

## High Weirdness By Mail

High Weirdness by Mail  
Touchstone  
High Weirdness  
Drugs, Esoterica, and Visionary Experience in the Seventies  
MIT Press

A strange journey into the far future of genetic engineering, and working life. After centuries of tinkering, many human bodies only have a casual similarity to what we now know, but both work and school continue apace. Will the enigmatic sad sack known only as “the worker” survive the day? Will the young student Hanishibe get his questions about the biological future of humanity answered, or will he have to transfer to the department of theology? Will Umari and her master ever comprehend the secrets of nanodust? -- VIZ Media

When Karen leaves New Jersey to spend time with her enigmatic father on Mount Olympus, she is shocked to learn that her junior high classmates are gods and goddesses, and that one of them is turning people to stone.

Ever since Keith Ridgway published his landmark cult novel Hawthorn & Child, his ardent fans have yearned for more. Finally, Ridgway gives us A Shock, his thrilling and unsparing, slippery and shockingly good new novel. Formed as a rondel of interlocking stories with a clutch of more or less loosely connected repeating characters, it's at once deracinated yet potent with place, druggy yet

frighteningly shot through with reality. His people appear, disappear, and reappear. They're on the fringes of London, clinging to sanity or solvency or a story by their fingernails, consumed by emotions and anxieties in fuzzily understood situations. A deft, high-wire act, full of imprecise yet sharp dialog as well as witchy sleights of hand reminiscent of Muriel Spark, *A Shock* delivers a knockout punch of an ending. Perhaps Ridgway's most breathtaking quality is his scintillating stealthiness: you can never quite put your finger on how he casts his spell—he delivers the shock of a master jewel thief (already far-off and scot-free) stealing your watch: when at some point you look down at your wrist, all you see is that in more than one way you don't know what time it is...

High Culture

The Weirdness

What You Don't Know Can't Hurt Them

Severe Storms, Deadly Heat Waves, Relentless Drought, Rising Seas, and the Weather of the Future

There Is a River

American Trip

Secrets of the Mysterious Valley

**A welcome source of analysis and commentary for those prepared to go deeper—and darker—than even most alternative media permit, this collection from one of the most popular conspiracy theory arguments on the internet will assist readers in clarifying their own arguments**

and recognizing disinformation. Tackling many of the most difficult subjects that define our time—including 9/11, the JonBenet Ramsey case, and "High Weirdness"—these studies, containing the best of the Rigorous Intuition blog as well as original content, make connections that both describe the current, alarming predicament and suggest a strategy for taking back the world. Following the maxim "What you don't know can't hurt them," this assortment of essays and tools, including the updated and expanded "Coincidence Theorists' Guide to 9/11," guides the intellectually curious down further avenues of study and scrutiny and helps readers feel empowered rather than vulnerable.

A former police officer awakens after a night of sex with a strange woman to find that one of his kidneys has been removed, an event that sends him into a drugged-out underworld.

At last, the long-awaited sequel to the underground bestseller, *The Book of the SubGenius*--an even more radical, more twisted, and more hilarious journey into the wild world of "Bob". With an appendix of epistles and apostles, this is the most intoxicating portrait yet of the Church of the SubGenius and its infamous leader.

From the award-winning fantasy author of the *Dead Rivers Trilogy*, comes Naomi Kritzer's

**enchancing Tor.com Original short story, "Little Free Library" Upon setting up her own Little Free Library that she built from a kit, Meagan develops an unexpected friendship with a mysterious book borrower. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.**

**High Weirdness by Mail**

**Monsters You Should Know**

**Global Weirdness**

**Making the American Religious Fringe**

**Big Day Coming**

**Untold Stories of Alien Encounters in**

**Mesoamerica**

**How the West Became Psychologically Peculiar and Particularly Prosperous**

Dr. Ardy Sixkiller Clarke, author of Encounters With Star People, vowed as a teenager to follow in the footsteps of two 19th-century explorers, John L. Stephens and Frederick Catherwood, who brought the ancient Maya cities to the world 's attention.

Dr. Clarke set out on a seven-year adventure (from 2003 through 2010) through Belize, Honduras, Guatemala, and Mexico, collecting stories of encounters, sky gods, giants, little people, and aliens among the indigenous people. She drove more than 12,000 miles, visiting 89 archaeological sites (Stephens and Catherwood visited only 44) and conducting nearly 100 individual interviews. The result is an enthralling series of unique, original, true stories of encounters with space travelers, giants, little people, and UFOs. Sky People may very well change the way you perceive and experience the world.

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Sometimes a book goes too far. Sometimes is... now. First, there was The Gilgamesh. Then... the Bhagavad-Gita Then... the Torah, the New Testament, the Koran Then... the Book of Mormon, Dianetics, I'm OK You're OK. And now...The Book of the Subgenius (How to Prosper in the Coming Weird Times) No other region in North America features the variety and intensity of unusual phenomena found in the world ' s largest alpine valley, the San Luis Valley of Colorado and New Mexico. Since 1989, Christopher O ' Brien has documented thousands of high-strange accounts that report UFOs, ghosts, crypto-creatures, cattle mutilations, skinwalkers and sorcerers, along with portal areas, secret underground bases and covert military activity. This mysterious region at the top of North America has a higher incidence of UFO reports than any other area of the continent and is the publicized birthplace of the " cattle mutilation " mystery. Hundreds of animals have been found strangely slain during waves of anomalous aerial craft sightings. Is the government directly involved? Are there underground bases here? Does the military fly exotic aerial craft in this valley that are radar-invisible below 18,000 feet? These and many other questions are addressed in this all-new work by one of America ' s top paranormal investigators. Take a fantastic journey through one of the world ' s most enigmatic locales! An exploration of the emergence of a new psychedelic spirituality in the work of Philip K. Dick, Terence McKenna, and Robert Anton Wilson. A study of the spiritual provocations to be found in the work of Philip K. Dick, Terence McKenna, and Robert Anton Wilson, High Weirdness charts the emergence of a new psychedelic spirituality that arose from the American counterculture of the 1970s. These three authors changed the way millions of readers thought, dreamed, and experienced

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reality—but how did their writings reflect, as well as shape, the seismic cultural shifts taking place in America? In *High Weirdness*, Erik Davis—America's leading scholar of high strangeness—examines the published and unpublished writings of these vital, iconoclastic thinkers, as well as their own life-changing mystical experiences. Davis explores the complex lattice of the strange that flowed through America's West Coast at a time of radical technological, political, and social upheaval to present a new theory of the weird as a viable mode for a renewed engagement with reality.

Oh My Gods!

The Book of Stamps

Drugs, Mysticism, and the Pursuit of Transcendence in the Modern World

Exotics, Subversives, and Journalists, 1955-1993

Nog

Little Free Library

Rigorous Intuition

**BEYOND ANYTHING YOU EVER IMAGINED WAS POSSIBLE! EXPLORE PARALLEL WORLDS AND OTHER DIMENSIONS. ESCAPE THE CONFINES OF THE MATRIX AND ELUDE THOSE THAT CONTROL OUR LIVES THROUGH A COMPUTERIZED SIMULATION.** You Have Doubtlessly Seen The Movies Based Upon What We Have All Come to Believe Are Exceptionally Brilliant Science Fiction Novels Written By The Late Philip K. Dick . . . **TOTAL RECALL - BLADE RUNNER - THE ADJUSTMENT BUREAU** But what you probably didn't know is that their creator was living out some of the same incredibly bizarre scenarios that he

wrote about. One can easily compare Philip to the character played by Arnold Schwarzenegger in "Total Recall," who found himself in a parallel universe on a faraway planet, despite the fact that he was only supposed to be hooked up in a laboratory to a machine that creates realistic dream-like images. Which reality is the character really living in? At a sci-fi press conference held in France in 1977, Philip tried to explain some of his bewildering thoughts about the existence of a parallel or self-contained - Matrix-like - universe created by "someone" who has the ability to alter the course of time and our concept of reality: "People claim to remember past lives," Philip told the throng of reporters and fans. "I claim to remember a different - very different - present life. I know of nobody who has ever made this claim before but I rather suspect that my experience is not unique. What perhaps is unique is my willingness to talk about it. We are living in a computer-programmed reality and the only clue we have to it is when some variable is changed and some alteration in our reality occurs . . . and because of this a variable WAS changed - reprogrammed as it were - and an alternative world branched off."

Drawing on the masterful mind of creative genius Philip K. Dick we offer up dozens of his personal experiences, as well as those of others in the UFO and paranormal fields, where synchronicities seem to abound. This is NOT science fiction. This is a universe that cannot be so easily grasped or explained. The well-known collector of scientific curiosities, Charles Fort, is often quoted as

having said: "The Earth is a farm. We are someone's property." He likened our condition to being movable pieces on a chess board. "There is no doubt that we are under some sort of surveillance and that an "invisible hand" has the ability to carve out our existence and "interfere" in our daily lives by creating a variety of bizarre "play scripts" that to some may seem like pure "coincidences."" Or so says pop culture paranormalist Tim Beckley, who notes that "Synchronicities are not just random occurrences but are laid out before us by some sort of synchronicity command post, which ably demonstrates their mastery or control over us hapless earthlings." Drawing on the masterful mind of creative genius Philip K. Dick (some to this day perceive him to have been a total "mad man") we offer up dozens of his personal experiences, as well as those of others in the UFO and paranormal fields, where synchronicities seem to abound. Beckley and co-author Sean Casteel lay out a plausible scenario to "explain" the intricate workings of what has been dubbed "The Synchronicity Command Board," or "Earth Coincidence Control Office," as so aptly named by the brilliant American marine biologist and neurologist, Dr. John C. Lilly. **THE MATRIX CONTROL SYSTEM OF PHILIP K. DICK - AND THE PARANORMAL SYNCHRONICITIES OF TIMOTHY GREEN BECKLEY** has been compiled by Tim Beckley and Sean Casteel with an Introduction by Tessa Dick and added contributions by such esteemed researchers as: Philip K. Dick, Tim Swartz, Nick Redfern, Diane



Tessman, Hercules Invictus, Brad Steiger, Brent Raynes, Cynthia Cirile, Valarie D. Orazio, and others who have come to conclude we are living in a computerized simulation, and like PKD acknowledge the existence of the Matrix.

A new edition of the landmark, worldwide bestseller on the life of the famed medical clairvoyant and founding father of the New Age: Edgar Cayce. Edgar Cayce (1877-1945) is known to millions today as the grandfather of the New Age. A medical clairvoyant, psychic, and Christian mystic, Cayce provided medical, psychological, and spiritual advice to thousands of people who swore by the effectiveness of his trance-based readings. But Cayce was not always a household name. When a young, skeptical journalist named Thomas Sugrue first met Cayce in 1927 the world had not yet heard of the "sleeping prophet." During years of unique access, Sugrue completed his landmark biography, which on its publication in 1942 brought national attention to Cayce and stands as the sole record written during the seer's lifetime. This edition includes a new introduction by historian Mitch Horowitz that highlights the enduring significance of Cayce's message and the role this book played in its dissemination.

Now in paperback, a heartfelt YA rom-com about smart girls, love-struck boys, and quantum theory Seventeen-year-old Evie Beckham has never been interested in dating. She's fully occupied by her love of math and her frequent battles with anxiety. Besides, she's always found

the idea of kissing to be kind of weird and pretty unsanitary, when you think about it. But with the help of her therapist and her support system, she's feeling braver. Maybe even brave enough to enter a prestigious physics competition or to say yes to the new boy who's been flirting with her. Evie's best friend, Caleb, has always been a little in love with Evie, and though he knows she isn't ready for romance, he hopes that when she is, she'll choose him. So Caleb is horrified when he is forced to witness Evie's meet-cute with a floppy-haired, mathematically gifted transfer student. In desperation, Caleb decides to use an online forum to capture Evie's interest. When it goes better than he could've wished for, he wonders if it's possible to be jealous of himself. And Evie wonders how she went from eschewing romance to having to choose between two—or is it three?—boys. More than 150 full-color photographs are interwoven with a study of California's rich cultural history to provide a compelling study of religion, faith, and spirituality throughout the Golden State, bringing together both immigrant and native religious influences that have shaped California, from UFO cults and Zen Buddhism to televangelism and neopaganism. 12,500 first printing.

The Afterlife and Transdimensional Reality  
The Visionary State  
Sky People  
A Journey Through California's Spiritual Landscape  
Acorns: Windows High-Tide Foghat  
Are You "normal"? 2

### Sisyphean

*An examination of our consciousness's ability to pass between dimensions, both in life and after death, and how to communicate with spirits • Reveals that all beings exist simultaneously in the material dimension and in the soul hyperdimension and that our consciousness transcends death • Provides evidence that the deceased keep in contact with their loved ones and are able to visit them as apparitions, give them advice, and protect them • Offers rigorous scientific analysis of paranormal occurrences, including evidence of life after death, house spirits, near-death and out-of-body experiences, and communication with the souls of the deceased In this exploration of consciousness, after-death communication, and the validity of near-death and out-of-body experiences, Chris H. Hardy, Ph.D., a former researcher at Princeton's Psychophysical Research Laboratories, reveals that all beings exist simultaneously in the material dimension and in the soul hyperdimension. During life, we can access the soul hyperdimension through heightened states of consciousness and dreams. After death, we cease to physically exist, but our consciousness continues on in the hyperdimension as a living soul, a complete personality able to perceive and even affect the material world. Through rigorous scientific analysis of psi experiences and surveys, the author shows that the deceased keep contact with the living by visiting them as apparitions, protecting them from harm, and even interceding to solve family problems or resolve their own unfinished business. She details her own psi and spiritual experiences, such as interactions with a house spirit, clairvoyance in lucid dreams, and her decades of communication with the souls of the deceased, including her own parents and scientific geniuses, and provides*

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*empirical evidence to support their reality. Moreover, Hardy offers tested methods for gaining access to the soul dimension and explores what can be accomplished there, including communicating with those who exist beyond our own matter world. Sharing her breakthrough understanding of the soul dimension as a hyperdimension pervading the universe, where our consciousness lives on after physical death, Hardy shows that we are all transdimensional beings and that the living souls of the spirit dimension welcome our interaction.*

*A New York Times Notable Book of 2020 A Bloomberg Best Non-Fiction Book of 2020 A Behavioral Scientist Notable Book of 2020 A Human Behavior & Evolution Society Must-Read Popular Evolution Book of 2020 A bold, epic account of how the co-evolution of psychology and culture created the peculiar Western mind that has profoundly shaped the modern world. Perhaps you are WEIRD: raised in a society that is Western, Educated, Industrialized, Rich, and Democratic. If so, you're rather psychologically peculiar. Unlike much of the world today, and most people who have ever lived, WEIRD people are highly individualistic, self-obsessed, control-oriented, nonconformist, and analytical. They focus on themselves—their attributes, accomplishments, and aspirations—over their relationships and social roles. How did WEIRD populations become so psychologically distinct? What role did these psychological differences play in the industrial revolution and the global expansion of Europe during the last few centuries? In *The WEIRDest People in the World*, Joseph Henrich draws on cutting-edge research in anthropology, psychology, economics, and evolutionary biology to explore these questions and more. He illuminates the origins and evolution of family structures, marriage, and religion, and the profound impact these cultural transformations had on*

*human psychology. Mapping these shifts through ancient history and late antiquity, Henrich reveals that the most fundamental institutions of kinship and marriage changed dramatically under pressure from the Roman Catholic Church. It was these changes that gave rise to the WEIRD psychology that would coevolve with impersonal markets, occupational specialization, and free competition—laying the foundation for the modern world. Provocative and engaging in both its broad scope and its surprising details, The WEIRDest People in the World explores how culture, institutions, and psychology shape one another, and explains what this means for both our most personal sense of who we are as individuals and also the large-scale social, political, and economic forces that drive human history. Includes black-and-white illustrations.*

*Meet the world's most unusual monsters in this darkly funny collection of creatures and cryptids from folkloric history. Illustrator Emma SanCartier captures the bizarre and hilarious elements of 17 monsters from around the world in a light, tongue-in-cheek tone, from the Japanese dream-eater Baku and the Persian carnivorous unicorn Shadhavar to the Eastern-European Shurale, a literal tickle monster. Illustrated in lush watercolor, Monsters You Should Know is a perfect primer for the many strange, frightening, and compelling things that go bump in the night.*

*The first biography of Yo La Tengo, the massively influential band who all but defined indie music. Yo La Tengo has lit up the indie scene for three decades, part of an underground revolution that defied corporate music conglomerates, eschewed pop radio, and found a third way. Going behind the scenes of one of the most remarkable eras in American music history, Big Day Coming traces the patient rise of husband-and-wife team Ira Kaplan and Georgia Hubley, who—over three decades—helped forge a spandex-and-*

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*hairspray-free path to the global stage, selling millions of records along the way and influencing countless bands. Using the continuously vital Yo La Tengo as a springboard, Big Day Coming uncovers the history of the legendary clubs, bands, zines, labels, record stores, college radio stations, fans, and pivotal figures that built the infrastructure of the now-prevalent indie rock world. Journalist and freeform radio DJ Jesse Jarnow draws on all-access interviews and archives for mesmerizing trip through contemporary music history told through one of its most creative and singular acts.*

*Collected Rantings (1992-2004)*

*The Matrix Control System of Philip K. Dick and the Paranormal Synchronicities O*

*Nomad Codes*

*Imagination, Fiction and Faith*

*The Miseducation of the American Elite and the Way to a Meaningful Life*

*Three-fisted Tales of "Bob"*

*A Tor.com Original*

An accessible explanation of climate change summarizes its science while sharing insights into its implications for the future, answering key questions from the role of fossil fuels to the economic costs of reducing carbon emissions.

A concise and professionally-researched summary of Erik Davis' book: "High Weirdness". From Alden Marshall's Condensed Esoterica series, this complete summary provides a fast and straightforward way to understand and study the main ideas and concepts of the original source text. About the Original Book: High Weirdness by Erik

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Davis focuses on the works and lives of Philip K. Dick, Terence McKenna, and Robert Anton Wilson; though other authors make a significant appearance, Davis explores how these three authors were in charge of profound visionary alterations in the American counterculture. The author investigates the American counterculture and how psychedelic spirituality was responsible for its formation and sustenance. He also analyzes the radical technological aspects present in high weirdness, how conspiratorial political ideas became so relevant, and why social upheaval was essential to turn into a viable mode of reality. Added-value of this summary: \* Save time \* Understand the key concepts \* Expand your knowledge Note to readers: This is an unofficial summary and analysis of the book and not the original book itself. Alden Marshall and the Condensed Esoterica Collection are wholly responsible for this content and are not associated with the original author in any way. You are encouraged to purchase and read the original text in addition to this summary.

"This book is wild. And smart. And hilarious. And weird ... in all kinds of good ways. Prepare to be weirded out. And to enjoy it." —Charles Yu, author of *How to Live Safely in a Science Fictional Universe* What do you do when you wake up hung over and late for work only to find a stranger on your couch? And what if that stranger turns out to be an Adversarial Manifestation—like Satan, say—who has brewed you a fresh cup of fair-trade coffee? And

what if he offers you your life's goal of making the bestseller list if only you find his missing Lucky Cat and, you know, sign over your soul? If you're Billy Ridgeway, you take the coffee. From the Trade Paperback edition.

Stories depict the life of J.R. "Bob" Dobbs and the SubGenius church he founded after nuclear war decimated the Earth

Invented Religions

Yo La Tengo and the Rise of Indie Rock

A Shock

Kiss Me, Judas

The Exegesis of Philip K Dick

High Weirdness

Revelation X

***Edited by Jeffrey Kastner, Sina Najafi. Introduction by George Pendle.***

***Based on thousands of personal notes, letters and other written sources, a definitive presentation of the late science-fiction and metaphysical author's unpublished masterwork offers insight into his lifelong exploration of the nature of reality and perception and the relationship between humanity and the divine.***

***Acorns delineates the future of humanity as a reunification of intellect with the Deep Self. Having chosen to focus upon ego (established securely by the time of Christ), much more beta brain wave development will destroy our species and others, which process has already begun. We create our own realities through beliefs, intents and desires and***



***we were in and out of probabilities constantly. Feelings follow beliefs, not the other way around. "Throughout history, humans have always been fascinated by drugs and altered states. Despite the risk of addiction, many have used drugs as technologies to induce moments of meaning-making transcendence. This book traces the quest for transcendence and meaning through drugs in the modern West. Starting with the Romantic fascination with opium, it goes on to chronicle the discovery of anesthetics, psychiatric and religious interest in hashish, the bewitching power of mescaline and hallucinogenic fungi, as well as the more recent uses of LSD. It fills a major gap in our understanding of contemporary alternative and in the study of countercultures and popular culture. Today we are seeing increased social and scientific attention to both the positive and the negative effects of psychoactive drugs, particularly following the legalization of marijuana for medicinal and/or recreational use in some US states, as well as court cases involving the sacramental use of drugs. This fascinating and wide-ranging exploration of the controversial relationship between drugs and spirituality could not be more timely." [source : éditeur].***

***The Magic and Occultism of India : Hindu and Egyptian Crystal Gazing : the Hindu Magic-mirror  
Excellent Sheep***

***Set, Setting, and the Psychedelic Experience in the Twentieth Century***

***Gods of Eden***

***The Beast of Adam Gorightly***

***Short Stories in the Subgenius Mythos***

***Book of the Subgenius***

In an examination of religion coverage in Time, Newsweek, Life, The Saturday Evening Post, Ebony, Christianity Today, National Review, and other news and special interest magazines, Sean McCloud combines religious history and social theory to analyze how and why mass-market magazines depicted religions as "mainstream" or "fringe" in the post-World War II United States. McCloud argues that in assuming an American mainstream that was white, middle class, and religiously liberal, journalists in the largest magazines, under the guise of objective reporting, offered a spiritual apologetics for the dominant social order. McCloud analyzes articles on a wide range of religious movements from the 1950s through the early 1990s, including Pentecostalism, the Nation of Islam, California cults, the Jesus movement, South Asian gurus, and occult spirituality. He shows that, in portraying certain beliefs as "fringe," magazines evoked long-standing debates in American religious history about emotional versus rational religion, exotic versus familiar spirituality, and normal versus abnormal levels of piety. He also traces the shifting line between mainstream and fringe, showing how such boundary shifts coincided with larger changes in society, culture, and the magazine industry. McCloud's astute analysis helps us understand both broad conceptions of religion in the United States and the role of mass media in American society. Have you heard rumors about the mysterious deaths in Disneyland? Or that occult ritual magic is behind the appearance of UFO's? Was mind control the hidden trigger

that blew JFK away? Is Tuesday Weld a high priestess of the Bavarian Illuminati? These and many other strange spectres inhabit the pages of *The Beast of Adam Gorightly: Collected Rantings 1992-2004*. Mr. Gorightly, a certified 'crackpot historian' and 33rd degree Mason, has over the last decade chronicled such unwieldy subjects in his many articles and books. *The Beast of Adam Gorightly* is the culmination of these arcane journeys into the hinterlands of high weirdness, delving into the darkness, and unraveling the mummy folds that await his readers there. Proceed at your own possible ruin! A second collection of sidesplitting questions and answers invites youngsters to rank themselves on the "weird-o-meter" for such distinguishing characteristics as getting grounded, having longer second toes and loving school lunches.

Simultaneous.

In these wide-ranging essays, Erik Davis explores the codes—spiritual, cultural, and embodied—that people use to escape the limitation of their lives and enrich their experience of the world. These include Asian religious traditions and West African trickster gods, Western occult and esoteric lore, postmodern theory and psychedelic science, as well as festival scenes such as Burning Man (of which Davis is the best-known chronicler). Articles on media technology further explore themes Davis took up in his acclaimed book *Techgnosis*, while his profiles of West Coast poets, musicians, and mystics extend the California terrain he previously mapped in *The Visionary State*. Whether his subject is collage art or the “magickal realism” of horror writer H.P. Lovecraft, transvestite Burmese spirit mediums or Ufology, tripster king Terence McKenna or dub maestro Lee Perry, Davis writes with keen yet skeptical sympathy, intellectual subtlety and wit, and

unbridled curiosity. The common thread running through all these pieces is what Davis calls “ modern esoterica, ” which he describes in his preface as a ‘ no-man ’ s-land located somewhere between anthropology and mystical pulp, between the zendo and the metal club, between cultural criticism and extraordinary experience, whether psychedelic, or yogic, or technological. ” Such an ambiguous and startling landscape demands that the intrepid adventurer shed any territorial claims and go nomad. Davis wanders with sharp eyes and an open mind, which is why Peter Lamborn Wilson calls him “ the best of all guides to modern American spirituality. ”

Summary of High Weirdness by Erik Davis

The Mystic Test Book of "The Hindu Occult Chambers"  
Myth, Magic, and Mysticism in the Age of Information

Living Souls in the Spirit Dimension

The Story of Edgar Cayce

Drugs, Esoterica, and Visionary Experience in the Seventies

A Yale professor and author of *A Jane Austen Education* evaluates the consequences of high-pressure educational and parenting approaches that challenge the mind's ability to think critically and creatively, calling for strategic changes that can offer college students a self-directed sense of purpose.

Utilizing contemporary scholarship on secularization, individualism, and consumer capitalism, this book explores religious movements founded in the West which are intentionally fictional: Discordianism, the Church of All Worlds, the Church of the SubGenius, and Jediism. Their continued appeal and success, principally in America but gaining wider audience through the 1980s and 1990s, is chiefly as a result of underground publishing and the internet. This book deals with immensely popular subject matter: Jediism developed from George Lucas' *Star Wars* films;

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the Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster, founded by 26-year-old student Bobby Henderson in 2005 as a protest against the teaching of Intelligent Design in schools; Discordianism and the Church of the SubGenius which retain strong followings and participation rates among college students. The Church of All Worlds' focus on Gaia theology and environmental issues makes it a popular focus of attention. The continued success of these groups of Invented Religions provide a unique opportunity to explore the nature of late/post-modern religious forms, including the use of fiction as part of a bricolage for spirituality, identity-formation, and personal orientation.

How does our fascination with technology intersect with the religious imagination? In *TechGnosis*—a cult classic now updated and reissued with a new afterword—Erik Davis argues that while the realms of the digital and the spiritual may seem worlds apart, esoteric and religious impulses have in fact always permeated (and sometimes inspired) technological communication. Davis uncovers startling connections between such seemingly disparate topics as electricity and alchemy; online roleplaying games and religious and occult practices; virtual reality and gnostic mythology; programming languages and Kabbalah. The final chapters address the apocalyptic dreams that haunt technology, providing vital historical context as well as new ways to think about a future defined by the mutant intermingling of mind and machine, nightmare and fantasy.

*They Came To Earth Millions Of Years Ago To Spread The Poison Of Hatred, War And Catastrophe... They Are With Us Still...* Human history is a seemingly endless succession of blood conflicts and devastating turmoil. Yet, inexplicably, in the light of astonishing intellectual and technological advancement, Man's progress has been halted in one crucial area: he still indulges the primitive beast within and makes war upon his neighbors. As a result of seven years of intense research, William Bramley has uncovered the sinister thread that links humanity's darkest

events -- from the wars of the ancient pharaohs to the assassination of JFK. In this remarkable, shocking and absolutely compelling work, Bramley presents disturbing evidence of an alien presence on Earth -- extraterrestrial visitors who have conspired to dominate Humankind through violence and chaos since the beginning of time...a conspiracy which continues to this very day.

The WEIRDest People in the World

TechGnosis

A Novel

The "Bob" Apocryphon : Appointed to be Read in Churches

Adventures in Modern Esoterica

The Quantum Weirdness of the Almost-Kiss

***How historical, social, and cultural forces shaped the psychedelic experience in midcentury America, from CIA experiments with LSD to Timothy Leary's Harvard Psilocybin Project. Are psychedelics invaluable therapeutic medicines, or dangerously unpredictable drugs that precipitate psychosis? Tools for spiritual communion or cognitive enhancers that spark innovation? Activators for one's private muse or part of a political movement? In the 1950s and 1960s, researchers studied psychedelics in all these incarnations, often arriving at contradictory results. In American Trip, Ido Hartogsohn examines how the psychedelic experience in midcentury America was shaped by historical, social, and cultural forces--by set (the mindset of the user) and setting (the environments in which the experience takes place).***