

CONSCIOUSNESS STUDIES NEWSLETTER

July 2023
Vol.1 No.3

:Editor / Writer:

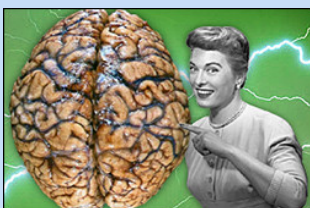
Dennis W. Hauck

Assistant Editor::

Greg Schrum



Welcome to the
CS Newsletter!



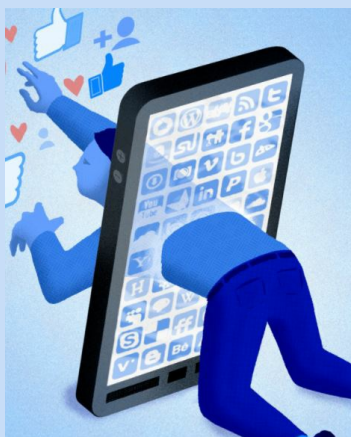
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Submit your comments, articles, feedback, announcements, and book or film reviews to the Assistant Editor: **Greg Schrum**.

We maintain an [Archives](#) of past issues, and when you [subscribe](#), you will receive a download link to your **FREE COPY** of the illustrated, indexed, 235-page book [Consciousness Studies](#).

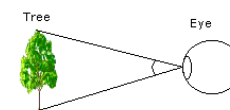
EDITORIAL



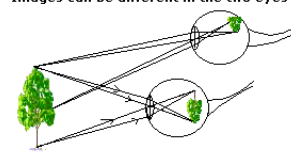
Watch Out for Synchro-mythism!

Synchro-mythism is a cultural phenomenon in which myths, historical exaggerations, fake news, or outright lies become accepted as true or real by large numbers of people. It is especially prevalent today in political mythbuilding (such as QAnon) and on social media, where anyone can spread false facts as true. These lies then take on a life of their own and cause synchronic changes on all levels of the group mind (society). Don't confuse Synchro-mythism with **Apophenia**, which is the tendency to perceive meaningful connections between unrelated things or with **Pareidolia**, which is the tendency to impose a

Naive Realism



Images can be different in the two eyes



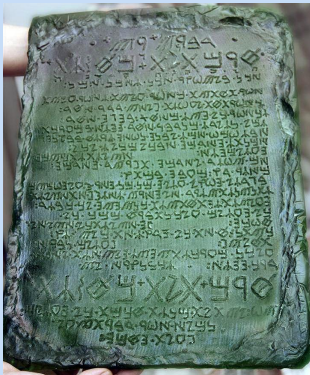
NAÏVE REALISM

by J.W. Schmidt, Robin H.,
et al.

The study of human consciousness may seem to be esoteric or outside of the mainstream. but it includes some very real problems in science and philosophy. The most obvious problem is how we can see anything at all. Many people with a smattering of geometry tend to believe that they have a 'point eye' that sees the world, and this idea is known as perceptual "Naive Realism". Physical considerations show that this idea is highly contentious; we have two eyes with different images in each, normally the only images in the world are created by

The Emerald Tablet

Could this be the world's first document on Consciousness Studies?



According to legend, the Emerald Tablet was written in Phoenicia over 10,000 years ago, although it has also been attributed to the mythic Alexandrian alchemist Hermes Trismegistus, as well as a few ninth-century Arabian authors. But whatever its origins, the words of the Tablet resonate with a higher view of the roll of consciousness in the universe that has inspired people for centuries.

Nearly every major scholar of the Middle Ages and Renaissance had their own personal translation of the Emerald Tablet. Those who were important in disseminating knowledge of the Tablet in Europe included:

- Herman of

meaningful interpretation on a visual stimulus or drawing, so one sees an object, pattern, or meaning where there is none. Synchrony is not **Synchronicity**, which is the simultaneous occurrence of events which appear significantly related but lack any discernible causal connections, nor is it **Patternicity**, which is the tendency to find meaningful patterns in meaningless noise.

David Chalmers' Zombies



David Chalmers (shown above) is an Australian philosopher and mathematician born in 1955. In his paper "Facing Up to the Problem of Consciousness" (1995) and book *The Conscious Mind* (1996), Chalmers formulated what he calls the "hard problem of consciousness."

Chalmers distinguishes between "easy" or cognitive, neurological problems of consciousness that involve acquiring knowledge through thought and the senses and the single "hard" or phenomenal problem, which is how to explain subjective experience in physical terms. "Why," he asks, "does the feeling

optical instruments such as the eye, and the photons that carry light to the observer cannot and do not all converge at a single point. Some of the discrepancies between the physical reality and our experience are shown in the illustrations.

The naive realist idea of perception involves a point eye looking at a geometrical form. But the physics is different; there are two eyes with sometimes very different images in each. Light is refracted over the entire area of the cornea and directed over the entire area of the retina - there is no 'point eye'. The cloud of photons that compose light must get in the way of the view but naive realism neglects this, regarding the photons as somehow transparent yet gathering as an impossible group of millions of photons in a viewing point. Light rays go everywhere, it is only after light has passed through an optical instrument such as the eye that an image is formed. Hold up a sheet of paper - there are no images on it.

The illustrations show the nature of one of the most difficult problems studied by neuroscience: how can the images on the two retinas become experience? How can we imagine things or experience dreams and hallucinations? Studies on the neural basis of binocular rivalry and MRI studies of imagination are leading the way in our comprehension of these problems but there

- **Carinthia** (1105-1154)
- **Albertus Magnus** (1200-1280)
- **Roger Bacon** (1219-1292)
- **Arnauld de Vilanova** (1240-1311)
- **Hortulanus (Ortolanus)** 1275-1325)
- **Rabelais** (1483-1553)
- **Paracelsus** (1493-1541)
- **Johann Petreius** (1497-1550)
- **John Dee** (1527-1608)
- **Gerhardt Dorn** (1530-1584)
- **Clovis Hesteau de Nuysement** (1555-1623)
- **Francis Bacon** (1561-1626)
- **Isaac Newton** (1643-1727)

Isaac Newton based his personal beliefs in a philosophical synthesis of the Emerald Tablet and the Old Testament . He wanted to go back before the Fall of Man to a state of perfect knowledge, and he believed the ancient Emerald Tablet described that path.

In 1621, French poet Clovis Hesteau de Nuysement published his charming version of the Tablet, which was centered around a "certain Point" that he believed was the most important message of the Tablet.

There is a certain Point
full of admiration,
Where the High and the
Low are but One same
thing:

which accompanies awareness of sensory information exist at all?" Chalmers reveals the "explanatory gap" between objective and subjective experiences, and he criticizes physical explanations for mental *qualia*, which are the internal or subjective responses to sense perceptions.

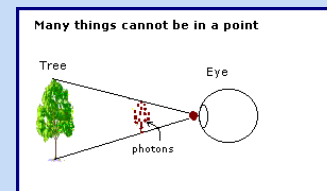
Chalmers describes this view as "naturalistic dualism." It is naturalistic because he believes mental *qualia* supervene over material processes in the brain naturally. It is dualistic because *qualia* are fundamentally distinct from material processes and cannot be explained in physical terms.

To prove his point, Chalmers posits the thought experiment of "philosophical zombies," which are physical copies of humans that lack any qualitative experience. Since these zombies are conceivable, they must be logically possible. Since they are possible, then mental *qualia* must be an additional or independent phenomenon not explainable in terms of human physiology or physical properties. For Chalmers, consciousness is a fundamental property without physical properties, although there may be general rules ("psychophysical laws") that determine which physical systems are associated with certain types of *qualia*.

is still no physical theory that is congruent with sensory experience.

The problem of *binding* also takes us further from Naive Realism; we experience speech at the mouth of the speaker even though we might be listening through headphones, how is sound, touch etc. bound to vision? The objective of the scientific study of consciousness is to discover how we convert data from the world into our experience.

A degree of Naive Realism is a sensible idea for coping with the everyday problems of working and living. Most physical scientists and people in general are, to some extent, Naive Realists until they study the biology of sensation and the problems of perception and consciousness. There is often a suspicion, or even fear, amongst Naive Realists that any analysis of conscious experience is a suggestion that the world does not exist or everything is imaginary.



To make from a single thing enclosed in the whole World, Marvelous effects proceed through adaptation.

From One Thing, all things have been made by meditation, And for parents, womb, and nourisher, it is established:

Phoebus (Fire), Diana (Water), Air, and Earth, where it rests, This thing in which all perfection lies.

If you change it into Earth, it retains its full power:
Separating it by great art, but an easy manner, The Subtle from the Dense, and the Earth from the Fire.

From Earth it ascends to Heaven, and then back to Earth,
From Heaven it descends, gradually receiving,
The virtues of both that it encloses in its Belly.

In his book [Second Manifesto of Surrealism](#) (1930), André Breton (1896-1966) also spoke of a “certain Point” inferred in the Tablet:

“Everything leads us to believe that there exists a certain Point of the spirit from which life and death, the real and the imaginary, the past and the future, the communicable and the incommunicable, the high and the low, cease to be perceived as contradictory. However, in vain would one seek any motive other than the for the



A 25-Year-Old Bet on Consciousness Has Finally Been Settled.

by [John Horgan](#)
(*Scientific American*
6/26/2023)



A neuroscientist clad in gold and red and a philosopher sheathed in black took the stage before a packed, murmuring auditorium at New York University on Friday night. The two men were grinning, especially the philosopher. They were here to settle a bet made in the late 1990s on one of science’s biggest questions: How does a brain, a lump of matter, generate subjective conscious states such as the blend of anticipation and nostalgia I felt watching these guys?

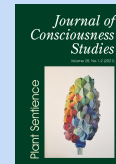
Before I reveal their bet’s resolution, let me take you through its twisty

from [Consciousness Studies](#) (2008)

RESOURCES



[INTERVIEWS](#) with presenters from the University of Arizona Science of Consciousness conferences.



[CATALOG](#) of academic journals on consciousness studies, including the [Journal of Consciousness Studies](#).



[CURRENT RESEARCH](#) in consciousness studies newsletter from the government (free subscription).



[Psychology of Consciousness: Theory, Research, and Practice](#) -free subscription to this new journal from the [American Psychological Association](#).

determination of this certain Point in surrealist activity."

The following is a translation of a medieval Latin version by Dennis William Hauck (from [The Emerald Tablet](#) (1999)). In it, he emphasizes the "certain Point," which he believes is the monadic point of consciousness that is the One Mind of the universe:

In Truth, without deceit, certain, and most veritable.

That which is Below is like that which is Above, and that which is Above is like that which is Below, to effect the wonders of the One Thing.

And just as all things have come from One Thing, through the thoughts of One Mind, so do all created things originate from this One Thing, through Adaptation to the One Mind.

Its father is the Sun; its mother the Moon. The Wind carries it in its belly; its nurse is the Earth.

This is the origin of All, the fabric of the whole Universe; its quality is untainted, if it turns into Earth.

Separate the Earth from Fire, the Subtle from the Gross, gently and with great Ingenuity. It ascends from Earth to Heaven and descends again to Earth, thereby combining within Itself the powers of both the

backstory, which reveals why consciousness remains a topic of such fascination and frustration to anyone with even the slightest intellectual leaning.

I first saw Christof Koch, neuroscientist, and David Chalmers, the philosopher, but they headed in 1994 at a now legendary conference in at the University of Arizona Tucson. Koch was a star of the meeting. Together with biophysicist Francis Crick, he had been proclaiming in *Scientific American* and elsewhere that consciousness, which philosophers have wrestled with for millennia, was scientifically tractable. They even identified a possible basis for consciousness: brain cells firing in synchrony 40 times per second.

Not everyone in Tucson was convinced. David Chalmers, younger and then far less well known than Koch, argued that neither 40-hertz nor any other strictly physical process could account for why perceptions are accompanied by conscious sensations, such as the crushing boredom evoked by a jargony lecture. I have a vivid memory of the audience perking up when Chalmers called consciousness "the hard problem." That was the first time I heard that now famous phrase.



Read the [Neuroscience of Consciousness Journal](#) online for free.

Medical  press

[Consciousness News Wire](#) lists the latest news in Consciousness Studies in snippets linked to complete articles."



The online newspaper the [Independent](#) offers current news and human interest stories in Consciousness Studies.



[Scientific American](#) lists numerous articles on consciousness work.



Submit your own research or read original works in Consciousness Studies at the [Frontiers in Psychology](#) site.

PHYS  ORG

[Phys.org](#) offers a page on consciousness

Above and the Below. Thus will you obtain the Glory of the Whole Universe. All Obscurity will be clear to you. This is the greatest Force of all powers because it conquers every Subtle thing and penetrates every Solid thing.

In this way was the Universe created. From this comes many wondrous Applications because this is the Pattern.

Therefore, am I called Thrice Greatest, having all three parts of the knowledge of the Whole Universe. Herein have I completely explained the Operation of the Sun.

The Tablet speaks of a panpsychic One Mind in the universe that creates reality by the projection of "thought," or what the Greeks called the "*logos*" ("logic," the embedded mathematics we see in Nature).

The One Thing in the universe is the omnipresent chaotic source of matter we now call the Quantum Foam, the Planck level of reality (10^{-35} meters) from which physical articles emerge.

[Read Complete Article](#)

The **Emerald Tablet** is depicted as a "Monument to All Mankind" in the engraving below from *Amphitheatrum Sapientiae Aeternae* ("Amphitheatre of Eternal Wisdom") by Heinrich Khunrath.



[Learn More about the Emerald Tablet](#)

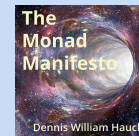
articles links and a free subscription to their *Science-X-Daily* newsletter.

THE CONVERSATION

[The Conversation](#) is an academic magazine with news and articles in Consciousness Studies.



Free subscription to the [TS Digest](#), a digital edition of The Scientist magazine with articles on Consciousness Studies.



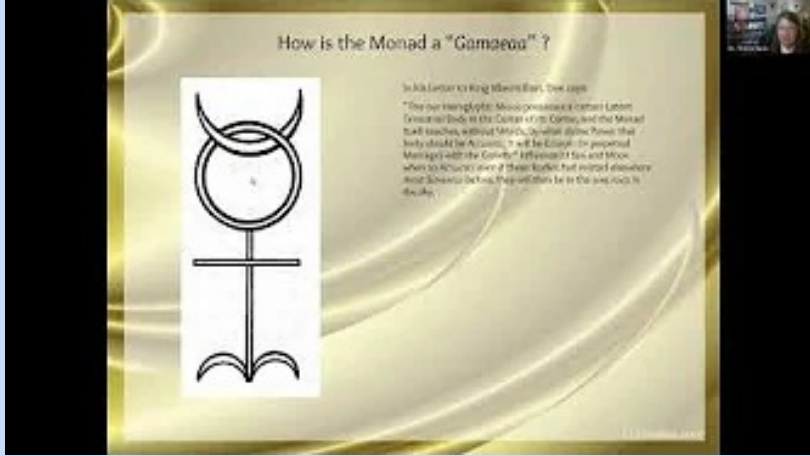
The [Monad Manifesto](#) offers a variety of articles and videos on topics in Consciousness Studies.

FILM & BOOK REVIEWS

John Dee's Hieroglyphic

Monad Explained!

with [Dr. Terry Burns](#)



In this first of a series of 24 videos, Hermetic scholar and translator Dr. Terry Burns guides us through the complicated history and deep meaning of Dr. John's Dee's classic

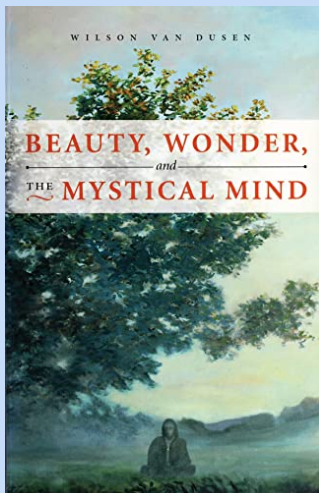
text the *Hieroglyphica Monas* (Hieroglyphic Monad). There is also a shorter series of videos on wordplay in the *Hieroglyphica Monas* which is a fascinating journey into the mind of the master cryptologist and mathematician.

Dr. Burns, co-translator of the Ouroboros Press edition of the [Hieroglyphic Monad](#), introduces you to her class on John Dee's masterpiece in this video. This 2021 translation of her book is available at [Ouroboros Press](#). Burns and Turner's 2007 translation of the first 17 theorems is available here: <http://www.jwmt.org/v2n13/partial.html>. Burns also has a Facebook group on Hermeticism at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/38225>.

[Watch Video](#)

Beauty, Wonder, and the Mystical Mind

by [Wilson van Dusen](#)



The idea that our sense of beauty is a gateway to mystical experience is intriguing and rings true in many ways. That's one reason *Beauty, Wonder, and the Mystical Mind* has been popular amongst seekers for nearly 25 years. The author is a clinical psychologist, who has spent a lot of time thinking about the source of mystical feelings and the relationship between mysticism and religion.

Chief psychologist at Mendocino State Hospital, Wilson Van Dusen also wrote *Returning to the Source: the Way to Experience God*, *Natural Depth in Man*, *The Presence of Other Worlds*, and *The Country of Spirit*. Van Dusen was one of the first psychologists in the world to apply spiritual techniques to working with mentally ill people in a clinical environment.

Van Dusen's focus on practical spiritual techniques is the strong point of his latest book. Inspired by the work of the great mystic Emanuel Swedenborg, the author has distilled some practical methods based on our innate appreciation of art and beauty that allow us easy access to the spiritual realm. This book, with its serene cover art of a man sitting cross-legged in a misty field, is an innovative addition to the meditation section of any bookstore.

Van Dusen describes the mature mystic, enumerating the characteristics of those whose lives are shaped by the experience of God. He explains how religion fits within the context of culture and how mysticism fits -- or does not -- within the context of religion. He also compares the mystical to the aesthetic, noting the similar ways in which art and epiphany

move and elevate the experienter. Believing that all have the potential to experience God, Van Dusen opens the mystical realm to the reader with his warm and accessible style. Writing from lifelong personal experience in the spiritual dimension, he also offers a singular interpretation of the history of major religions and their regard for mysticism.

[View on Amazon](#)

EVENTS & CONFERENCES



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Center for
Consciousness Studies

THE SCIENCE OF CONSCIOUSNESS CONFERENCE 2023

April 22-28, 2024, Tuscon, Arizona

[MORE INFO](#)

The [Science of Consciousness \(TSC\)](#) conferences have been held annually since 1994, alternating yearly between Tucson, Arizona in even-numbered years, and other locations around the world in odd-numbered years. TSC locations have included Italy, Denmark, Japan, Sweden, Czech Republic, Hungary, Hong Kong, India, California, Switzerland, and Finland.



ASSC Annual Conference

June 22-25, 2023, New York City

[CONFERENCE PROGRAM](#)

The [Association for the Scientific Study of Consciousness \(ASSC\)](#) is an academic society that promotes rigorous research and coordinates annual conferences directed toward understanding the nature, function, and underlying mechanisms of consciousness. The ASSC includes members working in the fields of cognitive science, medicine, neuroscience, philosophy, and other relevant disciplines in the sciences and humanities.



The [Academy for Spiritual and Consciousness Studies \(ASCSI\)](#) aims to offer an arena where those with an interest in the study of consciousness and the fringe sciences can gain access to articles, links and other research to educate and interchange ideas in the zone where spirituality and scientific research interface. Our main event of the year is our annual conference. We feature a wide range of exceptional speakers presenting subject matter that appeals to both scholars and the general public. At the academy we wish to provide a venue for those who wish to publish, the Academy prints two publications, *The Journal for Spiritual and Consciousness Studies* and *The Searchlight*, available to those with paid memberships to ASCS. No new conferences have yet been scheduled by this organization. View the [CONFERENCE PROGRAM](#) from the last conference.

**Weeklong for Advanced Focusers
Weeklong para Focalizadores Avanzados**



**June 25 - July 1, 2023
25 de Junio - 1 de Julio de 2023**

**Hybrid format - Online only or Online with an
in-person option in Dublin**

**INTERNATIONAL
FOCUSING INSTITUTE
(TIFI) CONFERENCE**

JUNE 25 - JULY 1, 2023

[MORE INFO](#)

The weeklong Conference is the flagship event of [The International Focusing Institute \(TIFI\)](#) and began in 1979. You will go online on Zoom on your computer to experience the plenaries, but all else will be in person (including Home Groups and in-person workshops offered by fellow

participants). You have the option to attend additional workshops online, but the daily plenaries are the only times you are required to be online. Location: Dominican Retreat Centre, Tallaght Village, Dublin 24, Ireland.



ICCSHEC 2024

**February 25, 2024
Washington, US**

**International Conference on Cognitive
Science, Human Experience, and
Consciousness**

February 25-26, 2024 in Washington, US

[MORE INFO](#)

The [Cognitive Science, Human Experience and Consciousness Conference \(ICCSHEC\)](#) aims to bring together leading academic scientists, researchers and research scholars to exchange and share their experiences and research results on all aspects of Cognitive Science, Human Experience and Consciousness Conference. It also provides a premier interdisciplinary platform for researchers, practitioners, and educators to present and

discuss the most recent innovations, trends, and concerns as well as practical challenges encountered and solutions adopted in the fields of Cognitive Science, Human Experience and Consciousness Conference.



[MORE INFO](#)

The [Institute of Noetic Sciences \(IONS\)](#) offers free online webinars on topics in Consciousness Studies. Archives of previous webinars are open to non-members for one week following the event; members have unlimited access. You can sign-up on their webinar page to receive notifications about upcoming webinars. The mission of IONS is to reveal the interconnected nature of reality through scientific exploration and personal discovery. Their scientists apply the rigors of their respective disciplines to explore such phenomena, with a focus on understanding humanity's inherent interconnectedness and the inner wisdom common to us all. The idea is that when we collectively embody our true interconnection and embrace our inner wisdom, we envision the creation of a more compassionate and thriving world.

[**OTHER UPCOMING CONFERENCES WORLDWIDE**](#)

[**UNIVERSITIES OFFERING CONSCIOUSNESS STUDIES**](#)

*This is a transliteration of the ancient **Emerald Tablet** for modern consumption. A cabal of politicians and religious fanatics tried to burn the subversive document, but we saved it from the fire for our readers to pass it on to future generations . . .*

The Emerald Tablet News Release

Truly—without hype, commercial consideration, or religious exploitation—you can experience Higher Truths.

You are as much a part of the Material as you are of the Mental; and you are as much a part of the Mental as you are of the Material, in order to accomplish the miracles of Light. And just as all things come from this Light, through the concentration of Consciousness, so do all created things originate from this Light, through the transformation of Thought.

Its father is Energy; its mother Matter; the Spectrum carries it in its belly; its nurse is the Earth. It is the origin of All, the consecration of the Whole Universe. Its inherent strength is perfected, if it is materialized.

Separate Matter from Imagination, the Subtle from the Gross, gently, in deepest Meditation. The Light rises from Earth to Heaven, and returns again to Earth, thereby containing within itself the powers of both the Mental and the Material.

Thus will you obtain the Light of the Whole Universe. All Darkness will be illuminated to you. This is the greatest Force of all powers because it overcomes every Mental thing and penetrates every Material thing.

In this way was the Universe created. From this comes many wondrous Manifestations, because this is the Formula. Therefore, this deals with all three parts of reality and shows the underlying relationship between Energy, Matter, and Light. Herein is completely explained the Fountain of Consciousness.

(C) Dennis William Hauck



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