



Transformation: The Breakthrough

Whitley Strieber

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According to bestselling author Whitley Strieber, his contact with strange aliens did not end with the release of his controversial book, *Communion*. Instead, the "visitors" kept coming. In *Transformation*, Strieber challenges his own fear for a triumphant breakthrough in understanding.

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Transformation: The Breakthrough Details

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Joshua says

Wow, Its fascinating the utter certainty people have in thier grasp of "reality". When something is presented from outside thier paradigm they must classify it into the known. This is the intellectual arrogance of those who claim the author has psych issues.

This author has gone through extensive psychological and physiological tests the results of which are publicly available here: <http://www.unknowncountry.com/edge/ar...>).

These tests have shown no mental disorder whatsoever with Whitley, yet people persist in the slander that this man is mentally ill.

Why? Because what he says happened to him seems unbelievable. Because it frightens people? That, in and of itself is not a logical reason to discount what he says. All it reflects is our extreme discomfort with the unknown. It is a position of weakness. Those who claim Whitley Strieber has epilepsy, or any other sort of mental disorder are completely refuted by the medical data. So they are in a position of arguing AGAINST SCIENCE.

I encourage anyone to read his work with an open mind and hopefully the next time you gaze at the night sky, your heart will soar with the possibilities, and you will not limit yourself within the prison of the "known".

Hiddenlawyer says

A very bizarre tale about alien encounters in a NY countryside summer cabin. The author claims this to be a book about his own real life experiences while he was writing his first book Communion. His imagery is done so well that you get enveloped into the scene as if you were there yourself. There are many unsettling events that take place. In combination with his capability to paint a very vivid image in your mind, I will just say that it is like having a nightmare. I also recommend watching the movie Communion which is based on both books. No one could have done a better job than Christopher Walken, who plays the lead role.

Dan says

Whitley Strieber is the Pope of Crazytown. Thus, he is regularly abducted and variously assaulted by bizarre alien entities. They also make him afraid of the dark. And turn him onto flaky pseudo-Native American mysticism. They also have great plans(!) and nefarious schemes (!) for us. They also love us in the most menacing and evil way possible. Seriously.

The 'transformation' referred to in the title is Strieber's transformation into a worse writer. Gone are the already few brief moments of genuine anything from "Communion", replaced by Strieber's constant nail-chewing about the motives of his 'visitors' who only visit him right before (or after?) he falls asleep. Outside of Crazytown, we call those dreams, Whitley.

David Moore says

An excellently written account of alien abduction. Although perhaps not interesting to skeptics seeking absolute confirmation, because this is basically an extension of his experience laid down in *Communion* - which in turn is a subjective account, sprinkled with enlightening, open-minded speculations on what it might be. However, if you've researched the UFO phenomena, and have witnessed a UFO - up close and personal - the poignancy of Strieber's account hits hard, close, crisp and resonant.

The writing is vivid and engaging, pulling you into the scenario and, in turn, asking the same questions you would - and beyond. I highly doubt that Whitley Strieber is lying, or some cash-grabbing opportunist, because writing of this calibre - immaculately, almost poetically, jarring as it is linearly lucid and disciplined - weaves a story that is, to me, self-evidently highly personal to the author.

Skeptics of this phenomena, which are looking for hard and convincing evidence, I think, won't find it here. For further research I'd recommend 'Captured! The Betty and Barney Hill UFO Experience: The True Story of the World's First Documented Alien Abduction' by Stanton T. Friedman and Kathleen Marden, or more general books like Colin Wilson's 'Alien Dawn' or Tony Dodd's 'Alien Investigator'. If you have less time and want a valuable summary, I'd point you to the two videos available on YouTube, which are "Jacques Vallee - Thinking Allowed - Implications of UFO Phenomena" and "Terence McKenna - Aliens and Archetypes" - which are both from Jeffery Mishlove's excellent programme, Thinking Allowed.

As both a witness and voracious reader on the subject, I believe that the more critical faculties we can bring to this ridiculed phenomena can bring back its credibility and importance; re-instating it well beyond the crass programmes that haunt our ever unfolding screens of degraded junk knowledge, and hysterical conspiracy theory and feverish, irrational self-anointed 'debunkers'.

Matthew Moran says

Hmmm . . . OK

Transformation: The Breakthrough is singlehandedly responsible for absolutely destroying any interest I had in alien sightings, encounters, abductions, and in fact even diminished my interest in all things supernatural. Prior to reading this book, I truly enjoyed that stuff . .

My real issue? The narrator's story is so self absorbed and narcissistic, I have less than no compassion for him. Rather than rehash the entire histrionic blather found in every chapter, I will highlight one example.

Throughout this story, the narrator has this country house his family visits where the abductions happen. He continues to visit the house again and again. When it becomes apparent that now his children are also being abducted . . . does he run like hell from the house? Does he sit by their bedside to protect them?

Nope - he whines and complains about whoa as me, whoa as me . . now they are abducting my kids . . whoa as me. . . (?!!! . . seriously?)

Any sane person would sell the house and never look back. But this guy . . No . . in fact he keeps them there longer to see if they get abducted again . . (After finally leaving, I think he even returns with them at one point to see if they get abducted again . . you know, for research purposes.)

And then finally . . . finally, lets address the Breakthrough itself . . . the moral of the story is some trite bit of nothing like "All is love and conflict." . . .

I have been blessed enough to hear these words in my life as well . . .although instead of putting myself and my family at risk to malevolent extraterrestrial entities, I spent 6.95 on a chinese food lunch special that included a fortune cookie. It took a lot less words and heartache to convey the same message.

Gordon says

Communion is the scariest book on UFOs that I've ever read, disregarding if it's true or not; however, this follow up just seems to do nothing except make things more confusing and, IMO, less credible. Please go back to horror novels as they were amazing; this is not.

Jason Blake says

I really struggled with this book, which is a shame as I enjoyed reading Communion as well as still having fond memories of Christopher Walken in the 1989 movie in which he seemed stranger than the Aliens. Maybe it was just too much to read this straight afterwards? It felt more self indulgent and padded, and to be honest it had worn me down so much it has taken me a while to finish it... I'm still disappointed in myself for having this book floating around and not pushing myself that bit more.... enough Aliens!!! Time for a different book choice!

Debbie Scott says

More scary "true" bedtime stories about alien abduction.

Joe Fox says

A poor follow-up to the enjoyable and more believable 'Communion'. Strieber seems to be further capitalizing on his notoriety with this work that is heavy on the metaphysical and with new-age thought. A good amount of time is spent reminding the reader how accomplished a writer the author is aside from his novels related to abduction experiences and Strieber never fails to remind us that he has a large number of friends with some notoriety. Rather than spend the majority of the time placating his ego, Streiber would have wrote a better novel concentrating on what his experiences could mean for the rest of us; perhaps he just ran out of new information to share.

Erik Graff says

If you read *Communion*, this is just more of the same without the punch of the initial encounters. The story of the author's experiences with nonhuman intelligences does proceed a bit, chronologically speaking, but there is nothing particularly new here.

Jonathan Hockey says

This was an old book of my dads, I had never given this kind of stuff a try before, but decided to give it a go. I like the spiritual kind of insights for growth you can potentially take from this book. But I still feel not much more the wiser regarding the reality or non-reality of these alien beings or visitors in any specific details. It feels like the suggestion is their level of reality is similar to that of the kind of beings a shaman might encounter in old human religious practices with a modern twist in line with our scientific and technological advancements.

I don't know if there is still much of this kind of visitor experience going on. I know it seemed to reach a peak in the last part of the 20th century. But the 21st century, since 9/11, seems to have created a whole new world for western society with very different preoccupations. Political conspiracies and secrets have become the new emphasis for those so inclined to look beyond the mainstream surface consensus on reality.

I do not know if alien visitors are real, but I certainly think there is scope for a reality to some kinds of beings, not reducible to our own sub-conscious or unconscious or hallucinations. Strieber says one must be open to the experience and ask what one needs. It reminds me of prayer, and maybe this is partly what the alien phenomena is all about, an alternative form of spiritual communion for those who can no longer accept the traditional authority of religion.

Anna Ligtenberg says

ISBN 0380705354 - I believe in life on other planets. I believe in life outside our galaxy and that there is little - if any - reason to think we are the most intelligent and technologically advanced creatures ever. I also think Whitley Strieber is a really good writer (Warday comes to mind). The problem is, I also think he's a nutjob.

In *Transformation*, Strieber basically tells the story of what happened while he was working on *Communion* (if there's another book about what happened while he was working on *Transformation*, I will not be surprised) as well as now claiming that he and his siblings had encounters of one sort or another throughout their childhoods. Not just them, either, but pretty much every single person who ever came into contact with the guy, and a few people who only came into contact with people who came into contact with him. That alone makes his story wildly suspect, but it isn't the reason for the 2 stars ranking.

Strieber seems to hop all over the place in this book, at times leaving a story half-told. When "predictions" from his visitor contacts don't happen as they were foretold, he bends what DOES happen to fit, much like the gullible do when crystal-ball wielding women bedecked in scarves tell them they will suffer a loss. Who WON'T suffer a loss? And who CAN'T bend reality to conform to a "prediction"? He creates theories that seem to have little basis in reality - even if you accept his visitors as reality. If it weren't laughable, it would

be irresponsible. There are so many people who genuinely, and mistakenly, believe they've been abducted that there's no telling where they might run with the fantastic ball of theories laid forth by Strieber.

There are some things in the book that made me wonder... for example, this adult male parent of a young child has a house in the woods that is frequently visited by aliens and his son sleeps a floor away, closer to the entrances to the house than his parents. What? Strieber states "I realized the seriousness of the ozone crisis long before most others", an "indisputable" fact - and one that I'm pretty sure is easily disproven. In the end, Strieber ends up sounding mildly disturbed and a bit like a guy with an inflated ego. His credibility is irrelevant, since he's usually writing fiction and aware that it IS fiction; the only difference I think there is here is that *Transformation* is less well-written and he thinks, genuinely believes, it's real.

- AnnaLovesBooks

Anton Channing says

An honest account of the authors experiences of encounters with what appear to be non-human intelligence's. Sequel to his best selling 'Communion', Strieber focuses on recounting the weirdness of the experiences without trying to impose any given interpretation upon them. He shares the various suspicions and beliefs he held at various points, and how he moved on from them.

Mike says

When I read Whitley Strieber's *Communion*, I had the impression of a person genuinely trying to explain his bizarre experiences. I think Strieber has a flair for dramatic storytelling, so I took some of that book with a grain of salt. My guess is he started with some odd happenings, and dressed them up with his fiction writing skills to get a bestseller.

However, *Transformation: The Breakthrough* seems like more than just Strieber spinning out a good yarn about some weird lights in the sky and creepy noises in his cabin. I genuinely thought I was reading the account of someone having some sort of psychotic break or extreme mental illness crisis. In an appendix, Strieber documents medical and psychological tests that have shown him to be in good psychologically health, but I simply don't believe it. If this book is an accurate account of his experiences and state of mind, this is a man who:

hears voices telling him to do things

believes that he has been watched by unknown entities his entire life

has no memory or fragmentary memories of large chunks of his life (sometimes weeks and months at a time)

has intricate and horrifying hallucinations or visions of death, disasters and torture

is mentally incapacitated by an extreme fear of the night

claims he can astrally project himself and psychically contact his friends in other parts of the

country

He relates how "the visitors" psychologically torture him with violent, frightening visions before threatening his son in order to get him to stop eating ice cream and sweets! He becomes so emotionally crippled by his hallucinations that he cannot leave his house at night. Then he goes on to unironically claim that the visitors love him, and he loves them.

Again, assuming this is truthful account of what he experienced, I think the most likely explanation is that he is a very disturbed man. It might just be a cash-in on his notoriety after *Communion*. It's an okay read if you like conspiracy theory tinfoil-hat stuff.

Samira Elytess says

Whitely, I don't care to read about your biography with only 6 pages of aliens in it.

You wrote the book as if you discovered MENstruation vs. mensTransformation, hence the emotional drama ride in your book.

When people like me read ET/alien books, we are looking to learn more about the Beings, not the human abductees!

Case Closed.

To the ETs:

Why the heck do you beings contact the sheeple who don't believe in a world beyond their five stupid limited senses that sleazy douche scientists have brainwashed them with?!

Next time, invite intelligent humans who know about the world of metaphysics and you'll see progress.
