



Old Souls: Compelling Evidence from Children Who Remember Past Lives

By Tom Shroder

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A riveting firsthand account of one man's mission to investigate and document some of the most astonishing phenomena of our time—children who speak of past life memory and reincarnation.

All across the globe, small children spontaneously speak of previous lives, beg to be taken “home,” pine for mothers and husbands and mistresses from another life, and know things that there seems to be no normal way for them to know. From the moment these children can talk, they speak of people and events from the past—not vague stories of centuries ago, but details of specific, identifiable individuals who may have died just months, weeks, or even hours before the birth of the child in question.

For thirty-seven years, Dr. Ian Stevenson has traveled the world from Lebanon to suburban Virginia investigating and documenting more than two thousand of these past life memory cases. Now, his essentially unknown work is being brought to the mainstream by Tom Shroder, the first journalist to have the privilege of accompanying Dr. Stevenson in his fieldwork. Shroder follows Stevenson into the lives of children and families touched by this phenomenon, changing from skeptic to believer as he comes face-to-face with concrete evidence he cannot discount in this spellbinding and true story.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

As our understanding and awareness of who and what we are advances through the grueling gauntlet of scientific process, we continually face a debilitating dilemma: we must simultaneously question everything and at the same time proceed as if we know something. As a result we continually battle ourselves, questioning the ground on which we stand while using that same ground to prove our questions irrelevant. It's a gift, then, when a writer emerges who will grapple with any of these battles at the event horizon between science and conjecture and take himself wholly into the fray, reporting back to us the subtle forces at work within the storm and how those forces play upon him and the subject he explores.

In *Old Souls*, journalist Tom Shroder manages this feat and hands us a volume that is considerable and engaging. Not only do we explore the work of a brave and committed researcher on the slippery slope of reincarnation, we are also treated to a remarkable tour of worlds foreign to us: human existence in post-war Beirut and in the depths of poverty in India. Through the entire journey, Mr. Shroder keeps the primary question lively, carrying the reader through to a closing bit of personal memoir that brilliantly ties the book together into a provocative whole.

Whether you believe in reincarnation or not, you can't help but appreciate Mr. Shroder's disciplined, scrupulously fair, and soul-searching explication. Along the way, we learn immensely about the process as it is revealed and a great deal about exploration itself. The book works on many levels, and readers will benefit from them all. --Donald A. Freas

From Publishers Weekly

While it is easy for Western science to dismiss as fantasy or wish fulfillment the recollections of individuals who "remember" being Cleopatra or Napoleon, how is one to explain a young boy's insistence that he is really a nondescript auto mechanic who died in a car crash a few years before? American psychiatrist Ian Stevenson has spent more than 30 years studying the cases of some 2000 children who spontaneously remember concrete details about dead strangers whose experiences can be documented. On his two final field trips, to Lebanon and India, he was accompanied by journalist Shroder, Sunday Style editor of the Washington Post. Shroder's account of these expeditions emphasizes physical detail over in-depth analysis but nevertheless makes for engrossing reading. In many cases, the subjects exhibit birthmarks or extreme phobias corresponding to injuries or traumatic events in their "past lives." They recognize the deceased's relatives and friends; in one case, a Lebanese boy asked the deceased's mother if she had finished knitting the sweater she was making for him when he died. That the compelling questions raised by such cases are ignored by the scientific establishment causes Stevenson great disappointment. "For me," he claims, "everything now believed by scientists is open to question, and I am always dismayed to find that many scientists accept current knowledge as forever fixed." The journalistic objectivity Shroder brings to his material makes this an exceptionally valuable treatment of an often disparaged subject. Agent, Al Hart, Fox Chase Agency. (Aug.)

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From Library Journal

Shroder, an editor at the Washington Post, persuaded psychiatrist Ian Stevenson to take him along on six months of field research in Beirut, India, and America. The research involved tracking reports of children claiming to recall vivid details about a stranger who has lived before and possessing certain birthmarks

related to that person's violent death, such as a bullet wound. When the historical data are matched, we have a mystery suggesting that old souls are reborn into new bodies. During 37 years of research, Stevenson has documented over 2500 alleged cases of reincarnation. Evidence that has been ignored by mainstream science. Shroder has effectively captured some of Stevenson's work, but we are still left wondering about the mechanics of the transfer of identity and markings. For larger collections on reincarnation/paranormal studies. A Leo Kriz, West Des Moines Lib., IA
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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Georgia Lopez:

Reading a guide tends to be new life style in this particular era globalization. With reading you can get a lot of information that may give you benefit in your life. Along with book everyone in this world can share their idea. Publications can also inspire a lot of people. Many author can inspire their reader with their story or maybe their experience. Not only the storyplot that share in the books. But also they write about advantage about something that you need example. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your children, there are many kinds of book which exist now. The authors on this planet always try to improve their ability in writing, they also doing some analysis before they write on their book. One of them is this Old Souls: Compelling Evidence from Children Who Remember Past Lives.

Marlon Taylor:

In this particular era which is the greater man or woman or who has ability to do something more are more special than other. Do you want to become considered one of it? It is just simple way to have that. What you should do is just spending your time not much but quite enough to get a look at some books. One of several books in the top list in your reading list is usually Old Souls: Compelling Evidence from Children Who Remember Past Lives. This book which is qualified as The Hungry Mountains can get you closer in turning out to be precious person. By looking upwards and review this reserve you can get many advantages.

Alma Lewis:

As we know that book is important thing to add our understanding for everything. By a book we can know everything you want. A book is a pair of written, printed, illustrated or maybe blank sheet. Every year ended up being exactly added. This guide Old Souls: Compelling Evidence from Children Who Remember Past Lives was filled concerning science. Spend your extra time to add your knowledge about your scientific disciplines competence. Some people has several feel when they reading the book. If you know how big good thing about a book, you can truly feel enjoy to read a publication. In the modern era like today, many ways to get book that you just wanted.

Sharon Bradley:

As a student exactly feel bored to reading. If their teacher questioned them to go to the library as well as to

make summary for some publication, they are complained. Just small students that has reading's spirit or real their interest. They just do what the teacher want, like asked to the library. They go to generally there but nothing reading very seriously. Any students feel that studying is not important, boring along with can't see colorful images on there. Yeah, it is to be complicated. Book is very important for yourself. As we know that on this age, many ways to get whatever we want. Likewise word says, ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore , this Old Souls: Compelling Evidence from Children Who Remember Past Lives can make you truly feel more interested to read.

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