

It is beginning to be acknowledged that the use of imagery and particular consciousness states (e.g. hypnosis) is effective in treating some physical conditions. Michael Grosso surveys some of the documentation in this area and asks if some worldviews may themselves be toxic as others seem to be healing. The image mediates, he says, between purposes, ideals, values, and the sensory experience.

Alfred Alschuler, in research stimulated by his own personal experience, analyzes accounts of individuals who have received personal and professional guidance from "inner voices." This is more common than is usually recognized and has been confirmed by others' research. Alschuler demonstrates the value of these messages and observes that the task is not to get rid of the inner voice but to develop a healthy relationship.

Providing another perspective on the oneness of body and mind, T. M. Srinivasan presents the transcendent position that reality is unchanging and omnipresent, and hence that the self that reflects it is also reality, non-physical and unchanging.

A final comment on the consciousness theme is provided by U.S. Senator Claiborne Pell, connecting it with Louisa Rhine's work in parapsychology and emphasizing its relevance to social needs.

These contributions are not technical research papers but reports, models, conceptualizations. They are valuable in that they show the state of consciousness study in the current era, with some of the issues, paradigm challenges, and anomalies that are embedded in the field. The book is short on mathematical and neurological models of consciousness as well as relevant brain research, and it would have been valuable to learn the authors' comments on each others' contributions. Subjective approaches to consciousness are included and advocated, along with the more traditional conceptual analysis. A reference section lists works cited by the authors. The collection works well as a reader in the subject to inform and stimulate thinking.

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**Shadow Matter and Psychic Phenomena** by Gerhard D. Wasserman. Oxford: Mandrake of Oxford, 1993. 199 pp. £7.99 in U. K. paperback.

In 1972 the President of the (London) Society for Psychical Research, Professor C.W.K. Mundle (1973) delivered his presidential address under the title "Strange Facts in Search of a Theory." (The facts referred to are those of paranormal phenomena.) In the twenty years that have since elapsed the search has continued. This is not for lack of suggested theories, but for failure of the theoreticians to agree. One can divide the proposals into mentalistic and

materialistic theories. Mentalistic theories usually suppose a radical dualism with assumed interaction during life between mind and brain; minds are judged to be, in principle, capable of surviving the death of their brain. Materialistic theories suppose a gradual merger of physics and parapsychology. Dr. Wasserman favors a materialistic theory of paranormal phenomena and in this book he relates them to shadow matter, a concept derived from string theory in physics (Kolb et al. 1985). Shadow matter is conceived as a kind of double for every component of ordinary matter. Yet, Wasserman believes, shadow matter may become separated from its parent ordinary matter and become manifest in paranormal phenomena. Wasserman expounds his views with numerous examples of spontaneous paranormal phenomena, which, he believes, the concept of shadow matter can better explain than any other concept. Along the way, Wasserman contributes valuable comments on several issues of importance in scientific research. For example, he believes that spontaneous cases have been wrongly neglected by investigators of paranormal phenomena, who have become too narrowly preoccupied with the quest for the (still unattained) repeatable laboratory experiment. He believes that *explanation* should be given more importance than *prediction*, or at least as much, in the testing of scientific theories. And he believes that examples of alleged synchronicity (acausal coincidences) are better explained by paranormal processes; for example, the participant in an instance of apparent synchronicity might have obtained information paranormally about one component of the event and consequently spoken about it or taken some action related to it just before the other component occurred. I heartily recommend this book to all investigators of paranormal phenomena and also to other scientists who would like to read a carefully written summary of the evidence for such phenomena. The book has adequate references and an index.

### References

- Kolb, E.W., Seckel, D., and Turner, M.S. (1985). The shadow world of superstring theories. *Nature*, 314 (April 4), 415.
- Mundle, C.W.K. (1973). Strange facts in search of a theory. *Proceedings of the Society for Psychical Research*, 56, 1.

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