

RUTH MONTGOMERY

"A WORLD BEYOND"

XIV

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Higher Planes and
Other Planets



From time to time when referring to Edgar Cayce, Yogananda, Betty White, and other highly evolved souls, Arthur Ford made tantalizingly brief references to "higher planes" and "other planets." On April 10 I asked for greater elaboration, and he wrote, "The higher planes that you ask about are essentially higher degrees of consciousness." In other words, the place is similar, but the level of consciousness is so much more rarefied that those on this plane cannot advance into them without great preparation, whereas those on some of the higher planes encounter no difficulty in living in our plane simultaneously. It is a bit like the difference between our state and yours. Those in the next higher state are more aware of us than we are of them. They progress to that state when their rough, earthbound edges are rounded off, and their mental and spiritual progression is such that they are ready for higher learning in the esoteric sense. Those who feel that their progress will be more rapid by assuming again an earthly identity seldom pass on to that next higher stage, for to do so takes them out of direct line for return to physical form."

Recalling that Arthur had made reference to a period which he spent in a higher plane before returning here as Arthur Ford, I asked if he and Lily were familiar with

that stage. "Yes," he replied, "and Lily spends much of his time in the higher frequency of that plane. He will not be able to tell you much about it, because there is little to record that you would be able to understand with a finite mind. As said previously, it is a higher consciousness rather than a different plane, for the universe is one. He will probably not return to another incarnation in the physical plane, although that choice for him remains."

"He was a writer in his last incarnation, and since there are many writers now, he needs to advance his growth here in work that many others are not able to do, such as counseling those writers who are progressing here and working directly with those in physical body who would write spiritual treatises of a higher order. To describe the difference in levels of consciousness is almost impossible to put into words, but let us think for a moment of a balloon filled with helium gas. On the ground it is a great physical form for all to see and touch, but when the moorings are cut it rises free of earth ties, which would correspond to the silver cord which at death releases a soul from the physical body. The balloon rises higher and higher until it reaches the thin stratosphere, and still it is as alive and touchable as when it was on earth, but man is no longer able from the earth to see or feel it. It passes from human sight and soars heavenward, but although gone from the immediate comprehension of man, it is still alive. After a time it loses all contact with the earth, and although the balloon is fully aware of what is going on below because of its memory and intelligence, those on earth no longer have contact with it. This is a poor analysis, but it is hard to explain in terms understood by the finite mind."

"In this higher consciousness the soul of man is as alive and aware as ever it was in physical form but is totally detached from the ties of physical form. We are now in the intermediate state, with earth ties and tensions, but when Lily goes into the higher state of consciousness

he relinquishes all pulls from physical wills and barriers."

I broke in to ask what Edgar Cayce meant by saying that a soul between lives sometimes goes to Uranus or other planets in consciousness, and he replied, "Many of the planets are occupied by spirit forms in various states of consciousness. Some are in higher and some in lower forms of consciousness than the earth dwellers, but because of various levels of development, some evolve more rapidly in certain vibratory planes than in others. Thus, some may visit for a time in Venus or Uranus or Mars or other planets. The communications which occasionally seem to be picked up from other planets are thought forms which they are able to send out in vibrations usually too high for your instruments to record. But occasionally, under certain atmospheric conditions of low enough caliber, your finest instruments are affected by them."

Another day Ford said of the higher states, "From my own recollections I am able to say that the work there is of a different type, for instead of helping new souls to come over and learning lessons in philosophy, the advanced soul will be testing these theories and proving them as fact, while also taking on such interesting assignments as visiting other planets where forms of life exist and relating them to our own system from whence all of us here were once a part.

"The Atlanteans (those from the lost continent of Atlantis), many of whom were of a high order of development, often inhabit other planes and planets while taking note of that which is occurring in the earth, for parts of Atlantis will be more plainly seen within a decade, as the land once again rises toward the surface. These Atlanteans are keen on proving that they were of a superior order, and that the human race will be able to recapture some of its esoteric knowledge during the Aquarian Age now at hand. Needless to say, many of these Atlanteans have reincarnated again and again in physical form, and you and I were once Atlanteans ourselves, although some who have not returned to the physical are of exceedingly

high vibration and were what we might term princes among men. They are so high in the order of superior beings as not to need further earth returns, although some of them are keen to do it when Atlantis rises, for there is tremendous interest in leading the world to hiding places where material of towering worth is stored, safe from disintegration. Meanwhile, they have been instructing those souls who advance beyond this stage where I now am and are helping them to understand the mysteries of the universe—those mysteries which souls inhabiting the world once knew automatically."

One week later Ford announced that Lily would personally discuss the higher states of being, and Lily promptly wrote, "As we learn our lessons here in this intermediate state, we are given the choice of reincarnating or traveling onward to other realms of consciousness, and some of us elect to take this next step, as I have here. When we are ready, by having completed our philosophic discussions and reassessing our errors of flesh, we feel a lightening of spirit and with a little effort of thought are able to lift ourselves into a new consciousness in which we lose contact for a time with those here and those in your physical state of being."

"We then find ourselves in what would be thought of as a purely ethereal realm, with total loss of contact with other souls for a time. This is a somewhat lonely experience, since we are used to having shared thoughts and ideas here as well as in the physical body. After a time we seem to float into what, for want of a better term, would be called outer space but is such high frequency that there is no way to put it into words that are understandable to physical man. We are, let us say, in the realm of Uranus, where vibrations are so tremendous that at first we feel shaken to our core. It is a violent atmosphere, or rather lack of atmosphere, where there is no protection from the rays and beams and pulsations. We stay there, if we are able to endure it, for a time while preparing for still another step in our development."

"Later we may pass on to Venus or Mars, or any of the other realms of consciousness in our planetary group. We are not so much a part of that planet as we are under the influence of its vibrations. We walk on the surfaces of these planets much as you in the physical state walk on earth, except that our beta bodies have no weight and no embodiments of flesh. We are rather more like ideas, and since we see other souls of like covering there, we could be said to mingle with them, but only as ideas. Some of the planetary vibrations are gentle and soothing, and others fiery and full of antagonistic pulls and pushes. We need to experience all of these in order to understand the universal oneness of all mankind and the laws which govern us."

The next morning the writing began, "Ruth, this is Lily and the group, with Art participating. We are eager to tell you more about what occurs as the soul advances from this intermediate stage from which we are communicating with you. In the higher state this two-way communication is impossible, except for some such soul on the earth plane as Edgar Cayce, who was able so to step up his vibrations that by lowering our vibrations we could meet him halfway, so to speak. When I wish to summon the talents of one with whom we would commune, I return from the higher to this intermediate state, but that is why I do not hang around you all the time waiting until your highness is ready to be seated and receive. I am not trying to be sarcastic [Oh, no? I thought to myself] but merely to explain that there are many things more pressing than waiting around to see if you arise and shine in time for these morning sessions.

"In the next phase where I spend most of my life I am transfigured, so to speak, wearing light rather than astral form. This is because of the intensity of our devotion to the work of the Creator, and since we slip easily from the vibrations of one planet to others, we are best fitted for that work as a beam of light. Whatever form we wear, we never cease to be our own ego, for the self is what we

will never escape. Some may wonder why there are those highly evolved souls in the earth plane who are always kindly and thoughtful, always willing to lend a helping hand, intelligent, beautiful, kings among men, while other souls are scarcely above the animal kingdom in their greediness, boorish manners, and lack of consideration for others. You wonder if each must always be himself throughout all the ages. The answer is yes, and before you think that this is unfair, I add that they started in the beginning as equal sparks of God. But as lives in the earth and on this side passed in succession, each developed his own personality through reaction to given situations, and since we choose our own situations into which to be born in the earth, they are the products of what they themselves have carried with them from one life to another in the earth plane. Interesting, isn't it! Each a duplicate of the other in the beginning, perfect sparks of God's love; yet how the earth plane changes them! This represents the reaction to temptation, so if one would be as the Master rather than as the uncouth oaf, let him look to himself and assess how he reacts to temptation. Form no habits that you cannot easily break, respond to the needs of others when asked, and remember always to be God-centered."

On May Day they went into greater detail about the advancing states, writing, "From here, as you know, we have the choice of returning to flesh or going on to what you would call the third stage and the fourth. These are not too different one from the other, except that in stage three the higher vibrations are mastered and the steps taken for mounting into still higher frequencies of what you would call sound and light. We here are able through antennalike adjustments to attune ourselves to waves of sound and light that would electrocute or permanently deafen the physical man. We are attuned to these higher forces through a thinness of radiation which no longer requires protection when in the spirit body. As we attune to these higher frequencies, we find ourselves in a state

most nearly described as fluid, for although there is no liquid, we are poured into the universal pattern, so to speak, and become so nearly one with it that we for a time lose consciousness of ego or self. We are a part of the fluid whole, and this benefits our understanding of what I have told you earlier about the realizations here that we are all a part of the perfect Whole.

"Now that is stage three, and stage four is what I have suggested in earlier reports: inhabitation of such other planets as Mars, Jupiter, Uranus, Venus, and the like, but not so much in a physical sense as in a state of higher consciousness; for while these planets contain life forms, they are (totally unrecognizable) in terms of the life forms which inhabit earth in physical form. These planets, each (so different) from one another, have various stages of development, from the lowest protoplasm to the highest forms of thought patterns, and while Uranus is a particularly destructive planet in terms of reformation from evil, the most highly developed one is Saturn, which contains pure thoughts without embroilment in lower states of consciousness. Those who inhabit these planets for a time in thought form are sometimes so far removed from what earth folks call sanity and reason that if they ever decide thereafter to return to physical body they are rather out of tune with fellow souls incarnated at that time. Either they have mellowed to such an extent that they do not seem to have things in common with fellow souls there, or they have been so fed by hatreds and warlike tendencies on Mars and some others that they are too antagonistic for comfortable living in the flesh."

At this point Arthur Ford broke in to say, "During my present time in this stage where I am now, I have not visited the other planets, but from recall I know of having been on three of them between other earth lives. I do not yet know whether I will go there again or will return to earth to complete my cycle of incarnations, but this I know: I do not want to visit Uranus again."

I asked Lily, Arthur, and the group whether any other planets are inhabited by physical forms somewhat similar to these on earth, and the reply was, "No, not life as we recognize it in the flesh form of earth. They have many species of interesting thought forms, such as radishes with wings, turnips with tails, lettuce that laughs, and animal forms which walk on air as well as water, besides many grotesque shapes of mineral life which would frighten an earthling out of his wits but which are quite as matter-of-fact there as river stones. They all have various forms of communication and operate on higher or lower frequencies than earth forms. They have their cycles of return to their planets, just as we reincarnate on earth, and once in a while the more adventuresome ones choose to tackle an earth life, but usually with disastrous results. For instance, when an aborigine is found in an isolated spot in Africa or wherever, he is usually one of these other-planet peoples trying to inhabit an earth body in the flesh. The little ones who occasionally have lived with animals and are unable to speak like a human when found are from other planets and through curiosity have tried out this new type of body. But they do not fit into it anymore than a wolf would wear sheep's clothing well."

"There are earth people who have tried guises of Saturn and other planets too, but the results are not beneficial. For instance, it is the same folly as trying to breed disparate animals one to another. When I say that we visit other planets for a time, I do not mean that we inhabit bodies there, as does the original life stock of those planets. We go simply as thought forms, to learn the laws of the universe and understand the immutability of the Law of One."

Another day they wrote, "These other stars present entirely different opportunities for growth than does the planet known as earth, the only one with which most of us are familiar here in this intermediate phase. We are all earth-trained souls. While we have recently come from

the physical earth phase, there are countless other souls who have developed, while on other planets, throughout the firmament. Some are purely spiritual habitations where the souls clothe themselves in thought, rather than physical form. Some of the stars are habitable for physical form, but the souls there are not necessarily in physical form as we know it on the planet earth. The physical form assumed by a soul is compatible with environment, whether here, or on earth, or on other planets. Thus, what is suitable for one star, often is not suitable for development on another.

"We think of man as having two eyes, two ears, a nose, a throat, legs, arms, and trunk, but this is not the sole way that a soul will project himself, as he returns to different forms, to complete his spiritual growth. This is the earth form, yes, but not necessarily the one for Mars or Saturn, or any of a vast firmament of stars. We when in flesh had lungs for breathing and a pump to keep us functioning, but such a heart and lungs are not necessary on some planets. A much simpler or more complex mechanism is necessary in some planets to sustain the activity of movement and thinking and being.

"Those souls who habitate other planets and stars are in various stages of development, some more primitive and some more advanced, but all are souls with the pulse of God within and the light of His love. Each has a responsibility for growth and correction of previous faults of the spirit to amend before he will be able to resume his journey toward reunion with the Creator.

"What if one soul goes astray on the earth to such a dire degree that it could take a thousand million lifetimes to undo that wrong which he has perpetrated on fellow souls? Sometimes, in order to speed up the retribution, he is given an opportunity to assume a totally different form of being, on a harsher planet or star. There the conditions are such that, like a freshly created soul without sin, he will be able, if he perseveres under harsh surroundings, to develop enough atonement to make up for many life-

times of mistake in the less severe habitat we know as earth. Am I making this clear? The soul who has lost hope of ever atoning for transgressions in the earth phase will volunteer to become an inhabitant of a harsher planet and to assume a guise which you of the earth would not consider human.

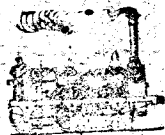
"Some souls have always lived and died, so to speak, on other stars and planets, and have had no reason to think that such beings as we were, existed in what we think of as human form. Again there are planets where souls exist only in the thought plane as true spirit, without physical bodies. Sometimes these are on a far higher plane of development than the souls we meet on earth in bodily form.

"Former earth beings, who elect to go on to higher stages, are as carefully schooled as if that soul were entering a monastery in the physical plane. They learn to project themselves through vibration into spheres they have sometimes not previously explored, and in this sense they become travelers not just in astral bodies, where they sometimes are seen by sensitive people in the physical realm, but also to other planets, as we have remarked earlier. This travel contributes much to their knowledge of universal laws, and when they are in the fourth or fifth stages they may often be seen simultaneously in several planets at the same time, for the soul in higher consciousness is able to project its image simultaneously in many directions.

"Now let's talk about the ultimate on this side of the veil, the highest perfection, when souls at last meld with God in perfect union. Obviously we here are yet to experience that bliss, but there is a teaching here that when souls near that final perfection they once again review not only their past lives but every thought and concept and idea which has touched them, or they it, since the beginning of the life of all of us. This is during the sixth plane. They finally decide that no stone remains unturned that they have not repaid in some manner or thought or

way, and that they therefore have atoned for misdeeds and are ready to join God. There is no conceit in this decision but a totally accurate assessment of life since the beginning. They then are drawn into the oneness of God in perfect peace. This is hearsay, of course, as those souls will never return or resume the wheel of destiny when that perfect moment comes."

After such a sublime discussion of oneness with God, it seemed ridiculous to ask about flying saucers, but I knew that if I did not do so, my readers would ask me. Ford, always agreeable, replied, "Yes, there are flying saucers and they do originate in the (thoughts) of those on other planets, but the physical manifestations which earth people seem to think they have touched or visited do not exist. They are not solids in the earthly sense, but transmissions of light and sound which appear as real as if they were made of steel. They are visible under certain conditions and have sometimes scorched the earth when venturing too near, but they are not available for entry by human beings in the earth plane." And that was that!



XV

Prophecy

During a lengthy discussion of time, early in March, Arthur Ford wrote, "Time has no meaning on this plane where I am now, because we realize that we are forever, without beginning or ending. Thus, time is nonexistent here, whereas in the earth phase the necessity of time is obvious to regulate sleep and awakening, birth and so-called death, and the orderly procession of one's workaday appointments." Then he wrote this tantalizing bit: "We see a much longer spectrum of time from this side of the veil than do you, but by no means do we see from the beginning to the end of life. We are no more infallible here than there, except (for broader vision and deeper awareness of the purpose of God's plan.)"

"When we are born into the physical state, we are reduced to the pinpoint of so-called time and see no further ahead than the nursing or feeding, which is all that we need to know while a baby in arms. This pinpoint ever so gradually extends as babyhood becomes childhood, and on through the cycles of life there. At first time seems to drag as a child views the vast extension until some happy or dread event occurs, such as a party or the opening of school. To him it is a long time in relation to the span of physical life that he has lived to that point. But as we approach old age, time flees so rapidly that a