

# Past lives

Some people claim to have lived a life before the one they are currently living. Often these people are able to give very precise details of these 'past lives'. This may convince some people that they have actually lived before.

An example of a person who claimed to have lived a past life was a young American boy called James, whose story received some coverage on US television. The boy claimed to have lived a previous life as American aircraft pilot who had been shot down during the Second World War. The boy seemed to be able to recount the story of the pilot's life in detail and explain the workings of planes. His parents claimed they had never taught him about any of these topics.

Though many people doubt stories like this, some people find them convincing. If they are true, they seem to suggest that reincarnation is possible. This, therefore, suggests we can live on after death.



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# Ghosts

Throughout history many people have claimed to have seen ghosts. Ghosts are believed to be the spirits of dead people that have somehow become trapped on Earth.

Though some people think ghost stories are made up, some people find them very convincing. There are many websites dedicated to proving the existence of ghosts by showing images that claim to have captured ghosts on film. However, ghosts are not a modern phenomenon; there have been reports of ghost sightings at Tamworth Castle in England since the 12th century.

If ghost stories are reliable, they would suggest that there is life after death. This is because they suggest that our souls or spirits live on when we die.



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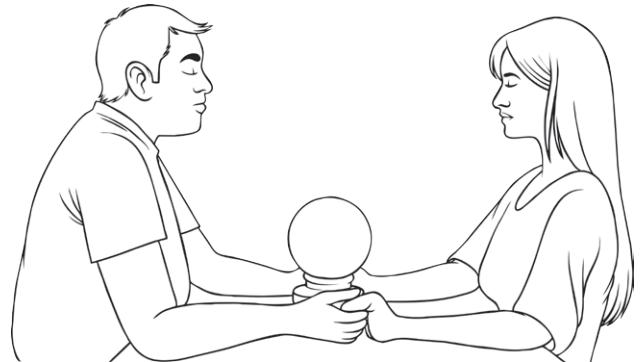


# Mediums

Mediums are people who claim to be able to talk to the dead. They often do this through a gathering known as a séance. This is where people will try to contact dead loved ones.

It is difficult to know whether mediums are really talking to the dead as there is only their word to prove this is the case. However, mediums often know very precise details about the dead people's lives. This can convince their relatives that mediums are genuine.

If mediums are to be believed, then there must be life after death. The spirits of the dead must exist somewhere that the medium can contact them.



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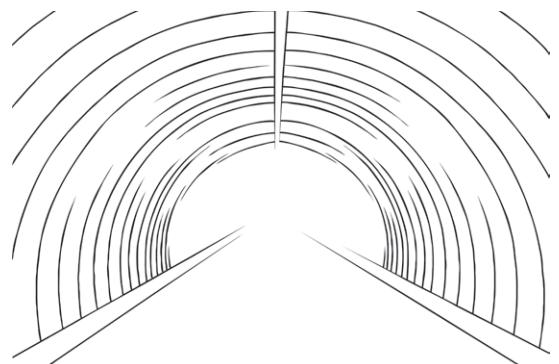


## Near-death Experiences

Near-death experiences occur when someone is dead for a short period of time and then resuscitated or when someone is very close to death. People who have had these experiences claim to have witnessed a profound and unique event which can often change their life completely. For example, people may meet a religious figure or see a recap of their life before returning to consciousness.

Some people even claim to undergo 'out of body experiences' when very near death. This is when they feel like they floating above their bodies and looking down on themselves. They are able to take in things around them that they would not be able to normally observe.

Many scientists dismiss near-death experiences as hallucinations or the mind playing tricks on itself. However, people who have experienced them believe they offer evidence of an afterlife beyond this world.



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