

The Enthralling World of Noetic Science

By:

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Westmount Charter Mid-High



“

The day science begins to study non-physical phenomena, it will make more progress in one decade than in all the previous centuries of its existence

- Nikola Tesla

”

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[Noetic refers to] states of insight into depths of truth unplumbed by the discursive intellect. They are illuminations, revelations, full of significance and importance, all inarticulate though they remain; and as a rule they carry with them a curious sense of authority...

- William James, philosopher





~ ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS ~

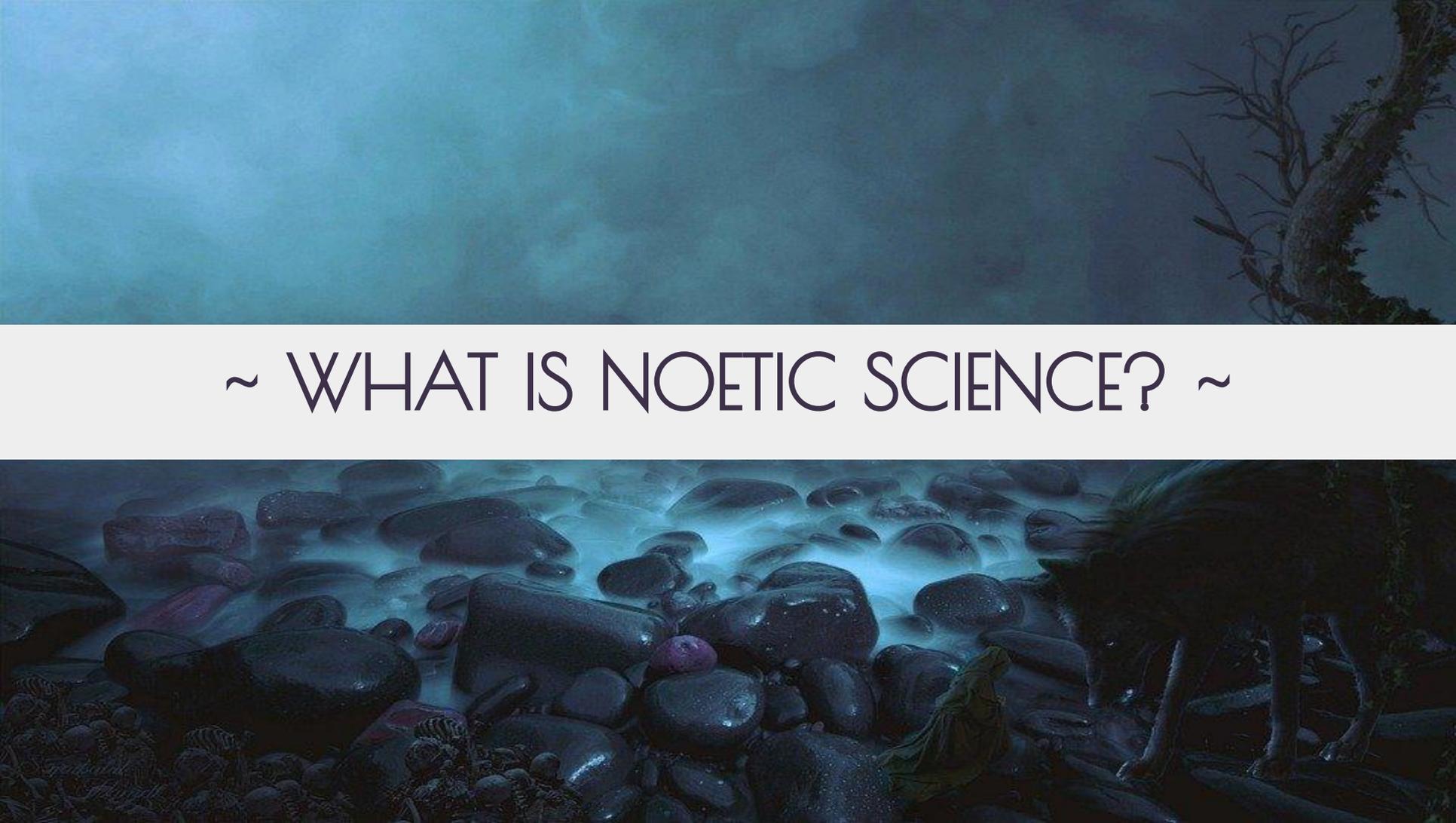


I would like to acknowledge all the support and help my parents gave me with this project. They gave me the resources and materials to successfully complete it. I also want to acknowledge the Institute of Noetic Sciences for providing me with in depth information and wonderful resources. Another wonderful source I would like to acknowledge is the book "The Lost Symbol" by Dan Brown for introducing me to Noetic Science. Lastly, I would like to acknowledge my teachers for giving us SO MUCH information on how to do this project and for taking the time to answer my frantic, panicked emails. Thank you all so much!

A dark, blue-toned photograph of a tunnel. The tunnel is lined with numerous vertical stone pillars that create a strong sense of perspective, leading the eye towards a central stone structure at the end of the passage. The structure appears to be a traditional oil lamp (diya) mounted on a tiered, stepped pedestal. The lighting is dramatic, with deep shadows and highlights on the stone surfaces.

~ WHY I CHOOSE THIS TOPIC ~

Noetic Science is very...mysterious. I feel like no one talks about it as much as say - environmental science. In fact, I actually didn't even know what Noetic Science was, I didn't know it was a thing, until the wonderful author Dan Brown introduced me to it. It's amazing what you can learn in one book. One of his characters, Katherine Solomon is a Noetic Scientist, and I was immediately fascinated at the wonderful world of Noetics. The experiments she does in the book are absolutely mind-blowing, whether real or made-up, they still tied to Noetic Science, and even since then, I have been immensely curious about this mysterious science.

The image is a vertical composition. The top half features a soft, ethereal blue mist or fog, with a dark, leafless tree branch visible on the right side. The bottom half shows a dark, rocky stream with water flowing over smooth, dark stones, illuminated by a bright blue light source from below, creating a glowing effect. The text is centered in a white horizontal band across the middle.

~ WHAT IS NOETIC SCIENCE? ~

So after all this research and hard work, what is noetic science?

Noetic science is the science of your consciousness, and the science of interconnectedness. It is a word that explains things no scientist can explain. It represents intuition, feelings, and bridges science and spirituality.

Noetic science looks into our inner awareness.



According to the Institute of Noetic Sciences website, the three questions Noetic Science focuses on answering are -

- *What is the relationship between interconnectedness, extended human capacities, and transformation, innovation, and well-being?*
- *Which experiences or practices maximize these factors or their relationships?*
- *Which personal characteristics lead a person to benefit from experiences and practices based on these factors?*

This branch of science is focused on gaining a deeper understanding of our minds, and how our consciousness can affect, or perhaps alter, the physical world. IONS believes that understanding our minds and the interconnected sense of reality can leave room for “human evolution” and potentially change our lives for the better.

Noetic science looks at the feelings you can't bring yourself to explain, the non physical aspects of our world, and using science to study reality. Can understanding your consciousness and non physical phenomena change our lives for the better?

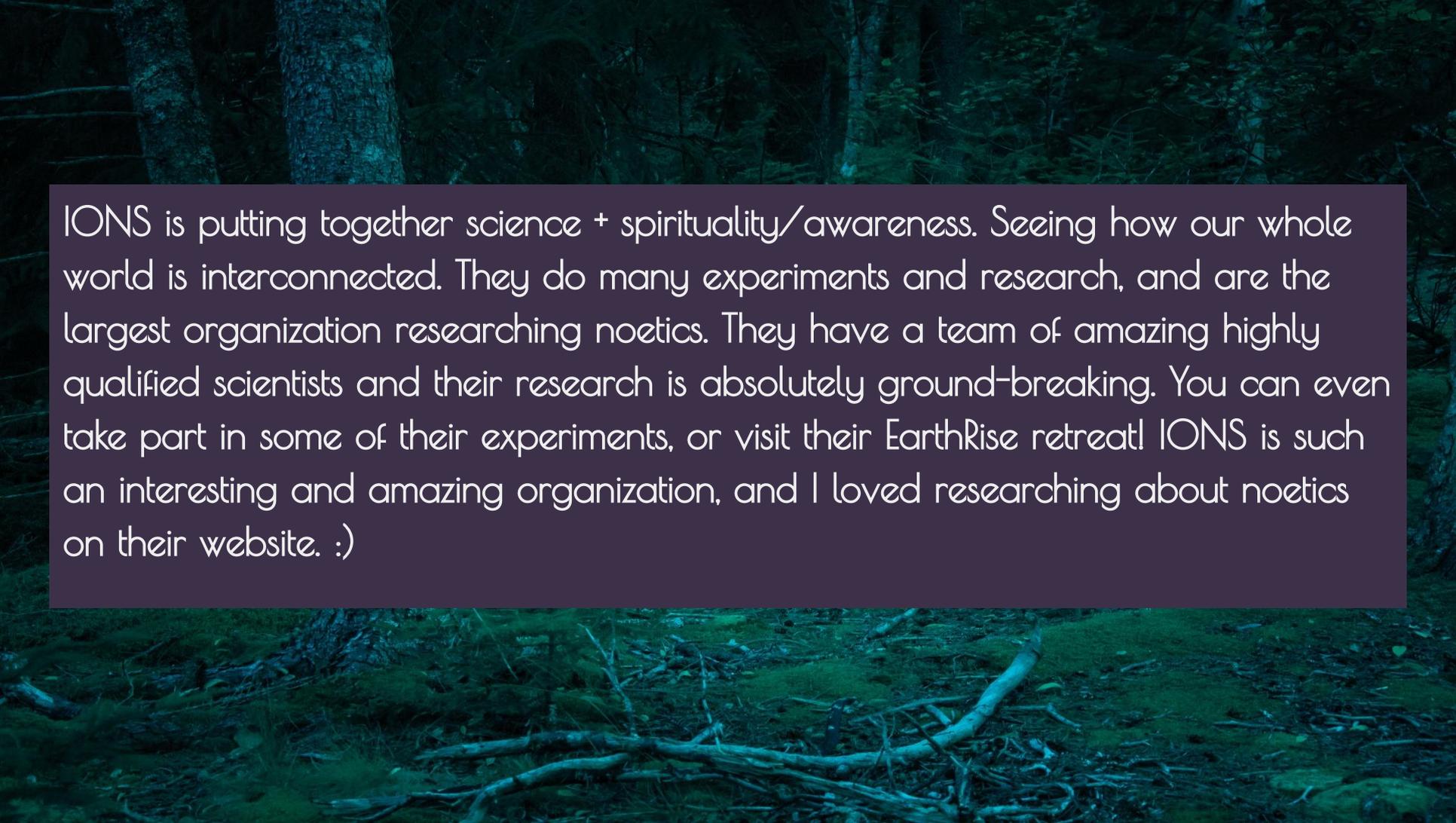


~ ABOUT IONS ~



IONS is short for Institute of Noetic Science, where they research:

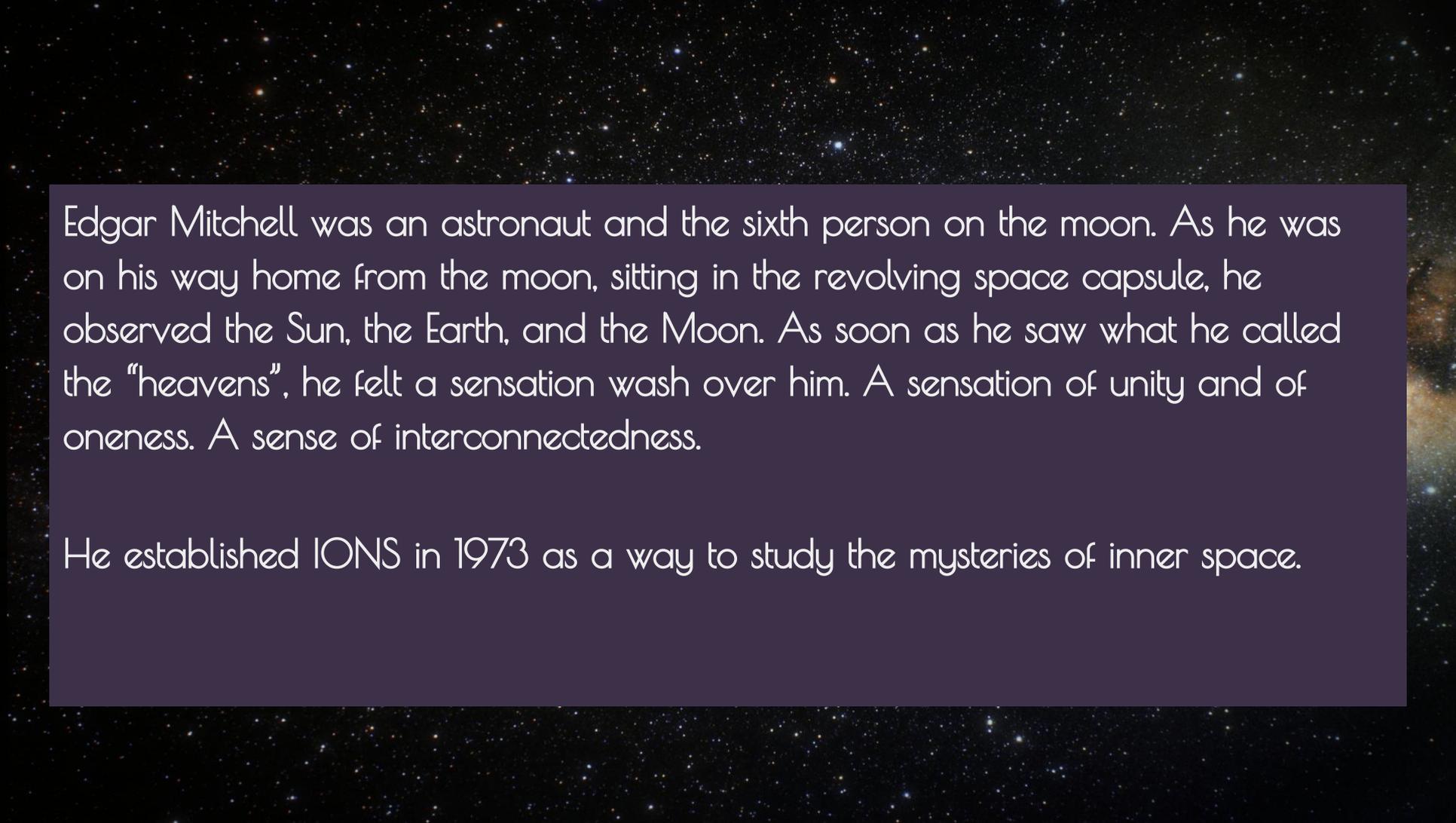
- Interconnectedness
- Mind/Matter
- Social science
- Clinical studies on the mind
- Consciousness

A dark, moody forest scene with a large fallen log in the foreground and a semi-transparent text box in the center. The text box is a dark purple color with white text. The background shows tree trunks and dense foliage in a dimly lit forest.

IONS is putting together science + spirituality/awareness. Seeing how our whole world is interconnected. They do many experiments and research, and are the largest organization researching noetics. They have a team of amazing highly qualified scientists and their research is absolutely ground-breaking. You can even take part in some of their experiments, or visit their EarthRise retreat! IONS is such an interesting and amazing organization, and I loved researching about noetics on their website. :)

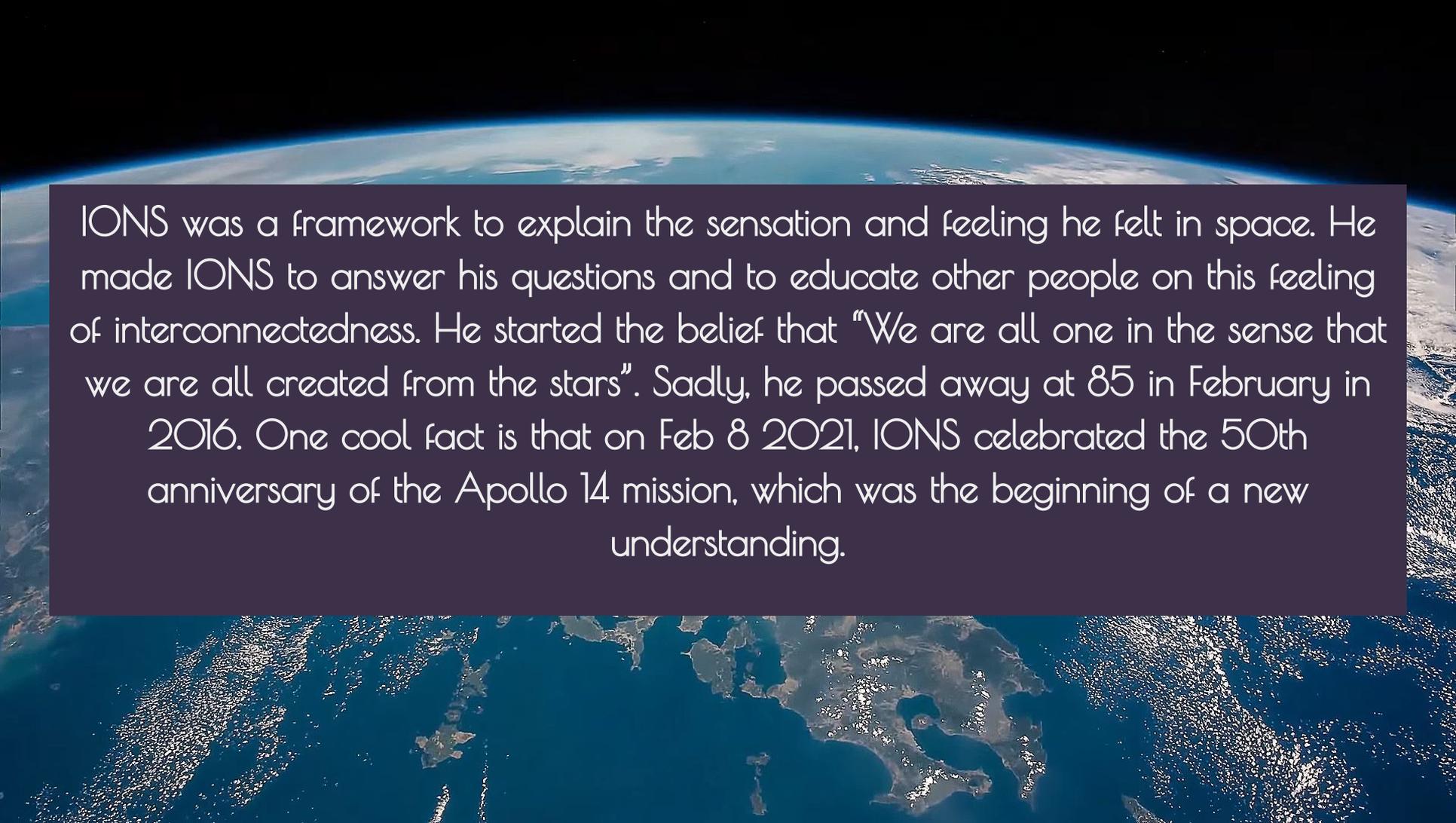
IONS was
founded by
Edgar Mitchell.





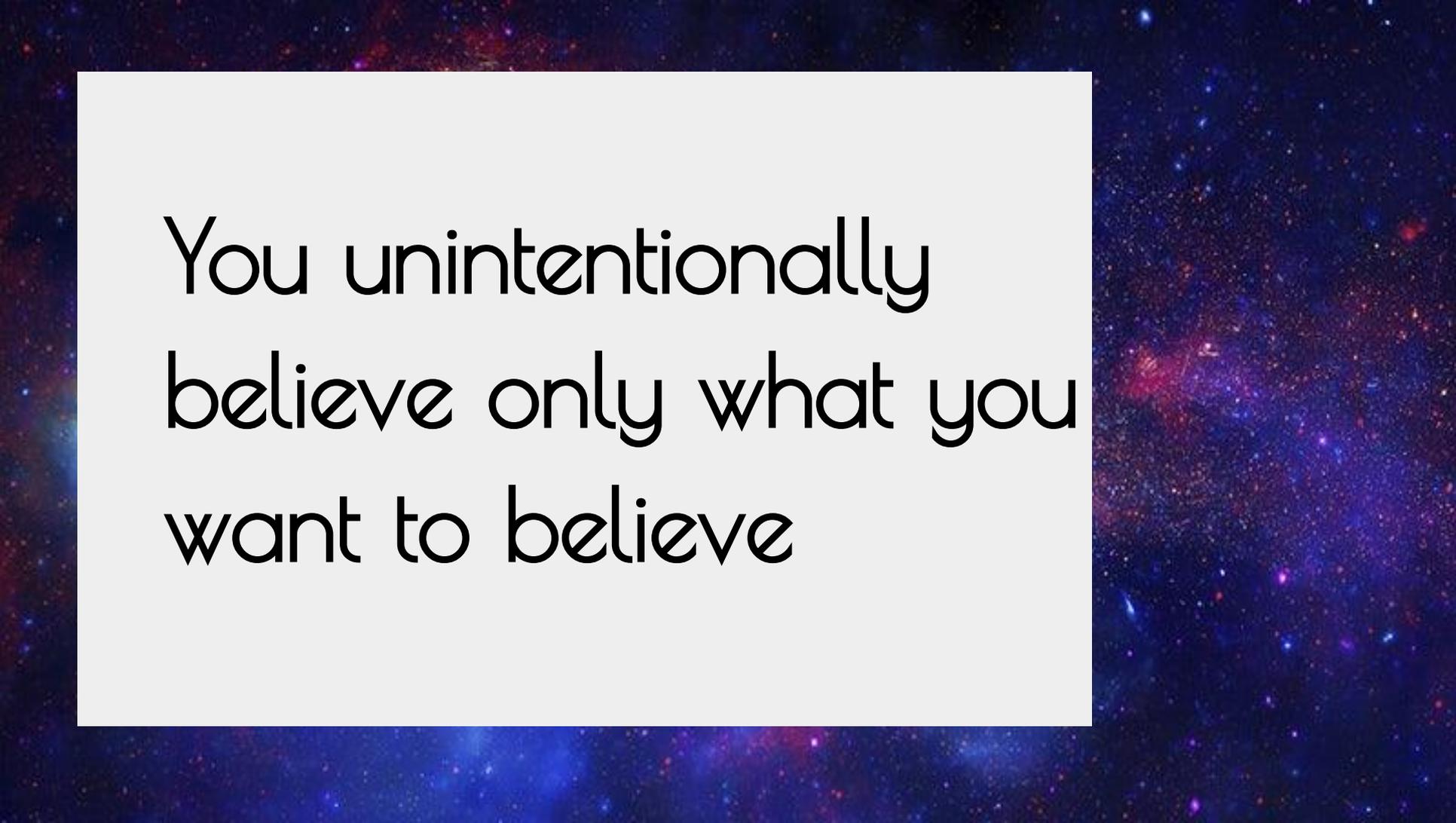
Edgar Mitchell was an astronaut and the sixth person on the moon. As he was on his way home from the moon, sitting in the revolving space capsule, he observed the Sun, the Earth, and the Moon. As soon as he saw what he called the “heavens”, he felt a sensation wash over him. A sensation of unity and of oneness. A sense of interconnectedness.

He established IONS in 1973 as a way to study the mysteries of inner space.

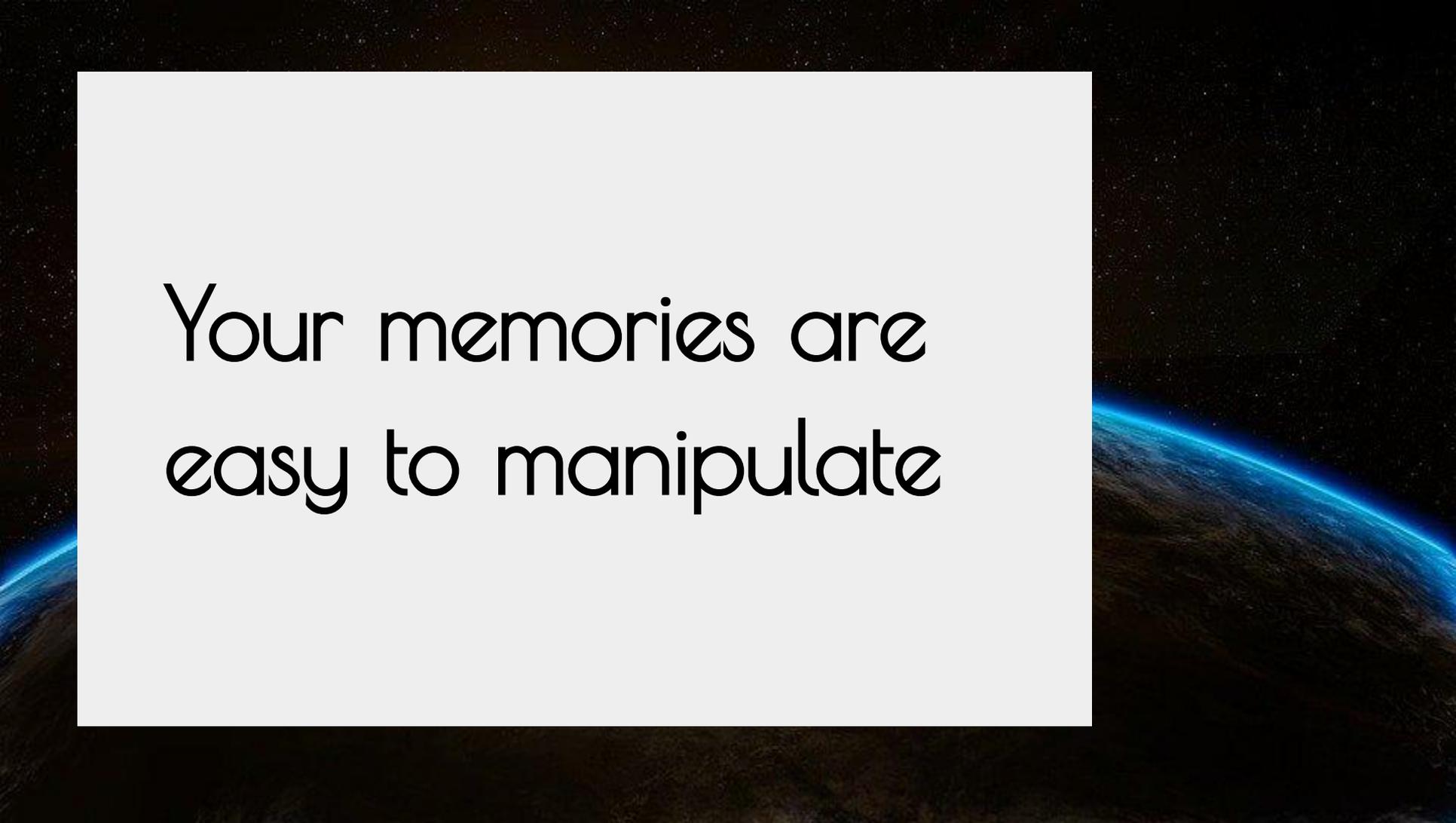


IONS was a framework to explain the sensation and feeling he felt in space. He made IONS to answer his questions and to educate other people on this feeling of interconnectedness. He started the belief that “We are all one in the sense that we are all created from the stars”. Sadly, he passed away at 85 in February in 2016. One cool fact is that on Feb 8 2021, IONS celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 14 mission, which was the beginning of a new understanding.

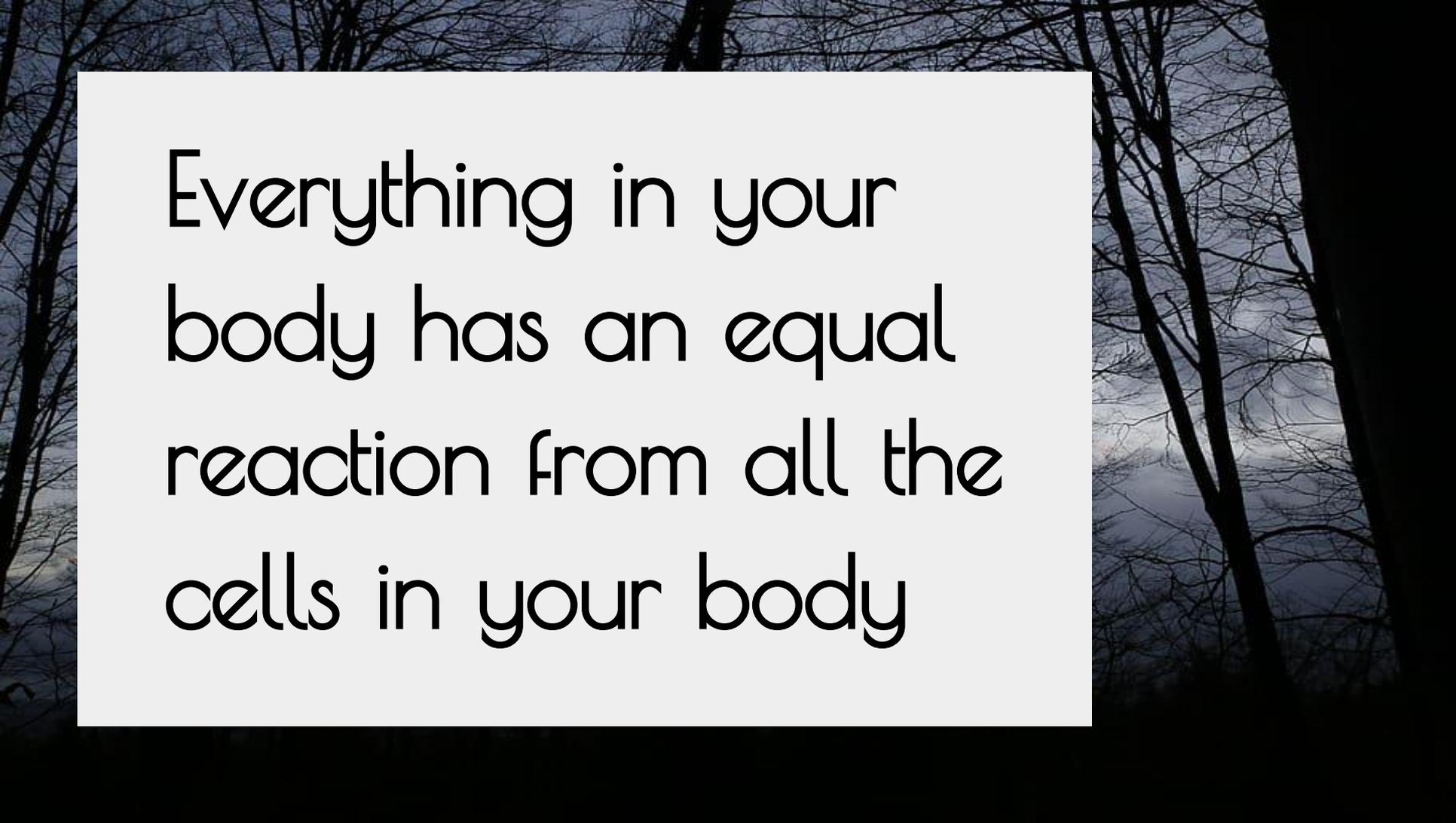
~ FUN FACTS ~



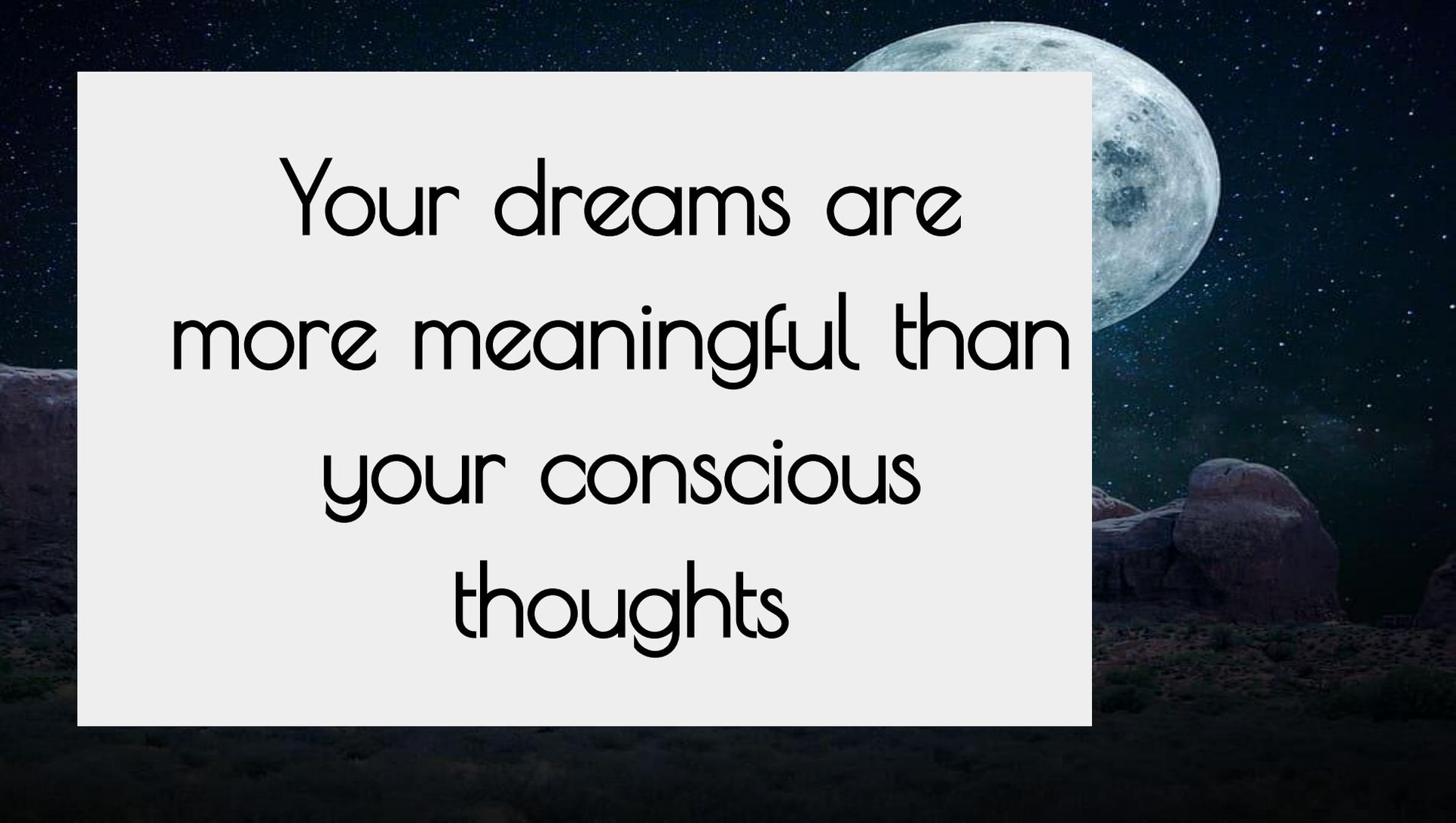
You unintentionally
believe only what you
want to believe



Your memories are
easy to manipulate



Everything in your
body has an equal
reaction from all the
cells in your body

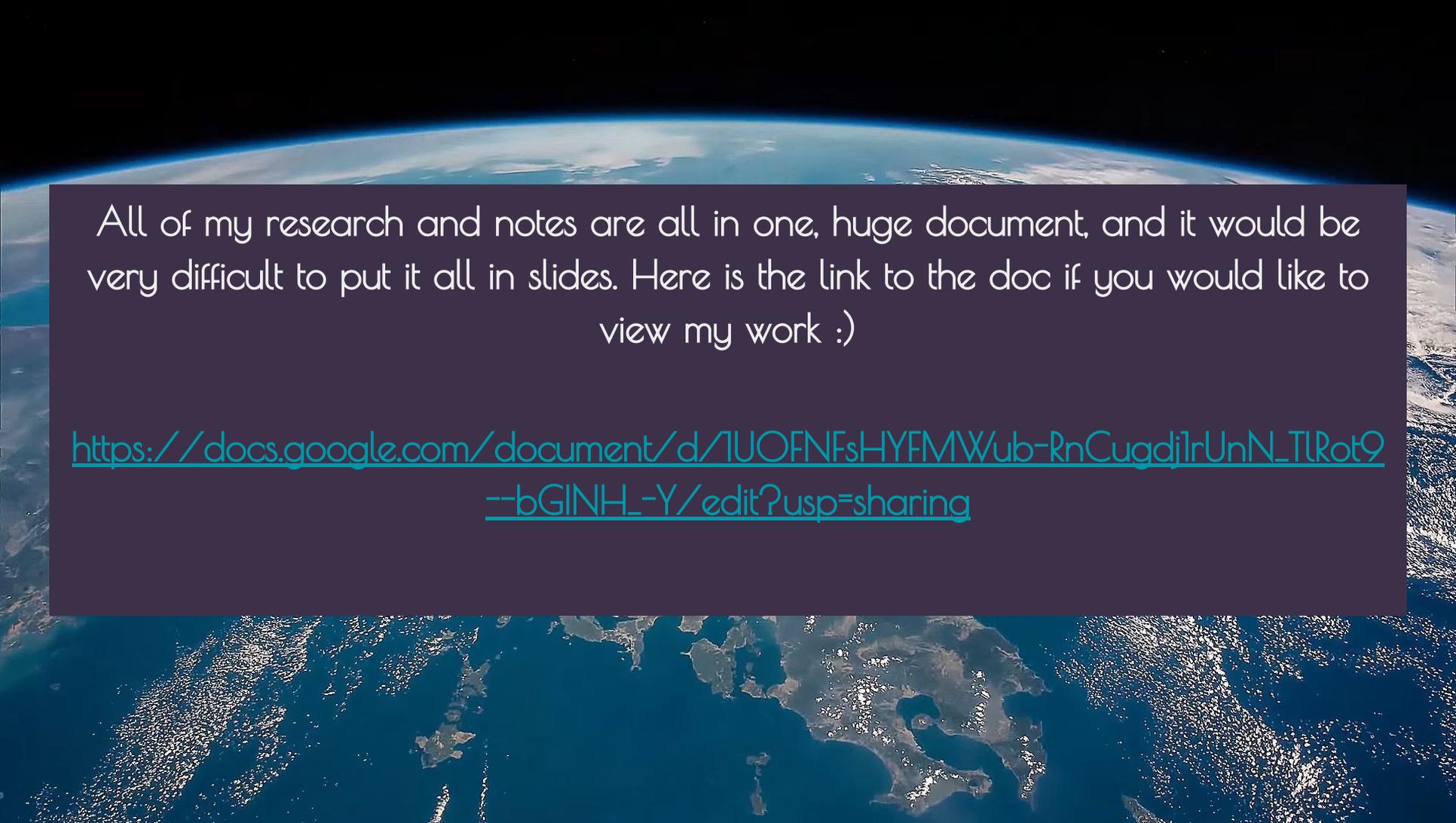
A night sky with a large full moon and stars, with a white text box in the foreground.

Your dreams are
more meaningful than
your conscious
thoughts

Consciousness can be
subdivided



~ MY RESEARCH ~

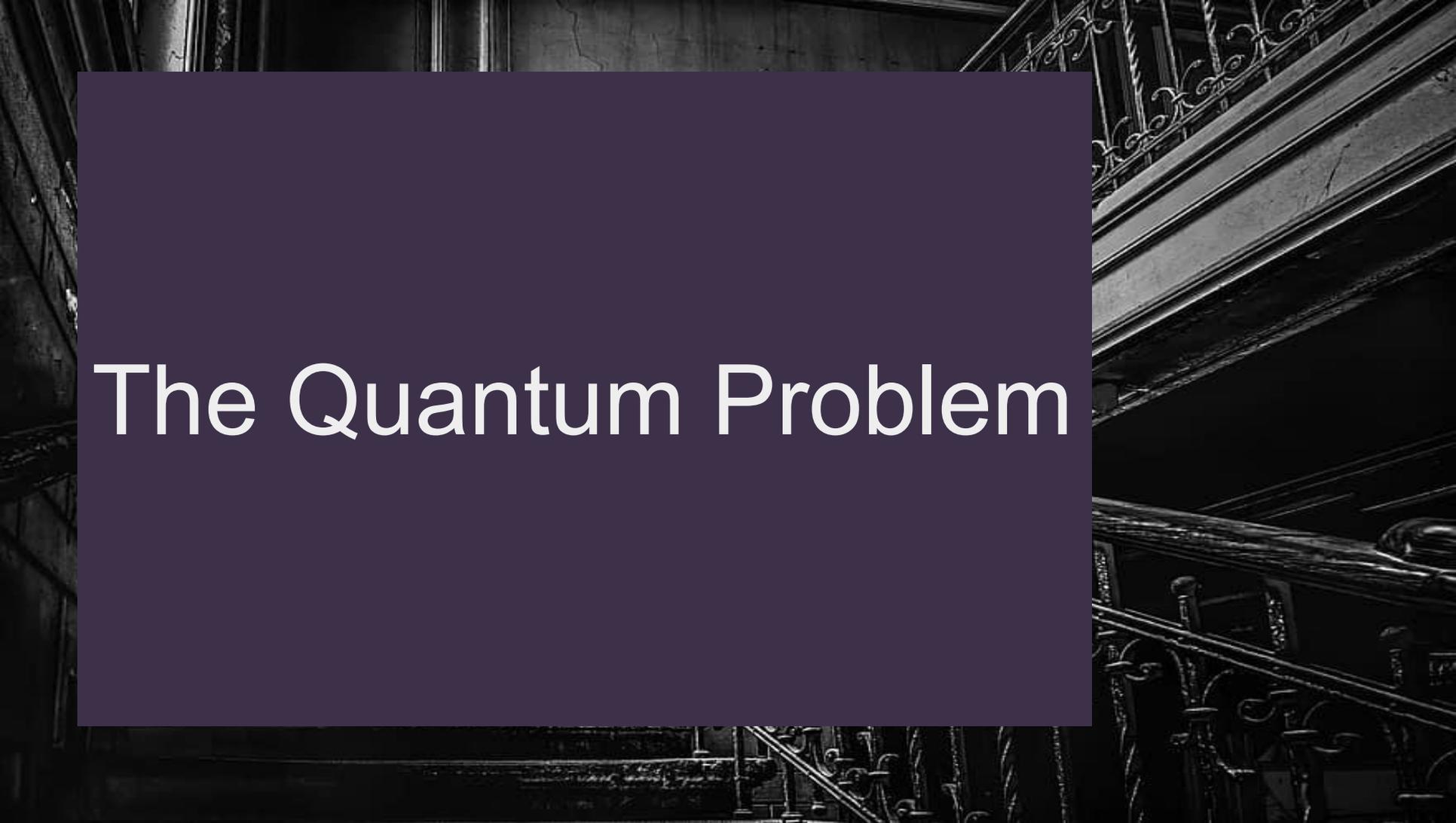


All of my research and notes are all in one, huge document, and it would be very difficult to put it all in slides. Here is the link to the doc if you would like to view my work :)

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1UOFNFsHYFMWub-RnCugdjrUnN_TlRot9--bGINH_-Y/edit?usp=sharing



~ EXPERIMENTS & MIND BLOWING RESULTS ~



The Quantum Problem

EXPERIMENT

This experiment was thought out and conducted by Dean Radin. The purpose of this experiment was to take a glimpse at interconnection between our consciousness and the physical world. A stream of light (or more scientifically, photons) was shot down a tunnel with two slits. Behind the two slits was a wall that will clearly show the observing scientist how the photons are behaving when they go through the slits and land on the wall. Their hypothesis is that maybe the people observing the photons may change how they behave and act. Maybe the photons will react to the consciousness of the observing scientists nearby, or maybe distance won't matter. This experiment started off with many questions, and left scientists with many more.

OBSERVATIONS

When the humans observing the beam of light knew which slit the light was going through, the photons acted like particles. They knew this by looking at the back wall, where you would see two slits. The fascinating thing that they found out is that when the humans observing the photons didn't know which slit they were going through, they behaved like waves. As Cassandra said, they knew this by looking at the back wall and seeing as she states a "wave refraction pattern". Another form of this experiment was that they made the observer observe the experiment with their mind, without their eyes, or through a lens, or with anything else. Just with their mind. To their amazement, the photons acted like particles, which meant that they acted like they were being observed, even though the person didn't use their eyes. "Knowledge appears to change the behaviour of the physical world."

RESULTS

Cassandra Vieten claims that they don't know what the information they retained actually means, but she said that this aroused new questions and supported their theory of our consciousness affecting the physical world, yet again. The photons acted as if they were being observed even though the person observing them wasn't using their eyes, hence the observer's thoughts altered the physical world. It is really interesting to see experiments like this, and more questions mean more experiments, and more experiments means more information to get closer to the goal of answering the big question of your consciousness. It is fascinating to see a theory, a question, come to life.

Cancer Patients



EXPERIMENT

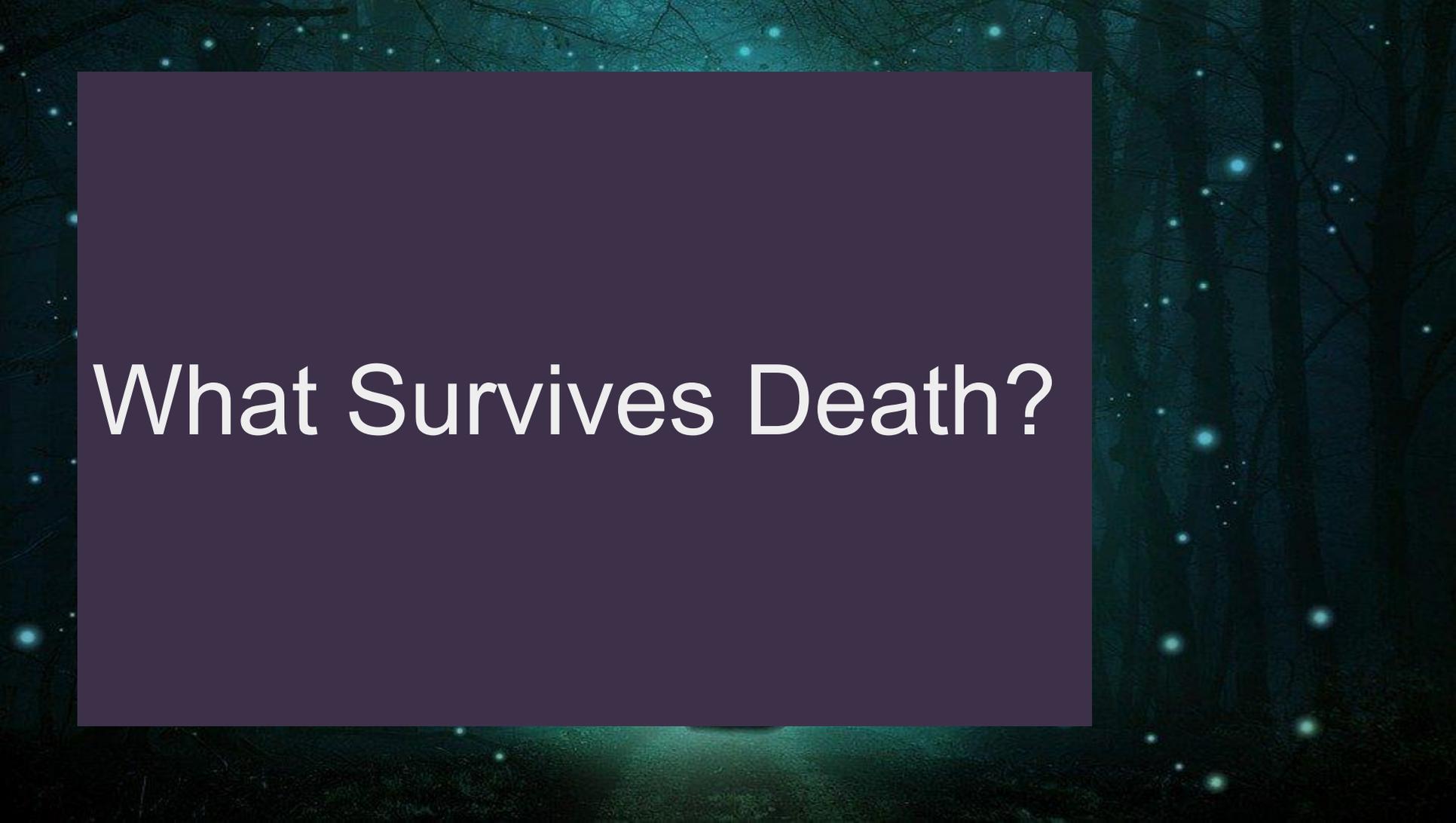
Cassandra Vieten briefly talked about this experiment during her enthralling TEDx Talk. She stated that they took a cancer patient and their partner and asked them to learn acts of compassion and present them to each other. Then, they split the two people and put a distance between them. Their hypothesis was that maybe their connection or consciousness has no limits to distance, and that they would still have a strong connection.

OBSERVATIONS

When they split the two people after having them show acts of compassion to each other, they noticed that from afar, their connection seemed increased. Even if they were at a distance, a small thread of connection, and intuition remained between the two. It was as if there was a boost in their consciousness and focus towards each other, or a strengthening of their connection.

RESULTS

This is another example of an experiment hinting at the fact that we may be able to have some sort of a bond, or connection, with our consciousness with other people. Distance doesn't matter, the bond still seems strong. It also indicates that thinking about a person or showing acts of compassion towards them can strengthen your bond with them, both consciously and physically.



What Survives Death?

EXPERIMENT

According to the IONS website, Helané Wahbeh says the purpose of this experiment is “to learn people’s beliefs about what part of us, if any, survives physical death” Note that this experiment is not to answer the age-old question about death, but to get one step closer to it, and to get a grip on understanding people’s beliefs. Understanding people’s understanding of death is a good way to understand this question better. How do they collect the data? By surveys! You can actually take part in this experiment by answering the questions in the survey! - <https://www.research.net/r/WhatSurvives>

OBSERVATIONS

This experiment was designed to know what people's initial beliefs are on death. I actually did the survey, and noticed that the questions had a wide variety of responses you can choose from. It was as if Helané Wahbeh had thought of every response she had gotten in the past! Some responses included things like "I believe my soul will disappear because my body is an illusion" or "I will remain conscious in some form for eternity" and even "I will discover that I am part of a computer-like simulation, like in the movie, The Matrix." It was cool to see the varied, different responses available, and how contrasted they were to each other.

RESULTS

This experiment is still in progress, for you can't possibly expect such a groundbreaking question to have a groundbreaking answer in mere days! But I do have a hypothesis on what the results will be. I'm guessing that they will get a varied amount of responses and take them all in for consideration. In the end, I expect that the result will be that their understanding of people's thoughts on death will be increased.



The Global Consciousness Project

EXPERIMENT

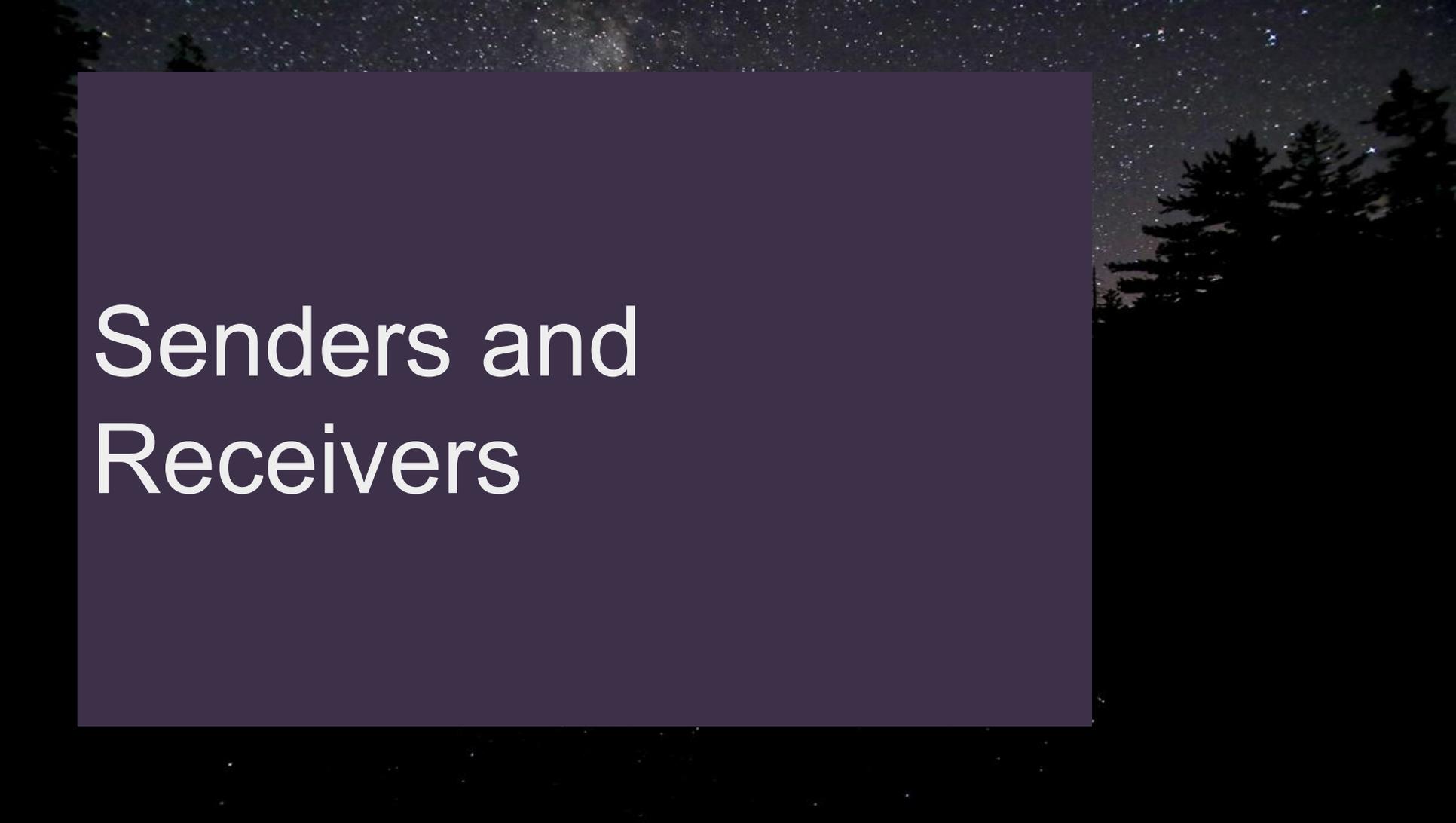
The purpose for this experiment is described on the IONS website as an experiment to “examine subtle correlations that may reflect the presence and activity of consciousness in the world”. In other words (in my words), to look at the consciousness of the whole world and see if there is a point of data that may indicate interconnectedness. To examine the data everyone has collected about people’s consciousness about their intentions and emotions around the world and see if it has impacted any global events. This is a huge worldwide project that includes many people who have contributed to it. From scientists and engineers, to artists. You may be wondering, how does this experiment work? Well basically, they have 65 sites around the world tracking the data for their area. They use random number generators as a metaphor for our consciousness. These generators generate streams of random numbers, zeroes and ones. Their belief is that whenever a large group of people’s consciousness, attention, and intention is focused on one thing, one thing that all their minds have in common, the random number generators won’t be so random anymore. Their hypothesis is that the RNG’s will become structured, coherent, and harmonized.

OBSERVATIONS

The RNG's around the world shoot out a random stream of numbers (zeroes and ones) as a metaphor for each of our thoughts and consciousnesses. Scientists noticed that when a large group of people had their attention and consciousness focused on one thing, for example, a football or a sports game, the RNG's became...less random. They seemed more coherent and they all came together. The long stream of randomness became not-so-random, and synchronized...I wonder why....

RESULTS

The RNG'S become coherent and less random because everyone's consciousness and attention is focused on one thing. Like I said before, scientists are using the random numbers generated by the RNG's as a metaphor for our thoughts, like a replacement, a visual representation for all our consciousnesses (that was a tongue twister). So all of our thoughts are random, but they became synchronized because all of our attention and consciousnesses became focused on one thing. One thing we all have in common. So our thoughts caused the RNG's to become orderly. Proving that our consciousness may affect the physical world.

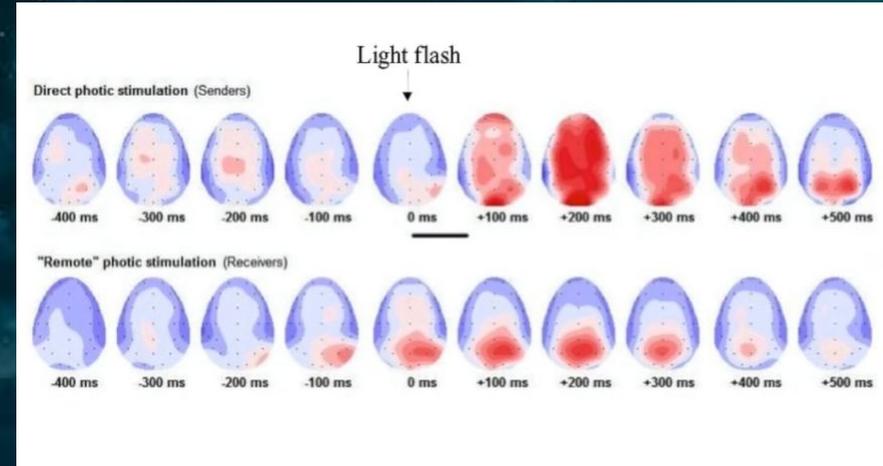


Senders and Receivers

EXPERIMENT

This experiment works with two people. The purpose of this was to see if people could communicate with each other, beyond traditional methods. Beyond their five senses. It was conducted by Marilyn Schlitz and her colleagues at IONS. This experiment focuses on the consciousness of the two people. So they get the pair of people, and then separate them. They send one person to the "Sender's Chamber", and inside this chamber is a screen. On the screen is an image of their partner (aka, The Receiver), but the image pops up, then disappears, and blinks in and out. The scientists there tell the Sender that whenever the image of their receiver pops up on the screen, they must channel their attention and intention to focus on that person, so all of their thoughts, their brain, and their focus is on that one person. Then when their image disappears, the Sender has to remove all of their attention and intention from the person. Meanwhile, they send the Receiver into a electromagnetically shielded steel box, so any sort of communication from the sender except for consciousness is blocked. They are testing out their theory that the Receiver may receive some sort of a signal from the sender.

When the scientists were looking at the data for this experiment, they noticed that when the Sender put all their attention and intention focused on the person, the Receiver's physiology had changed! It was like an echo had transmitted to their brain, like an echo of consciousness. Another form of this experiment was when they flashed a bright light at the Sender, while they were focusing their consciousness at their partner, and they found out that the Sender's brain had reacted very much from the flash of light. The chart here shows that, the first row is the Sender's brain reacting to the light flash, and if you look at it, their brain turned almost completely red, which showed that it had reacted very majorly, but if you take a closer look and observe the second row, which shows the receiver's brain, you may notice that the receiver actually got a little echo of the reaction, as their brain was partially red.



RESULTS

This experiment hints at the idea that people may actually be connected with each other through their consciousness. After all, Noetic Science does focus on interconnectedness! There might be a way people can communicate with their consciousness. This proves that there's a chance our thoughts can affect other people's brains, which only means that their thoughts may be able to affect our brains! This experiment was very interesting to look at, and very cool to research.



~ NOETIC SCIENTISTS ~



Edgar Mitchell

Edgar Mitchell was an astronaut, one of the astronauts on the Apollo 14 mission. He was the sixth person to walk on the moon and spent nine hours studying the moon's surface. The mission was in 1971 and took nine days. Because of an experience he had on his way home (which I talked about earlier) he established the Institute of Noetic Sciences in 1973. He retired from being an astronaut in 1972, and took up his passion in parapsychology. Sadly, he died on February 4 2016.



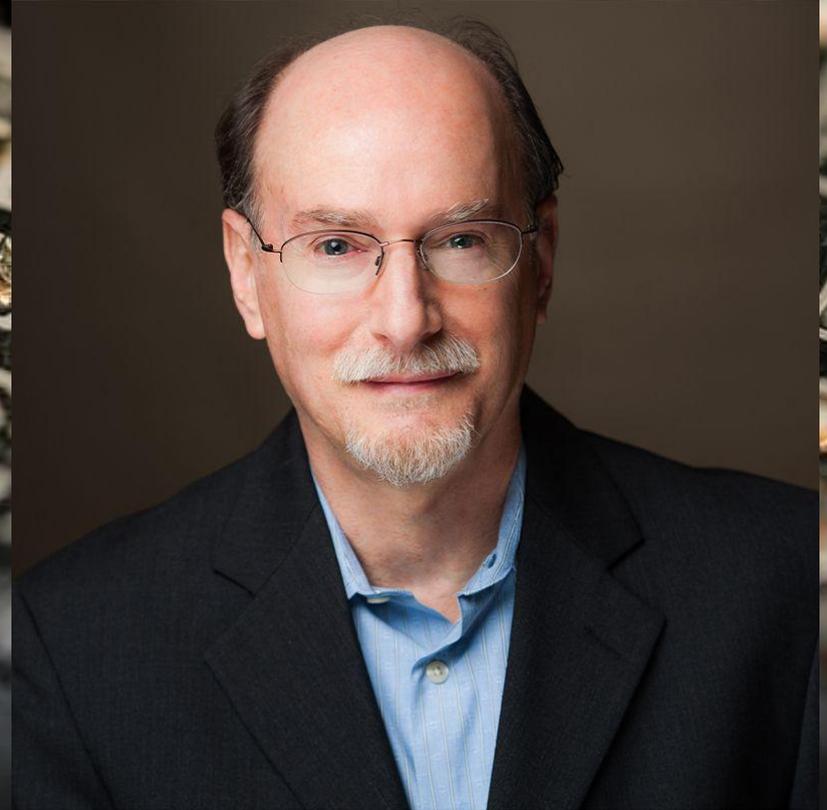
Cassandra Vieten (PhD)

Cassandra Vieten is a psychologist, a mind-body medicine researcher, author, and a keynote speaker who has spoken all over the world and is recognised internationally. She worked at IONS for 18 years, in which she was a scientist, director of research, president, and CEO. Cassandra has written books, articles, and has made many workshops. She is currently researching spiritual and religious competencies. Cassandra grew up in southern California and now lives in San Diego with her cute little dog!



Dean Radin (PhD)

Dean Radin is a chief scientist at IONS and he used to be a concert violinist! He has been researching consciousness and the mind for over three decades, and is the author and co-author of many publications. Dean Radin has give over 500 talks, in so so SO many universities worldwide, from Harvard, Stanford, Princeton, and Cambridge to Andhra University. He was named one of the 100 most inspirational people, and honestly, I can see why!



Arnaud Delorme (PhD)

Arnaud Delorme is a research scientist at IONS, and is a CNRS principal investigator. He has worked in statistical analysis of signals. The software he developed for analysis of EEG signals (electro-encephalographic) is one of the most used all over the globe. Arnaud taught India the natural effects of consciousness, and he is a Zen meditator. Mr. Delorme is currently studying how technology and meditation can go hand in hand.



Garret Yount (PhD)

Garret Yount is a scientist at IONS. He researched genes and your mind, and how the two connect. He has an interest in bridging consciousness and neurobiology. Garret is one of the first people to be awarded a Research Project Grant from the National Institutes of Health. He has given many talks and written many articles, working with scientists from around the world. Currently, Garret focuses on biofields and micro-psychokinesis.



Loren Carpenter

Loren Carpenter is a scientist at IONS, who has worked a lot and made a big impact in the film industry. In IONS, he focuses on design's, construction, fabrication, computer skills, and making new instruments. He developed a modeling algorithm for visual effects and was given the only Oscar award ever awarded to computer science. Loren used to work in Disney/Pixar and created the world's first fractally generated (irregular shapes) animation, called Vol Libre, which you can watch here - <https://vimeo.com/5810737>

The fascinating thing is, his algorithms are still the heart and foundation of every Pixar movie. One more thing about Loren Carpenter is that he has his own company, called Cinematrix Inc.



Helané Wahbeh (ND, MCR)

Helané Wahbeh is the Director of Research at IONS, and is trained as a naturopathic physician. She has published and spoke about her research and work. Currently, Helané is looking at stress and trauma. She studies complementary and alternative medicine, mind-body medicine, stress, and posttraumatic stress disorder. Her passions are physiology, health, and healing. What blew my mind is the extensive meditation training she holds, one going up to 16 years!

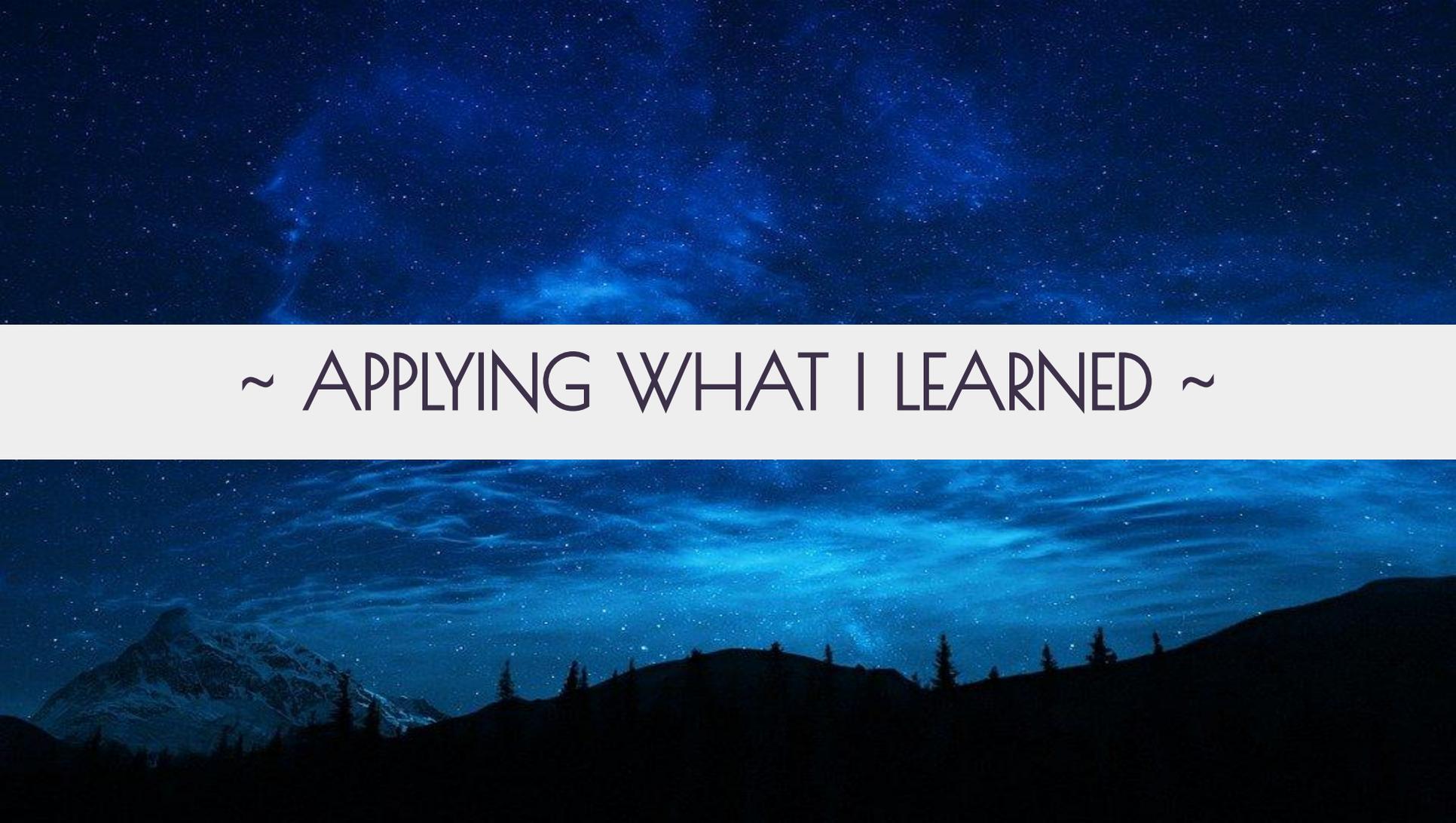




~ MY QUESTIONS ~

I absolutely loved the journey of diving into the world of noetic and resurfacing with more than I walked in with. Just like how only the good experiments leave you with more questions than you answered, the same goes for projects! Here are some questions I have:

- Is there a way we can communicate with our consciousness?
- Are we really all connected? If so, how?
- Is noetic science based on fact? Or entirely thoughts and beliefs?
- Are our thoughts the reason for global issues?
- Are negative thoughts the reason for all the negativity?
- Can positive thinking actually change the physical world?
- Is there a way to completely understand our consciousness?
- Are we really made from/by the stars?
- How does our spirituality fit in with our consciousness?
- Does religion affect spirituality?
- What is the difference between religion and spirituality?

A night sky with a vibrant blue aurora borealis over a dark mountain range. The aurora is a bright, wavy band of light in shades of blue and cyan, stretching across the upper half of the frame. Below it, the dark silhouettes of mountains and evergreen trees are visible against the starry night sky. The overall scene is serene and majestic.

~ APPLYING WHAT I LEARNED ~

I can use the knowledge I have so far to make a positive impact on our world. I can use my knowledge to educate others on this wonderful topic and to bring light to the mysteries of noetics. Like they say, knowledge is power.

I can use my research to help me in the future, I can use it as a guidance for future projects.

I can use my knowledge for positivity, and for future research.

I agree with IONS, I believe that understanding the human mind and consciousness will make room for huge revelations and breakthroughs, which will bring us closer to solving the mysteries of ourselves.



~ CONCLUSION/FINAL REPORT ~



To conclude, Noetic science is the science of our consciousness and interconnectedness. It takes a look at how our consciousness can possibly alter, affect, or change the physical world, or even if our consciousness is the reason the physical world is how it is!

Here is my full final report/conclusion (I couldn't fit it in the slides because it is six pages long)

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1h_hY1NUCFnLx39tmf5aQKMtQsQZdgKOEEdOpinUSqdeA/edit?usp=sharing

A blue-tinted image featuring a full moon in the upper left corner. A silhouette of a wolf is shown howling, positioned above a white horizontal band. Below the band, the silhouette of a person stands on the edge of a cliff, looking out over a dark blue sky. The text '~ ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT ~' is centered within the white band.

~ ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT ~

Nothing is perfect. And as much as I don't like admitting it, my project isn't perfect either. No, it's far from perfect. Here are a few things I believe could've been improved, and some things I would do differently next time.

- Making a better timeline, and following it
- Planning out work blocks and a schedule, and sticking to it
- Doing a teeny bit more research
- Not doing it as rushed and panicked as I was
- Not emailing my teachers a billion times
- Being more prepared and having more focus on the project instead of multitasking way too much
- Spending too much time on my logbook and on making it pristine and perfect, and spending less time on more important things (like this presentation)
- LESS SCREEN TIME!! I would spend the whole day working on it 24/7

SOURCES

- MY LOGBOOK!

The sources for my logbook and for this presentation are listed in the logbook. If you would like to see it, look at the attachment below.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1jKmjEiz61QHWeoEGXg6aTJa0S1AOMH0gxeLGm-FJin0/edit>

A long-exposure photograph of a sunset over a beach. The sky is filled with vibrant purple and pink light trails, suggesting a long exposure. The water in the foreground is also blurred, showing soft, glowing patterns of light. The beach is visible in the lower part of the frame, with some rocks and sand. The overall mood is serene and beautiful.

THANK YOU FOR
LISTENING!