeptico that i think sums up what i'm

111
00:04:58,150 --> 00:04:56,639
talking about here goes so here's the

112
00:05:01,270 --> 00:04:58,160
situation

113
00:05:02,950 --> 00:05:01,280

we interviewed psychic nancy webber

114

00:05:04,150 --> 00:05:02,960

about the work she did associated with

115

00:05:06,390 --> 00:05:04,160

the murder

116

00:05:07,749 --> 00:05:06,400

in new jersey and you can go back and

117

00:05:09,909 --> 00:05:07,759

listen to all these interviews i'll

118

00:05:11,510 --> 00:05:09,919

provide links in the show notes here and

119

00:05:13,590 --> 00:05:11,520

you can really dig into this the

120

00:05:14,870 --> 00:05:13,600

fascinating case i think but for the

121

00:05:17,990 --> 00:05:14,880

purposes of this show i'm going to keep

122

00:05:19,670 --> 00:05:18,000

it really brief and here's the interview

123

00:05:21,110 --> 00:05:19,680

that ben did

124

00:05:23,029 --> 00:05:21,120

with nancy

125

00:05:25,830 --> 00:05:23,039

concerning the information that she

126

00:05:27,749 --> 00:05:25,840

provided to the police

127

00:05:30,150 --> 00:05:27,759

yeah and what what specifically in a

128

00:05:32,469 --> 00:05:30,160

nutshell did you did you tell uh

129

00:05:35,189 --> 00:05:32,479

celebration did you give more views

130

00:05:39,270 --> 00:05:35,199

about uh hopkins killer sure

131

00:05:42,070 --> 00:05:39,280

i saw a tall a fairly tall maybe 510 511

132

00:05:43,029 --> 00:05:42,080

slim built man aqualin kind of shaped

133

00:05:46,310 --> 00:05:43,039

face

134

00:05:48,070 --> 00:05:46,320

and i saw a lot of dark hair on his head

135

00:05:50,629 --> 00:05:48,080

and then i saw the hair being taken off

136

00:05:53,350 --> 00:05:50,639

almost like a wig and it would be a buzz

137

00:05:55,029 --> 00:05:53,360

cut with a very high widow's peak i kept

138

00:05:56,230 --> 00:05:55,039

saying that and then i got the name

139

00:05:57,990 --> 00:05:56,240

james

140

00:05:59,830 --> 00:05:58,000

as i was writing and then i got that he

141

00:06:02,390 --> 00:05:59,840

knew the hollow in morristown which is a

142

00:06:04,629 --> 00:06:02,400

particular area in morristown as we were

143

00:06:08,629 --> 00:06:04,639

riding around i also

144

00:06:10,469 --> 00:06:08,639

smelled gasoline smelled an auto shop or

145

00:06:12,309 --> 00:06:10,479

gasoline station

146

00:06:13,590 --> 00:06:12,319

and i knew he was associated then i got

147

00:06:16,629 --> 00:06:13,600

the word brother

148

00:06:17,430 --> 00:06:16,639

so to me his brother had either owned

149

00:06:19,990 --> 00:06:17,440

work

150

00:06:23,430 --> 00:06:20,000

at a station and the car that james

151

00:06:26,390 --> 00:06:23,440

would be driving would have that

152

00:06:29,510 --> 00:06:26,400

then i got polish and i connected that

153

00:06:31,670 --> 00:06:29,520

as polish descent

154

00:06:34,870 --> 00:06:31,680

that took me to florida for some reason

155

00:06:36,950 --> 00:06:34,880

where i fell in prison and i felt him

156

00:06:39,029 --> 00:06:36,960

being locked away in prison for murder

157

00:06:40,070 --> 00:06:39,039

and um and i remember saying to them oh

158

00:06:43,990 --> 00:06:40,080

my god

159

00:06:45,270 --> 00:06:44,000

he was in florida in jail for murder

160

00:06:47,670 --> 00:06:45,280

not one

161

00:06:49,590 --> 00:06:47,680

and they let him out and and you know as

162

00:06:51,590 --> 00:06:49,600

i'm saying it i'm getting it i don't

163

00:06:54,309 --> 00:06:51,600

know if that makes any sense to anybody

164

00:06:55,510 --> 00:06:54,319

but i didn't know it as and then said it

165

00:06:58,070 --> 00:06:55,520

i'd be just

166

00:07:01,270 --> 00:06:58,080

letting the words spill out and i'd go

167

00:07:02,629 --> 00:07:01,280

they released him those idiots

168

00:07:05,830 --> 00:07:02,639

okay now first let me tell you big

169

00:07:08,309 --> 00:07:05,840

picture the police consistently still to

170

00:07:09,909 --> 00:07:08,319

this day say that nancy provided

171

00:07:12,230 --> 00:07:09,919

valuable information and that her

172

00:07:13,749 --> 00:07:12,240

information was amazingly accurate they

173

00:07:15,749 --> 00:07:13,759

said that to me they said that to the

174

00:07:18,790 --> 00:07:15,759

original tv show they did they said that

175

00:07:21,270 --> 00:07:18,800

to ben radford but in ben radford's

176
00:07:24,550 --> 00:07:21,280
debunking exercise what he attempted to

177
00:07:26,710 --> 00:07:24,560
do was focus on some

178
00:07:28,629 --> 00:07:26,720
inconsistencies what he thought were

179
00:07:30,870 --> 00:07:28,639
inconsistencies so i'm going to play you

180
00:07:34,070 --> 00:07:30,880
again one little clip out of there that

181
00:07:37,350 --> 00:07:34,080
he focused in on okay and that has to do

182
00:07:39,350 --> 00:07:37,360
with her saying that the murderer had

183
00:07:40,710 --> 00:07:39,360
gone to florida and was incarcerated

184
00:07:42,550 --> 00:07:40,720
down there and then was released let me

185
00:07:44,870 --> 00:07:42,560
play that for you again right now

186
00:07:48,390 --> 00:07:44,880
and i remember saying to them oh my god

187
00:07:50,309 --> 00:07:48,400
he was in florida in jail for murder

188
00:07:52,469 --> 00:07:50,319

okay so ben couldn't refute the fact

189

00:07:54,150 --> 00:07:52,479

that nancy's information was amazing and

190

00:07:55,670 --> 00:07:54,160

the police thought it was amazing and

191

00:07:57,430 --> 00:07:55,680

thought it was accurate and after the

192

00:07:59,350 --> 00:07:57,440

fact it all matched up and all that so

193

00:08:02,070 --> 00:07:59,360

what he focused on was this little point

194

00:08:03,589 --> 00:08:02,080

and he said in our interview in the

195

00:08:04,629 --> 00:08:03,599

interview with me he said hey you know

196

00:08:06,629 --> 00:08:04,639

what

197

00:08:08,710 --> 00:08:06,639

those cops told me

198

00:08:12,070 --> 00:08:08,720

that she didn't say that he came from

199

00:08:14,070 --> 00:08:12,080

florida just that he came from the south

200

00:08:15,749 --> 00:08:14,080

and i said well ben that's not correct i

201
00:08:17,350 --> 00:08:15,759
have it right here i have the transcript

202
00:08:19,430 --> 00:08:17,360
of the interview that i did with captain

203
00:08:21,110 --> 00:08:19,440
moore and he was insistent and finally i

204
00:08:23,029 --> 00:08:21,120
said ben let's get him on the phone and

205
00:08:26,869 --> 00:08:23,039
we called him and got him on the phone

206
00:08:29,110 --> 00:08:26,879
and here's what captain moore said

207
00:08:31,670 --> 00:08:29,120
jim hi captain moore this is alex

208
00:08:33,909 --> 00:08:31,680
sakar is again from skeptico and i have

209
00:08:36,550 --> 00:08:33,919
uh ben radford from the skeptical

210
00:08:39,029 --> 00:08:36,560
inquirer on the line hey there how you

211
00:08:41,110 --> 00:08:39,039
doing hey so as i was explaining ben and

212
00:08:42,709 --> 00:08:41,120
i had an interesting chat with nancy

213
00:08:46,310 --> 00:08:42,719

this morning then we got off the phone

214

00:08:47,509 --> 00:08:46,320

and we started arguing like we do

215

00:08:50,470 --> 00:08:47,519

we do that

216

00:08:53,110 --> 00:08:50,480

but you know ben has some potential

217

00:08:55,110 --> 00:08:53,120

inconsistencies he sees between

218

00:08:56,550 --> 00:08:55,120

the account that you gave to me and the

219

00:08:58,070 --> 00:08:56,560

account that you gave to him we thought

220

00:08:59,430 --> 00:08:58,080

the easiest way to clear that up was to

221

00:09:01,269 --> 00:08:59,440

get you on the phone for just a few

222

00:09:02,949 --> 00:09:01,279

minutes and i'm going to let ben take

223

00:09:03,829 --> 00:09:02,959

over go ahead ben

224

00:09:05,829 --> 00:09:03,839

um

225

00:09:08,550 --> 00:09:05,839

you know nancy claimed that she

226

00:09:11,829 --> 00:09:08,560

specified the the hoffman's killer had

227

00:09:14,949 --> 00:09:11,839

come from florida but both you and

228

00:09:16,630 --> 00:09:14,959

hughes say that you that you recall that

229

00:09:18,150 --> 00:09:16,640

it wasn't necessarily florida it was

230

00:09:20,949 --> 00:09:18,160

just in the south do you remember which

231

00:09:23,910 --> 00:09:20,959

one it was no no i said florida

232

00:09:26,790 --> 00:09:23,920

she told me that he came he lived in the

233

00:09:28,550 --> 00:09:26,800

morristown area went to florida

234

00:09:31,110 --> 00:09:28,560

while he was in florida he killed

235

00:09:32,710 --> 00:09:31,120

someone went to jail when he was in jail

236

00:09:34,870 --> 00:09:32,720

he killed an inmate that's what i told

237

00:09:36,310 --> 00:09:34,880

you and that's what you told me in on my

238

00:09:37,430 --> 00:09:36,320

interview and i have a transcript of

239

00:09:38,710 --> 00:09:37,440

that as well

240

00:09:40,470 --> 00:09:38,720

yeah okay

241

00:09:41,430 --> 00:09:40,480

if you want to know what nancy said to

242

00:09:43,670 --> 00:09:41,440

me

243

00:09:46,070 --> 00:09:43,680

before cadets was arrested

244

00:09:48,550 --> 00:09:46,080

she told me that he whoever committed

245

00:09:51,750 --> 00:09:48,560

this crime went to florida and was

246

00:09:53,750 --> 00:09:51,760

living in florida killed someone went to

247

00:09:55,910 --> 00:09:53,760

prison in florida and then killed an

248

00:09:59,590 --> 00:09:55,920

inmate while he was a florida for some

249

00:10:01,269 --> 00:09:59,600

reason unknown he got out and after he

250

00:10:02,870 --> 00:10:01,279

got out of prison he came back to the

251
00:10:04,630 --> 00:10:02,880
morristown area

252
00:10:06,389 --> 00:10:04,640
okay that's what she told me when i

253
00:10:08,550 --> 00:10:06,399
first met her and she was

254
00:10:09,750 --> 00:10:08,560
going through what she could feel or

255
00:10:11,110 --> 00:10:09,760
sense

256
00:10:14,150 --> 00:10:11,120
i love that you can kind of hear the

257
00:10:16,230 --> 00:10:14,160
strain in ben's voice as this veteran

258
00:10:18,150 --> 00:10:16,240
homicide detective gets in his face and

259
00:10:20,230 --> 00:10:18,160
says no that's what i told you now get

260
00:10:22,710 --> 00:10:20,240
it right so then ben and i went a little

261
00:10:24,150 --> 00:10:22,720
bit further and he said okay well yeah

262
00:10:27,829 --> 00:10:24,160
what about the other guy lieutenant

263
00:10:30,069 --> 00:10:27,839

hughes he told me that nancy said that

264

00:10:32,710 --> 00:10:30,079

the killer came from the south not from

265

00:10:34,310 --> 00:10:32,720

florida as if that would make much of a

266

00:10:35,990 --> 00:10:34,320

difference that there's all this amazing

267

00:10:37,829 --> 00:10:36,000

information and that's the point he

268

00:10:40,069 --> 00:10:37,839

wants to raise is whether she said

269

00:10:41,910 --> 00:10:40,079

specifically florida or the south but be

270

00:10:44,150 --> 00:10:41,920

it as it will that's the discussion we

271

00:10:46,470 --> 00:10:44,160

got into and again i said no you're

272

00:10:47,910 --> 00:10:46,480

wrong he said florida

273

00:10:49,750 --> 00:10:47,920

and he was insistent i said let's get

274

00:10:51,670 --> 00:10:49,760

him on the phone so we had a conference

275

00:10:53,829 --> 00:10:51,680

call we got lieutenant hughes on the

276

00:10:55,750 --> 00:10:53,839

phone here's how that interview went

277

00:10:58,470 --> 00:10:55,760

i'm kind of news hey lieutenant hughes

278

00:10:59,910 --> 00:10:58,480

it's alex secaris again from skeptico

279

00:11:02,630 --> 00:10:59,920

thanks again i'm not going to take too

280

00:11:04,790 --> 00:11:02,640

much time let's turn it over to ben ben

281

00:11:07,910 --> 00:11:04,800

is concerned about some potential

282

00:11:09,269 --> 00:11:07,920

inconsistencies he sees between

283

00:11:11,509 --> 00:11:09,279

the interview you gave with me and the

284

00:11:14,310 --> 00:11:11,519

interview you gave with him so let's let

285

00:11:16,949 --> 00:11:14,320

him kind of take it over okay actually

286

00:11:19,509 --> 00:11:16,959

i'm i'm i'm not that inconsistency i'm

287

00:11:21,910 --> 00:11:19,519

i'm trying to reconcile what nancy said

288

00:11:25,269 --> 00:11:21,920

um this is all regarding the information

289

00:11:26,630 --> 00:11:25,279

that she gave in 82 uh before kadich was

290

00:11:29,269 --> 00:11:26,640

was arrested

291

00:11:31,910 --> 00:11:29,279

um for example she says that she said

292

00:11:34,710 --> 00:11:31,920

specifically that uh that the hopkins

293

00:11:37,509 --> 00:11:34,720

killer come up from florida uh but from

294

00:11:39,110 --> 00:11:37,519

from what you told me and i think also

295

00:11:40,550 --> 00:11:39,120

other places that you said that you

296

00:11:43,110 --> 00:11:40,560

didn't remember her saying physically

297

00:11:45,430 --> 00:11:43,120

florida just in the south is that right

298

00:11:47,110 --> 00:11:45,440

no no no she not

299

00:11:49,910 --> 00:11:47,120

i might have said that but no she knew

300

00:11:52,230 --> 00:11:49,920

that the guy had killed before and that

301
00:11:53,030 --> 00:11:52,240
he had killed in florida

302
00:11:54,389 --> 00:11:53,040
okay

303
00:11:55,829 --> 00:11:54,399
yes

304
00:11:57,590 --> 00:11:55,839
she knew that he had killed before and

305
00:11:59,750 --> 00:11:57,600
that he had killed in florida

306
00:12:00,949 --> 00:11:59,760
okay eddie had done prison time in

307
00:12:02,630 --> 00:12:00,959
florida

308
00:12:04,870 --> 00:12:02,640
okay what you told me was that you said

309
00:12:06,389 --> 00:12:04,880
that he'd uh done time in the south he

310
00:12:08,150 --> 00:12:06,399
said i don't recall her specifically

311
00:12:10,150 --> 00:12:08,160
saying that he'd done time in florida

312
00:12:12,470 --> 00:12:10,160
just that he'd done time in the south

313
00:12:14,710 --> 00:12:12,480

yeah i do remember florida i uh

314

00:12:17,110 --> 00:12:14,720

maybe i was being generic or or whatever

315

00:12:18,949 --> 00:12:17,120

the case might be but i do know that she

316

00:12:21,269 --> 00:12:18,959

said florida

317

00:12:24,150 --> 00:12:21,279

okay so this is case closed no

318

00:12:26,389 --> 00:12:24,160

reasonable person at this point no

319

00:12:28,710 --> 00:12:26,399

reasonable journalist with any kind of

320

00:12:32,389 --> 00:12:28,720

integrity would at this point

321

00:12:34,629 --> 00:12:32,399

still hold on to this issue

322

00:12:37,190 --> 00:12:34,639

well you know what that brings us to

323

00:12:39,670 --> 00:12:37,200

ben's broadcast a couple months later on

324

00:12:41,990 --> 00:12:39,680

michael shermer's skeptical podcast

325

00:12:43,670 --> 00:12:42,000

here's what ben had to say

326

00:12:45,750 --> 00:12:43,680

nancy webber said that she specified

327

00:12:47,750 --> 00:12:45,760

that a hoffman's killer

328

00:12:49,910 --> 00:12:47,760

had served prison time in florida he

329

00:12:51,910 --> 00:12:49,920

said quote he came up from florida where

330

00:12:53,829 --> 00:12:51,920

he'd been in prison for murder well now

331

00:12:55,509 --> 00:12:53,839

this is interesting because that's not

332

00:12:56,710 --> 00:12:55,519

the same story that you hear when you

333

00:12:58,550 --> 00:12:56,720

interview the police officers for

334

00:13:00,949 --> 00:12:58,560

example sergeant hughes told me that

335

00:13:02,790 --> 00:13:00,959

weber only stated the killer quote had

336

00:13:04,870 --> 00:13:02,800

served time in the south

337

00:13:06,470 --> 00:13:04,880

and it's important to to you know to

338

00:13:08,790 --> 00:13:06,480

remember that the way that psychic

339

00:13:10,870 --> 00:13:08,800

detectives appear to be accurate and

340

00:13:11,990 --> 00:13:10,880

appear to have amazing information

341

00:13:17,110 --> 00:13:12,000

is by

342

00:13:19,190 --> 00:13:17,120

specific at the time but is in fact very

343

00:13:20,790 --> 00:13:19,200

general for example psychic detectives

344

00:13:22,949 --> 00:13:20,800

will say well the body will be found

345

00:13:24,550 --> 00:13:22,959

near water so that's a good example of

346

00:13:26,870 --> 00:13:24,560

how something that can seem very

347

00:13:28,710 --> 00:13:26,880

specific is in fact very general and

348

00:13:31,990 --> 00:13:28,720

that's that's exactly the technique that

349

00:13:33,110 --> 00:13:32,000

nancy ever used in this case

350

00:13:33,949 --> 00:13:33,120

so i don't know what do you want to call

351
00:13:35,910 --> 00:13:33,959
that

352
00:13:37,990 --> 00:13:35,920
misrepresentation

353
00:13:39,190 --> 00:13:38,000
misremembering

354
00:13:40,389 --> 00:13:39,200
uh

355
00:13:41,670 --> 00:13:40,399
lie

356
00:13:43,350 --> 00:13:41,680
i don't know what kind of words you want

357
00:13:44,710 --> 00:13:43,360
to throw at it but

358
00:13:49,990 --> 00:13:44,720
it's stunning

359
00:13:52,629 --> 00:13:50,000
stunning if it hasn't happened over and

360
00:13:55,269 --> 00:13:52,639
over and over again on this show and we

361
00:13:57,670 --> 00:13:55,279
have countless examples and all you have

362
00:14:01,110 --> 00:13:57,680
to do is go through the archives and

363
00:14:03,829 --> 00:14:01,120

listen to richard wiseman and listen to

364

00:14:07,189 --> 00:14:03,839

ray hyman and listen even to even

365

00:14:09,350 --> 00:14:07,199

novella listen to james randy all i mean

366

00:14:12,230 --> 00:14:09,360

it's a consistent pattern we can't even

367

00:14:14,310 --> 00:14:12,240

call ben out for being especially over

368

00:14:17,990 --> 00:14:14,320

the top in terms of misreporting this

369

00:14:21,110 --> 00:14:18,000

stuff it has to do with the bias the

370

00:14:22,710 --> 00:14:21,120

world view it clouds their vision and

371

00:14:23,430 --> 00:14:22,720

they're just like

372

00:14:25,590 --> 00:14:23,440

the

373

00:14:28,310 --> 00:14:25,600

fanatical conservative

374

00:14:31,350 --> 00:14:28,320

religious folks that they so despise

375

00:14:34,629 --> 00:14:31,360

that can't get past the obvious problems

376

00:14:37,030 --> 00:14:34,639

in their logic it's the same situation

377

00:14:39,350 --> 00:14:37,040

repeated over and over again

378

00:14:41,910 --> 00:14:39,360

okay so that ends that clip and here's a

379

00:14:44,629 --> 00:14:41,920

case where i started out with the idea

380

00:14:46,310 --> 00:14:44,639

of following the data wherever it leads

381

00:14:49,590 --> 00:14:46,320

and was smacked in the face by the

382

00:14:51,829 --> 00:14:49,600

realization that it's not about the data

383

00:14:53,590 --> 00:14:51,839

it's about all this other stuff that

384

00:14:56,150 --> 00:14:53,600

causes people to have entrenched

385

00:14:58,710 --> 00:14:56,160

worldviews entrenched belief systems and

386

00:15:00,629 --> 00:14:58,720

then fight and resist any change or any

387

00:15:03,110 --> 00:15:00,639

challenge to those

388

00:15:05,430 --> 00:15:03,120

so i guess that rolls right into point

389

00:15:08,629 --> 00:15:05,440

three of what you should know about

390

00:15:12,949 --> 00:15:08,639

skeptico and that is that what i'm

391

00:15:15,750 --> 00:15:12,959

really about is getting past these stuck

392

00:15:18,470 --> 00:15:15,760

on stupid debates as i call them and

393

00:15:21,910 --> 00:15:18,480

then i found turns out to be pretty hard

394

00:15:25,430 --> 00:15:21,920

to do because we are surrounded by and

395

00:15:26,470 --> 00:15:25,440

emeshed in a lot of stuck on stupid

396

00:15:28,790 --> 00:15:26,480

debates

397

00:15:31,350 --> 00:15:28,800

one example of this that we spent a good

398

00:15:33,590 --> 00:15:31,360

deal of time talking about on this show

399

00:15:36,150 --> 00:15:33,600

because in various forms it seemed to

400

00:15:39,350 --> 00:15:36,160

keep popping up again and again

401
00:15:41,990 --> 00:15:39,360
is the do christians or substitute any

402
00:15:46,069 --> 00:15:42,000
religion you like in there know the true

403
00:15:48,710 --> 00:15:46,079
path to god or our atheist right so

404
00:15:51,910 --> 00:15:48,720
there's a good stuck on stupid debate

405
00:15:55,110 --> 00:15:51,920
for you and i say that because as far as

406
00:15:57,749 --> 00:15:55,120
i can tell both sides have some pretty

407
00:16:00,310 --> 00:15:57,759
darn stupid arguments

408
00:16:03,509 --> 00:16:00,320
so i'd like to take a minute and break

409
00:16:05,749 --> 00:16:03,519
down that debate a little bit by playing

410
00:16:09,509 --> 00:16:05,759
a couple of clips from past skeptico

411
00:16:13,590 --> 00:16:09,519
shows so you can see why i think both

412
00:16:16,069 --> 00:16:13,600
sides are stuck on stupid so as an

413
00:16:18,629 --> 00:16:16,079

example of how the christian argument

414

00:16:22,629 --> 00:16:18,639

gets derailed in this way i have an

415

00:16:25,350 --> 00:16:22,639

example from episode 199 of skeptico

416

00:16:27,590 --> 00:16:25,360

when filmmaker chris white joined me to

417

00:16:30,790 --> 00:16:27,600

talk about his popular and very

418

00:16:33,189 --> 00:16:30,800

impressive documentary ancient aliens

419

00:16:36,790 --> 00:16:33,199

debunked so chris who is otherwise a

420

00:16:38,710 --> 00:16:36,800

very smart and capable guy you watch his

421

00:16:40,949 --> 00:16:38,720

documentary it's extremely well

422

00:16:43,110 --> 00:16:40,959

researched well put together well

423

00:16:44,870 --> 00:16:43,120

thought out this is not a dumb guy and

424

00:16:47,269 --> 00:16:44,880

during the interview we talked almost

425

00:16:50,310 --> 00:16:47,279

entirely about his debunking of the

426
00:16:52,710 --> 00:16:50,320
ancient aliens television show but we

427
00:16:55,110 --> 00:16:52,720
did talk about this one hot topic that

428
00:16:57,189 --> 00:16:55,120
jumps up when you talk to chris and that

429
00:17:00,150 --> 00:16:57,199
has to do with some of his beliefs in

430
00:17:02,550 --> 00:17:00,160
terms of christianity and a literal

431
00:17:05,270 --> 00:17:02,560
interpretation of the bible here's a

432
00:17:08,949 --> 00:17:05,280
clip from that show so chris your

433
00:17:11,029 --> 00:17:08,959
christian beliefs have also become a hot

434
00:17:13,590 --> 00:17:11,039
topic of conversation as it relates to

435
00:17:16,949 --> 00:17:13,600
the film again to emphasize to people

436
00:17:19,829 --> 00:17:16,959
this is not a christian oriented film it

437
00:17:23,029 --> 00:17:19,839
isn't making a case it isn't evangelical

438
00:17:25,510 --> 00:17:23,039

in nature but at one point you do

439

00:17:26,949 --> 00:17:25,520
come to talking about the flood

440

00:17:29,830 --> 00:17:26,959
mythology

441

00:17:31,990 --> 00:17:29,840
and you make reference to

442

00:17:34,630 --> 00:17:32,000
the noah's ark and is that being

443

00:17:36,870 --> 00:17:34,640
confirmed by nautical engineers and then

444

00:17:38,789 --> 00:17:36,880
if anyone you're pretty open guy out

445

00:17:40,950 --> 00:17:38,799
there you're very public if anyone just

446

00:17:42,870 --> 00:17:40,960
pursues that at all they find that

447

00:17:43,830 --> 00:17:42,880
you're a pretty darn conservative

448

00:17:44,630 --> 00:17:43,840
christian

449

00:17:46,789 --> 00:17:44,640
and

450

00:17:50,950 --> 00:17:46,799
i guess you're supportive of the idea

451
00:17:52,549 --> 00:17:50,960
that the noah's ark story has a realness

452
00:17:54,630 --> 00:17:52,559
to it and that

453
00:17:56,310 --> 00:17:54,640
and process that i mean

454
00:17:58,230 --> 00:17:56,320
you got to understand right i mean if

455
00:17:59,350 --> 00:17:58,240
people are astounded when they learn

456
00:18:02,150 --> 00:17:59,360
that you think

457
00:18:03,830 --> 00:18:02,160
a 500 year old man built this big boat

458
00:18:06,549 --> 00:18:03,840
loaded it up with all these animals from

459
00:18:08,470 --> 00:18:06,559
around the world and cruised the oceans

460
00:18:10,470 --> 00:18:08,480
for a year it's hard for a lot of people

461
00:18:11,669 --> 00:18:10,480
to swallow that

462
00:18:13,350 --> 00:18:11,679
well i mean certainly we could talk

463
00:18:15,430 --> 00:18:13,360

about noah's ark and that's certainly

464

00:18:17,430 --> 00:18:15,440

something that's come up a lot um you

465

00:18:19,590 --> 00:18:17,440

know the the thing is i think that

466

00:18:21,990 --> 00:18:19,600

there's a lot of general sort of

467

00:18:23,750 --> 00:18:22,000

presuppositions about this and comes

468

00:18:25,830 --> 00:18:23,760

from like sunday school version of

469

00:18:27,990 --> 00:18:25,840

noah's ark and things like that but the

470

00:18:30,070 --> 00:18:28,000

text is actually quite technical about

471

00:18:32,230 --> 00:18:30,080

noah's ark and it explains a lot of

472

00:18:35,750 --> 00:18:32,240

these things that

473

00:18:38,150 --> 00:18:35,760

and i think that the issue is

474

00:18:39,669 --> 00:18:38,160

very defensible there's been a good

475

00:18:41,990 --> 00:18:39,679

paper it's often referenced called the

476

00:18:43,510 --> 00:18:42,000

feasibility study for a lot of things

477

00:18:44,789 --> 00:18:43,520

like that like the different animals how

478

00:18:47,029 --> 00:18:44,799

could you get them on the ark and so on

479

00:18:48,789 --> 00:18:47,039

and so forth and i would actually take i

480

00:18:50,710 --> 00:18:48,799

i would i take a bit different view and

481

00:18:52,630 --> 00:18:50,720

then i don't think uh you gotta work

482

00:18:55,590 --> 00:18:52,640

dinosaurs into the equation like i think

483

00:18:58,150 --> 00:18:55,600

is so often uh an unfortunate thing that

484

00:19:01,510 --> 00:18:58,160

has been a part of the this defense

485

00:19:03,190 --> 00:19:01,520

um but but the point is is that the the

486

00:19:04,789 --> 00:19:03,200

idea is is feasible one of the many

487

00:19:06,310 --> 00:19:04,799

things the bbc article thing did

488

00:19:07,590 --> 00:19:06,320

recently is like you can't build a boat

489

00:19:09,110 --> 00:19:07,600

that big it wouldn't vote that big

490

00:19:11,990 --> 00:19:09,120

because it would just crush under its

491

00:19:14,390 --> 00:19:12,000

weight and you know there's been really

492

00:19:15,909 --> 00:19:14,400

good work done on that uh to essentially

493

00:19:17,510 --> 00:19:15,919

say first of all there isn't anybody

494

00:19:19,029 --> 00:19:17,520

saying that that metal wasn't a part of

495

00:19:21,430 --> 00:19:19,039

this i mean you know even the bible

496

00:19:23,350 --> 00:19:21,440

mentions that metal working uh was

497

00:19:24,549 --> 00:19:23,360

before this and so on

498

00:19:26,070 --> 00:19:24,559

uh

499

00:19:27,510 --> 00:19:26,080

besides you don't even

500

00:19:28,710 --> 00:19:27,520

i could go into the details but i'm not

501
00:19:30,630 --> 00:19:28,720
sure if that's the direction we want to

502
00:19:32,150 --> 00:19:30,640
go here but um

503
00:19:34,789 --> 00:19:32,160
but all these different things about the

504
00:19:36,470 --> 00:19:34,799
ark itself i think have very rational

505
00:19:38,789 --> 00:19:36,480
explanations that if one takes the time

506
00:19:40,230 --> 00:19:38,799
to look into those things

507
00:19:41,990 --> 00:19:40,240
i think that you'll at least come to the

508
00:19:44,070 --> 00:19:42,000
conclusion that hey there is a rational

509
00:19:45,430 --> 00:19:44,080
defense of this

510
00:19:47,590 --> 00:19:45,440
well i don't know about that last part

511
00:19:49,270 --> 00:19:47,600
in terms of rational explanations or not

512
00:19:51,190 --> 00:19:49,280
and i didn't pursue it too far with

513
00:19:53,909 --> 00:19:51,200

chris because it wasn't the main point

514

00:19:57,029 --> 00:19:53,919

of the show but also because these did

515

00:20:00,230 --> 00:19:57,039

noah use nails in the ark debate are the

516

00:20:03,110 --> 00:20:00,240

kind of debates i don't want to have i

517

00:20:05,510 --> 00:20:03,120

mean i guess there are some real

518

00:20:07,029 --> 00:20:05,520

archaeological questions there and i

519

00:20:08,710 --> 00:20:07,039

want to be open to hearing some of that

520

00:20:10,390 --> 00:20:08,720

stuff but it's pretty much in the

521

00:20:13,110 --> 00:20:10,400

shallow end of the pull when it comes to

522

00:20:15,830 --> 00:20:13,120

these who am i questions

523

00:20:18,950 --> 00:20:15,840

but i digress again because to really

524

00:20:21,990 --> 00:20:18,960

understand why i think this is a stuck

525

00:20:24,470 --> 00:20:22,000

on stupid debate we have to look at the

526

00:20:27,350 --> 00:20:24,480

other side of the table who's sitting

527

00:20:30,230 --> 00:20:27,360

across from us and that is the atheist

528

00:20:33,029 --> 00:20:30,240

who's built his house on a very sandy

529

00:20:35,909 --> 00:20:33,039

foundation and that is the belief that

530

00:20:37,909 --> 00:20:35,919

consciousness that is the sum total of

531

00:20:41,190 --> 00:20:37,919

your human experience

532

00:20:44,149 --> 00:20:41,200

consciousness is an illusion created by

533

00:20:46,950 --> 00:20:44,159

a biological robot you of course being

534

00:20:49,590 --> 00:20:46,960

that biological robot now this statement

535

00:20:51,510 --> 00:20:49,600

which i've often repeated on skeptico

536

00:20:54,870 --> 00:20:51,520

but let me break it down for you because

537

00:20:58,070 --> 00:20:54,880

it's really a mashup of two of the most

538

00:21:00,870 --> 00:20:58,080

popular atheist thinkers of our time

539

00:21:03,669 --> 00:21:00,880

that is philosopher dr daniel dennett

540

00:21:07,190 --> 00:21:03,679

who famously said consciousness is an

541

00:21:10,230 --> 00:21:07,200

illusion and dr richard dawkins who of

542

00:21:12,710 --> 00:21:10,240

course said that humans are biological

543

00:21:15,430 --> 00:21:12,720

robots now we've explored at great

544

00:21:18,390 --> 00:21:15,440

length on skeptico how atheists often

545

00:21:21,669 --> 00:21:18,400

like to run from these philosophical

546

00:21:24,549 --> 00:21:21,679

underpinnings that prop up atheism just

547

00:21:27,190 --> 00:21:24,559

like christians like to run from the

548

00:21:30,390 --> 00:21:27,200

literal noah's ark thing but i would

549

00:21:32,630 --> 00:21:30,400

suggest to you this ambivalence this not

550

00:21:35,190 --> 00:21:32,640

knowing whether i should embrace the

551
00:21:37,510 --> 00:21:35,200
core beliefs of my group in this case

552
00:21:40,390 --> 00:21:37,520
embrace consciousness as an illusion

553
00:21:43,430 --> 00:21:40,400
created by biological robots or whether

554
00:21:46,470 --> 00:21:43,440
i should run from it is really at the

555
00:21:49,029 --> 00:21:46,480
core of these stuck on stupid debates

556
00:21:51,430 --> 00:21:49,039
now since i played for you a clip from

557
00:21:54,390 --> 00:21:51,440
conservative christian chris white let

558
00:21:57,510 --> 00:21:54,400
me also play for you a clip from my

559
00:22:00,470 --> 00:21:57,520
recent interview with popular atheist

560
00:22:03,350 --> 00:22:00,480
author and christian debunker john

561
00:22:05,669 --> 00:22:03,360
loftus because i think it demonstrates

562
00:22:07,909 --> 00:22:05,679
the cognitive dissonance that we go

563
00:22:11,029 --> 00:22:07,919

through when we're drawn into these kind

564

00:22:14,149 --> 00:22:11,039

of debates here john and i are talking

565

00:22:17,270 --> 00:22:14,159

about what it means to fully embrace

566

00:22:18,789 --> 00:22:17,280

being a biological robot

567

00:22:21,830 --> 00:22:18,799

we still have these arguments and they

568

00:22:24,230 --> 00:22:21,840

still change minds uh and um

569

00:22:27,430 --> 00:22:24,240

there are no minds there are no minds we

570

00:22:29,270 --> 00:22:27,440

are biological robots i mean look we

571

00:22:32,390 --> 00:22:29,280

can't change brains they're again

572

00:22:34,630 --> 00:22:32,400

they're robotic they just act according

573

00:22:36,950 --> 00:22:34,640

to their preconceived this is ludicrous

574

00:22:38,870 --> 00:22:36,960

like like look i understand where you're

575

00:22:41,110 --> 00:22:38,880

coming from you're focusing on

576

00:22:42,789 --> 00:22:41,120

christianity and debunking christianity

577

00:22:44,710 --> 00:22:42,799

and there's a lot to be done there but i

578

00:22:47,270 --> 00:22:44,720

think you've kind of made my case to a

579

00:22:50,149 --> 00:22:47,280

certain extent this logically it

580

00:22:52,950 --> 00:22:50,159

logically falls apart and moreover like

581

00:22:55,430 --> 00:22:52,960

i always tell people is you know your

582

00:22:57,270 --> 00:22:55,440

philosophy isn't as complicated as it

583

00:23:00,149 --> 00:22:57,280

seems it's how you live your life you

584

00:23:02,710 --> 00:23:00,159

know and a point to me the person who

585

00:23:04,710 --> 00:23:02,720

lives their life like love isn't real

586

00:23:07,190 --> 00:23:04,720

like connection with people isn't real

587

00:23:10,230 --> 00:23:07,200

sure it's just it's silliness it's

588

00:23:12,230 --> 00:23:10,240

absurdity in the same way that that some

589

00:23:15,350 --> 00:23:12,240

of this other stuff

590

00:23:17,830 --> 00:23:15,360

in terms of biblical inerrancy gets into

591

00:23:20,870 --> 00:23:17,840

the absurd really quickly when you

592

00:23:22,470 --> 00:23:20,880

follow it i i'll make an argument that

593

00:23:26,630 --> 00:23:22,480

if that's the case

594

00:23:27,990 --> 00:23:26,640

uh then you know there's simply there's

595

00:23:30,630 --> 00:23:28,000

no other uh

596

00:23:32,230 --> 00:23:30,640

way around uh living our lives like we

597

00:23:34,230 --> 00:23:32,240

do and making the arguments that we do

598

00:23:35,510 --> 00:23:34,240

well but hold on you can cut that short

599

00:23:38,070 --> 00:23:35,520

and just say there's no reason to really

600

00:23:40,549 --> 00:23:38,080

live your life the famous philosopher

601
00:23:44,470 --> 00:23:40,559
albert camus said this you know there's

602
00:23:47,430 --> 00:23:44,480
only one philosophical question suicide

603
00:23:50,390 --> 00:23:47,440
if you really believe that life is that

604
00:23:53,029 --> 00:23:50,400
meaningless there's no need to continue

605
00:23:55,510 --> 00:23:53,039
the meaninglessness there's no need for

606
00:23:57,909 --> 00:23:55,520
future generations or past generations

607
00:23:59,750 --> 00:23:57,919
or evolution it's all meaningless

608
00:24:01,669 --> 00:23:59,760
there's no reason to go on that's a

609
00:24:04,870 --> 00:24:01,679
logical extension here and of course

610
00:24:09,029 --> 00:24:04,880
it's absurd but it's the absurdity the

611
00:24:14,070 --> 00:24:12,630
all i can say is that when we falsify

612
00:24:15,990 --> 00:24:14,080
the idea

613
00:24:18,230 --> 00:24:16,000

that you are this biological robot and

614

00:24:21,350 --> 00:24:18,240

we accept that that's absurd and once we

615

00:24:23,830 --> 00:24:21,360

get past the idea that consciousness

616

00:24:25,750 --> 00:24:23,840

ends at death which is again like you

617

00:24:27,269 --> 00:24:25,760

said before only i don't think you want

618

00:24:29,909 --> 00:24:27,279

to accept it but that's where the

619

00:24:32,870 --> 00:24:29,919

evidence points it just points that way

620

00:24:36,230 --> 00:24:32,880

i don't know what that means john when i

621

00:24:38,870 --> 00:24:36,240

cross that chasm and i say okay that's

622

00:24:40,870 --> 00:24:38,880

the evidence and i have to deal with it

623

00:24:43,510 --> 00:24:40,880

a lot of things start

624

00:24:46,390 --> 00:24:43,520

falling differently in terms of how i

625

00:24:48,630 --> 00:24:46,400

orient myself to the world how i orient

626

00:24:51,029 --> 00:24:48,640

myself to other people how i orient

627

00:24:52,630 --> 00:24:51,039

myself to morals purpose

628

00:24:55,510 --> 00:24:52,640

meaning in life

629

00:24:57,350 --> 00:24:55,520

so that is what i'm exploring but i'm

630

00:24:59,750 --> 00:24:57,360

exploring it from the other side of the

631

00:25:01,590 --> 00:24:59,760

chasm other side of the chasm being

632

00:25:04,870 --> 00:25:01,600

consciousness survives death you are not

633

00:25:05,669 --> 00:25:04,880

a biological robot you know you

634

00:25:07,430 --> 00:25:05,679

okay

635

00:25:10,310 --> 00:25:07,440

all right fine

636

00:25:11,990 --> 00:25:10,320

i mean i i disagree i've said why so

637

00:25:14,549 --> 00:25:12,000

um

638

00:25:17,430 --> 00:25:14,559

of course you desecrate you stand up and

639

00:25:19,190 --> 00:25:17,440

say i am a biological robot i am going

640

00:25:21,350 --> 00:25:19,200

to stand by that there's no evidence for

641

00:25:23,590 --> 00:25:21,360

invisible beings or entities

642

00:25:25,190 --> 00:25:23,600

hey but but you as you live your life

643

00:25:26,870 --> 00:25:25,200

you live your life like a biological

644

00:25:29,430 --> 00:25:26,880

role everybody does that's that's uh

645

00:25:31,190 --> 00:25:29,440

that's all there is

646

00:25:34,149 --> 00:25:31,200

now of course these examples that i've

647

00:25:36,470 --> 00:25:34,159

given you aren't the only kind of stuck

648

00:25:38,549 --> 00:25:36,480

on stupid debates out there these kind

649

00:25:40,950 --> 00:25:38,559

of debates crop up all the time on

650

00:25:42,950 --> 00:25:40,960

skeptico one example that didn't make it

651
00:25:45,190 --> 00:25:42,960
into the podcast but it's something that

652
00:25:46,950 --> 00:25:45,200
we talked about on the skeptical forum

653
00:25:49,430 --> 00:25:46,960
comes from a really interesting panel

654
00:25:52,310 --> 00:25:49,440
discussion titled reversing death the

655
00:25:55,190 --> 00:25:52,320
miracle of modern medicine and it

656
00:25:57,269 --> 00:25:55,200
featured steve paulsen who is a who's a

657
00:25:59,430 --> 00:25:57,279
journalist with npr and has been on this

658
00:26:02,230 --> 00:25:59,440
show before and is very interested in

659
00:26:05,269 --> 00:26:02,240
these topics and it also featured three

660
00:26:07,190 --> 00:26:05,279
very prominent highly regarded experts

661
00:26:09,830 --> 00:26:07,200
on resuscitation

662
00:26:12,310 --> 00:26:09,840
one is sam parnia who you may know he's

663
00:26:14,789 --> 00:26:12,320

been on the show he's also an expert in

664

00:26:17,190 --> 00:26:14,799

near-death experience research but first

665

00:26:19,830 --> 00:26:17,200

and foremost he's one of the foremost

666

00:26:22,549 --> 00:26:19,840

experts in resuscitation the panel also

667

00:26:24,710 --> 00:26:22,559

included lance becker and stephen mayer

668

00:26:26,950 --> 00:26:24,720

two folks i didn't know so much about

669

00:26:29,909 --> 00:26:26,960

but all these people are top-notch

670

00:26:31,590 --> 00:26:29,919

physicians and research experts with

671

00:26:34,630 --> 00:26:31,600

degrees and credentials that are

672

00:26:36,549 --> 00:26:34,640

extremely extremely impressive

673

00:26:38,230 --> 00:26:36,559

so during this panel discussion they

674

00:26:40,710 --> 00:26:38,240

talked about a number of topics

675

00:26:43,190 --> 00:26:40,720

associated with resuscitation brain

676
00:26:44,789 --> 00:26:43,200
death last will stuff but you kind of

677
00:26:46,549 --> 00:26:44,799
felt like sooner or later they were

678
00:26:49,750 --> 00:26:46,559
going to move on to near-death

679
00:26:52,390 --> 00:26:49,760
experience because it's such a hot topic

680
00:26:54,230 --> 00:26:52,400
and eventually they did and near the end

681
00:26:56,870 --> 00:26:54,240
of their discussion on near-death

682
00:26:59,430 --> 00:26:56,880
experience there was a did noah's ark

683
00:27:01,590 --> 00:26:59,440
have nails moment it comes near the end

684
00:27:03,350 --> 00:27:01,600
of the clip let me play it for you and

685
00:27:05,350 --> 00:27:03,360
see if you can catch it

686
00:27:06,710 --> 00:27:05,360
i'm surprised that none of you has

687
00:27:08,789 --> 00:27:06,720
talked about

688
00:27:10,149 --> 00:27:08,799

what is classif classically called a

689

00:27:12,789 --> 00:27:10,159

near-death experience you know people

690

00:27:15,269 --> 00:27:12,799

who have come back and who report

691

00:27:16,549 --> 00:27:15,279

astounding things that they experienced

692

00:27:18,230 --> 00:27:16,559

as you pointed out i mean this is an

693

00:27:19,669 --> 00:27:18,240

area that i'm very interested in and

694

00:27:21,269 --> 00:27:19,679

this is actually what got me into

695

00:27:22,950 --> 00:27:21,279

cardiac arrest work was when i was a

696

00:27:24,870 --> 00:27:22,960

student and i had a patient who i got to

697

00:27:26,070 --> 00:27:24,880

know very well who essentially died in

698

00:27:27,669 --> 00:27:26,080

front of me

699

00:27:29,909 --> 00:27:27,679

they tried to save and they couldn't and

700

00:27:31,430 --> 00:27:29,919

i was left answering asking this

701
00:27:33,590 --> 00:27:31,440
question as to what's happening to this

702
00:27:35,430 --> 00:27:33,600
person as he's going through this as

703
00:27:37,190 --> 00:27:35,440
he's flatlined as they're all sort of

704
00:27:38,870 --> 00:27:37,200
you know standing away and saying that's

705
00:27:40,390 --> 00:27:38,880
the end is he able to hear us is he able

706
00:27:42,390 --> 00:27:40,400
to see us what happened to his

707
00:27:44,390 --> 00:27:42,400
consciousness and just to sort of take a

708
00:27:53,830 --> 00:27:44,400
slight bit of revenge on you for not

709
00:27:56,789 --> 00:27:55,430
i will come back but one of the best

710
00:27:59,590 --> 00:27:56,799
things one of the best things i ever

711
00:28:01,190 --> 00:27:59,600
heard someone say was what you said once

712
00:28:03,190 --> 00:28:01,200
so i was listening to one of your

713
00:28:04,630 --> 00:28:03,200

podcasts i think it was actually a

714

00:28:07,430 --> 00:28:04,640

session that was done here a year or two

715

00:28:08,549 --> 00:28:07,440

ago and you said that when you go home

716

00:28:10,389 --> 00:28:08,559

at night

717

00:28:12,149 --> 00:28:10,399

you have this fascination with

718

00:28:13,830 --> 00:28:12,159

consciousness and you pick up books

719

00:28:16,149 --> 00:28:13,840

while your wife is reading like the

720

00:28:17,909 --> 00:28:16,159

latest novel on whatever you pick up a

721

00:28:19,750 --> 00:28:17,919

book on consciousness and it's this big

722

00:28:20,870 --> 00:28:19,760

and you find it fascinating and you read

723

00:28:22,870 --> 00:28:20,880

it to the end

724

00:28:25,029 --> 00:28:22,880

and that's one of those was your books

725

00:28:27,269 --> 00:28:25,039

by the way oh really good yeah so

726

00:28:28,630 --> 00:28:27,279

i'm the same i'm a physician

727

00:28:30,549 --> 00:28:28,640

but i'm also fascinated with

728

00:28:32,710 --> 00:28:30,559

consciousness which is what is it that

729

00:28:34,549 --> 00:28:32,720

makes us into who we are and one of the

730

00:28:36,230 --> 00:28:34,559

big big questions we have right now in

731

00:28:37,269 --> 00:28:36,240

science and for the for this century

732

00:28:38,230 --> 00:28:37,279

really is

733

00:28:42,950 --> 00:28:38,240

how

734

00:28:44,870 --> 00:28:42,960

this thinking conscious being that makes

735

00:28:46,310 --> 00:28:44,880

us into who we are and the general

736

00:28:48,149 --> 00:28:46,320

theory out there of course has not been

737

00:28:50,149 --> 00:28:48,159

proven is that somehow brain cell

738

00:28:52,149 --> 00:28:50,159

processes somehow generate the mind

739

00:28:54,149 --> 00:28:52,159

generate thoughts generate who we are

740

00:28:55,990 --> 00:28:54,159

but of course there's no theory or even

741

00:28:57,909 --> 00:28:56,000

a plausible biological mechanism to

742

00:29:00,310 --> 00:28:57,919

account for how cells could even

743

00:29:01,830 --> 00:29:00,320

generate a single thought so now take

744

00:29:03,990 --> 00:29:01,840

that and bring it to

745

00:29:06,630 --> 00:29:04,000

the subject of what happens when we die

746

00:29:11,590 --> 00:29:09,830

after you know cpr was first discovered

747

00:29:13,430 --> 00:29:11,600

about 15 years after that a book was

748

00:29:15,350 --> 00:29:13,440

published which chronicled the

749

00:29:16,630 --> 00:29:15,360

experiences that people have had when

750

00:29:18,630 --> 00:29:16,640

they've been close to death or when

751
00:29:20,789 --> 00:29:18,640
their hearts had stopped and essentially

752
00:29:22,630 --> 00:29:20,799
these people all described feeling

753
00:29:24,389 --> 00:29:22,640
peaceful they had a universal experience

754
00:29:26,230 --> 00:29:24,399
of feeling immense peace

755
00:29:28,149 --> 00:29:26,240
seeing a bright warm welcoming light

756
00:29:30,230 --> 00:29:28,159
that draws them towards it seeing a

757
00:29:32,470 --> 00:29:30,240
tunnel seeing deceased relatives

758
00:29:34,710 --> 00:29:32,480
sometimes welcoming them sometimes

759
00:29:36,630 --> 00:29:34,720
describing seeing a being that was full

760
00:29:38,630 --> 00:29:36,640
of love and compassion that would take

761
00:29:41,269 --> 00:29:38,640
them through essentially an educational

762
00:29:43,269 --> 00:29:41,279
experience where they relived everything

763
00:29:45,190 --> 00:29:43,279

that they had done and they had said and

764

00:29:46,950 --> 00:29:45,200

they judge themselves with this being's

765

00:29:48,950 --> 00:29:46,960

help and often they describe going to a

766

00:29:50,950 --> 00:29:48,960

beautiful place and at some point they

767

00:29:53,190 --> 00:29:50,960

realized they had to come back and a

768

00:29:54,710 --> 00:29:53,200

small proportion of them also described

769

00:29:56,149 --> 00:29:54,720

watching doctors and nurses working on

770

00:29:57,750 --> 00:29:56,159

them and that's the classical near death

771

00:29:59,029 --> 00:29:57,760

experience now

772

00:30:00,870 --> 00:29:59,039

the explanations that were put forward

773

00:30:02,549 --> 00:30:00,880

in the 70s and 80s were this is probably

774

00:30:04,230 --> 00:30:02,559

just simply lack of oxygen a change in

775

00:30:05,430 --> 00:30:04,240

carbon dioxide level and i think those

776

00:30:07,909 --> 00:30:05,440

are now

777

00:30:09,990 --> 00:30:07,919

antiquated with what we understand so

778

00:30:11,510 --> 00:30:10,000

all we can say essentially is that and

779

00:30:13,990 --> 00:30:11,520

the reason someone like me is interested

780

00:30:16,230 --> 00:30:14,000

in this is in order for us to save a

781

00:30:17,830 --> 00:30:16,240

person and bring them back we have to

782

00:30:19,830 --> 00:30:17,840

understand what happens the brain to the

783

00:30:21,669 --> 00:30:19,840

cells after a person has technically

784

00:30:23,590 --> 00:30:21,679

died but we can never forget there's a

785

00:30:25,590 --> 00:30:23,600

person there so what does happen to

786

00:30:28,470 --> 00:30:25,600

their consciousness and the evidence we

787

00:30:30,149 --> 00:30:28,480

have so far and it's an emerging field

788

00:30:32,950 --> 00:30:30,159

is that when a person has technically

789

00:30:34,710 --> 00:30:32,960

died their brain flatlines

790

00:30:36,950 --> 00:30:34,720

and no human experience should be

791

00:30:39,269 --> 00:30:36,960

happening at that time whatsoever

792

00:30:40,950 --> 00:30:39,279

paradoxically 10 to 20 percent of people

793

00:30:42,870 --> 00:30:40,960

do come back and they report these

794

00:30:44,470 --> 00:30:42,880

incredible experiences how do we know

795

00:30:46,230 --> 00:30:44,480

that they're not recalling these

796

00:30:47,669 --> 00:30:46,240

experiences as they're coming back to

797

00:30:49,350 --> 00:30:47,679

consciousness as they're coming out of

798

00:30:50,870 --> 00:30:49,360

the coma well that's a very good

799

00:30:52,389 --> 00:30:50,880

question and that's been part of what

800

00:30:55,350 --> 00:30:52,399

i've been trying to study and i will be

801
00:30:57,830 --> 00:30:55,360
releasing the results of our study

802
00:30:58,950 --> 00:30:57,840
in a month or so at a conference that at

803
00:31:01,669 --> 00:30:58,960
the american heart association

804
00:31:04,230 --> 00:31:01,679
conference but there are cases which

805
00:31:06,149 --> 00:31:04,240
don't support that including what we

806
00:31:08,070 --> 00:31:06,159
found in our research where essentially

807
00:31:10,149 --> 00:31:08,080
you can time the person's experience you

808
00:31:12,549 --> 00:31:10,159
can see they will tell you exactly what

809
00:31:14,230 --> 00:31:12,559
was happening to them 15 or 20 minutes

810
00:31:16,470 --> 00:31:14,240
into their cardiac arrest rather than

811
00:31:17,830 --> 00:31:16,480
just the beginning or just the end where

812
00:31:19,430 --> 00:31:17,840
the brain function was coming back

813
00:31:21,430 --> 00:31:19,440

online again so i just want to follow up

814

00:31:23,510 --> 00:31:21,440

on this you're saying they're reporting

815

00:31:25,510 --> 00:31:23,520

what that happened 15 or 20 minutes ago

816

00:31:27,830 --> 00:31:25,520

they're reporting conversations that

817

00:31:29,590 --> 00:31:27,840

were heard they described so if you a

818

00:31:31,110 --> 00:31:29,600

proportion of people will describe in

819

00:31:33,350 --> 00:31:31,120

incredible detail

820

00:31:35,750 --> 00:31:33,360

conversations events that were happening

821

00:31:38,310 --> 00:31:35,760

clothing everything that happened

822

00:31:40,230 --> 00:31:38,320

except that as far as we can tell their

823

00:31:42,870 --> 00:31:40,240

brain at that time should be flatlined

824

00:31:45,110 --> 00:31:42,880

and at best it's very very disorganized

825

00:31:47,029 --> 00:31:45,120

yet they come back it's not just the

826

00:31:49,110 --> 00:31:47,039

subjective experience of i saw a tunnel

827

00:31:51,990 --> 00:31:49,120

eyes or light they will say that well dr

828

00:31:54,870 --> 00:31:52,000

meyer came in here and he was wearing a

829

00:31:56,870 --> 00:31:54,880

navy suit with a tie that was sort of

830

00:31:58,549 --> 00:31:56,880

brown and it had stripes on it and he

831

00:32:00,470 --> 00:31:58,559

said my god this guy doesn't look very

832

00:32:02,310 --> 00:32:00,480

good let's call his wife and then my

833

00:32:03,909 --> 00:32:02,320

wife was crying

834

00:32:05,430 --> 00:32:03,919

and in all this time someone's doing

835

00:32:08,470 --> 00:32:05,440

this and someone's doing that you know

836

00:32:12,630 --> 00:32:08,480

by the way so no resuscitation is ever

837

00:32:16,070 --> 00:32:14,310

are you messed up are you now talking

838

00:32:17,669 --> 00:32:16,080

about what are classically called

839

00:32:19,269 --> 00:32:17,679

out-of-body experiences i mean people

840

00:32:21,990 --> 00:32:19,279

you know the the

841

00:32:23,269 --> 00:32:22,000

the i don't know what the the entity

842

00:32:24,549 --> 00:32:23,279

hovering at the top of the ceiling

843

00:32:27,029 --> 00:32:24,559

looking down at the opposite you should

844

00:32:29,909 --> 00:32:27,039

have invited me i told you

845

00:32:32,070 --> 00:32:29,919

so okay so i i hate that term near death

846

00:32:34,230 --> 00:32:32,080

experience and outer body experiences

847

00:32:35,909 --> 00:32:34,240

i'll tell you why because there are

848

00:32:38,389 --> 00:32:35,919

labels that have been put forward since

849

00:32:40,789 --> 00:32:38,399

the 70s which basically polarizes people

850

00:32:42,710 --> 00:32:40,799

into the religious people and the

851
00:32:44,389 --> 00:32:42,720
non-religious scientific people and the

852
00:32:47,110 --> 00:32:44,399
fact is we're dealing with a human

853
00:32:49,190 --> 00:32:47,120
experience in the same way that 50 years

854
00:32:50,389 --> 00:32:49,200
ago if you said that we could study love

855
00:32:52,950 --> 00:32:50,399
through science they think it's

856
00:32:55,590 --> 00:32:52,960
non-scientific but actually we can

857
00:32:57,190 --> 00:32:55,600
so the people that we study are not near

858
00:32:58,549 --> 00:32:57,200
death and as far as i'm concerned i

859
00:32:59,990 --> 00:32:58,559
don't like to call their experiences out

860
00:33:02,070 --> 00:33:00,000
of body experiences

861
00:33:03,830 --> 00:33:02,080
they are people who have

862
00:33:05,909 --> 00:33:03,840
gone through death as far as we

863
00:33:08,310 --> 00:33:05,919

understand it technically and they have

864

00:33:10,310 --> 00:33:08,320

a unique experience and part of that is

865

00:33:11,750 --> 00:33:10,320

having a sensation of seeing themselves

866

00:33:13,830 --> 00:33:11,760

and watching and hearing things so they

867

00:33:15,590 --> 00:33:13,840

have consciousness present

868

00:33:18,470 --> 00:33:15,600

when consciousness should not be present

869

00:33:20,710 --> 00:33:18,480

as far as our science tells us today

870

00:33:22,630 --> 00:33:20,720

the obvious conclusion that what we draw

871

00:33:25,029 --> 00:33:22,640

from this is that somehow there's some

872

00:33:26,630 --> 00:33:25,039

aspect of the mind of consciousness

873

00:33:28,710 --> 00:33:26,640

that is not associated with a

874

00:33:30,389 --> 00:33:28,720

corresponding brain state

875

00:33:31,190 --> 00:33:30,399

well like i said i mean this is very

876
00:33:33,269 --> 00:33:31,200
much

877
00:33:34,549 --> 00:33:33,279
a subject that's early

878
00:33:35,990 --> 00:33:34,559
and just being studied there haven't

879
00:33:36,710 --> 00:33:36,000
been many studies

880
00:33:38,549 --> 00:33:36,720
but

881
00:33:40,149 --> 00:33:38,559
we have to be open to it it's possible

882
00:33:41,509 --> 00:33:40,159
like i said there is enough anecdotal

883
00:33:43,350 --> 00:33:41,519
evidence and there are enough cases that

884
00:33:45,750 --> 00:33:43,360
have occurred that suggests that

885
00:33:47,430 --> 00:33:45,760
consciousness may continue when brain

886
00:33:49,029 --> 00:33:47,440
function has ceased and to answer a

887
00:33:50,310 --> 00:33:49,039
point that stefan raised which i think

888
00:33:51,909 --> 00:33:50,320

is very important

889

00:33:54,149 --> 00:33:51,919

yes when you interview them afterwards

890

00:33:55,830 --> 00:33:54,159

most of them don't recall anything

891

00:33:58,070 --> 00:33:55,840

and the reason for that in my opinion is

892

00:33:59,830 --> 00:33:58,080

simply because their brain was severely

893

00:34:01,590 --> 00:33:59,840

traumatized they were given lots of

894

00:34:03,590 --> 00:34:01,600

sedative drugs and all of those together

895

00:34:05,190 --> 00:34:03,600

wipe out their memory circuits it's

896

00:34:07,350 --> 00:34:05,200

similar to the fact that we all have a

897

00:34:08,869 --> 00:34:07,360

dream but if you were to ask us the

898

00:34:10,470 --> 00:34:08,879

following day we don't recall the dream

899

00:34:11,990 --> 00:34:10,480

it doesn't we didn't have it the

900

00:34:14,310 --> 00:34:12,000

evidence that i've seen from patients

901
00:34:15,669 --> 00:34:14,320
that we've studied is that actually

902
00:34:17,430 --> 00:34:15,679
many more of them probably have the

903
00:34:19,349 --> 00:34:17,440
experience but with time they forget it

904
00:34:21,430 --> 00:34:19,359
so if you don't interview them at the

905
00:34:22,710 --> 00:34:21,440
appropriate time they won't recall it in

906
00:34:24,790 --> 00:34:22,720
the same way that people forget their

907
00:34:26,389 --> 00:34:24,800
dreams so it's a completely new area

908
00:34:28,389 --> 00:34:26,399
that's really come about it's the flip

909
00:34:30,069 --> 00:34:28,399
side of the coin one side is to save the

910
00:34:31,349 --> 00:34:30,079
brain the other side is also we're

911
00:34:33,430 --> 00:34:31,359
beginning to study what happens to

912
00:34:34,550 --> 00:34:33,440
consciousness lance i want to bring you

913
00:34:36,470 --> 00:34:34,560

in here

914

00:34:38,950 --> 00:34:36,480

what do you make of these near-death

915

00:34:40,069 --> 00:34:38,960

experiences

916

00:34:42,629 --> 00:34:40,079

i

917

00:34:44,389 --> 00:34:42,639

really

918

00:34:46,230 --> 00:34:44,399

sort of uh

919

00:34:48,950 --> 00:34:46,240

has has this right which is i think we

920

00:34:50,470 --> 00:34:48,960

have to be open to it and i think that

921

00:34:52,550 --> 00:34:50,480

we have to

922

00:34:56,149 --> 00:34:52,560

try to understand it because there's

923

00:35:01,750 --> 00:34:58,470

is coming to us that right now we just

924

00:35:03,910 --> 00:35:01,760

can't really adequately explain this is

925

00:35:05,510 --> 00:35:03,920

what i think most of us what most of it

926
00:35:07,750 --> 00:35:05,520
like i just i just don't have a really

927
00:35:09,990 --> 00:35:07,760
good explanation for it i think we have

928
00:35:11,349 --> 00:35:10,000
to be just dead honest

929
00:35:13,190 --> 00:35:11,359
with ourselves and say we don't have a

930
00:35:16,150 --> 00:35:13,200
good explanation for this

931
00:35:17,990 --> 00:35:16,160
and because it's so intrinsically

932
00:35:21,990 --> 00:35:18,000
surrounding this very

933
00:35:24,150 --> 00:35:22,000
uh uh important event um i i think we're

934
00:35:26,069 --> 00:35:24,160
at a point where we need to learn more

935
00:35:28,310 --> 00:35:26,079
about it and and need to sort of delve

936
00:35:29,589 --> 00:35:28,320
into it and so um but that's interesting

937
00:35:31,430 --> 00:35:29,599
i mean what you are saying though is

938
00:35:34,310 --> 00:35:31,440

you're not you're not willing to say oh

939

00:35:36,310 --> 00:35:34,320

this is clearly just the result of some

940

00:35:38,470 --> 00:35:36,320

biochemical hallucination you are open

941

00:35:39,750 --> 00:35:38,480

to the possibility something more might

942

00:35:41,910 --> 00:35:39,760

be going on

943

00:35:43,990 --> 00:35:41,920

i am open to

944

00:35:45,190 --> 00:35:44,000

anything that we can sort of begin to

945

00:35:47,270 --> 00:35:45,200

understand

946

00:35:49,030 --> 00:35:47,280

about it and it you know and it might

947

00:35:51,430 --> 00:35:49,040

include things about

948

00:35:53,510 --> 00:35:51,440

firing of neural receptors and it and

949

00:35:55,030 --> 00:35:53,520

and it may have to do with other things

950

00:35:57,190 --> 00:35:55,040

that are really

951
00:35:59,829 --> 00:35:57,200
outside of what we understand right now

952
00:36:02,150 --> 00:35:59,839
so whether you want to call it quantum

953
00:36:03,670 --> 00:36:02,160
sort of interactions on some level

954
00:36:07,990 --> 00:36:03,680
you know like

955
00:36:11,670 --> 00:36:10,390
but that doesn't prevent me from sort of

956
00:36:13,910 --> 00:36:11,680
believing

957
00:36:16,710 --> 00:36:13,920
that that it might exist

958
00:36:18,870 --> 00:36:16,720
i think in in a similar way

959
00:36:22,390 --> 00:36:18,880
we need to be open to sort of trying to

960
00:36:24,390 --> 00:36:22,400
understand what what is this and and

961
00:36:26,470 --> 00:36:24,400
i'm a very practical

962
00:36:28,470 --> 00:36:26,480
sort of clinician fundamentally it's

963
00:36:30,470 --> 00:36:28,480

like well so what what are the important

964

00:36:32,150 --> 00:36:30,480

things that i need to know to help a

965

00:36:35,910 --> 00:36:32,160

patient manage it help a family

966

00:36:38,230 --> 00:36:35,920

management to bring to sense peace to

967

00:36:39,829 --> 00:36:38,240

people about it i think that we have a

968

00:36:41,349 --> 00:36:39,839

responsibility to sort of learn more

969

00:36:43,109 --> 00:36:41,359

about that

970

00:36:44,790 --> 00:36:43,119

stefan from what you were saying earlier

971

00:36:46,710 --> 00:36:44,800

i got the sense that maybe you are the

972

00:36:48,630 --> 00:36:46,720

the resident skeptic on the panel here

973

00:36:49,829 --> 00:36:48,640

but is that true i would

974

00:36:50,950 --> 00:36:49,839

what do you think

975

00:36:52,710 --> 00:36:50,960

um

976
00:36:54,950 --> 00:36:52,720
you know i'm thinking about how to put

977
00:36:57,109 --> 00:36:54,960
all this together and

978
00:36:59,670 --> 00:36:57,119
um and i'm going to make a guess about

979
00:37:01,670 --> 00:36:59,680
what sam's been talking about i

980
00:37:03,829 --> 00:37:01,680
i think

981
00:37:05,109 --> 00:37:03,839
for instance we've got people in our icu

982
00:37:07,349 --> 00:37:05,119
and they can

983
00:37:10,390 --> 00:37:07,359
they can become pulseless

984
00:37:12,470 --> 00:37:10,400
and we run eeg on them all

985
00:37:13,910 --> 00:37:12,480
right so we've got so i already i can

986
00:37:17,030 --> 00:37:13,920
already tell you

987
00:37:18,310 --> 00:37:17,040
that one minute 60 seconds after right

988
00:37:19,829 --> 00:37:18,320

when we're getting ready to start the

989

00:37:21,270 --> 00:37:19,839

chest compressions you've still got some

990

00:37:23,430 --> 00:37:21,280

brainwaves

991

00:37:24,790 --> 00:37:23,440

right and we know that there's a point

992

00:37:27,270 --> 00:37:24,800

in time

993

00:37:29,829 --> 00:37:27,280

as as the blood pressure remains very

994

00:37:31,589 --> 00:37:29,839

low that the eeg quickly kind of slows

995

00:37:34,390 --> 00:37:31,599

down right

996

00:37:36,190 --> 00:37:34,400

and we would think conventionally well

997

00:37:38,630 --> 00:37:36,200

then okay i guess all the

998

00:37:40,150 --> 00:37:38,640

electroactivity of the brain is stopped

999

00:37:41,109 --> 00:37:40,160

it's all about electricity with our

1000

00:37:43,270 --> 00:37:41,119

brain

1001
00:37:45,910 --> 00:37:43,280
but what we've started to learn is in

1002
00:37:49,270 --> 00:37:45,920
some of our coma patients

1003
00:37:51,109 --> 00:37:49,280
we now put little wires down into the

1004
00:37:53,109 --> 00:37:51,119
brain that can measure electrical

1005
00:37:54,710 --> 00:37:53,119
activity deep in the brain these are

1006
00:37:57,109 --> 00:37:54,720
probes they're called eg depth

1007
00:37:59,349 --> 00:37:57,119
electrodes that we send down along with

1008
00:38:01,750 --> 00:37:59,359
pressure monitors and oxygen monitors

1009
00:38:04,790 --> 00:38:01,760
and measures of physiology

1010
00:38:07,430 --> 00:38:04,800
well we've already seen cases where with

1011
00:38:09,510 --> 00:38:07,440
the conventional eeg on the surface it's

1012
00:38:11,990 --> 00:38:09,520
flat but then when you have the little

1013
00:38:15,030 --> 00:38:12,000

depth eeg guess what brain's still

1014

00:38:17,829 --> 00:38:15,040

working it's just turned off

1015

00:38:20,550 --> 00:38:17,839

the cortical mantle but the subcortical

1016

00:38:21,589 --> 00:38:20,560

structures are still working so there

1017

00:38:23,190 --> 00:38:21,599

may be

1018

00:38:26,550 --> 00:38:23,200

a i guess what i'm saying is there may

1019

00:38:29,349 --> 00:38:26,560

be a a pretty simple or easy to

1020

00:38:32,630 --> 00:38:29,359

understand non-mystical physiologic

1021

00:38:34,870 --> 00:38:32,640

explanation for why people can grab and

1022

00:38:36,310 --> 00:38:34,880

retain memories and remember that i'm a

1023

00:38:39,750 --> 00:38:36,320

bad dresser

1024

00:38:41,670 --> 00:38:39,760

during a 20-minute cpr

1025

00:38:43,589 --> 00:38:41,680

if they get resuscitated there actually

1026
00:38:44,710 --> 00:38:43,599
may be a physiologic basis for that i

1027
00:38:47,510 --> 00:38:44,720
think

1028
00:38:48,950 --> 00:38:47,520
as as as physicians and scientists

1029
00:38:50,710 --> 00:38:48,960
that's what we're going to look first

1030
00:38:52,790 --> 00:38:50,720
and i guess wherever

1031
00:38:54,390 --> 00:38:52,800
our levels of understanding end we're

1032
00:38:55,990 --> 00:38:54,400
getting more and more understanding but

1033
00:38:58,390 --> 00:38:56,000
those we're never going to understand it

1034
00:39:00,710 --> 00:38:58,400
all and then that's that beyond that

1035
00:39:02,230 --> 00:39:00,720
boundary that's where we gotta kind of

1036
00:39:06,790 --> 00:39:02,240
fill in the blanks and we're dealing

1037
00:39:11,270 --> 00:39:08,950
first off let me say that dr stephen

1038
00:39:14,230 --> 00:39:11,280

mayer who you just heard talking is

1039

00:39:16,870 --> 00:39:14,240

obviously a smart guy a leader in the

1040

00:39:20,230 --> 00:39:16,880

field of resuscitation he's forgotten

1041

00:39:21,670 --> 00:39:20,240

more about medicine and science than i

1042

00:39:22,630 --> 00:39:21,680

ever knew

1043

00:39:25,190 --> 00:39:22,640

but

1044

00:39:28,390 --> 00:39:25,200

when it comes to near-death experience

1045

00:39:31,670 --> 00:39:28,400

science he's using some did noah's ark

1046

00:39:34,950 --> 00:39:31,680

have nails logic he's suggesting that

1047

00:39:37,190 --> 00:39:34,960

there's some deep brain activity that's

1048

00:39:40,870 --> 00:39:37,200

undetectable by eeg

1049

00:39:43,829 --> 00:39:40,880

that could explain the complex deep

1050

00:39:45,829 --> 00:39:43,839

hyperlucid experiences that people are

1051
00:39:48,390 --> 00:39:45,839
having where they're seeing things

1052
00:39:51,270 --> 00:39:48,400
outside of their body in other rooms

1053
00:39:53,430 --> 00:39:51,280
while their eyes are closed and covered

1054
00:39:56,550 --> 00:39:53,440
now to suggest that

1055
00:39:59,510 --> 00:39:56,560
is to say that everything we know about

1056
00:40:01,670 --> 00:39:59,520
how the brain works is wrong because hey

1057
00:40:03,990 --> 00:40:01,680
we don't have a model for the brain that

1058
00:40:05,910 --> 00:40:04,000
explains how you can see with your eyes

1059
00:40:07,510 --> 00:40:05,920
closed we don't have a model for the

1060
00:40:09,190 --> 00:40:07,520
brain about how you can hear

1061
00:40:11,109 --> 00:40:09,200
conversations in the hallway three

1062
00:40:13,109 --> 00:40:11,119
floors down while you're on a gurney

1063
00:40:15,270 --> 00:40:13,119

being resuscitated heck we don't even

1064

00:40:17,670 --> 00:40:15,280

have a model for the brain for how you

1065

00:40:20,950 --> 00:40:17,680

can be having these experiences and not

1066

00:40:23,270 --> 00:40:20,960

have an eeg going off like crazy

1067

00:40:25,589 --> 00:40:23,280

so for dr mera to suggest that oh don't

1068

00:40:28,310 --> 00:40:25,599

worry boys we'll figure all this out

1069

00:40:30,950 --> 00:40:28,320

eventually and not sound some sort of

1070

00:40:33,829 --> 00:40:30,960

alarm based on the data that he has and

1071

00:40:36,710 --> 00:40:33,839

accepts because he does except that

1072

00:40:38,550 --> 00:40:36,720

near-death experiences are happening and

1073

00:40:41,750 --> 00:40:38,560

that they are happening during a time

1074

00:40:44,150 --> 00:40:41,760

when the eeg is flat so for him not to

1075

00:40:46,710 --> 00:40:44,160

announce that as some kind of enormous

1076
00:40:49,430 --> 00:40:46,720
mystery that requires our immediate and

1077
00:40:52,790 --> 00:40:49,440
serious attention and instead to shift

1078
00:40:55,990 --> 00:40:52,800
the focus on these deep brain probes

1079
00:40:57,510 --> 00:40:56,000
is a did noah's ark have nails moment

1080
00:40:59,430 --> 00:40:57,520
it's shifting the focus away from a

1081
00:41:01,430 --> 00:40:59,440
topic that you don't feel really

1082
00:41:03,349 --> 00:41:01,440
comfortable addressing so that you can

1083
00:41:05,430 --> 00:41:03,359
kind of grind on something that's really

1084
00:41:06,870 --> 00:41:05,440
pretty meaningless in this case it's a

1085
00:41:10,309 --> 00:41:06,880
little more subtle it's a little more

1086
00:41:11,670 --> 00:41:10,319
refined but basically it's the same

1087
00:41:13,750 --> 00:41:11,680
thing

1088
00:41:16,069 --> 00:41:13,760

and that leads me into point four of

1089

00:41:19,349 --> 00:41:16,079

things you should know about skeptico

1090

00:41:22,230 --> 00:41:19,359

and that is that if skeptico is about

1091

00:41:25,430 --> 00:41:22,240

moving past these stuck on stupid

1092

00:41:26,790 --> 00:41:25,440

debates these did noah's ark have nails

1093

00:41:29,109 --> 00:41:26,800

kind of debates

1094

00:41:31,109 --> 00:41:29,119

then what kind of dialogues am i looking

1095

00:41:34,150 --> 00:41:31,119

to have well one of the things that

1096

00:41:36,470 --> 00:41:34,160

really drives me motivates me excites me

1097

00:41:39,670 --> 00:41:36,480

is all the interesting questions that

1098

00:41:41,510 --> 00:41:39,680

lie beyond these debates and there are

1099

00:41:44,309 --> 00:41:41,520

so many of them and i want to get to

1100

00:41:48,470 --> 00:41:44,319

them i'm less interested in whether or

1101
00:41:51,349 --> 00:41:48,480
not sam parnea's new aware study will

1102
00:41:53,589 --> 00:41:51,359
win over some of the atheist skeptics

1103
00:41:56,069 --> 00:41:53,599
who are still on the fence about the

1104
00:41:58,710 --> 00:41:56,079
reality of near-death experience what

1105
00:42:00,870 --> 00:41:58,720
i'm interested in is comparing

1106
00:42:03,430 --> 00:42:00,880
near-death experiences with other

1107
00:42:05,630 --> 00:42:03,440
experiences with extended human

1108
00:42:08,870 --> 00:42:05,640
consciousness whether they be a

1109
00:42:12,069 --> 00:42:08,880
dmt-induced hallucination or a kundalini

1110
00:42:15,670 --> 00:42:12,079
experience or a ufo encounter that's the

1111
00:42:18,190 --> 00:42:15,680
kind of question that lies beyond the

1112
00:42:22,069 --> 00:42:18,200
whole consciousness is an illusion of a

1113
00:42:24,390 --> 00:42:22,079

biological robot stupid stuff now to get

1114

00:42:26,309 --> 00:42:24,400

to that next level kind of discussion

1115

00:42:29,510 --> 00:42:26,319

i'm gonna have to circle back from time

1116

00:42:31,750 --> 00:42:29,520

to time to revisit my assumptions and i

1117

00:42:33,829 --> 00:42:31,760

have to be aware and honest about the

1118

00:42:36,150 --> 00:42:33,839

fact that consciousness is an illusion

1119

00:42:37,990 --> 00:42:36,160

of a biological robot thing i'm talking

1120

00:42:41,109 --> 00:42:38,000

about happens to be

1121

00:42:43,750 --> 00:42:41,119

the dominant scientific paradigm so we

1122

00:42:46,470 --> 00:42:43,760

can't pretend it doesn't cast a huge

1123

00:42:49,030 --> 00:42:46,480

shadow on any serious scientific

1124

00:42:51,670 --> 00:42:49,040

conversation we might have i don't want

1125

00:42:53,750 --> 00:42:51,680

to pretend that's not true and similarly

1126

00:42:55,589 --> 00:42:53,760

i want to be real about our culture's

1127

00:42:58,230 --> 00:42:55,599

judeo-christian roots and now that can

1128

00:42:59,910 --> 00:42:58,240

cast the shadow on all conversations we

1129

00:43:02,470 --> 00:42:59,920

might have about the spiritual

1130

00:43:04,710 --> 00:43:02,480

implications we might discover when we

1131

00:43:06,550 --> 00:43:04,720

go beyond this extended human

1132

00:43:09,030 --> 00:43:06,560

consciousness so i'm going to need to

1133

00:43:10,870 --> 00:43:09,040

circle back and re-examine some of our

1134

00:43:13,190 --> 00:43:10,880

spiritual traditions and religious

1135

00:43:16,150 --> 00:43:13,200

traditions from time to time as well and

1136

00:43:18,470 --> 00:43:16,160

i'm sure i'll do that in future shows

1137

00:43:21,589 --> 00:43:18,480

and then finally on this point i think i

1138

00:43:24,309 --> 00:43:21,599

also have to be realistic and accept

1139

00:43:27,349 --> 00:43:24,319

that this path that i'm on

1140

00:43:29,750 --> 00:43:27,359

is not going to be wildly popular

1141

00:43:32,790 --> 00:43:29,760

and most folks have a worldview belief

1142

00:43:35,990 --> 00:43:32,800

system that's dominated either by this

1143

00:43:39,589 --> 00:43:36,000

scientific materialistic neo-darwinism

1144

00:43:42,309 --> 00:43:39,599

atheism kind of thinking or this true

1145

00:43:44,630 --> 00:43:42,319

believer religious status quo kind of

1146

00:43:47,750 --> 00:43:44,640

track and since i've come to believe and

1147

00:43:50,790 --> 00:43:47,760

understand that both are based on some

1148

00:43:53,589 --> 00:43:50,800

pretty crippling assumptions i gotta

1149

00:43:55,910 --> 00:43:53,599

accept that at best

1150

00:43:58,870 --> 00:43:55,920

people are gonna probably be confused

1151
00:44:00,870 --> 00:43:58,880
about where i stand or and this seems to

1152
00:44:03,990 --> 00:44:00,880
happen a lot as you know

1153
00:44:05,190 --> 00:44:04,000
darn right hostile to me trampling all

1154
00:44:08,470 --> 00:44:05,200
over their

1155
00:44:11,829 --> 00:44:08,480
sacred cherished beliefs about science

1156
00:44:14,710 --> 00:44:11,839
and or spirituality and that brings me

1157
00:44:17,670 --> 00:44:14,720
to the fifth and final point that you

1158
00:44:19,670 --> 00:44:17,680
should know about the skeptico show

1159
00:44:23,349 --> 00:44:19,680
and that is that the reason i do

1160
00:44:26,870 --> 00:44:23,359
skeptico is so that i can connect with

1161
00:44:29,750 --> 00:44:26,880
you so that i can create this community

1162
00:44:32,470 --> 00:44:29,760
with other people who share my beliefs

1163
00:44:34,950 --> 00:44:32,480

and interests and desire to

1164

00:44:38,230 --> 00:44:34,960

kind of figure out these problems you

1165

00:44:41,750 --> 00:44:38,240

know a long time ago the us presidential

1166

00:44:44,069 --> 00:44:41,760

first lady hillary clinton was derided

1167

00:44:46,470 --> 00:44:44,079

for saying that it takes a village to

1168

00:44:49,589 --> 00:44:46,480

raise a child well well i guess i've

1169

00:44:51,270 --> 00:44:49,599

always felt intuitively the same thing

1170

00:44:53,990 --> 00:44:51,280

about my path

1171

00:44:56,870 --> 00:44:54,000

it's going to take a village for me to

1172

00:44:59,030 --> 00:44:56,880

figure out who i really am

1173

00:45:02,069 --> 00:44:59,040

and that's why at various times in the

1174

00:45:04,069 --> 00:45:02,079

skeptico show i've tried to engage with

1175

00:45:06,630 --> 00:45:04,079

other people to either come on and guest

1176

00:45:08,309 --> 00:45:06,640

host with me or participate in other

1177

00:45:10,710 --> 00:45:08,319

ways in the show or get involved with

1178

00:45:13,750 --> 00:45:10,720

various projects i like that i think

1179

00:45:16,710 --> 00:45:13,760

that community building is a part of not

1180

00:45:20,230 --> 00:45:16,720

just the skeptic of show but part of my

1181

00:45:22,470 --> 00:45:20,240

path and what i want to do because i do

1182

00:45:24,390 --> 00:45:22,480

think it takes a village and and i'm

1183

00:45:25,750 --> 00:45:24,400

really grateful to the folks who listen

1184

00:45:28,950 --> 00:45:25,760

to the show for

1185

00:45:31,670 --> 00:45:28,960

being part of that village of mine

1186

00:45:33,750 --> 00:45:31,680

whether you like the show or sometimes

1187

00:45:36,550 --> 00:45:33,760

like the show or

1188

00:45:37,589 --> 00:45:36,560

usually almost always don't like the

1189

00:45:39,349 --> 00:45:37,599

show

1190

00:45:42,390 --> 00:45:39,359

it's still in some way that i don't

1191

00:45:45,750 --> 00:45:42,400

fully understand contributes to

1192

00:45:47,990 --> 00:45:45,760

moving this whole enterprise forward so

1193

00:45:48,870 --> 00:45:48,000

i'm not exactly sure how all this came

1194

00:45:50,630 --> 00:45:48,880

out

1195

00:45:53,030 --> 00:45:50,640

and i'm not sure if it gives you a

1196

00:45:55,589 --> 00:45:53,040

better understanding of what this show

1197

00:45:57,589 --> 00:45:55,599

was about but i hope it does and i hope

1198

00:46:00,230 --> 00:45:57,599

this show becomes something that i can

1199

00:46:01,750 --> 00:46:00,240

point people to in the future and say if

1200

00:46:02,950 --> 00:46:01,760

you're just joining this show or if

1201

00:46:05,990 --> 00:46:02,960

you've just listened to a couple

1202

00:46:10,150 --> 00:46:06,000

episodes and you're intrigued look here

1203

00:46:12,870 --> 00:46:10,160

at episode 229 and you'll get an idea of

1204

00:46:15,910 --> 00:46:12,880

where i'm coming from and why we do the

1205

00:46:17,910 --> 00:46:15,920

things we do here so with that i'd like

1206

00:46:19,910 --> 00:46:17,920

to invite you to

1207

00:46:22,950 --> 00:46:19,920

join this village join this community

1208

00:46:25,510 --> 00:46:22,960

and connect with me on any of the points

1209

00:46:27,270 --> 00:46:25,520

raised in this episode of course the

1210

00:46:29,790 --> 00:46:27,280

place to do that is at the skeptico

1211

00:46:32,150 --> 00:46:29,800

website at

1212

00:46:34,390 --> 00:46:32,160

s-k-e-p-t-i-k-o dot com where you can

1213

00:46:37,990 --> 00:46:34,400

leave me a comment about the show or

1214

00:46:40,309 --> 00:46:38,000

hopefully jump over to the new improved

1215

00:46:42,470 --> 00:46:40,319

skeptico forum and i'm gonna have a big

1216

00:46:44,390 --> 00:46:42,480

link there where you can come over and

1217

00:46:45,589 --> 00:46:44,400

join us in a conversation over there i

1218

00:46:47,510 --> 00:46:45,599

think you'll like what you'll see in the

1219

00:46:50,550 --> 00:46:47,520

new forum and if you don't like what you

1220

00:46:52,630 --> 00:46:50,560

see become a part of making it what you

1221

00:46:54,390 --> 00:46:52,640

want it to be i'm that's what it's about

1222

00:46:56,710 --> 00:46:54,400

would love to get your input and your

1223

00:46:59,670 --> 00:46:56,720

ideas for future direction we want to

1224

00:47:02,870 --> 00:46:59,680

create a place that is open to a variety

1225

00:47:05,349 --> 00:47:02,880

of viewpoints but first and foremost is

1226

00:47:07,750 --> 00:47:05,359

getting past these stuck on stupid

1227

00:47:10,150 --> 00:47:07,760

debates and getting towards the real

1228

00:47:12,470 --> 00:47:10,160

media important topics that we want to

1229

00:47:15,750 --> 00:47:12,480

talk about so join us over there and

1230

00:47:16,870 --> 00:47:15,760

become a part of making that happen

1231

00:47:19,430 --> 00:47:16,880

while you're there at the skeptical

1232

00:47:22,150 --> 00:47:19,440

website of course you can check out all

1233

00:47:24,710 --> 00:47:22,160

of our over 200 previous shows subscribe

1234

00:47:27,030 --> 00:47:24,720

to the show or join our email list to

1235

00:47:28,950 --> 00:47:27,040

get regular updates on when the show

1236

00:47:31,510 --> 00:47:28,960

comes out i have a number of interesting

1237

00:47:34,630 --> 00:47:31,520

shows coming up including a couple more

1238

00:47:36,950 --> 00:47:34,640

on this ufo extended consciousness

1239

00:47:39,190 --> 00:47:36,960

connection we have a lot more to talk

1240

00:47:40,870 --> 00:47:39,200

about there i haven't been able to be on

1241

00:47:41,990 --> 00:47:40,880

the forum quite as much as i'd like

1242

00:47:44,069 --> 00:47:42,000

because i have a number of other things

1243

00:47:46,069 --> 00:47:44,079

going on but hopefully that'll change in

1244

00:47:48,550 --> 00:47:46,079

the upcoming weeks i do appreciate you

1245

00:47:51,270 --> 00:47:48,560

listening and joining me for all of this