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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: The Linda Case -- again

From: Greg Sandow <gsandow@prodigy.net>
Date: Sat, 01 Feb 1997 16:28:36 -0500
Fwd Date: Sat, 01 Feb 1997 16:41:45 -0500
Subject: Re: The Linda Case -- again

As our laconic conversation on the Linda case continues, John Powell writes:

> From: "Steven J. Powell" <sjpowell@access.digex.net>
> Subject: Re: UFO Update: Re: The Linda Case -- again
> But, personally, I think
> its a hoax and that Hopkins knows its a hoax but it was such a good
> setup/hoax that he couldn't resist.

I'd love to see you and Budd have a conversation about that. For whatever it's worth, I don't detect a trace of deception in him.

Those who've read Budd's book "Witnessed," about the case, may remember two outsiders Budd brought in to observe Linda and her reactions. One of them, Gibbs Williams, is a psychoanalytic therapist in private practice in New York. The other, Charles Strozier, is a historian, a specialist in millennial beliefs, and a MacArthur prize winner. He's also a psychoanalyst. (Sounds too good to be true, I know, but it is.)

I've spoken to both of them. Both say they're not close friends with Budd, and neither is convinced that abductions are physically real. Strozier, in fact, is quite skeptical.

Both, however, came close to staking their reputations on Linda's honesty. Williams saw her privately, and gave her psychological tests. He doesn't believe she's capable of staging a hoax of this complexity. Nor does he feel she shows the psychopathology he feels would be necessary to lie with the emotion she consistently manifests. (Anyone who wants to argue about the psychology of this please argue with him, not me.)

> Has anyone taken out ads in the local papers served by the postmark of
> Janet Kimball's letter asking her to privately come forward?

I know her name and where she lives. An ad in the local paper would be a dramatic violation of her privacy. She would read it, and wonder who had hunted her down. Next would they appear at her door? Her family would freak. Since they're the impediment to her coming forward, even privately, the effect of the ad would almost certainly be to make it less likely that she'd come forward in the future.

Greg Sandow

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