Cayce's BORDERLAND:

HIGHER DIMENSIONS – OTHER REALITIES

By Stanley Jaffin

dgar Cayce gave over 100 readings addressing the multidimensional realities surrounding our physical world. The Source referred to this invisible universe as the Borderland, Border Plane, Interbetween, or Shadowland. The terms Borderland and Inter-between were used most often. At birth we enter the earthly realm from the Borderland. At death we exit the earth's three-dimensional reality and re-enter the Borderland where we may spend hundreds or even thousands of earth years.

Discarnates dwelling in the Borderland are souls that are not encased in physical bodies. They may make contact with those souls incarnated in earthly bodies who have the ability to communicate beyond the physical. These contacts with discarnates can be voluntary or involuntary, each having its own fruitful or frightful potential.

A Continuous Earth Plane and Borderland Cycle

As Gertrude Cayce was giving her husband the suggestion to wake up from reading 195-61, Dr. Samuel G. Gay, the deceased Cayce family physician from Selma, Alabama, broke through with an explanation of what takes place during a reading.

"This is the condition that is ever present when such information is obtained:

"When the consciousness is laid aside, there is that which takes place much in the same manner as the spring to an automatic curtain roller. This, then, is able to be pulled down or raised up with the release of the spring. *Some* call this going into the unknown. Some call this spiritual, or spirit, communication. Some call it the ability to gain the force of the activities of the fourth dimension - which is nearer correct than any explanation that may be given. For it is the plane that is of the Inter-between, or that of the Borderland - which all individuals occupy through that period of gaining consciousness of that sphere they themselves occupy, until such a period or such a time that there is that joining together of such forces as may again bring that individual entity into the realm of physical experience or being." (538-28)

The Borderland was explained in another reading as having "...many influences and many forces, but only one *spirit* of good. There are many entities in the Inter-between, in the Borderland, in the Shadowland, in the developing along the way; but only one spirit of truth, which is life everlasting!" (1404-1) Life continues in another form

in another place.

While past-life influences are often assumed to come from previous earth plane incarnations, they are actually a combination of appearances in the earth, and what the entity did in the Inter-between realms. (3131-1) Our physical body is prepared by our parents. We leave the earth with what we, ourselves, prepared for our next existence in the Inter-between. (5005-1)

We are now free of the physical body, but not free of matter. We change our form but are just as sensitive to the realms of consciousness as in the physical body, or maybe even more so. (262-86) The material body no longer exists. When asked what that body would feel if it were cremated, Cayce replied, "What body?" (1472-2)

Fundamental Borderland Concepts

Cayce's psychic discourses for some of his early sponsors and benefactors, particularly the Blumenthal brothers, addressed their abilities to contact and interact with discarnates while asleep. Many of these readings were for Morton Blumenthal's dreams during which he had contact with invisible entities in what he called the "Borderland of Eternity." The Source interpreted Morton's perceived Borderland as "The vision of the possibilities of gaining and understanding of conditions that do exist, may exist, and will exist in the sub-conscious, super-conscious or souls of individuals that live, have lived, may live in earth's plane." (900-8)

Morton also had several readings for dreams in which he saw beautiful scenery and women dressed in bright colors. He was told he was "...entering into that Border Plane wherein the physical forces of the body, the mind, are gaining those conceptions of the fourth dimension conditions...that the entity may through self acquire that perfect understanding for self regarding this condition as experienced, and may apply same in own words, see?" (900-159) Morton asked if fourth- and fifth-dimensional entities could influence earthly life and activities. The sleeping Cayce replied that the entity must want to do so, and then reach and understand the higher plane from which that entity may communicate with another entity in a lower dimension. (900-66)

In a dream, Morton's wife, Adeline, received messages from and about her deceased mother. A reading explained that Adeline now understood what is meant by life other than the physical, and that loved ones in the Border Plane seek the companionship of those still on earth. (136-33) A subsequent reading further explained "...the way that leads to the more perfect understanding of life is that which leads into the valley of the shadow of the Borderland..." (136-59) In a later dream Adeline asked her mother if she was with their deceased father/husband. Her mother said they were on different planes and could communicate with each other. In a reading about the dream, Cayce said that Adeline could choose to study these phenomena as they illustrated the types of communications that could

be received from a cosmic entity. The Source added that when one applies oneself through attunement, those experiences being sought may come through. (136-78)

Finally, Morton's younger brother, Edwin, once asked if he

could give Cayce-like readings and was told his own "...development is beyond those conditions as given by Edgar Cayce, for they will become conscious conditions to be acted upon by the conscious mind; that is, the impressions received in the Borderland, and be able to bring same to consciousness from the physical standpoint." (137-5) Cayce traveled through the Borderland while in a trance state. Edwin had the potential ability to do so while fully conscious.

These readings indicate that contacts between Borderland beings and those in flesh bodies are not uncommon. Entities in a three-, four-, or even five-dimensional reality function by complying with the natural order of that plane. Prior attunement is very important for flesh entities who travel in higher dimensions.

Omnipresent Borderland Entities

While earth-plane incarnates often contact invisible Borderland discarnates while asleep, these discarnates continually exist all around us. Cayce began a Work Series reading by stating: "Yes, we have the body, the enquiring mind, Edgar Cayce, present in this room. Also the phenomena that manifests itself through this body, and those conditions and circumstances that surround the body, the phenomena, the interest as manifested by individuals present and afar, those present in the earth's plane, those present in the Borderland, and the Inter-between." (254-52) Apparently discarnates also

"Loved ones on the

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benefited from Edgar's work.

One physical reading began with Cayce's statement that the body being examined in Arizona was not alone and was accompanied by many besides those visible to the physical eye.

(3331-1) Another physical reading started with Cayce locating the subject in Louisiana and saying: "Yes, what a peculiar vibration about this place. Many of those things that are often called haunts would like to visit here. We have the body here." (3557-1)

During a reading, Arthur Lammers, an early Cayce supporter, asked if it was possible for Edgar to communicate with those who passed into the spirit world. The Source said Edgar could do so with entities remaining around the earth plane but not with those entities whose development carried them onward or into a new earth-plane body. The Source also said that thousands of these entities are about us here at present. (3744-1)

During readings discarnate entities sometimes spoke through Cayce and sometimes he spoke with them. (5756-13) Other persons present during the reading could hear Cayce but not the discarnates due to what the readings described as the denseness of matter to the spirit realm, and Cayce's special attunement to these other realms. (5756-14)

Cayce's Borderland Journeys

When in a trance state, Cayce transited the Borderland to read the Book of Life for life readings or to locate the person for physical readings. He described his journey as follows:

"I see myself as a tiny dot out of my physical body, which lies inert before me. I find myself oppressed by darkness and there is a feeling of terrific loneliness. Suddenly, I am conscious of a white beam of light. As this tiny dot, I move upward following the light, knowing that I must follow it or be lost.

"As I move along this path of light I gradually become conscious of various levels upon which there is movement. Upon the first levels there are vague, horrible shapes, grotesque forms such as one sees in nightmares. Passing on, there begin to appear on either side misshapen forms of human beings with some part of the body magnified. Again there is change and I become conscious of gray-hooded forms moving downward. Gradually, these become lighter in color. Then the direction changes and these forms move upward and the color of the robes grows rapidly lighter. Next, there begin to appear on either side vague outlines of houses, walls, trees, etc., but everything is motionless. As I pass on, there is more light and movement in what appear to be normal cities and towns. With the growth of movement I become conscious of sounds, at first indistinct rumblings, then music, laughter, and singing of birds. There is more and more light, the colors become very beautiful, and there is the sound of wonderful music. The houses are left behind, ahead there is only a blending of sound and color. Quite suddenly I come upon a hall of records. It is a hall without walls, without ceiling, but I am conscious of seeing an old man who hands me a large book, a record of the individual for whom I seek information." (294-19, Reports 12)

O c c a s i o n a l l y Cayce reported experiencing special protection during his Borderland journey.

Gladys Davis, Ed-

gar's secretary, reported after one reading that Edgar said that "Instead of going through blackness and seeing horrible things, he wound up and up and up through a very large column; passing by



This image, courtesy of Henry Bolduc (www.henrybolduc. com), illustrates Cayce's passage, while giving a life reading, through the Borderland.

all those things without coming in contact personally with them, and came out where there was the house of records. It was a column, and he wound around it on a wheel like the Rotarians have. He felt very secure traveling up that way." (752-1, R1)

Following life reading 373-2, Gladys rethat "when ported Edgar Cayce awoke ... he said he had again had the experience of going to the hall of records, to the old man with the books. This time, however, he saw and felt himself to be a bubble traveling through water to arrive at the place where he always gets the information." (373-2, R1)

After life reading 1256-1, Gladys reported that Edgar told

of going for the records by traveling on a blue-purple-silver light, and went straight to the house of records without passing through the darkness or horrible sights or planes. (1256-1, R1)

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Possession

The readings strongly counseled against initiating or maintaining frivolous contacts with Borderland entities. Cayce was asked, "As individuals become abased, or possessed, are their thoughts guided by those in the Borderland?" He replied, "Certainly! If allowed to be!" (5753-1) This reading further suggested that higher guidance can and should be found by looking to one's higher self.

Psychically sensitive persons may have the greatest risk of possession. In a Prayer Group reading, a secretary [575] who was beginning to see auras asked about the flashes and forms she was also seeing. Cayce replied these were "...the higher vibrations of Interbetween, as well as spiritual forces taking forms in or before the mental self." When she asked further about developing automatic handwriting, Cayce replied that it was not advisable as it is too easily misleading, and that she should be guided by higher sources. (281-4)

In another Prayer Group reading, Cayce was asked if there is an etheric entity involved in certain types of insanity. His initial answer was the single word "possession." As part of a broader explanation he stated that a disease or physical condition could cause a person to "...become possessed as of hearing voices, because of their closeness to the Borderland. Many of these are termed deranged when they may have more of a closeness to the universal than one who may be standing nearby and commenting; yet they are awry when it comes to being normally balanced or healthy for their activity in the material world." (281-24)

A physical reading for an artist stated that her "...abilities as a creative influence in the lives of those who may bring it back as it were from the very Borderland, is worth all the effort, all the love, all the kindness one may give. Such is so near possession that there needs to be great care taken." Although her closeness to Borderland discarnates contributed to her creativity, there was a very real danger to her mental and physical health. (1789-1)

Even Edgar Cayce could be unfavorably affected by discarnate influences. A reading for a lawyer was given to locate his deceased client's missing papers. The Source said: "In regards these papers, here we meet with conflicting influences - that appear from innate desires on the part of those in the cosmic or Inter-between. The papers are intact, but with those who have personal reasons, as may be indicated by requests that will come about in the near future." In response to questions the reading continued: "To meet such conditions at times, it is not well that this entity - Edgar Cayce - enter such conditions, if there is to be the continued attempt to carry on helpful spiritual forces; lest there be an overpowering influence from those disincarnate influences to the body, Edgar Cayce. Beware, lest ye be tempted." (2593-1) Cayce was well protected during his astral flights. The implied threat was to his physical body.

Borderland Guidance

Spirit entities do not necessarily have special knowledge or insight. A spontaneous reading for a former Cayce neighbor, then an Inter-between discarnate, stated that though he had been dead for eight to 10 years, he had finally realized he was no longer on earth. (3817-1) In a letter to Morton Blumenthal, Cayce wrote that "...with this information that he has just come to the realization or consciousness of being in the Borderland - interesting - peculiar, don't you think? And my, we could ask 1,001 questions about the why's and wherefore's, what his consciousness was, how he arrived at it, where he had been all the time - oh, hundreds of things!" (3817-1, R1)

This is not an isolated instance. In another reading Cayce was asked, "Does death instantly end all feeling in the physical body? If not, how long can it feel?" He replied that this would depend on "...the manner in which the consciousness has been trained...As to how long – many an individual has remained in that called death for what ye call *years* without realizing it was dead!" (1472-2)

Yet these entities still offer both solicited and unsolicited assistance to persons in the earth. A 12-year-old boy asked if he should continue developing a relationship with a spirit guide who had identified himself as Stewart Hoover. The Source replied that the relationship should not be furthered as this would both limit the boy's growth and hinder Stewart Hoover's real development. (1581-2)

A 58-year-old housewife inquired about communications she was receiving from a discarnate who was identified as an actor she never knew in life. Cayce replied that she was sometimes a "sensitive," and Borderland entities often seek this type of expression. The reading suggested praying for this entity so he would no longer be earthbound. (2783-1)

Cayce's often-repeated advice was very clear that guidance sought through one's higher self is preferable to counsel offered by discarnate entities.

Misinterpreting Borderland Contacts

Spontaneous or otherwise unsolicited contacts with discarnates can have serious side effects. Salem's infamous witch hunts were an example of what happened to those experiencing Borderland activities in an environment when such otherwise unexplainable phenomena were viewed through narrow Puritanical definitions of good and evil, with the latter being the ready default. Several life readings relate the reactions of those religious and civil authorities to occurrences they could not and would not understand.

One person was told she "...was among those who were very hard, very questioning, very condemning of those who, in their experience, had convincing evidence to the individual of the survival of personality, those activities which would bring messages, An afterlife in the Borderland is a natural part of our continuous incarnate/discarnate cycle, and can hold special rewards.

communications, activities from the Inter-between of departed souls." (3630-2) Another woman had lived in a household with a person who was persecuted for being among those "... who had the visions of the familiar spirits, or for those who saw those that walked in the Shadowland." (2112-1) And, an 11-year-old boy had been "... the minister, or the associate minister, who caused the uprising and the condemnation of children who saw, who heard, who experienced the voices of those in the Inter-between." (2779-1)

Karma and Grace in the Borderland

An afterlife in the Borderland is a natural part of our continuous incarnate/discarnate cycle, and can hold special rewards. In a Study Group reading Cayce was asked what was meant by paradise which Jesus referred to when speaking to the thief on the Cross. The reading explained: "The Inter-between; the awareness of being in that state of transition between the material and the spiritual phases of consciousness of the Soul. The awareness that there is the companionship of entities or souls,

or separate forces in those stages of the development." (262-92)

As part of an exchange of letters written in 1944 about the Archangel Michael, Edgar wrote: "As to his [Michael] being Lord of the Way, that I believe is referred to several times in the Book, especially if you read Jude, and as to how he warred with Satan over the body of Moses. That is the way, I am sure is referred to. Moses had not kept the whole law; the spiritual law, and there was some question as to how much he would have to pay in the Inter-between evidently." (2072-13, R3)

In another reading, keeping the commandments was described as "... the only way to harmony and peace in the earth and, to be sure, the only way in the Inter-between and the hereafter." (5082-1) Life's rules are apparently the same for all of us.

Many Happy Returns

The readings show that alternating between the visible and invisible realms is the normal sequence in all souls' development. Cooperating with the natural order to each realm leads to both an easier existence and a less complicated passage. Both accomplishments and prospects for improvement are carried forward with each transition. We carry our progress and our plans for soul growth into all realms. We have all been cycling through these domains for a very long time.

DR. STANLEY JAFFIN and his wife, Ann, Life Members from Maryland, presented a report about the Jaffin family readings research project to the A.R.E. Congress in June, 2008. The idea for this article came from interviews with family members whose present lives have been significantly affected by past-life, Borderland-related experiences.

Ann Jaffin will present Edgar Cayce on Living in Times of Turmoil in Charlottesville, VA on April 18 (see p.8-9).

Stan Jaffin will appear in Salem, MA on June 19.

They will be the featured speakers at the Wildacres Retreat in North Carolina, Sept 30-Oct 3.

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