

The Price of Believing

by Justin Key

"Am I saying that extra-terrestrial intelligent beings have visited us--*are* visiting us? No. I'm saying we don't know what's happening. There's something going on here, we just haven't figured it out yet. We may never be able to figure it out because, as humans, we're limited to perceiving only a very small piece of reality. So to dismiss thousands of people--hundreds of thousands of people--as being mentally ill, or to dismiss their stories as mere hallucinations . . . it's irresponsible."

-Neil Hairston, author of *Chasing Twilight: The Search For ET*. 1999.

01/14/1998

Physician: L. Muller, MD

Chief Complaint: Exhaustion

HPI: CK is a 28-year-old male presenting with exhaustion after multiple nights with little to no sleep. CK's wife called 911 when she found her husband pacing their apartment, rambling to himself and not acknowledging her presence. When paramedics arrived, CK excitedly ran outside, then burst into tears. Patient denies any head injury or trauma. Patient spoke fast, exhibited flight of ideas, and constantly checked his watch. He seemed hesitant to talk around his wife, who refused to leave the room. Patient had multiple well-healed scars on his left ventral forearm but couldn't recall their origin.

Patient has no history of mental illness.

12/18/1998

Physician: B. Brown, MD

CK is a 29-year-old man with a nine-year-old daughter who sought psychotherapy for marital problems. He started feeling enormous stress when his wife became stay-at-home five years ago. He felt guilty about thoughts that life was passing him by and fantasizing about leaving all responsibilities behind.

Though patient began with blunted affect, he brightened significantly when explaining that, a year and a half ago, he was abducted by 'extra-terrestrial' beings. As he describes it, he was exported from his bedroom and taken to another dimension. He spent a significant amount of time detailing alien speech, physical appearance, and culture when compared to humans. He believes these intelligent beings are concerned we're destroying Earth. He believes his abduction experience gave him clarity and purpose and will prove to have great impact on his well-being.

CK is frustrated that his wife hasn't taken his experience seriously. He feels that she is embarrassed when he talks about his beliefs in public, which directly conflicts with what he believes to be his current purpose.

CK did acknowledge negative impacts on his life and regrets recently losing his job as a personal trainer. He blames others for not being accepting. He admits that he probably wouldn't believe his stories, either, but doesn't think that should stop him from spreading the truth. He cited multiple well-healed scars on his left forearm as proof that his story isn't all in his head.

CK is willing to talk more about regaining normalcy. Though his scars are concerning, he doesn't appear to pose a threat to himself or others. It is recommended that he continue psychotherapy with Cognitive Based Therapy.

Snippet of correspondence from Eva Health Group, 01/31/1999.

"After carefully reviewing the claim, we have determined services are not payable for the following reasons:

- Documentation does not support that the physician is qualified for the services billed."

08/14/1999

Physician: L. Muller, MD

Chief Complaint: Syncope following blood loss due to self-inflicted wounds.

HPI: CK is a 30-year-old male presenting with multiple lacerations on his left arm. Patient was rushed to the emergency room when his wife found him unconscious while mowing the lawn. He was bleeding profusely from three deep cuts extending the entire length of his dorsal left forearm. Patient presented with dehydration, tachycardia, moderate blood loss, and delusions. There is no sign of head trauma. Patient denies self-harm. He claims the scars were birthmarks given to him by 'extra-terrestrials' two years ago.

Patient has a two-year history of anxiety attacks and is currently on anti-psychotics. He complains of stomachaches and 'fuzziness' with medications. He expressed paranoia about his wife being 'jealous of his truth' and keeping him 'drugged up all the time.' Patient was recently fired from his third job this year.

Suggest follow-up with in-patient psychiatry.

Medications: Abilify (15 mg/day),  
Fluoxetine Hydrochloride (20 mg/day)  
Klonopin  
Quetiapine (300 mg/day)

Letter  
10/28/1999

Momma Sheryl,

I just can't do it anymore. The vows said, 'till death do us part.' Sickness and in health. But what happens when that sickness takes the soul and leaves the body?

I'm part to blame. I know I am. When he first started talking about aliens, I was scared. He had a good job. Danny just got into that private school. I tried to hide his sickness. I thought sooner or later his bad dream would just go away. He'd never talked that stuff before.

I could have dealt with it. I really could have. I'd give anything to go back to that. I told myself taking him in would do him good. I told myself I'd want him to do the same for me.

When he's on his pills, he's a shadow of himself. But when he doesn't take them . . . He blames me for everything. Says I've betrayed us. Because I didn't believe him. I wish I had. It would be better if he *was* dying. At least then I could have the memory of the man I married.

I'm taking Danny to stay with my parents for a while, until I can get on my feet. I hope you don't hate me. I want Danny to still know her Grandma.

Love always,  
Kim

*The Taken Internet Chatroom, 09/03/1999*

**RE: Time dilation during abductions**

AbductedDad1970: We're thinking about it all wrong. Time is nothing to them. *We* depend on time because that's the dimension we operate in. We have to stop thinking of them in terms of us.

*The Taken Internet Chatroom, 10/12/1999*

**RE: Would you want your kids to be abducted?**

AbductedDad1970: I have a ten-year-old daughter and go back and forth on this. It's a hard path, you know? I'm thankful they came to me. I wouldn't have it any other way-- really, I wouldn't. But I think I was chosen so that my children wouldn't have to be, you know? She's prepared, though. She knows the truth. If I'm not here when they come back, she will be.

ETPhonedHome: I wouldn't wish having to deal with my kids on anyone or any alien!

Neo\_Matrix: I just had a mental image of aliens trying to catch my twin toddlers. They'd never come back to Earth again!

AbductedDad1970: LMAO!



Letter  
02/24/2001

Mom,

They're going to keep me for another two months. Two months now, two months later. These walls keep getting thicker and thicker, more confusing. Outside I had purpose--my wife, Danny, what *they* gave me--but inside it's a struggle just to know who I am.

You want me to lie. I can't, Mom, I can't. "Lying carves a path to hell." Isn't that what you told me? What if someone asked you, "Do you believe in God?" What would you say?

Maybe it's not a lie. I made it up. They were never there. A dream. I wish.

My scars, they're here. Where did they come from? The doctor said I made them, but *that's* a lie. *They* made the scars, I *keep* the scars. It's the only part I still control. They punish me for keeping that. Who's the crazy?

They chose me for a reason. I really believe that. I really KNOW that. I'm not failing the world. The world is failing them.

How's Kimmy doing? Danny? Tell them I love them. It would be good to hear their voices. Like before.

Charlie

Letter  
04/16/2001

Dear Jared,

I'm settled into my apartment. It's a good place. Cozy. Did you know that Myrtle Beach had thirty UFO sightings last year? Thirty! I've already joined an abductee group.

I know what the family says about me. We fear what we don't understand. We don't want to believe there's something out there more advanced than us. But they're past that. They are beyond destruction and killing and conquering.

But you know what? Water under the bridge. This is where I belong. The journey got me here. I hope to see you soon. Bring your swim trunks.

Love,  
Big Brother Charlie

Letter  
04/16/2001

Dear Kim,

You know how we've always wanted to live on the beach? I got us a place in North Carolina. It's small, but it's good. I got Danny's room just like she likes it. I hope she's still into Backstreet Boys (I know we used to have a no poster policy, but I couldn't help it).

I'm looking at a few jobs in the area. It's the beach, so fitness is in.

This is the place. We can make a home again. I can't wait to see you guys. I can't wait to get back on with our lives.

Love,  
Charles

Letter  
06/03/2001

Charles,

I have moved on. We have moved on. Please stop calling us. It upsets Danny. It upsets me. Please, let us let go.

I hope you get better. I hope you can find happiness and peace. I really do.

Kim.

Excerpt from "The Scars of Abduction: Charles' Story." *Abduction and Psychosis*. Z. Greenfield, MD - 2003. Interview with Jared Kane, brother of Charles Kane.

**Did Charles ever talk about aliens as a child?**

Oh, all the time. He always had some new story about being taken up or going on some trip.

**Really? No one else mentioned that.**

He only told me. We got older, and he stopped talking about it. I didn't bring it up. I didn't want to look like a kid to him.

**Did you believe his stories?**

Of course. He was my brother. (Laughs). I wondered why the aliens never came for *me*.

**Did you ever see anything?**

No.

**You don't seem so sure.**

I was five. You know how you think you've visited a place but you've only heard about it? It was like that.

**What do you think now? Do you think Charles was abducted by aliens?**

I believe he believed it. But look where it got him.

**Do you think your brother was crazy?**

I don't.

**So what does that mean?**

He came to me first when it happened. After all these years, I was almost expecting it. It felt like we were kids again. But he didn't sound crazy. He sounded relieved, almost, like someone who's found the Lord, or even someone who's accepted that there is no God. Naw, I don't think he was crazy. His beliefs just weren't compatible. You can't go around talking about aliens and expect people to let you be.

**It's been a year since your brother disappeared. Where do you think he is?**

Dead, most likely.

**Do you really believe that?**

Maybe. Maybe not. But that's all I have to say about it.

**Journal Entry, Charles M. Kane, 06/18/1997.**

Clarity. For the first time in my life.

It was amazing. Amazing. It feels like a dream I don't want to forget.

I could never forget.

The light through my window, it was the brightest I've ever seen. When you wake up to something like that, you expect something bad. But I had total, complete calm.

They plucked me out of my room like a ~~flower~~. No, not a flower, because a flower doesn't want to be plucked. I didn't know it yet, but I wanted to go. I had been waiting for them my whole life. It's crazy! It feels crazy. But it's not.

When Danny was born I was so scared. What if my best wasn't good enough? She's been here eight years and there's not a day I feel I'm doing it all right.

Except today. I know what's important now: to be here, in the present, with them. Spreading the truth. That's what matters.

I saw so much. We know so little. Life, it's beautiful. Things will be better now. Money doesn't matter. Depression is a myth. I have all I need.

I can't wait to see what tomorrow holds.