A STUDY OF THE ANGELS AND ALIENS

REVIEWS By Paul Whitehead, FSR Director and Consultant

- 1. ANGELS; TRUE STORIES OF HOW THEY TOUCH OUR LIVES, By Hope Price. Foreword by David Suchet. Pub. by Macmillan, London 1993. Hardback, ISBN 0-333-58710-3 -£12.99.
- 2 ANGELS AND ALIENS. By Keith Thompson. Pub. by Fawcett Columbine (Ballantine Books, U.S.A.), 1991 and 1993. Softback. ISBN 0-09932-161-0. US\$12.00.

"Spinning ball, spinning ball, inside a pocket of air. Spinning ball, spinning ball I don't know how it got there. But on this monitor screen there's some blue and some green, and somewhere in the distance, rather small... A spinning ball, spinning ball, some land, some sea and a moon. Spinning ball, spinning ball, I will be passing there soon. There'll be a flash of white light in the still of the night and a moment left to contemplate it all.... " (Daniel Cainer, Origin. Music)

When visiting the Creightons recently I was amazed to see a collection of several new books about Angels which Gordon had recently gathered together, and some of which will be reviewed in FSR in coming issues. I picked out this one from them, its dust jacket bearing a painting of a beautiful, serene-looking young girl of about fifteen years of age, equipped with large feathery wings and wearing a simple white dress.

My surprise at Gordon's collection was due to one fact; in our age of technology, murder, deceit etc. etc., I -- undoubtedly like many others -- had forgotten about angels, even though I had a book at home called "Angels & Aliens", loaned by a friend. This latter book is a theoretical work (as far as angels are concerned, though there is considerable rehashing of UFO/alien "close encounter" cases).

However, "Angels" (by Hope Price, British vicar's wife), offered a veritable feast of new and old close encounters with angels. Most of the cases are new or recent, given to the author in reponse to an appeal she had made for such material. I guess it is up to us if we accept the truth of what people claim to have seen, but as they say in "ufology", if only 1 per cent of the sightings are "true", then we have a "true mystery" -- or not, as it so

happens; Hope Price believes they are messengers from God, leaving no room for mystery. But mystery there is. Some angels come in the guise of humans, some in black. Some are huge, floating in the sky, some very small. Some carry swords (do advanced spiritual beings really carry swords?). And a force perhaps connected with angels can move cars -- as can UFOs, so it has been reported (FSR has published several stories about vehicles being moved). And the angels visit some people more than once in their lives (as, it is claimed, aliens do !!!).

To those of you familiar with the on-going "alien visitation" scenario, I need say no more, perhaps. For it is said that aliens also come in the guise of humans - sometimes but not always -- as humans dressed in black (the so-called and often menacing "Men in Black"). Some of the alien "spaceships" are also huge, floating in the sky before shrinking to a point of light and disappearing, or flying off at high speed. Some aliens are very small, just six inches high. Some aliens are said to carry "rods" (our Technology Age equivalent of swords?) with which they can paralyze us by merely pointing them at us.

Just as there are differences between "alien species", so there are differences between aliens and angels, and between the angels. A committed Christian like Hope Price might attribute these various similarities and differences to the work of the devil or the powers of darkness, as the devil or the powers sow seeds of doubt among us and try to claim us as their own. Hope Price may be right; I do not possess the cosmic connectivity, or understanding of the Cosmos, to be able to agree or disagree with her. Most of us seek a deep understanding of the Cosmos, and wish to know if there is a "God" or "Supermind" with whom we can make contact. We also wish to know if there are other beings inhabiting other planets.

A range of mind/horizon-expanding arguments are proposed in the second book for review (Angels and Aliens) which seek to lead us to some fascinating conclusions, and with which Jacques Vallee would not be unfamiliar. For the moment, though, here follows some material from Mrs. Hope Price's "Angels". Let's hope there're for real -- we need them!

"On 17th September 1992 in Tansen, Nepal, amazing sights were witnessed in the sky", writes Hope Price. "At least two people saw a large bright light, which they took to be an angel (why? I ask. P.W.) descend rapidly from the sky and fly in the direction of the local church. The same evening, over a hundred others saw a vision in the sky of a man wearing a loin

cloth, with arms outstretched and head bowed, attached to a large cross. This stayed in the sky for over an hour and many people were very moved by it. Most of those who saw it were not Christians..."

In two cases involving young people, there was no UFO-type experience. Close to death from illness, an 11-year-old asked the nurse, "Do you see them?" 'See who' she asked... "Can't you see the two angels standing in the room behind you?". The nurse "had to admit I couldn't see them."

The other lad who saw angels was 17-year-old Jason Stroop, who was dying of leukaemia at his home in St. Clair, Missouri. On 13 May 1992 Jason's brother, Scott, arrived home from Bible College to see Jason because he was so ill. As Scott walked into the room, Jason asked him, "who are the four friends with you". Scott was alone, but Jason insisted, 'What are their names? I wish I had a camera to take their photos, because they are so special. There is a beautiful, bright light around them'. A little later Jason said, 'I've had enough pain, I want to go home. (Remember, he was already at "home"). He slept peacefully... and died the following evening."

Angels do appear in human form. In the 1960's, Hope Price writes, Ray and Pam Fardon were leading a youth camp at Lee Abbey, near Lynton in North Devon. Just before lunch one day Pam suddenly "heard the loud noise of an engine, and saw a tractor, out of control, careering wildly down a steep field."

The "driver" managed to steer it through the first gate, but the tractor gained speed as it hurtled towards a group of holidaymakers. Many onlookers "prayed desperately for the young man on the tractor to bring it under control." Pam prayed, "Lord, change its direction," and moments later it did alter course -- but only to somersault over the cliff. The vehicle crushed a car, whose owner, a widowed mother, had, moments before "just got out and walked to a chalet door, and was wondering why she had done so."

The driver of the tractor, dressed in brown, did not exist, however. He did not die in the crash, as he had not been on the tractor. The real driver had left the engine running while he closed a gate, and the tractor had moved off on its own. So, who, or what, had driven it to safety? Hope Price concludes it was an angel.

In 1909, an angel, or a UFO, was seen by two sisters in Fernhurst, West Sussex (an area subject to "alien spacecraft/UFO" activity in the 1990s) on the night of Christmas Eve. Gladys and Gwen Ruffle woke in the night, looked out of the window, and "witnessed an incredible sight."

Gladys explained. "In the sky were two golden doves which were flying very close to each other and, as their wings touched, the figure of an angel appeared, surrounded by an aura of radiance. It was quite breathtaking! Dumbfounded, we just sat in complete awe. The angel vanished and the doves gradually faded into the sky."

This story is followed by another fascinating recollection. "Jan Hawkes was only four when, swimming with her family in a pool in a river, she nearly drowned. "I was aware of a golden light and angels around me. I don't know how I would have known they were angels at that age. My father saved me from drowning."

Meg Watkins, aged nine, "ran right into an angel. She and her brother were running across their lawn when she suddenly saw a silver-white angel, about seven or eight feet tall, standing beneath a monkey-puzzle tree." Megan says, "I distinctly noticed the wings folded at the back.. The angel was holding out a sword in front of me, and I could not stop running. I thought I would be killed, but I felt nothing."

In another case, a girl describes seeing two glowing figures at night above the bed of an elderly lady in hospital. She learned the next day that the lady had died that night. The "angels", did not have wings, though. "They were suspended high above the bed, almost at the ceiling." (Note by Paul Whitehead: -- did the girl unwittingly witness an OBE or NDE? The description of the figures above the bed, at ceiling height, tallies with many OBE/NDE experiences given by the experiencers themselves, including meeting a figure or figures surrounded by light, or existing as light).

Hope Price's book contains many cases of adults seeing angels, complete with wings. "When an angel appears to a person, **It is in a form he can recognise**, as a courtesy, but what angels are in themselves is far greater than this visible manifestation." she writes. Her own son, Luke, experienced meeting angels at least twice in his childhood. When he was seven, he came downstairs for breakfast one day to say "some men visited me in the night."

They were "taller than daddy (who is nearly six foot) and they wore white, well, a sort of blue-ish white. They had very kind faces and one of them spoke to me; he said I will only have happy dreams now (Luke had been having bad ones), and I will have a good life and he will come back when I am nineteen." Luke was "adamant that he was awake" when this happened. The year was 1982, which makes Luke 19 this year (1994).

In Cirencester, a 10 year old boy in the back of his mother's car announced, "Mum, we've got three angels in the car." They were six inches high, with golden hair and light flowing from them. The mother did not see them -- but, as FSR has reported, six-inch tall "aliens" have been reported recently by children in Malaysia.

A particularly interesting view of what angels might be is given by the author. She quotes Professor Louis Berkhof, a Protestant, who wrote in his **Systematica Theology** in 1941.

"There are clear evidences of belief in the existence of angels from the very beginning of the Christian era. Some of them were regarded as good, and others as evil. The former were held in high esteem as personal beings of a lofty order, endowed with moral freedom, engaged in the joyful service of God, and employed by God to minister to the welfare of men. In distinction from God, angels are created beings ... as creatures, they are finite and limited, though they stand in a freer relationship to time and space than man... They are personal beings endowed with intelligence and will."

Hope Price believes "the angels' power is greater than that of humans and they are not limited as we are by space or time; they can go anywhere, instantly." She warns against worshipping angels. "They neither deserve nor desire it." Only God can be worshipped, she writes. Nor must we seek visions (i.e., try to see an angel); by doing so we can open ourselves "to the power of Satan, because he can counterfeit visions and give false revelations." She warns, "Some people have told me of 'angels' who have appeared in black or surrounded by darkness."

I strongly recommend this book to anyone interested in any aspect of cosmology, whether it be science, religion (in either a narrow or broad sense), philosophy, extraterrestrial hypotheses, and/or the mysteries which beckon us...

To those who are interested in the brief discussion in Hope Price's book about the nature of angels and the nature of reality, and wish to further study the subject, I can also recommend the second book reviewed in this article, "Angels and Aliens" by Keith Thompson.

Professor John E. Mack, now known in the UK for his own recent book plus television and radio appearances about abductions, calls Thompson's book "an important work," adding, "the central value of the book for me is its ability to break down the mental categories between the material and the psychological, the mythic and the real... the gulf between mind and matter."

After discussing UFO and close encounter cases with barely a mention of angels and what they might be, Thompson introduces us to an old Chinese saying. It is his way of opening up our thought-horizons, and offers us an analogy between our world-view and that of an intelligence with far greater knowledge of reality than humans. "The fish is the last to know that it lives in water."

He goes on to describe how, one day, a fish sees a weird and colourful object above the waterline. He moves towards it, mouth open in wonder (or hunger!) and is caught on a fisherman's hook. He had perceived the 'float' on the water. The fish is "abducted", sees strange two-legged beings, and some of the wonders of the human-created world. The fisherman eventually puts the fish back in the water. It returns to its shoal with tales of wonder. **But no other fish believes it...**

Let me expand on that further. Had the fish seen a computer, or radio or television, man walking on the Moon (or sending one of our mysteriously doomed missions to Mars!) his fellow-fish would have him on a submarine psychiatrist's couch. If fish could write books, he would be denounced as a hoaxer, a trickster, deluded fool or infantile dreamer. "Why do you persist in yearning for a better world with more knowledge? There is only the fish-reality, there is no other. There are no super-beings above the water. We possess all knowledge, and we are right about everything."

Let me add the following. A few months before manned space travel began, an esteemed British scientist, the then Astronomer Royal, declared that space travel was "bilge". And let us not forget Patrick Moore, who has traditionally been seemingly reticent about intelligent life beyond our planet. Well, in June 1994, after the Hubble telescope had photographed several planetary systems being formed, he told BBC Television News that he now believed "intelligent life is common throughout the Universe."

As far as some researchers are concerned, there are several layers of intelligent life, some a bit below ours, others far ahead of us -- so far that some "aliens" may exist as pure energy, or spirit, or as fields of awareness.

In his book, Keith Thompson looks at this issue of the nature of reality, and its many different facets. He also probes our apparent interaction with parts of this reality, the parts which produce angels and aliens.

He writes that the existential and spiritual crisis which may commence after a UFO experience does not depend on whether the observer feels or believes he/she has interacted with aliens or with a psychic, imaginary, archetypal or angelic experience. Rather the crisis (if there is one) will come about as a result of the "interaction with other worldly beings, presences, entities or objects," who/which may appear to be real, even "more real than real". (Comment by reviewer -- so it is not the viewing or the belief that counts, it's the actual interaction, or doing, which makes people suffer after "close encounters" with aliens. It would appear, however, that those who interact with angels do not suffer - perhaps because the sightings of the angels have re-inforced an existing belief or comfort structure, whereas "aliens" challenge that structure in a fundamental way).

Thompson believes there are patterns which are common to such accounts, whether they involve aliens or angels. He adds, "Without our notice, the human mythological structure has been undergoing a fundamental shift. Public opinion surveys and other measures of the collective pulse reveal that more people than ever now take for granted that we are not alone in the Universe -- 'inner' as well as 'outer' Universes, if such a division is finally possible.

"The very unwillingness of the UFO phenomenon either to go away or to come considerably closer to us in a single step has been conditioning us -- initiating us, if you will -- to entertain extraordinary possibilities about who we are at our depths, and what the defining conditions of the game we call Reality might be."

The "Other" (reality) comes in different guises, "as alien angel or archetype, and frequently demands something that seems, to the initiate, unacceptable; yet refusal seems impossible in this new and unfamiliar zone."

Thompson asks, "Are we justified in supposing that what is at stake in human-alien encounters is a certain concept of humanity?" He answers, "Professor Carl Raschke, of the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Denver, suggests the answer to this question is yes. The correct problem is "not whether UFOs exist, or in what sense they exist, but what ultimate aim they serve,' says Raschke. 'Our interest in them should centre on how the spreading and deepening convictions about them subtly, yet irreversibly, remould not just pe-

ripheral religious or metaphysical ideas, but entire constellations of culture and social knowledge.' Raschke maintains that UFOs serve as 'agents of cultural deconstruction... The deconstructive movement works upon human culture as a whole, although it may also have devastating effects at times on individual lives.'"

Thompson adds. "Meeting the gaze of the Other requires embracing the poet Rilke's painful recognition: 'There is no place at all that is not looking at you; you must change your life."

(Comment by reviewer -- To some people, there is no doubt that Earth is being visited by "nuts and bolts" spacecraft from planets in our galaxy, from our own "spacetime". To others, the aliens are so advanced that they move as if by magic through dimensions, flitting here in a shell of light. To some people, they appear telepathically. To others, they are advanced spiritual beings, interested in our welfare or, paradoxically, merely studying us as we would study a new species of monkey.)

Witnesses do see different "things" and do interpret them differently. Among UFO/alien witnesses interviewed by Thompson for his book, was a senior vice-president of an American bank, a school teacher, a cab driver, a journalist, an architect and an insurance agent.

These people, "Westerners", are perhaps seeing things because vast areas of the Other have been "placed off limits" by the West's narrow-minded scientific and religious culture, argues Thompson. We deny the existence of large parts of the Other, so they "return with a vengeance in various forms, including as UFOs."

He adds, "What we humans term 'reality' may in fact be a limited spectrum of a much larger realm of possibilities, where what we call 'mind' and 'matter' have not yet been distilled into a few dimensions that we can 'capture'. Ours may well be a world within worlds" -- our planet "embedded in a larger earth".

In "certain altered states of consciousness we apprehend more of this greater domain." Entry into it may be spontaneous and accidental, he writes, "as in the UFO abductions penomenon." And perhaps also with angels, who, to quote Thomas Aquinas, "need an assumed body,

not for themselves, but on our account."

Much of this is pure speculation, Thompson writes, and he is prepared, in the final analysis, to admit that maybe we have nothing in common whatever with aliens. "Possibly, mainstream UFO researchers are correct in insisting that the abductors are from a cosmos entirely apart, inexorably alien, to our nature, to us."

Yet he clearly *hopes* that we can connect in some way. He even advises us to do consiousness-expanding exercises, so that if we are "abducted", we will understand more of what is going on -- be observing participants rather than frightened subjects.

If fish were to realise the greater world (i.e. "our" Western* world) what would their reaction be? We don't know, because we don't understand fish, and we can't communicate with fish -- and anyway, fish don't have the ability to comprehend our world, as we cannot comprehend theirs, or their feelings and dreams.

I will conclude this article with a New Age saying, currently being publicised in New Age literature. "If you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything." I think I'll stand for aliens (the nice ones) and angels -- better to have these as a vision and a goal than some of the alternatives!

*COMMENT BY EDITOR, FSR. Excellent! Regarding Angels, I personally have no shred of doubt whatsoever about their existence. Such higher beings are known in all the Great Religions of mankind, most of which I have studied intensively over a very long life. The subject is going to become more important than ever and in due course we will have lots more to say about it -- I am very sure of that, and we still have other reviews in the pipe-line.

Meanwhile, since we have been discussing fish, let me terminate this discussion with another Chinese wisdom-snippet -- this time from K'ung Fu Tzu (Confucius to you). According to a passage in the great classical compendium known as the LUN YÜ (ANALECTS), it is recorded that one day the Master and his followers and disciples were standing on a bridge and watching the fish in the water below. One eager student, anxious to catch the Master's eye, piped up:-

"Observe, Sir, the fish below, disporting together so fishily happy!."

The Master cut him short with the withering answer:- "How do you KNOW that they are happy? Have you ever been a fish?"

My ancient Chinese and Manchu teachers in that enchanting and lost Old Beijing of yesterday (which now means nothing whatsoever to 1.2 billion Chinese whose average age is around 25) used to assure me that this was *Philosophy* at its deepest...

BOB DEAN TALKS OF ALIENS ON THE MOON

In the last of five talks given at the Second Annual Gulf Breeze UFO Conference in Pensacola, Florida, over the weekend of October 14-16, 1994, retired Army Command Sgt. Major Robert Dean delivered a stunning further packet of details about the Aliens who are among us. He said that, "in a cover-up so massive and insidious that it dwarfs Watergate", the U.S. Government is hiding from its own people the news that there are four species of Aliens on the Moon, one of which "looks just like us"!

Dean said that "all the astronauts know it, and many of them are having nervous breakdowns. The guys are being forced to keep their mouths shut. They're being forced by the Government to keep the greatest secret of our time".

"NASA knows about it. The highest levels of Government

know it. They were seen, and they saw us. Every Apollo mission we had was monitored and followed".

Concerning the alien species who resemble us, he said: "They look so much like us, they could sit next to you and you would never know it. You think that didn't bother the generals?" A woman in the audience asked "Is Hillary (Clinton) an alien?"

Dean chuckled and said she was not. And then he went on to explain why our astronauts no longer go to the Moon.

"We were told to get off the Moon, and stay off", said Dean. [For years past I have been pointing out "how odd it was" that we have never been back to the Moon, and I suggested long ago that this was clear evidence that we had been WARNED OFF. G.C.]