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## **THE PUZZLE OF NO MEMORY, BUT.....**

by P. M. H. Atwater. L. H. D.

A woman by the name of Anna wrote to me, puzzling that after being hit by a pickup and rushed to the hospital, she began to display the pattern of physiological and psychological aftereffects of a near-death experience - yet had no memory of any such event. Nurses told her she always had a very big smile on her face, was happy and calm. Why? she asks. No NDE yet all the aftereffects.

What I told her I'd like to pass on to others, because it is possible not to remember what seems like we should - for both adults and children.

With our youngest experiencers, "forgetting" is often the result of being panned or bullied by relatives, school kids, teachers, even parents. Children want to fit in, belong, but they can't if they're noticeably different. Refer to ***The Forever Angels: Near-Death Experiences in Childhood and Their Lifelong Impact***. It's their stories people want to hear, not confusion. Please read the chapter titled "PTSD & NDES." Wanting to "return home" can become an issue, especially as they age. Remember, for little ones from birth to toddlerhood, sometimes up to age five, there is no "before." Their sense of home is on the Other Side, not this one. What they "grow through" does not fit the adult model.

With teens and adults, the cause of "dis-ease" often has the simplest explanation: life is different, they are different - so - where is the model, instructions, or any kind of helpful understanding about "dealing with it." On my website ([www.pmhatwater.com](http://www.pmhatwater.com)), Home Page, is a section called NDE Aftereffects. IANDS also has helpful suggestions with aftereffects on their website ([www.iands.org](http://www.iands.org)). Both sites contain the type of "first-aid" that can help people know the range of changes that can occur, and how to deal with them. Suggestions are numerous.

To find out if you had a near-death or near-death-like experience, consider these questions:

- Did you go through a life-threatening illness or accident or deeply felt fear attack?
- Afterward, were you in some way decidedly different than before?
- Have your family and friends noticed definite changes in you after the event, as well?
- Do these “differences” grow with time?
- Are the first three years the most challenging, as if you no longer fit in with the “human race,” much less your own family?
- No matter how wonderful the effect of the changes, are people around you spooked or somehow wary of you, like you’re no longer the same person they once knew?
- Do you make or desire to make radical changes in your life soon after, or, more specifically years later, like seven to ten years later?
- Do you divorce or move away or somehow turn your life around in a series of “miracles” no one can explain?
- Are you suddenly more spiritual, rather than religious, and can develop a personal relationship with God or whatever you perceive of as Creator or The One or The Fullness of All That Exists (names can and often do change about this massively powerful and important Life Source)? Some do go the other way, either denying God or sensing that “things spiritual” are a joke.

Of all the books I’ve written about this, I recommend reading my second one, ***Coming Back to Life*** (available only on Amazon). It’s deeper than most from the experiencer’s point of view and covers positive/negative aftereffects like a “pioneer” would, as this was my first attempt in focusing on the entire issue of aftereffects from a larger research base (including the reality of electrical sensitivity as an aftereffect ). My apologies, but the publisher left out the Table of Contents. No reason was ever given for this.

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