#### COMING ASHORE

# The Stargate-traveling Transhuman

The galaxy may be in for a rude awakening. A device that can drill holes in space that take us from point A to point B is no longer a sci-fi fantasy. Each day now we move closer to designing the pipeline (or lifeline) that will take humanity into the galaxy. We are 50 years (or less given a twist of fate) away from opening the throat of a stargate or wormhole large enough for the first human to enter. Next time you find yourself wondering why we're so excited about re-engineering the human body think about stargates. The current, interim, human body will not survive entering the wormhole as portrayed in movies. Only the transhuman will have at the greatest discovery in human history.

## **ZOOM-ZOOM**

From the beginning, humanity has sought higher ground. Eve thought she could hop from A to B by eating the fruit of the serpent. Instead, she found she was naked. In the original story of king of the hill, Go(d) clothed Adam and Eve and slammed shut the gate to Eden in retaliation.

Earth life is a role-playing game set in 3-D. Humanity's goal is to recapture the fruit, reclaim our original skin and reopen the gate, which allows us to return to the garden (the hundreds of billions of galaxies in the known universe). Today's serpent is the wormhole, called a serpent rope by the ancient Mayans. The fruit of the serpent is the exotic matter of which the wormhole is composed. It transforms the ordinary human on contact into quicksilver. We're talking a fully functional human being.

Scientists hope to 'lift the serpent' and eat the original controlled substance, the emission (the exotic matter) of the serpent (the wormhole) and go far into the universe. Like Eve, it will help if they soon find that they are naked.

## THE HIGH PRIEST OF STARGATES

It is Carl Sagan who is considered the original high priest of stargates. In the movie *Contact*, based on Sagan's novel about first contact, the heroine Ellie ("Shining One") played by Jodie Foster intercepts a set of coded plans sent by an extraterrestrial species for construction of a device that opens a wormhole. The world bankrolls a prototype device. Ellie cloaks herself in a sexy tight-fitting garment and is flushed through the wormhole opened by the device 26,000 light years across the waters of life to the center of the galaxy. While visiting the galactic center, Ellie reunites with an apparition of her deceased father in a heavenly vision. He tells her no one knows who built the transportation system. "It's always been here," he says, and sends her on her way to spread the good news. The galaxy is open for humanity. Heaven is open for business.

This movie has it all. Mystery. Hope. A message. And most of all solid stargate science. Sagan cross-fertilized *Contact's* meme of "traversable wormholes" with a renowned theorist and Caltech professor Kip Thorn. Working with two of his graduate students, Michael Morris and Ulvi Yurtsever, Thorne established several parameters for wormhole construction. Make it quick. Make it comfortable. Make it safe.

This last criteria of wormhole design -- the issue of how to protect the stargate rider from the tidal effects of the intense gravitational fields predicted by Einstein's equations – was sidestepped in *Contact*. As the intragalactic transportation system was already in place in Sagan's story very little of his attention was placed on protection, but most theorists conclude that that the 'throat' and the 'thread' of the serpent rope will be lined to protect the traveler.

### TRANS-ADAM, EVE AND THE WORMHOLE

Sagan probably did not know the extent to which he was tripping on ancient creation mythology when he flushed Ellie through the galaxy. Contemplate this. Myths are loaded with stories of gods and humans alike that find or build a tree (an axis) and enter a gateway that, FLASH, takes them out of the Earth game.

The ancients, who frequently referred to gateways to the inner (nano?) realm, did not transform the wormhole. They took a radically different approach. They transformed the human entering it, most often through the wearing of a special garment that flashed, rather than flushed, the person from point A to point B. The result was the transmutation of an ordinary human, shazam, into a being called a Shining One or Illumined One.

For instance, before the Syrian goddess NANA (c. 2300 BC) entered the passageway to the underworld she decked herself out in a garment called her PALA or "miracle garment" that healed her body. Her snuggly fitting Shugurra helmet, says the myth, took her far into the universe. The blue stones at her neck caused enlightenment.



NANA. Syria. 2300 B.C.

NANA put on this garment when interacting with her pillar or axis that reached into heaven. Her husband, a serpent, dwelled within the pillar.



NANA with her pillar and serpent. Iraq. 1050 B.C.



NANA with Cup of Life. Syria. 2300 B.C.

At her chest NANA held a Cup of Life, symbolic four power tools: the Stone of Destiny, the Cup of Destiny, the Wand of Destiny and Sword of Destiny. Collectively, these tools are the Holy Grail. Her garment is the Cloak of the Illumined Ones.

Today, we call these four Power Tools genes, bits, neurons and atoms. These are the tools with which we will re-engineer the human body and the matrix of Earth life. NANA may have known more about these Power Tools than it appears.

Another person quite familiar with the concept of gates to the other world was Nimrod, builder of the Tower of Babel, the ladder that reached into heaven, once located near where Baghdad sits today. Originally, babel meant 'gate', a term that aligns it with my stargate or wormhole theory. Later, after their god Yahweh destroyed this tower, the Hebrew scribes decided (tongue-in-cheek no doubt) that babel meant 'confusion'.

Nimrod was called "the Mighty Man" because of a 'skin' that he wore. This skin was made of light. In fact, Nimrod duplicated this skin, creating an entire civilization of high performance beings. A kissing cousin of this suit, the nano Super Solider Suit, is presently under development at MIT.

Some claim that Nimrod was identical with '*Ninus*," an early Babylonian king or god. Ninus is a name perhaps derived from the Assyrian *nunu*, meaning "fish," and is a reference to E.A. the Sumerian fish god who wore an amphibious suit and tended a pillar of light.



NINUS.

The Druids, who drew from the traditions of Egypt and India knew of this suit of the Mighty Man. One of my favorite myths of the Peacemakers comes from Celtic Ireland, and the Hill of Tara, where the gate of the Druids is said to be located. It tells of the Druid shamans who were called bards or *ollaves* (which calls to mind the olive branch of

peace) and were revered not just as poets and master of the HollyWood tree of life, but as Peacemakers. According to Irish tradition and the writings of Diodorous Siculus, often on the battlefields, at the very moment when the armies approach each other with swords raised the bard would appear, speak a word of power and peace would immediately ensue. "It was if they had cast a spell over wild beasts," wrote Siculus. Even the great Roman armies of the 600's were filled with awe and terror at the sight of them. The ollaves mark of office was a *many-colored coat* that instantly distinguished the bard from all other warriors. On the battlefield the bard would have seemed like a living rainbow of colors (like a fish or a colorful bird) to the Roman army who were conditioned to fear them as something otherworldly.

Today, MIT plans to develop chameleon-like uniforms and materials that could help protect soldiers against detection, threats, bullet and chemical agents, monitor their life support system. This "coat of many colors" or PALA garment can even heal those who are wounded. Is this poetry? Or, are we seeing the recurrence of an ancient myth?

One of the features of NANA's miracle garment was its ability to make her invisible. Another focus of MIT's research is to design a suit that would keep the soldier from being seen by using sensors so that the uniform would blend into whatever background might be. This cloaking device is called the Cloak of the Illumination the Shining Ones.

To be sure, there is cause for skepticism. Simply, there's no way the ancients had anything close to modern technology. Arguably so. It's strange how we glimpse the future in a fictional film and accept it as possible, but when confronted with similar stories in ancient myth we dismiss it as fanciful. Understanding myths has been a long time coming. Numerous myths may be vital in our quest to redesign *homo sapien* into *homo stargatus*.

Most companies and research organizations who are promising to redesign the human body, or at least create a second human skin, do not have stargates in mind or a mythologist on retainer. However, they are actually figuring out how to transport humanity from point A to B. GM and MIT will not want to miss this highway.

There's a subliminal chick-and-egg quandary in *Contact*: Was the intergalactic transportation system built because of humans or did humans come about because the road through the stars was built? Or was the human body designed for stargate travel from the start? Which came first, the skin of light or the idea for a gate to Heaven?