

DREAMTIME

M A G A Z I N E



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Dreaming the Future

Laurel Clark



Two weeks before the 2016 IASD annual conference, I find myself extremely anxious. I'm going to become president, which means giving an acceptance speech at the membership meeting. Even though I have been a public speaker for nearly 40 years, I feel apprehensive. Other plans are coming together. I finish the Powerpoint for my paper presentation, and finally complete the speech. Then I have this dream:

I am at the General Membership meeting, Susannah is giving her outgoing presidential speech and all of a sudden I realize (panicked) that I don't have the notes for my incoming presidential speech; I left them in my room. I am wondering if I can slip out during her speech and get them, or if I should just wing it, hoping I will remember it.

I wake up panicked. I believe it's an anxiety dream, but part of me worries it might be precognitive. I email Jean Campbell, asking for some "smooth and easy," the positive thought projection that members of the World Dreams Peace Bridge offer to aid those in need.

Jean kindly counsels, "Sometimes we dream things so we can change the probable future."

It helps to hear that. I practice my speech until I know it enough to speak without notes, and to be safe, I make a couple of extra copies. (That comes in handy when I spill coffee on one set!)

CAN WE CHANGE THE FUTURE?

This question sometimes puzzles or plagues dreamers. Do we always dream of the probable future so we can change it? What about dreams that foretell events we can't change?

Sometimes people feel guilty or responsible when they dream of a future that comes to pass, especially unpleasant or disastrous happenings. Should they? Why do certain people receive precognitive knowledge when not everyone does?

Famous dreamer, teacher, and author Bob Van de Castle describes an eerie precognitive dream in his book *Our Dreaming Mind*:

On October 21, 1966, a massive coal-tip slid down a mountainside and engulfed the Welsh mining village of Aberfan, killing 144 persons, mostly schoolchildren. . . . An English psychiatrist, J. Barker, obtained . . . reports from respondents who felt they may have received paranormal information concerning this tragedy . . . Dreams figured in twenty-five of the accounts. In one, the dreamer saw, spelled out in large brilliant letters, the word ABERFAN. In another, a telephone operator from Brighton talked helplessly to a child, who walked toward her, followed by a billowing cloud of black dust or smoke. Apparently the clearest precognitive dream was that of a young girl, Eryl Mai Jones. She often tried to tell her mother about her dreams, but her mother tended to dismiss them. One morning, however, Eryl Mai got her mother to listen to one of her dreams: "We go to school but there is no school there; something black has come down all over it." She told her mother, "I'm not afraid to die, Mommie. I'll be with Peter and June." When the huge slag deposit slid down on the school two days later, Eryl Mai, Peter, and June were among the 118 children crushed or buried alive.

I wonder how Eryl Mai's mother felt. Did hearing the dream help her, or did it provoke guilt? It seems that the dream brought some comfort and reassurance to Eryl Mai. Perhaps she had it to help prepare her to accept the inevitable.

REMEMBERING ABERFAN

October 2016 marked the 50th anniversary of the Aberfan disaster. The anniversary stimulated author Tony Hawkins, a member of the Peace Bridge, to reflect upon his waking precognition.

He writes:

"It is fifty years, I realise, since the disaster at Aberfan, that first moment when psi came up and hit me like a bus between the eyes. A coal waste tip avalanched and destroyed a school and almost all its children. I had been writing about it for six weeks before it happened. The similarities were unbelievable, even to having a town called Abertown protected by a giant stone Avalanche Chute built to deflect the super-powerful snow avalanches which descended the super slick slopes of Megadan, the 3000 metre high, triple peaked blue building built by giant aliens, the Tolem, who had long gone leaving only their indestructible buildings.

It was years before I realised these characters of my imagination were the gods or at least real beings occupying another dimension... the books I write... are this, imprints of unseen other dimensions...."

Tony's description of "unseen other dimensions" can apply to dreams.

A Peek into the Future

It seems to be the rare dreamer who dreams an exact view of what comes to pass, as Eryl Mai did. At least we don't hear about these dreams very often. More often, dreamers have a taste, or impression, and only after the waking event transpires do they put together the dream with what happened.

Such dreams appeared to IASD member Talbert Kangher, of Burbank, California. Prior to a shooting at the University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA), Talbert reported these waking

feelings and subsequent dreams:

5-31-2016: I awakened . . . [and] began to feel uncomfortable, irritable, and argumentative. It was the same as I experienced the day I viewed the time 9:11 on the electric clock . . . My feelings continued throughout the day, and I told my wife Nancy I felt exactly as I did the day prior to the San Bernardino clinic killings . . .

6-1-2016: I went to bed . . . I had a dream in which I met a fellow hiker approximately 35 years old . . . He said, "I want to show you something." He held out his right palm, containing a miniature, six-sided black coffin with a black colored body inside. He . . . stated with reference to the object he showed me: "IT'S NOT WHAT IT APPEARS TO BE." . . .

When I awakened, Nancy asked me as usual, "How did you sleep?" I told her of my dream and the object the man showed to me.

While having breakfast, the program was interrupted with the news that an unknown gunman killed two people on the UCLA campus. I recalled what the man told me in my dream: "IT'S NOT WHAT IT APPEARS TO BE." A short time later, the newscaster stated: "Police report that the two men died as a result of a murder/suicide and no one else was involved.

Only after Talbert heard the news did he put together the pieces: his irritable feeling in the morning, the odd dream, and the shooting. He recognized that his waking feelings were a sign pointing to some connection he had with the tragic events.

NOT ALL PRECOGNITIVE DREAMS PREDICT DISASTER

Some people don't want to remember dreams when they hear about dreams that predict tragedy or disaster. But some precognitive dreams can foretell pleasant events. For example, in November 2016, the Chicago Cubs won the World Series for the first time in 108 years. This was such a newsworthy event, the celebratory parade in Chicago drew an

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that's what makes a song a "hit.") Here's an almost random illustration of the fascinating material available in the book, drawn from the chapter on musician's premonitions of death. It involves John Lennon, who had a series of dream before he was shot and killed in December of 1980. That's extremely intriguing and creepy in itself, but I found it even more interesting to learn that two days before his death Lennon gave a BBC interview in which he described the genesis of a song on his 1974 album *Walls and Bridges*. Titled "#9 Dream," Lennon told the interviewer Andy Peebles: "I just sat down and wrote it, with no real inspiration, based on a dream I had. I wrote it around the string arrangement I'd written for the Harry Nilsson album I'd produced of 'Many Rivers to Cross,' the Jimmy Cliff number . . . And it was such a nice melody on the strings. I thought, this is a tune! So I just wrote words to the string arrangement. That was '#9 Dream.' Kind of psychedelic dreamy kind of thing."

One more example to highlight the breadth of Webb's compilation. Taylor Swift, the pop and country singer-songwriter, has written songs inspired by dreams, including "All You Had to Do Was Stay" from the album *1989*, which came out in 2014: "In the dream I was trying to talk to somebody and all that would come out of my voice was that sound, and I was embarrassed. It was like a social humiliation dream, and I was so embarrassed that I woke up and I was haunted by this sound. I was like, 'why? That's the weirdest sound!' But it was the word 'stay': screeching, high-pitched, and so the next day I went into the studio and wrote a song and incorporated that into the chorus."

Every example in the book has an endnote with a reference to the original source of the story, which is enormously helpful and solidifies the credibility of the collection as a whole.

More than anything else, *The Dreams Behind the Music* is simply fun to read. Every page brings a new opportunity for surprise and wonder at the boundless creativity of the dreaming imagination.

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From the Editor**

From first conferences to first-time experiences, from black and white to full color, we hope that all of the Members of IASD who work so creatively to bring the magic of dreams to the rest of the world will have a technicolor year. We hope you will have the Wizard of Oz moment when, beyond your wildest dreams, you will experience the full spectrum of joy and happiness and harmony!

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estimated 5 million people, the 7th largest gathering in human history! Interestingly, a young man predicted this win in 1993, recording in his high school yearbook, "Chicago Cubs 2016 World Champions. You heard it

here first." In an interview, Michael Lee said that when he was twelve, he had this dream:

"It was up on that red scoreboard with Harry Caray blasting away, 'Cubs win World Series!' Lee said of the dream. "It was pretty vivid. That's why I remembered it all through high school, and now I'm getting reminded again."

Why did Mike Lee have that dream? We don't know, and maybe the important question isn't why, but how did he know that it was precognitive at the time he had it? How fortunate that he wrote it in the yearbook so that 23 years later, people have proof that some dreams may indeed predict the future.

EXPERIENCING PRECOGNITION

The greatest proof of precognition seems to be one's own experience. During the IASD annual conference

and the PsiberDreaming conference, dreamers can test their "psi dreaming" skills with contests in dream telepathy, remote viewing, and precognition. I love participating in these events to learn more about my own dreaming mind so that I can access it for practical purposes. Keeping a dream journal and recording which elements in dreams have a feeling or impression of precognition or clairvoyance can help dreamers become more aware of how they receive the interconnections they experience.

Laurel Clark, author of the book Intuitive Dreaming, teacher with the School of Metaphysics and a dreamologist, has recorded her dreams since 1977. Laurel speaks to groups around the United States about dreams, and loves to help people understand their importance. She is the current president of IASD.

