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

You know, I've been around for a while.

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00:00:03,000 --> 00:00:05,000

Met some interesting people.

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

Done some crazy things.

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See, you just might think that there's not much

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that can take me by surprise.

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You'd be wrong.

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

The world is full of stories,

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

science, and things that amaze and confound me.

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Every single day, incredible mysteries

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that keep me awake at night.

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Some I can answer.

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Oh, there's just defy logic.

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Is the history of the world wrong?

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In a Mexican cave, a young girl finds a bizarre,

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900-year-old skeleton.

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Is it evidence aliens once walked our planet?

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This is the equivalent of landing on the moon.

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A Peruvian doctor discovers stone carvings

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that could rewrite the history of evolution.

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Did dinosaurs live alongside humans?

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This is one of archeological's most baffling enigmas.

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And a 2,000-year-old wooden model reveals an incredible secret.

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Did the ancient Egyptians invent the airplane?

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This is going to throw a lot of energy into the earth.

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Invent the airplane.

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This is going to throw the way we view ancient civilizations,

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completely topsy-turvy.

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Yeah.

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00:01:29,000 --> 00:01:33,000

It's a weird world, and I love it.

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I love books. They make me think,

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especially anything about history.

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Thousands of years of human development and achievement.

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They're all contained in the pages of these wonderful documents

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that normally teach generation after generation of where we came from,

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but where we might be going.

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And you've never stopped to consider what it might mean for us.

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If all we've learned and all we think we've learned about

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our past is wrong, it's unthinkable, isn't it?

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Well, guess what?

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There's real and bizarre events out there that are telling us

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00:02:32,000 --> 00:02:35,000

we may need to rethink everything we know about everything.

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The unthinkable is here.

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Researcher Lloyd Pie is the guardian of what he contends

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as the most important artifact ever discovered.

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The story begins in the Mexican countryside over 80 years ago.

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It was originally discovered in about 1930 by a young girl

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about 100 miles southwest of Chihuahua.

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She was visiting relatives there.

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She went out exploring the area.

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She found a mine tunnel.

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She went in and inside the tunnel found two skeletons.

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Examining the bones, the girl thinks one of the skulls looks very strange.

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00:03:27,000 --> 00:03:30,000

It was disformed or misshapen skull.

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She believed it was a deformity.

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With no idea what she stumbled across,

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00:03:35,000 --> 00:03:39,000

the girl removes the skull as a macabre souvenir.

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She holds onto it for 60 years.

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She brought it to her home in El Paso, kept it for her whole life.

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When she found out that she was dying in the early 90s,

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she asked some friends if they would take it for her.

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The skull ends up in the care of Melanie Young,

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a medical professional who immediately makes a shocking discovery.

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She's seen a lot of deformity and she said right away,

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I don't think this is necessarily a deformed human skull

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and that's how I got involved.

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Perplexed, Melanie approaches Lloyd.

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He's an expert in human skulls.

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But in his years of studying human development,

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he's never seen anything like it.

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When I looked into those eyes, it was like, wow,

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00:04:31,000 --> 00:04:34,000

this really is something unusual.

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It's so unusual. It's so bizarre.

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A moron can see this is not really a human skull.

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It's something else, but what?

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But by the same token, I was like everybody else.

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My first reaction was it has to be some kind of deformity

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because if it's not, then this is the equivalent of the shepherd

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that found the Dead Sea Scrolls.

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I mean, this is a big deal and I didn't believe

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that that kind of thing would just fall into my lap.

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I took it to experts in every field of human physiology.

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The eye guy, the brain guy, the ear guy, the skull shape guy.

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During the course of 99, I came to understand that physiologically

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it was really nothing like a human.

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It is human-like, but it is definitely non-human.

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No other way to say it.

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But if it's not human, what was it?

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Lloyd Broaden's his search.

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I took it to experts in UFOs and aliens

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and have people who had been in it for years evaluate it.

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After close examination, the UFO experts reach a stunning conclusion.

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The skull is an alien that died on Earth

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and was buried on Earth 900 years ago.

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The consensus was it looks like the skull of a gray alien.

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The alien that we all know, the one with the heart-shaped face

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00:06:10,000 --> 00:06:14,000

on a thin little neck, and the weird eyes, we all know that look,

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00:06:14,000 --> 00:06:17,000

a gray alien.

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00:06:17,000 --> 00:06:22,000

Dear friends, I gather here today to pay our last tributes and respects

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00:06:22,000 --> 00:06:26,000

to the memory of our departed and beloved alien child.

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00:06:26,000 --> 00:06:30,000

Hmm...

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00:06:30,000 --> 00:06:34,000

Oh, sorry, would you excuse me for a minute?

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00:06:34,000 --> 00:06:36,000

Now, this story is definitely weird, oh, what?

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00:06:36,000 --> 00:06:39,000

Does the star child's skull belong to an alien child

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who was visiting or even conceived on Earth but tragically died?

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If so, does this change the course of history?

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But even more importantly, what about the parents?

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Did anyone think of letting them know?

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00:06:51,000 --> 00:06:53,000

Did they give their child a proper farewell?

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00:06:53,000 --> 00:06:55,000

I doubt it.

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00:06:55,000 --> 00:06:57,000

I'm so sorry.

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00:06:57,000 --> 00:06:59,000

Hmm...

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00:06:59,000 --> 00:07:04,000

Was a wonderful child who loved comic sports and practical jokes like

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00:07:04,000 --> 00:07:09,000

destroying planets with his father's deathright he'll be sadly missed.

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Would anyone like to say a few words?

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Is the star child's skull the most important archaeological discovery ever made?

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Not everyone thinks so.

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Yale University neurology professor Stephen Novella

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has studied the star child's skull and claims its appearance is nothing unusual.

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Going through medical school and training as a neurologist,

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I've seen many examples of similar kinds of deformities before.

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There are lots of genetic anomalies that produce abnormalities or deformities.

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Novella's research has led him to believe the star child's skull belonged to a human

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suffering from a medical condition called hydrocephalus.

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Hydrocephalus is a term that literally means water on the brain.

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And what happens is that the fluid that's normally inside and around the brain

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does not flow like it normally should,

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and that causes the water and the pressure to build up inside the brain

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and inside the skull.

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In young children where the bones of the skull have not yet fused,

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this can cause the skull to balloon out, sometimes even to incredible size.

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In an adult where all the bones of the skull have completely fused together,

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then the hydrocephalus would just cause increased pressure on the brain,

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but not an expansion of the skull itself.

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So does this mean that we've yet to play host to intergalactic visitors?

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I have nothing against the notion that there are aliens in the universe.

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I think it would be really cool.

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I just don't think this skull is it.

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This is not the evidence of anything alien.

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So is this the end of the mystery?

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Did the star child's skull belong to a human suffering from hydrocephalus?

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Trenton Holliday and John Verano

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are professors of anthropology at the University of Tulane.

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They have a different take.

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Originally when I saw the skull I suspected it might have suffered from hydrocephaly.

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However, I have since revised my opinion on that.

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I don't think it was a hydrocephalus individual.

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So if not an alien and not hydrocephalic,

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just who was the star child?

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The most unusual feature of the star child skull is just the shape of the skull.

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It's flattened in the back, it's bulged at the sides,

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and I can explain that very easily by cradle boarding.

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Cradle boarding was an early solution to a problem many of us face today,

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00:09:40,000 --> 00:09:42,000

making kids portable.

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Cradle boarding was a very common practice in South America.

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It was originally done as a means of restraining the infant

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so that they could be brought out into the fields.

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It also was done for aesthetic reasons.

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But how could a simple baby-carrying device

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create the bizarre shape of the star child skull?

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Here's an example of an actual cradle board from Peru.

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I've strapped on a doll just to give you an idea of the way an infant would be put on it.

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

And then here you can see how the head is strapped down.

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

The strap goes over the forehead and goes over the back of the skull,

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00:10:13,000 --> 00:10:16,000

holds the child's head in place,

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00:10:16,000 --> 00:10:19,000

allows it to move probably from side to side,

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00:10:19,000 --> 00:10:22,000

and in fact, many of these are asymmetrical,

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which suggests that they were lying habitually to one side or another.

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But cradle boarding had a side effect.

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As the skull was compressed in one direction,

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00:10:32,000 --> 00:10:37,000

it grew in the other to make room for the baby's rapidly developing brain.

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This is a child skull that was cradle boarded.

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It's bulging out on the two sides,

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00:10:42,000 --> 00:10:45,000

and that's because there's pressure that was put on the backside of the skull.

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

What you can see is the way the skull is flattened in the back

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00:10:48,000 --> 00:10:52,000

and this kind of bulging up from the side, giving it this unusual shape

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00:10:52,000 --> 00:10:54,000

that if you didn't know about cradle boarding,

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00:10:54,000 --> 00:10:57,000

you might think, boy, that's a bizarre-looking human skull.

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00:10:57,000 --> 00:11:03,000

When a skull is cradle boarded, a baby's bones are so soft that they flatten.

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00:11:03,000 --> 00:11:06,000

So if you feel this, it's very flat.

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

It's flat as the board that it was pressed to.

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

The star child has its natural convolutions to it.

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

So what that means is it was not flattened artificially.

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It grew this way.

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00:11:17,000 --> 00:11:19,000

Its genes told it to grow.

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Now, another interesting difference is that a normal human,

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00:11:23,000 --> 00:11:29,000

the crown of the head, is round all the way around here, rounded, rounded.

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00:11:29,000 --> 00:11:34,000

If you look at the star child, you see clearly that there is a crease here down the middle.

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00:11:34,000 --> 00:11:36,000

A crease.

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00:11:36,000 --> 00:11:42,000

And that could only occur if the suture, the suture line right here,

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00:11:42,000 --> 00:11:46,000

had been fused in a human, was fused early.

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And then you could have a shape like this where the brain would grow out and around

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and that wouldn't really spread out because the suture line would be prematurely fused.

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But we CAT scan the star child and all of its sutures are open.

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00:11:57,000 --> 00:11:59,000

There's no premature fusing.

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00:11:59,000 --> 00:12:00,000

It's very normal.

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

And also, it's very symmetrical.

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00:12:02,000 --> 00:12:06,000

If you look at the whole skull, it's extraordinarily symmetrical.

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00:12:06,000 --> 00:12:10,000

For as strange as it looks, it's more symmetrical than the human skull.

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00:12:10,000 --> 00:12:15,000

It's more symmetrical than my skull or any average person's skull.

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00:12:15,000 --> 00:12:18,000

In fact, one of the hallmarks of beauty, everyone agrees,

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00:12:18,000 --> 00:12:24,000

is that the most symmetrical faces are the most beautiful in people, tend to be.

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So, that too is very different.

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Now, another aspect of extreme difference between the star child and the human

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00:12:32,000 --> 00:12:34,000

is the thickness of the bone.

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00:12:34,000 --> 00:12:36,000

And we can see that very closely here.

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00:12:36,000 --> 00:12:38,000

You see the difference.

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00:12:38,000 --> 00:12:43,000

Half or less the star child's bone is half or less as thick.

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00:12:43,000 --> 00:12:46,000

It weighs half as much.

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00:12:46,000 --> 00:12:50,000

It's very much lighter in the hand than is a human skull.

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00:12:50,000 --> 00:12:54,000

Having dismissed the opinion of traditional science,

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00:12:54,000 --> 00:12:56,000

Lloyd undertook his own research.

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00:12:56,000 --> 00:13:00,000

His findings are astonishing.

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What makes the star child's skull different is that there are 25 major physical differences

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between it and human skulls.

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

There's not one part of it that's exactly like a human.

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

It is completely different, and what that indicates is that its genes are radically different.

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But does this mean the star child's skull could only be of extraterrestrial origin?

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In 2003, DNA technology allowed Pi to put his theory to the test.

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We got the first test by a laboratory that was capable of doing ancient DNA,

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00:13:37,000 --> 00:13:42,000

and the answer that they got was that the mother was human and the father was not.

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00:13:42,000 --> 00:13:44,000

Clearly something's wrong with the father.

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00:13:44,000 --> 00:13:46,000

The father's not human.

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Is the star child's skull evidence that aliens bred with humans?

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Native American legends tell stories strikingly similar to Pi's theory.

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There would be beings from the stars would come down from the skies,

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00:14:02,000 --> 00:14:06,000

pick a woman in a village, and they would make her pregnant.

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00:14:06,000 --> 00:14:09,000

So the star child fit right into that.

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00:14:09,000 --> 00:14:15,000

But as technology advances, so does the story of the star child's skull.

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In early 2011, a new DNA test led Lloyd to an even more astonishing claim.

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The conclusion that we've come to now after several DNA tests and an extensive analysis of those results

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00:14:30,000 --> 00:14:35,000

is that the star child had an alien father and an alien mother.

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00:14:35,000 --> 00:14:38,000

And when I say alien, I mean non-human.

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00:14:38,000 --> 00:14:44,000

The difference is so stark, the difference is so wide, there is no way that we can call this a human.

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

Is this the first physical evidence that aliens exist?

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00:14:49,000 --> 00:14:51,000

Lloyd has no doubt.

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It's going to change human history to have to accept that at least once, 900 years ago,

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00:14:58,000 --> 00:15:05,000

an alien being walked the earth, lived here, died here, and was buried here.

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00:15:05,000 --> 00:15:09,000

This is the equivalent of landing on the moon.

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00:15:09,000 --> 00:15:14,000

What is the star child's skull for now it remains a enigma?

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00:15:14,000 --> 00:15:19,000

Did it belong to a deformed child or an ancient adult with a disease of the brain?

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00:15:19,000 --> 00:15:24,000

Is it conclusive evidence that we are not alone?

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00:15:24,000 --> 00:15:28,000

Weird or what?

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00:15:49,000 --> 00:15:52,000

The next tones are Leonard Neyboy. No, no, no, no.

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00:15:52,000 --> 00:16:07,000

When it comes to our far distant history, there's nothing quite as spectacular, mysterious, and even frightening as dinosaurs.

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00:16:07,000 --> 00:16:12,000

Surely the king of all creatures, real life monsters that dominated the planet,

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00:16:12,000 --> 00:16:17,000

or something wiped them out long before man even evolved.

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00:16:17,000 --> 00:16:25,000

What a pity that we only find them now in museums or as cute toys.

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00:16:25,000 --> 00:16:31,000

Can you imagine what it would be like to see one in the flesh?

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00:16:31,000 --> 00:16:39,000

Well, maybe we already have, and maybe we still can.

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00:16:42,000 --> 00:16:49,000

Weird or what?

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00:16:49,000 --> 00:16:54,000

Adventure of dentists travels the world in search of ancient artifacts,

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00:16:54,000 --> 00:17:02,000

but nothing he's found compares to a discovery made in Iqabarou by a man named Javier Cabrera.

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00:17:02,000 --> 00:17:07,000

Dr. Cabrera made the greatest discovery in the history of mankind.

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00:17:07,000 --> 00:17:10,000

The implications are staggering.

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

It began instantly enough at a birthday party in 1966.

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

It was Dr. Cabrera's 42nd birthday.

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

One of the doctor's oldest friends brings him a special gift.

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00:17:22,000 --> 00:17:29,000

Dr. Cabrera was given a stone. It was found in some official archaeological excavations.

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00:17:29,000 --> 00:17:33,000

The stone was carved by an ancient Peruvian tribe.

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00:17:33,000 --> 00:17:39,000

His friend thinks it's a trinket, but the doctor makes a discovery that sets his heart racing.

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00:17:39,000 --> 00:17:44,000

Etched into the stone is an image that defies explanation.

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00:17:44,000 --> 00:17:50,000

He recognized it to be a species of fish that went extinct 150 million years ago.

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00:17:50,000 --> 00:17:55,000

Now, how do you explain that?

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00:17:55,000 --> 00:18:00,000

Seeking answers, the doctor employs local workmen to find more stones.

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

Dr. Cabrera began to find more of these stones and people brought them to him.

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00:18:05,000 --> 00:18:09,000

The more he delved into it, the more it consumed his life.

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

As more and more stones arrive, Dr. Cabrera realizes they feature other images that just shouldn't have been there.

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

Some of the stones seem to be depicting impossible scenes, things that would cause the textbooks to be rewritten.

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00:18:25,000 --> 00:18:32,000

What had the doctor found? It was something that would shock the world.

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00:18:32,000 --> 00:18:40,000

He risked his reputation. He said, if you look closely, you'll see a dinosaur carved there with two people.

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00:18:40,000 --> 00:18:44,000

It's a astonishing moment, but how could it be?

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00:18:44,000 --> 00:18:52,000

Dinosaur fossils weren't identified until 1824. How could an ancient people have known about them a thousand years ago?

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00:18:52,000 --> 00:19:00,000

Finding artifacts and information that showed that these people had knowledge of dinosaurs that predated our knowledge

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00:19:00,000 --> 00:19:03,000

was truly amazing.

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00:19:03,000 --> 00:19:06,000

But could it be proved?

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00:19:06,000 --> 00:19:13,000

After comparing the etchings on over 400 stones to real fossils, he discovered the depictions were accurate.

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00:19:13,000 --> 00:19:20,000

The Peruvian artists must have known what dinosaurs looked like.

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00:19:20,000 --> 00:19:26,000

Now, not only is that astonishing, it began to say to him, they saw living, breathing dinosaurs.

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00:19:26,000 --> 00:19:30,000

This is one of archeological's most baffling enigmas.

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Did the dinosaurs live millions of years longer than we thought they did?

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00:19:35,000 --> 00:19:45,000

I've studied the egos stones for well over 20 years. I believe they are very substantial, strong evidence that dinosaurs and man live together.

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00:19:45,000 --> 00:19:51,000

Current scientific belief is that the dinosaurs were wiped out by an asteroid 66 million years ago.

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00:19:52,000 --> 00:19:57,000

59 million years before early man even existed.

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00:19:57,000 --> 00:20:02,000

Swift, however, believes there's evidence to the contrary.

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00:20:02,000 --> 00:20:13,000

In the cultures around the world, they talk about encountering these animals of giant size and they fit the description of what we would call a dinosaur.

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00:20:13,000 --> 00:20:18,000

Of course, dinosaur was not coined until 1841 by Sir Edward Owen.

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00:20:18,000 --> 00:20:23,000

It's a compound Greek word that means terrible lizard or frightfully fearful lizard.

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00:20:23,000 --> 00:20:36,000

If you read the science books of the 1300s, 1400s and 1500s, when they talk about dragons, they resemble very much what we would describe as a dinosaur.

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00:20:36,000 --> 00:20:40,000

Could some dinosaurs have survived extinction?

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00:20:40,000 --> 00:20:43,000

Did they walk among ancient Peruvians?

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00:20:43,000 --> 00:20:49,000

For Swift, the artifacts uncannily accurate proportions don't lie.

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00:20:49,000 --> 00:20:59,000

Here's a striarocosaurus on the stone. Does it have dermal spines? Yeah. Does it tail sticking out when it's walking? Yes. Does it have three toes? Yes. All right. So it's a dinosaur.

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00:20:59,000 --> 00:21:02,000

But if Swift is right, there's an even bigger question.

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00:21:02,000 --> 00:21:12,000

If dinosaurs walked the earth from humans only a relatively short time ago, then what happened to them? And where are they?

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00:21:12,000 --> 00:21:21,000

I believe that they existed from a few thousand years ago to maybe 500 years ago and there's a possibility that there could be a handful left.

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00:21:21,000 --> 00:21:31,000

There was a Frenchman in 1967, I believe, even took photographs of a footprint. It's three-toed, it's huge, and it has a claw on the back.

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00:21:31,000 --> 00:21:36,000

Only a dinosaur had that kind of a footprint. So, yeah, dinosaurs could be out there.

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00:21:37,000 --> 00:21:44,000

Oh boy, this is incredible. I mean, that guy thinks that dinosaurs are still roaming the earth.

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00:21:44,000 --> 00:21:53,000

Wow. Let's think about what that means. There's not a lot of room left on the planet, so they're going to have to share our neighborhoods, right?

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00:21:53,000 --> 00:21:59,000

Maybe we're going to have one as a pet. Can you imagine keeping one in your backyard?

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00:21:59,000 --> 00:22:09,000

I think not. Somebody got a pooper scooper. A big one.

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00:22:09,000 --> 00:22:16,000

Did man and dinosaur coexist? Should we rip up our history books?

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

Ancient Peruvian stone carvings pose a shocking question. Did our ancient ancestors walk alongside dinosaurs?

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00:22:26,000 --> 00:22:29,000

Archaeologists? Ken Federer doesn't think so.

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00:22:29,000 --> 00:22:39,000

I think that people actually watch the Flintstones and think it's reality programming. It's not, it's a cartoon, folks. Fred did not have a pet dinosaur. That really didn't happen.

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00:22:39,000 --> 00:22:51,000

But how can Federer be sure humans never saw dinosaurs? He points to the tens of thousands of fossils collected worldwide, which confirmed they died out 66 million years ago.

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00:22:52,000 --> 00:22:56,000

We have a whole lot of evidence that dinosaurs died off long before there were people.

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00:22:56,000 --> 00:23:03,000

And the fact that we have a bunch of stones with carvings and people riding around on dinosaurs is not strong evidence at all.

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00:23:03,000 --> 00:23:09,000

But if ancient Peruvians didn't see dinosaurs, how do we explain the ecostones?

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00:23:09,000 --> 00:23:11,000

They're fakes. They're hoaxes.

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00:23:11,000 --> 00:23:17,000

The story of the ecostones from start to finish mirrors the stories of lots of other archaeological hoaxes.

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00:23:17,000 --> 00:23:24,000

They start small, but once it becomes clear that there's a guy willing to buy some stones, suddenly we have thousands of these things,

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00:23:24,000 --> 00:23:27,000

and the actual stones themselves become more and more elaborate.

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00:23:28,000 --> 00:23:35,000

Rather than finding them in caves, could the Peruvian peasants simply have made the stones themselves? There's only one way to find out.

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00:23:35,000 --> 00:23:42,000

Art student Justine McGraw has been asked to test Federer's theory that the stones are merely fakes.

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00:23:43,000 --> 00:23:46,000

She's going to attempt to replicate the stones using basic tools.

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00:23:48,000 --> 00:23:53,000

So I begin by just copying out the image. It's a very simple line drawing.

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00:23:56,000 --> 00:23:59,000

The drawing complete, Justine begins carving.

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00:24:00,000 --> 00:24:04,000

She uses a power tool for speed, though the etching could easily be done by hand.

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00:24:05,000 --> 00:24:11,000

Although the pattern is complete, the stone doesn't have an ancient look.

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00:24:11,000 --> 00:24:14,000

Justine has an inexpensive solution.

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00:24:14,000 --> 00:24:18,000

I'm going to cover the stone in a mixture of manure and olive oil.

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00:24:21,000 --> 00:24:26,000

So rather down to earth solution, her method of baking the stones is equally low-tech,

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00:24:26,000 --> 00:24:33,000

but could some manure, olive oil and a barbecue really recreate the mysterious ecostones?

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00:24:34,000 --> 00:24:38,000

After just three hours of baking, this is what my ecostone looks like.

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00:24:41,000 --> 00:24:45,000

For Federer, the results of this experiment are decisive.

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00:24:45,000 --> 00:24:47,000

You have two possible explanations to science.

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00:24:47,000 --> 00:24:54,000

One that requires overturning everything we know, and one that simply requires that people are trying to make a buck by hosting.

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00:24:54,000 --> 00:24:58,000

So it's a lot easier for me to accept the possibility that people are making fakes

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00:24:58,000 --> 00:25:03,000

than to completely rewrite everything we know about a geology, biology, and so on.

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00:25:05,000 --> 00:25:09,000

Is this the end of the mystery? Are the ecostones just fakes?

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00:25:10,000 --> 00:25:13,000

Author Andy Lloyd is not so sure.

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00:25:14,000 --> 00:25:18,000

They weren't just created in someone's shed in the back garden 20 years ago.

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

Some scientific work that's been done on them appears to indicate that there is a degree of oxidation over the engravings,

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

which would indicate that they're of some antiquity.

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00:25:28,000 --> 00:25:36,000

So if the stones really are ancient, that proves that the images they depict must have happened, right?

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00:25:36,000 --> 00:25:38,000

Well, not necessarily.

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00:25:39,000 --> 00:25:44,000

I don't think that's very, very likely that man and dinosaur could have shared the earth at any time.

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00:25:44,000 --> 00:25:50,000

However, that's not to say that there isn't something rather wonderful about the ecostones in this regard.

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00:25:50,000 --> 00:25:58,000

And one of the ideas that I've put forward is that the makers of the ecostones, the artists from ancient Peru who created them,

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00:25:58,000 --> 00:26:06,000

may have received knowledge about dinosaurs from ancient civilizations whose own understanding of the dinosaurs was as good as ours.

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00:26:07,000 --> 00:26:15,000

Civilizations stretching back to ancient Greece, unearthed dinosaur remains, they thought they were the bones of giants.

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00:26:15,000 --> 00:26:20,000

But what if some ancient civilization did know what they were?

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00:26:21,000 --> 00:26:23,000

Who could have done such a thing?

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00:26:25,000 --> 00:26:33,000

Atlantis is an excellent candidate because the discussions and descriptions of Atlantis show that it was a very technologically advanced civilization for its time.

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00:26:34,000 --> 00:26:43,000

The lost city of Atlantis, an advanced ancient civilization that is said to have flourished around the time of the Ice Age before falling into the ocean,

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00:26:43,000 --> 00:26:47,000

could Atlanteans have discovered dinosaurs?

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00:26:48,000 --> 00:26:59,000

We can speculate that the Atlanteans had a very good understanding of the actual history because their ability with science and technology was evidently quite far advanced.

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00:26:59,000 --> 00:27:07,000

They would have probably dug up dinosaur bones during their mining expeditions and pieced together a dinosaur in the same way that we did.

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00:27:07,000 --> 00:27:14,000

You know, I like to think of myself as a bit of an adventure or something, Indiana Jones, if you like.

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00:27:15,000 --> 00:27:25,000

You see, I've been all over the world and collected some amazing relics.

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00:27:28,000 --> 00:27:29,000

Wrong relic.

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00:27:31,000 --> 00:27:35,000

Of course, some are more amazing than others.

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00:27:38,000 --> 00:27:43,000

And some make you wonder what they might say.

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00:27:46,000 --> 00:27:47,000

I think I'd talk.

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00:27:48,000 --> 00:27:53,000

Can you imagine finding something that could truly change the world?

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00:27:54,000 --> 00:27:56,000

Well, here it is.

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00:27:57,000 --> 00:28:01,000

Zikara Egypt.

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00:28:02,000 --> 00:28:13,000

In one of the country's oldest burial grounds, French archaeologists begin to unearth the burial tomb of the third century BC official Paddy Iman.

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00:28:17,000 --> 00:28:22,000

Among the artifacts recovered is what looks to be a model of a bird.

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

It's catalogued and stored at the Cairo Museum for over 70 years.

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00:28:29,000 --> 00:28:35,000

But no one could predict the shock waves. Special register 6347 would soon make it.

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00:28:39,000 --> 00:28:45,000

The late Egyptologist Dr. Kelly Messia realized the model was very unusual.

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00:28:46,000 --> 00:28:49,000

It leads him to a breathtaking conclusion.

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00:28:50,000 --> 00:28:59,000

Dr. Messia had found evidence of what appears to be a glider or an airplane, something that the ancient Egyptians supposedly didn't have.

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00:29:02,000 --> 00:29:08,000

Author David Chiltress thinks that Dr. Messia has much to teach historians and the world.

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00:29:08,000 --> 00:29:26,000

To me, the research of Dr. Kelly Messia is very important because here we have a mainstream Egyptologist finding an artifact that we know is authentic coming from over 2,000 years ago.

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00:29:26,000 --> 00:29:39,000

A model, a very miniature model of an airplane, much like the early airplanes that were built in America and around the world at the turn of the century.

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00:29:41,000 --> 00:29:47,000

Could the artifact be a model of an ancient flying machine? It's a stunning revelation.

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00:29:48,000 --> 00:29:58,000

Our histories tell us the first powered human flight was in 1903. If Dr. Messia is correct, the ancient Egyptians may have beaten the Wright brothers by over 2,000 years.

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00:30:02,000 --> 00:30:11,000

Although met with initial skepticism tests by leading aeronautical engineers, prove that the model, now known as a cicara bird, was designed for flight.

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00:30:12,000 --> 00:30:23,000

Did the ancient Egyptians experiment with flight? Is the artifact the model, the full-size glider or plane?

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00:30:25,000 --> 00:30:32,000

It's very important that we find artifacts like the cicara bird and other strange artifacts from these ancient cultures.

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00:30:32,000 --> 00:30:40,000

It really helps us place their legends and myths in contexts such as flight.

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00:30:41,000 --> 00:30:51,000

Is the cicara bird proof that the ancient Egyptians had technology 2,000 years ahead of its time? And if they did, how did they get it?

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00:30:52,000 --> 00:30:58,000

This is going to throw Egyptology and the way we view ancient civilizations completely topsy turvy.

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00:30:59,000 --> 00:31:09,000

A man discovers a model wooden bird in a chiromuseum. Is the cicara bird proof the Egyptians took to the skies 2,000 years ago?

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00:31:10,000 --> 00:31:14,000

Katja Goets is an Egyptologist. She has her doubts.

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00:31:15,000 --> 00:31:25,000

When I first heard that the cicara bird was being used to support such claims of early aviation, I was completely taken aback.

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00:31:26,000 --> 00:31:34,000

Certainly they were fascinated with the skies. They believed that their dead ascended to the sky to become celestial gods after death.

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00:31:35,000 --> 00:31:42,000

Their chief deities were seen to be traveling through the sky, the sun god being the most important there.

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00:31:43,000 --> 00:31:47,000

But there is no evidence whatsoever to suggest that the Egyptians had an interest in aviation.

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00:31:48,000 --> 00:31:52,000

But if the cicara bird was not the model of a glider, what was it?

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00:31:52,000 --> 00:31:58,000

The symbol of a bird is extremely important within the Egyptian religious and political system.

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00:31:59,000 --> 00:32:06,000

We find them used in the hieroglyphic writing system. We find them as images protecting the king.

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00:32:07,000 --> 00:32:13,000

One bird in particular, the falcon, had a role which explains why it would be placed in a tomb.

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00:32:14,000 --> 00:32:21,000

The deceased Egyptian wishes to ascend to the sky and sometimes says he does so on falcon's wings.

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00:32:22,000 --> 00:32:30,000

In particular, the falcon with the outstretched wings you will find at the back of the king's head indicating that he is afforded the protection of the gods.

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00:32:31,000 --> 00:32:41,000

And he is in fact horrors on earth. We find amuletic representations of falcons as protective devices in funerary contexts.

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00:32:41,000 --> 00:32:59,000

That means in Egyptian tombs decorating the coffins of the dead being placed as little protective objects, amulets on the actual mummies or painted on the coffins, painted on the walls of the tombs and so forth.

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

There is one problem though. The cicara bird looks nothing like the other Egyptian falcons. So what can explain its flat tail, plain like wing?

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00:33:09,000 --> 00:33:20,000

It is not unheard of that toys were given to deceased children and they would be put into their tombs so they would be accessible for their afterlife and for their eternal pleasure.

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00:33:21,000 --> 00:33:31,000

Could the mysterious artifact be nothing more than a simple child's toy? Are the smooth body and flat tail the result of amateur craftsmanship and not deliberate design?

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00:33:32,000 --> 00:33:40,000

Even though there are a few idiosyncrasies in its representation, the cicara bird is most likely an image of a falcon.

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00:33:41,000 --> 00:33:48,000

There is no evidence that the Egyptians experimented with aviation technology. The claim is

ludicrous to say the least.

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00:33:48,000 --> 00:34:00,000

So it is not inconceivable that the cicara bird was a toy that was given to a child or even to an adult who wanted to take his favourite childhood toy with him into the afterlife.

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00:34:03,000 --> 00:34:08,000

Are we reading too much into an ancient toy? Not everyone thinks so.

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00:34:09,000 --> 00:34:23,000

Artifacts like the cicara bird are important because science likes to think it has got everything explained. We can explain how the Egyptians built the pyramids and all of their ancient technology.

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00:34:23,000 --> 00:34:39,000

But items like the cicara bird throw a monkey wrench into some of these old theories because suddenly it is possible that the ancient Egyptians and other civilizations could do much like we did and have flight, have electricity, have machines.

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00:34:40,000 --> 00:34:58,000

When we look at ancient civilizations like the ancient Egyptians, we see that they have made so many magnificent buildings and their sciences were very exact. They were good engineers. They studied nature tremendously.

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00:34:59,000 --> 00:35:06,000

So the cicara bird seems to indicate that yes, the ancient Egyptians knew about flight and had it.

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00:35:06,000 --> 00:35:11,000

But how can children be so sure that what looks like a bird is really a model airplane?

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00:35:13,000 --> 00:35:33,000

It is clearly an aerodynamic design and not just some simple toy. The wings are at what is known as the dihedral angle. It is a special angle that the wings of a glider have to be at in order to achieve lift. And the cicara bird has that.

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00:35:34,000 --> 00:35:39,000

So the wings are airworthy. But what about the tail?

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00:35:40,000 --> 00:35:56,000

Dr. Macia had also found evidence that the very top part of the tail rudder had been broken off. And he theorized that it had in fact had also another vertical tail, much like a modern jet would have.

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00:35:57,000 --> 00:36:08,000

But if the cicara bird was a model of an ancient glider, there is one big problem. Where in Egypt's flat desert could you glide from?

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00:36:09,000 --> 00:36:21,000

If it was a glider, it could have been launched easily from the top of a pyramid perhaps, much like hang gliders themselves launched today off of cliffs and mountains.

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00:36:22,000 --> 00:36:39,000

Or even the Egyptians could have developed a relatively primitive catapult type launching system that would have given this glider the power to get in the air and then fly over areas of Egypt.

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00:36:39,000 --> 00:36:53,000

I believe that the ancient Egyptians and other civilizations had powered flight as well as gliders and airships and balloons and even they had electricity and lights.

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00:36:54,000 --> 00:37:00,000

Even they must have had power tools in some of their cases to build some of the buildings they had.

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00:37:01,000 --> 00:37:09,000

Were the crowning achievements of Egyptian civilization used as a launch pad by an ancient pair of Wright brothers?

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00:37:10,000 --> 00:37:21,000

If scientists are right that this is a model of a functioning glider, this is going to throw Egyptology and the way we view ancient civilizations completely topsy turvy.

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00:37:22,000 --> 00:37:33,000

Ok this is blowing my mind. Are they honestly trying to tell me that this 2000 year old ugly duckling is evidence of an ancient mastery of the laws of aerodynamics that it could fly?

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00:37:34,000 --> 00:37:36,000

Well there is only one way to find out.

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00:37:42,000 --> 00:37:44,000

Anybody got any clue?

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00:37:45,000 --> 00:37:52,000

A simple bird replica or evidence of early flight? What is the Sikara bird?

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00:37:55,000 --> 00:38:00,000

Martin Gregory designs gliders. He thinks he knows the answer.

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00:38:01,000 --> 00:38:07,000

When I first heard the Sikara bird was the model for a full size airplane I was skeptical to say the least.

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00:38:08,000 --> 00:38:15,000

I knew for a start that the ancient Egyptians didn't have anything that could be used as an engine to power an airplane.

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00:38:16,000 --> 00:38:26,000

And that gives you the clue because Egypt is pretty flat and you are going to need some way of getting the airplane into the air.

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00:38:27,000 --> 00:38:34,000

And also if you are going to use it for carrying cargo you are going to need something to power it so it can travel a useful distance.

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00:38:34,000 --> 00:38:42,000

I decided the only way I could find out if the Sikara bird could have been a flying model was to build one myself.

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00:38:44,000 --> 00:38:50,000

Using the exact dimensions of the ancient artifact Gregory constructs an identical replica.

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00:38:51,000 --> 00:38:55,000

He will launch it with a device used to test scale glider models.

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00:38:56,000 --> 00:39:03,000

I am just about to launch the Sikara bird in its original form as it came out of the pyramid with no tailplane.

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00:39:11,000 --> 00:39:18,000

That flight did what I expected it to do. It is like a aerodynamic kicked in and it tumbled and fell to the ground.

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00:39:19,000 --> 00:39:21,000

The test is conclusive.

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00:39:21,000 --> 00:39:24,000

A model of that size needs a stabilizing tail.

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00:39:25,000 --> 00:39:35,000

Dr. Messiah believed that the Sikara bird originally had a tail which it snapped off with age. Could a tail make a difference?

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00:39:36,000 --> 00:39:45,000

Next we are going to launch the Sikara bird again but this time fitted with a tailplane. This will stabilize it and let us see how good or poor a glider it is.

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00:39:48,000 --> 00:39:53,000

2,000 years of history hang on this one test.

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00:40:03,000 --> 00:40:07,000

It travels further but not much. The end results are the same.

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00:40:07,000 --> 00:40:12,000

The wing has rounded edges and that just doesn't generate very much lift at all.

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00:40:13,000 --> 00:40:22,000

In terms of stability all modern aeroplanes have the wing bent up at the tips for stability instead of swooping down like this one does.

435

00:40:23,000 --> 00:40:31,000

So does the experiment prove that the Sikara bird was really a child's toy? Following his experiment, Gregory has a theory of his own.

436

00:40:32,000 --> 00:40:34,000

I think there is a possibility that it is a windflane.

437

00:40:35,000 --> 00:40:54,000

I discarded the child's toy theory on the grounds that all real birds have a flat horizontal tail rather than a vertical fin and most children will be able to recognize the difference and not be fooled by the presence of the fin.

438

00:40:55,000 --> 00:41:09,000

To find out whether it could have been a windflane, I put a pivot on the belly of it and as you can see I think it is far better weathered than it is a flying model.

439

00:41:10,000 --> 00:41:17,000

So, is the answer to a 2,000 year old's history really blowing in the wind?

440

00:41:18,000 --> 00:41:25,000

Was the Sikara bird simply an ancient plaything or could it be evidence of mankind's first attempt at flight?

441

00:41:26,000 --> 00:41:31,000

We may never know. Weird or what?

442

00:41:40,000 --> 00:41:52,000

So there we have it. Three ancient artifacts that bring into question everything we understand about history.

443

00:41:55,000 --> 00:42:02,000

A bizarrely shaped skull is found in the Mexican cave. Is it proof that aliens once visited Earth?

444

00:42:03,000 --> 00:42:10,000

Scenes depicted on ancient stone carvings question our natural history.

445

00:42:11,000 --> 00:42:14,000

Dead man and dinosaur share our planet.

446

00:42:17,000 --> 00:42:20,000

And a 2,000 year old wooden model suggests the impossible.

447

00:42:21,000 --> 00:42:24,000

Dead and ancient civilization fly.

448

00:42:26,000 --> 00:42:27,000

U-teshi.

449

00:42:27,000 --> 00:42:37,000

Join me again next time for more stories that will undoubtedly be weird or what.