

# COGNITION FACTOR

a smart movie

by

**Headspace Studios**

Schwann: "The end of the 20th century. Millennium psychosis ruled and non linear time really began kicking in. The nature of reality was tenuous at this time. Millions interacting in a medium beyond time and space. Within a relatively short time, the net had expanded my mind, boosted my creativity and altered reality. It was about at this time that a new purpose came to me....."

Terence McKenna: "What we're going to do is we're going to all wire ourselves together."

Schwann: "Digital rebirth complete; the virtual world; a world where imagination is the only border, so I imagined asking timeless questions of the planet's intelligentsia, a selected group of Scientists, Philosophers and Artists."

Terence McKenna: "I think we stand on the brink of the first true civilization."

Cacophony

"The final parameter for science is in our minds...our minds....our minds."

Neural Network: "Parameters successfully passed. Neural reality network accessed."

Schwann: "Are we evolving as a species or are we doomed to extinction?"

## EVOLUTION OR EXTINCTION?

Neural Network: "Accessing expert opinions"

Libby Hubbard: "Right now we're at the eleventh hour."

Stanley Krippner: "Civilization as we know it is in grave danger."

Rebecca Rogers Ackermann: "99% of all organisms that have ever lived on this planet have gone extinct."

Alex Gray: "The dinosaurs were very cool, you know, but they had their day."

Tony Fairall: "The dinosaurs were wiped out almost certainly as a result of an asteroid impact."

David Peat: "If the asteroid hadn't hit, maybe the dinosaurs would have evolved to be intelligent creatures standing on two legs with eyes at the front, more or less like us."

Tony Fairall: "The big question is; are we to remain a fleeting moment, or are we to endure into the future?"

David J. Brown: "I think we're living in a time right now that is the darkest time in history, and also the lightest time in history."

Ralph Abraham: "Well yes, we have an evolutionary future; it's just of uncertain duration."

Dennis McKenna: "We are, as a species, enmeshed in forces that are much vaster than us."

Chris Roland: "We're either heading down a path to absolute disaster and self destruction or we are evolving to something greater than ourselves."

Guy Midgely: "We have our self destruction almost programmed into us."

Terence McKenna: "There is disturbance of viral habitats on a scale never before encountered. I mean that's why the Ebola is loose and why the green monkey fever is loose; it's because there's this funny revenge of the rain forest going on."

Rupert Sheldrake: "If we blew ourselves up in nuclear wars, if we caused catastrophic decline of human populations through chaos and anarchy, pandemics, you know, all the terrible things that could happen. This could lead to a catastrophic drop in human numbers and the end of civilization as we know it."

Guy Midgely: "Large global changes are well under way. There's very little doubt that humans have affected the composition of the atmosphere and are continuing to do so."

Tony Fairall: "What we're pumping into our atmosphere here on earth we don't seem to be easily able to remove. We are putting stuff into the atmosphere that is almost there for good and whether we can eventually survive this way, that I kind of doubt."

Ralph Abraham: "The degradation of our biosphere is going apace actually it's not even apace because it's going faster and faster. There's an aspect of non-linearity which many people don't appreciate because they haven't grokked the essential non-linearity of nature."

Terence McKenna: "The laws of nature in which we're embedded are actually undergoing some kind of a convulsive re-arrangement."

Ralph Abraham: "It's not at all linear so we have to expect that the crisis that is approaching us now will approach faster and faster and therefore we can't even guess how much time we've got, and in this race against time we may very well not make it in fact many people believe, knowledgeable people believe that it's already too late."

Rebecca Rogers Ackerman: "I guess I don't see humans as being that important. Frankly we're doing more harm than good."

Barak Morgan: "Should we not self destruct, I think we should bear in mind that the age of science will be looked back on as a primitive, Darwinist, materialist age of man."

Terence McKenna: "A historical apocalypse created by over population and resource abuse and untrammled militarism and dominator politics."

Rupert Sheldrake: "I think there's hope for the planet. The planet's a self organising system that can get on perfectly well without us."

David Peat: "If we don't have an evolutionary future, something else does."

John Shirley: "Something will survive in our civilization and it will remember, they will remember, and will learn from the accident."

Rupert Sheldrake: "It's not going to be the end of rats as we know them or bacteria as we know them or blue green algae or plankton in the sea. Life has survived enormous catastrophes in the past and it will in the future. The future of the planet is not in question in my opinion. The only thing that's in question is the future of humanity and particularly modern technological industrial civilization."

Myke Scott: "The jury really isn't out yet on whether we're coming or whether we're going, so whether it's entropy or evolution, chaos, WW3, Armageddon, spiritual revival, enlightened capitalism, environmental pollution, atomic fallout. I mean the future isn't what it used to be. It was going to be the Russians or us. Now, you know, it's like just us. Mankind! Nature is at our command! We can do whatever we like! We can fly. We can make greenhouses that we could live in when the air gets too polluted. We could create our own little ecosystem under a bubble. Now we're responsible for, you know, everything that went wrong here."

Libby Hubbard: "The American dream is a brain wash"

Ralph Abraham: "Of course, we as we are, are too stupid to survive. Humanity, as it is today, is doomed. That's for certain but it doesn't necessarily have to stay as it is today. An evolutionary leap; what precipitated major cultural bifurcations in the past and how can we intentionally intervene in History so as to create a different future? "

Rupert Sheldrake: "The whole of the human genome and many other species genomes are somewhere in computers."

Terence McKenna: "As we sit here, machines of a very intelligent sort control enormous portions of the human - of global civilization."

Ralph Abraham: "At this point in time the recent computer revolution has given a huge boost to our collective intelligence and that may lead in a short time - a matter of generations - to a completely different species that *would* have a future, at least have a *longer* future, buying time for yet another evolutionary leap."

Rebecca Rogers Ackerman: "Of course we're still evolving, everything is still evolving. There's no question that humans are still evolving."

Dennis McKenna: "Homo-Cyberneticus!"

Terence McKenna: "Perhaps, you know, new laws, new domains of potential openness are occurring as the universe ages, and complexity previously disallowed is now possible, and we are that complexity. We are nature moving out of its genetic phase - a phase under the control of chemical genes, which are physical structures, into an epigenetic phase, a phase of culture ruled by codes, transformable culturally confined codes - mathematics, religion, philosophy, art, dance, humor."

David J. Brown: "The major things that are going to influence our future evolution are nano-technology, which is atomic engineering, the ability to engineer things from the atomic level, which is the way that nature designed things."

Terence McKenna: "The first rule of nano-tech is; 'thou shalt make no machine visible to the human eye'."

Dennis McKenna: "Much as I love Terence's comments and speculations about the nano-tech, cybertech, utopia that awaits us all, its a few decades from now, and if we're going to make it to that place we need to get our act together and solve a number of major problems that face this planet and our species, overpopulation being an obvious one; ecological destruction, wars, famines, imperialist enslavement of the rest of the world for resources and all of these things."

Terence McKenna: "I mean everybody knows there's something wrong with the world and if you read left wing politicians or deconstructionists or thoughtful historians they will offer thoughtful critiques of our situation. But the question is, you know, the Tolstoyian question; 'What is to be done? '"

Dennis McKenna: "The question is, how do we navigate ourselves past this next 20-40 years? We'll either be hyperspatial supertechnological Gods essentially, you know, or we'll be living in caves gnawing on bones."

Rupert Sheldrake: "I don't think that a consumerist lifestyle can extend to all the inhabitants of this planet and be sustained by the planet. It's obvious that it can't. It's obvious within a few years we'll begin to see oil prices going up. The whole economy based on cheap energy and stuff isn't going to go on the way it is. 'Business as usual' isn't an option."

Terence McKenna: "The most unlikely scenario in my opinion is that we can sustain an illusion of 'Business as usual'. In other words it's very hard for me to imagine 500 more years of Western history of idiot politics, daytime T.V., soccer scores. I mean, it's obviously the least likely thing is that anything like what we have is going to survive."

Ralph Metzner: "The civilization that we've got going is going to crash. Every civilization has crashed - sooner or later."

Chris Roland: "Look at the cities. Man wasn't meant to live like that, concrete jungles, smog and pollution, noise."

Libby Hubbard: "Beam it down from outer space. Use solar powered satellites. Eco-Cities are my idea of the Utopia, or the Neutopia, and that's a new good place."

Dennis McKenna: "Governments can't think beyond the next quarter let alone the next decade or 50 years."

Terence McKenna: "If we were to place our power at the service of our imaginations rather than our primate politics we would create a civilization worthy of the name."

Rupert Sheldrake: "Things will change but I'm afraid they will change in response to disasters, rather than through the anticipation of them."

Ralph Abraham: "Evolution, at least the time of change, is faster and faster, so we have this not only runaway population density, but also runaway cultural transformation."

Dennis McKenna: "When we reach this point, where we are this globally connected entity and you can just, you know, instead of setting up your computer you can just lay back and close your eyes and bring down the net."

Ralph Abraham: "This *is* our evolutionary future. We see, maybe in the next 15 minutes, all the change that happened in the past century. We can't even say where our horizon is because things are changing so fast. Generations are coming faster and faster so our evolution is a certainty. But in terms of earth years, rotations of the earth round the sun or something, we don't know how many of *those* there will be before our evolutionary crack comes to a shrieking halt."

Alex Grey: "I think that humanity is in its wild adolescent phase where the unconscious self destructiveness is surfacing at the same time that its power and strength have never been greater. And so the capacity and the power to annihilate yourself is growing at the same time as a possibility for waking up, collectively, at a faster rate than ever before possible."

Terence McKenna: "Post industrial, constipated, existential, prosthesis divided creature that we are, is going to crack its exoskeleton, and the new primitive is going to walk out. You know, with black contact lenses implanted in the eyelids, menus hanging in space, able to access vast 3-D simulacrum of imaginary realities but basically living a close to hunter-gatherer lifestyle in very small localised communities with very focused ecological and land based concerns in the 3-D surround, and all, all, artificiality, will be virtual."

Neural Network: "Reality sequence complete."

Schwann: "By the time I'd woken up billions had evolved from citizens into netizens, fused by technology into a single consciousness. But what is consciousness?"

Neural Network: "Neural reality accessed."

## WHAT IS CONSCIOUSNESS?

Terence McKenna: "What's popularly known as the evolution of consciousness, in other words that the expansion of cognitive repertoire that occurs in human beings, which has always been a great puzzle to evolutionary theory, I believe, occurred in the presence of a kind of catalyst for the human imagination."

Dennis McKenna: "What is cognition? Well, cognition I think in its most basic sense is knowledge or knowing. When you cognize something you understand it, you grok it. There may be a meta-program running of some kind here...."

Barak Morgan: "We have what we can call a meta-self that is capable of seeing the Darwinian self for what it is, in other words, this program that is controlling the organism, the individual, to respond rather automatically to certain stimuli."

Dennis McKenna: "It's become important for us to expand human cognition to expand human cognition in order to get us out of the mess we're in."

David J. Brown: "We have latent in our brain futuristic or futuristic states of consciousness that are designed for our future."

Barak Morgan: "The brain may be processing consciousness in the same way that the lungs process air."

Libby Hubbard: "Consciousness is the ocean of life."

Barry Lategan: "Consciousness is the breath of life."

Chris Roland: "Consciousness is overrated."

Myke Scott: "I sometimes think I'm too conscious I'm going nuts. I mean, you know what is consciousness? Does it mean just awareness? Like, I'm aware, I have eyes in the back of my head I can walk downtown I can see when there's something afoot - don't go there - you know - G-d looks after me because I'm conscious? Is that, you know, the level?"

David J. Brown: "Consciousness is eternal; all it does is change form."

Barak Morgan: "We can understand consciousness as subjectivity. This subjective self, (that) we can call the Darwinian self, because it has been shaped by evolution. The Darwinian self, enslaved to this chain reaction, (of), stimuli, sensations, feelings, emotions, motivation, behavior. Chain reaction! Enslavement! We know a fair bit about how the Darwinian brain functions, (the) Darwinian brain, underlying the Darwinian mind. However, we know very little about how the non-Darwinian mind functions - almost nothing."

Rupert Sheldrake: "We already know from the meditative traditions and from the shamanic traditions and from religious mystical traditions that there's more to consciousness than modern psychology departments would have us believe."

Terence McKenna: "The origin of consciousness? What happened here? I mean this planet had been producing chipmunks and birds of paradise and ant colonies cheerfully for hundreds of millions of years without this left wing swerve into tool building cognitive systems, energy release, and so forth and so on. What happened? Why did the natural order admit of a creature as bizarre and as at an apparent cross purposes as our dear selves? I mean, this is really the question of philosophy. What is our place in the natural order of things? You know - fallen angel, risen demon, prodigal scion of the elect, or existential monster, roving a landscape of conferred meaning. Who are we? This is the question, and so it becomes a question of why did consciousness emerge?"

Tony Fairall: "I suppose the question that comes to everybody's mind is; 'who am I'? What is this consciousness that I have inside myself? Where am I in the universe? How does the universe relate to myself?"

Terence McKenna: "Who am I? Who am I? I am the temporary expression of a gene swarm that is much larger than myself. I am a member of an animal species protruding into the phenomenon of existence."

Rebecca Rogers Ackerman: "Cognition is; I don't even know that we can define that in the archeological record. It's hard to know how you would measure cognition in objects. Like you said, art is relatively easy, but then how do you define art?"

Alex Grey: "G-d is an artist, G-d is the ultimate artist."

Barak Morgan: "The implicit suggestion being that somehow matter gives rise to mind, or mind emerges from matter. But this *somehow* has never been explained."

David J. Brown: "It wasn't really consciousness that evolved out of matter but actually vice versa, that consciousness came first and matter evolved out of consciousness."

Barak Morgan: "Dualism - mind and matter, equally fundamental."

David Peat: "We have the idea that with evolution things became more complex, we developed a nervous system, the nervous system became a little more complex - it could do more things. Finally, we got the brain and then the brain evolved, it became bigger and bigger and finally we got the human brain, the neo cortex, and we had consciousness. But that is to suppose that mind evolved out of matter. But what about the idea that maybe mind was present from the very beginning. There was *proto-mind*. Mind was there from the beginning, from the big bang, from the creation of the universe - and that mind, in a way, is guiding matter, its helping matter in matters' evolution."

Terence McKenna: "Consciousness is got to be what the human journey through time is about. I mean, if the future does not hold more consciousness then what kind of a future could it possibly be?"

Barak Morgan: "Neuroscience can measure what goes on in the brain, what brain states correspond to the mind states. Potentially, it's within our power to induce, you know, whatever state we desire."

Dennis McKenna: "What should our response be when they build machines that can read your mind? And that's about 10 years ahead. If they think drugs are a threat, what are they going to do when there are neural technologies that are not drugs, but that can induce virtually any state of consciousness you want?"

Ralph Metzner: "Get control of your brain and your mind you know. If consciousness has anything to do with anything it has to do with experience, surely. It's a state of consciousness of objective knowledge. The Buddhists would call it, I believe, it refers to the same kind of objectivity as vajra in Tibetan Buddhism."

Alex Grey: "The vajra consciousness, you know, a kind of diamond-like interconnectedness of all beings and things in this empty, clear, brilliant, diamond-like, pure, primordial Buddha-mind that is the *real* fabric of the multiverse, you know, the *Buddhaverse*."

Rupert Sheldrake: "The amazing insights that have come out of Tibetan Buddhism and other forms of Buddhism, and out of Hinduism, but also out of Shamanism and about magical techniques of conscious transformation in different parts of the world through the use of psychoactive substances in various cultures, all of which have contributed to explorations of consciousness. Previously, these were confined to the cultures in which they happened. What's new today is that we can access them all. And if we assume that different cultures have discovered parts of the puzzle, and that they are complimentary somehow, (then) being able to integrate these and learn from all these different traditions could take us further than people have been able to get on their own in the past. It hasn't happened yet, but it is one of the great possibilities, one of the great promises, I think, of the present day."

David J. Brown: "I think it's a responsibility of people who have reached higher states of consciousness to be able to then, take what they've learned, integrate it into their life and then through art, music, writing, science, medicine, politics, whatever avenue that you express yourself in, to then take what you've learned from that and then broadcast it out so that you can help change consciousness around the world."

Stanley Krippner: "Let's use the electronic advantages we have to raise people's consciousness."

Neural network: "Reality sequence complete"

Schwann: "I'd learned a lot, but am I really more than a carbon based humanoid? Is G-d a myth, or is Something, Someone, watching it all? What is G-d ? "

Neural network: "Genesis, day one"

## **IS G-d A MYTH?**

Barry Lategan: "G-d, G-d. Look into space. Walk in the cloud, in lightning, in rain, in flowers, in trees."

Stanley Krippner: "This is the spiritual path."

John Shirley: "G-d is the universe becoming slowly more conscious of itself and experiencing itself."

David J. Brown: "Some people see G-d as a being that is separate from the universe, that created the universe. Some people see G-d as the universe itself becoming self-aware. Some people see G-d as a state of consciousness that we can all unify with."

David Peat: "Was there a G-d that fine-tuned the universe? Were there an infinite number of universes, some of which didn't survive, most of which didn't survive, a few survived and we're on one?"

Terence McKenna: "Plato said that if G-d does not exist human beings will create it."

Dennis McKenna: "I don't believe in a personal G-d as such, but I believe that, in some way, the universe is G-d. I think that what G-d really is, is the Universe, as I can see it, in the process of becoming conscious, in the process of waking up."

Guy Midgely: "I think you can probably say that humans invented G-d, you know, somewhere between twenty and seventy thousand years ago."

Myke Scott: "Whoever G-d is, and it works in a mysterious way that I have to finally just say; 'Hey, I can't figure out who IT/G-d/SHE is, but there's a benevolent thread in my paradigm.'"

Rebecca Rogers Ackerman: "Belief - the ability to believe."

Brummbaer: "G-d is a concept by which we measure our pain."

Charmaine Joseph Gwala: "G-d is everywhere."

Chris Roland: "G-d is everything."

Alex Grey: "The impossibility of putting G-d into words, it's beyond words, it's the source of words. The words can't contain it, it contains the words. You know it's another whole level."

John Shirley: "The indescribable."

Ralph Abraham: "Something other than our own consciousness, the repository of world intelligence, something immortal or timeless in the intelligent sphere in which we live, which has a longer horizon than the planet earth."

Stanley Krippner: "I look at G-d as the self organising principle of the universe."

David J. Brown: "There are many ways of viewing the concept of G-d. The idea that universe is interconnected, the idea that we're all one, in some sense that every consciousness's interrelate, that there are ways to access these states of consciousness and unify them. I think that's what people mean by the concept of G-d."

Alex Grey: "Theosis, you know, the magnetising of a soul toward the ultimate source. *Theosis*. Coming closer to G-d . "

Barak Morgan: "We are only as divine as we are selfless."

Charmaine Joseph Gwala: "Just being aware of spirit, that for me is spirituality."

Chris Roland: "We've forgotten that we're this spiritual being."

Terence McKenna: "Religion, usually, is the handed down exegesis of some original revelation, almost always polluted and perverted and manipulated by a cultural agenda."

Myke Scott: "Mohammed said; 'Trust in G-d but tie your camel.'"

Ralph Metzner: "I think that the Christian conception of the afterlife is one of the biggest and most destructive illusions in our culture. There's only one G-d and the only way you can communicate with him is through us. You've got basically three options. Hell, heaven, and some in between state called purgatory. That's terrible. Simplification and rigid schematic schemes superimposed on the infinite variety of afterlife experiences that we can all have. It's a propaganda thing it's designed to control!"



Rebecca Rogers Ackerman: "If you back off of religion and you don't talk about the religious systems that are in place, if you start talking about religion then you're talking about this whole entity, much like science is a whole sort of culturally constructed entity, but if you think about the thing that underpins religion, so frankly, the ability to believe in something that isn't rational, that you haven't thought through yourself. And we have an ability to believe in things that we haven't thought through ourselves and that we haven't seen and rationalised all the time. I mean when someone tells you that the earth is round and you believe it, you haven't necessarily seen it, but you believe it. So this *ability to believe* underpins, in particular, I think religion."

Alex Grey: "That's the point that gives me hope, is that the theater of humanity and its drama is poised toward transformative self realization, from an internal mechanism."

Barak Morgan: "Some scientists are trying to account for religion in Darwinian terms, as an adaptation."

Rupert Sheldrake: "Science, I think, is going to pass out of that narrow, limiting model. And when it does, when we realise that the mind is more extensive than the brain and that the brain is clearly related to the mind, but the two are not the same thing. When we see that our minds reach out beyond our brains all the time, in every act of perception and through non-local awareness. There's increasing evidence that our minds are not confined to our brains and they don't feel as if they are. Then I think we get to a point where we can take spiritual experiences, religious experiences, much more seriously."

Neural Network: Choir

Schwann: "May Godmind hear my prayers and e-mail me an answer I can understand. Meantime, back in the 21st century, can the fusion of science and spirituality accelerate the evolution of consciousness?"

Neural Network: "Neural reality accessed"

## **THE FUSION OF SCIENCE AND SPIRIT?**

Terence McKenna: "How do things come into existence and how do they maintain themselves and how do they disappear? And what is the unfolding of the world as we experience it?"

Tony Fairall: "When I look and see a scene around me, that scene is not the actual physical reality. It exists within the cyberspace of my brain."

Dennis McKenna: "The neural-cybernetic-globalised-tribe."

Barak Morgan: "There are no colors out there, in the real physical world. There's only light, consisting of electromagnetic radiation of different frequencies. Our brains, our minds, take this light in, convert it into neural impulses, which then we build a model of and we decode those different frequencies into different colors. We paint the colors in. We paint the green in. We paint the blue in. We paint the red in. It's not out there."

Barry Lategan: "The traveler is the journey. What you see is not what you see but who you are."

Terence McKenna: "The most important moment shaping this moment is a galaxy of moments scattered through time, some of them millions of years ago, some of them seconds ago, some of them centuries ago. And together, they create the incredibly rich, affect laden, environment that we call being a thinking human being paying attention."

Alex Grey: "Nobody is given the script, you know, until every moment of now occurs."

Barry Lategan: "All time is in the present. The moment in which I speak is in the past, and the future does not exist, except in our imagination."

Terence McKenna: "I saw time as a river."

Alex Grey: "We can imagine all the way back to the Big Bang, you know, we can feel the *echo* from that in ourselves, and in the sounds that we hear and things, just because without that there wouldn't be this."

Rupert Sheldrake: "The dominant ethos in biology and psychology is reductionist mechanistic."

Barak Morgan: "Scientific reductionism, we can think of as a kind of downwards reductionism, everything is reduced down to matter, whereas religious monism is a form of upwards reductionism, where everything is reduced upwards to mind."

Stanley Krippner: "Can spirituality and science reconcile? I think philosophy is the bridge."

Libby Hubbard: "It's not just science that creates cities, its art, its religions that create cities."

Rebecca Rogers Ackerman: "Religion and science, are, they're kind of parallel constructs. It's the underpinning stuff. It's the belief versus rationality."

Tony Fairall: "You only have to pose questions like; 'what was there before there was the Big Bang beginning of the universe', and you're in trouble."

Terence McKenna: "The idea of the Big Bang, it's like a test of religious faith."

John Shirley: "The great obstacle to spirituality is the lack of objectivity of seekers."

Ralph Metzner: "Science came in and made a deal with religion, you know, *we're* going to deal with matter, *you* can deal with spirit. This fiddling around with spirit is not scientific."

David Peat: "The tragedy of modern physics is that, at the moment, it lacks a place for soul in the world."

Myke Scott: "The best I can do for science is just to say to people; 'Cut them some slack.'"

Barak Morgan: "The province of religion begins exactly where Darwinian adaptationist processes end."

David J. Brown: "Science and spirituality are coming together now more than ever before."

Libby Hubbard: "That's the birth that we have to do."

John Shirley: "Eventually science and spirituality will merge seamlessly, as they sort of do in books like; 'The Dhow of physics.'"

David J. Brown: "Ultimately, spirituality will become a branch of science."

Dennis McKenna: "We are so busy *doing* science, we seldom pause to *reflect* about science, and just what is it that we're doing."

Rupert Sheldrake: "A new dialogue between science and spirituality would be very constructive, very helpful for everybody, in fact, one of the most exciting things that could happen. But it can't happen for those scientists who remain locked into this very narrow view of the mind and the brain."

David Peat: "Science at the moment has become obsessed with a will to power, a will to dominate. It's obsessed with progress, it's obsessed with control, and that is going to change."

Libby Hubbard: "How do we create global justice?"

Dennis McKenna: "The ethics of what we're doing..... we have to cautiously move into the future because we've seen again and again the consequences, of what you might call, science unleashed or technology unleashed."

Myke Scott: "In the world we live in generally, disunity, at the moment, is bigger than unity is."

Ralph Metzner: "It doesn't really matter whether you're a Buddhist or a Christian or a Jew, the point is to recognise and respect one another's religious values and interests, and to take responsibility for your own consciousness."

Rebecca Rogers Ackerman: "You can talk about morality and love and various things and religion helps you answer those sorts of questions and you can answer questions about the material world and various other things using science and so they can work next to each other."

Barak Morgan: "As conscious beings we experience an apparent fundamental dualism, the dualism of mind and matter. This leads many people, many scientists, and many non-scientists as well, to develop an ideology that matter is more fundamental than mind. As a result the dualism that we experience gets reduced to a monism, scientific materialism or scientific monism."

Ralph Metzner: "It's one world, you know. You can't have two world views. It's one world. Science has to expand, and it's limited."

Libby Hubbard: "We're on borrowed time as it is."

Myke Scott: "Is there like a common denominator between all paradigms all cultures. Is there a unity in this whole thing or not?"

Chris Roland: "We do, each of us, create our own universe."

Ralph Abraham: "We can support completely disjoint ideas in our minds at the same time, and this is the kind of coexistence we have now between science and spirit, but science could wholeheartedly and openly embrace the individual soul, the world soul, and the higher realities of the spiritual life could become acceptable in science and maybe even transform science into a more integrative paradigm, which would decrease the negative function of science, which is to harm the environment out of ignorance or dogmatic belief."

Terence McKenna: "There is no hierarchy of elder knowledge in my social region of things. There are only people learning and sharing in a very complex environment."

Rupert Sheldrake: "The control of science is run a bit like the church before the reformation, a sort of 'college of cardinals' that decides what can happen."

Myke Scott: "The data is never in!"

Rupert Sheldrake: "We have such an intolerant narrow system at the moment that I think one way of opening it up is to bring the principle of *democracy* into science. It's never been there before. It's the one institution in modern life which has no democratic input. I just think this form of organisation is outmoded."

Myke Scott: "The data actually is in!"

Rupert Sheldrake: "It's a narrow dogmatic system that's now become closely allied to corporations and governments in a way that I think is beginning to do more harm than good."

Dennis McKenna: "What is not patented is prohibited."

Rupert Sheldrake: "I still believe in science, but I think it has to be liberated from its present self imposed limitations."

Terence McKenna: "Event systems tend to steer themselves into cul-de sacs and then go into equilibrium and then they become irrelevant."

Libby Hubbard: "It's a deeper reality than the nation-state system. It's a world without borders and a world with one ocean."

Terence McKenna: "Creative dreaming in the presence of technology is a place where, haunted by genies, genies who will wrap you in the blanket of their mysterium and lead you forward."

Dennis McKenna: "March forth humanity to greet a new dawn as you slid and squat and crawled and walked down the spiral chains of evolutionary metamorphosis to your final awakening, for *this* is the day when you will sleep no more."

Neural Network: "Reality sequence complete"

Schwann: "I don't sleep much anyway so I imagined encoding myself and living forever, but what happens when you pass over beyond the vale. Is there new life after the old? What happens when you die?"

### **WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DIE?**

Tony Fairall: "Do you fear death and what lies beyond? I don't think I feared birth and what lay before and I don't think there's any difference."

Terence McKenna: "A glacier rattles in the cupboard, the desert sighs in the bed, and the crack in the teacup opens a door to the land of the dead. The Maya call this Xibalba (Shibalba), the road to the dimension of the dead."

Barry Lategan: "The undiscovered country, from who's born no traveler returns, puzzles the will."

Ralph Metzner: "You just go off and continue your life on other levels. It's called the spirit levels or the astral plane. You go through different things. It's all mapped out."

Alex Grey: "After you die, there's a period of forty nine days, approximately, there is a intentional direction that an evolving soul can at least go for, ultimately, say His Holiness the Dalai Lama, the Buddha of active compassion, our most high and honoured exalted 14<sup>th</sup>."

Brummbaer: "I hope it's over. I don't want to be some floating consciousness that is waiting for some ex-hairdresser who has become a medium."

David J. Brown: "What happens to consciousness after death is what you believe happens to consciousness after death."

Rupert Sheldrake: "There isn't a standard formula for what happens when we die. Probably, a large determinant of what happens when we die depends on what we believe happens when we die. When we die I think we're in the realm of the mind which is then separated from the body."

Terence McKenna: "There is this persistent theme in all of these notions that death is made more easy, whatever that means, if you've learned the territory before you get there. And you know, in the Mahayana Buddhist situation it even becomes as extreme as saying; 'life is essentially a preparation for death, a studying of the maps of a learning of the skills a packing of your picnic basket so that when you get out there and demons are sniffing you up one side and down the other you don't bungle your mantras'."

Dennis McKenna: "In vine shrouded jungle do not your mantras bungle lest the godplant eat you and into void excrete you."

Armando: "It's voidness of devoidness and beyond, beyond, beyond...."

Charmaine Joseph Gwala: "Death is powerful, there's nothing sad about death."

Ralph Metzner: "People can remember their previous lifetimes and the time between lifetimes."

Chris Roland: "We can't know where we came from, we can't know we're going to, and why should I bother wasting my time trying to figure it out? I'll know when I die where I'm going."

Libby Hubbard: "Nobody owns anything as we die and that's good."

Chris Roland: "A race, if you will, to get there to figure out the meaning of life, instead of figuring out who we are individually."

Myke Scott: "Have I died to myself and come back again transformed? The hope that perhaps there was a flipside, like wow, transcendence and stuff, like a bird flying out of a bag."

Ralph Abraham: "I am full of doubt as to the survival of any kind of consciousness, individual human consciousness, through the vale of death."

Tony Fairall: "There's a kind of collective consciousness and even though one may die others will continue."

Alex Grey: "I happen to be, to accept this notion of the re-incarnation."

Rupert Sheldrake: "A transfer of memory, even if we accept this really happened, doesn't necessarily prove re-incarnation. According to my morphic resonance theory, you could have memory transfer without necessarily the individual, the entire core of the individual, being transferred. Some people can be re-incarnated but it's a minority pursuit. It's something that only happens to some people and most people aren't. That, I think, is the most reasonable interpretation of the evidence."

Myke Scott: "When I die, could I, in fact while I'm alive could I not download my consciousness, and then I could go ahead and die?"

Schwann: "One can only hope that after death comes rebirth. The internet was part of my rebirth, so any more births are a bonus. See you next time around."

Neural Network: "Translation complete".

Begin Credits sequence:

John Shirley

Novelist , Journalist , songwriter .

"Spirituality should always use the scientific method."

Stanley Krippner Ph.D  
Psychologist. Author.  
"Civilization as we know it is in grave danger."

Chris Roland  
Film Producer. Director. Actor.  
"I don't want to believe that I'm a puppet on a string."

Libby Hubbard Ph.D (aka Doctress Neutopia )  
"Western civilization has got to die."

Ralph Metzner Ph.D  
Psychotherapist. Writer. Researcher.  
"I'm only interested in ideas that support life."

Myke Scott M.Sc  
Horticulturalist. Botanist.  
"Consciousness now is so close . "

Charmaine Joseph Gwaza  
Sangoma  
"Spirituality is here."

Brummbaer  
3D Animator  
"Science is the highest form of spirituality."

David Jay Brown B.sc M.sc  
Author. Researcher.  
"Artificial intelligence is going to allow us to re-engineer our bodies."

Tony Fairall Ph.D  
Astronomer  
"How do we know that this universe really is for real?"

David Peat Ph.D  
Theoretical physicist  
"It's as if the universe was incredibly fine tuned."

Guy Midgely Ph.D  
Chief Specialist Scientist, S.A. National Biodiversity Institute.  
"The seeds of our own self destruction are in our D.N.A."

Rebecca Rogers Ackermann Ph.D  
Bio-Archaeologist  
"I guess I don't see humans as being that important."

Barry Lategan  
Photographer  
"The future does not exist except in our imagination."

Ralph Abraham Ph.D  
Chaos Theorist  
"There's an aspect of non-linearity which many people don't appreciate."

Rupert Sheldrake Ph.D

Biologist. Author.

"The resonance occurs through what I call morphogenetic fields."

Alex Grey

Visionary Artist

"Theosis, coming closer to G-d."

Barak Morgan Ph.D

Neuroscientist

"Who's in control, you or your Darwinian mind?"

Dennis J. McKenna Ph.D

Ethnopharmacologist. Explorer. Researcher.

"You monkeys only think you're running things."

Terence McKenna M.Sc

Writer. Intellectual. Explorer.

"Spirit fell, deep, deep, deep, deep into matter, limitation and chaos, and somehow is slowly making a return to its higher self, to the source of itself, which it has been so long severed from and longs to return to with such incredible urgency that it, you know, evolves life on planets and technologies inside cultures as mere stepping stones to it's return to the contemplation of its self image. Is this religion? Is this science fiction? Well, who knows, and where was it written adamantine that we *should* know. It's a mystery. We are caught inside a mystery, veiled in an enigma, locked inside a riddle."

CREDITS

ENDS

Cognition Factor kindly transcribed by Carla Kawitzky

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