



# *New Coordinates*

*Who are you?!*

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## New Coordinates

I got a new cell phone subscription last week. Came with a whole new cell phone as well. "For free" (although my monthly subscription payments eventually cover more than well for this "free" phone).

Anyway, it's quite a piece of technology, and I've been spending a lot of time figuring out all the stuff I can do with it. Most of it I won't use of course, but there's also a GPS functionality on it, which I do like.

Just in case you don't know what GPS is, it stands for 'Global Positioning System'. It's basically a satellite system that allows a GPS receiver (like the one installed on my phone) to calculate my exact position on the globe.

When I give in coordinates or address info for another position on the globe that I want to go to, my phone calculates the shortest or fastest way to get there.

Pretty neat. With a device like this, you can't really get lost anymore.

That is, *if* the device is able to locate your current position in the first place. After all, we get lost because we don't know where we are. Without that information, we can't find the way home. Just think about it: How can you get somewhere if you don't know where you are to begin with?

It's the same thing in life. It's like John Lennon used to sing:

*How can I go forward when I don't know which way I'm facing?  
How can I go forward when I don't know which way to turn?*

**The sad thing is that most people don't know where they are. As a matter of fact, most people don't even know *who* they are.**

Most people identify themselves with their job, income, likes and dislikes, etc. Watch an average game show on TV and watch people 'tell about themselves'. What you'll invariably hear will be things like:

*"My name is John Doe, I'm a road-maker at sea, I'm married with three children, I like football and also like to have a good laugh and party."*

Now there's a limited perception of who we really are! In fact, there's much more to who you are, as we also reveal in [our books](#).

**But without that knowledge, without knowing that single coordinate of where you are, let alone *who* you are, how can you make sense of what you experience in life?**

You hardly can...

As for *where* we are, we've been talking in much detail about the mechanics of how we create reality ourselves in previous articles on our blog. Even Albert Einstein also described reality as:

*An illusion, albeit a persistent one.*

As for *who* we are, here's another thing he said:

*A human being is a part of the whole, called by us Universe, a part limited in time and space. He experiences himself, his thoughts and feelings as something separated from the rest, a kind of optical delusion of his consciousness. This delusion is a kind of prison for us, restricting us to our personal desires and to affection for a few persons nearest to us. Our task must be to free ourselves from this prison by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty.*

In fact, we may need to embrace that we are even much more than that.

You see, a while ago we received an interesting question from one of our subscribers. It wasn't really an everyday kind of question. Anyway, let's just throw it in there without any further ado... The question was:

***"What happens after death?"***

Now there's a question! And one that's obviously not easily answered from experience or evidence-based science...

Nevertheless, it's still an important and interesting topic. After all, while *any* form of fear is limiting really, the fear of death may be the most paralyzing of all. It's kind of like the Chinese philosopher Chuang Tzu said it:

*The birth of a man is the birth of his sorrow. The longer he lives, the more stupid he becomes, because his anxiety to avoid unavoidable death becomes more and more acute. What bitterness! He lives for what is always out of reach. His thirst to survival in the future makes him incapable of living in the present.*

**That's what we tend to do most of the time. We cease to LIVE LIFE NOW because we (consciously and subconsciously) fear the inevitable death of ourselves and of those we love. We focus on making a living for survival in the future and forget to make a life right now, the only 'time' that exists.**

**And all that, while there may not even be such a thing as 'death'.**

"What's that you say? No such thing as death?"

That's right.

You see, Dutch cardiologist Pim van Lommel recently produced a massive study of near-death experiences that supported the whole concept of what we call 'life after death'.

His findings were published in the reputable British medical journal *The Lancet*, and he recently published a book in the Netherlands that became a bestseller.

(And at the time of writing this article, there are negotiations going on for publishing the book in other languages as well. First in line will probably be the English speaking countries. The book will be called *Endless Consciousness – A Scientific Vision On The Near-Death Experience*. So if you're interested, keep an eye on this title...)

Anyway, Van Lommel got interested in the whole phenomenon about 35 years ago when a patient told him about her near-death experience. But it was only after reading a book called *Return From Tomorrow*, in which an American doctor called George Richie detailed his own near-death experience, that he started to study the phenomenon seriously.

Van Lommel started to ask all his patients if they remembered anything during the time when their hearts stopped beating. Here's a quick selection of some of the accounts he recorded:

*I became 'detached' from the body and hovered within and around it. It was possible to see the surrounding bedroom and my body, even though my eyes were closed. I was suddenly able to 'think' hundreds or thousands of times faster, and with greater clarity, than is humanly normal or possible. At this point I realized and accepted that I had died. It was time to move on. It was a feeling of total peace – completely without fear or pain, and it didn't involve any emotions at all.*

*I was looking down at my own body from up above and saw doctors and nurses fighting for my life. I could hear what they were saying. Then I got a warm feeling and I was in a tunnel. At the end of that tunnel was a bright, warm, white, vibrating light. It was beautiful. It gave me a feeling of peace and confidence. I floated towards it. The warm feeling became stronger and stronger. I felt at home, loved, nearly ecstatic. I saw my life flash before me. Suddenly I felt the pain of the accident once again and shot back into my body. I was furious that the doctors had brought me back.*

*This experience is a blessing for me, for now I know for sure that body and soul are separated, and that there is life after death. It has convinced me that consciousness lives on beyond the grave. Death is not death, but another form of life.*

*I saw a man who looked at me lovingly, but whom I did not know. [Later...], at my mother's deathbed, she confessed to me that I had been born out of an extramarital relationship, my father being a Jewish man who had been deported and killed during the Second World War, and my mother showed me his picture. The unknown man that I had seen years before during my near-death experience turned out to be my biological father."*

What's interesting is the consistency between all the different near-death experiences. The bliss, the tunnel, being met by long-passed loved ones, and the disappointment of having to come back are constant themes.

There don't seem to be any specific demographic characteristics to a near-death experience either. There doesn't seem to be a relationship between near-death experiences and a person's age, sex, marital status, race, religion and/or spiritual beliefs, social class, educational level, income, frequency of church attendance, size of home community, or area of residence.

It's not even something of this day and age alone. Out-of-body experiences and near-death experiences appear to be universal phenomena.

For example, they're described at length in both the eighth-century Tibetan Book of the Dead and the 2,500-year-old Egyptian Book of the Dead.

Also, in *Book X* of *The Republic*, the ancient Greek philosopher Plato gives a detailed account of a Greek soldier named Er, who came alive just seconds before his funeral pyre was to be lit and said

that he had left his body and went through a 'passage way' to the land of the dead.

Furthermore, the Venerable Bede gives a similar account in his eighth-century work *A History of the English Church and People*. And Carol Zaleski, Harvard professor of world religions, says that medieval literature is filled with accounts of near-death experiences.

Here's a quick summary of a typical near-death experience:

*A man is dying and suddenly finds himself floating above his body and watching what's going on. Within moments he travels at great speed through a darkness or a tunnel. He enters a realm of dazzling light and is warmly met by recently deceased friends and relatives. Frequently he hears indescribably beautiful music and sees sights – rolling meadows, flower-filled valleys, and sparkling streams – more lovely than anything he has seen on earth. In this light-filled world he feels no pain or fear and is pervaded with an overwhelming feeling of joy, love and peace. He meets a 'being (and or beings) or light' who emanates a feeling of enormous compassion, and is prompted by the being(s) to experience a 'life review', a panoramic replay of his life. He becomes so enraptured by his experience of this greater reality that he desires nothing than to stay. However, the being tells him that it is not his time yet and persuades him to return to his earthly life and reenter his physical body.*

There are other characteristics too though, and not all near-death experiences involve all the above elements.

Anyway, there are lots of interesting cases reported of people knowing stuff they really couldn't know.

For example, Raymond A. Moody Jr., a psychiatrist who published an early best-selling investigation on the subject in his books *Life After Life* and *The Life Beyond*, reports of a case in which a woman left her body during surgery, floated into the waiting room, and saw that her daughter was wearing mismatched plaids.

As it turned out, the maid had dressed the little girl so hastily she had not noticed the error and was astounded when the mother, who did not physically see the little girl that day, commented on the fact.

In another case, a woman went to the hospital lobby after leaving her body and overheard her brother-in-law tell a friend that it looked like he was going to have to cancel a business trip and instead be one of his sister-in-law's pallbearers. After the woman recovered, she reprimanded her astonished brother-in-law for writing her off so quickly.

Anyway, according to Van Lommel, when some people return they often have a sense of being imprisoned, compared to the freedom they had experienced briefly. Others say it transformed their lives and they all lose their fear of death. As Van Lommel says:

*The most important thing people are left with is that they are no longer afraid of death. This is because they have experienced that their consciousness lives on, that there is continuity. Their life and their identity don't end when the body dies. They simply have the feeling they're taking off their coat.*

Apparently, what passes through that 'tunnel' is our *consciousness*, the *awareness* that we really are, that's making a transition from one level of reality to another.

Here's what Van Lommel says of 'death':

*At that moment these people are not only conscious; their consciousness is even more expansive than ever. They can think extremely clearly, have memories going back to their earliest childhoods and experience an intense connection with everything and everyone around them. And yet the brain shows no activity at all!*

*"What is consciousness and where is it located? What is my identity? Who is doing the observing when I see my body down there on the operating table? What is life? What is death?"*

Well, we seem to be infinite awareness, and 'life' as we know it on this plane of existence and 'death' are merely different states of an infinite consciousness that's located everywhere.

Van Lommel explains how the brain does not produce consciousness (which is unfortunately a bit too much detail to get into in this article...). According to him, the body and brain are a receiver/transmitter of information like a computer or television:

*You could compare the brain to a television set that tunes into specific electromagnetic waves and converts them into image and sound. Our waking consciousness, the consciousness we have during our daily activities, reduces all the information there is to a single truth that we experience as 'reality'. During near-death experiences, however, people are not limited to their bodies or their waking consciousness, which means they experience many more realities.*

We are infinite consciousness, *awareness*, each of us with our individual perspective, but simultaneously being an inseparable part of the whole, just like anyone and anything else. Van Lommel concludes:

*I now see that everything stems from consciousness. I better understand that you create your own reality based on the consciousness you have and the intention from which you live. I understand that consciousness is the basis of life, and that life is principally about compassion, empathy, and love.*

Exactly.

You know, I remember a couple of years ago when my grandmother died...

At the funeral the family decided to keep the coffin closed, because they wanted everyone to remember her like she was: a vibrant, sparkling woman.

Her body had deteriorated significantly due to all kinds of cancer. It was lying there in the coffin as lifeless as a switched-off computer.

However, my mother and her sisters put a picture of my grandmother on the coffin. Her body may have been dead, but I can tell you one thing:

***That picture was alive!***

It had captured her smile, the sparkle in her eyes, the 'life energy' that was the real 'her'.

The essence of who we really are can't get much clearer than that. 'Living' people have a sparkle in the eyes that propagates one of the clearest signs of 'living consciousness' you can find. It's expressed most clearly when people are happy and laugh. They just *radiate life*.

The body in the coffin was not my grandmother. It was but a switched of computer. The real 'her', her *awareness*, simply can't cease to exist.

Of course, when a loved one goes, they can seem to take something of us with them, because of our energetic connection. There's a hole in your life that they once filled just by the knowledge that they were there.

So I grieved for her loss. Or did I? Maybe I just grieved for myself for the fact that she was no longer with us.

However, while I was grieving, *she* was relieved from all kinds of pain caused by the cancers by being released from the limitation of bodily illusion, and being 'reborn' into other realms of 'reality'. So who was I to grieve for her? Wasn't I really grieving for myself?

All in all, death does not seem to be inevitable. In fact, given studies like Van Lommel's, it doesn't even seem to exist, except in our deluded perception.

We seek to survive when we should really seek to LIVE!

The words of the late comedian Bill Hicks come to mind again... I've quoted them before, but they're so relevant to conclude this article as well:

*The world is like a ride in an amusement park, And when you choose to go on it, you think it's real, because that's how powerful our minds are.*

*And the ride goes up and down, and round and round. It has thrills and chills, and it's very brightly colored and it's very loud.*

*And it's fun, for a while... Some people have been on the ride for a long time, and they begin to question: 'Is this real? Or is it just a ride?'*

*And other people have remembered, and they come back to us and they say: 'Hey! Don't worry! Don't be afraid, ever, because this is just a ride.'*

*And we kill those people...*

*'Shut him up! We have a lot invested in this ride! Shut him up! Look at my furrows of worry; look at my big bank account and my family. This has to be real!'*

*It's just a ride... But we always kill those good guys who try to tell us that. And we let the demons run amok,*

*But it doesn't matter, because it's just a ride... And we can change it any time we want. It's only a choice. No effort. No worry. No job. No savings and money.*

*Just a choice, right now, between fear and love.*

*The eyes of fear want you to put bigger locks on your door, buy bigger guns, close yourself off. The eyes of love, instead, see all of us as one.*

**So LIVE NOW, feel the experience, and above all: enjoy the ride!  
And thanks for your time to read!**

## *Final Words*

So that's it for this article!

We hope this has been insightful and useful for you.

If you thought this was insightful and think that others may benefit from the information conveyed in this e-book, please feel free to pass it on to them. Just leave the contents of this e-book intact.

As an alternative, you may want to go to our [blog post where this article is located](#) and 'digg' the post, or bookmark it to any other social bookmarking website. You can do that by using the 'digg' or bookmarking buttons at the bottom of the post.

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And if there are things that you want us to talk about in future blog posts or future e-books (or even 'real' books, who knows!), don't hesitate to e-mail them to [suggestions@revolutioniz.com](mailto:suggestions@revolutioniz.com).

Obviously, we can't answer each and every request individually as we get hundreds of them. But your suggestions will inspire us to write about certain subjects on our blog and future e-books.

So that's it.

Keep it 'real'!

Henk and Nicholas

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