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Return From Tomorrow

At the age of 20, a soldier died in an Army hospital. Nine minutes later he was returned to life. What he experienced would change him forever.

RETURN FROM TOMORROW

GEORGE G. RITCHIE

ELIZABETH SHERKILL

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At the age of twenty, George Ritchie died in an Army hospital. Nine minutes later, he returned to life. What happened to him during those minutes was so compelling that it changed his life forever. In Return from Tomorrow, Ritchie tells of his transforming encounter with the Son of God, who led him to encounters with other nonphysical beings at the very doorway of eternity. Ritchie’s extraordinary experience not only altered his view of eternity, but it has also altered the lives of hundreds of thousands of readers. One of the most startling and hopeful descriptions of the realm beyond, this classic will inspire readers from all walks of life. It includes a brand-new preface from Elizabeth Sherrill.

I am very grateful that I came across this book and this author's story. It gives me great joy to hear of someone who has also encountered Jesus and has gone through the emotional, spiritual and mental journey that this experience made us travel. I wouldn’t give up the experience even though it
did cause much anxiety to my family and myself. I experienced a near death experience in May of 1974 at the age of 32. Like the author, I was a little fearful to share this experience because nobody that I knew had ever shared this type of experience. In 1975 our family was fortunate to be able to buy a Christian Book Shop and this is where I was able to come across some literature on my experience. Of course the great mystical saints like St. Theresa of Avila: God Alone Suffices, The Collected Works of Saint John of the Cross wrote many books on their mystical experiences with Jesus. Discovering Dr. Raymond Moody’s book “Life After Life: The Investigation of a Phenomenon--Survival of Bodily Death” was the greatest comfort for me at that time. In reading Return from Tomorrow, what is the most helpful is that with all the turmoil the author experienced he realized that love is the greatest of the gifts and it seems the message is the same in many cases, including my own experience.

I had heard of Dr. Ritchie and read exerpts from this book for years before I finally got around to reading it myself. I am glad that I did, for it is a joy to read. My edition has an introduction by pioneering NDE researcher Dr. Raymond A. Moody, where he describes Ritchie’s experience as one of the three or four most interesting and well-documented cases out of the thousands that he has studied. In fact, he reveals that it was this experience that first attracted his attention to the phenomenon as a young philosophy student. This is a classic account of the near death experience. It happened, and was later published, long before such experiences were publicized in the popular media. All the key elements are here: out-of-the-body travel, the being of light, the life review, spirits of different evolutionary development finding their own "level" with like spirits, the city of light, his disappointment after returning, etc. The "real world" verifications are especially striking, such as Ritchie recognizing that he was in Vicksburg, Mississippi during his out of body experience. Yes, the author has a strong Christian perspective, but it is of the best, most open-minded sort. He mentions finding the spirit of Christ in people of all races and religions. I couldn’t help note that from the account it is the author that states that the being that he encountered was Jesus - not the being itself. It was obviously a manifestation of the Christ in its most pure, classical nature. However, it is clear to me that such a manifestation of living light from the Source could have also been labeled Apollo or Phanes, depending upon the experiencer’s background. In any case, any cultural colorations and additions are in the latter part of the account and can be easily recognized.

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