



The Secret School: Preparation for Contact

By Whitley Strieber

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With the publications of "Communion, Transformation" and "Breakthrough", readers were riveted by Strieber's strange and exciting stories of encounters with alien presences. Now, Strieber is on a quest for the meaning of his encounters. Here, Strieber recounts one extraordinary childhood summer he spent attending a secret school in the woods near his home in San Antonio. Though forgotten for more than 40 years, these midnight forays unconsciously prepared him for the encounters he revealed.

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The Secret School: Preparation for Contact By Whitley Strieber Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

With this new volume of recovered memories and apocalyptic predictions, Strieber continues the journey he began with *Communion*, his extraordinarily successful account of alien abduction. While that book was largely about his experiences with "the visitors," the follow-up books, *Transformation* and *Breakthrough*, were more concerned with the spiritual implications of alien contact. Strieber now takes this process even further, into prophecy and New Age rumination. He contends that, as a child in San Antonio in the 1950s, he and other children were taken in the middle of the night to a secret school run by aliens in the middle of San Antonio's wild Olmos Basin. The book is structured as a series of "lessons," mostly specific memories of his ninth summer, followed by "commentaries," a series of vague and increasingly wild speculations and predictions. Most of the spiritual content here is a farrago of nearly every New Age preoccupation imaginable?aliens, reincarnation, time travel, millennial disaster, Atlantis, etc.?"proved" by highly credulous readings of popular science articles. As the author of entertaining and elegantly composed narratives about personal contact with mysterious entities that are unsupported by proof and that purvey a maddeningly vague message of spiritual release, Strieber has become the Carlos Castaneda of the 1990s. Even those who don't believe a word of what he's saying will enjoy his writing?about his Texas boyhood in particular?and his ability to conjure a sense of terror, awe and wonderment.

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From Library Journal

A prequel to Strieber's tales of alien abduction.

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From [Booklist](#)

More amazing adventures from author/abductee/futurist Whitley Strieber, whose previous book, *Breakthrough*, reviewed his recent encounters with the alienlike visitors who alternately bedevil and enlighten him. In *The Secret School*, Strieber focuses on his newly recovered memories of "lessons" (visions, actually, much like lucid dreams) that he and other children experienced in 1954. The reality of these visions was driven home to him in 1995 when he rediscovered where the lessons took place, an out-of-the-way spot in the Olmos Basin near San Antonio. In lesson one, Strieber finds himself on Mars, sans spacesuit, climbing up one of those pyramids that weren't discovered until the Viking Orbiter mission in 1976. In other lessons, Strieber witnesses the cataclysmic event that ended the Permian Era and travels backward in time to the beginning of the Roman Empire. He also observes the scientist-priests of Atlantis awaiting the cosmic doom that would eradicate all traces of pre-Sumerian civilization; most importantly, he predicts a similar catastrophe in the not-too-distant future, which he witnessed as a nine-year-old boy watching a visionary, futuristic version of CNN. Strieber sprinkles a smattering of science and history throughout the book to bring it just to the edge of believability, but essentially, he doesn't care if readers believe it or not--what's important is that ecodisaster is poised to strike. *George Eberhart*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Roger Lindsey:

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Robert Bartlett:

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Donovan Houseman:

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Joan Beverly:

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