



Chapter 4

Scientific Framework for Understanding the Shift (III): Direct Communication From Higher Dimensions

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Preparing Ourselves for the Great Shift

*Man's experience includes all kinds of behavior for which science has no answers. That is well and good. Science cannot be blamed for saying that its methods are not conducive to the study of this or that area of experience—but science should at least be rapped on the knuckles smartly if it automatically rejects such behavior as valid, legitimate or real, or when it attempts to place such events outside the realm of actuality. Science can be justly reprimanded when it tries to pretend that man's experience is limited to those events that science can explain. **Seth (Roberts, 1986:497)***

*There is no authority for real understanding but ourselves. We need to be bold, but very discriminating. Sir John Whitmore (**Schlemmer and Jenkins, 1993:viii**)*

Summary

When I recognized that my scientific conception of reality was too limited, I established a rational method for developing an understanding of the larger reality, described in the previous two chapters. I then resolved to follow wherever my method took me, no matter how far outside my previous frame of reference. The idea of higher dimensions inhabited by large numbers of self-aware Beings with whom communication is possible was far from my familiar cognitive territory. Nevertheless, once I accepted the existence of such Beings, I recognized that they represent a valuable source of information about transcendent reality and what it might mean for humanity and planet Earth to make a dimensional shift.

Channeling is the most commonly used term for the process by which higher dimensional Beings communicate telepathically through and to humans. This can occur in a variety of ways, with verbal information typically transmitted vocally or through some form of automatic writing. The diverse and often contradictory character of channeled information suggests that higher dimensional sources are not all-wise and omnipotent. All individuated consciousness, even when it recognizes itself as a facet of a larger unitary consciousness, has a point of view that influences the kind of information being communicated. Furthermore, human channels may further influence the information they receive as a result of ego- and frame-of-reference filtration (see Sections 3.2.2 and 3.2.3).

I found it necessary to develop criteria, in addition to those presented in Chapter 2, for evaluating channeled information from higher dimensional sources when deciding how, or whether, to incorporate it into my map of the territory. My

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confidence in information from an HDB (here referred to as androgynous, although HDBs often exhibit masculine or feminine characteristics) increases when:

- It asks us to accept only what rings true.
- It acknowledges the limitations of human language.
- It acknowledges that the message may be affected by the human channel's frame of reference.
- It offers a fresh, nonhuman, perspective on something I know about, information that is new, or *doesn't* fit the frame of reference of the channeler or person asking a question.
- It acknowledges that other HDBs may see things differently.
- It acknowledges limitations to its own knowledge.
- It respects the free will of humans.

After describing how I use these additional criteria, I offer a classification scheme, for higher dimensional Beings that I have found helpful in my own analysis of higher dimensional information. I also provide some information on specific higher dimensional sources and their human channels as a way of illustrating my approach to using channeled information.

Channeled higher dimensional information has its light and dark sides. The dark side is easily recognized when information has a fear-inducing or manipulative intent. The belly laugh seems to be third dimensional phenomenon, but I always appreciate higher dimensional sources that interject a little cosmic humor into their messages. On the other hand, in my own reading of channeled material I have occasionally experienced what I call the Surfeit-of-Sweetness-and-Light (SSL) Syndrome.

I acknowledge that the notion of channeled information being a useful source for understanding a larger reality is a stretch for skeptical readers, and even some who are comfortable with the idea of transcendent realms. I ask such readers to pay particular attention to what I present in this chapter. My understanding of the dimensional human consciousness shift described in subsequent chapters relies heavily on information from higher dimensional Beings who communicate through human channels. I will cite such sources the same way I cite mainstream scientific sources to identify areas of agreement, and areas where viewpoints differ.

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This chapter concludes the scientific framework I have developed for understanding the Great Shift. Having relied primarily on human-based evidence in the first two chapters, I now shift to relying primarily on higher dimensional sources. However, I continue to test the higher dimensional perspective against evidence that is grounded in material reality. I have developed two major ways for doing this:

- By looking for emerging psychological, socio-cultural, economic and political patterns and trends that suggest a shift in human consciousness is underway (see Chapter 1 for this kind of evidence).
- By developing testable hypotheses suggested by higher dimensional information, that can be evaluated using existing data from the physical world. Chapter 5 presents geophysical and astrophysical hypotheses and data of this sort.

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Not long after my own awakening experience I shared with my best friend and his wife, with hesitant and halting words my changing view of reality, not sure how they would respond. The response was: Nothing you have said sounds strange, the only surprise is to hear it coming from you! On the other hand, others close to me have said: I find what you are saying incomprehensible, I don't want to hear any more about it. This is where my desire to be a bridge between the scientific and New Age communities is most challenging. For my New Age friends the idea of communicating with human and spirits, angelic Beings and higher dimensional extraterrestrials is no big deal. However, it *is* a big deal for many of my friends with a rational, scientific bent, and even friends who have followed a very spiritual path, but have an instinctive mistrust of anything that smacks of woo woo New Age thinking. For example, Rupert Sheldrake, who is still viewed as something of a heretic in mainstream scientific circles (Section 3.4.8), is partial to the idea of angelic inspiration but has a prejudice against all New Age channeling, and against UFOs and aliens (Fox and Sheldrake, 1996:93,175).

It was a big deal for me, as I developed a rational framework for understanding my own experiences, to accept that the larger reality is inhabited by an abundance of individuated, self-aware consciousness. Since such Beings do not have the limitations of our third-dimensional sense perception, it was a logical step to turn to such Beings as useful sources of information about the larger reality, and, more specifically, what is happening on planet Earth at this time. In the previous two chapters (Section 2.3.2/Appendix A and Sections 3.1 and 3.2) I have outlined my approach to evaluating information that is not easily verified by empirical measurement. As I delved into the published literature of channeled information I found that this approach continued to be useful, but that I had to develop additional criteria for evaluating information from higher dimensional sources.

Before going further, I have a confession to make. I am writing this particular text, in July 2005, having recently given my first public lecture on the Great Shift. After the lecture was finished I realized, with some dismay, that I could no longer claim the objectivity that I had when I began developing the rational framework presented in this chapter and previous chapters. I realized I had developed my own frame of reference, using this methodology, which makes me prone to the same frame of reference filtration that I look for in others. I will simply reiterate that I do not consider frame of reference filtration a

problem unless it results in selective processing of information (the Velikovsky Effect) or a confused notion that frame of reference *is* the territory, rather than a map of territory. Once I recognized that I now had my own frame of reference, I gained a new appreciation for new information that doesn't quite fit into my map of the territory. As long as I am able to recognize information that doesn't immediately fit into my understanding, I am reassured that I have not become too set in my thinking and remain open to modifying my map of the territory.

4.1 Higher Dimensional Beings as a Source of Information.

When trying to talk concretely about the larger reality that exists beyond or outside of our third dimensional experience I run quickly into the limitations of my own third-dimensional mind and of language. In the last chapter I discussed high sense perception as a way to perceive higher dimensional reality (Section 3.2.1) without defining what I meant by "higher dimensions." I have come to think of the Great Shift as a dimensional shift in human consciousness, but also that humanity, all living things and planet Earth are in the midst of a physical shift to a higher dimensional level. I will expand on this idea in later chapters (6 through 8), but here wish to add some caveats to the language I have chosen. First, when I use the term "dimension" I do not mean it in a mathematical sense, as in the multiple dimensions that have been defined in string theory (Section 2.4.1). For now, I will just say that when I speak to going from the third to the fourth dimension, it is not the same as going from two dimensional space in geometry to three dimensional space. Secondly, I use the term "higher" in the neutral numerical sense that the number four is higher than the number three. Most of us have learned to think of the word higher as implying better than or superior too. This hierarchical conditioning is deeply imbedded in most of us, and part of what the Great Shift is about is freeing ourselves from the judgments that arise from this conditioning. So, when I look to higher dimensional Beings (HDBs) for information I recognize that they have some cognitive and perceptual advantages that I don't have, but they have to satisfy my screening criteria just like any human source of information.

4.1.1 Characteristics of Higher Dimensional Beings (HDBs).

Before getting into the special criteria I use for evaluating information from HDBs I would like to describe some general characteristics that I have pieced together for my map of the territory.

- All HDBs are individuated facets of a single unitary consciousness. In this respect, they and we are all aspects of the same Source of All That Is and the concepts that we hold of superiority/inferiority are irrelevant.
- As differentiated aspects of a single unitary consciousness, each HDB has a distinct point of view that may or may not agree with other HDBs. It is this differentiation process that allows creativity to occur in the cosmos. Even when an HDB is aware of its identify as an aspect of the same Source, its understanding of the larger reality which is encompassed by the Source of All That Is will be imperfect as long as a sense of individuation exists.
- The inherent limitations imposed by individuation means that no HDB is omnipotent, all-wise, or all powerful. Any HDB that claims such characteristics is either deluded or trying the pull the wool over our eyes.
- HDBs differ in the degree of their experience and knowledge and in ways that are probably incomprehensible to my third dimensional mind. Consider the difference in experience and knowledge of a newborn infant and someone nearing the end of a long life of intellectual and creative endeavor. That breadth of difference and greater exists for HDBs.
- There are certain universal rules that govern the interactions of HDBs who identify themselves as facets of the Source of All That Is. A very important one that relates to us human beings on Earth is that our free will is to be respected (see Section 8.2.1). However, there are HDBs who do not honor this rule (Section 4.3), so as humans we always have the responsibility for exercising discernment when considering information that comes from HDBs.

4.1.2 Ways Information Can Be Received from HDBs.

Everyone has the ability to receive information from HDBs via kinesiology testing (see Appendix B), and intuition. Kinesiology testing, which generally is restricted to yes or no answers (although refinements are possible), functions something like the game of twenty questions, with the goal of finding the desired information with a minimum number of questions. Many people are surprised to find that they can receive information via a process called automatic writing, in which a question is asked and words are allowed to flow by writing or typing. I have asked repeatedly if I couldn't write this book that way, but no such luck for me. My wife, on the other hand, has received some wonderful information in this way that we both recognize as coming from somewhere other than her subconscious mind.

Here I will focus on the linguistic form of communication by HDBs that is often called channeling. In channeling a person receives or transmits information from one or more HDBs by speaking or writing. For individuals with clairaudient high sense perception or the ability to do automatic writing, this may occur as a purely personal interaction with HDBs with whom the person has a special relationship. My main interest is in channeled information that has been documented in such a way as to be citable, either by publication, or as an archived recording or transcript. There are several ways that such information may be received or transmitted:

- ***Clairaudient reception***, in which case the person who hears (and possibly sees) the HDB does the transcribing. The energy healer Barbara Brennan receives information this way from her Guide named Heyoan (Brennan, 1988).
- ***Automatic writing or typing*** involves relinquishment of conscious control of one's body and allowing the words to flow via handwriting, typewriter or computer. Ruth Montgomery, a respected Washington, DC news correspondent, published numerous books containing information received from multiple spirit Beings that she collectively referred to as the Guides (see, for example, Montgomery, 1999).

- ***Spoken light to moderate trance channeling***, involves relinquishment of conscious control of the human channel's vocal chords to allow the HDB to speak directly. Depending on the depth of trance, the channel may be fully aware of what is spoken (as with Lee Carroll who channels Kryon) or only vaguely aware of what is spoken, as in the case of Jane Roberts who channeled the HDB named Seth. Since the message is spoken, it has to be transcribed at the time, as Jane Roberts husband did using shorthand, or recorded and transcribed later for a permanent record to be made.
- ***Deep trance channeling*** is a relatively uncommon form of channeling in which the human channel agrees to let his or her consciousness to be removed completely from the physical body and the HDB takes complete control. This requires special precautions to ensure the safety of the consciousness of the human channel, but has the advantage of minimizing human frame of reference filtration since the channel's mind is not present to affect the choice of language. Carla McCarty who channeled Ra, transmitted some of the highest quality channeled material that I have encountered from such a deep trance. Deep trance channeling may involve either speaking or writing, with speaking with recording and transcription being more common.

4.1.3 The Skeptic's View of Channeling.

The best scholarly treatment of channeling that I have seen is the transpersonal psychologist Arthur Hastings' *With the Tongues of Men and Angels*, which provides in depth and balanced presentation of the subject (Hastings, 1991; see, also Klimo, 1987). After examining many different aspects of the phenomenon, Hastings devotes separate chapters to transcendent and materialist models and theories of channeling. Hastings concludes that fraud and schizophrenia or mental disturbance are explanatory in some cases, but not for the large majority of individuals who identify themselves as channels (Hastings, 1991:159-160). Hastings finds the strongest evidence for channeling coming primarily from outside, separate disincarnate entities to include (Hastings, 1991: Chapter 15):

- The distinctness of their personalities from that of the channel, once cases of schizophrenia and multiple personality are excluded.
- The expression of skills and knowledge that are not possessed by the channel.
- Examples of coded information transmitted to mediums where messages coming through several mediums make no sense individually, but when put together the meaning is evident. Similar to this is the case of Houdini's coded message to his wife that was received by the medium Arthur Ford (see Section 3.3.2).

On the other hand, Hastings considers the materialist explanation that the information being channeled comes from the subconscious mind of the channel can be reasonably applied to many well-known channel entities (Hastings, 1991:176). I also find this is a reasonable explanation for some channeled material, although I tend to favor a separate entity interpretation for the specific ones that he lists. His main criticism of this view is that it assigns extraordinary capacities to the subconscious mind without providing a good explanation of how distinct personalities can develop with abilities and knowledge that are so different from the channel's conscious mind. Even those who accept channeling as coming from higher dimensional sources acknowledge that much may come from the channel's subconscious mind. For example, Corrine McLaughlin cites unnamed researchers as suggesting that as much as 85 percent of all guidance and channeling is from the person's own subconscious or from the emotional astral planes of illusion and distortion (McLaughlin, 1987). The HDB Djwhal Khul said that only about 15 percent of channeled material in general actually comes from spiritual beings, with about 85 percent coming from the subconscious of the channel (Hastings, 1991:85).

Hastings also identifies a transpersonal explanation of channeling, as coming from an individual's superconscious or higher self, or beyond that the collective or archetypal unconscious to which all people have access (Hastings 1991:180-183). As I suggest in Section 3.6.1, this model of channeling provides a stepping stone from a materialist interpretation of consciousness as emergent from material reality, whereas the view I offer here is that the material world arises from consciousness. I also find this

model a reasonable way to explain where some channeled information comes from, although when it come to archetypes that identify themselves by name and exhibit a distinct personality I prefer the separate entity model.

I respect these alternative ways of understanding the channeling process. My materialist empiricist friend (see Section 2.1), and I have been talking about this topic for some time. He remains comfortable within his materialist paradigm, but the one thing that he grants me is that he has yet to catch me in any logical inconsistencies or fuzzy-minded thinking as I have shared with him my evolving map of the territory. This is the last time I will specifically address the skeptical-materialist point of view, although I am always considering alternative interpretations as my own understanding evolves.

4.1.4 Additional Criteria for Evaluating Channeled Material.

The most important thing when considering channeled material is discernment, discernment, discernment. Each of us is responsible for testing information to determine whether it "speaks to our condition," to use a phrase I often heard growing up as a Quaker. Here I will focus on some things I look for in the content of channeled material when making my own judgments about the usefulness of the information, and for assessing whether the source is from a higher dimensional Being or whether it may be a creative expression of the human channel's subconscious or superconscious mind. My main interest is in information from a higher dimensional perspective about what is happening to humanity and planet Earth in this particular time and, how these happenings relate to the larger cosmos.

There is also a large body of channeled information with a largely spiritual or inspirational content to which I feel varying degrees of resonance, but I do not presume to judge the value of the content as it relates to others. When channeled material is of a personal spiritual nature, as far as I'm concerned, it doesn't matter whether the source is the channel's subconscious or a separate entity, what matters is the content.

When it comes to higher dimensional perspectives on the nature of the cosmos, I prefer HDBs who have distinct personalities and provide some explanation of their nature and reasons or motivations for communicating. HDBs who have had experience as physically incarnated humans understand

the challenges of third dimensional existence. Autobiographical information about HDBs who have no experience in the Earth school often provides an interesting glimpse into the nature of the larger reality. Such HDBs can be wise and wonderful, but I sometimes see evidence in their viewpoints of a lack of understanding of how difficult third dimensional experience can be.

I have developed an informal three-part ranking system for individual HDBs based on the confidence I place in the information they present: high, moderate, and low. My confidence in information from an HDB (here referred to as androgynous, although HDBs often exhibit masculine or feminine characteristics) increases when:

- It asks us to accept only what rings true.
- It acknowledges the limitations of human language.
- It acknowledges that the message may be affected by the human channel's frame of reference.
- It offers a fresh, nonhuman, perspective on something I know about, information that is new, or *doesn't* fit the frame of reference of the channeler or person asking a question.
- It acknowledges that other HDBs may see things differently.
- It acknowledges limitations to its own knowledge.
- It respects the free will of humans.

In keeping with my multiple-lines-of-evidence approach, consistency with other independent sources is a plus. Another plus for me is evidence of a sense of humor. For example, Steve Rother first became aware of the Group, angelic entities that he channels, through hearing laughter somewhere over his right shoulder (Rother, 2000:20). Kryon, channeled by Lee Carroll often sees cosmic humor in our human insistence of perceiving ourselves as limited Beings, and I often find an appealing playfulness in the language of the extraterrestrial Pleadians channeled by Barbara Marciniak (Marciniak, 1992).

I will let some HDBs speak for themselves to illustrate several of the points

listed above. The Arcturian Masters of Light are fifth and sixth dimensional Beings from the vicinity of the star Arcturus who are giving support to humanity and planet Earth as we make a dimensional shift. They advise:

[T]o ascertain personal truth, approach all channeled information with intelligent, open-minded discrimination. Because truth is relative to each individual, you must ultimately trust that the channel's connecting link to lightbeings is secure. Keep in mind that channeled material may only seem to appear inaccurate, for what is true for you may or may not be true for another (Pereira, 1999:20-21).

These same Beings note the limitations of language and the effect of the channels frame of reference:

[T]he wavy manner in which energy moves through demarcation zones between dimensions makes pristine, definitive thoughts next to impossible for a human to receive. Other factors influencing a channel include experiential life perceptions; level of telepathic ability; star-system vibrational attunement; practical background, interest, and training in science, technology, history, and metaphysics; conscious present and subconscious past-life conditioning; and most important, related ego-factors (Pereira, 1999:20).

The names by which these Beings and entities identify themselves often sound like they are from a science fiction or fantasy novel: Kryon, Zoosh, Thenan, Atlanto, Lenduce, Vywamus. Kryon, in the first chapter of the first book of many that would follow, describes the challenges of communicating with humans from the perspective of one who has never incarnated as a human, and also explains that his human channel was chosen so as to minimize human frame of reference filtration:

I speak to you now as clearly as I can through my partner [Lee Carroll, a California businessman]; but I cannot use language as you know it, so the actual words are still being translated through his mind. My communications are actually independent of any language. I speak to you in "thought packages" and "idea

groups," translated into your words so you can understand.

I have chosen this writer for several reasons, the main one being that he agreed to do this before he came in. He has a contract...The other reason for my choice is that he has no former training of the Metaphysical system. That is, he has not studied it or read associated books. This creates an unbiased area for my thought packages to land...

My name isn't really Kryon, and I am not a man. I wish I could impart to you what it is like to be the entity that I am, but there are basic human implants of psychological restriction that simply will not let you understand...The spelling of my name I gave to those who needed it came in a thought package and is as close to my TONE sound as I could get for your language. There is really much more to my name than the sound, and I would really like you to be able to "feel" it; but you are unable at this time. (Kryon I, 1993:7-8).

The ascended master Djwhal Khul, communicates through a number of human channels at this time, although his name is most strongly identified with Alice Bailey who channeled more than twenty books in the first half of the twentieth century. Speaking through Janet McClure in the early 1980s, Djwhal Khul makes the point that HDBs have differing viewpoints:

One thing I wish to point out to all of you is that the interpretation of truth varies, and this is as true in the area of spiritual government as it is in earthly government. Different masters interpret their work differently...There is no right or wrong way to do the Creator's work, and each master brings to the Earth his own unique interpretation, his own blend of energy patterns. Djwhal Khul (1983-1985) (McClure, 1996:310).

Toth, who says he lived through most of the period of Atlantean civilization and was one of the founders of Egyptian civilization, speaking to Drunvalo Melchizedek also makes it clear that his is an individual point of view:

I'm giving you my viewpoint. I have watched the centuries go by, but I'm only one person. This is what I believe is true, but you must realize that other people may hold different viewpoints of

history (Melchizedek, 1998:79).

The Hathors, channeled through Tom Kenyon, are an ascended civilization that inhabit Venus in a higher dimension. They also emphasize the importance of using discernment when considering channeled information:

Don't unquestioningly take what is said as truth. Filter it through your heart and see how it feels to you—sense if it is the truth. And after you filter it through your heart, use your logic and your capacity to reason, to fathom it. Don't receive things passively by just accepting that the information is truth. Thoughtfully examine the information; test its mettle to see if it holds up. And then test it in your life and see if it works. This applies to everything we say, too! (Kenyon and Essene, 1996:218).

The Hathors quoted above identified themselves as a group of ten individuals out of a civilization of several million. At one point in the *Hathor Material* a question was asked whether there were general scientific principles that could be used to describe the effects of light energy on human consciousness. The response was:

Yes (...pause...) We're retrieving someone in our group who can explain it to you in terms that are both scientific yet can be understood by your average reader. It's a very complex anomaly (...pause...). This is how we see it... (Kenyon and Essene, 1996:102).

This is an example of HDBs acknowledging limitations to their ability to answer the question, and pausing to bring in someone who is more knowledgeable. I can offer a personal anecdotal example of this as well. After I was fairly well along in developing my own understanding of the Great Shift through review and analysis of published channeled material, I had the good fortune of receiving feedback on a draft of this book from an HDB named Aaron, channeled by Barbara Brodsky (for more information on Barbara and Aaron see www.deepspring.org). At one point in the conversation the relationship between human consciousness and magnetic fields came up. Aaron admitted that this was not an area of expertise for him

and that he would have to study up on the subject before we talked further (personal communication, Aaron through Barbara Brodsky, Ann Arbor, MI, taped conversation July 4, 2005). I have introduced Aaron here to also illustrate how I will document higher dimensional information that has not been published.

The idea that our innermost private thoughts can be read by HDBs can be uncomfortable. This is where respect for free will comes in. HDBs that respect the cosmic law of free will not obtain personal information without asking for permission to do so. This is most pertinent when seeking guidance in personal matters. Free will is a complex topic that theologians and philosophers have debated for a long time. Higher dimensional sources suggest that free will functions in an especially powerful way on planet Earth. I say more about this in Section 8.2.1, but for now I will only add that my confidence in information from an HDB increases when it explicitly shows its respect for human free will.

One way HDBs respect human free will is by being cagey or obtuse when asked questions for which an answer would not necessarily be helpful to those of us on the physical level. Problems can arise when information about possible future timelines are interpreted as predictions. This can create expectations for the future in humans at the 3D linear-time level that become self-fulfilling. In Chapter 7 I discuss in more detail why early channeled prophecies of catastrophic earth changes for the 1990s have not occurred. Apparently these early prophecies still shape the thinking of many Lightworkers. This is evident in the following response to a question about coming earth changes from an HDB named Lenduce in 1995:

Well, let's say we see more perhaps than we are permitted to say, because what we see is what we create. What you see is what you create, and we do not wish to create for you an image that will be difficult for you. If some of you learn to be more discriminating about channeled material, then we will perhaps be able to be a little more free about what we say; but many of you take it as the absolute truth and begin to create it, so we have to be very careful about what kinds of ideas we implant. We like to present a diversity of ideas for you and give you the opportunity to choose what feels best and most appropriate for

you. Until you learn more discretion and learn that your creative powers and your abilities to select are as valid as ours, we must in a sense treat you as children and tell you what is appropriate for children to hear.

*This doesn't mean that we are restricting information. Those of you who are open to new ideas and can stretch your minds can read between the lines and will hear things that others do not hear. (Lenduce/Roeder, **Shining the Light III**, 1995:340, **Light Technology Publishing** www.lighttechnology.com)*

4.1.5 Warning Flags and Applying the Criteria.

There was a time when I might have tried to formalize my HDB evaluation system with checklists and classification based on numeric ratings. Instead, when I encounter any of the traits discussed in the previous section, I give the HDB a plus mark and keep an informal running tally as I read. By the same token, there are characteristics that I identify as warning flags to proceed cautiously when evaluating information from an HDB. I become cautious when the HDB speaks from a sense of inflated importance, judgmentally, speaks with absolute certainty, caters to the expectations of its audience, or offers messages that seem intended to inspire fear (Section 4.3.1) or are manipulative (Section 4.3.2). A major warning flag for me goes up when a HDB (or the human channel) bad mouths or says something negative about another HDB or human. I have yet to detect the Velikovsky effect in an HDB, but my sense is that this propensity is not limited to 3D humans.

In my observation, the closer an HDB is to a recent incarnation on Earth, the closer its perspective is to our limited perspective. Consequently, I view more cautiously information channeled from deceased family members and friends. This tends to be communicated in a way that confirms the frame of reference of the person receiving the information and may not be useful as a primary source about the bigger picture. In the seven-dimension/density model I develop in more detail in Section 7.1.4, the fourth dimension/density is experienced physically in a way that is not all that different from the third dimension, and as a consequence fourth dimensional Beings with close ties to Earth, on the whole do not strike me as being necessarily wiser than those of us in the third dimension who have chosen to live our lives out of love rather than fear. The Hathors, quoted in the previous section are an exception to this

perhaps because they are in the process of ascending to the fifth dimension.

Again, using the seven-dimension/density model I have found the most reliable and useful information to come from fifth dimensional HDBs and higher. Such Beings are filled with light and love, but are free of the limitations that emotion can place on perception. Using the Earth school metaphor, the third dimension covers kindergarten through high school, the fourth dimension covers graduate work through a Masters and PhD, and the fifth dimension and higher is all post-doctoral work. The Ascended Masters in the fifth dimension and higher are all post-docs, but these dimensions also include a variety of other Higher Dimensional Beings which I identify in the next section.

I do not necessarily reject information that comes from sources where I detect warning flags, but I am more cautious in the way I incorporate it into my ever-evolving map of the territory. If the information is consistent with other sources it increases my confidence in that area of the map. There is a general correlation between the confidence with which I accept a piece of information and the number of independent human and channeled sources that are in agreement. If more than a dozen or so sources are in agreement about a feature I have mapped (although not necessarily in all the details), I say "many sources agree" without necessarily providing specific citations. When there is not widespread agreement, I try to provide specific citations. Occasionally a channeled source will *not* support a point upon which many sources are in agreement. I will point this out when it seems appropriate.

4.1.6 A Provisional Classification Scheme for Higher Dimensional Beings.

I remember my Father saying that there were two types of people: those who like to classify things and those who don't. Obviously, I fall into the category of those who like to classify things, but I also know that there are limitations to any classification scheme. I have found it useful to develop a provisional classification scheme for HDBs as part of my map of the territory, but I have friends who have a sense of receiving information from Spirit who don't feel the need to talk in terms of higher dimensions or different types of Higher Dimensional Beings. Another way to look at the distinctions I make here is to think in terms of different energetic patterns.

- ***Our Higher Selves.*** Our higher selves are the aspect of our multidimensional selves that is closest to the Source of All That Is. My higher dimensional friend Aaron has told me that I have been channeling my higher self in writing this book (personal communication, Aaron/Barbara Brodsky, Ann Arbor, February 25, 2004). I have also been told that I have received assistance from a thousand muses, but I seem to have the responsibility for putting the information into language, which most of the time feels like writing the old-fashioned hard way.
- ***Souls in Lesson.*** These are souls that are still in the 3D-linear time incarnational cycle. These most commonly communicate through mediums as the souls of departed relatives and friends. The afterlife experiments described in Section 3.3.2 involved such souls. Usually messages from these souls are intended to comfort those who remain living at the physical level. Fraud on the part of the channeler is not uncommon when people seek the comfort of messages from the other side (see Wendy, 1999 for guidelines for detecting fraud, and Keene, 1976, for an inside view of the fraudulent side of mediumship). Sometimes the messages have a broader value, such as the messages from Matthew, who died at the age of 17, to his mother (Ward, 2002).
- ***Graduated Souls.*** These are Beings who have experienced many cycles of physical reincarnation. They have completed the curriculum of the Earth school and now serve as teachers to those of us who are still in school.
- ***Spiritual Teachers and Ascended Masters.*** These are Beings who have experienced physical incarnation, but mainly as highly spiritual Beings whose primary purpose is to teach humans the path back to remembering their connection with the Source of All That Is. The great religious teachers, such as Jesus and Buddha are examples of such Beings. Saints in the Christian tradition and bodhisattvas in the Buddhist tradition fall in this category. The term Ascended Master comes from the esoteric tradition of Theosophy which includes channeled teachings from many who may or may not be recognized as historical figures (among the best known are Djwhal Khul, Hilarion,

Kuthumi, El Morya, Saint-Germain and Serapis Bey).

- ***Extraterrestrials***. Since the 1940s third-dimensional ETs have been present on Earth, but my understanding is that the large majority of ETs who are providing assistance with the Great Shift are HDBs. I place HDBs in this category who indicate a home planet, star, star system or galaxy that can be located in third-dimensional space. In Section 62.4 I discuss the Beneficial Extraterrestrial Organizations (BETOs) that are helping humanity and planet Earth at this time in more detail. The ET sources that I have relied upon most heavily are fifth dimensional and higher HDBs from Arcturus, the Pleiades and Sirius. I have already cited the 4D Hathors from Venus.
- ***Gods, Deities, and Archetypal Beings***. These are the gods and goddesses and other figures who populate the mythology of all peoples throughout history. These Beings have an existence, if in no other way, as part of our collective unconscious, and can communicate with us. My sense is that the source of Donald Neal Walsch's ***Conversations with God*** series falls in this category (Walsch, 1995). ETs with advanced technologies have often been perceived by humans in earlier times as gods and goddesses, and I find it useful to differentiate the original ETs from the deities that are inspired by them. For example, the Hathors referring to the Egyptian goddess Hator say

It is no accident that her name and ours are similar. We seeded and assisted this early symbol of the feminine mystery. The goddess Hator does have an independent existence separate from us and she is, what might be termed, an 'archetypal pattern' (Kenyon and Essene, 1996:5-6).

- ***Angelic Beings***. Higher dimensional sources differ somewhat on the nature of angelic Beings, but the general impression I get is that angelic Beings function as sort of a cosmic support team for all HDBs who are engaged on an evolutionary path to reunification with the Source of All That Is. As such they are able to move freely through all dimensions. Archangel is the highest rank in the angelic realm which interacts with humans as individuated Beings, and Archangel Michael oversees angelic support for humanity and planet Earth as we make the

dimensional shift (there are also cosmologies which identify higher ranks of angels). There are more than a dozen Archangels currently active on Earth at this time (Virtue, 2003-15-48). The other Archangels that deal with larger aspects of the Great Shift include Ariel, Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel and Metatron.

- ***Nature Beings.*** Nature Beings, also sometimes called Elementals, can be broadly divided into two groups: devas represent a universal aspect of a form and nature spirits which tend to be associated with particular localities or forms. Fairies, elves, and water nymphs are examples of nature spirits. Nature spirits typically conform to the folkloric cultural norms of the area in which they reside when perceived clairvoyantly. Devas tend to take on a more abstract form (Hodson, 1984). Either type may communicate with humans for specific purposes (Pogačnik, 1995). As with angelic Beings, as best I can determine they are higher dimensional, but do not necessarily operate within the evolutionary dimensional model that I ascribe to humans and Ets.
- ***Consciousness Associated with the Mineral, Plant and Animal Kingdoms.*** The mineral, plant and animal kingdoms are other categories where my dimensional model doesn't quite work. If material reality arises from consciousness, then some degree of consciousness exists in the most fundamental particles, and any differentiated aggregate of the building blocks of material reality, such as a mineral crystal, a plant, or animal has some form of separate consciousness. Thus, I often find accounts by individuals with high sense perception communicating with "inanimate" objects, such as minerals, or with plants and animals. Such communication is often a helpful counterbalance to our tendency to see things from an overly anthropocentric perspective. Totem animals can also be a source for personal guidance.
- ***Planetary and Stellar Beings.*** The universe that astronomers and astrophysicists study is the third-dimensional aspect of a multidimensional reality that higher dimensional sources sometimes refer to as the multiverse. Just as we individual humans are multi-dimensional Beings, planets and their satellites, our sun and other stars are multi-dimensional conscious Beings that may communicate via

channelers. Because our evolutionary path is intimately related to that of Mother Earth/Gaia she provides messages through a number of channelers.

- ***Energies and Forces.*** This is another category that doesn't quite fit my individuated consciousness/dimensional model of the larger reality. There are higher dimensional energies or forces that provide a more abstract identification as to their source, such as Logos, Creativity, Limitless Light and Love (Hastings, 1991:159), or Spirit, Creative Energy, Universal Mind (Beaconsfield, 1997:Foreward).
- ***None of the Above.*** I occasionally encounter higher dimensional sources or descriptions of HDBs that defy easy categorization. Robert Shapiro has channeled higher dimensional information from a greater diversity of sources, some which don't fit any of the categories identified above. For example, the Council of Creators includes specialists in Membranes That Separate, Gaps and Spaces, and Change and the Velocity of Change, among others (Council of Creators, 2002). Robert Monroe, whose astral travels are described a bit in Section 3.6.2, reports encountering an entity that was so alien and incomprehensible there was scarcely a frame of reference for recognizing each others' existence (Monroe, 1994).

These are not hard and fast categories (except for the last one that gives me an out for anything that doesn't fit the others), but I present them to give an idea of the variety of perspectives that can be reflected in channeled messages. I have already pointed out that not all of these categories fit neatly into my evolutionary/dimensional model for the Great Shift, and that distinctions between ETs and gods and goddesses may become blurry. Other sources offer slightly different classifications. For example, trance channeler Kevin Ryerson identifies seven "dimensions" of spirit communication: (1) spirit guides, (2) teachers, (3) master teachers, (4) saints, (5) ascended masters, (6) angels, and (7) archangels (Ryerson and Harolde, 1989:36-37). Kryon identifies channel sources as (1) Master Teachers, (2) Master Technicians (like Kryon), (3) Angels (working directly with the singular source), (4) the Guides and Master guides, (5) those experiencing lesson who return as teachers (channels), and (6) a vast array of internal workers (Kryon II, 1994:30).

4.2 Other Aspects of Channeled Information

Although my main interest is in using higher dimensional information to develop an understanding of the Great Shift, the methods and criteria I have described above for evaluating such information can also be useful at a personal level. Here I would like to say more about the human side of channeling, sources of channeled information, and identify some of the HDBs upon which I have relied most heavily as sources of information.

4.2.1 The Human Side of Channeling.

I have already pointed out that a frame of reference or bias in the way one perceives the larger reality is inherent in the process of individuation of consciousness. This only becomes problematic when someone, human or otherwise, imposes that point of view on others. I find it interesting that certain human channels who I see as playing a special role in providing information about ourselves as multidimensional spiritual Beings and the Great Shift have had a hard time fitting their experience as channels into their pre-channel life frame of reference.

For example, Helen Schucman, the channeler for *The Course of Miracles* was an academic who never really accepted that fact that she was the vehicle for a book that would be helpful for the spiritual growth of hundreds of thousands of people (Hastings, 1991:98). Neale Donald Walsch, channeler for the *Conversations with God* series was extremely disconcerted when he wrote an angry letter to God asking what he had done to deserve a life of continuing struggle, and his hand kept writing with simple yet profound answers (Walsch, 1995). Seth, who began channeling through Jane Roberts in the 1960s, responding to a question as to why she was chosen said:

The information was not to be given to "born believers", but to intelligent people, and to a "medium" who questioned it, not only for [herself] but for all those given to the same kind of questioning (Roberts, 1972:321).

I have previously quoted Kryon's explanation for his choice of Lee Carroll to be his human channel. Here Lee offers his own perspective:

*The cosmic humor in all this is that Spirit chose someone who not only was incredibly skeptical..but remains so! As I have written before, I was dragged kicking and complaining to two separate psychics three years apart...and had them spell Kryon's name in session...and tell me he wanted to "get through" to me. Only when I surrendered to logic did I finally start to channel the information...Spirit (God) has shown me over and over that we are supposed to use our logical brains, as well as our intuition. Over and over in this book Kryon has told us that our reality changes as we discover new facts and ideas, and that tomorrow's commonplace is today's magic (**Kryon II, 1994:238-239**).*

Ken Carey channeled the ***Starseed Transmissions*** in a small office in his homestead in rural Missouri during a cold and snowy period of eleven days from late December 1978 to early January 1979. During that time the office "seemed to literally pulsate with the rhythms of some alien, yet hauntingly familiar intelligence". He further describes the means by which he received the information:

*The message came first in non-verbal form, on waves, or pulsations, that carried the concise symbolic content of what I term "meta-conceptual information." Automatically, it would seem, the **nearest approximating words or phrases** from the English language would be assigned to ride, as it were, the fluctuations of the non-verbal communications. Often it was the case that the only human conceptual system with approximating terminology was religious. Hence, the occasional use of "Christian" words and phrases. It is not to be assumed that these always imply the usual assortment of meaning that are generally associated with them. Often the meta-conceptual reality that they are used to represent goes substantially beyond the meaning suggested by their contemporary usage.*

The communications that are presented in this book seem to be transmitted neurobiologically. As I communed with these spatial intelligences, our biogravitational fields seemed to merge, our awarenesses blend, and my nervous system seemed to become

available to them as a channel for communication. During our interviews, I would perceive reality, not only through my own perceptual mechanism, but through theirs as well. The resulting synthesis provided for a relatively accurate approximation in human language of the awareness they brought (Carey, 1982:1-2).

I like the initially reluctant channels because it increases my confidence that the information coming through is from an outside source. Most reluctant channels eventually expand their frame of reference to include the higher dimensional sources they channel, just as I came to recognize that my understanding had solidified into a frame of reference. However, as long as the information that comes through them remains consistent with the initial channeled information, I continue to place high value on the information coming through these channels.

4.2.2 Sources of Channeled Information.

New books containing channeled information are coming out all the time. The criteria described earlier and your own intuition can be used to determine whether a particular book may be helpful as you travel on your own path. In my opinion, the best ongoing source of channeled information is the monthly *Sedona Journal of Emergence* (PO Box 3870, Flagstaff, AZ 86003; 800/450-0985; www.sedonajournal.com) which typically includes channeled messages from several dozen sources and channelers. The purposes of the journal are:

- Provide a forum for those who wish to speak to us from other dimensions and realities.
- Celebrate our emergence into multidimensionality and our reconnection to the rest of creation.
- Bring information on the truth of our eternal nature—on the origin, ultimate purpose and future of the human race.
- Remind ourselves that our light and our sense of humor will carry us through into the adventure of forever.

An interesting aspect of Light Technology Publishing, which publishes the journal is that it has an Interdimensional Board of Directors, which includes the following entities: Zoosh, Isis, Sjoosoo, Speaks of Many Truths, and Reveals the Mysteries. This board apparently provides the equivalent of a peer review process for scientific journals because I have found no obvious problems of ego-filtration in the channeled information I have read in the journal. I sometimes find what appears to me to be frame-of-reference filtration, but I simply take that into account when I am looking for information that I find useful for my evolving understanding of the Great Shift. The channeled messages seem to be about equally divided between suggestions for many different things that we can do as individuals to participate in the Great Shift (meditations, visualization exercises, prayers), and commentary on astronomic/astrologic events and human and extraterrestrial/interdimensional activities that relate to the Shift. The links page of my Great Shift website identifies numerous sources of higher dimensional information (www.preparingforthegreatshift.org/Links.htm).

A source of channeled information that I cite fairly often is the *Shining the Light* (STL) series. There are six volumes which are compiled from channelings and articles that have appeared in *The Sedona Journal of Emergence* since mid-1994. Zoosh, about whom I give more information in the next section, and Jehovah/YHWH (channeled through Arthur Fanning), provide the majority of information in these books. Jehovah as channeled through Fanning comes across more as an ET than as an archetypal god. Although I find that the earlier volumes spend an inordinate amount of time focusing on clandestine U.S. government activities and the secret shadow government (see Section C2.4 for my own views on this), I have found much interesting information that helped me develop my own understanding of what is happening in the Great Shift. I have developed an abbreviated form for citing this series, which identifies the HDB, the human channel, the STL volume number, date of the message, the page upon which the quote appears and the publisher. For example: Zoosh/Robert Shapiro, *Shining The Light V*, January 8, 1998:329, Light Technology Publishing.

4.2.3 A Selected Who's Who of Higher Dimensional Beings.

I have read channeled information from dozens of HDBs as I continue to develop my map of the territory of the larger reality. Here I offer information on some of the HDBs in which I place high confidence as information sources, and one that I place in the moderate-confidence category to illustrate the difference between the two.

- *Seth*, trance channeled by Jane Roberts beginning in the 1960s through to her death in 1984 and transcribed by her husband Robert Butts, produced a large and coherent body of literature on the nature of human consciousness and reality beginning with *The Seth Material* (Roberts, 1970). Jane herself was never sure whether Seth was a higher dimensional aspect of herself or had an independent existence as a separate entity (Hastings, 1991:73). Whichever of these is true, Seth seems to fit my category of a graduated soul. Although I find the format that Roberts and Butts developed for presenting the material a bit cumbersome, I have found Seth's teaching very useful in developing my own understanding of the larger reality.
- *Ra*, deep-trance channeled by Carla Rueckert in the early 1980s, is a sixth-dimensional form of collective consciousness that has been observing and helping humanity since the time of early Egyptian civilization (Ra, 1984). Ra seems to be associated with a higher dimensional aspect of the star Sirius and so falls in the category of extraterrestrial. The Ra material was the product of the unique combination of the energies of Carla, Don Elkins as questioner (Elkins was trained as a physicist), and the transcriber Jim McCarty. The transmissions ended with the untimely death of Elkins. I have already noted that this is some of the highest quality channeled information that I have encountered.
- *Djwhal Khul* is a Tibetan ascended master who has communicated through a number of recent human channels since the 1980s (McClure, 1996 and Starre 2000, for example). Although I have read and gained benefit from information from many ascended masters, I have found Djwhal Khul's perspective offered through these recent channels to be especially helpful (his numerous books through Alice Bailey less so).

- *Angelic Beings* are communicating through many human channels at this time. The ones that I find provide the most consistently interesting and useful information about what is happening with the Great Shift include Kryon, channeled by Lee Carroll, The Group channeled by Steve Rother, and Archangel Michael channeled by Ronna Herman. There are so many Kryon books, I identify them by volume number when I cite them (i.e. Kryon I, 1993, Kryon II, 1994, etc.). The Group (Rother, 2000), and Archangel Michael (Herman, 1997) appear regularly in *Sedona Journal of Emergence* and recent messages can be found at their websites.
- *Arcturian and Pleiadian ETs*. In Section 3.7 I noted that the human-based UFO/ET literature is sufficiently confusing and contradictory that it keeps me at the edge of my own cognitive comfort zone. To a certain extent I find the same to be true of channeled information from higher dimensional ETs. I attribute this to a combination of frame of reference filtration by the human channels, and that, more than most other HDBs, the ETs are caught up in the Game of Duality. Here I will say that I find that the Arcturians (see for example, Pereira, 1999), and the Pleiadians (see, for example, Carey, 1982; Clow, 1995; Marciniak, 1992) to consistently provide information in which I place high confidence.
- *Zoosh*, channeled by Robert Shapiro, is an HDB who has ensouled several planets, has been observing and helping humanity since our earliest origins and calls himself an end-time historian (Zoosh, 1996:v-viii). Zoosh comes across as something of a know-it-all and often speaks with a certainty that makes me take what he says with a grain of salt, especially when he gives percentages to four decimal places. At the same time I can count on Zoosh to always give an unusual and interesting perspective, and his answers often don't seem to fit the frame of reference of the person who is questioning him, which I take as a good sign. I generally don't use Zoosh as a primary source of information (i.e., I prefer corroboration by other HDBs).

- **Others HDBs.** Donald Neale Walsch's *Conversations with God* books (Walsch, 1995 and others) have provided spiritual inspiration to millions, and I have found much information that has been helpful in developing my map of the larger reality. Another such HDB is Emmanuel, channeled by Pat Rodegast (Emmanuel, 1987 and others), whose messages are primarily of a spiritual, inspirational nature but often contain interesting nuggets of information about the larger reality.

4.3 The Dark and Light Sides of Channeled Information

When I began to take channeled information seriously I found that it wasn't all sweetness and light, although it seemed that the large majority of channeled material I encountered had an entirely positive message. I initially rather glibly discounted any channeled information with a negative message as simply due to ego-filtration or frame-of-reference filtration on the part of the human channeler. As time went on I realized that it wasn't quite that simple. In Section 6.2.4 I say more about the differences between beneficial, neutral and mischievous extraterrestrial organizations (BETOs, NETOs and SETOs). What complicates things is that mischievous entities have the ability to distort messages coming from positive sources as well as be the entity that is sending the message. When reading (or hearing live or on tape) channeled information we have a responsibility to critically evaluate it using the kind of criteria I suggested earlier, and trust our intuition as to whether the information is useful to our particular situation. Below I will address two different types of "negative" channeled information, messages that engender fear, and messages intended to manipulate.

4.3.1 Messages Feeding Fear.

In Chapter 7 I go into some detail as to how that probable future shifted around the time of the Harmonic Convergence in 1987, and in the next Chapter I present geophysical and astrophysical evidence in support of my understanding of what is happening with the Great Shift. However, a nontrivial amount of channeled information continues to have a decidedly apocalyptic tone, saying that humanity and planet Earth will be destroyed if we don't shape up. Such messages easily instill a feeling of fear, but I have found that fear-inducing messages are not always the product of mischievous

HDBs who are in the game of feeding off negative emotions.

Gordon-Michael Scallion is a well-known source of predictions that catastrophic earth changes would be affecting the planet in the 1990s. At first he was reluctant to share with others the prophetic dreams of earthquakes, volcanic activity, severe weather and other tribulations. When a number of his early predictions were on target and people began asking for more information he continued to have misgivings. Then in a dream he saw these words written in the sand on a beach:

The purpose of prophecy is twofold. One hand, it allows those who read the signs to prepare for what may come—a warning. On the other hand, it allows some who read the signs to change that which may come to be (Scallion, 1997:173).

Higher dimensional sources in which I place high confidence provide assurances that since the timeline shift in 1987, most predictions of catastrophic earth changes made by humans with precognitive abilities, or coming directly from HDBs, are coming from possible timelines, rather than the most probable timeline. If you encounter channeled information that elicits a fear response I recommend several things. First, acknowledge the emotion of fear, and then release it. Second, send a prayer to Spirit asking that human and geophysical stresses be released so as to minimize harm to humanity and planet Earth. Third, if the prediction relates to anything that is amenable to change by sociopolitical action, if you feel called to do so, take action yourself and encourage your friends to do so as well.

4.3.2 Messages of Manipulation.

In Section 6.2 I will say more about the Game of Duality as it is played out through the interaction of two spiritual paths: service to others and service to self (STS) through domination of others. Although I have chosen the path of service to others, I honor the service to self path as it exists on planet Earth for the repeated opportunities it gives us to choose love rather than fear and self empowerment rather than disempowerment. My sense is that the very large majority of human channels who provide higher dimensional information for others have chosen the service to others spiritual path. Because of their public visibility, such individuals are considered fair game for manipulation by

service-to-self HDBs, and each channel has the responsibility for ensuring that this does not happen. I have already described my own experience with ego-filtration (Section 3.2.3), and feel fortunate that it happened early in my awakening experience and was able to recognize it in myself before putting myself in a position of possible embarrassment by making my delusions public. My own spiritual journey has taught me the importance of continual self-review to detect unhelpful expressions of ego within myself. There are a number of channels who, in my opinion, have not been so fortunate. They began as clear channels of spiritual information, but ego-filtration entered subtly at a later time, and the information gradually became more and more distorted.

I choose not to name names, because I honor these individuals for their willingness to play the Game of Duality and for the opportunities they provide each of us to exercise our own discernment in separating truth from falsehood. In my own scheme of things, messages from higher dimensional sources that are manipulative and disempowering are a strong indication that a service to self HDB is either distorting or controlling the information that is coming through a human channel. In Section 4.1.5 I identify other warning flags that cause me to proceed with caution with channeled higher dimensional information.

4.3.3 Cosmic Humor and the SSL Syndrome.

Now let's lighten up a bit. Humor coming from a channel source is usually a good indication that it may be worth paying attention to. I haven't found any channel source that would qualify as a stand-up comic, but it is not uncommon for a channel message to encourage us to take things a little less seriously. In my experience, cosmic humor is more likely to bring a smile to my face than elicit a laugh. There is something I should warn you about, though, if you read a lot of channeled material. I call it the surfeit of sweetness and light (SSL) syndrome. Good channel sources both inform and uplift. It seems that sometimes they get carried away with the uplift part and it gets to feel like too much of a good thing. Kryon, bless his heart (or its higher dimensional equivalent), has a tendency to do this, so I suggest reading him in doses rather than straight through. On the other hand, I found that the same uplifting words had a very different effect when I attended a Kryon channeling in Indianapolis in April 2004. It is a powerful experience and

truly uplifting to hear the words spoken, variants of which I had read many times. There is wide room for differing personal preferences in this respect. Channeled messages that I find syrupy sweet and cloying may be ambrosia to someone else. If you feel drawn to channeled information as a source of inspiration, as Joseph Campbell was fond of saying, "follow your bliss."

4.4 A General Approach to Testing Higher Dimensional Perspectives.

I conclude this series of three chapters presenting a scientific framework for understanding the Great Shift by describing the approach I have developed for testing higher dimensional perspectives using information that is grounded entirely in our third dimensional material world. First, I have to say that on the whole I have found material evidence in support of the Great Shift presented by human authors of New-Age books and books on frontier science to be unsatisfying. More often than I would like, I find the information to be selective, open to alternative explanations, incomplete, poorly documented, unverifiable, and range from displaying a superficial understanding of the scientific method to outright hostility towards it.

Since I honor both rational and intuitive approaches to understanding the Great Shift, evidence that I find problematic may be useful for those with a more intuitive bent. I include a reasonably comprehensive index to the alternative history and frontier science literature in Table A.1. I debated with myself whether to call my framework for understanding the larger reality scientific or rational. I cringe a bit when I read in New Age literature the statement "scientists say" followed by information that doesn't meet my own standards for scientific evidence. Nevertheless, I am trained as a scientist, and the approach I have developed is rooted in that training, so I have decided to call it scientific. I apologize to those whose understanding of science is grounded in material reality who may cringe at my choice of terms.

At the beginning of this chapter I noted a fundamental shift in my *modus operandi* from relying on human-based evidence in Chapters 2 and 3 to relying primarily on higher dimensional sources to develop my overall understanding of the dimensional shift that humanity and planet Earth are experiencing. I have found three major ways to test this understanding using information that is grounded in material reality:

- Emerging psychological, sociocultural, economic and political patterns and trends that suggest a shift in human consciousness is underway. Chapter 1 presents this type of evidence without making any reference to higher dimensional sources of information, although I could cite any number of higher dimensional sources that point to this evidence as well. This type of evidence is largely qualitative, although some quantification is possible as statistical trends, such as the decline in U.S. crime and global violent conflict in the last ten years of so (Sections 1.1.2 and 1.2.3).
- Testable hypotheses suggested by higher dimensional information, that can be evaluated using existing data from the physical world. Chapter 5 presents geophysical and astrophysical hypotheses and data of this sort.
- Comparing theories and predictions derived from higher dimensional sources with those of mainstream science. Comparisons that I find most interesting are 1) predictions of mainstream scientific discoveries before they happen (rare), 2) information that challenges the dominant mainstream paradigm, but which is supported by other scientists who work within the mainstream (common), 3) higher dimensional source provide explanations for measured phenomena that mainstream science does not predict, or has a hard time explaining (less common). This approach may be the subject of a future book.

My map of the territory of the larger reality does not *depend* on confirmatory evidence from the material world. Nevertheless, my confidence is increased in those features that are consistent with material evidence. That said, let's move on the Chapter 5.

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