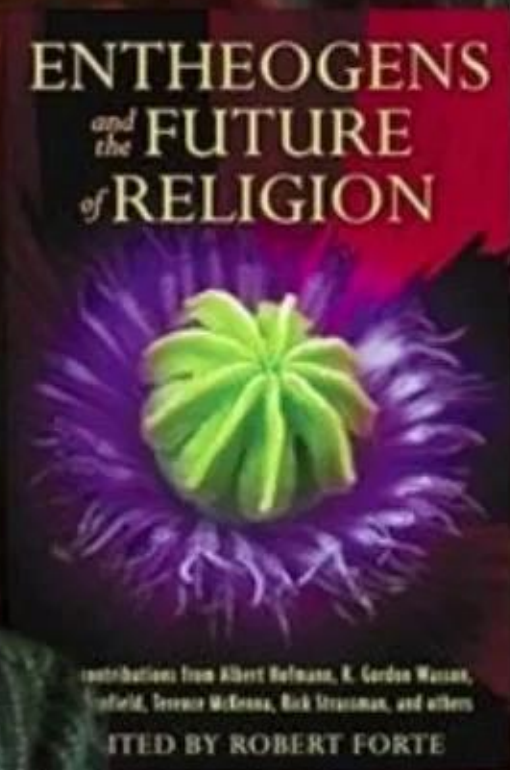
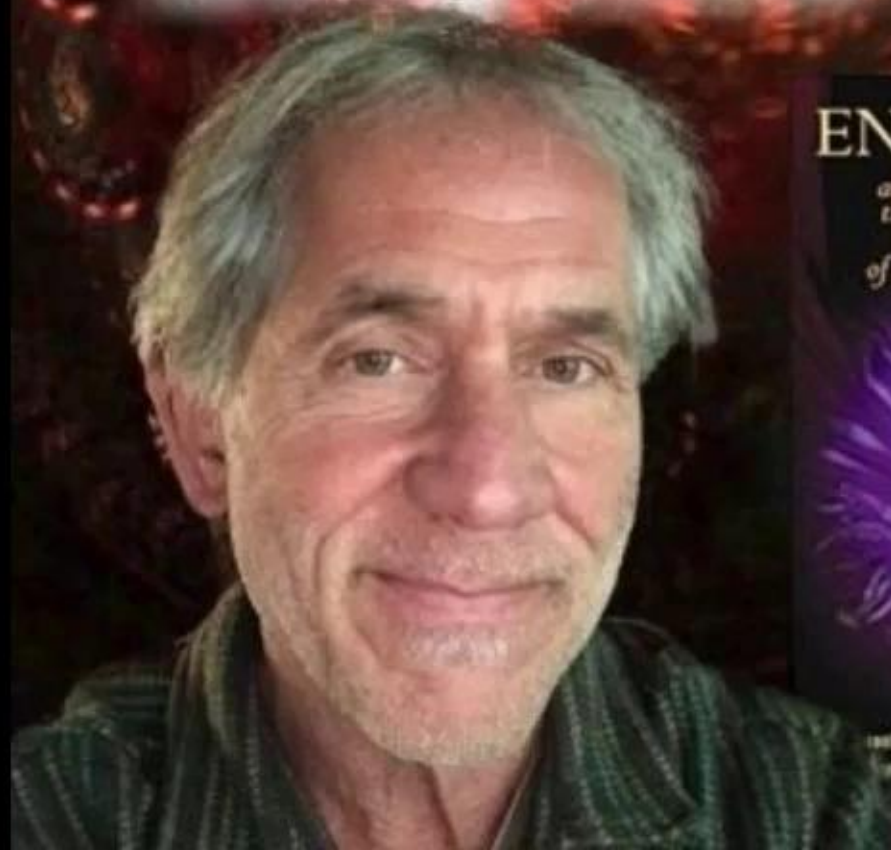


Robert Forte

Skeptiko 407



Skeptiko Topics:

- Consciousness Science
- Parapsychology
- Near-Death Experience
- Spirituality
- Skeptics/Skepticism
- Psi
- Psychics & Mediums
- Atheism
- UFO
- Neuroscience
- Conspiracy Theories
- Contactee Experience
- OBE

1
00:00:15,410 --> 00:00:12,709
do you know where you are right now I'm

2
00:00:19,990 --> 00:00:15,420
in a drug trial what do you think is

3
00:00:22,340 --> 00:00:20,000
wrong with you I'm sick I don't matter

4
00:00:24,529 --> 00:00:22,350
that's Emma Stone and Jonah Hill

5
00:00:27,380 --> 00:00:24,539
participating in a futuristic drug

6
00:00:30,200 --> 00:00:27,390
experiment in the Netflix series maniac

7
00:00:32,780 --> 00:00:30,210
what would you say this trial is showing

8
00:00:34,479 --> 00:00:32,790
you about yourself this therapy no it's

9
00:00:42,020 --> 00:00:34,489
not therapy

10
00:00:44,180 --> 00:00:42,030
it's science science indeed I mentioned

11
00:00:47,090 --> 00:00:44,190
that the show is futuristic but it's

12
00:00:49,069 --> 00:00:47,100
cleverly not futuristic because as many

13
00:00:51,740 --> 00:00:49,079

of you know the history of

14

00:00:54,470 --> 00:00:51,750

government-sponsored pharmaceutical

15

00:00:56,950 --> 00:00:54,480

based social engineering mind-control

16

00:00:59,630 --> 00:00:56,960

stuff is well-established

17

00:01:03,110 --> 00:00:59,640

we met even take it one step further as

18

00:01:06,500 --> 00:01:03,120

today's guest Robert Forte does and say

19

00:01:10,480 --> 00:01:06,510

that the history of psychedelic drugs is

20

00:01:13,130 --> 00:01:10,490

a microcosm of the history of religion I

21

00:01:15,380 --> 00:01:13,140

really want to understand how you're

22

00:01:18,890 --> 00:01:15,390

juggling these two things because what I

23

00:01:22,789 --> 00:01:18,900

hear from Wasson is this both an kind of

24

00:01:26,600 --> 00:01:22,799

thing yeah he's a lyin ass CIA lifetime

25

00:01:30,050 --> 00:01:26,610

player yes but I also get the sense that

26
00:01:32,899 --> 00:01:30,060
he's someone who either before during or

27
00:01:34,910 --> 00:01:32,909
after is woken up to the larger reality

28
00:01:37,340 --> 00:01:34,920
that he's Gumble into or that he's been

29
00:01:39,469 --> 00:01:37,350
pushed into well you know I'm glad you

30
00:01:42,289 --> 00:01:39,479
put it that way because I'm still kind

31
00:01:45,819 --> 00:01:42,299
of you know I think back to my meetings

32
00:01:48,260 --> 00:01:45,829
with Watson he had a very peculiar

33
00:01:50,300 --> 00:01:48,270
personality around me I mean I think I

34
00:01:54,530 --> 00:01:50,310
think there was some genuine affection

35
00:01:56,539 --> 00:01:54,540
and respect for me as a young man who

36
00:01:58,730 --> 00:01:56,549
really wanted to understand what was

37
00:02:01,039 --> 00:01:58,740
going on you know I don't really know

38
00:02:03,350 --> 00:02:01,049

I'd really love to go back into his

39

00:02:06,200 --> 00:02:03,360

archives and read more of his letters

40

00:02:09,050 --> 00:02:06,210

but I I gave a lecture in New York

41

00:02:11,690 --> 00:02:09,060

shortly after my realization of his

42

00:02:13,920 --> 00:02:11,700

relationship to the American fascists

43

00:02:16,949 --> 00:02:13,930

and then my my access to

44

00:02:18,720 --> 00:02:16,959

the archives was denied now this is

45

00:02:21,390 --> 00:02:18,730

another one of those level three

46

00:02:22,890 --> 00:02:21,400

skeptical conversations that kind of

47

00:02:26,429 --> 00:02:22,900

goes in a lot of different directions

48

00:02:28,649 --> 00:02:26,439

including the LSD movement versus the

49

00:02:31,229 --> 00:02:28,659

LSD movements we talked a lot about

50

00:02:33,390 --> 00:02:31,239

Timothy Leary since today's guest spent

51
00:02:35,550 --> 00:02:33,400
quite a bit of time with him we talked

52
00:02:38,190 --> 00:02:35,560
about his early history his experience

53
00:02:40,649 --> 00:02:38,200
with the CIA his claim that the CIA

54
00:02:42,690 --> 00:02:40,659
wasn't all bad in the early 50s but then

55
00:02:44,819 --> 00:02:42,700
they turned bad and he turned against

56
00:02:46,800 --> 00:02:44,829
him and I love Leary's quote that a

57
00:02:48,899 --> 00:02:46,810
third of what he said was a

58
00:02:51,420 --> 00:02:48,909
third of what he said was dead wrong and

59
00:02:53,729 --> 00:02:51,430
a third of what he said was a base hit

60
00:02:55,849 --> 00:02:53,739
but a 333 batting average makes you a

61
00:02:58,860 --> 00:02:55,859
hall-of-famer we also talked about

62
00:03:01,409 --> 00:02:58,870
Aleister Crowley and whether he really

63
00:03:03,720 --> 00:03:01,419

was the sick puppy he seems to be and

64

00:03:05,280 --> 00:03:03,730

how he's involved in this mind control

65

00:03:08,190 --> 00:03:05,290

thing and of course we talked about

66

00:03:11,839 --> 00:03:08,200

Roberts amazing journey through this

67

00:03:14,009 --> 00:03:11,849

entire psychedelics and Thea j'en thing

68

00:03:17,309 --> 00:03:14,019

including his relationship with

69

00:03:19,559 --> 00:03:17,319

clandestine CIA operative Gordon Wasson

70

00:03:22,409 --> 00:03:19,569

we also talked about ROM dass neem

71

00:03:25,289 --> 00:03:22,419

Karoli Baba and contrast ROM dust

72

00:03:27,930 --> 00:03:25,299

Timothy Leary in some ways you might

73

00:03:30,509 --> 00:03:27,940

find interesting if you're at all into

74

00:03:34,530 --> 00:03:30,519

that stuff this guy Robert Forte is

75

00:03:36,439 --> 00:03:34,540

quite an amazing figure in history that

76

00:03:39,149 --> 00:03:36,449

you've probably haven't heard about

77

00:03:40,510 --> 00:03:39,159

stick around for my interview I think

78

00:03:51,030 --> 00:03:40,520

you'll really enjoy it

79

00:03:54,130 --> 00:03:51,040

[Music]

80

00:03:56,680 --> 00:03:54,140

today we welcome Robert Forte to skeptic

81

00:03:58,990 --> 00:03:56,690

Oh Robert is the author of a couple of

82

00:04:00,960 --> 00:03:59,000

books we're gonna talk about and

83

00:04:04,570 --> 00:04:00,970

theagenes in the future of religion

84

00:04:07,690 --> 00:04:04,580

Timothy Leary outside looking in but

85

00:04:10,899 --> 00:04:07,700

more than the books we're going to talk

86

00:04:13,449 --> 00:04:10,909

about how Robert has been right in the

87

00:04:16,210 --> 00:04:13,459

middle of this amazing history of the

88

00:04:19,719 --> 00:04:16,220

psychedelic experience in the middle of

89

00:04:21,189 --> 00:04:19,729

it like really like no one else it's an

90

00:04:24,879 --> 00:04:21,199

amazing story

91

00:04:26,560 --> 00:04:24,889

oh just incredibly amazing life great to

92

00:04:28,870 --> 00:04:26,570

have you here Robert thanks so much for

93

00:04:31,120 --> 00:04:28,880

joining me on skeptic oh well thanks

94

00:04:32,890 --> 00:04:31,130

Alex it's good to be here I've listened

95

00:04:35,200 --> 00:04:32,900

to a couple of your programs and I've

96

00:04:36,909 --> 00:04:35,210

been impressed with the kind of

97

00:04:39,159 --> 00:04:36,919

conversations you're having some I'm

98

00:04:40,900 --> 00:04:39,169

really happy to join you okay as we were

99

00:04:42,670 --> 00:04:40,910

just chatting about in MIT ago we'll see

100

00:04:44,760 --> 00:04:42,680

we'll see where this thing goes we'll

101
00:04:48,100 --> 00:04:44,770
see if you're happy at the end of this

102
00:04:51,760 --> 00:04:48,110
because there are so many twists and

103
00:04:55,300 --> 00:04:51,770
turns to this story and where it goes

104
00:04:58,420 --> 00:04:55,310
and as you said you know we've on this

105
00:05:00,610 --> 00:04:58,430
show explored this topic and I've

106
00:05:03,940 --> 00:05:00,620
explored it from a couple of different

107
00:05:05,770 --> 00:05:03,950
angles and not because I ever had my

108
00:05:07,690 --> 00:05:05,780
arms around it because I still don't

109
00:05:11,379 --> 00:05:07,700
have my arms around it and I feel like

110
00:05:14,350 --> 00:05:11,389
I've gone down the wrong alley way more

111
00:05:17,320 --> 00:05:14,360
than once or twice and to certain extent

112
00:05:19,180 --> 00:05:17,330
I was gratified to see that you kind of

113
00:05:22,420 --> 00:05:19,190

feel like you have to and it's almost

114

00:05:25,390 --> 00:05:22,430

like you got to be the guy who gets

115

00:05:28,839 --> 00:05:25,400

duped in order to really understand the

116

00:05:31,689 --> 00:05:28,849

inside of the game thing but I'm jumping

117

00:05:34,990 --> 00:05:31,699

way ahead in the story let's go back and

118

00:05:37,300 --> 00:05:35,000

start at the very beginning who is

119

00:05:39,400 --> 00:05:37,310

Robert Forte well we're not going to get

120

00:05:44,140 --> 00:05:39,410

into all that but we will let's talk

121

00:05:46,900 --> 00:05:44,150

about my my career my background in this

122

00:05:50,469 --> 00:05:46,910

in this field of psychedelics because I

123

00:05:52,150 --> 00:05:50,479

have explored it very very deeply on a

124

00:05:55,089 --> 00:05:52,160

number of levels

125

00:05:58,659 --> 00:05:55,099

personally the kind of professionally as

126

00:06:01,300 --> 00:05:58,669

a scholar as a researcher as a person

127

00:06:03,790 --> 00:06:01,310

that was quite involved in the under

128

00:06:07,330 --> 00:06:03,800

our movement I've had working

129

00:06:10,300 --> 00:06:07,340

relationships with many practically well

130

00:06:12,280 --> 00:06:10,310

a lot of the most significant people who

131

00:06:16,030 --> 00:06:12,290

brought this subject into public

132

00:06:20,200 --> 00:06:16,040

consciousness since the since the 1950s

133

00:06:22,540 --> 00:06:20,210

I you know and in my own involvement in

134

00:06:24,340 --> 00:06:22,550

it as you said is gone like there were

135

00:06:27,820 --> 00:06:24,350

there were periods in my life where I

136

00:06:30,430 --> 00:06:27,830

was my first exposure to these drugs was

137

00:06:35,980 --> 00:06:30,440

one of just utter fascination when I was

138

00:06:39,400 --> 00:06:35,990

just a young boy in 1967 I saw a copy of

139

00:06:42,360 --> 00:06:39,410

life or Look magazine with LSD on the

140

00:06:45,700 --> 00:06:42,370

cover and I was just fascinated by the

141

00:06:47,800 --> 00:06:45,710

the imagery and I didn't know anything

142

00:06:50,980 --> 00:06:47,810

about it and I was supposed to that was

143

00:06:53,470 --> 00:06:50,990

my day to do a social studies report in

144

00:06:55,810 --> 00:06:53,480

current events in my fifth-grade class

145

00:06:58,210 --> 00:06:55,820

so I brought this magazine in to talk

146

00:07:00,150 --> 00:06:58,220

about LSD and I didn't even know what it

147

00:07:03,490 --> 00:07:00,160

was and I asked my fifth-grade teacher

148

00:07:06,670 --> 00:07:03,500

what is that what is LSD what does that

149

00:07:10,240 --> 00:07:06,680

stand for and she looked at me with this

150

00:07:14,890 --> 00:07:10,250

funny little grin and she said let's

151
00:07:17,200 --> 00:07:14,900
save democracy really yeah that was just

152
00:07:20,200 --> 00:07:17,210
fascinating that was like the only sign

153
00:07:22,480 --> 00:07:20,210
that the 60s happened in the in the area

154
00:07:24,730 --> 00:07:22,490
where I grew up in this little suburb of

155
00:07:26,590 --> 00:07:24,740
New York City of course that went right

156
00:07:30,520 --> 00:07:26,600
over my head I had no idea what she was

157
00:07:33,670 --> 00:07:30,530
talking about but it just kind of stayed

158
00:07:35,920 --> 00:07:33,680
there and you know if years went would

159
00:07:39,370 --> 00:07:35,930
go by now I'm in high school and kids

160
00:07:42,040 --> 00:07:39,380
are starting to take LSD and I was

161
00:07:45,370 --> 00:07:42,050
appalled I was like a really straight

162
00:07:49,120 --> 00:07:45,380
young boy I was in I was a jock I was

163
00:07:51,970 --> 00:07:49,130

into sports and and nature and I saw

164

00:07:54,310 --> 00:07:51,980

kids that would take this LSD stuff and

165

00:07:56,700 --> 00:07:54,320

they would just get too freaked out and

166

00:07:59,530 --> 00:07:56,710

they would sort of wander off into these

167

00:08:02,560 --> 00:07:59,540

cul de sacs and kind of lose their way

168

00:08:04,930 --> 00:08:02,570

and I vowed I would never go near any

169

00:08:07,060 --> 00:08:04,940

any of these kinds of drugs they were

170

00:08:09,940 --> 00:08:07,070

just frightening to me and it wasn't

171

00:08:14,860 --> 00:08:09,950

really until my my third year of college

172

00:08:15,250 --> 00:08:14,870

that I began to change my mind I had by

173

00:08:18,220 --> 00:08:15,260

this

174

00:08:20,740 --> 00:08:18,230

won't become a student of religion I had

175

00:08:23,770 --> 00:08:20,750

taken up a meditation practice I was

176
00:08:26,260 --> 00:08:23,780
exploring Buddhism and we're doing too

177
00:08:29,350 --> 00:08:26,270
young right first it was Transcendental

178
00:08:31,570 --> 00:08:29,360
Meditation and then I decided to really

179
00:08:33,940 --> 00:08:31,580
understand where did these techniques

180
00:08:37,180 --> 00:08:33,950
come from meditation had a very profound

181
00:08:38,380 --> 00:08:37,190
and beneficial effect on my life and so

182
00:08:40,870 --> 00:08:38,390
I was at a student at Columbia

183
00:08:42,700 --> 00:08:40,880
University and I wanted to understand

184
00:08:45,190 --> 00:08:42,710
what was the history of these techniques

185
00:08:47,560 --> 00:08:45,200
and that's when I learned about the

186
00:08:49,930 --> 00:08:47,570
theories about psychedelics and the

187
00:08:53,080 --> 00:08:49,940
origin of religion and I thought wow

188
00:08:56,800 --> 00:08:53,090

I've overlooked something here and and I

189

00:08:59,980 --> 00:08:56,810

began to read voraciously and then after

190

00:09:03,310 --> 00:08:59,990

quite many many books I decided I would

191

00:09:07,390 --> 00:09:03,320

try one and I had a mushroom experience

192

00:09:09,870 --> 00:09:07,400

that was mild but very interesting and

193

00:09:12,250 --> 00:09:09,880

it was time for me to move to California

194

00:09:14,050 --> 00:09:12,260

just at that point in my life to get

195

00:09:16,090 --> 00:09:14,060

away from the East Coast and I came out

196

00:09:18,850 --> 00:09:16,100

to finish my degree at the University of

197

00:09:22,180 --> 00:09:18,860

California and Santa Cruz and I had the

198

00:09:24,910 --> 00:09:22,190

very great fortune to connect there with

199

00:09:27,700 --> 00:09:24,920

Frank Barron now I don't know how how

200

00:09:30,550 --> 00:09:27,710

much you or your listeners know about

201
00:09:34,110 --> 00:09:30,560
Frank Barron because he's been a very

202
00:09:37,480 --> 00:09:34,120
quiet but very significant force in

203
00:09:40,840 --> 00:09:37,490
American psychology and particularly in

204
00:09:44,200 --> 00:09:40,850
in really starting the psychedelic

205
00:09:46,150 --> 00:09:44,210
movement yeah he's really the forerunner

206
00:09:47,890 --> 00:09:46,160
to America thinks of Leary when you have

207
00:09:49,780 --> 00:09:47,900
a whole book I'm Larry and you you were

208
00:09:52,180 --> 00:09:49,790
with Timothy Leary for the last three

209
00:09:53,770 --> 00:09:52,190
years of his life and you know all his

210
00:09:56,170 --> 00:09:53,780
associates we're gonna talk about that

211
00:09:58,270 --> 00:09:56,180
but tell folks a little bit about Frank

212
00:10:00,820 --> 00:09:58,280
Barron cuz folks don't know he's he's

213
00:10:02,980 --> 00:10:00,830

kind of the pivot guy from the beginning

214

00:10:04,630 --> 00:10:02,990

he is the pivot guy but let me just back

215

00:10:08,230 --> 00:10:04,640

up a second because I used this phrase

216

00:10:10,000 --> 00:10:08,240

the psychedelic movement and I'm backing

217

00:10:12,520 --> 00:10:10,010

off that phrase and I think it's much

218

00:10:14,920 --> 00:10:12,530

more important to talk about psychedelic

219

00:10:18,340 --> 00:10:14,930

movements because although with its one

220

00:10:21,750 --> 00:10:18,350

family of drugs there are really many

221

00:10:24,160 --> 00:10:21,760

very very different groups of people

222

00:10:27,220 --> 00:10:24,170

individuals and groups of people who use

223

00:10:28,840 --> 00:10:27,230

these drugs for wildly divergent

224

00:10:30,669 --> 00:10:28,850

purposes

225

00:10:33,279 --> 00:10:30,679

so I want to be careful we not talk

226

00:10:35,710 --> 00:10:33,289

about psychedelic movement versus

227

00:10:38,079 --> 00:10:35,720

psychedelic movements now Frank baron

228

00:10:39,579 --> 00:10:38,089

was Timothy Leary's best friend in

229

00:10:41,889 --> 00:10:39,589

graduate school they both went to

230

00:10:46,869 --> 00:10:41,899

Berkeley together he was a veteran of

231

00:10:49,869 --> 00:10:46,879

World War two and he was he was

232

00:10:53,049 --> 00:10:49,879

horrified by the advent of the nuclear

233

00:10:54,999 --> 00:10:53,059

bomb and he realized that like a lot of

234

00:10:57,999 --> 00:10:55,009

people realized at that time that oh my

235

00:11:01,269 --> 00:10:58,009

god you know this savage power in the

236

00:11:04,809 --> 00:11:01,279

hands of a humanity that you know this

237

00:11:06,579 --> 00:11:04,819

was this was potential disaster Albert

238

00:11:08,259 --> 00:11:06,589

Einstein said the same thing you know

239

00:11:11,019 --> 00:11:08,269

like he shouldn't have done the research

240

00:11:13,299 --> 00:11:11,029

that led to this human beings can't

241

00:11:14,710 --> 00:11:13,309

handle this power and Frank realized

242

00:11:18,749 --> 00:11:14,720

that if we're going to have this bomb

243

00:11:22,419 --> 00:11:18,759

we're going to need a equal like

244

00:11:24,489 --> 00:11:22,429

expansion of wisdom and compassion and

245

00:11:26,679 --> 00:11:24,499

understanding or we're going to blow

246

00:11:29,169 --> 00:11:26,689

ourselves up and so he devoted his

247

00:11:32,169 --> 00:11:29,179

career in psychology to this sort of

248

00:11:35,079 --> 00:11:32,179

thing and when he discovered these

249

00:11:37,749 --> 00:11:35,089

mushrooms while studying creativity in

250

00:11:40,359 --> 00:11:37,759

Mexico he thought that he had found kind

251
00:11:42,549 --> 00:11:40,369
of the Holy Grail to psychology that

252
00:11:46,029 --> 00:11:42,559
this was a way to just you know release

253
00:11:47,679 --> 00:11:46,039
a corresponding you know expansion of

254
00:11:50,499 --> 00:11:47,689
consciousness that would counter the

255
00:11:52,359 --> 00:11:50,509
bomb he was really into this and he told

256
00:11:54,309 --> 00:11:52,369
his friend Tim about it this was the

257
00:11:56,619 --> 00:11:54,319
thing that they were looking for this is

258
00:11:59,229 --> 00:11:56,629
when what year would this be well this

259
00:12:02,049 --> 00:11:59,239
is about 1950 late late they were they

260
00:12:04,059 --> 00:12:02,059
were at Berkeley from the in the 1950s

261
00:12:07,299 --> 00:12:04,069
and Frank finally connected with the

262
00:12:09,939 --> 00:12:07,309
mushroom about 1958 I think it was and

263
00:12:13,239 --> 00:12:09,949

he told him about it and Tim was in a

264

00:12:15,549 --> 00:12:13,249

rough spot in his life he had his wife

265

00:12:17,710 --> 00:12:15,559

had just committed suicide he was

266

00:12:20,919 --> 00:12:17,720

completely disillusioned with American

267

00:12:25,049 --> 00:12:20,929

psychology he had already realized that

268

00:12:29,139 --> 00:12:25,059

the field was infiltrated with with CIA

269

00:12:32,619 --> 00:12:29,149

operatives and CIA money he was appalled

270

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

at the apathy of the profession that

271

00:12:39,220 --> 00:12:34,639

this was being that this was turning

272

00:12:42,140 --> 00:12:39,230

into a mind-control enterprise he

273

00:12:44,240 --> 00:12:42,150

realized this early on

274

00:12:47,150 --> 00:12:44,250

and he was and he dropped out he took a

275

00:12:49,790 --> 00:12:47,160

sabbatical leave and Frank finally

276

00:12:51,830 --> 00:12:49,800

persuades him to try the mushrooms let

277

00:12:53,390 --> 00:12:51,840

me just interject here because I'm gonna

278

00:12:54,680 --> 00:12:53,400

have a million questions so I don't know

279

00:12:56,480 --> 00:12:54,690

how I'm gonna do this and how we're

280

00:12:58,310 --> 00:12:56,490

gonna get some flow but there's a lot of

281

00:13:01,360 --> 00:12:58,320

little details that need to get filled

282

00:13:06,620 --> 00:13:01,370

in for me as I try and understand this

283

00:13:10,130 --> 00:13:06,630

Leary is sniffing out the MKULTRA stuff

284

00:13:11,840 --> 00:13:10,140

that's starting in the 50s okay how is

285

00:13:14,900 --> 00:13:11,850

that do you have any more insight into

286

00:13:17,990 --> 00:13:14,910

how that is playing out for him what he

287

00:13:19,940 --> 00:13:18,000

sees what he's kind of upset about and

288

00:13:21,860 --> 00:13:19,950

what are the origins some of those

289

00:13:24,080 --> 00:13:21,870

projects because folks need to know that

290

00:13:27,530 --> 00:13:24,090

that's documented at this point that

291

00:13:31,250 --> 00:13:27,540

they're all in in psychology so

292

00:13:33,460 --> 00:13:31,260

northwestern is one place and you know

293

00:13:37,580 --> 00:13:33,470

we had a guy on who's doing a fantastic

294

00:13:40,340 --> 00:13:37,590

documentary on Padraic and so all the

295

00:13:42,350 --> 00:13:40,350

guys that at Northwestern are pulled

296

00:13:45,590 --> 00:13:42,360

into this there's hundreds of different

297

00:13:47,030 --> 00:13:45,600

facets of the MKULTRA program a lot of

298

00:13:47,570 --> 00:13:47,040

different money being spread out

299

00:13:50,390 --> 00:13:47,580

everywhere

300

00:13:52,670 --> 00:13:50,400

what was his at this point early on you

301
00:13:56,930 --> 00:13:52,680
know before the LSD thing what was he

302
00:13:59,570 --> 00:13:56,940
feeling about the MKULTRA stuff well it

303
00:14:02,780 --> 00:13:59,580
wasn't quite MKULTRA yet at this point

304
00:14:04,340 --> 00:14:02,790
but I'll give you a couple of good

305
00:14:08,690 --> 00:14:04,350
sources first of all there's Frank

306
00:14:12,230 --> 00:14:08,700
Behrens a kind of memoir called no

307
00:14:14,680 --> 00:14:12,240
rootless flower and Frank mentions in

308
00:14:17,960 --> 00:14:14,690
there how when they were at Berkeley

309
00:14:21,980 --> 00:14:17,970
they realized that all this government

310
00:14:23,510 --> 00:14:21,990
money was coming in and it was you will

311
00:14:27,550 --> 00:14:23,520
back up a little bit further so we had

312
00:14:30,980 --> 00:14:27,560
the OSS that at the end of World War two

313
00:14:35,360 --> 00:14:30,990

it didn't it didn't exactly disappear it

314

00:14:38,740 --> 00:14:35,370

kind of split into the CIA the Harvard

315

00:14:41,360 --> 00:14:38,750

psychology clinic and the Institute for

316

00:14:45,440 --> 00:14:41,370

personality research and assessment at

317

00:14:48,590 --> 00:14:45,450

Berkeley and Frank writes about this in

318

00:14:51,350 --> 00:14:48,600

no rootless flower Tim writes about this

319

00:14:54,980 --> 00:14:51,360

very candidly and with his classic just

320

00:14:55,550 --> 00:14:54,990

Irish wit and humor in in his book the

321

00:14:58,610 --> 00:14:55,560

Intelligent

322

00:15:01,970 --> 00:14:58,620

agents where he writes about he calls it

323

00:15:04,910 --> 00:15:01,980

the federal bureaucracy and he and Frank

324

00:15:08,240 --> 00:15:04,920

were were like they were aware of this

325

00:15:11,420 --> 00:15:08,250

they were kind of ambivalent they were

326

00:15:15,290 --> 00:15:11,430

they were delighted to be receiving

327

00:15:18,380 --> 00:15:15,300

money but they were also Frank was a

328

00:15:20,240 --> 00:15:18,390

veteran of actual combat in World War

329

00:15:22,550 --> 00:15:20,250

two Tim was in the service but didn't

330

00:15:25,519 --> 00:15:22,560

really see action but they were aware of

331

00:15:29,060 --> 00:15:25,529

like the psychology of fascism and the

332

00:15:31,519 --> 00:15:29,070

authoritarian personality and and you

333

00:15:33,410 --> 00:15:31,529

know democracy versus authoritarianism

334

00:15:35,500 --> 00:15:33,420

and this is what they had devoted their

335

00:15:37,280 --> 00:15:35,510

careers to so they were kind of

336

00:15:39,550 --> 00:15:37,290

conflicted here like here's the

337

00:15:42,079 --> 00:15:39,560

government kind of secretly funding

338

00:15:45,170 --> 00:15:42,089

psychological science which could have

339

00:15:47,690 --> 00:15:45,180

disastrous effects on a democracy in

340

00:15:49,579 --> 00:15:47,700

terms of mind control but Tim really

341

00:15:52,280 --> 00:15:49,589

kind of woke up to it and he mentions

342

00:15:54,920 --> 00:15:52,290

this in his you know really brilliant an

343

00:15:58,160 --> 00:15:54,930

important autobiography called

344

00:15:59,720 --> 00:15:58,170

flashbacks which is I know I just said

345

00:16:03,860 --> 00:15:59,730

it was brilliant and important but it's

346

00:16:06,410 --> 00:16:03,870

also full of exaggerations and and false

347

00:16:09,760 --> 00:16:06,420

stories but Tim talks about being

348

00:16:15,050 --> 00:16:09,770

recruited in I believe it's as early as

349

00:16:17,120 --> 00:16:15,060

1947 by cord Meyer now dionneb how much

350

00:16:19,670 --> 00:16:17,130

you know about who cord Meyer is or he's

351

00:16:22,610 --> 00:16:19,680

a little bit okay so cord Meyer is a

352

00:16:26,300 --> 00:16:22,620

very important person in this post-war

353

00:16:29,570 --> 00:16:26,310

period and he was basically one of the

354

00:16:32,510 --> 00:16:29,580

original you know officers founders of

355

00:16:35,480 --> 00:16:32,520

the CIA and he started what's known as

356

00:16:38,420 --> 00:16:35,490

operation Mockingbird which was one of

357

00:16:41,240 --> 00:16:38,430

the most pervasive and continues to this

358

00:16:45,050 --> 00:16:41,250

day operations of the CIA which is the

359

00:16:45,800 --> 00:16:45,060

infiltration of the American media all

360

00:16:48,920 --> 00:16:45,810

media

361

00:16:51,290 --> 00:16:48,930

I mean television and newspapers and

362

00:16:55,850 --> 00:16:51,300

movies and book publishing and

363

00:17:00,650 --> 00:16:55,860

university faculties and and hello

364

00:17:04,040 --> 00:17:00,660

Anderson Cooper exactly and how Tim

365

00:17:08,419 --> 00:17:04,050

writes about how cord Meyer approached

366

00:17:09,380 --> 00:17:08,429

him to recruit him to basically spy on

367

00:17:11,660 --> 00:17:09,390

American

368

00:17:14,270 --> 00:17:11,670

because they they wanted to know if

369

00:17:17,360 --> 00:17:14,280

there were going to be any uprisings

370

00:17:20,059 --> 00:17:17,370

against the you know they're starting to

371

00:17:23,600 --> 00:17:20,069

rev up the Cold War and trying to

372

00:17:25,910 --> 00:17:23,610

introduce these memes of fear to the

373

00:17:27,590 --> 00:17:25,920

Russians or trying to get us and you

374

00:17:29,240 --> 00:17:27,600

know you make a population afraid

375

00:17:31,220 --> 00:17:29,250

they're easier to control and they are

376

00:17:34,100 --> 00:17:31,230

just they're just starting these kinds

377

00:17:37,400 --> 00:17:34,110

of operations and Tim was recruited to

378

00:17:39,650 --> 00:17:37,410

be part of this now Tim in flashbacks

379

00:17:42,710 --> 00:17:39,660

says he didn't want any part of it and

380

00:17:47,360 --> 00:17:42,720

it was really what alerted him and Frank

381

00:17:50,090 --> 00:17:47,370

to the fact that the war was not over

382

00:17:52,640 --> 00:17:50,100

that the war had had really moved over

383

00:17:54,980 --> 00:17:52,650

here and this is something that you know

384

00:17:58,760 --> 00:17:54,990

I gather your listeners are hip to this

385

00:18:02,270 --> 00:17:58,770

but you know a lot of Americans are not

386

00:18:05,900 --> 00:18:02,280

really very savvy about the end of World

387

00:18:10,669 --> 00:18:05,910

War two and the creation of the Central

388

00:18:12,260 --> 00:18:10,679

Intelligence Agency and and really what

389

00:18:14,450 --> 00:18:12,270

we're up against here I mean a lot of

390

00:18:16,700 --> 00:18:14,460

Americans think that we have a problem

391

00:18:19,789 --> 00:18:16,710

now that Donald Trump is president that

392

00:18:22,370 --> 00:18:19,799

fascism may come to America well I've

393

00:18:26,480 --> 00:18:22,380

got news for you fascism came to America

394

00:18:28,100 --> 00:18:26,490

in the mid 1950s you know or even a

395

00:18:31,340 --> 00:18:28,110

little bit earlier with the creation of

396

00:18:34,820 --> 00:18:31,350

the CIA there's a lot there and boy I

397

00:18:37,280 --> 00:18:34,830

mean we could go into the whole Gailen

398

00:18:39,530 --> 00:18:37,290

thing and the whole paperclip thing and

399

00:18:42,590 --> 00:18:39,540

we should I guess maybe a little bit in

400

00:18:44,810 --> 00:18:42,600

the allen dulles thing and where he pops

401
00:18:47,000 --> 00:18:44,820
up and all the rest and I don't know how

402
00:18:48,980 --> 00:18:47,010
far deep we want to get into it and I

403
00:18:52,039 --> 00:18:48,990
also kind of want to throw a whole other

404
00:18:54,230 --> 00:18:52,049
you know log on the fire if you will to

405
00:18:56,720 --> 00:18:54,240
because one of the things that I've

406
00:18:58,940 --> 00:18:56,730
turned up so I've gone down a couple of

407
00:19:01,270 --> 00:18:58,950
different paths on skeptic oh I really

408
00:19:03,470 --> 00:19:01,280
first started going down the

409
00:19:06,890 --> 00:19:03,480
parapsychology path you know so if you

410
00:19:08,720 --> 00:19:06,900
look at what our friends in the CIA and

411
00:19:12,500 --> 00:19:08,730
the intelligence organizations were

412
00:19:15,950 --> 00:19:12,510
doing in terms of that aspect of mental

413
00:19:18,500 --> 00:19:15,960

phenomena you know remote viewing and

414

00:19:20,780 --> 00:19:18,510

then later on in the men who stare at

415

00:19:23,150 --> 00:19:20,790

goats kind of thing but it's all another

416

00:19:26,780 --> 00:19:23,160

facet of this whole operation

417

00:19:29,240 --> 00:19:26,790

and then I also stumbled across some

418

00:19:31,760 --> 00:19:29,250

great work done by a researcher in

419

00:19:34,310 --> 00:19:31,770

Canada and named grant Cameron who

420

00:19:38,090 --> 00:19:34,320

uncovers this through Freedom of

421

00:19:41,630 --> 00:19:38,100

Information Act in Canada a document

422

00:19:45,470 --> 00:19:41,640

from Wilbert Smith in the 1950s who is

423

00:19:48,440 --> 00:19:45,480

the highest-ranking intelligence officer

424

00:19:51,020 --> 00:19:48,450

in Canada responsible for aerial

425

00:19:53,240 --> 00:19:51,030

phenomena and not UFOs at this point but

426

00:19:55,400 --> 00:19:53,250

just hey anything that's going on in the

427

00:19:59,800 --> 00:19:55,410

skies or in the radio waves of Canada

428

00:20:02,990 --> 00:19:59,810

and he starts having contact like

429

00:20:04,940 --> 00:20:03,000

experiences and observations and he goes

430

00:20:07,580 --> 00:20:04,950

down to thee and he goes to his bosses

431

00:20:09,800 --> 00:20:07,590

and his boss to say hey you better go

432

00:20:12,410 --> 00:20:09,810

down to our friends down there in the US

433

00:20:14,060 --> 00:20:12,420

and see what's going on and this is

434

00:20:16,550 --> 00:20:14,070

gonna relate back to the story in some

435

00:20:19,250 --> 00:20:16,560

important ways so he goes down there and

436

00:20:20,990 --> 00:20:19,260

he meets with according to his memo

437

00:20:22,730 --> 00:20:21,000

which again is a top-secret memo that

438

00:20:26,390 --> 00:20:22,740

kind of accidentally slips out of the

439

00:20:28,760 --> 00:20:26,400

FOI of of Canada and it says I met with

440

00:20:31,280 --> 00:20:28,770

the highest-ranking officials I met with

441

00:20:35,210 --> 00:20:31,290

Vandiver Bush I met with all the top

442

00:20:38,090 --> 00:20:35,220

guys the UFO thing is real it's the

443

00:20:40,070 --> 00:20:38,100

highest priority among American

444

00:20:43,400 --> 00:20:40,080

intelligence and here's the kicker that

445

00:20:47,380 --> 00:20:43,410

ties back to this it speaks to a mental

446

00:20:51,490 --> 00:20:47,390

phenomena that connects us to these

447

00:20:56,960 --> 00:20:51,500

sightings so from the beginning they're

448

00:21:01,100 --> 00:20:56,970

interested in how et is working in this

449

00:21:02,540 --> 00:21:01,110

extended consciousness realm so I just

450

00:21:04,910 --> 00:21:02,550

throw that like I say there's another

451
00:21:07,310 --> 00:21:04,920
log on the fire cuz I get the social

452
00:21:10,490 --> 00:21:07,320
engineering to control people definitely

453
00:21:12,980 --> 00:21:10,500
in play you know the rise of the Fourth

454
00:21:15,140 --> 00:21:12,990
Reich kind of thing definitely in play

455
00:21:17,630 --> 00:21:15,150
Dulles is totally in bed with those guys

456
00:21:19,550 --> 00:21:17,640
they see this as hey yeah the Nazis are

457
00:21:21,800 --> 00:21:19,560
Nazis but you know they had some pretty

458
00:21:24,500 --> 00:21:21,810
good ideas there in terms of how to

459
00:21:26,420 --> 00:21:24,510
control people you know and in their own

460
00:21:28,760 --> 00:21:26,430
social engineering program in their own

461
00:21:31,010 --> 00:21:28,770
program with the psychology and all the

462
00:21:32,600 --> 00:21:31,020
rest of that but so there's just so many

463
00:21:33,830 --> 00:21:32,610

different facets of that and the other

464

00:21:36,940 --> 00:21:33,840

thing I just wanted to throw out there

465

00:21:39,550 --> 00:21:36,950

before I let you get back to it

466

00:21:44,020 --> 00:21:39,560

as you know the Timothy Leary story

467

00:21:46,180 --> 00:21:44,030

doesn't exactly pass the sniff test of

468

00:21:48,700 --> 00:21:46,190

you know all these guys who get co-opted

469

00:21:50,170 --> 00:21:48,710

by the CIA which I forgive them for that

470

00:21:52,240 --> 00:21:50,180

for all that because it's it's totally

471

00:21:54,580 --> 00:21:52,250

natural you know one you have to make

472

00:21:57,490 --> 00:21:54,590

living and two back in the 50s people

473

00:21:58,840 --> 00:21:57,500

didn't really know what we know now but

474

00:22:01,090 --> 00:21:58,850

when he says you know he's like all

475

00:22:03,460 --> 00:22:01,100

these people oh I resisted I resisted

476

00:22:05,470 --> 00:22:03,470

it's like really you resisted I mean I

477

00:22:07,360 --> 00:22:05,480

don't know what do you what do you think

478

00:22:09,400 --> 00:22:07,370

have any of that stuff

479

00:22:12,010 --> 00:22:09,410

Robert way I mean wow there's a whole

480

00:22:13,510 --> 00:22:12,020

lot right there Alex um you know you

481

00:22:17,350 --> 00:22:13,520

mentioned ETS

482

00:22:19,930 --> 00:22:17,360

and psychic phenomena and ETS are really

483

00:22:21,730 --> 00:22:19,940

like this like the in some ways the

484

00:22:24,790 --> 00:22:21,740

deepest level of this and that maybe

485

00:22:29,490 --> 00:22:24,800

they may be directing some of these

486

00:22:30,700 --> 00:22:29,500

nefarious forces but there may also be

487

00:22:34,030 --> 00:22:30,710

positive

488

00:22:35,860 --> 00:22:34,040

ETS you know and that we may start to

489

00:22:39,220 --> 00:22:35,870

have to kind of look at American history

490

00:22:41,230 --> 00:22:39,230

is like a Star Trek episode which is

491

00:22:43,480 --> 00:22:41,240

sort of ironic and way you know Tim's

492

00:22:48,550 --> 00:22:43,490

ashes being fired up into space with

493

00:22:51,790 --> 00:22:48,560

Gene Roddenberry and then what you say

494

00:22:53,830 --> 00:22:51,800

about you know like when I asked him and

495

00:22:58,180 --> 00:22:53,840

I got to spend a lot of time with with

496

00:23:00,430 --> 00:22:58,190

him you know I knew him since 1981 was

497

00:23:02,980 --> 00:23:00,440

when we first met I was myself wanting

498

00:23:05,500 --> 00:23:02,990

to do research with psychedelics at that

499

00:23:08,950 --> 00:23:05,510

point and the story was that he kind of

500

00:23:10,600 --> 00:23:08,960

blew it for everyone even Frank kind of

501
00:23:12,130 --> 00:23:10,610
thought that and that was my position

502
00:23:15,490 --> 00:23:12,140
that you know he was just too outrageous

503
00:23:18,490 --> 00:23:15,500
and too controversial and too political

504
00:23:20,590 --> 00:23:18,500
and and and advising kids to take all

505
00:23:22,570 --> 00:23:20,600
these drugs was just craziness and the

506
00:23:25,750 --> 00:23:22,580
government had to make them illegal I

507
00:23:28,120 --> 00:23:25,760
bought that story but as years went on

508
00:23:31,170 --> 00:23:28,130
for me I began to realize a whole nother

509
00:23:34,270 --> 00:23:31,180
level to it and I began to see a kind of

510
00:23:36,070 --> 00:23:34,280
method to his madness but anyway I'm

511
00:23:37,720 --> 00:23:36,080
getting back to the CIA here in a minute

512
00:23:39,130 --> 00:23:37,730
when I would talk with Tim about it

513
00:23:41,140 --> 00:23:39,140

that's exactly what he would say you

514

00:23:42,580 --> 00:23:41,150

know he said you know I'm forgetting

515

00:23:43,180 --> 00:23:42,590

said you know Robert you know back in

516

00:23:48,670 --> 00:23:43,190

those days

517

00:23:51,610 --> 00:23:48,680

meaning the 50s the CIA was not all bad

518

00:23:56,950 --> 00:23:51,620

and that you know they hadn't really

519

00:24:01,780 --> 00:23:56,960

become what we think of them now and I'm

520

00:24:06,520 --> 00:24:01,790

inclined to think that Tim Tim was sort

521

00:24:09,100 --> 00:24:06,530

of duped and that he was he was he was

522

00:24:12,250 --> 00:24:09,110

funded by the CIA he was advised by the

523

00:24:16,270 --> 00:24:12,260

CIA but he wasn't really that aware of

524

00:24:19,570 --> 00:24:16,280

how he was being used by the CIA and I

525

00:24:22,800 --> 00:24:19,580

believe that that really shifted with

526

00:24:25,360 --> 00:24:22,810

his relationship with Mary Pinchot Meyer

527

00:24:29,380 --> 00:24:25,370

which is one of the most interesting

528

00:24:31,270 --> 00:24:29,390

stories I tell that story well first I

529

00:24:33,520 --> 00:24:31,280

want to refer you you guys probably know

530

00:24:36,760 --> 00:24:33,530

that what I think is one of the most

531

00:24:39,490 --> 00:24:36,770

important books on this is called Mary's

532

00:24:42,100 --> 00:24:39,500

mosaic and it's written by a man named

533

00:24:44,470 --> 00:24:42,110

Peter Janey who has a very become a very

534

00:24:47,770 --> 00:24:44,480

close friend and kind of mentor of mine

535

00:24:49,330 --> 00:24:47,780

and I was fascinated by this story when

536

00:24:52,950 --> 00:24:49,340

I first heard it in the stories

537

00:24:56,980 --> 00:24:52,960

basically that when when Tim is still a

538

00:24:59,560 --> 00:24:56,990

lecturer on the Harvard faculty and just

539

00:25:02,320 --> 00:24:59,570

starting to kind of publicize what's

540

00:25:05,950 --> 00:25:02,330

going on with psychedelics we hadn't

541

00:25:07,510 --> 00:25:05,960

gotten that outrageous yet he's visited

542

00:25:09,820 --> 00:25:07,520

by a woman named Mary

543

00:25:12,040 --> 00:25:09,830

Pinchot Meyer now I had already

544

00:25:14,380 --> 00:25:12,050

mentioned in this conversation cord

545

00:25:18,630 --> 00:25:14,390

Meyer one of the founders of the CIA

546

00:25:23,110 --> 00:25:18,640

Mary Meyer was his estranged wife and

547

00:25:27,070 --> 00:25:23,120

she was a force to be reckoned with a

548

00:25:31,090 --> 00:25:27,080

beautiful sophisticated woman also from

549

00:25:33,850 --> 00:25:31,100

a very powerful family and she comes to

550

00:25:36,190 --> 00:25:33,860

Timothy Leary's office and says that she

551
00:25:38,650 --> 00:25:36,200
has some friends in Washington who are a

552
00:25:41,230 --> 00:25:38,660
very powerful men and they've taken an

553
00:25:44,590 --> 00:25:41,240
interest in his research and they've

554
00:25:48,310 --> 00:25:44,600
sent her to get some of this psilocybin

555
00:25:50,860 --> 00:25:48,320
pills from him and to and to turn them

556
00:25:54,210 --> 00:25:50,870
on and Tim first kind of brushes her off

557
00:25:56,620 --> 00:25:54,220
its 1950s you know he says oh you know

558
00:25:59,350 --> 00:25:56,630
psychedelics are very why don't you send

559
00:26:01,090 --> 00:25:59,360
the men here directly and she says oh no

560
00:26:01,950 --> 00:26:01,100
you know that's out of the question

561
00:26:04,470 --> 00:26:01,960
well

562
00:26:08,639 --> 00:26:04,480
out that Mary Meyer is the lover and

563
00:26:11,639 --> 00:26:08,649

close confidant of President Kennedy not

564

00:26:14,549 --> 00:26:11,649

just one of these women that he in

565

00:26:18,899 --> 00:26:14,559

the closet but you know a very serious

566

00:26:25,529 --> 00:26:18,909

deep friendship and confidant and lover

567

00:26:28,380 --> 00:26:25,539

and so she goes and turns JFK on to

568

00:26:32,070 --> 00:26:28,390

psilocybin and this is in the in the

569

00:26:35,360 --> 00:26:32,080

spring of 1963 at a very very poignant

570

00:26:40,580 --> 00:26:35,370

time in his administration and it seems

571

00:26:45,720 --> 00:26:40,590

that these experiences kind of catalyze

572

00:26:48,510 --> 00:26:45,730

and and accelerate JFK's awakening his

573

00:26:51,360 --> 00:26:48,520

separation from his father his own his

574

00:26:53,639 --> 00:26:51,370

own sense of his own power and in a kind

575

00:26:57,060 --> 00:26:53,649

of radical departure from the Cold War

576

00:27:00,000 --> 00:26:57,070

policies that he was elected under he

577

00:27:02,789 --> 00:27:00,010

begins a secret correspondence with

578

00:27:06,810 --> 00:27:02,799

Khrushchev he realizes he's being

579

00:27:09,690 --> 00:27:06,820

betrayed by the CIA he makes he gives

580

00:27:11,789 --> 00:27:09,700

the very one of the considered by many

581

00:27:13,860 --> 00:27:11,799

the most important speech ever given by

582

00:27:17,970 --> 00:27:13,870

an American president the peace speech

583

00:27:19,740 --> 00:27:17,980

in which he bypasses his CIA advisors it

584

00:27:23,250 --> 00:27:19,750

doesn't even have the speech vetted and

585

00:27:25,409 --> 00:27:23,260

just announces really this relationship

586

00:27:27,389 --> 00:27:25,419

with Khrushchev the end of the Cold War

587

00:27:31,080 --> 00:27:27,399

the beginning of a cooperative space

588

00:27:34,110 --> 00:27:31,090

program and you listen to that speech

589

00:27:36,120 --> 00:27:34,120

and it's like a mystic talking that

590

00:27:39,810 --> 00:27:36,130

hasn't and he's talking about how we

591

00:27:41,639 --> 00:27:39,820

breathe the same air and and this is

592

00:27:43,980 --> 00:27:41,649

really so it's interesting because these

593

00:27:48,960 --> 00:27:43,990

this mushroom experienced catalyzes

594

00:27:51,630 --> 00:27:48,970

JFK's awakening but it also expedites

595

00:27:54,360 --> 00:27:51,640

his assassination that's all interesting

596

00:27:57,840 --> 00:27:54,370

and I'm not gonna dispute that because

597

00:28:02,070 --> 00:27:57,850

that might be true but the JFK thing is

598

00:28:04,769 --> 00:28:02,080

just hard to pull apart because take the

599

00:28:08,159 --> 00:28:04,779

the drug part of it I mean at the same

600

00:28:12,060 --> 00:28:08,169

time he's getting these amphetamine

601
00:28:15,110 --> 00:28:12,070
shots from Max Jacobson to a level that

602
00:28:18,110 --> 00:28:15,120
is just insane and he's a Joan

603
00:28:20,030 --> 00:28:18,120
at this point of the highest order and

604
00:28:23,330 --> 00:28:20,040
he doesn't know it and you know it's

605
00:28:27,310 --> 00:28:23,340
back to the the naivete that we look

606
00:28:29,360 --> 00:28:27,320
back on and and it's kind of funny and

607
00:28:31,250 --> 00:28:29,370
nostalgic a little bit to think that

608
00:28:33,440 --> 00:28:31,260
these folks didn't know what they were

609
00:28:35,360 --> 00:28:33,450
playing around with and I guess we

610
00:28:41,270 --> 00:28:35,370
sometimes think we do and maybe we don't

611
00:28:45,140 --> 00:28:41,280
either but yeah so yeah I maybe maybe I

612
00:28:48,080 --> 00:28:45,150
just put a little asterisk by all that

613
00:28:51,490 --> 00:28:48,090

yeah well it's I've had an asterisk by

614

00:28:55,280 --> 00:28:51,500

it since I first read it in Tim's

615

00:28:57,320 --> 00:28:55,290

flashbacks I read that 1983 and I

616

00:28:59,540 --> 00:28:57,330

thought that was extremely interesting I

617

00:29:01,940 --> 00:28:59,550

talked with you know all of Tim's

618

00:29:04,040 --> 00:29:01,950

friends about it Frank baron didn't

619

00:29:07,040 --> 00:29:04,050

believe this story

620

00:29:11,060 --> 00:29:07,050

he thought Tim was making it up to made

621

00:29:12,830 --> 00:29:11,070

up a lot of things other friends I don't

622

00:29:16,100 --> 00:29:12,840

question the story because I've heard

623

00:29:18,740 --> 00:29:16,110

that through another source as well

624

00:29:21,260 --> 00:29:18,750

actually the guys who wrote the Max

625

00:29:21,950 --> 00:29:21,270

Jacobson book and the name escapes me

626

00:29:24,230 --> 00:29:21,960

right now

627

00:29:26,210 --> 00:29:24,240

the book is dr. feelgood and the

628

00:29:30,169 --> 00:29:26,220

co-author that I was trying to think of

629

00:29:34,070 --> 00:29:30,179

is Bill burns one thing we will get into

630

00:29:38,060 --> 00:29:34,080

as this interview progresses is pulling

631

00:29:41,620 --> 00:29:38,070

apart all the different things we pile

632

00:29:45,910 --> 00:29:41,630

on to this psychedelic experience and

633

00:29:49,130 --> 00:29:45,920

sometimes I think we attach stuff to it

634

00:29:52,700 --> 00:29:49,140

and these kind of noble mystical kind of

635

00:29:54,890 --> 00:29:52,710

ways that may be true or may not be true

636

00:29:56,900 --> 00:29:54,900

you know so and we can pull that apart

637

00:29:59,200 --> 00:29:56,910

in the in the through the lens of

638

00:30:02,030 --> 00:29:59,210

looking at the life of people like

639

00:30:05,570 --> 00:30:02,040

Timothy Leary you know and the good and

640

00:30:09,230 --> 00:30:05,580

the bad and the Kirlian beast side and

641

00:30:12,140 --> 00:30:09,240

the Irish kind of street fighter for

642

00:30:15,500 --> 00:30:12,150

democracy for a liberation side and also

643

00:30:17,690 --> 00:30:15,510

just kind of the cool guy kind of side

644

00:30:20,390 --> 00:30:17,700

but also the ego based side you know I

645

00:30:22,310 --> 00:30:20,400

mean so there's we're never going to

646

00:30:23,900 --> 00:30:22,320

talk about we'd ought to just keep a

647

00:30:25,520 --> 00:30:23,910

love that's just going to flow and go a

648

00:30:27,410 --> 00:30:25,530

million different places and it's going

649

00:30:28,820 --> 00:30:27,420

to frustrate the out of people but

650

00:30:31,279 --> 00:30:28,830

I love how you're throwing out

651
00:30:33,200 --> 00:30:31,289
winces two things and I'm throwing out

652
00:30:36,529 --> 00:30:33,210
half-baked references to things and

653
00:30:39,080 --> 00:30:36,539
people will create their own journey in

654
00:30:41,000 --> 00:30:39,090
terms of how to follow this stream of

655
00:30:43,700 --> 00:30:41,010
thought yeah well you're absolutely

656
00:30:48,049 --> 00:30:43,710
right I mean about Tim and this is why I

657
00:30:50,539 --> 00:30:48,059
did the book I did about him in the way

658
00:30:54,289 --> 00:30:50,549
that I did it I mean he was such a he

659
00:30:59,299 --> 00:30:54,299
was such a mercurial character he was he

660
00:31:03,019 --> 00:30:59,309
was part prophet part poet part madman

661
00:31:07,669 --> 00:31:03,029
he had he had kind of psychotic and you

662
00:31:10,039 --> 00:31:07,679
know really egocentric narcissistic

663
00:31:12,710 --> 00:31:10,049

wounds but he had a brilliance

664

00:31:14,389 --> 00:31:12,720

about him too and there were times I

665

00:31:16,129 --> 00:31:14,399

remember you know near the end of his

666

00:31:18,310 --> 00:31:16,139

life looking at him and he would sort of

667

00:31:21,379 --> 00:31:18,320

morph you know one minute he's like a

668

00:31:24,470 --> 00:31:21,389

sparkly sort of Zen master elf and

669

00:31:27,500 --> 00:31:24,480

wisdom and humor incredible incredibly

670

00:31:31,129 --> 00:31:27,510

funny man other times he just like had

671

00:31:33,529 --> 00:31:31,139

this twisted pained kind of psychotic

672

00:31:36,860 --> 00:31:33,539

you mentioned croute Crowley and you

673

00:31:38,269 --> 00:31:36,870

know like very very complicated and so

674

00:31:39,470 --> 00:31:38,279

there's no real way to take a picture of

675

00:31:41,509 --> 00:31:39,480

him you have to just take a lot of

676

00:31:45,139 --> 00:31:41,519

pictures of him and create a kind of

677

00:31:47,539 --> 00:31:45,149

mosaic of this of this complex character

678

00:31:49,909 --> 00:31:47,549

that had a you know such an impact on

679

00:31:52,070 --> 00:31:49,919

the on the latter half of the of the

680

00:31:54,799 --> 00:31:52,080

last century Robert can I get you while

681

00:31:59,560 --> 00:31:54,809

you're there can you spend a minute and

682

00:32:02,690 --> 00:31:59,570

talk about the Kirlian demonic beasts

683

00:32:05,240 --> 00:32:02,700

psychopath with you so he says at one

684

00:32:08,120 --> 00:32:05,250

point this is Timothy Leary says I am

685

00:32:09,620 --> 00:32:08,130

the reincarnation of Crowley and other

686

00:32:12,080 --> 00:32:09,630

time he says I'm the Beast and he says

687

00:32:14,360 --> 00:32:12,090

I'm a psychopath and and so is there

688

00:32:16,940 --> 00:32:14,370

this kind of do you believe that there's

689

00:32:19,850 --> 00:32:16,950

some kind of demonic entity that he's

690

00:32:23,149 --> 00:32:19,860

invited in or do you think he's just

691

00:32:25,070 --> 00:32:23,159

playing with that on some extended

692

00:32:27,529 --> 00:32:25,080

consciousness level or what do you

693

00:32:29,750 --> 00:32:27,539

think's going on there well okay so I've

694

00:32:33,320 --> 00:32:29,760

only really come to try to understand

695

00:32:35,149 --> 00:32:33,330

his Crowley period recently and and to

696

00:32:37,970 --> 00:32:35,159

be honest I do not understand it very

697

00:32:41,419 --> 00:32:37,980

well except to say this and this was a

698

00:32:42,390 --> 00:32:41,429

phrase that rhombic put in my head and I

699

00:32:45,600 --> 00:32:42,400

just loved it he

700

00:32:48,990 --> 00:32:45,610

said Tim Tim inhabited metaphors the way

701

00:32:51,630 --> 00:32:49,000

of snail and habits shells he tried

702

00:32:55,350 --> 00:32:51,640

every you know he was he grew up when he

703

00:32:58,080 --> 00:32:55,360

got into LSD he then went through a

704

00:33:00,720 --> 00:32:58,090

whole range of different paradigms I

705

00:33:02,790 --> 00:33:00,730

mean first what the order but you know

706

00:33:05,280 --> 00:33:02,800

he went he got into Taoism he wrote the

707

00:33:07,440 --> 00:33:05,290

he wrote those psychedelic prayers based

708

00:33:09,750 --> 00:33:07,450

on the doubt I Ching he got into

709

00:33:11,640 --> 00:33:09,760

Buddhism he did the you know the

710

00:33:14,220 --> 00:33:11,650

psychedelic experience based on the

711

00:33:17,040 --> 00:33:14,230

Tibetan Book of the Dead he was a very

712

00:33:20,610 --> 00:33:17,050

scientific thinker yeah he went off into

713

00:33:23,160 --> 00:33:20,620

this Crowley sort of way he had he had a

714

00:33:25,020 --> 00:33:23,170

Catholic streak in him believe it or not

715

00:33:26,970 --> 00:33:25,030

that you know kind of came out right

716

00:33:29,070 --> 00:33:26,980

toward the very end of his life just a

717

00:33:33,090 --> 00:33:29,080

week before he died he dressed in a

718

00:33:36,060 --> 00:33:33,100

tuxedo and went to Catholic Mass and and

719

00:33:37,980 --> 00:33:36,070

I and I don't you know I mean Crowley

720

00:33:40,320 --> 00:33:37,990

you could do a whole we could spend him

721

00:33:43,410 --> 00:33:40,330

a month talking about Crowley and what a

722

00:33:46,700 --> 00:33:43,420

what a sick puppy he was and what an

723

00:33:51,720 --> 00:33:46,710

impact he may well have had on not just

724

00:33:54,450 --> 00:33:51,730

Leary but Aldous Huxley and you know

725

00:33:57,660 --> 00:33:54,460

what was the role of Crowley in this

726

00:33:59,910 --> 00:33:57,670

modern mind-control movement that we're

727

00:34:01,620 --> 00:33:59,920

talking about so I'm not really expert

728

00:34:03,900 --> 00:34:01,630

on that but that's that's my thing is

729

00:34:04,710 --> 00:34:03,910

the Tim never really took anything very

730

00:34:07,650 --> 00:34:04,720

seriously

731

00:34:10,020 --> 00:34:07,660

he tried stuff he tried it on he got

732

00:34:12,300 --> 00:34:10,030

into it and he and he left it you know

733

00:34:14,700 --> 00:34:12,310

he famously said near the end of his

734

00:34:20,250 --> 00:34:14,710

life he said look he said a third of

735

00:34:24,000 --> 00:34:20,260

what I've said is a third of

736

00:34:27,990 --> 00:34:24,010

what I've said is dead wrong and then he

737

00:34:31,530 --> 00:34:28,000

say but a third word base hits and that

738

00:34:34,320 --> 00:34:31,540

gives me a 333 batting average enough

739

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

for the Hall of Fame that's the kind of

740

00:34:41,090 --> 00:34:36,340

way he had this yet this wonderfully

741

00:34:43,860 --> 00:34:41,100

charming self-effacing quality that I

742

00:34:46,139 --> 00:34:43,870

never spoke with him about Crowley but I

743

00:34:48,090 --> 00:34:46,149

just get the feeling that he would like

744

00:34:50,550 --> 00:34:48,100

almost everything else except for

745

00:34:52,980 --> 00:34:50,560

question authority that was the abiding

746

00:34:55,659 --> 00:34:52,990

theme through his whole life it was

747

00:34:58,510 --> 00:34:55,669

about redirecting

748

00:35:03,280 --> 00:34:58,520

authority from institutions and leaders

749

00:35:06,579 --> 00:35:03,290

and gurus and ideas and redirect it back

750

00:35:09,400 --> 00:35:06,589

into the human psyche to take

751

00:35:11,670 --> 00:35:09,410

responsibility for yourself to question

752

00:35:14,859 --> 00:35:11,680

authority and and to empower individuals

753

00:35:16,270 --> 00:35:14,869

that's the theme that continues that's

754

00:35:19,000 --> 00:35:16,280

throughout his whole life from his

755

00:35:22,059 --> 00:35:19,010

childhood all the way to to the end of

756

00:35:25,569 --> 00:35:22,069

his life wow that is so cool and it's

757

00:35:30,099 --> 00:35:25,579

actually as you speak giving me a new

758

00:35:32,770 --> 00:35:30,109

appreciation for Leary because it just

759

00:35:35,200 --> 00:35:32,780

he's very he's the ultimate heretic he's

760

00:35:37,900 --> 00:35:35,210

the ultimate ultimate Gnostic creating

761

00:35:39,880 --> 00:35:37,910

better than the Creator God's kind of

762

00:35:41,170 --> 00:35:39,890

thing can you spend maybe a minute I'm

763

00:35:43,780 --> 00:35:41,180

just going to kind of pull you in these

764

00:35:47,799 --> 00:35:43,790

random directions what is it that you

765

00:35:50,530 --> 00:35:47,809

found in Tim's history his early

766

00:35:51,640 --> 00:35:50,540

childhood I love this idea of what

767

00:35:53,440 --> 00:35:51,650

you're talking about the kind of the

768

00:35:56,230 --> 00:35:53,450

ultimate a kind of class from the

769

00:35:58,930 --> 00:35:56,240

beginning thing what springs to mind

770

00:36:02,589 --> 00:35:58,940

well I don't know how to answer that

771

00:36:04,240 --> 00:36:02,599

quickly I'm well into a screenplay about

772

00:36:06,520 --> 00:36:04,250

his life and when you asked this

773

00:36:09,309 --> 00:36:06,530

question I just think of the setup he

774

00:36:12,940 --> 00:36:09,319

had as a young boy he writes about it in

775

00:36:16,240 --> 00:36:12,950

flashbacks his grandfather was he said

776

00:36:19,030 --> 00:36:16,250

the only like sane influence on his

777

00:36:21,160 --> 00:36:19,040

young life and he up till he was about

778

00:36:24,370 --> 00:36:21,170

10 or 12 years old he was under the

779

00:36:26,799 --> 00:36:24,380

impression that his grandfather was the

780

00:36:28,539 --> 00:36:26,809

wealthiest guy in the valley Springfield

781

00:36:32,380 --> 00:36:28,549

Massachusetts and he lived in this big

782

00:36:34,750 --> 00:36:32,390

house and and then his father was the

783

00:36:36,430 --> 00:36:34,760

kind of narrow do well he was a dentist

784

00:36:39,670 --> 00:36:36,440

but he didn't really practice dentistry

785

00:36:42,069 --> 00:36:39,680

he was a drunk he was abusive to Tim and

786

00:36:45,010 --> 00:36:42,079

his and his mother and he was just

787

00:36:47,890 --> 00:36:45,020

waiting for his father to die well on

788

00:36:51,430 --> 00:36:47,900

the day that his grandfather finally

789

00:36:54,750 --> 00:36:51,440

does die they find out that he's not a

790

00:36:57,339 --> 00:36:54,760

wealthy man at all he's actually broke

791

00:36:58,599 --> 00:36:57,349

he just was able to carry out this

792

00:37:00,400 --> 00:36:58,609

impression that the end of the

793

00:37:02,530 --> 00:37:00,410

depression that wiped out his fortune

794

00:37:04,450 --> 00:37:02,540

and so can you imagine that you're a 12

795

00:37:06,520 --> 00:37:04,460

year old boy and your grandfather is

796

00:37:08,740 --> 00:37:06,530

your is your you know your main

797

00:37:12,490 --> 00:37:08,750

archetype in your life to Sephora tea

798

00:37:15,010 --> 00:37:12,500

figure this beautiful cultivated man he

799

00:37:17,170 --> 00:37:15,020

turns out he was just a rascal trickster

800

00:37:20,230 --> 00:37:17,180

the whole time and left the family

801
00:37:22,300 --> 00:37:20,240
nothing and then Tim's father abandoned

802
00:37:22,720 --> 00:37:22,310
the family just takes off he never sees

803
00:37:25,420 --> 00:37:22,730
him again

804
00:37:28,150 --> 00:37:25,430
and what a setup you know that is that's

805
00:37:29,440 --> 00:37:28,160
that's uh that's really something and so

806
00:37:32,230 --> 00:37:29,450
all his life you mean think of the

807
00:37:36,610 --> 00:37:32,240
relationship that sets up in your psyche

808
00:37:39,850 --> 00:37:36,620
toward authority figures and you know it

809
00:37:43,630 --> 00:37:39,860
can go on from there I loved most I have

810
00:37:46,980 --> 00:37:43,640
to say his sense of humor and his his

811
00:37:50,290 --> 00:37:46,990
ability to just be in the moment and

812
00:37:53,560 --> 00:37:50,300
really the way he connected with people

813
00:37:55,330 --> 00:37:53,570

and you can you hear this from anybody

814

00:37:57,400 --> 00:37:55,340

that knew him you know and you when you

815

00:38:01,360 --> 00:37:57,410

got to spend time with him he was he was

816

00:38:04,630 --> 00:38:01,370

a brilliant clinician and and uh you

817

00:38:08,130 --> 00:38:04,640

know a superb psychotherapist just for

818

00:38:11,980 --> 00:38:08,140

the way he connected with you and he

819

00:38:15,130 --> 00:38:11,990

made sure you knew you were being heard

820

00:38:17,770 --> 00:38:15,140

and seen for who you were and it was a

821

00:38:20,440 --> 00:38:17,780

it was a gift he had to just bring out

822

00:38:21,940 --> 00:38:20,450

bring out this quality in people and you

823

00:38:23,620 --> 00:38:21,950

know that toward the end of his life I

824

00:38:25,810 --> 00:38:23,630

mean there were you know there were days

825

00:38:27,970 --> 00:38:25,820

that there were just lines of people

826

00:38:32,200 --> 00:38:27,980

coming from all over the world to get

827

00:38:33,490 --> 00:38:32,210

one more hit of that Leary presence I'll

828

00:38:36,490 --> 00:38:33,500

always be grateful for that

829

00:38:39,130 --> 00:38:36,500

that's awesome great story I love that

830

00:38:41,920 --> 00:38:39,140

childhood story I always found this the

831

00:38:45,670 --> 00:38:41,930

suicide of his wife thing what did that

832

00:38:48,550 --> 00:38:45,680

do to him that has to be a real turning

833

00:38:52,810 --> 00:38:48,560

point yes or no or yeah that was that

834

00:38:55,210 --> 00:38:52,820

was quite brutal his first wife who he

835

00:38:58,090 --> 00:38:55,220

was very much in love with killed

836

00:39:01,090 --> 00:38:58,100

herself and then in the morning of his

837

00:39:03,430 --> 00:39:01,100

35th birthday they'd had kind of an open

838

00:39:06,040 --> 00:39:03,440

relationship they were they were in the

839

00:39:10,720 --> 00:39:06,050

50s in Berkeley they were he was a

840

00:39:13,930 --> 00:39:10,730

professor and she they were swingers and

841

00:39:14,920 --> 00:39:13,940

they had a deal like you could you could

842

00:39:18,040 --> 00:39:14,930

around

843

00:39:21,040 --> 00:39:18,050

but you couldn't fall in love and Tim

844

00:39:21,920 --> 00:39:21,050

Tim kind of you know went against that

845

00:39:23,960 --> 00:39:21,930

and you

846

00:39:26,780 --> 00:39:23,970

no had has had an apartment with his

847

00:39:29,569 --> 00:39:26,790

lover and Mara and they were then they

848

00:39:32,569 --> 00:39:29,579

drank a lot and she was she much she was

849

00:39:36,490 --> 00:39:32,579

kind of manic-depressive he had two

850

00:39:41,690 --> 00:39:36,500

children that he you know loved and and

851

00:39:44,210 --> 00:39:41,700

she just killed herself and it blew him

852

00:39:46,400 --> 00:39:44,220

away and you know maybe something he

853

00:39:49,190 --> 00:39:46,410

never recovered from these the innermost

854

00:39:52,819 --> 00:39:49,200

circle of his life is really very very

855

00:39:55,370 --> 00:39:52,829

tragic you know his son Jack what got to

856

00:39:58,819 --> 00:39:55,380

know not very well but we spent an

857

00:40:05,120 --> 00:39:58,829

afternoon together at Tim's I I flew

858

00:40:07,400 --> 00:40:05,130

down with Jack to see Tim about a month

859

00:40:10,460 --> 00:40:07,410

before he died he hadn't seen him for 15

860

00:40:14,210 --> 00:40:10,470

years and so I was you know kind of

861

00:40:17,270 --> 00:40:14,220

gently exploring Jack's sense of Tim and

862

00:40:20,930 --> 00:40:17,280

you know Jack was a really fine man

863

00:40:22,910 --> 00:40:20,940

still alive but is he just you know he

864

00:40:25,130 --> 00:40:22,920

thought his father was a psychopath and

865

00:40:27,230 --> 00:40:25,140

they went through some you know awful

866

00:40:31,549 --> 00:40:27,240

awful and then of course his

867

00:40:34,490 --> 00:40:31,559

daughter also committed suicide she I

868

00:40:37,940 --> 00:40:34,500

believe she hanged herself in a jail

869

00:40:39,950 --> 00:40:37,950

cell while she was waiting charges on

870

00:40:43,069 --> 00:40:39,960

attempted murder something really

871

00:40:45,620 --> 00:40:43,079

terrible like that and Tim was you know

872

00:40:47,569 --> 00:40:45,630

Tim carried those wounds right up till

873

00:40:49,750 --> 00:40:47,579

the end of his life I was going through

874

00:40:53,569 --> 00:40:49,760

his archives with him and finding little

875

00:40:55,870 --> 00:40:53,579

you know drawings that Susan made and

876

00:40:59,630 --> 00:40:55,880

Tim would just break down in tears and

877

00:41:01,660 --> 00:40:59,640

so yeah that innermost circle was very

878

00:41:04,339 --> 00:41:01,670

very tragic and very very painful

879

00:41:06,680 --> 00:41:04,349

anybody kind of made up for it in I mean

880

00:41:10,240 --> 00:41:06,690

not that he made up for it but he tried

881

00:41:13,819 --> 00:41:10,250

to compensate for it by his next circle

882

00:41:16,640 --> 00:41:13,829

because Tim's house toward the end of

883

00:41:18,829 --> 00:41:16,650

his life was full of young people you

884

00:41:22,609 --> 00:41:18,839

know in their 20s and he just you know

885

00:41:25,670 --> 00:41:22,619

the kind of positive and and creative

886

00:41:28,339 --> 00:41:25,680

impulse that he inspired in people and

887

00:41:31,099 --> 00:41:28,349

that is his extended family and the love

888

00:41:33,370 --> 00:41:31,109

and and rapport that he had with

889

00:41:35,749 --> 00:41:33,380

everybody was really quite remarkable

890

00:41:38,629 --> 00:41:35,759

yeah very complicated

891

00:41:41,329 --> 00:41:38,639

director I'm glad Robert that we went

892

00:41:44,229 --> 00:41:41,339

down that little that little path that

893

00:41:47,120 --> 00:41:44,239

little digression for a while because we

894

00:41:51,139 --> 00:41:47,130

were speaking actually before we hit

895

00:41:53,899 --> 00:41:51,149

record button about how the reality of

896

00:41:56,659 --> 00:41:53,909

the social engineering part of this

897

00:41:59,659 --> 00:41:56,669

thing that you kind of got into the OSS

898

00:42:01,969 --> 00:41:59,669

becomes the Fourth Reich here in the

899

00:42:04,759 --> 00:42:01,979

United States and Dulles and CIA all

900

00:42:06,499 --> 00:42:04,769

this undeniable horrible dark stuff that

901
00:42:09,199 --> 00:42:06,509
they're doing that goes way beyond any

902
00:42:11,870 --> 00:42:09,209
kind of license that the American people

903
00:42:16,129 --> 00:42:11,880
gave them to protect us quote-unquote

904
00:42:19,419 --> 00:42:16,139
and then we attach figures like Leary to

905
00:42:22,069 --> 00:42:19,429
that and we get all this you know

906
00:42:24,889 --> 00:42:22,079
frustration and also all this divisive

907
00:42:26,569 --> 00:42:24,899
nough sebat you know CIA he was CIA he

908
00:42:28,039 --> 00:42:26,579
was a lifetime player he was an actor

909
00:42:32,449 --> 00:42:28,049
you know all the rest of stuff which

910
00:42:35,299 --> 00:42:32,459
there's some reality to but these are

911
00:42:39,499 --> 00:42:35,309
human beings and complex human beings

912
00:42:42,529 --> 00:42:39,509
and really people who've lived a whole

913
00:42:45,620 --> 00:42:42,539

life and I think that you fall into that

914

00:42:47,959 --> 00:42:45,630

category to it not with the CIA thing

915

00:42:50,569 --> 00:42:47,969

although indirectly I guess you do I

916

00:42:53,659 --> 00:42:50,579

love your story you know you get the

917

00:42:56,749 --> 00:42:53,669

call and you say okay my hippie ass

918

00:43:00,049 --> 00:42:56,759

better clean up put on a suit drive the

919

00:43:02,749 --> 00:43:00,059

Lincoln over and see if I can get a job

920

00:43:04,370 --> 00:43:02,759

with this guy I mean maybe we want to

921

00:43:06,589 --> 00:43:04,380

jump to that part in the story because

922

00:43:08,989 --> 00:43:06,599

it it kind of weaves its way back into

923

00:43:10,699 --> 00:43:08,999

this whole thing - right well I think

924

00:43:15,409 --> 00:43:10,709

you're talking about wasps in there

925

00:43:17,479 --> 00:43:15,419

right I think I am right well you know

926

00:43:21,019 --> 00:43:17,489

Gordon Lawson is another you know he

927

00:43:24,229 --> 00:43:21,029

he's the opposite character to Leary now

928

00:43:27,099 --> 00:43:24,239

your your listeners probably know that

929

00:43:30,669 --> 00:43:27,109

Gordon Lawson was that this this

930

00:43:34,909 --> 00:43:30,679

psychedelic phenomenon in modern America

931

00:43:38,120 --> 00:43:34,919

really started because of a few stages

932

00:43:44,209 --> 00:43:38,130

but one of the most important events was

933

00:43:46,579 --> 00:43:44,219

the article in Life magazine in 1957

934

00:43:48,829 --> 00:43:46,589

Life magazine write the most popular

935

00:43:53,089 --> 00:43:48,839

periodical in America that's

936

00:43:56,620 --> 00:43:53,099

onde and really run operated very

937

00:44:00,049 --> 00:43:56,630

hands-on owner and editor of henry luce

938

00:44:03,079 --> 00:44:00,059

right so henry luce is a skullenbones

939

00:44:05,089 --> 00:44:03,089

guy he's you know he was we started

940

00:44:08,059 --> 00:44:05,099

propping up Adolf Hitler and Mussolini

941

00:44:10,670 --> 00:44:08,069

and his articles and he wrote a very

942

00:44:11,690 --> 00:44:10,680

very important paper called the American

943

00:44:15,049 --> 00:44:11,700

Century

944

00:44:18,709 --> 00:44:15,059

in 1934 back to your operation

945

00:44:21,529 --> 00:44:18,719

Mockingbird total insider and and what

946

00:44:24,469 --> 00:44:21,539

is the analogy we could give people who

947

00:44:27,950 --> 00:44:24,479

are younger than us to what Life

948

00:44:30,380 --> 00:44:27,960

magazine meant you know I mean this is

949

00:44:32,660 --> 00:44:30,390

where look like we talked about Camelot

950

00:44:34,999 --> 00:44:32,670

in JFK which people can't even get

951
00:44:37,069 --> 00:44:35,009
although maybe you got it a little bit

952
00:44:37,670 --> 00:44:37,079
with Obama and the halo that was around

953
00:44:39,680 --> 00:44:37,680
him

954
00:44:42,890 --> 00:44:39,690
but there was this unbelievable hail or

955
00:44:47,469 --> 00:44:42,900
on JFK and Life magazine was like you

956
00:44:50,539 --> 00:44:47,479
know the the vehicle for plugging into

957
00:44:52,640 --> 00:44:50,549
culture pop culture but modern culture

958
00:44:55,160 --> 00:44:52,650
it was it it was everything rolled into

959
00:44:57,319 --> 00:44:55,170
one right yeah yep that's right yep it

960
00:45:00,319 --> 00:44:57,329
was it was painting a picture for how to

961
00:45:02,930 --> 00:45:00,329
be thinking of Norman Rockwell paintings

962
00:45:06,769 --> 00:45:02,940
and it was it was painting a picture it

963
00:45:09,650 --> 00:45:06,779

was leading the way for modeling the

964

00:45:13,299 --> 00:45:09,660

ideal life for the American citizen the

965

00:45:16,009 --> 00:45:13,309

consumer this this you know we had just

966

00:45:19,160 --> 00:45:16,019

so-called seemingly defeated the Nazis

967

00:45:22,009 --> 00:45:19,170

we were the world heroes you know this

968

00:45:25,640 --> 00:45:22,019

this very important concept of American

969

00:45:28,670 --> 00:45:25,650

exceptionalism which predates this but

970

00:45:32,299 --> 00:45:28,680

was really you know fluffed up by Henry

971

00:45:35,180 --> 00:45:32,309

Luce to give this to give this sense of

972

00:45:37,719 --> 00:45:35,190

American pride and how we were the you

973

00:45:41,479 --> 00:45:37,729

know the shining light on the hill and

974

00:45:44,749 --> 00:45:41,489

and so and so there's an article there

975

00:45:49,059 --> 00:45:44,759

in 1957 by this Wall Street banker

976
00:45:52,630 --> 00:45:49,069
Gordon Lawson who the culmination of a

977
00:45:57,039 --> 00:45:52,640
thirty-year hobby goes to Mexico and

978
00:46:00,469 --> 00:45:57,049
finds this mushroom it's used in these

979
00:46:02,520 --> 00:46:00,479
religious ceremonies by the Mazatec

980
00:46:05,550 --> 00:46:02,530
Indian shamaness

981
00:46:08,610 --> 00:46:05,560
or sabi or curandera Maria Sabina and

982
00:46:11,190 --> 00:46:08,620
and now millions of people are aware of

983
00:46:13,260 --> 00:46:11,200
this magic mushroom I think that's the

984
00:46:16,110 --> 00:46:13,270
title of the article magic mushroom that

985
00:46:18,630 --> 00:46:16,120
causes visions and something this

986
00:46:20,970 --> 00:46:18,640
putting this out there in like you know

987
00:46:23,550 --> 00:46:20,980
a lot of people who study psychedelic

988
00:46:25,500 --> 00:46:23,560

history get this story that this is

989

00:46:28,680 --> 00:46:25,510

Waffen just like on his own independent

990

00:46:31,950 --> 00:46:28,690

hobby who writes this as this discovery

991

00:46:34,650 --> 00:46:31,960

and writes this article but much later

992

00:46:37,200 --> 00:46:34,660

on in my career even after I had gotten

993

00:46:40,080 --> 00:46:37,210

to know Wasson and you know visited him

994

00:46:41,490 --> 00:46:40,090

in his house a number of times and but

995

00:46:44,640 --> 00:46:41,500

tell that story that's such an awesome

996

00:46:47,850 --> 00:46:44,650

story talk about set up and talk about

997

00:46:50,430 --> 00:46:47,860

you know the strange ways that we

998

00:46:53,790 --> 00:46:50,440

connect with our own history with our

999

00:46:56,100 --> 00:46:53,800

own paths do you do you want to share

1000

00:46:58,410 --> 00:46:56,110

that I mean just how that even comes to

1001
00:47:02,070 --> 00:46:58,420
be and what that was like for you and

1002
00:47:04,020 --> 00:47:02,080
you mean how I came to know Watson yeah

1003
00:47:05,520 --> 00:47:04,030
let's start with the driving up with the

1004
00:47:07,800 --> 00:47:05,530
link and I can't get that out of my head

1005
00:47:10,650 --> 00:47:07,810
you know like oh I'm gonna go meet this

1006
00:47:12,930 --> 00:47:10,660
guy and the next thing you know it's so

1007
00:47:14,730 --> 00:47:12,940
cool he's invited me in and now you know

1008
00:47:17,430 --> 00:47:14,740
I'm in his inner circle and I'm

1009
00:47:18,630 --> 00:47:17,440
interviewing him yeah there were a lot

1010
00:47:21,540 --> 00:47:18,640
of things that were happening during

1011
00:47:25,800 --> 00:47:21,550
those days it was quite I had taken a

1012
00:47:27,900 --> 00:47:25,810
little I had a leave of absence from

1013
00:47:29,640 --> 00:47:27,910

graduate school I was at the University

1014

00:47:34,770 --> 00:47:29,650

of Chicago Divinity School and I had

1015

00:47:36,450 --> 00:47:34,780

taken a leave of absence and I was so

1016

00:47:39,990 --> 00:47:36,460

very interested in seeing if I could

1017

00:47:44,100 --> 00:47:40,000

help stir up this subject of psychedelic

1018

00:47:46,470 --> 00:47:44,110

drugs again but not a public thing again

1019

00:47:49,350 --> 00:47:46,480

I thought Leary had made an error that I

1020

00:47:51,420 --> 00:47:49,360

had recognized that there was that these

1021

00:47:54,000 --> 00:47:51,430

drugs were incredibly interesting but

1022

00:47:57,210 --> 00:47:54,010

not not four not four taken and go to

1023

00:47:59,760 --> 00:47:57,220

concerts or all that 6t stuff but by

1024

00:48:02,610 --> 00:47:59,770

this time I was a serious student of the

1025

00:48:04,530 --> 00:48:02,620

religious experience and realized that

1026
00:48:07,200 --> 00:48:04,540
at the very root of our environmental

1027
00:48:09,570 --> 00:48:07,210
crisis and political crisis was a was a

1028
00:48:11,430 --> 00:48:09,580
spiritual crisis and that if we could if

1029
00:48:15,730 --> 00:48:11,440
we could somehow you know reconnect with

1030
00:48:18,609 --> 00:48:15,740
the ground of being and you know it's

1031
00:48:20,400 --> 00:48:18,619
people would start to you know wake up

1032
00:48:23,260 --> 00:48:20,410
and an understanding the

1033
00:48:26,800 --> 00:48:23,270
interrelationships and and the golden

1034
00:48:28,720 --> 00:48:26,810
rule and you know philosophical and

1035
00:48:31,050 --> 00:48:28,730
mystical notions like this so I was I

1036
00:48:34,510 --> 00:48:31,060
had gone about for a year or so

1037
00:48:36,910 --> 00:48:34,520
organizing private meetings at you know

1038
00:48:39,040 --> 00:48:36,920

kind of elite places so one of these was

1039

00:48:40,750 --> 00:48:39,050

at Harvard I was spending some time my

1040

00:48:42,790 --> 00:48:40,760

girlfriend was a Harvard student and I

1041

00:48:45,220 --> 00:48:42,800

was living in Cambridge and I went into

1042

00:48:47,350 --> 00:48:45,230

DIC Shelties office and I said I'd like

1043

00:48:49,690 --> 00:48:47,360

to have a meeting here of all the people

1044

00:48:51,640 --> 00:48:49,700

that had done research with psychedelic

1045

00:48:53,470 --> 00:48:51,650

drugs who recognized that they're

1046

00:48:55,930 --> 00:48:53,480

important who don't want to create

1047

00:48:58,590 --> 00:48:55,940

another hysterical thing like the 60s

1048

00:49:01,330 --> 00:48:58,600

but want to resume some of the more

1049

00:49:03,940 --> 00:49:01,340

grounded scientific religious

1050

00:49:06,570 --> 00:49:03,950

applications of these drugs so Schulte

1051

00:49:10,990 --> 00:49:06,580

said you know dick Shelties the great

1052

00:49:13,900 --> 00:49:11,000

ethno botanist and and he said he said

1053

00:49:15,490 --> 00:49:13,910

why don't you invite Gordon Lawson I was

1054

00:49:18,400 --> 00:49:15,500

like wow Gordon Lawson that's like

1055

00:49:20,590 --> 00:49:18,410

saying why don't you invite Moses and I

1056

00:49:22,120 --> 00:49:20,600

was as well you know I he just picks up

1057

00:49:24,970 --> 00:49:22,130

the phone shultiess I remember he even

1058

00:49:28,180 --> 00:49:24,980

had a dial phone and he dials Wasson's

1059

00:49:30,490 --> 00:49:28,190

number and hands me the phone

1060

00:49:32,800 --> 00:49:30,500

and I'm like holy I'm talking to

1061

00:49:34,480 --> 00:49:32,810

Gordon Lawson and Gordon Watson says

1062

00:49:37,720 --> 00:49:34,490

what a great idea why don't you come and

1063

00:49:38,770 --> 00:49:37,730

come and over and visit and this is what

1064

00:49:44,890 --> 00:49:38,780

you Robert

1065

00:49:47,650 --> 00:49:44,900

this is a 1983 I think ok so we're we're

1066

00:49:49,540 --> 00:49:47,660

through the 60s and we're really through

1067

00:49:51,730 --> 00:49:49,550

the 70s which is really when the

1068

00:49:53,890 --> 00:49:51,740

psychedelic bomb goes off I think even

1069

00:49:54,460 --> 00:49:53,900

more because it really kind of gets out

1070

00:49:57,340 --> 00:49:54,470

of control

1071

00:49:59,140 --> 00:49:57,350

so are we war on drugs at this point

1072

00:50:01,090 --> 00:49:59,150

yeah no we're not fight war on drugs

1073

00:50:03,310 --> 00:50:01,100

we're in this little period in this lull

1074

00:50:05,620 --> 00:50:03,320

you know like you said the psychedelic

1075

00:50:08,220 --> 00:50:05,630

drugs were a big thing but by the by the

1076

00:50:11,349 --> 00:50:08,230

later 70s they started to sort of

1077

00:50:13,570 --> 00:50:11,359

disappear from the media and there was a

1078

00:50:15,340 --> 00:50:13,580

period there where there wasn't anything

1079

00:50:18,490 --> 00:50:15,350

going on and it seemed like a really

1080

00:50:20,680 --> 00:50:18,500

good time to bring up the conversation

1081

00:50:23,260 --> 00:50:20,690

again and look at these drugs and look

1082

00:50:25,660 --> 00:50:23,270

at their look at their use as adjuncts

1083

00:50:28,060 --> 00:50:25,670

to psychotherapy look at them as means

1084

00:50:29,370 --> 00:50:28,070

to catalyze religious experience that's

1085

00:50:33,120 --> 00:50:29,380

what I was doing

1086

00:50:35,520 --> 00:50:33,130

and I got a little haircut and I

1087

00:50:38,520 --> 00:50:35,530

borrowed my father's Lincoln Continental

1088

00:50:42,990 --> 00:50:38,530

and one of his sport jackets and drove

1089

00:50:47,280 --> 00:50:43,000

down to Danbury Connecticut and began my

1090

00:50:50,040 --> 00:50:47,290

my rapport with Gordon Watson and you

1091

00:50:53,850 --> 00:50:50,050

know at that time I was really in awe of

1092

00:50:55,590 --> 00:50:53,860

the guy and I thought that his I'd read

1093

00:50:58,460 --> 00:50:55,600

all of his books you know his books are

1094

00:51:01,050 --> 00:50:58,470

really I still think of the Miss

1095

00:51:03,210 --> 00:51:01,060

masterpieces but I had this which I'll

1096

00:51:05,310 --> 00:51:03,220

get to another layer of realization

1097

00:51:08,430 --> 00:51:05,320

about him you know he wrote these books

1098

00:51:10,470 --> 00:51:08,440

about the role of the mushroom in many

1099

00:51:13,200 --> 00:51:10,480

of the world's most significant

1100

00:51:17,760 --> 00:51:13,210

religious and philosophical systems you

1101
00:51:19,880 --> 00:51:17,770
know the Vedic soma and the kikiyaon of

1102
00:51:22,020 --> 00:51:19,890
the ilis in Ian's mysteries one of the

1103
00:51:25,170 --> 00:51:22,030
longest-running and most important

1104
00:51:27,090 --> 00:51:25,180
mystical ceremonies of all of history in

1105
00:51:29,280 --> 00:51:27,100
many ways considered that kind of the

1106
00:51:32,670 --> 00:51:29,290
bedrock of the Western philosophical

1107
00:51:35,160 --> 00:51:32,680
tradition this is the Greeks right this

1108
00:51:37,230 --> 00:51:35,170
is the Greeks who then went on the

1109
00:51:38,670 --> 00:51:37,240
journey and the death journey and

1110
00:51:40,350 --> 00:51:38,680
brought back there were not a

1111
00:51:42,390 --> 00:51:40,360
psychedelic journey on a death journey

1112
00:51:45,300 --> 00:51:42,400
and they brought it back in it changed

1113
00:51:47,310 --> 00:51:45,310

their history it was you know the way

1114

00:51:48,810 --> 00:51:47,320

that they made major decisions about how

1115

00:51:50,820 --> 00:51:48,820

to structure their culture how to go to

1116

00:51:53,150 --> 00:51:50,830

war all that stuff so yeah yeah the

1117

00:51:56,190 --> 00:51:53,160

fascinating and rich went on for like

1118

00:51:58,590 --> 00:51:56,200

1,500 years this is where the Christian

1119

00:52:00,600 --> 00:51:58,600

Eucharist comes from derives from the

1120

00:52:05,340 --> 00:52:00,610

ancient Greek the sacrament of the

1121

00:52:08,160 --> 00:52:05,350

licinia mysteries and and Wasson and an

1122

00:52:09,600 --> 00:52:08,170

Albert Hofmann you know who I also got

1123

00:52:14,910 --> 00:52:09,610

to know very well wrote a book together

1124

00:52:17,070 --> 00:52:14,920

on this the road to a lusus and so

1125

00:52:20,640 --> 00:52:17,080

anyway Wasson was this towering figure

1126

00:52:23,220 --> 00:52:20,650

and I was I felt really just privileged

1127

00:52:25,800 --> 00:52:23,230

and kind of blessed to be welcomed into

1128

00:52:27,540 --> 00:52:25,810

his home and invited me to live there

1129

00:52:30,630 --> 00:52:27,550

with him he was near the end of his life

1130

00:52:34,650 --> 00:52:30,640

he was getting his archives ready to

1131

00:52:36,710 --> 00:52:34,660

give to Harvard yeah I was like a you

1132

00:52:40,560 --> 00:52:36,720

know kid in a candy shop in a way and

1133

00:52:43,290 --> 00:52:40,570

that's how that began now that this then

1134

00:52:48,630 --> 00:52:43,300

takes another shift so

1135

00:52:51,170 --> 00:52:48,640

years go by wasun dies in 85 I decide to

1136

00:52:54,630 --> 00:52:51,180

pick up the thread of his life

1137

00:52:57,180 --> 00:52:54,640

now I've jumped ahead it's um the early

1138

00:53:00,780 --> 00:52:57,190

days of this century and I got the

1139

00:53:02,340 --> 00:53:00,790

copyrights to his books family the state

1140

00:53:04,380 --> 00:53:02,350

gave me the copyrights and I was going

1141

00:53:07,500 --> 00:53:04,390

to come out with new editions and then I

1142

00:53:10,050 --> 00:53:07,510

got a little money to begin to explore

1143

00:53:12,900 --> 00:53:10,060

creating a documentary film about him

1144

00:53:15,420 --> 00:53:12,910

and I was given access to his archives

1145

00:53:16,980 --> 00:53:15,430

not just access to his archives I mean

1146

00:53:18,710 --> 00:53:16,990

they treated me like a prince for

1147

00:53:22,320 --> 00:53:18,720

Christ's sakes Harvard gave me this

1148

00:53:24,810 --> 00:53:22,330

corner office and the herb area and I

1149

00:53:28,140 --> 00:53:24,820

had a secretary and she would bring me

1150

00:53:30,030 --> 00:53:28,150

trays of slides and I was mostly

1151
00:53:31,890 --> 00:53:30,040
interested in the photographs and all

1152
00:53:34,770 --> 00:53:31,900
the mushrooms stuff but one day I just

1153
00:53:38,340 --> 00:53:34,780
decided to I noticed there was a file on

1154
00:53:40,410 --> 00:53:38,350
his correspondences and I decided to

1155
00:53:42,240 --> 00:53:40,420
just kind of go off into there and I

1156
00:53:46,890 --> 00:53:42,250
asked for that tray and suddenly i'm

1157
00:53:49,710 --> 00:53:46,900
reading his letters and i realize my god

1158
00:53:51,390 --> 00:53:49,720
he's not just a banker i mean it's a

1159
00:53:54,780 --> 00:53:51,400
banker like a guy who deals with

1160
00:53:57,630 --> 00:53:54,790
interest rates or you know retirement

1161
00:54:00,210 --> 00:53:57,640
funds or something he's like he's on the

1162
00:54:01,859 --> 00:54:00,220
very inner circle you've mentioned a

1163
00:54:07,040 --> 00:54:01,869

couple of these names you mentioned like

1164

00:54:11,430 --> 00:54:07,050

the Vannevar Bush and Allen Dulles and

1165

00:54:14,370 --> 00:54:11,440

George Kennan and John Foster Dulles

1166

00:54:17,849 --> 00:54:14,380

these are like Watson's drinking buddies

1167

00:54:21,300 --> 00:54:17,859

Henry Luce these are the Fourth Reich

1168

00:54:25,020 --> 00:54:21,310

guys these are the originators founders

1169

00:54:28,140 --> 00:54:25,030

of the CIA out of the OSS but these

1170

00:54:30,270 --> 00:54:28,150

aren't the white hat CIA guys these are

1171

00:54:33,210 --> 00:54:30,280

more of the black hats yeah hey guys not

1172

00:54:35,910 --> 00:54:33,220

that Wasson was but or not that we can

1173

00:54:38,070 --> 00:54:35,920

ever put one hat or another on those

1174

00:54:41,070 --> 00:54:38,080

guys but continue with the story I just

1175

00:54:43,050 --> 00:54:41,080

want to add that that context that yeah

1176

00:54:45,510 --> 00:54:43,060

yeah it was quite a thing for me I'm

1177

00:54:47,550 --> 00:54:45,520

there in Cambridge I was actually

1178

00:54:48,960 --> 00:54:47,560

staying with a person I don't know if

1179

00:54:53,070 --> 00:54:48,970

we're going to get a chance to talk

1180

00:54:55,349 --> 00:54:53,080

about him rick doblin who is the founder

1181

00:54:57,060 --> 00:54:55,359

of the multidisciplinary Association for

1182

00:54:59,850 --> 00:54:57,070

psychedelic studies and a former

1183

00:55:01,950 --> 00:54:59,860

research subject of mine that's how he

1184

00:55:04,440 --> 00:55:01,960

got em DMA but I was a guest in his

1185

00:55:06,300 --> 00:55:04,450

attic and I was spending my days going

1186

00:55:09,240 --> 00:55:06,310

through these archives and it was really

1187

00:55:12,390 --> 00:55:09,250

like um hmm I thought wow that's really

1188

00:55:14,430 --> 00:55:12,400

really interesting that this is that

1189

00:55:17,220 --> 00:55:14,440

nobody knew this you know like the

1190

00:55:18,810 --> 00:55:17,230

legend of Wasson just kind of people

1191

00:55:22,620 --> 00:55:18,820

didn't know that his or it was glossed

1192

00:55:25,170 --> 00:55:22,630

over was curious enough that the a

1193

00:55:28,110 --> 00:55:25,180

psychedelic movement was started by a

1194

00:55:30,870 --> 00:55:28,120

Wall Street banker but this is again not

1195

00:55:32,490 --> 00:55:30,880

just a banker like JP Morgan is a bank

1196

00:55:36,120 --> 00:55:32,500

but it's also it's really more like a

1197

00:55:38,940 --> 00:55:36,130

major political force I mean bort Morgan

1198

00:55:41,700 --> 00:55:38,950

was you know one of the guys behind the

1199

00:55:44,640 --> 00:55:41,710

the near coup d'etat that removed

1200

00:55:47,130 --> 00:55:44,650

Roosevelt from office another incident

1201
00:55:50,070 --> 00:55:47,140
in American history that people are you

1202
00:55:52,290 --> 00:55:50,080
know unaware of that Smedley Butler

1203
00:55:54,330 --> 00:55:52,300
wrote you know a very important book

1204
00:55:57,060 --> 00:55:54,340
about it you could go folks you can go

1205
00:56:01,980 --> 00:55:57,070
on YouTube and actually watch the video

1206
00:56:04,830 --> 00:56:01,990
of Smedley who was the most decorated US

1207
00:56:08,280 --> 00:56:04,840
Marine and I think still is in history

1208
00:56:10,050 --> 00:56:08,290
who was recruited by these folks to say

1209
00:56:12,480 --> 00:56:10,060
hey you know wouldn't it be better if we

1210
00:56:14,580 --> 00:56:12,490
kind of got frozen eft out of there and

1211
00:56:17,850 --> 00:56:14,590
put someone else in there which in some

1212
00:56:20,910 --> 00:56:17,860
ways is a precursor to the JFK thing

1213
00:56:23,010 --> 00:56:20,920

where Dulles is just smack dab in the

1214

00:56:25,260 --> 00:56:23,020

middle of that because as you alluded to

1215

00:56:28,980 --> 00:56:25,270

JFK's gonna smash the CIA into a

1216

00:56:30,750 --> 00:56:28,990

thousand pieces and there's always this

1217

00:56:32,610 --> 00:56:30,760

history when people don't know this is I

1218

00:56:34,530 --> 00:56:32,620

just have to chuckle it's like you know

1219

00:56:37,370 --> 00:56:34,540

what I can't go back and fill in all the

1220

00:56:40,170 --> 00:56:37,380

gaps for you but go for yourself who is

1221

00:56:42,180 --> 00:56:40,180

responsible for kind of coordinating

1222

00:56:47,810 --> 00:56:42,190

running the Warren Commission overseeing

1223

00:56:50,100 --> 00:56:47,820

it hates him but forget all that

1224

00:56:52,800 --> 00:56:50,110

continue on with the story about Watson

1225

00:56:54,150 --> 00:56:52,810

because now back to the thing you got

1226

00:56:55,890 --> 00:56:54,160

the haircut you drive up there with the

1227

00:56:57,720 --> 00:56:55,900

Lincoln here no now you're you're you

1228

00:57:00,000 --> 00:56:57,730

they're bringing you trays you're the

1229

00:57:01,760 --> 00:57:00,010

the key guy you're the point guy you're

1230

00:57:04,710 --> 00:57:01,770

the most beautiful person who's going to

1231

00:57:06,180 --> 00:57:04,720

glorify our great Gordon wasit and

1232

00:57:08,670 --> 00:57:06,190

suddenly you're starting to get that

1233

00:57:10,650 --> 00:57:08,680

sinking feeling in your stomach as you

1234

00:57:12,180 --> 00:57:10,660

realize there's another part

1235

00:57:16,110 --> 00:57:12,190

the story that you're not so comfortable

1236

00:57:18,750 --> 00:57:16,120

with exactly yeah no also we have to you

1237

00:57:22,500 --> 00:57:18,760

know kind of insert here that this is

1238

00:57:25,200 --> 00:57:22,510

this is post 9/11 this is post 9/11 for

1239

00:57:28,470 --> 00:57:25,210

you this is yeah when I when I was in

1240

00:57:31,710 --> 00:57:28,480

the Waffen archives this was I mean I

1241

00:57:37,590 --> 00:57:31,720

was I was in New York City on 9/11 that

1242

00:57:41,160 --> 00:57:37,600

was a big day and then you know it was

1243

00:57:43,590 --> 00:57:41,170

in the winter of 2002 February I think

1244

00:57:46,110 --> 00:57:43,600

it was when I was I spent that month in

1245

00:57:48,360 --> 00:57:46,120

the Wasson archives and I find out his

1246

00:57:50,880 --> 00:57:48,370

relationship with Dulles and Kenan and

1247

00:57:53,400 --> 00:57:50,890

all these guys and realized huh this is

1248

00:57:56,100 --> 00:57:53,410

this is a really important piece of

1249

00:57:58,260 --> 00:57:56,110

information here wasn't really sure you

1250

00:58:01,980 --> 00:57:58,270

know what I was going to do with it here

1251

00:58:04,950 --> 00:58:01,990

I was just kind of chewing on it for a

1252

00:58:08,250 --> 00:58:04,960

while and then and then another big

1253

00:58:13,700 --> 00:58:08,260

chunk comes to me you know we mentioned

1254

00:58:18,650 --> 00:58:13,710

this this researcher is a very tenacious

1255

00:58:21,750 --> 00:58:18,660

and angry young man Yan Irvin who

1256

00:58:24,930 --> 00:58:21,760

started calling me with this information

1257

00:58:27,120 --> 00:58:24,940

about Wasson and CIA and a very angry

1258

00:58:29,640 --> 00:58:27,130

guy about all the whole psychedelic

1259

00:58:31,920 --> 00:58:29,650

movement is a CIA conspiracy like

1260

00:58:33,510 --> 00:58:31,930

talking very fast and very angry and at

1261

00:58:35,220 --> 00:58:33,520

first I just said they're like you know

1262

00:58:37,160 --> 00:58:35,230

I put him off like I just wasn't

1263

00:58:41,340 --> 00:58:37,170

interested and just his tone was

1264

00:58:44,040 --> 00:58:41,350

belligerent and you know and but he was

1265

00:58:45,870 --> 00:58:44,050

you know he kept calling so you know

1266

00:58:47,760 --> 00:58:45,880

finally he asked me if I would read his

1267

00:58:49,860 --> 00:58:47,770

book and he had written a book about

1268

00:58:53,130 --> 00:58:49,870

Wasson and John Allegro

1269

00:58:56,370 --> 00:58:53,140

and I found the book excellent and so I

1270

00:59:00,060 --> 00:58:56,380

started to develop a rapport with yan

1271

00:59:03,300 --> 00:59:00,070

and then he then he finally he sends me

1272

00:59:07,890 --> 00:59:03,310

some documents and these documents are

1273

00:59:12,270 --> 00:59:07,900

the pay requisitions for MKULTRA sub

1274

00:59:16,680 --> 00:59:12,280

project number 58 which is the Waffen

1275

00:59:21,750 --> 00:59:16,690

expedition to Mexico and it lays it out

1276

00:59:24,600 --> 00:59:21,760

that the official story that Wasson had

1277

00:59:26,850 --> 00:59:24,610

repeated his late is 1985

1278

00:59:29,310 --> 00:59:26,860

when I interviewed him which is

1279

00:59:32,430 --> 00:59:29,320

available in my first book a piece that

1280

00:59:34,650 --> 00:59:32,440

I'm still very proud of it thorough at

1281

00:59:37,140 --> 00:59:34,660

that point interview of his life and I

1282

00:59:40,410 --> 00:59:37,150

asked him about the CIA and he basically

1283

00:59:42,780 --> 00:59:40,420

lied to me he said you repeated this

1284

00:59:46,950 --> 00:59:42,790

official story that the CIA had kind of

1285

00:59:49,170 --> 00:59:46,960

secretly infiltrated his expedition and

1286

00:59:52,470 --> 00:59:49,180

then he didn't really want to work with

1287

00:59:53,940 --> 00:59:52,480

the CIA and that they snuck in and that

1288

00:59:55,500 --> 00:59:53,950

they were going to try to control the

1289

00:59:57,570 --> 00:59:55,510

whole thing and use it for their

1290

01:00:02,370 --> 00:59:57,580

purposes but there we got these pay

1291

01:00:05,370 --> 01:00:02,380

requisitions that a very good researcher

1292

01:00:09,300 --> 01:00:05,380

Colin Ross had unearthed that shows that

1293

01:00:12,210 --> 01:00:09,310

the that this Life magazine story was

1294

01:00:14,970 --> 01:00:12,220

not just a hobby of a banker telling the

1295

01:00:17,130 --> 01:00:14,980

story about a discovery he made but this

1296

01:00:20,580 --> 01:00:17,140

was a CIA operation

1297

01:00:22,320 --> 01:00:20,590

the CIA paid for the trip you know and

1298

01:00:25,560 --> 01:00:22,330

then just pay for the trip they paid for

1299

01:00:28,470 --> 01:00:25,570

all the expenses for the photographic

1300

01:00:31,980 --> 01:00:28,480

equipment the recordings the audio

1301

01:00:34,740 --> 01:00:31,990

recordings and the publication of it in

1302

01:00:38,930 --> 01:00:34,750

Henry Lucis life and reboost Skull and

1303

01:00:42,330 --> 01:00:38,940

Bones the CIA very deliberately secretly

1304

01:00:44,910 --> 01:00:42,340

systematically exposes this the CIA

1305

01:00:47,580 --> 01:00:44,920

wanted millions of Americans to know

1306

01:00:50,490 --> 01:00:47,590

about this mushroom that caused these

1307

01:00:52,920 --> 01:00:50,500

visions that's a game changer for me and

1308

01:00:55,500 --> 01:00:52,930

why they were keeping the secret and

1309

01:00:58,290 --> 01:00:55,510

what this is the question that those of

1310

01:00:59,640 --> 01:00:58,300

us that are fascinated by these drugs we

1311

01:01:02,960 --> 01:00:59,650

this is what we should be asking

1312

01:01:07,110 --> 01:01:02,970

ourselves why does the CIA want to

1313

01:01:09,330 --> 01:01:07,120

ignite this psychedelic movement

1314

01:01:11,130 --> 01:01:09,340

Robert full stop there it's a really

1315

01:01:12,510 --> 01:01:11,140

super important point and it's something

1316

01:01:14,340 --> 01:01:12,520

we've explored on the show and I don't

1317

01:01:16,680 --> 01:01:14,350

know if you had a chance to listen to

1318

01:01:21,000 --> 01:01:16,690

the interview I had with Joe Atwell who

1319

01:01:25,230 --> 01:01:21,010

I think did a lot of that research with

1320

01:01:27,570 --> 01:01:25,240

Yan Yan Ervin deserves credit where

1321

01:01:29,370 --> 01:01:27,580

credit is due but he's also a nitwit

1322

01:01:31,980 --> 01:01:29,380

when it comes to consciousness and it

1323

01:01:33,960 --> 01:01:31,990

kind of totally shades I think his whole

1324

01:01:36,360 --> 01:01:33,970

thing because it's back to this if you

1325

01:01:38,040 --> 01:01:36,370

don't understand that there is a

1326

01:01:39,510 --> 01:01:38,050

spiritual dimension to

1327

01:01:42,480 --> 01:01:39,520

this and if you don't want to go

1328

01:01:44,490 --> 01:01:42,490

spiritual at least go to the as far as

1329

01:01:46,950 --> 01:01:44,500

saying there's an extended consciousness

1330

01:01:49,400 --> 01:01:46,960

reality so you know again jumping all

1331

01:01:52,140 --> 01:01:49,410

over the place when Rick Strassman is

1332

01:01:55,920 --> 01:01:52,150

actually a sanctioned academic

1333

01:01:57,540 --> 01:01:55,930

researcher and he gives people DMT under

1334

01:01:59,520 --> 01:01:57,550

controlled situations they're entering

1335

01:02:01,950 --> 01:01:59,530

into the extended realm and they're

1336

01:02:04,230 --> 01:02:01,960

seeing et and they're seeing the purple

1337

01:02:06,180 --> 01:02:04,240

dragon that the shaman are seeing in

1338

01:02:10,890 --> 01:02:06,190

South America and now all bets are off

1339

01:02:11,970 --> 01:02:10,900

so no matter what the CIA or you know

1340

01:02:13,740 --> 01:02:11,980

Allen Dulles

1341

01:02:16,560 --> 01:02:13,750

thought they were doing the best

1342

01:02:17,550 --> 01:02:16,570

evidence I think we have is that they

1343

01:02:19,890 --> 01:02:17,560

didn't know what the they were

1344

01:02:22,190 --> 01:02:19,900

doing either you know they went into it

1345

01:02:25,140 --> 01:02:22,200

at kind of with this mechanistic

1346

01:02:29,550 --> 01:02:25,150

materialistic idea of how consciousness

1347

01:02:32,280 --> 01:02:29,560

works and they were not aware of the

1348

01:02:34,530 --> 01:02:32,290

deeper truth so and I mentioned Joe at

1349

01:02:37,350 --> 01:02:34,540

well cuz I think Joe at will does a nice

1350

01:02:40,080 --> 01:02:37,360

job of he has a hard time getting off of

1351

01:02:42,150 --> 01:02:40,090

the social engineering thing because

1352

01:02:43,650 --> 01:02:42,160

when you really look at the extent to

1353

01:02:47,550 --> 01:02:43,660

which that social engineering project

1354

01:02:50,940 --> 01:02:47,560

has been forced upon us and and were

1355

01:02:52,680 --> 01:02:50,950

like rats in a maze it's it's it's very

1356

01:02:55,620 --> 01:02:52,690

oppressive you know and you want to

1357

01:02:57,570 --> 01:02:55,630

throw it off but I love where you sit in

1358

01:03:00,930 --> 01:02:57,580

this and that's where I think is really

1359

01:03:03,180 --> 01:03:00,940

I really want to understand how you're

1360

01:03:06,600 --> 01:03:03,190

juggling these two things because what I

1361

01:03:09,600 --> 01:03:06,610

hear from Wasson is this both Anne kind

1362

01:03:14,100 --> 01:03:09,610

of thing yeah he's a lyin ass CIA

1363

01:03:16,790 --> 01:03:14,110

lifetime player yes but I also get the

1364

01:03:19,980 --> 01:03:16,800

sense that he's someone who either

1365

01:03:22,170 --> 01:03:19,990

before during or after is woken up to

1366

01:03:25,050 --> 01:03:22,180

the larger reality that he's kind of

1367

01:03:27,600 --> 01:03:25,060

been that he stumbled into or that he's

1368

01:03:29,970 --> 01:03:27,610

been pushed into or however you know I

1369

01:03:32,220 --> 01:03:29,980

mean those are the two aspects how are

1370

01:03:34,890 --> 01:03:32,230

you play are you playing with those two

1371

01:03:37,200 --> 01:03:34,900

Robert well you know I'm glad you put it

1372

01:03:39,570 --> 01:03:37,210

that way because I'm still kind of you

1373

01:03:42,980 --> 01:03:39,580

know I think back to my meetings with

1374

01:03:45,390 --> 01:03:42,990

Watson he had a very peculiar

1375

01:03:47,430 --> 01:03:45,400

personality around me I mean I think I

1376

01:03:51,059 --> 01:03:47,440

think there was some genuine affection

1377

01:03:53,489 --> 01:03:51,069

and respect for me as a young man

1378

01:03:56,400 --> 01:03:53,499

and who really wanted to understand what

1379

01:03:59,370 --> 01:03:56,410

was going on you know like he was he was

1380

01:04:02,099 --> 01:03:59,380

withholding like he liked he had a

1381

01:04:05,099 --> 01:04:02,109

secret he didn't really couldn't really

1382

01:04:08,609 --> 01:04:05,109

tell it there was there was an innocence

1383

01:04:11,009 --> 01:04:08,619

about him a gentleness about him he's

1384

01:04:13,109 --> 01:04:11,019

also you know again kind of near the end

1385

01:04:15,420 --> 01:04:13,119

of his life you know I don't really know

1386

01:04:17,729 --> 01:04:15,430

I'd really love to go back into his

1387

01:04:21,839 --> 01:04:17,739

archives and read more of his letters

1388

01:04:26,279 --> 01:04:21,849

but I put it I gave a lecture in New

1389

01:04:28,620 --> 01:04:26,289

York shortly after this my realization

1390

01:04:31,799 --> 01:04:28,630

of his relationship to the American

1391

01:04:35,189 --> 01:04:31,809

fascists and then my my access to the

1392

01:04:37,229 --> 01:04:35,199

archives was denied I can't get back in

1393

01:04:39,420 --> 01:04:37,239

there and I think is very difficult to

1394

01:04:41,670 --> 01:04:39,430

get in there to read his archives and

1395

01:04:43,140 --> 01:04:41,680

these letters to find out but this is a

1396

01:04:45,959 --> 01:04:43,150

really important question that I've

1397

01:04:49,109 --> 01:04:45,969

discussed with colleagues you know like

1398

01:04:50,609 --> 01:04:49,119

maybe Watson like when I asked him in

1399

01:04:52,259 --> 01:04:50,619

the interview which again I would I

1400

01:04:53,910 --> 01:04:52,269

would urge your your readers your

1401

01:04:56,309 --> 01:04:53,920

listeners to check out it's an

1402

01:04:58,769 --> 01:04:56,319

interesting piece it's in my it's in my

1403

01:05:01,979 --> 01:04:58,779

first book entheogens in the future of

1404

01:05:04,559 --> 01:05:01,989

religion there may be a copy online or

1405

01:05:07,259 --> 01:05:04,569

if you want it you can contact me and

1406

01:05:09,749 --> 01:05:07,269

I'll send you a version you know when

1407

01:05:12,329 --> 01:05:09,759

Watson found the mushrooms shortly

1408

01:05:15,359 --> 01:05:12,339

thereafter his wife dies of cancer and

1409

01:05:17,459 --> 01:05:15,369

he retires from banking he gets out of

1410

01:05:19,259 --> 01:05:17,469

Wall Street and so maybe that's an

1411

01:05:21,239 --> 01:05:19,269

indication that he you know did get

1412

01:05:24,599 --> 01:05:21,249

turned on he had a religious awakening

1413

01:05:27,150 --> 01:05:24,609

and maybe he did have a political shift

1414

01:05:29,910 --> 01:05:27,160

I'm trying to give the guy a benefit of

1415

01:05:32,609 --> 01:05:29,920

the doubt because I do I had a sense of

1416

01:05:35,269 --> 01:05:32,619

something human about him and like all

1417

01:05:38,039 --> 01:05:35,279

these guys Tim Jack Tim did some really

1418

01:05:40,799 --> 01:05:38,049

nefarious up but there's a

1419

01:05:43,079 --> 01:05:40,809

human being in there that I'm relating

1420

01:05:46,109 --> 01:05:43,089

to and I'm trying to help move this

1421

01:05:48,239 --> 01:05:46,119

movement along to pieces they're revving

1422

01:05:51,319 --> 01:05:48,249

up MKULTRA again there are millions of

1423

01:05:54,449 --> 01:05:51,329

people that are being seduced by this

1424

01:05:56,489 --> 01:05:54,459

coordinated yada yada yada I'm with you

1425

01:05:59,279 --> 01:05:56,499

on all that but but before we go too far

1426

01:06:01,019 --> 01:05:59,289

down there and I don't want to pull this

1427

01:06:02,910 --> 01:06:01,029

to yank is too hard in another direction

1428

01:06:03,940 --> 01:06:02,920

so you pull it back any any time you

1429

01:06:07,599 --> 01:06:03,950

want

1430

01:06:09,059 --> 01:06:07,609

yeah uh it's curious to me what you say

1431

01:06:12,670 --> 01:06:09,069

I mean if we look at the larger

1432

01:06:14,530 --> 01:06:12,680

spiritual structure of things and how we

1433

01:06:16,329 --> 01:06:14,540

think things might work you know we're

1434

01:06:18,039 --> 01:06:16,339

all these chess pieces that are put on

1435

01:06:19,630 --> 01:06:18,049

the board and we're not sure whether

1436

01:06:21,819 --> 01:06:19,640

we're being moved or whether we're

1437

01:06:24,490 --> 01:06:21,829

moving our own piece you know and you

1438

01:06:26,710 --> 01:06:24,500

talk about Tim Leary and how he was set

1439

01:06:30,069 --> 01:06:26,720

up for this and set up to be the Econo

1440

01:06:33,640 --> 01:06:30,079

class and I look at you Robert and I

1441

01:06:36,309 --> 01:06:33,650

look at who you are at the time that you

1442

01:06:39,819 --> 01:06:36,319

meet Wasson and anyone who wants to go

1443

01:06:42,400 --> 01:06:39,829

and read your extraordinary book in so

1444

01:06:42,910 --> 01:06:42,410

many ways entheogen Zinn the future of

1445

01:06:45,789 --> 01:06:42,920

religion

1446

01:06:49,270 --> 01:06:45,799

I mean you at that point had tapped into

1447

01:06:52,329 --> 01:06:49,280

a beautiful aspect of this that can't be

1448

01:06:55,079 --> 01:06:52,339

denied and that is the the religious

1449

01:06:57,420 --> 01:06:55,089

spiritual experience that people have

1450

01:07:00,809 --> 01:06:57,430

connected to this and the deeper

1451

01:07:03,549 --> 01:07:00,819

spirituality of set and setting of

1452

01:07:05,530 --> 01:07:03,559

transformation not necessary to have

1453

01:07:08,589 --> 01:07:05,540

that spiritual transformation but in

1454

01:07:10,390 --> 01:07:08,599

some cases can be for some people can be

1455

01:07:12,250 --> 01:07:10,400

a catalyst to that and I'm just saying

1456

01:07:14,260 --> 01:07:12,260

this is that person someone who goes and

1457

01:07:16,270 --> 01:07:14,270

reads that book will get a sense of

1458

01:07:19,120 --> 01:07:16,280

where your head's at and you're the

1459

01:07:22,630 --> 01:07:19,130

person who rolls up in the Lincoln and

1460

01:07:25,930 --> 01:07:22,640

talks to to Wasson who represents the

1461

01:07:29,200 --> 01:07:25,940

two sides the the light and the dark it

1462

01:07:31,539 --> 01:07:29,210

just is too poetic to think that yeah

1463

01:07:33,370 --> 01:07:31,549

you're that guy put in and you're still

1464

01:07:35,319 --> 01:07:33,380

are in this history like you say you're

1465

01:07:37,539 --> 01:07:35,329

still trying to figure out how to take

1466

01:07:40,480 --> 01:07:37,549

this movement or how to take just this

1467

01:07:42,490 --> 01:07:40,490

whole history forward I don't know what

1468

01:07:44,530 --> 01:07:42,500

when you thrown a lot of stuff there but

1469

01:07:47,470 --> 01:07:44,540

when you chew a yet what is your role in

1470

01:07:48,849 --> 01:07:47,480

all this yeah well I don't I don't

1471

01:07:50,650 --> 01:07:48,859

really know how it's but I'm gonna I'd

1472

01:07:52,380 --> 01:07:50,660

like you to write my biography that's

1473

01:07:56,020 --> 01:07:52,390

what that's one thing I'm sure of

1474

01:07:57,700 --> 01:07:56,030

no I know but I've been I've been going

1475

01:07:59,740 --> 01:07:57,710

you know I just turned you know my

1476

01:08:01,930 --> 01:07:59,750

astrologer friends you know point out

1477

01:08:04,089 --> 01:08:01,940

that I've just gone through my second

1478

01:08:06,579 --> 01:08:04,099

Saturn return and it was really like

1479

01:08:09,670 --> 01:08:06,589

around my first Saturn return that I

1480

01:08:11,440 --> 01:08:09,680

began to really explore this stuff very

1481

01:08:13,990 --> 01:08:11,450

deeply and now I do feel like it's a

1482

01:08:17,410 --> 01:08:14,000

kind of obligation of mine to just write

1483

01:08:19,599 --> 01:08:17,420

my memoirs in fact I just

1484

01:08:21,070 --> 01:08:19,609

just get a contract with a German

1485

01:08:23,800 --> 01:08:21,080

publisher for a book that's going to

1486

01:08:26,200 --> 01:08:23,810

come out next year what I'm going to try

1487

01:08:28,090 --> 01:08:26,210

to tell some of these stories there's a

1488

01:08:30,280 --> 01:08:28,100

lot of aspects here because we have the

1489

01:08:32,919 --> 01:08:30,290

we have the full spectrum of human

1490

01:08:33,729 --> 01:08:32,929

experience as you've noted that the very

1491

01:08:36,450 --> 01:08:33,739

powerful

1492

01:08:39,490 --> 01:08:36,460

you know mystical importance of these

1493

01:08:42,640 --> 01:08:39,500

revelatory experiences but they're also

1494

01:08:45,610 --> 01:08:42,650

the Cecotto mimetic and mind-control

1495

01:08:48,249 --> 01:08:45,620

aspects of these experiences that are

1496

01:08:50,229 --> 01:08:48,259

and so in this sense like the field of

1497

01:08:52,329 --> 01:08:50,239

psychedelic drugs is really like a

1498

01:08:54,640 --> 01:08:52,339

microcosm of the whole history of

1499

01:08:56,320 --> 01:08:54,650

religion because it's not because it's

1500

01:08:57,999 --> 01:08:56,330

the same thing I mean look look at this

1501

01:09:01,329 --> 01:08:58,009

de Rivoli look at like the history of

1502

01:09:03,400 --> 01:09:01,339

Christianity I happen to accept Joe at

1503

01:09:06,309 --> 01:09:03,410

wills thesis that it was a mind-control

1504

01:09:10,300 --> 01:09:06,319

operation from the beginning that Jesus

1505

01:09:12,010 --> 01:09:10,310

was a literary invention but I'm totally

1506

01:09:13,599 --> 01:09:12,020

with you I can't resist throwing in

1507

01:09:16,390 --> 01:09:13,609

there because that throws people for a

1508

01:09:19,419 --> 01:09:16,400

total loop hey even if you don't do a

1509

01:09:23,110 --> 01:09:19,429

full at will on that I just encourage

1510

01:09:25,360 --> 01:09:23,120

anyone to one look at Josephus which is

1511

01:09:28,510 --> 01:09:25,370

I think a huge contribution that oil

1512

01:09:31,720 --> 01:09:28,520

makes and look at that biography and say

1513

01:09:35,079 --> 01:09:31,730

does that really make sense if you were

1514

01:09:37,689 --> 01:09:35,089

truly weren't looking at it from a

1515

01:09:40,900 --> 01:09:37,699

Christian perspective would you really

1516

01:09:42,820 --> 01:09:40,910

buy that story of who Josephus is and

1517

01:09:45,220 --> 01:09:42,830

then look at the fact that the Bible is

1518

01:09:47,800 --> 01:09:45,230

pro-roman how does the Bible wind up

1519

01:09:49,300 --> 01:09:47,810

being pro Holman unless there's a Roman

1520

01:09:51,999 --> 01:09:49,310

influence and then the other great

1521

01:09:53,979 --> 01:09:52,009

contribution Atwell makes is if you

1522

01:09:56,350 --> 01:09:53,989

can't swallow all that it and that

1523

01:09:59,590 --> 01:09:56,360

doesn't even touch the historical Jesus

1524

01:10:03,280 --> 01:09:59,600

thing per se it just it just says that

1525

01:10:05,020 --> 01:10:03,290

what that event turns out to be as it's

1526

01:10:08,950 --> 01:10:05,030

passed on to us through the Bible is

1527

01:10:11,110 --> 01:10:08,960

purely a PSYOP is purely a control

1528

01:10:13,060 --> 01:10:11,120

mechanism and then the I love how he

1529

01:10:14,530 --> 01:10:13,070

just flashes forward to Constantine

1530

01:10:18,430 --> 01:10:14,540

Saint Constantine

1531

01:10:20,740 --> 01:10:18,440

who turns the entire population into

1532

01:10:23,410 --> 01:10:20,750

slaves and he calls it serfdom and he

1533

01:10:25,500 --> 01:10:23,420

says don't worry though I'm giving you

1534

01:10:27,400 --> 01:10:25,510

this religion and it's called

1535

01:10:28,840 --> 01:10:27,410

Christianity and I just can't resist

1536

01:10:31,120 --> 01:10:28,850

writing the one other thing I always

1537

01:10:33,430 --> 01:10:31,130

throw in there because it relates to

1538

01:10:37,870 --> 01:10:33,440

correctly to your point if this happens

1539

01:10:40,360 --> 01:10:37,880

at 400 AD if they are that sophisticated

1540

01:10:44,470 --> 01:10:40,370

at playing the game where are they at

1541

01:10:46,560 --> 01:10:44,480

today no IP far more sophisticated far

1542

01:10:50,490 --> 01:10:46,570

more sophisticated with a lot more

1543

01:10:53,410 --> 01:10:50,500

powerful technologies to inculcate these

1544

01:10:54,729 --> 01:10:53,420

mind controlled principles we have the

1545

01:10:58,149 --> 01:10:54,739

internet we have television we have

1546

01:11:00,669 --> 01:10:58,159

movie screens we have these powerful

1547

01:11:02,740 --> 01:11:00,679

drugs and they're just much more

1548

01:11:06,700 --> 01:11:02,750

advanced but that also means that that

1549

01:11:09,220 --> 01:11:06,710

the potential to turn this thing against

1550

01:11:12,459 --> 01:11:09,230

them and to end to actually turn it into

1551

01:11:14,830 --> 01:11:12,469

a kind of liberation movement is also

1552

01:11:16,540 --> 01:11:14,840

that much more exciting it seems to me

1553

01:11:18,280 --> 01:11:16,550

that I don't you know sometimes with

1554

01:11:20,050 --> 01:11:18,290

people we talk about these kind of

1555

01:11:22,510 --> 01:11:20,060

conspiracy theories and people think

1556

01:11:25,680 --> 01:11:22,520

it's all doom and gloom and paranoid

1557

01:11:29,560 --> 01:11:25,690

stuff no it's a it's a really fantastic

1558

01:11:32,680 --> 01:11:29,570

opportunity to learn from these mistakes

1559

01:11:34,990 --> 01:11:32,690

and to and to use this power in a way

1560

01:11:37,930 --> 01:11:35,000

that really does empower individuals and

1561

01:11:40,570 --> 01:11:37,940

help us bring about a more sustainable

1562

01:11:42,310 --> 01:11:40,580

society you know I still have that that

1563

01:11:45,310 --> 01:11:42,320

wish absolutely

1564

01:11:47,890 --> 01:11:45,320

hey Robert can I pull you you've been so

1565

01:11:51,220 --> 01:11:47,900

fantastic again I only hope people can

1566

01:11:53,080 --> 01:11:51,230

follow you don't follow whatever trail

1567

01:11:54,820 --> 01:11:53,090

you can out of this but I'm gonna throw

1568

01:11:57,370 --> 01:11:54,830

one other thing on the table because I

1569

01:11:59,379 --> 01:11:57,380

feel a spiritual connection with neem

1570

01:12:01,750 --> 01:11:59,389

Karoli Baba and I don't know why I don't

1571

01:12:02,290 --> 01:12:01,760

know how but I found myself in tears on

1572

01:12:05,729 --> 01:12:02,300

an airplane

1573

01:12:10,120 --> 01:12:05,739

reading hit the accounts of his life as

1574

01:12:13,290 --> 01:12:10,130

recorded by Ram Dass so Ram Dass Richard

1575

01:12:15,790 --> 01:12:13,300

Albert is Alpert is an interesting

1576

01:12:18,310 --> 01:12:15,800

interesting figure in this whole thing

1577

01:12:20,080 --> 01:12:18,320

and I was wondering because he appears

1578

01:12:21,780 --> 01:12:20,090

there's an interview with him that

1579

01:12:25,330 --> 01:12:21,790

appears in your book with Timothy Leary

1580

01:12:28,229 --> 01:12:25,340

that's that's that's another turn on

1581

01:12:33,340 --> 01:12:28,239

this and I think it provides some

1582

01:12:36,820 --> 01:12:33,350

first-hand accounts of an alternative

1583

01:12:38,830 --> 01:12:36,830

way of looking at this expanded

1584

01:12:41,830 --> 01:12:38,840

consciousness and the role that drugs

1585

01:12:44,650 --> 01:12:41,840

might play in it so it just start

1586

01:12:47,260 --> 01:12:44,660

wherever you want with Rahm das

1587

01:12:48,850 --> 01:12:47,270

and then allow me to kind of jump in but

1588

01:12:50,830 --> 01:12:48,860

we got to get to the story where you

1589

01:12:52,840 --> 01:12:50,840

know Ram Dass and let's tell the truth

1590

01:12:55,870 --> 01:12:52,850

you know Ram Dass has outed himself as

1591

01:12:58,600 --> 01:12:55,880

being a little bit pretty wild and crazy

1592

01:13:02,020 --> 01:12:58,610

because he's a closeted homosexual man

1593

01:13:06,340 --> 01:13:02,030

and trying to lead this life and it

1594

01:13:08,740 --> 01:13:06,350

leads to all sorts of psychosis that you

1595

01:13:10,540 --> 01:13:08,750

know was is too bad that a lot of people

1596

01:13:12,190 --> 01:13:10,550

in that situation had to go through and

1597

01:13:14,320 --> 01:13:12,200

who knows what else is going on in his

1598

01:13:16,690 --> 01:13:14,330

life but he's kind of a lost soul and he

1599

01:13:18,550 --> 01:13:16,700

gets this LSD but he packs it up and

1600

01:13:20,230 --> 01:13:18,560

goes to India and he meets neem karoli

1601

01:13:22,270 --> 01:13:20,240

baba and I do want to get to the point

1602

01:13:24,280 --> 01:13:22,280

where he gives a whole handful that

1603

01:13:25,720 --> 01:13:24,290

stuffed Indian karoli baba and he places

1604

01:13:27,970 --> 01:13:25,730

it on his tongue it says there it

1605

01:13:31,570 --> 01:13:27,980

doesn't do anything to me because I've

1606

01:13:33,310 --> 01:13:31,580

already been there I can do that with my

1607

01:13:35,560 --> 01:13:33,320

consciousness because that's where our

1608

01:13:38,230 --> 01:13:35,570

consciousness can take us but if you

1609

01:13:41,740 --> 01:13:38,240

want to go there with your medicine okay

1610

01:13:45,880 --> 01:13:41,750

but you know he raises another question

1611

01:13:47,560 --> 01:13:45,890

in terms of this whole thing in terms of

1612

01:13:49,330 --> 01:13:47,570

where we're really trying to go with

1613

01:13:50,770 --> 01:13:49,340

this stuff so there I've laid more on

1614

01:13:53,770 --> 01:13:50,780

the table than maybe I should have but

1615

01:13:56,170 --> 01:13:53,780

any thoughts on Ram Dass well okay so

1616

01:13:59,920 --> 01:13:56,180

that's another fairly complicated part

1617

01:14:04,720 --> 01:13:59,930

of the story I didn't get to know

1618

01:14:08,980 --> 01:14:04,730

Richard or Rahm Das and until the 1990s

1619

01:14:13,750 --> 01:14:08,990

or so and you just he's one of the most

1620

01:14:16,660 --> 01:14:13,760

likable and funny and you know delicious

1621

01:14:19,030 --> 01:14:16,670

people to be around and I got to spend

1622

01:14:22,720 --> 01:14:19,040

you know not a lot of time with them but

1623

01:14:25,980 --> 01:14:22,730

we had some very close mutual friends in

1624

01:14:28,330 --> 01:14:25,990

particular women named Nina grab a and

1625

01:14:32,020 --> 01:14:28,340

you know I had some you know some

1626

01:14:34,030 --> 01:14:32,030

connection with Richard I also but you

1627

01:14:37,690 --> 01:14:34,040

know I first got to know him kind of

1628

01:14:40,810 --> 01:14:37,700

through the eyes of Frank baron and see

1629

01:14:42,820 --> 01:14:40,820

what I want to say here because I have a

1630

01:14:45,130 --> 01:14:42,830

lot of respect for him and I really like

1631

01:14:46,930 --> 01:14:45,140

him and I tried to talk with him about

1632

01:14:49,180 --> 01:14:46,940

some of these things that interview that

1633

01:14:52,120 --> 01:14:49,190

is that long interview that's in my

1634

01:14:53,860 --> 01:14:52,130

Leary book is really a much shorter

1635

01:14:57,970 --> 01:14:53,870

version of a much longer conversation

1636

01:14:58,700 --> 01:14:57,980

that I haven't published because I like

1637

01:15:02,000 --> 01:14:58,710

that same

1638

01:15:04,910 --> 01:15:02,010

incident well here's how I look at it

1639

01:15:07,850 --> 01:15:04,920

okay so here's Richard Alpert he didn't

1640

01:15:10,820 --> 01:15:07,860

start the Harvard psilocybin project

1641

01:15:13,520 --> 01:15:10,830

with Tim he Frank Barron started the

1642

01:15:15,709 --> 01:15:13,530

project with Tim and Frank left because

1643

01:15:17,090 --> 01:15:15,719

it got too outrageous an embarrassing

1644

01:15:19,430 --> 01:15:17,100

thing happened Frank went back to

1645

01:15:22,430 --> 01:15:19,440

Berkeley Tim wanted someone else to work

1646

01:15:25,040 --> 01:15:22,440

with so he kind of latched on to Alpert

1647

01:15:27,320 --> 01:15:25,050

not for any great reasons and he was

1648

01:15:28,220 --> 01:15:27,330

like some you know spiritual person or

1649

01:15:30,380 --> 01:15:28,230

something that's because he had an

1650

01:15:32,930 --> 01:15:30,390

airplane and he had a Mercedes and he

1651

01:15:34,790 --> 01:15:32,940

had some Harvard you know there's a

1652

01:15:38,390 --> 01:15:34,800

Harvard professor he was a tenured track

1653

01:15:42,590 --> 01:15:38,400

guy and in and he had a big crush on Tim

1654

01:15:44,120 --> 01:15:42,600

so he was you know and and Richard will

1655

01:15:45,950 --> 01:15:44,130

say this in the interview you know I'll

1656

01:15:47,780 --> 01:15:45,960

talk about he said you know when you

1657

01:15:50,900 --> 01:15:47,790

talk about Tim and I at Harvard I was

1658

01:15:53,090 --> 01:15:50,910

really a very minor character at Harvard

1659

01:15:55,640 --> 01:15:53,100

he just kind of followed him around and

1660

01:15:57,590 --> 01:15:55,650

and did what he said basically he washed

1661

01:16:00,229 --> 01:15:57,600

the dishes he flew him around in his

1662

01:16:03,200 --> 01:16:00,239

plane you just listened he was he was

1663

01:16:05,420 --> 01:16:03,210

just so excited and happy to be there

1664

01:16:09,620 --> 01:16:05,430

but he didn't really have much input and

1665

01:16:12,800 --> 01:16:09,630

then he gets it's really Richard that

1666

01:16:15,530 --> 01:16:12,810

got fired from Harvard you know for some

1667

01:16:18,229 --> 01:16:15,540

really embarrassing stuff you know they

1668

01:16:21,740 --> 01:16:18,239

had it they had agreements not to use

1669

01:16:24,560 --> 01:16:21,750

the drugs with undergraduates and it was

1670

01:16:27,229 --> 01:16:24,570

the terms of the of the grant and the

1671

01:16:28,970 --> 01:16:27,239

permissions and Richard violated all

1672

01:16:31,760 --> 01:16:28,980

those agreements you know he was using

1673

01:16:34,900 --> 01:16:31,770

drugs with undergraduates he was having

1674

01:16:37,670 --> 01:16:34,910

sexual relationships with undergraduates

1675

01:16:41,270 --> 01:16:37,680

that's really embarrassing it's illegal

1676

01:16:42,800 --> 01:16:41,280

it's unethical it's a it's a shameful

1677

01:16:44,479 --> 01:16:42,810

thing to do I mean I've been a I've been

1678

01:16:46,520 --> 01:16:44,489

a university professor you know it's

1679

01:16:48,410 --> 01:16:46,530

it's against the laws it's improper II

1680

01:16:50,420 --> 01:16:48,420

just don't do that kind of everybody

1681

01:16:52,910 --> 01:16:50,430

knew about it too right I mean he was

1682

01:16:55,640 --> 01:16:52,920

really yeah so he gets so here's a guy

1683

01:16:58,580 --> 01:16:55,650

he gets fired from Harvard for this

1684

01:17:01,040 --> 01:16:58,590

terrible stuff then they go to the you

1685

01:17:02,360 --> 01:17:01,050

know the Millbrook estate and he gets he

1686

01:17:04,780 --> 01:17:02,370

kind of gets them kicked out of

1687

01:17:07,900 --> 01:17:04,790

Millbrook too because he's just too

1688

01:17:11,919 --> 01:17:07,910

outrageous with his with his you know

1689

01:17:14,080 --> 01:17:11,929

sexual you know blah blah blah

1690

01:17:16,779 --> 01:17:14,090

and then and then so he's gotta in a

1691

01:17:19,839 --> 01:17:16,789

little impasse in his life he goes to

1692

01:17:21,310 --> 01:17:19,849

India because Allen Ginsberg went to

1693

01:17:24,429 --> 01:17:21,320

India you know again he didn't really

1694

01:17:25,839 --> 01:17:24,439

have any great like spiritual curiosity

1695

01:17:28,929 --> 01:17:25,849

or something he just kind of went to

1696

01:17:32,410 --> 01:17:28,939

India so in India he falls in love with

1697

01:17:36,279 --> 01:17:32,420

somebody this big you know surfer guy

1698

01:17:39,009 --> 01:17:36,289

Michael Riggs name is Bhagwan das who's

1699

01:17:40,750 --> 01:17:39,019

actually a person who's you know I've

1700

01:17:43,620 --> 01:17:40,760

sat down had long conversation with

1701

01:17:47,739 --> 01:17:43,630

about this Michael takes him to meet

1702

01:17:50,709 --> 01:17:47,749

neem Karoli now I know you did you had

1703

01:17:53,199 --> 01:17:50,719

this love for neem Karoli but you know

1704

01:17:54,939 --> 01:17:53,209

I'm really suspicious to these guru guys

1705

01:17:56,350 --> 01:17:54,949

and I've done a little research and

1706

01:17:58,000 --> 01:17:56,360

talked to other people that have been

1707

01:18:00,339 --> 01:17:58,010

there you know this gets controversial

1708

01:18:03,899 --> 01:18:00,349

and people call me names but you know

1709

01:18:06,189 --> 01:18:03,909

neem Karoli was that like kind of a I

1710

01:18:08,850 --> 01:18:06,199

wonder and this is what Michael kind of

1711

01:18:13,660 --> 01:18:08,860

in Part II it was kind of a trickster

1712

01:18:17,049 --> 01:18:13,670

charlatan sort of guy - and this this

1713

01:18:20,169 --> 01:18:17,059

famous story about Ram Dass giving him

1714

01:18:21,160 --> 01:18:20,179

the LSD and him taking anything and

1715

01:18:23,500 --> 01:18:21,170

didn't really do anything

1716

01:18:25,509 --> 01:18:23,510

that's according to Michael and two

1717

01:18:28,270 --> 01:18:25,519

other people that were there that's not

1718

01:18:30,310 --> 01:18:28,280

really what happened but that Nina

1719

01:18:33,549 --> 01:18:30,320

cruelly played tricks on people like he

1720

01:18:36,790 --> 01:18:33,559

had he had some of his guys sneaked into

1721

01:18:39,669 --> 01:18:36,800

rhombuses room when he wasn't around and

1722

01:18:41,469 --> 01:18:39,679

go through his personal stuff and he

1723

01:18:44,319 --> 01:18:41,479

wouldn't find out personal things about

1724

01:18:47,080 --> 01:18:44,329

Rama das and then trick him into

1725

01:18:49,799 --> 01:18:47,090

thinking he was being psychic about him

1726

01:18:55,390 --> 01:18:49,809

and that he didn't actually take the LSD

1727

01:18:57,339 --> 01:18:55,400

he palmed it and he gave it to his he

1728

01:19:01,569 --> 01:18:57,349

ground it up and put it in the Prasad

1729

01:19:04,629 --> 01:19:01,579

the holy food so his so his devotees

1730

01:19:06,759 --> 01:19:04,639

would take it and have altered states of

1731

01:19:09,790 --> 01:19:06,769

consciousness and and think that the

1732

01:19:12,729 --> 01:19:09,800

Guru was really so incredibly powerful

1733

01:19:14,439 --> 01:19:12,739

and so so now you've got this guy

1734

01:19:16,839 --> 01:19:14,449

Richard Alpert who's fired from Harvard

1735

01:19:20,140 --> 01:19:16,849

then he falls for this phony guru

1736

01:19:24,549 --> 01:19:20,150

betting puts together this book be here

1737

01:19:25,880 --> 01:19:24,559

now which is you know okay I know a lot

1738

01:19:29,180 --> 01:19:25,890

of people that was there first

1739

01:19:31,550 --> 01:19:29,190

introduction to kind of Buddhist or go

1740

01:19:34,700 --> 01:19:31,560

get ideals and be here now but look I'm

1741

01:19:37,790 --> 01:19:34,710

sorry if this sounds harsh or something

1742

01:19:40,700 --> 01:19:37,800

but it's a it's a it's a little cut up

1743

01:19:42,500 --> 01:19:40,710

thing of spiritual platitudes and a guy

1744

01:19:45,800 --> 01:19:42,510

that's really never done any kind of

1745

01:19:47,360 --> 01:19:45,810

real meditation he's a bhakti yogi he

1746

01:19:50,570 --> 01:19:47,370

went from he went from being an

1747

01:19:54,260 --> 01:19:50,580

authoritarian agreeing and obeying with

1748

01:19:56,780 --> 01:19:54,270

all the Harvard authorities to being in

1749

01:19:59,060 --> 01:19:56,790

a you know kind of just accept then Tim

1750

01:20:01,760 --> 01:19:59,070

was his authority and now this neem

1751

01:20:04,040 --> 01:20:01,770

Karoli guy has the authority and then he

1752

01:20:08,330 --> 01:20:04,050

comes back to the United States he falls

1753

01:20:10,730 --> 01:20:08,340

for some woman guru joyeux or something

1754

01:20:13,340 --> 01:20:10,740

bleeds from her ears who he's a kind of

1755

01:20:15,640 --> 01:20:13,350

embarrassing thing and I somehow with

1756

01:20:20,680 --> 01:20:15,650

all decked a series of embarrassing

1757

01:20:23,720 --> 01:20:20,690

stuff gets himself defined as a

1758

01:20:25,070 --> 01:20:23,730

spiritual teacher I'm like what's

1759

01:20:27,290 --> 01:20:25,080

spiritual like what's what does that

1760

01:20:30,110 --> 01:20:27,300

mean really you know a best-selling book

1761

01:20:33,410 --> 01:20:30,120

of platitudes and this series of

1762

01:20:35,720 --> 01:20:33,420

embarrassing stuff and he's a very very

1763

01:20:38,450 --> 01:20:35,730

ticket and funny and charming guy and

1764

01:20:41,030 --> 01:20:38,460

you know we've even sort of talked about

1765

01:20:43,190 --> 01:20:41,040

this I asked him about I told him

1766

01:20:46,520 --> 01:20:43,200

Michaels version of the story that he

1767

01:20:49,850 --> 01:20:46,530

faked Michael told that to me and that

1768

01:20:51,590 --> 01:20:49,860

it was uh you know then Ram Dass said

1769

01:20:53,330 --> 01:20:51,600

this is before his stroke that he said

1770

01:20:56,360 --> 01:20:53,340

well you know I don't know that's that's

1771

01:20:59,540 --> 01:20:56,370

ba Gavin's version this is mine I'm just

1772

01:21:01,760 --> 01:20:59,550

trying to tell the truth as I see it let

1773

01:21:05,120 --> 01:21:01,770

me add a couple parts to the story as I

1774

01:21:08,390 --> 01:21:05,130

know it and I'm not married to the story

1775

01:21:12,350 --> 01:21:08,400

I'm not married to any version of it and

1776

01:21:14,150 --> 01:21:12,360

I've never met neem Karoli Baba so it's

1777

01:21:16,490 --> 01:21:14,160

like people that talk about their person

1778

01:21:18,470 --> 01:21:16,500

or relationship with Jesus and from

1779

01:21:20,270 --> 01:21:18,480

Christ consciousness standpoint and I

1780

01:21:22,880 --> 01:21:20,280

can't get in the middle of that if you

1781

01:21:25,880 --> 01:21:22,890

have a relationship with Jesus and

1782

01:21:29,090 --> 01:21:25,890

hey go for it that's awesome I get well

1783

01:21:31,580 --> 01:21:29,100

I don't know I think that's undeniable

1784

01:21:32,780 --> 01:21:31,590

and I I mean I to get me sidetracked you

1785

01:21:35,780 --> 01:21:32,790

know if you look at the near-death

1786

01:21:37,790 --> 01:21:35,790

experience science right so take it I'd

1787

01:21:39,410 --> 01:21:37,800

like the word science there because if

1788

01:21:39,710 --> 01:21:39,420

we take the neurological model that we

1789

01:21:42,620 --> 01:21:39,720

have

1790

01:21:45,230 --> 01:21:42,630

we say that when your heart stops there

1791

01:21:47,540 --> 01:21:45,240

is no possibility for any coherent brain

1792

01:21:50,090 --> 01:21:47,550

activity within about 15 seconds of of

1793

01:21:51,560 --> 01:21:50,100

after that so whether you believe the

1794

01:21:53,030 --> 01:21:51,570

brain is dead after that point or

1795

01:21:55,490 --> 01:21:53,040

whatever but then if we go in and

1796

01:21:57,260 --> 01:21:55,500

scientifically study the recollections

1797

01:21:59,420 --> 01:21:57,270

and perceptions that people have and we

1798

01:22:01,160 --> 01:21:59,430

tie them back to their ability to

1799

01:22:02,390 --> 01:22:01,170

recount their resuscitation and other

1800

01:22:04,490 --> 01:22:02,400

stuff I'm going through this really

1801
01:22:06,770 --> 01:22:04,500
quickly because people on this show of

1802
01:22:08,380 --> 01:22:06,780
heard it a million times there's a set

1803
01:22:10,970 --> 01:22:08,390
of science there that suggests

1804
01:22:13,820 --> 01:22:10,980
consciousness survives bodily death in a

1805
01:22:15,800 --> 01:22:13,830
way that our modern medicine still can't

1806
01:22:19,610 --> 01:22:15,810
come to grips with and talks about in

1807
01:22:22,400 --> 01:22:19,620
these silly you know neurological

1808
01:22:25,550 --> 01:22:22,410
that's just total thing so I

1809
01:22:27,890 --> 01:22:25,560
digress greatly because I'm backed is

1810
01:22:29,900 --> 01:22:27,900
just saying when those people have a

1811
01:22:33,740 --> 01:22:29,910
near-death experience and they connect

1812
01:22:35,690 --> 01:22:33,750
with Jesus Christ consciousness whatever

1813
01:22:38,600 --> 01:22:35,700

that is and I don't know what that is

1814

01:22:40,730 --> 01:22:38,610

and I don't want to pretend to but that

1815

01:22:42,590 --> 01:22:40,740

there's a reality to this extended

1816

01:22:45,800 --> 01:22:42,600

spiritual experience and I think we're

1817

01:22:48,950 --> 01:22:45,810

both on the same page so I roll that all

1818

01:22:51,470 --> 01:22:48,960

the way back to saying if somebody has a

1819

01:22:54,230 --> 01:22:51,480

connection to neem Karoli Baba I honor

1820

01:22:55,850 --> 01:22:54,240

that without having to pass judgment on

1821

01:22:58,580 --> 01:22:55,860

whether it's true or false or whether

1822

01:23:01,190 --> 01:22:58,590

he's a charlatan or whether he's a Sai

1823

01:23:02,930 --> 01:23:01,200

Baba who we can watch videos of who you

1824

01:23:05,330 --> 01:23:02,940

know so many people just revere and I've

1825

01:23:08,180 --> 01:23:05,340

had some scholars on this show written

1826

01:23:09,980 --> 01:23:08,190

books about the parapsychology and

1827

01:23:12,140 --> 01:23:09,990

they're highly esteemed and they fall

1828

01:23:13,850 --> 01:23:12,150

for Sai Baba and it's like well

1829

01:23:16,070 --> 01:23:13,860

slow down the goddamn video and you can

1830

01:23:18,520 --> 01:23:16,080

see he's palming the the pendant ya know

1831

01:23:22,190 --> 01:23:18,530

what's going on there but the other

1832

01:23:24,020 --> 01:23:22,200

complexity of that is you know people

1833

01:23:25,280 --> 01:23:24,030

talk about regular to and they say the

1834

01:23:26,480 --> 01:23:25,290

same thing well look he's a stage

1835

01:23:28,850 --> 01:23:26,490

magician he's faking

1836

01:23:31,460 --> 01:23:28,860

yes he's faking but he's also really

1837

01:23:32,780 --> 01:23:31,470

done it too and here's my interview with

1838

01:23:34,700 --> 01:23:32,790

Jacque Vallejo where he says I was

1839

01:23:36,200 --> 01:23:34,710

sitting at the table with him and I did

1840

01:23:38,570 --> 01:23:36,210

the mind experiment and he you know what

1841

01:23:40,730 --> 01:23:38,580

I mean so we always are going to have

1842

01:23:43,280 --> 01:23:40,740

that trickster element in this was the

1843

01:23:46,340 --> 01:23:43,290

multi shaded you know that's part of the

1844

01:23:48,170 --> 01:23:46,350

fun of this thing too but back to neem

1845

01:23:52,100 --> 01:23:48,180

Karoli Baba and back to the story as

1846

01:23:53,630 --> 01:23:52,110

I've heard it from Ram Dass is he goes

1847

01:23:55,930 --> 01:23:53,640

and he goes back to the

1848

01:24:00,350 --> 01:23:55,940

United States and he has these doubts

1849

01:24:02,030 --> 01:24:00,360

did this guy really take the LSD was did

1850

01:24:04,730 --> 01:24:02,040

he Palma did he throw it over his

1851
01:24:06,680 --> 01:24:04,740
shoulder so he comes back next time and

1852
01:24:09,710 --> 01:24:06,690
he sees neem karoli baba and before he

1853
01:24:11,000 --> 01:24:09,720
says anything neem karoli baba says to

1854
01:24:13,720 --> 01:24:11,010
him come here

1855
01:24:17,120 --> 01:24:13,730
Danny yeah he says yeah you had doubts

1856
01:24:18,770 --> 01:24:17,130
you think I'm fake he goes he sticks out

1857
01:24:20,120 --> 01:24:18,780
his tongue now this is the story whether

1858
01:24:22,160 --> 01:24:20,130
you believe it or not but there were

1859
01:24:23,990 --> 01:24:22,170
other witnesses to it too right

1860
01:24:26,240 --> 01:24:24,000
so he sticks out his tongue says you

1861
01:24:29,120 --> 01:24:26,250
place them on my tongue you make sure

1862
01:24:31,160 --> 01:24:29,130
now then now give me a glass of water or

1863
01:24:33,560 --> 01:24:31,170

milk or whatever it was and he drinks it

1864

01:24:35,510 --> 01:24:33,570

and he says okay you're satisfied that

1865

01:24:37,610 --> 01:24:35,520

I've taken him he goes now all sit there

1866

01:24:39,860 --> 01:24:37,620

and this is how he tells the story so at

1867

01:24:42,110 --> 01:24:39,870

least he these are an elaborate liar or

1868

01:24:44,660 --> 01:24:42,120

there's some truth to it he said then

1869

01:24:46,460 --> 01:24:44,670

about 20 minutes later neem karoli baba

1870

01:24:48,530 --> 01:24:46,470

starts going into all these like

1871

01:24:51,050 --> 01:24:48,540

convulsions with his face you know and

1872

01:24:53,630 --> 01:24:51,060

they're thinking oh man the old man

1873

01:24:56,240 --> 01:24:53,640

he was faking it and now he's really got

1874

01:24:58,430 --> 01:24:56,250

the dose and he's you know he's tripping

1875

01:25:01,460 --> 01:24:58,440

really hard and then he just smiles and

1876

01:25:02,810 --> 01:25:01,470

he eases oh okay you know that's not it

1877

01:25:04,820 --> 01:25:02,820

you know I'm just playing around with

1878

01:25:06,860 --> 01:25:04,830

you yeah we used to know about this that

1879

01:25:09,290 --> 01:25:06,870

this medicine these people these Yogi's

1880

01:25:11,390 --> 01:25:09,300

back in the valleys know about it blah

1881

01:25:14,630 --> 01:25:11,400

blah blah but again the important thing

1882

01:25:17,060 --> 01:25:14,640

to me is he says which i think is a

1883

01:25:19,040 --> 01:25:17,070

truth that I hold on to because I see it

1884

01:25:22,190 --> 01:25:19,050

in so many different different ways from

1885

01:25:26,420 --> 01:25:22,200

different spiritual masters is that hey

1886

01:25:27,860 --> 01:25:26,430

if you need this medicine to help remind

1887

01:25:30,860 --> 01:25:27,870

you who you are

1888

01:25:34,970 --> 01:25:30,870

to help you remind you of your divinity

1889

01:25:37,990 --> 01:25:34,980

then okay but don't you already know the

1890

01:25:41,690 --> 01:25:38,000

answer isn't the real challenge in

1891

01:25:43,730 --> 01:25:41,700

living it in telling the truth in being

1892

01:25:45,560 --> 01:25:43,740

genuinely who you are in loving other

1893

01:25:48,500 --> 01:25:45,570

people isn't that really the challenge

1894

01:25:51,440 --> 01:25:48,510

the challenge isn't knowing that you're

1895

01:25:53,660 --> 01:25:51,450

more you know you're more so and then I

1896

01:25:55,100 --> 01:25:53,670

also take with that you know all the

1897

01:25:56,930 --> 01:25:55,110

other stories because the first book I

1898

01:25:59,030 --> 01:25:56,940

read from Ram Dass was not be here now

1899

01:26:01,610 --> 01:25:59,040

it was miracle of love and it's all

1900

01:26:05,570 --> 01:26:01,620

these a compilation if you acknowledge

1901

01:26:07,520 --> 01:26:05,580

or believe the story of how these store

1902

01:26:10,280 --> 01:26:07,530

what how this book comes to being

1903

01:26:11,840 --> 01:26:10,290

it's a compilation of stories from all

1904

01:26:14,000 --> 01:26:11,850

these different people that have

1905

01:26:15,860 --> 01:26:14,010

encountered neem karoli baba and some of

1906

01:26:18,380 --> 01:26:15,870

our Indians who've been there for the

1907

01:26:20,420 --> 01:26:18,390

you know known in this twenty thirty

1908

01:26:22,010 --> 01:26:20,430

years other are these Americans that

1909

01:26:23,660 --> 01:26:22,020

have kind of visited him and then also

1910

01:26:25,220 --> 01:26:23,670

you know you can go listen to Krishna

1911

01:26:28,430 --> 01:26:25,230

Das you know Christian dasa is he's

1912

01:26:31,040 --> 01:26:28,440

Faiers right so he has his own

1913

01:26:34,580 --> 01:26:31,050

experience with neem karoli baba but

1914

01:26:36,590 --> 01:26:34,590

many of the details match up with what

1915

01:26:38,030 --> 01:26:36,600

Ram Dass is saying and also you know I

1916

01:26:39,740 --> 01:26:38,040

live right here in Southern California

1917

01:26:41,720 --> 01:26:39,750

like I was telling and I live seven

1918

01:26:44,030 --> 01:26:41,730

miles from the self-realization

1919

01:26:45,470 --> 01:26:44,040

fellowship you know and I had some kind

1920

01:26:48,590 --> 01:26:45,480

of strange connection where I was you

1921

01:26:50,420 --> 01:26:48,600

know I don't know I was a kid starting a

1922

01:26:52,670 --> 01:26:50,430

business entrepreneur and somehow or

1923

01:26:54,740 --> 01:26:52,680

another I get into yoga and I read this

1924

01:26:57,230 --> 01:26:54,750

book autobiography of Yogi and I start

1925

01:26:59,540 --> 01:26:57,240

sending off these correspondence classes

1926

01:27:01,610 --> 01:26:59,550

that are coming from where seven miles

1927

01:27:03,740 --> 01:27:01,620

from where I live right now and although

1928

01:27:05,510 --> 01:27:03,750

I never got into the whole

1929

01:27:06,050 --> 01:27:05,520

self-realization fellowship thing too

1930

01:27:08,240 --> 01:27:06,060

much

1931

01:27:11,320 --> 01:27:08,250

anyone can go take that book and read

1932

01:27:14,480 --> 01:27:11,330

the first 30 pages and it makes all the

1933

01:27:16,880 --> 01:27:14,490

miracles quote-unquote that Ram Dass is

1934

01:27:19,400 --> 01:27:16,890

talking about our child's play and and

1935

01:27:21,740 --> 01:27:19,410

then I just interviewed a guy a couple

1936

01:27:24,890 --> 01:27:21,750

episodes ago named Steve Briggs who

1937

01:27:26,720 --> 01:27:24,900

spent 20 years as a TM meditation

1938

01:27:28,940 --> 01:27:26,730

teacher and was sent to and there's a

1939

01:27:30,770 --> 01:27:28,950

whole story behind that trickster you

1940

01:27:32,330 --> 01:27:30,780

know Maharishi and that whole thing but

1941

01:27:34,880 --> 01:27:32,340

he still has this extraordinary

1942

01:27:39,350 --> 01:27:34,890

experience of going to India for 20

1943

01:27:40,940 --> 01:27:39,360

years and meeting these Indian I'm not

1944

01:27:43,820 --> 01:27:40,950

big on the sage on the stage thing

1945

01:27:48,770 --> 01:27:43,830

either but there's just too much there

1946

01:27:51,320 --> 01:27:48,780

in terms of a reality to people who have

1947

01:27:53,630 --> 01:27:51,330

ability to access this higher

1948

01:27:55,760 --> 01:27:53,640

consciousness so there I've just thrown

1949

01:27:57,230 --> 01:27:55,770

a ton of on the table too and I

1950

01:27:59,720 --> 01:27:57,240

don't know what's true and what isn't

1951

01:28:00,170 --> 01:27:59,730

true but I wanted to add that part of

1952

01:28:02,510 --> 01:28:00,180

the story

1953

01:28:03,980 --> 01:28:02,520

yeah well it's also very interesting

1954

01:28:06,050 --> 01:28:03,990

again it leads to a really long

1955

01:28:08,330 --> 01:28:06,060

conversation and it's making me think we

1956

01:28:12,410 --> 01:28:08,340

started talking about leery now we're on

1957

01:28:14,390 --> 01:28:12,420

to Rama Das and how really very very

1958

01:28:19,130 --> 01:28:14,400

different these two characters are and

1959

01:28:20,899 --> 01:28:19,140

how they both embody very opposite

1960

01:28:23,149 --> 01:28:20,909

aspects of

1961

01:28:26,180 --> 01:28:23,159

religion and the religious experience

1962

01:28:28,820 --> 01:28:26,190

and you know my friend gay doing ham did

1963

01:28:31,930 --> 01:28:28,830

a brilliant and important film that's

1964

01:28:36,640 --> 01:28:31,940

been out and about called dying to know

1965

01:28:39,169 --> 01:28:36,650

which was a conversation between Tim and

1966

01:28:40,760 --> 01:28:39,179

ramadasa yeah I've seen it you've seen

1967

01:28:43,160 --> 01:28:40,770

it okay so you can so you know in that

1968

01:28:47,770 --> 01:28:43,170

film so here's these two guys now

1969

01:28:50,600 --> 01:28:47,780

religion you know Tim Tim was a

1970

01:28:52,669 --> 01:28:50,610

revolutionary Tim grew up Tim didn't

1971

01:28:54,770 --> 01:28:52,679

have any money Tim wanted to change the

1972

01:28:56,750 --> 01:28:54,780

world he wanted he wanted he believed in

1973

01:28:58,640 --> 01:28:56,760

democracy he didn't like that the money

1974

01:29:00,110 --> 01:28:58,650

was all concentrated at the top and the

1975

01:29:01,820 --> 01:29:00,120

most of the people didn't have any and

1976

01:29:03,830 --> 01:29:01,830

they were controlled by though he was an

1977

01:29:07,280 --> 01:29:03,840

Irish fighting the English you know he

1978

01:29:10,100 --> 01:29:07,290

wanted to see a more equal distribution

1979

01:29:11,360 --> 01:29:10,110

of wealth and power in the society and

1980

01:29:13,490 --> 01:29:11,370

having having a democracy

1981

01:29:17,149 --> 01:29:13,500

Ramraj is a totally different character

1982

01:29:19,070 --> 01:29:17,159

and for him you're really hard to

1983

01:29:20,870 --> 01:29:19,080

something there right I I'm saying this

1984

01:29:22,640 --> 01:29:20,880

in a whole new light because let's just

1985

01:29:25,640 --> 01:29:22,650

expound on that a little bit Rob gots is

1986

01:29:28,280 --> 01:29:25,650

a rich kid I mean he is a rich ass kid

1987

01:29:30,410 --> 01:29:28,290

from Harvard privilege and then when he

1988

01:29:32,780 --> 01:29:30,420

goes and does the Guru thing it's hey

1989

01:29:36,560 --> 01:29:32,790

everybody come out to my dad's you know

1990

01:29:39,350 --> 01:29:36,570

45 acre estate you know kind of

1991

01:29:42,680 --> 01:29:39,360

thing right yep Tim is constantly

1992

01:29:44,720 --> 01:29:42,690

reminding him and the viewer how

1993

01:29:47,990 --> 01:29:44,730

different they are it's the last line of

1994

01:29:49,790 --> 01:29:48,000

the movie we're different we're

1995

01:29:53,410 --> 01:29:49,800

different and so here again is a

1996

01:29:57,189 --> 01:29:53,420

religion a conservative force that is a

1997

01:29:59,780 --> 01:29:57,199

mind control operation by elites to

1998

01:30:02,930 --> 01:29:59,790

pacify and control the masses like

1999

01:30:07,340 --> 01:30:02,940

Huxley learned about in brave new world

2000

01:30:09,350 --> 01:30:07,350

and more acutely wrote about in an an

2001
01:30:10,970 --> 01:30:09,360
essay that's nowhere near is well-known

2002
01:30:14,479 --> 01:30:10,980
that I would encourage your our

2003
01:30:17,240 --> 01:30:14,489
listeners to check out brave new world

2004
01:30:19,250 --> 01:30:17,250
revisited which is postscript to brave

2005
01:30:21,919 --> 01:30:19,260
the world that he wrote in 1958

2006
01:30:24,439 --> 01:30:21,929
so here's here you see this kind of

2007
01:30:26,479 --> 01:30:24,449
embodied in Tim was really trying to you

2008
01:30:28,790 --> 01:30:26,489
know he's anti-war he's getting he's

2009
01:30:31,100 --> 01:30:28,800
arrested he's a problem to the

2010
01:30:33,169 --> 01:30:31,110
establishment Rahm das is not a problem

2011
01:30:35,140 --> 01:30:33,179
to the establishment Ramdas is exactly

2012
01:30:38,290 --> 01:30:35,150
what the establishment

2013
01:30:39,850 --> 01:30:38,300

it's a kind of feel good bhakti religion

2014

01:30:42,489 --> 01:30:39,860

you're not going to change the structure

2015

01:30:44,589 --> 01:30:42,499

of society or the distribution of wealth

2016

01:30:46,390 --> 01:30:44,599

or power why bother well but there

2017

01:30:48,370 --> 01:30:46,400

that's tricky that's really tricky I

2018

01:30:50,469 --> 01:30:48,380

mean we at play with that on two

2019

01:30:53,890 --> 01:30:50,479

different dimensions right we can play

2020

01:30:55,810 --> 01:30:53,900

with that on the political dimension and

2021

01:30:59,049 --> 01:30:55,820

it looks one way and we can play with

2022

01:31:01,660 --> 01:30:59,059

the bhakti Pathan and bhakti is service

2023

01:31:05,259 --> 01:31:01,670

right so bhakti is no bhakti is love

2024

01:31:07,899 --> 01:31:05,269

right bhakti bhakti is the love path

2025

01:31:11,529 --> 01:31:07,909

like one things jumps to mind there is

2026

01:31:14,979 --> 01:31:11,539

that many folks in the yogic tradition

2027

01:31:19,029 --> 01:31:14,989

will tell you you can go as far as you

2028

01:31:21,939 --> 01:31:19,039

want down the path of the the warrior

2029

01:31:24,219 --> 01:31:21,949

the timothy leary warrior but at some

2030

01:31:26,949 --> 01:31:24,229

point to get past the final hurdle

2031

01:31:29,410 --> 01:31:26,959

you're going to need the Guru and us in

2032

01:31:31,870 --> 01:31:29,420

the West don't accept the Gruen I am NOT

2033

01:31:33,939 --> 01:31:31,880

a guru guy nowhere close never

2034

01:31:37,089 --> 01:31:33,949

have been never had that's just not me

2035

01:31:40,779 --> 01:31:37,099

I'm a conic last person that's my nature

2036

01:31:43,569 --> 01:31:40,789

but I do see the wisdom of submitting

2037

01:31:46,330 --> 01:31:43,579

that there is a wisdom to submitting as

2038

01:31:48,699 --> 01:31:46,340

much as it pulls against you know who I

2039

01:31:50,500 --> 01:31:48,709

am kind of thing and in that respect

2040

01:31:52,779 --> 01:31:50,510

you're saying something really beautiful

2041

01:31:56,199 --> 01:31:52,789

and deep there Robert in terms of how

2042

01:31:59,649 --> 01:31:56,209

these two guys who bring forth this

2043

01:32:03,310 --> 01:31:59,659

whole experience of psychedelics are

2044

01:32:06,370 --> 01:32:03,320

representing two aspects that ultimately

2045

01:32:09,609 --> 01:32:06,380

lead to the same place if we will in

2046

01:32:12,459 --> 01:32:09,619

terms of higher consciousness and I

2047

01:32:15,489 --> 01:32:12,469

don't know I hate to shut it off and

2048

01:32:17,319 --> 01:32:15,499

pull it back down to this materialistic

2049

01:32:18,430 --> 01:32:17,329

kind of eye but we have to do that

2050

01:32:21,520 --> 01:32:18,440

sometimes you know when we talk about

2051
01:32:24,100 --> 01:32:21,530
the CIA and you know the mind control

2052
01:32:27,100 --> 01:32:24,110
and but but I think these guys are also

2053
01:32:29,620 --> 01:32:27,110
playing on a whole different level a

2054
01:32:32,350 --> 01:32:29,630
higher level what any thoughts and I

2055
01:32:34,000 --> 01:32:32,360
mean Tim and Richard yeah yeah I mean

2056
01:32:37,390 --> 01:32:34,010
they're playing they're playing on the

2057
01:32:40,419 --> 01:32:37,400
psycho spiritual kind of dimension -

2058
01:32:41,739 --> 01:32:40,429
that totally transcends anything that

2059
01:32:43,600 --> 01:32:41,749
these guys want to do in terms of

2060
01:32:45,219 --> 01:32:43,610
playing around with you know trying to

2061
01:32:48,100 --> 01:32:45,229
control people and all the rest of that

2062
01:32:49,899 --> 01:32:48,110
I mean not it not to shift gears

2063
01:32:51,250 --> 01:32:49,909

too far again because it's gonna drive

2064

01:32:54,550 --> 01:32:51,260

people nuts but I was listening to

2065

01:32:57,550 --> 01:32:54,560

Whitley Strieber recently and him

2066

01:32:59,050 --> 01:32:57,560

talking about how he was had first-hand

2067

01:33:01,359 --> 01:32:59,060

experience with the mind control

2068

01:33:03,760 --> 01:33:01,369

horrible horrible mind control program

2069

01:33:05,859 --> 01:33:03,770

that he was subjected to when he was

2070

01:33:09,760 --> 01:33:05,869

like nine years old in San Antonio Texas

2071

01:33:11,830 --> 01:33:09,770

and these guys this is MKULTRA like in

2072

01:33:14,370 --> 01:33:11,840

its worse taking these little kids and

2073

01:33:16,870 --> 01:33:14,380

putting him in Skinner boxes in this

2074

01:33:19,359 --> 01:33:16,880

deprivation sensory deprivation in order

2075

01:33:22,959 --> 01:33:19,369

to crack them open to see if they could

2076

01:33:24,939 --> 01:33:22,969

because we know when people are in like

2077

01:33:28,570 --> 01:33:24,949

people who are suggest subjected to

2078

01:33:31,169 --> 01:33:28,580

trauma crack open and reach these other

2079

01:33:33,310 --> 01:33:31,179

dimensions whether they be psychic or

2080

01:33:34,570 --> 01:33:33,320

out-of-body travel or whatever they were

2081

01:33:35,950 --> 01:33:34,580

and they were playing around with this

2082

01:33:37,629 --> 01:33:35,960

because like hey man we got to

2083

01:33:39,820 --> 01:33:37,639

figure out that part of it too kind of

2084

01:33:41,649 --> 01:33:39,830

thing but what he said just really stuck

2085

01:33:45,939 --> 01:33:41,659

with me from a spiritual side he said

2086

01:33:48,790 --> 01:33:45,949

these guys don't realize what they're

2087

01:33:50,109 --> 01:33:48,800

doing to their soul and I don't know how

2088

01:33:51,300 --> 01:33:50,119

comfortable you are with that or how

2089

01:33:54,729 --> 01:33:51,310

comfortable are with the idea of

2090

01:33:57,189 --> 01:33:54,739

reincarnation and karma at is at this

2091

01:33:59,439 --> 01:33:57,199

much higher level rather than this kind

2092

01:34:02,379 --> 01:33:59,449

of dime-store you know do this don't do

2093

01:34:06,010 --> 01:34:02,389

that kind of thing and you know I wonder

2094

01:34:09,399 --> 01:34:06,020

at the soul level who these actors are

2095

01:34:11,560 --> 01:34:09,409

Timothy Leary Ram Dass and it seems to

2096

01:34:16,000 --> 01:34:11,570

me like they're there they're like right

2097

01:34:18,669 --> 01:34:16,010

out of some mythical Indian story of you

2098

01:34:21,010 --> 01:34:18,679

know like good and bad and and the

2099

01:34:24,310 --> 01:34:21,020

follower and the leader and the soldier

2100

01:34:27,609 --> 01:34:24,320

and the warrior and yet you process that

2101
01:34:29,800 --> 01:34:27,619
you obviously have closure no I drafted

2102
01:34:32,260 --> 01:34:29,810
a screenplay once where I had this

2103
01:34:34,570 --> 01:34:32,270
psychedelic scenario that we've been

2104
01:34:36,490 --> 01:34:34,580
talking about Wasson and Hoffman and

2105
01:34:39,189 --> 01:34:36,500
these were characters you can find them

2106
01:34:41,890 --> 01:34:39,199
you know there's G darn or Bruno and and

2107
01:34:45,790 --> 01:34:41,900
Galileo and you know there's what it's

2108
01:34:48,760 --> 01:34:45,800
the same drama in different epochs right

2109
01:34:50,320 --> 01:34:48,770
Jesus and so on ya know it's the same

2110
01:34:52,899 --> 01:34:50,330
story you're right no they're they're

2111
01:34:55,750 --> 01:34:52,909
mythic archetypal characters and they

2112
01:34:58,720 --> 01:34:55,760
knew it they knew it and they played it

2113
01:35:01,010 --> 01:34:58,730

to the hilt ROM da still does again not

2114

01:35:03,740 --> 01:35:01,020

unless I'm saying that in a

2115

01:35:07,550 --> 01:35:03,750

he would write write write just tell you

2116

01:35:09,320 --> 01:35:07,560

yeah and the question for me again

2117

01:35:11,090 --> 01:35:09,330

though like I'm not quite you said

2118

01:35:12,650 --> 01:35:11,100

something a little bit ago about you

2119

01:35:15,200 --> 01:35:12,660

know they're at the same kind of

2120

01:35:17,330 --> 01:35:15,210

consciousness and I'm not sure that I

2121

01:35:21,460 --> 01:35:17,340

agree with that because I think that the

2122

01:35:24,950 --> 01:35:21,470

I think that the political

2123

01:35:27,620 --> 01:35:24,960

earth-centered consciousness is

2124

01:35:30,110 --> 01:35:27,630

different than the transcendental

2125

01:35:32,870 --> 01:35:30,120

consciousness and that we you know you

2126

01:35:35,780 --> 01:35:32,880

look at the history of spiritual

2127

01:35:38,990 --> 01:35:35,790

techniques like say tera vaada and

2128

01:35:42,200 --> 01:35:39,000

Buddhism you know the the mystical

2129

01:35:44,770 --> 01:35:42,210

experience mystical experience doesn't

2130

01:35:49,670 --> 01:35:44,780

come really till the end of the practice

2131

01:35:52,100 --> 01:35:49,680

if it comes too early it's considered a

2132

01:35:55,130 --> 01:35:52,110

corruption it's something like to like

2133

01:35:58,300 --> 01:35:55,140

don't go to that because you get sort of

2134

01:36:00,830 --> 01:35:58,310

blissed-out or the or in the in the

2135

01:36:02,360 --> 01:36:00,840

hindu version there's a wonderful phrase

2136

01:36:05,630 --> 01:36:02,370

that i repeat a lot when I talk about

2137

01:36:08,570 --> 01:36:05,640

this ashram adharma ashram adharma which

2138

01:36:11,270 --> 01:36:08,580

means the truth about the stages of life

2139

01:36:13,910 --> 01:36:11,280

you know Yoga was it was a technique

2140

01:36:17,600 --> 01:36:13,920

that came later in life in your

2141

01:36:20,420 --> 01:36:17,610

renunciate or cine Osun phase a society

2142

01:36:23,720 --> 01:36:20,430

falls apart if the Warriors become

2143

01:36:26,510 --> 01:36:23,730

mystics too soon because you need you

2144

01:36:29,150 --> 01:36:26,520

need that the society needs to have a

2145

01:36:32,180 --> 01:36:29,160

structure to it and this this might have

2146

01:36:35,060 --> 01:36:32,190

been the psychological operation of the

2147

01:36:38,060 --> 01:36:35,070

psychedelic movement my metaphors the

2148

01:36:40,430 --> 01:36:38,070

culture got fairy dust thrown at it and

2149

01:36:42,710 --> 01:36:40,440

people are like blissing out and going

2150

01:36:45,260 --> 01:36:42,720

off into these we're gonna levitate the

2151
01:36:47,000 --> 01:36:45,270
Pentagon levitate the Pentagon no that's

2152
01:36:50,300 --> 01:36:47,010
not how you end war you don't levitate

2153
01:36:52,100 --> 01:36:50,310
Pentagon's you organized politically you

2154
01:36:55,160 --> 01:36:52,110
realize what these guys are doing you

2155
01:36:56,930 --> 01:36:55,170
smarten up you discipline yourself you

2156
01:37:00,560 --> 01:36:56,940
are in the world you're not levitating

2157
01:37:02,090 --> 01:37:00,570
things here well maybe maybe it I get

2158
01:37:05,180 --> 01:37:02,100
where you're coming from and I cannot

2159
01:37:08,840 --> 01:37:05,190
dis dismiss that there there are other

2160
01:37:11,870 --> 01:37:08,850
sides of that one from the this world

2161
01:37:14,190 --> 01:37:11,880
--is-- kind of standpoint we have to be

2162
01:37:16,900 --> 01:37:14,200
fair about the

2163
01:37:18,550 --> 01:37:16,910

agenda that we've in the power that

2164

01:37:20,710 --> 01:37:18,560

we've given these people and you know

2165

01:37:23,020 --> 01:37:20,720

you were talking about the manifest

2166

01:37:26,680 --> 01:37:23,030

destiny of the United States and the

2167

01:37:28,150 --> 01:37:26,690

superiority and stuff like that and you

2168

01:37:30,730 --> 01:37:28,160

know we can argue that we could talk

2169

01:37:32,950 --> 01:37:30,740

about that compared to what you know I

2170

01:37:35,440 --> 01:37:32,960

don't want to live in North Korea I

2171

01:37:37,780 --> 01:37:35,450

don't want to live in Apple's chai comm

2172

01:37:41,950 --> 01:37:37,790

factories I don't want to live in Russia

2173

01:37:43,600 --> 01:37:41,960

so I I don't like some of the stuff that

2174

01:37:46,390 --> 01:37:43,610

you're talking about in and where it

2175

01:37:48,760 --> 01:37:46,400

might go but that's a whole different

2176

01:37:51,220 --> 01:37:48,770

game that's a I want you on that wall I

2177

01:37:54,070 --> 01:37:51,230

need you on that wall kind of game and I

2178

01:37:56,920 --> 01:37:54,080

love having those discussions and I love

2179

01:38:00,720 --> 01:37:56,930

going there but I also want to throw

2180

01:38:04,620 --> 01:38:00,730

some rocks at this idea of romanticizing

2181

01:38:06,190 --> 01:38:04,630

Indian mystical culture and even yogic

2182

01:38:08,260 --> 01:38:06,200

understanding of some of this stuff

2183

01:38:09,790 --> 01:38:08,270

because some of it's just I

2184

01:38:11,860 --> 01:38:09,800

love what the Timothy Leary one third of

2185

01:38:14,710 --> 01:38:11,870

it's it's like hey people have

2186

01:38:17,320 --> 01:38:14,720

spontaneous Kundalini awakening all the

2187

01:38:19,210 --> 01:38:17,330

time and I don't know why God allows

2188

01:38:21,220 --> 01:38:19,220

that I was like through God in there

2189

01:38:23,500 --> 01:38:21,230

because it throws people off but I

2190

01:38:26,320 --> 01:38:23,510

interviewed a woman a long time ago

2191

01:38:28,600 --> 01:38:26,330

what's her new quart hazel Courtney you

2192

01:38:31,570 --> 01:38:28,610

know she just as an example though she's

2193

01:38:33,340 --> 01:38:31,580

a writer for the London Times like as

2194

01:38:36,940 --> 01:38:33,350

you know straight straight of the line

2195

01:38:39,940 --> 01:38:36,950

journalist she has an incredible psychic

2196

01:38:44,020 --> 01:38:39,950

experience of Kundalini awakening and

2197

01:38:45,970 --> 01:38:44,030

starts being hyper psychic starts being

2198

01:38:47,620 --> 01:38:45,980

able to have these weather phenomena

2199

01:38:49,720 --> 01:38:47,630

that people talk about I mean these

2200

01:38:51,580 --> 01:38:49,730

things are all over the place when you

2201
01:38:54,610 --> 01:38:51,590
start looking for him and she didn't go

2202
01:38:56,680 --> 01:38:54,620
looking for this this came looking for

2203
01:39:01,150 --> 01:38:56,690
her I just interviewed a couple episodes

2204
01:39:02,950 --> 01:39:01,160
ago a medium who is been tested by I

2205
01:39:05,800 --> 01:39:02,960
think one of the best people in the

2206
01:39:07,930 --> 01:39:05,810
country from University Arizona dr.

2207
01:39:11,050 --> 01:39:07,940
Julie by she'll has tested and

2208
01:39:13,390 --> 01:39:11,060
controlled medium communication

2209
01:39:15,130 --> 01:39:13,400
published peer-reviewed journal and she

2210
01:39:17,590 --> 01:39:15,140
says this woman passes all the tests

2211
01:39:20,080 --> 01:39:17,600
there she is telling me about how she's

2212
01:39:22,450 --> 01:39:20,090
just going about her life and suddenly

2213
01:39:25,150 --> 01:39:22,460

she has traumatic experiences of her

2214

01:39:27,190 --> 01:39:25,160

mother dying in her I think her sister

2215

01:39:27,910 --> 01:39:27,200

dying and a short period of time and lo

2216

01:39:30,910 --> 01:39:27,920

and behold

2217

01:39:33,430 --> 01:39:30,920

boom dead spirits shots showing up and

2218

01:39:35,890 --> 01:39:33,440

telling her you know do this do that so

2219

01:39:38,110 --> 01:39:35,900

that this idea I've heard that the

2220

01:39:39,760 --> 01:39:38,120

ending you know this is how we live our

2221

01:39:41,320 --> 01:39:39,770

life in the first quarter in the second

2222

01:39:42,760 --> 01:39:41,330

quarter throw all that out the

2223

01:39:45,250 --> 01:39:42,770

window because it isn't it isn't

2224

01:39:47,640 --> 01:39:45,260

happening like that for everybody not

2225

01:39:49,510 --> 01:39:47,650

for everybody no spirituality is not

2226

01:39:52,330 --> 01:39:49,520

democratic you know that's a line from

2227

01:39:55,030 --> 01:39:52,340

one of my teachers Houston Smith that we

2228

01:39:58,570 --> 01:39:55,040

have two very tricky conversation in

2229

01:40:01,320 --> 01:39:58,580

this culture because I mean these realms

2230

01:40:03,880 --> 01:40:01,330

these other realms do exist these

2231

01:40:07,330 --> 01:40:03,890

magical mystical things Kundalini

2232

01:40:10,330 --> 01:40:07,340

psychic you know near-death experiences

2233

01:40:13,750 --> 01:40:10,340

and what what may be right for someone

2234

01:40:17,320 --> 01:40:13,760

at one time in their life expansive and

2235

01:40:19,810 --> 01:40:17,330

healing can be very destructive and very

2236

01:40:22,390 --> 01:40:19,820

confusing the same kind of experience to

2237

01:40:24,729 --> 01:40:22,400

another person and it may be out of

2238

01:40:27,280 --> 01:40:24,739

their control that's I guess what I'm

2239

01:40:29,320 --> 01:40:27,290

throwing in because yes with the

2240

01:40:31,870 --> 01:40:29,330

introduction of psychedelics where I can

2241

01:40:33,640 --> 01:40:31,880

at least I appear to be able to control

2242

01:40:35,919 --> 01:40:33,650

that these kind of there's other

2243

01:40:38,890 --> 01:40:35,929

experiences that are on par with it in

2244

01:40:41,290 --> 01:40:38,900

terms of transformative that are out

2245

01:40:43,300 --> 01:40:41,300

seem to be outside of the our control

2246

01:40:45,430 --> 01:40:43,310

and that kind of throws a wrench in the

2247

01:40:48,160 --> 01:40:45,440

whole thing - well you know we could go

2248

01:40:50,040 --> 01:40:48,170

on Alec we can and and you've been so

2249

01:40:52,570 --> 01:40:50,050

incredibly generous with your time

2250

01:40:54,370 --> 01:40:52,580

Robert you you've mentioned some of the

2251

01:40:56,950 --> 01:40:54,380

projects that you're involved with in

2252

01:40:59,410 --> 01:40:56,960

terms of very exciting stuff in terms of

2253

01:41:02,580 --> 01:40:59,420

writing a book maybe about your

2254

01:41:04,930 --> 01:41:02,590

incredible life also maybe a screenplay

2255

01:41:06,490 --> 01:41:04,940

what will people want get out of the

2256

01:41:07,870 --> 01:41:06,500

books that you've already written and

2257

01:41:10,660 --> 01:41:07,880

then what new projects are you working

2258

01:41:12,790 --> 01:41:10,670

on well I just have these couple of

2259

01:41:14,800 --> 01:41:12,800

projects now and I've started to work on

2260

01:41:17,560 --> 01:41:14,810

this book for the German publishers with

2261

01:41:21,669 --> 01:41:17,570

Matthias brokers who is a best-selling

2262

01:41:24,220 --> 01:41:21,679

author in Germany was like he's

2263

01:41:25,590 --> 01:41:24,230

considered Europe's foremost conspiracy

2264

01:41:30,970 --> 01:41:25,600

theorist he wrote one of the first

2265

01:41:32,979 --> 01:41:30,980

best-selling books on 9/11 and I really

2266

01:41:35,350 --> 01:41:32,989

honored that he asked me to collaborate

2267

01:41:37,660 --> 01:41:35,360

with him so that's a new project I have

2268

01:41:38,979 --> 01:41:37,670

a screenplay that I've been you know

2269

01:41:41,380 --> 01:41:38,989

this is we can tell from this

2270

01:41:45,400 --> 01:41:41,390

conversation this is a very hard

2271

01:41:48,460 --> 01:41:45,410

story to put into a you know an arc so I

2272

01:41:50,110 --> 01:41:48,470

I struggle with that but I'm mostly kind

2273

01:41:51,550 --> 01:41:50,120

of retired up here in the Santa Cruz

2274

01:41:55,540 --> 01:41:51,560

Mountains I work a little bit in the

2275

01:41:57,220 --> 01:41:55,550

cannabis business and I don't even have

2276

01:41:59,350 --> 01:41:57,230

my own web page I mean there's an

2277

01:42:02,320 --> 01:41:59,360

academic web page I'm an adjunct faculty

2278

01:42:04,990 --> 01:42:02,330

at the California Institute of Integral

2279

01:42:08,890 --> 01:42:05,000

studies in San Francisco my views are

2280

01:42:11,470 --> 01:42:08,900

controversial sometimes they they send a

2281

01:42:13,420 --> 01:42:11,480

student my way I will encourage anybody

2282

01:42:17,110 --> 01:42:13,430

that's listening if they want to

2283

01:42:19,630 --> 01:42:17,120

I sort of blog a bit on Facebook so you

2284

01:42:23,340 --> 01:42:19,640

can reach me there we can carry on this

2285

01:42:24,580 --> 01:42:23,350

discussion that way how's that that's

2286

01:42:27,690 --> 01:42:24,590

perfect

2287

01:42:30,340 --> 01:42:27,700

our guest has been Robert Forte an

2288

01:42:33,130 --> 01:42:30,350

incredible incredible person and we'll

2289

01:42:35,140 --> 01:42:33,140

keep an eye out for those projects that

2290

01:42:38,230 --> 01:42:35,150

you're working on because there's a life

2291

01:42:41,680 --> 01:42:38,240

story here that must be told and I can't

2292

01:42:44,410 --> 01:42:41,690

imagine how fun it would be to see it in

2293

01:42:46,720 --> 01:42:44,420

some kind of a screenplay because

2294

01:42:48,670 --> 01:42:46,730

there's an artistic part of this that

2295

01:42:51,700 --> 01:42:48,680

might contribute to the storytelling

2296

01:42:53,710 --> 01:42:51,710

Robert again thank you so much for for

2297

01:42:56,560 --> 01:42:53,720

joining me and for having this kind of

2298

01:42:58,630 --> 01:42:56,570

conversation Alex thanks a lot I've

2299

01:43:01,720 --> 01:42:58,640

enjoyed it I look forward to meeting you

2300

01:43:05,500 --> 01:43:01,730

someday I enjoy your podcast and I'm

2301

01:43:07,270 --> 01:43:05,510

wishing you lots of good luck thanks

2302

01:43:09,700 --> 01:43:07,280

again to Rob Forte for joining me today

2303

01:43:12,420 --> 01:43:09,710

on skeptic oh the one question I T up

2304

01:43:14,860 --> 01:43:12,430

from this interview has to do with

2305

01:43:17,380 --> 01:43:14,870

entheogens it's something we've kicked

2306

01:43:19,150 --> 01:43:17,390

around many times and I guess I've gone

2307

01:43:22,210 --> 01:43:19,160

back and forth but I'm wondering what

2308

01:43:25,390 --> 01:43:22,220

you think about the role of entheogen

2309

01:43:27,400 --> 01:43:25,400

in spirituality I know this is a topic

2310

01:43:28,660 --> 01:43:27,410

we've touched on many times but as you

2311

01:43:31,240 --> 01:43:28,670

know going through this interview

2312

01:43:34,060 --> 01:43:31,250

there's a lot of different aspects to it

2313

01:43:36,490 --> 01:43:34,070

and it doesn't hurt to return to it over

2314

01:43:39,910 --> 01:43:36,500

and over again so our in Thea jhin's

2315

01:43:43,180 --> 01:43:39,920

giving us a glimpse of the divine or are

2316

01:43:45,400 --> 01:43:43,190

they clouding our vision of it let me

2317

01:43:47,770 --> 01:43:45,410

know your thoughts skeptical forum is

2318

01:43:50,290 --> 01:43:47,780

one way to do it send me an email of

2319

01:43:52,450 --> 01:43:50,300

course is another way and all that good

2320

01:43:55,149 --> 01:43:52,460

stuff you can find at The Skeptical

2321

01:43:57,310 --> 01:43:55,159

website eske EPT

2322

01:43:59,950 --> 01:43:57,320

I Kato calm all the shows they're

2323

01:44:02,169 --> 01:43:59,960

available free for download I hope you

2324

01:44:04,240 --> 01:44:02,179

enjoyed this show if you did let me know

2325

01:44:06,550 --> 01:44:04,250

if you think there's someone who needs

2326

01:44:08,290 --> 01:44:06,560

to hear it please pass it along to them

2327

01:44:10,209 --> 01:44:08,300

I have a couple of really good ones

2328

01:44:12,850 --> 01:44:10,219

coming up in the near future so do stick

2329

01:44:16,350 --> 01:44:12,860

around for all of that until next time

2330

01:44:31,479 --> 01:44:16,360

take care and bye for now

2331

01:44:36,140 --> 01:44:34,250

so thanks for watching this video if it

2332

01:44:38,720 --> 01:44:36,150

wasn't really a video but just an audio

2333

01:44:40,310 --> 01:44:38,730

stored as a video I apologize but

2334

01:44:42,229 --> 01:44:40,320

there's more videos out there as well

2335

01:44:44,060 --> 01:44:42,239

but please check out the skeptic Oh

2336

01:44:45,439 --> 01:44:44,070

website you can see it here we cover a

2337

01:44:48,260 --> 01:44:45,449

lot of different stuff you might be

2338

01:44:51,589 --> 01:44:48,270

interested in relating to controversial

2339

01:44:54,290 --> 01:44:51,599

science and spirituality a lot of shows

2340

01:44:57,140 --> 01:44:54,300

up there over 350 of them are so all

2341

01:44:59,450 --> 01:44:57,150

free all available for download so do