

A Town Reborn

— Case #23 —

Those who teach reincarnation often speak of souls traveling in packs. Your spouse today might have been your best friend in some yesterday, your current neighbor could be a teacher in a past life, and so on. These configurations are intentional, having been carefully planned by the souls involved during their time between lives. A subject undergoing hypnotic regression may say that so-and-so in their current life is the reincarnation of some principal person in their past life, but such claims almost always lack supportive testimony. This is because friends and relatives typically are not invited to observe the sessions.

There are exceptions to every rule, however, and one such uncommon observance led to what is probably the best corroborated collection of past lives ever revealed. Marge Rieder, Ph.D., practices hypnotherapy in the town of Lake Elsinore, California. She had a patient named Maureen, who was reliving a past life as a woman in Virginia during the American Civil War. Maureen invited a friend named Barbara to attend one of the sessions and Dr. Rieder, who was also a friend of Barbara, allowed her to observe. Midway through the session, Barbara passed a note to the therapist that said: "Ask her if I was there." Rieder reports that she was shocked to hear Maureen say that Barbara was her mother-in-law in that life.

To make a complex and fascinating story overly simple, the long-term results of that one hypnosis session led Rieder to become the only hypnotherapist known to have uncovered almost an entire town full of people reincarnated together. During a 17-year investigation, one subject after another named others who currently lived in the vicinity of Lake Elsinore but who had also lived in the little town of Millboro, Virginia in the mid 19th century. So far, more than 50 people

have remembered lives in that time and place, although only three had visited the state of Virginia in their current lives and none had ever heard of Millboro. At least, they hadn't heard of it until Rieder's first book was published. Afterwards, several people contacted Rieder and asked to be hypnotized because they were certain that they, too, were part of the story. Remarkably, hypnosis often revealed that such convictions were merely wishful thinking; they actually could recall no lives as "Millboreans."

The name of the town itself provides significant support to the case, as it was pronounced "Marlboro" by most of the regressed. The reality of the town at first seemed doubtful when no "Marlboro" could be found on maps of Virginia. But when one entranced subject was induced to write down the name, she wrote "Millboro." There was a town named Millboro on the map and it appeared to fit the descriptions perfectly. Upon investigation, Rieder discovered that many residents of the area around Millboro pronounce the name as "Marlboro" to this day.

A majority of the subjects who are part of the group had not met when they first underwent hypnosis, yet they have all told consistent stories and described the same locations, without any overlap of personalities. Most evidential, are the buried rooms and tunnels that several subjects described as being utilized by the underground railway in aiding slaves and orphaned Union soldiers to travel north. Although no resident in the current town of Millboro was aware of these, and they were not described in any document nor located on any known map, excavations revealed them to exist precisely as described by Rieder's entranced subjects in California — right down to the uncommon color of the walls.

Discussion

An analysis of this case, and more details, may be found on pages 177-180 of *The Survival Files*.

For Further Information

See the books: *Mission to Millboro*, *Return to Millboro*, and *Millboro and More* by Marge Rieder.

A Survival Top 40 Case
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