

RANDOM HOUSE  BOOKS



Children Who Have Lived Before

Trutz Hardo

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About the Book

In this fascinating book, children from all around the world remember their past lives. Scientists such as Professor Ian Stevenson at the University of Virginia explain how many of these children's stories have been subjected to scientific investigation, and their memories about their past lives invariably confirmed in every detail.

Supported by overwhelming evidence, the children's stories in this book suggest that reincarnation is a reality for us all. We can no longer afford to ignore the possibility that we may have experienced past lives ourselves, and that we may be born again. From England, Europe, the USA, Lebanon, South Africa, Israel, India, Brazil, Sri Lanka or Turkey, the stories in *Children Who Have Lived Before* offer us insights into our global future as well as profound messages from the past.

About the Author

Trutz Hardo is a world expert on reincarnation and regression therapy. Based in Germany, he holds seminars in Europe, Australia and the U.S.A.

TRUTZ HARDO

Children
Who Have
Lived Before

Reincarnation Today

FOREWORD
BY ELISABETH KÜBLER-ROSS, M.D., D.D.



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Foreword

Elisabeth Kübler-Ross

At the end of my life I get to know that Professor Ian Stevenson proved reincarnation to be a fact. I am very delighted that at the end of the second millennium this truth is finally scientifically proven. For I am very much convinced that we will have a better world in the third millennium if mankind integrates reincarnation including the karmic law in its thinking and acting. Most probably I am not going to live that long to see this happening but I will follow up from another realm of existence what's happening on earth and I will be happy about the changes in mankind's thinking.

For me the belief in reincarnation and in the Law of Karma is for a long time already a matter of course. I am delighted to read in this book by Trutz Hardo that he presents the reader convincing evidence on reincarnation that will even give the toughest sceptic much to think about. I hope that finally many readers will learn about the truth of reincarnation and thus integrate this truth in their thinking and acting for their own benefit and for the benefit of all mankind.

Introduction

In this book you will find 33 case histories from children who remember their past lives. In most of these cases these memories are confirmed by people who knew the person the child claims to have been, and who are still alive when the reborn child remembers the past life in question. The events surrounding the actual recognition of and reunion with past relations are often very moving. In most cases these children are accepted as being the reincarnation of a deceased family member, relative, neighbour or friend, purely on the grounds of their conclusive statements. Most cases of past-life memories occur in countries or among peoples or races that believe in reincarnation. This is closely connected with the fact that parents from these cultures tend to listen to what their children are saying, and help them make contact with the people from their past. Often it is through coincidences that these connections are made possible.

Professor Stevenson discovered many cases of children remembering their past lives. He found these mainly among the following nations and peoples: the Igbo in Nigeria, the Druses in Lebanon, the Allevites in Turkey, the Indians, the Burmese, the Thai, the Ceylonese, the Brazilians, the West Canadian Indians, and even in the so-called Western countries such as Europe and America. Of

course, cases of past-life memories are not limited to those countries. There are cases all over the world, especially among races of shamanic tradition, that is to say races that have not been entirely brainwashed with any type of Christian or Islamic religion. I am referring to the numerous Indian tribes, Eskimos, and especially the Africans, most of which managed not to renounce their ancient traditional beliefs in reincarnation completely, despite islamisation and christianisation. There has been a definite upward trend in the belief in reincarnation in Western countries among those born in the last 40 years. This is due on one hand to the fact that books keep appearing that deal with the subject in a very convincing way; for another, that the generalised search for new values makes people flock to talks and seminars where the lecturers take the existence of reincarnation for granted, in most cases due to 'hands-on' experience of their own gained through meditation or induced regression. Neo-Buddhism has gained a large following especially in the United States, and the effect of the widespread worship of the Dalai Lama, a living example of a man reborn, is becoming more and more noticeable even in the West. Yet all this spread of interest in reincarnation is mainly based on belief or, as many would claim, on an 'inner knowing'. For the first time in the history of mankind, reincarnation has finally been scientifically proven through the research into this subject - particularly the investigative efforts of Professor Ian Stevenson. Among other examples, this book presents you with a good number of cases researched by Stevenson which offer no other conclusive explanation than that of reincarnation.

This book will make it clear to you that many children know about past lives and are able to give conclusive information about those lives. In many cases this data will now have to be accepted as cogent scientific evidence, even by the world of academia, thanks to the results of Professor

Stevenson's research and those of his numerous assistants. The c. 225 cases presented in his extensive work *Reincarnation and Biology* (of which a condensed and richly illustrated version is available entitled *Where Reincarnation and Biology Intersect* - a must-read for anyone publicly speaking about the subject of reincarnation lest he should lose his credibility) are examples of children remembering their past lives. They were all born with birthmarks or even birth deformities, which had no genetic or pre-natal cause. The children's claims are subjected to scientific examination and where children have explicitly named people or places relating to past lives it has frequently been possible to trace them. The result of this is that all (or nearly all) their statements are found to be correct. Stevenson calls these 'solved cases'. These cases account for the most important evidence of reincarnation. Stevenson gives the following reasons for predominantly dealing with cases of children remembering their past lives rather than those of adults.

- 1 Due to their age children are closer to their previous earth life and therefore find it easier to remember it.
- 2 Children's minds are not as yet full of knowledge of the past, since they have heard little or nothing about these things and have certainly not read about them either. (Another factor: television was not widely available in Third World countries until the 1980s and can therefore be ruled out as a possible source of information.)
- 3 Children are not afraid to be ridiculed or seen as stupid.
- 4 Adults may get real past-life memories mixed up or distorted over a period of time, especially due to wishful thinking.
- 5 Science cannot reject childish statements as being lies or as having been invented.

For these reasons it is more 'scientific' to work with children, since their statements are closer to the truth. The great pioneer Elisabeth Kübler-Ross M.D. knew this and frankly admitted that children had been her real teachers. Children who remember past lives normally begin to speak about them as soon as they can talk. Their statements are usually about people, things or experiences from their past lives. After the age of four their inner memories gradually seem to dry up and by the time they are nine years old there is hardly an original memory left. What they remember after that is simply what others have said about what they used to say in the past. Even so there are some amazing exceptions such as Joan Grant and Daskalos from Cyprus, who continued to remember their past lives throughout their entire lives.

It is out of the mouth of babes that we have been blessed with the great and eternal truth of reincarnation. Is it not ironical that the world of academe and all the book learning in the West proved incapable of doing the same? The fact that this eternal truth and primordial lore has now been proven by children and once more made available to us, should make us feel extremely humble. It seems that we humans will not attain eternal truths through grandiose, pompous philosophising. Instead, we must acknowledge now that what the children have knowingly declared is much closer to the truth than what the cleverest people, be they theologians, philosophers or even scientists, have dared to come up with. Therefore it is not the intellect that is the measure of all things, but rather knowledge conveyed with innocence and simplicity.

In this book the indisputable proof comes from the mouths of children. Their truth states that there is life after death and that the human soul is reincarnated on earth again and again. The scientists have sought the truth outside, rooting it in the delusions of existence and were thus unable to truly find the path that leads inside.

Sigmund Freud, that most renowned of all researchers into the human soul, for all his 'depth psychology' did not actually penetrate into these inner truths; nor did his colleague, Carl Gustav Jung, do more than just set foot on the threshold.

This book does not 'merely' aim to prove reincarnation through the mouths of children, but endeavours to convey some of the realisations and ideas arising out of those findings. This will include answers to questions such as: how do we behave towards children who speak of their past lives? or: how can we deal with children suffering from a phobia as a result of a past-life trauma? As well as this I have added many comments in order to give those readers open to a broadened spiritual understanding further leads. I have written these comments in italics so that those of you who already know of these things, or are not interested in these remarks, can continue to read about the cases in this book without further delay.

1

Children from all over the world remember past lives

YOU ARE NOT MY REAL MUMMY

THE BELIEF IN reincarnation existed before the arrival of Christianity in Germany, as in most of the European countries, but has only gradually begun to conquer the European minds in the course of the last centuries. The Germanic people were among those who believed in life after death and repeated lives on Earth. Yet with the spread of Christianity, whose guardians officially banned the concept of reincarnation in the year 553 AD (and even threatened to excommunicate all followers of this belief), the belief in reincarnation became a private matter to be kept extremely secret lest one should fall into the hands of the Inquisition (this Roman Catholic tribunal for the discovery and punishment of heresy viewed any deviance from the Church's dogmas as the devil's work to be categorically combated).

Since the age of enlightenment the belief in reincarnation spread extremely swiftly, especially among those who took a critical view of the Church. An increasing number of German poets including Lessing, Herder, Goethe and Schiller and later right into the 20th century the poets Morgenstern, Werfel, Hesse and many others professed their belief in reincarnation. Even so, public opinion has

remained divided by two strictly speaking conflicting views on life. One is the scientific world-view, which denies everything that is not measurable or verifiable any claim to reality whatsoever. The other is the Christian doctrine, deeply rooted in the minds of the people to this day which claims that each soul has only a single life on earth.

These two pillars of 20th-century thinking have become increasingly unstable, since the number of truth seekers adopting belief in reincarnation has been growing continuously. In my estimation, by the end of the 20th century approximately 30 per cent of the German population were convinced of the truth of reincarnation. Another 30 per cent will not deny the possibility of repeated lives on earth. And with the wealth of evidence now available, especially through the works of Professor Stevenson, the latter are certain to become equally dedicated followers of reincarnation by the beginning of the 21st century.

I have not as yet seen any tangible evidence in Germany of a child's statements about a past life having been demonstrably proven, as has been particularly the case in many Asian countries for example. In the past we have not given enough significance to children's statements referring to what could possibly be past lives, mostly dismissing them as wild imaginings of childish minds. With the spread of the idea of reincarnation we will become more sensitive to children's hints concerning past lives they have experienced. Some parents will even encourage their children to tell them more. They will take notes and may even wish to prove the truth of these statements.

Edith, a woman from Berlin who came to me in order to train as a regression therapist, told me the following: initially she had great difficulties with her youngest son Peter. He completely rejected her as his mother, resisting her and being a very difficult child for her to deal with. He flatly refused to be touched by her and when she tried to

breastfeed him as a baby he turned his head away. He did not want to drink from her breast unless his hunger was greater than his dislike of her. He provoked her intentionally over a long period of time by not using the potty and wetting his nappy or his bed. When sitting on his potty at the age of two he said to her, 'You have not always been my mummy. I don't love you.' His mother felt very hurt by this.

Instead of being shocked and feeling hurt she could have used this as an opportunity to get closer to the cause of his rejection. When children make these kinds of statements about past lives we should always remember that as they get older these memories are likely to fade. It then becomes more and more difficult to retrieve correct information about their past lives.

Six months later Peter said to her, 'I want to go to my real parents.' Edith believed in past lives and had become used to the fact that her son was remembering a past life and could not accept her as his present mother. She asked him, 'What are your real parents called?' 'My daddy's called Herbert and my mummy Rosalind and you are my wicked auntie.' Edith, unlike many other parents, I suppose, did not punish her son with harsh words of violence for such 'naughty behaviour'. Instead she lovingly explained to him that he was in a different life now, and that she was not his wicked auntie any longer, but his new mummy who loved him very much. As time went by the child's memories of his past life faded, and with them his memories of his wicked aunt. He has now totally accepted Edith as his mother and has told her, 'I love you, Mummy.'

We as adults can learn much if we listen to our children, which is to say, to take them seriously and not ridicule them, which incidentally is very hurtful to a child. A great deal will be said about that in this book. Carol Bowman, who became convinced of the truth in reincarnation through the past-life statements made by her own two

*children said, 'When small children share their memories with us, they teach us grown-ups something that we have forgotten, namely that life does not end with death.'*¹ We will look at her story in greater detail later.

I AM YOUR SISTER, SILVIA

The Swiss healer Peter Singer and I have been friends for some time. I have never met another person in Europe who could see people's auras so clearly and could detect foci of disease or infection with the naked eye. He has run seminars for many years now in which he teaches the participants how to use energies for their own as well as other people's benefit. To demonstrate these energies, he will sometimes ask his participants to stand in front of their chairs while he goes into the room next door. He is then able to leave his body in that room and reappear invisibly to his audience. In this invisible state he is able to gently push the participants into their chairs.

Peter was a friend of the famous German pop singer, Roy Black. They had made an arrangement that the one who died first would give the other a sign as proof that he continues to live on invisibly. On the fifth anniversary of Roy Black's death, Peter woke up, looked at the electric bedside clock, which displayed the days of the week and the month, and suddenly realised, 'Hey Roy, it's the anniversary of your death today, and I still haven't heard a peep from you.' Suddenly he heard a great crash coming from the corridor. Peter jumped out of bed, rushed outside and discovered that the huge framed Alpine landscape had fallen from its nail onto the floor. Yet the nail was still in the wall. How could this have been possible?

One day when we were discussing reincarnation, he told me the following story. In 1990 he was still working in his practice in Goldach in the Saint-Gall canton. One of his

clients had talked about her clairvoyant daughter and had told him among other things that she was able to read letters from a distance with the back of the letter facing her. Peter Singer really wanted to get to know this girl. The woman then brought her nine-year-old daughter, Ines, with her on her next visit. Ines watched while Peter was treating her mother. Turning to Peter the girl suddenly said, 'I know you from the past, Peter.' Her mother was shocked and tried to silence her by saying, 'Don't talk to Mr Singer like that. How dare you?'

'But I know him,' she replied. And turning to Peter she continued, 'You were once my brother. I was your sister Silvia.' Her mother reacted in a shocked manner saying, 'Now please stop it!' Her daughter continued, 'I was your sister in your present life, but I died when I was very young. Now I have come back and have a different mother.' Even though Peter had only been three years old at the time, he could well remember his sister Silvia who had died at the age of four and a half. He encouraged her to tell him more about their life together. Ines continued by saying, 'We used to live in the Appenzell canton. That is where I died.' Peter went to the room next door and fetched a photograph and showed it to her face down. 'Your mother tells me that you can read letters with the back facing you. Are you also able to see who is on this picture?' Without thinking Ines answered, 'My mother and my father from the past. They are our parents.' 'What else can you see?' 'Mummy is wearing a white blouse. They are both holding hands.' Everything she said was correct. 'What else do you know about our mother?' 'Mummy joined me some time after my death.' Peter's mother had died in 1978, 20 years after Ines. Then she added, 'We also had an older brother.' She also knew his name. 'I didn't know my other brothers and sisters because they were born later.'

Ines' mother had meanwhile been following their conversation with bated breath. Once more she was

speechless about the things her daughter had come up with. Peter encouraged the nine-year-old to describe their parents' house. Everything she said was correct. When asked after their father's profession she said, 'He had a fabric shop. But he also owned a outdoor swimming pool, which was in a valley.' Even this was all correct. Her father really did own a public swimming pool at that time, which provided him with a second income. Peter could no longer doubt the truth of the statements this girl was making. Even so he continued to ask questions, all of which she was able to answer as best she could based on facts from her memories. She also described exactly what happened immediately after her death. 'I saw myself floating above my body. Our mother had suffered a nervous breakdown and I tried to comfort her by telling her, "Mummy you need not fear anything, I am always with you. I will bring many customers into your shop."'

After this Ines often visited her brother from the past and sometimes took part in his seminars. By now she had acquired the gift of automatic writing and was able to channel messages from the invisible world directly to those participating in his seminars. Peter has kept many pages of her communications. For instance, in one of these sessions a deceased craftsman asked Ines to forward his dictated message to his widow. This she did and to her great amazement the message had been written in the handwriting of her deceased husband. Peter once took one of these letters and showed it to a famous graphologist, who said that this handwriting belonged to a very down-to-earth man, possibly a craftsman. Whenever Ines was on a school trip or on holiday with her parents she would send Peter a postcard, which usually began with the words, 'Hello big brother!'

Ines had become well-known in local circles and all sorts of people came to see her, who either wished to contact their deceased relatives and friends, or hoped to gain

answers to a variety of problems via her channelled communications. When she was 14 she said to her mother, 'Mum, I am soon going to have a bad accident. A motorbike will hit me on my way back from school and I will be badly hurt. But you need not worry about me because I'm not going to die, even if the doctors tell you that I will not survive.' A few weeks later this accident really happened. Ines was in a coma for a long time and the doctors didn't think she would make it, but as predicted she really did regain consciousness and made a full recovery. Yet something in her had changed. All her psychic abilities had gone.

I asked Peter, who had not been in contact with Ines for some time, to give me her telephone number so that I could find out more about the events that took place in Peter's practice years ago. Peter wanted to ring her himself first, in order to introduce me. He talked to her in person on the telephone and she asked him to tell me to please refrain from calling her, for she was not interested in going back over 'that past business'. She told him that she felt she had been pushed into being a medium and that her psychic abilities had brought her unwanted attention, which was why she now wished to distance herself from it all. Peter said the following about Ines before her accident, 'There was no doubt about the truth of the statements she made at that time.' Yet a critic could claim that maybe she had never been Peter's sister and that she could have tapped into his thoughts due to her psychic powers. At this point we could argue that Peter had not been thinking about the swimming pool when asking her about his father's profession. She had also told him things which he himself could not remember and which he was only able to confirm by talking to his older brother.

THE GIRL WHO PRESENTED THE PRESIDENT WITH A BUNCH OF FLOWERS IN HER PAST LIFE

In Scandinavia I had difficulties finding children who could remember their past lives. In Sweden, Babro Karlén wrote an autobiography² in which she states that even as a young child she knew that she had lived in Holland and had kept a diary at that time. One day she and her parents had suddenly been taken away by soldiers. These memories were spontaneous long before she had heard anything about Anne Frank. When her parents finally took the young teenager on a trip to Amsterdam to visit the Anne Frank museum the girl recognised everything. She even noticed that her pictures of famous actors were no longer pinned up above her bed. An employee of the museum explained to her that they had temporarily been taken down. At the age of 12, Babro already was a famous Swedish writer whose critics were amazed at her grown-up style of writing.

I am always very sceptical when someone tells me that he or she was a famous person from the past. This soon gets put to the test when I lead the person into regression and find out that they were not Marie-Antoinette, Cleopatra, Napoleon or whoever they claimed to have been. This is why I asked Babro Karlén's publisher to give me her telephone number or her address, so that I could try to arrange to visit her in Göteborg. I wanted to conduct a regression, which might shed some light on whether she had really been Anne Frank. The publisher did not think it a good idea, however, to contact her about this matter.

We do have a report from Copenhagen of a girl who can remember a past life. Her name is Luna Marconi whose parents are Italian. One day the three-year-old told her parents, 'I want to go home.' When asked where her home was she told them that it was in the Philippines. Her parents were very surprised that she knew of this country, since they had never told her about it and could not think