

2002 01 24 Thursday John Keel

Mothman Prophecies

AB: "I have no idea how all these years I have missed the Mothman. You know, people have called and referenced the Mothman on my program before, but I ... I never knew a thing about it. Never, never, never ... never!

Certainly never the original story. Nothing about it at all, and here we have the world's expert on Mothman about to be on the air. John A. Keel – arguably the world's expert on Mothman about to be on the air. John A. Keel – arguably the world's foremost researcher into the paranormal. All about Mothman ... coming right up!

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John A. Keel – arguably the world's foremost researcher into the paranormal – has traveled extensively to over forty (40) countries, investigating the unknown for *almost fifty (50) years*. His voracious curiosity manifested early: He read everything – particularly science, travel, humor, and magic. When twelve (12), he had one (1) of his first brushes with the paranormal – an attic poltergeist that responded to his knocking. (Ah, we'll ask about that).

By the time he was fourteen (14), he was renting space writing a column at [the] Perry [NYS] Herald [newspaper], publishing the school paper, and contributing to magazines. (Oh my!). At sixteen (16), he was publishing a science fiction magazine ... fanzine actually, *The Lunarite*, I believe it is, and ... ah, sold a piece to *The New Yorker* [an upscale magazine].

While in the 1950s, he worked for the Department of the Army as chief of the continuity and production for the American Forces Network, ah, AFN in Frankfurt ... that's Germany. In 1952, wrote and produced the radio program *Things in the Sky* about Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) that was heard by millions throughout Europe.

Author now of thirty (30) books since *Jadoo* (Ja-doo, I guess), his 1957 autobiography. Keel's groundbreaking books have been published in over twenty (20) countries and include many of Ufology's most acclaimed titles: *Operation Trojan Horse*, *Our Haunted Planet*, and *The Mothman Prophecies*.

His incredible Mothman investigations are the subject of a major motion picture starring a Keel-inspired character played by Richard Gere, all slated to be released on January 25th [, 2002] – that in most time zones would be today! (AB laughs).

Keel has written articles that have appeared in many leading periodicals, including *Playboy*, *Saga*, *Fate* ... Ah, his monthly *Beyond the Known* column is a popular *Fate* feature. John was recently the subject of *Secrets of the Shadow World*, (Oh my, what a title!), a feature-length documentary acclaimed by ... by acclaimed director George Kuchar, who, ah, premiered at Lincoln Center in New York City. His recent television appearances include Johnny Carson, Jack Paar, Hugh Downs, David Letterman ... Wow! This guy's been around!

John ... Hi! Welcome to the program."

JK: "Yeah, I've been up to no good for many, many years."

AB: "And how have we never met before this moment?"

JK: "I don't know. I've listened to you for ... for a very long time. But, ah, somehow it's never happened before."

AB: "It's just illogical. I mean ..."

JK: "I ... I know many of the people who have been on your show. And, uh, yeah, it's illogical that we haven't connected before."

AB: "Loren Coleman, ah, called ... got through actually just before you were to come on the air here – that wasn't a planned thing – he just got through. And ... and ... and I admitted to him and I'm going to admit the same to you: All of these years I've done the paranormal and things about the paranormal, I ... I've traveled a lot of different paths, but the only thing I've known about Mothman was an occasional caller, who would reference Mothman. And I'd always say: 'Well, I don't know a lot about it.'

And your name would come up. And so anyway, here we are ... finally:
What is Mothman?"

JK: "Oh, it all began about thirty-five (35) years ago. So that's, ah, in terms of generations that's like three (3) generations by modern standards, you know? Easy to forget it.

Ah, Mothman appeared in West Virginia in 1966. And, uh, there were frequent appearances of this creature which was described as being about seven or eight feet (7-8 ft.) tall."

AB: "Uh-huh.

JK: "Which is pretty big."

AB: "Oh yes!"

JK: "And, uh, had very bright **red eyes (!)**"

AB: "Bad ..."

JK: "And it would spread wings that were about ten feet (10 ft.) across. And it would take off straight up in the air. And it had a curious habit of chasing automobiles."

AB: "Straight up in the air! Now ... now it didn't ..."

JK: "Like a helicopter! ... Right? It didn't ... you know, most of the birds have to, ah, do a running start?"

AB: "Yeah! They ... yeah, sure. Superman leap!"

JK: "Yeah. And, uh, they ... anyone who saw this was usually horrified and terrified, and traumatized by it. And I, ah, over a period of, ah, that year, I collected over, ah, a hundred (100) reports from people, who seemed very sincere and very, very frightened by what had happened to them.

This ... this thing had sort of hypnotic powers. People would be transfixed when they saw it."

AB: "Huh!"

JK: "And then the, ah ... ah, the year climaxed with the collapse of a bridge with a lot of people on it."

AB: "Um, what'd ... what'd that have to do with Mothman?"

JK: "Well, it ... it seemed to bring things to a ... not to a stop ... but, ah, everything slowed down. There were a lot of people on the bridge who had either encountered the Mothman or had close relatives, who had encountered the Mothman."

AB: "Ah, this was ... geographically held to how small an area?"

JK: "To the, ah, it's the Ohio Valley. The Ohio River, you know, is the border between Ohio and West Virginia."

AB: "Right."

JK: "And a little town called Point Pleasant was right there where the bridge was. And ... it was a town of almost six ... six thousand (6,000) people."

AB: “And so the sightings were confined to this town or to an area ...”

JK: “Well, ...”

AB: “... area around the town, or what?”

JK: “... to a ... to a large part of West Virginia.”

AB: “Oh!”

JK: “And there were sightings in Ohio too. And there were curious sightings of what really looked like a really large bird. Like say an ancient pterodactyl or something.

So, ah, meanwhile the, ah, people in this town and all around it were having all kinds of, ah, paranormal, ah, manifestations – poltergeist-type activity.”

AB: “Huh!”

JK: “And that, ah, I ... I happened to be there almost by accident. And, uh, I had been going ... I had gone to Beckley, West Virginia, ah, which is sort of a mining town then – I don't know what it is now.”

AB: “What had taken you there? Why ... why were you going there?”

JK: “Because there was a boy there who had found *a cat with wings* (!)”

AB: “A cat with wings!”

JK: “Yesss! And this cat was named ...”

AB: “My ... !”

JK: “He named it ‘Thomas.’ And it became a celebrity. And he charged ten cents (10¢) to look at this cat. (AB gasps). All of the people in the area were paying ten cents (10¢) to take a look at this winged cat.”

AB: ““WHY, I'D SURE PAY TEN CENTS! (10¢!)”

JK: “Yeah? (!) Well ... well, I went there ... I did a story for a magazine – I think it was a magazine called *Coronet*, if you ... you probably don't remember that ...”

AB: “I do remember that.”

JK: "There were many general magazines at that time. Now they're very few general magazines ... they're all specialized, but ... ah, I was a freelance writer writing for all these magazines.

And I ... I, ah, went there to track down the whole story on Thomas, the Winged Cat. And his wings fell off ... (!)"

AB: "They fell off?"

JK: "Yeah. (JK laughs). They were ... they were like lumps of gristle or something."

AB: "So ... they ... (AB laughs)."

JK: "And that ruined the kid's business."

AB: "(AB laughs more). Yeah, I'm sure that was the end of the ten cents (10¢) ..."

JK: "There's a lot more to the story.

A woman in the neighborhood claimed that Thomas was *her cat*. And then when the wings fell off, she lost interest in it. She ... (AB laughs) ... she took the boy to court (AB laughs heartily) ... before the wings fell off."

AB: "The court case died on the vine ..."

JK: "There's ... there's quite a story there.

And, ah, while I was in Beckley, I ... I was having lunch with the editor of the newspaper in Beckley."

AB: "Right."

JK: "And the story came over the wire that, ah, four (4) young people had seen this, ah, 'tall, winged creature' in Point Pleasant ... outside of Point Pleasant in an area that was known as the 'TNT area.'"

AB: "Before we even get any further, can I ask you, ah, how does one get a job doing what you did? Chasing ... I mean, being able to, say, ah: 'Listen Editor, ah, I'm on a plane for this winged cat. Ah, how do you get a job where you get to do those kind of stories?'"

JK: "I ... I collected many other stories on the ... on each of these trips. And *Playboy* magazine had asked me to get to the bottom of the flying saucer mystery.

At that time there were flying saucer stories from all over the world, not just from Michigan ['swamp gas' – JS] or, you know, localized stories. Ah, people were seeing them everywhere.

And they were seeing them in ... in the Ohio Valley."

AB: "Well, ah ... ah, gee whiz, John, ah ... they're still seein' 'em in the Ohio Valley."

JK: "Yeah."

AB: "And we still don't know what they are. So I take it, you disappointed ..."

JK: "I ..."

AB: "... Mr. Hefner and couldn't get to the bottom of it."

JK: "... I ... I ... I did not succeed in solving the mystery."

AB: "Heh, heh."

JK: "But I ... I traveled extensively around the United States and I saw many of these things myself."

AB: "Well, I'm sorry the cat's wings fell off. I ... that would have been very cool to have a winged cat."

JK: "Yeah. Well, it ... it was an interesting story. It's in one of my books. Right now, offhand I couldn't tell you which book, but ... ah, anyway I went to Point Pleasant expecting ... expecting to stay there for a few hours ..."

AB: "Sure."

JK: "... interviewing these people."

AB: "Sure."

JK: "And I ... I discovered there were all sorts of things happening there. Ah, they were saying, ah: 'UFOs' – when I say UFOs – these were very, very bright lights."

AB: "Okay."

- JK: “And they were going up and down the river. And peop- ... everybody was seeing them. And nobody knew what they were. And very often they would be very, very low in the sky. They would be like a hundred feet (100 ft.) above the water.”
- AB: “And ... and in size, how big?”
- JK: “Well, they were mostly, ah, the size of a large beach ball. (AB exclaims). And ... and extremely bright and they would change colors sometimes ... just what we’re hearing today, you know, the same kind of thing.”
- AB: “Well, you know today though there’s some recent, really interesting scientific, ah, literature *about plasma balls*. Ah, now these plasma balls, ah, apparently defy conventional physics in that they are able to maintain the energy that generates them. And in fact, even increase it (!), while standing in the atmosphere. And ...”
- JK: “Um-hmm.”
- AB: “... so that’s all I know, but I know that science has determined *that*. And they don’t understand how it can be.”
- JK: “Well, they were talking about that in the sixties (1960s) – the plasma balls.”
- AB: “Really?”
- JK: “And, ah, you know that you could say nothing is new. That everything that people are saying today, they were saying ...”
- AB: “Has always been around?”
- JK: “Yes. And as you know the history of this goes way back.”
- AB: “But actually being able to measure one ... that is new. And being able to see it defy conventional physics, ah, nothing, ah, after creation, ah, continues, ah, to get stronger. It, ah, it gets weaker after ...”
- JK: “Right.”
- AB: “... the instant of creation, whatever would make this plasma ball. So it defies physics – that part’s new!”
- JK: “Well, these ... these things seem to have a basic intelligence to them. If you flash the flashlight at them, they jump out of the way of the beam.”

- AB: "I've heard those stories, yes!"
- JK: "And, ah, also I ... I would flash say three (3) times and they would flash back three (3) times."
- AB: "Oh!"
- JK: "I did this in front of witnesses, who signed affidavits to that effect. And, I was ... I was totally baffled by this, because there were so many of them. And night after night we would see them. And I was ... I was also of course I was hoping to catch the 'bird' – as the people called it."
- AB: "Yes."
- JK: "And ..."
- AB: "What did you think these ... ah, obviously you had to have done a lot of speculation about what these apparent intelligent balls of light were."
- JK: "Well, I ... they had to be some form of energy. Ah, because people who got close to them would suffer a very severe burns [sic] on their body."
- AB: "Um-hmm."
- JK: "Ah, often the eyes would be the first to be effected. It was like conjunctivitis. And that happened to me once. Ah, it was getting like sand in your eyes. And it lasted for several days."
- AB: "Oh my!"
- JK: "And then there were ... there were three (3) cases during that period – not in West Virginia, but elsewhere – of people who were permanently blinded by looking at these things."
- AB: "Do you believe that it was, ah ... ah, just the brightness of the object? You know, they tell you all the time: 'Don't look at the sun. Ah, you could lose your sight.'"
- JK: "Right."
- AB: "Or do you think it was some form of radiation or ... what?"
- JK: "Well, during our ... during ... you know, between 1964 and 1968 we had this enormous UFO wave all over the world. And, ah, a lot of people were suffering various kinds of, ah, physical ailments after seeing these things."

AB: "Right."

JK: "Ah ... some of ... some of 'em, ah, would, ah, it was like their insides were burned or something. Their urine turned black (!) Ah ..."

AB: "As ... as though they were *cooked*?"

JK: "Cooked, right."

AB: "Like maybe even microwaved, huh?"

JK: "That would ... that would be microwaves, yes."

And, ah, animals were very afraid of these things. Most dogs and cows, and horses and things would ... would act as terrified by them."

AB: "Well, they've got developed instincts."

JK: "They probably heard sounds too that we couldn't hear."

AB: "Right ... right. They would instinctually, ah, the way animals understand fire instinctually, they would understand this I would think."

JK: "Yes."

AB: "Anything with that kind of energy, sure."

JK: "So, ah ..."

AB: "We're ... we're not that bright, probably. We go: 'Duh? What's that? Wow!'"

JK: (laughs) "Well, when you consider the Universe, we're sort of like ants. We ... we can construct things and do things, and destroy our environment, **but I don't think we're very important in the universal scheme of things.**"

AB: "Or at least not as important as we think we are."

JK: (laughing) "Yesss. Well, that's another problem. Man's ego is, ah, is Always getting in our way. But, ah, these ... these, ah, sightings, ah ... ah, I ... I, as I say I saw so many of them and signaled to them. And, ah, other people were with me when I was seeing these things. And it was ... it was a very interesting period of history, which is now almost completely forgotten."

Because there is new generations [sic] coming up who ... who think it's new to them and they ... they see these things and think it's all brand new (!)"

AB: "By the way, I want to settle something. My producer said they thought you were eighty (80) years old. Um ..."

JK: "Ha, I'm seventy-two (72)."

AB: "You're seventy-two (72). So Loren Coleman said you were seventy-two (72), and he's exactly right then. You're seventy-two (72)."

Yeah, I mean America can barely remember what happened two (2) weeks ago about a lot of things ..."

JK: "I know."

AB: "So remembering what happened that long ago – no way!

But ... but there's no doubt about it – you were *there!* It happened."

JK: "Yes. And I was in many other places.

It was happening in Long Island here in, ah, New York state."

AB: "Really?"

JK: "And, ah ... many sightings. And, ah, we could see them coming in from the ocean."

AB: "Awesome."

JK: "It was like watching, ah, these ... what looked like red hot ... the tips of red hot poker. And they would come in from the ocean. And fly over Long Island."

AB: (exclaims)!

JK: "These were larger objects than the lights. And we don't know what they were. But, ah, they were obviously radiating ... radiating infrared or something. And over the years I've seen a number of those.

And they ... they occasionally also have a habit of chasing automobiles."

- AB: “Do you think that there’s a relationship between those and the lights we talked about?”
- JK: “I think they’re all interrelated.”
- AB: “Ah!”
- JK: “And how, I don’t know, but ... I, ah, I sort of discarded the theory that they were from outer space, because they’re so many of them, and it goes back so far. The history goes back so far. I ...”
- AB: “The one (1) distinctive thing about Mothman seems to be the description of **blood-red eyes**, right?”
- JK: “Right. And that ... that’s a description also of, ah, Bigfoot very often.”
- AB: “Yeah ... yeah, you know how some people hate snakes and some people are scared of spiders?”
- JK: “Right.”
- AB: “I’m scared of things with **red eyes**. (JK laughs). Ah, I don’t like **red eyes**. And somebody earlier was saying: ‘Well, you know, a lot of people have described things like Mothman as *angels*,’ And I said earlier and I’ll say again: ‘*Angels definitely don’t have red eyes!*’ Not in my world anyway.”
- * * *
- AB: “You know, like ‘Angels Don’t Play This HAARP’ – Angels Don’t Have **Red Eyes**. Hm-hm-hm!
- Anyway, we’re gonna talk more about *The Mothman Prophecies* in a moment. That’s a question in itself. Why ... I wonder how ... why they derive the word ‘Prophecies’? That implies that something was told about something that would happen ... something prophetic.
- John Keel will be right back.”
- * * *
- AB: “Well, it certainly cannot be a coincidence, because I don’t believe in coincidences like this that, ah, John Keel is on the program tonight and the movie just happens to be being released today. Ah, it’s not a coincidence, right?”
- JK: “Isn’t that astonishing?”

AB: “Yep, yep ... astounding.

Now, ah, they probably been runnin’ you around doin’ interviews all over the place, haven’t they?”

JK: “Yes, they have.”

AB: “Sucking blood dry, right?”

JK: (clears his throat) “Yes, ah ...”

AB: “Right up until the release date.”

JK: “... I’ve been interviewed by newspapers from all over the country and, ah ... ah, done a number of TV shows ...”

AB: “Newspapers are not as much fun.”

JK [unintelligible].

AB: “Somehow they always get stuff *wrong*.

I’ve done ...”

JK: “That’s guaranteed!”

AB: “I mean, it absolutely is guaranteed! At least when on radio – these are your words, you know? They’re not gonna change.”

JK: “Right.”

AB: “Ha-ha. *The Mothman Prophecies*, ah, why the word ‘prophecies’?”

JK: “Because I started ... when I was chasing these things, I started getting a lot of mysterious phone calls.”

AB: “Oh?”

JK: “And, these ... this was be- ... you know, today we have satellites up there that can interfere with any telephone on Earth.”

AB: “Right.”

JK: “And, in those days we didn’t have those satellites, so I couldn’t really blame the government for this.

These, ah, phone calls *were usually, ah, very mechanical voices*, like you get today from a computer. But we didn't have real PCs in those days either."

AB: "Right."

JK: "And, ah, they ... they predicted a number of things that came true right on the nose."

AB: "Like what?"

JK: "Martin Luther King."

AB: "His assassination?"

JK: "Ahh ... yes. They told me that he would be shot in the throat. And I took it so seriously, I spent some desperate days trying to contact his group and I ... I failed.

Later I learned that many other people had also gotten this prediction one way or another, and had tried to contact him."

AB: "Wow."

JK: "I think that ... as you know his last speech was 'I've been to the mountaintop' and it was almost a farewell speech."

AB: "Right."

JK: "He must have been aware of all this.

Ah, there were predictions that the Pope was going to be assassinated. And there was an incident where a man dressed as a priest attacked the Pope with a black knife. And fortunately the Pope's guards subdued this man. But it was a real attempt.

There, ah, there were a ... a lot of predictions which are ... course some of my books outline in full ..."

AB: "Was this coming, John, ah, at Point Pleasant, ah, or following Point Pleasant or ..."

JK: "No, this would ..."

AB: "... or what?"

JK: "This would usually be when I was back in my New York apartment. That I'd get these crazy phone calls."

AB: "Do you think that it had something to do with Point Pleasant?"

JK: "It was all interconnected, because I was going back and forth to Point Pleasant ..."

AB: "Ah!"

JK: "... frequently."

AB: "Uh-huh."

JK: "And now that's almost a thousand (1,000) miles from New York.

But as soon as I would get back from Point Pleasant, I'd have a string of messages of – frantic things were happening again in Point Pleasant – so I'd have to jump in my car and go back."

AB: "Um-hmm."

JK: "And one of the predictions that sort of, ah, built-up over time was that there was going to be a terrible accident on the river – the Ohio River. And that, ah, a lot of people were going to be killed."

AB: "Hmpf."

JK: "And, ah, because the other predictions had come true, I was getting rather frantic about this, because I didn't know precisely what was going to happen.

There were chemical factories along the river, and I was afraid that one of them was going to blow up. And of course I couldn't tell the people there ... If it didn't happen, I'd look like a fool. And if it did happen, you know, it's even worse."

AB: "Yeah, you'd be implicated or something."

JK: "Well, I would ... I would have started a lot of rumors – that's what would have happened.

And, ah ... the, ah ..."

AB: "Now if you successfully predicted, ah, a chemical plant blowing up, believe me, you'd be a suspect."

JK: “Oh, yeah! Because the ... the FBI and the CIA were around there (!) at that time – I found out later ... a lot more than I should have known. Ah, the TNT area ...”

AB: “Oh, now that’s interesting! So in other words, our own government, ah, our spook-side government, ah, knew something was going on there as well and wanted to know what it was?”

JK: “Yes. Because there were suddenly a lot of strangers and as you know, especially in the sixties (1960s), the FBI dressed almost in a uniform. They ... they had very short hair. They were ... always wore a hat. And they ... they dressed with neckties – you know, things that you didn’t see in Point Pleasant very often. And ...”

AB: “So an FBI agent would stick out like a sore thumb?”

JK: “Right.”

AB: “Uh-huh.”

JK: “Well, they ... that was their problem all over the country.

Now I think they grow beards and they dress in shabby clothes and so on. But in those days, they had to follow that dress code.”

AB: “Well, I’ll tell ya somethin’, John, the FBI guys that I’ve seen still look FBI all the way.” (AB starts laughing, JK laughs too). I mean, I’ve had a few visit, and they’re, ah, they’re really classic guys! Ha, ha.”

JK: “Yeah, yeah, it’s almost like a machine turns them on somewhere.”

AB: “Yeah, (laughing) I guess, ah ... well, it does sort of.

I guess that, ah, as you point out though, they’ve got a lot of undercover people and so forth now these days.”

JK: “Yeah.”

AB: “But yeah, you’re right, in those days they would’ve just about all looked that way, and so, yep, they’d be recognizable in Point Pleasant.

So you think our government had interest in whatever was happening there?”

- JK: “Well, there was a lady who lived near the bridge. And she claimed that she saw two (2) days before the disaster, she saw two (2) men wearing low-cut shoes – you know, Oxfords ...”
- AB: “Yes.”
- JK: “... well-shined and, ah, plaid jackets, climbing around the bridge.
Now, she [had] never seen anybody except workmen climbing on that bridge.”
- AB: “Um-hmm.”
- JK: “And these ... these guys, ah, she couldn’t identify them, but they, ah, they weren’t wearing FBI black jackets and so on.”
- AB: “Right. So the obvious suspicion is they were ... they did something that might have weakened the bridge or ... I don’t know ...”
- JK: “Yeah ...”
- AB: “... in some way affected of it?”
- JK: “... you could really speculate on that. And that, ah, it ... it didn’t make any sense to her at the time. Ah, especially, you know, this is an area where you wore ... men wore boots all the time. And, ah ... ah, it was wintertime and, ah, a lot of slush and snow. And it was not proper dress to be climbing around a bridge.”
- AB: “Right.
Um, what would ... what would be a ... if you were to speculate, what would be the motive for doing that? Ah, why bring the bridge down? What ... what do you affect when you do that? What’s the idea?”
- JK: “Well, I ah ... I ... there’s another thing that happened when the ... the bridge fell was the ... there was a stoplight at either end of the bridge.”
- AB: “Right.”
- JK: “And they were stuck on **red**. So the traffic on the bridge was not moving – it was cluttered with traffic. And, ah, these ... these stoplights were not working. So ...”
- AB: “So in other words the ... the entire bridge was covered with traffic?”

JK: "Yeah ... well, Christmas traffic. It was, ah, December 15th."

AB: "Right!"

JK: "And there ... and it was the 'rush hour.' And in those days they had a rush hour. I don't think they have one anymore.

But, ah, it ... it, ah, there were a lot of things that, ah, just didn't make sense! This ... this kind of bridge normally wouldn't fall into the water ... you know ... ?"

AB: "Right."

JK: "So ... ah, that ... that was just, ah ..."

AB: "Were ..."

JK: "... one (1) part of the whole story."

AB: "... were many killed?"

JK: "Yes. About forty-seven (47) people."

AB: "Forty-seven (47) people!"

JK: "It made headlines all over the world."

AB: (gasps) "Um ... why ... why do, ah, why do you say ... well, of course it was ...

I guess it was prophesied, so, ah ..."

JK: "Well they didn't say the bridge was going to collapse."

AB: "But ... a tragedy."

JK: "Every time I went to Point Pleasant I carried a gas mask with me."

AB: "Why?"

JK: "Well, I was thinking of, ah, chemical factories."

AB: "Oh, I see."

JK: "And, ah, of course, I ... I didn't wanta start any kind of rumors or panics ... or anything, so I kept my mouth shut. Except I wrote to a few people."

I wrote to ... at that time I was corresponding with Dr. Jacques Vallee ...”

AB: “Oh, yes ... of course!”

JK: “And he mentions it in one of his books, that I had sent him a letter predicting that something was going to happen on the river ... the Ohio River.”

AB: “So ...”

JK: “He probably thought I was nuts!”

AB: “... so Mothman then might have been, by imparting prophecies with ... with his presence, or its presence , whatever it was or is ... ah, it might have been trying to warn people that danger, disaster ... something horrible was about to happen.”

JK: “Yes. And people in Point Pleasant started having very strange dreams. Mary Hyre, who was a newspaper reporter, dreamt that there were Christmas packages floating in the river. And the ... and the dream really disturbed her. But she couldn’t interpret it.

Other people were getting the same kind of dreams that, ah, something terrible was going to happen in the town. And I ... I was caught in the middle of all of this and there wasn’t anything I could do, really!”

AB: “John, wouldn’t there be another way of looking at it though? Ah, that was a half-full glass. What if the half-empty is that Mothman caused this ...?”

JK: “Well, he ... he either caused it or he was trying to convey information to us in a strange way.

And, ah ... ah, you know I’ve given it a lot of thought over the years. My ... my book, ah, covers that whole period in detail, ’cause I kept careful notes and I ... I knew that there was something bizarre going on *and I didn’t know what it was.*”

* * *

AB: “God, John, I’ve gotta tell you something.

Earlier tonight, ah ... ah, there was a picture of, ah, a street just about where the, ah, nine-eleven (9/11) disaster occurred. Somebody who took a photograph of ... John, maybe you’ve even seen it, maybe somebody sent it to you ... I don’t know. Of this bird, ah, just having passed ... it

looks like a building, and it looks like a gigantic pterodactyl. It, ah, it's the dagonedest picture I've ever seen, John. Ah, have you seen ..."

JK: "I haven't seen that."

AB: "You haven't seen that!

Do you have a computer?"

JK: "I have, but my electronics are not working very well here."

AB: "Okay."

* * *

AB: "Ah, I've been puzzling about this since I saw that photograph."

JK: "This was *before* the buildings went down?"

AB: "Actually it was, ah, just after. Ah, you can see the dust rising and stuff. And here's this giant ... you know, people have said: 'Well, the bird is closer to the camera than you think.' But it doesn't look that way to me. Ah, it looks like a prehistoric gigantic bird and, ah, and I think it's a ... it's a real photograph. And I wish you had a computer so I could let you look at it.

But It's got a *prehistoric look* to it. There's absolutely no question about it in my mind. And, ah, I wonder if ... ha, ha ... I wonder ..."

JK: "Well, we ... we all wonder.

Is there anything else close to it that you can compare sizes with, or ...?"

AB: "Well, if, ah ... let's put it this way: If this creature is where it looks to be with respect to the building, ah, it would have to be like a hundred feet (100 ft.) long. Or ... it's hard to even estimate – I don't know – and it's ... it's, ah ... You know what a true prehistoric bird looks like?

Birds are still kind of prehistoric. The ones we have out here in the desert when you look at them – they look prehistoric, John."

JK: "Yeah ..."

AB: "Birds are very old. You know, they're the relatives to the dinosaurs."

JK: "Right. Well, that's ... that's very strange.

You know, ah, in 1975 a group of schoolteachers were driving in Texas, and they saw what they thought was a pterodactyl. They really thought it was a pterodactyl."

AB: "Right."

JK: "And, ah ... ah, this was investigated by Jerry [Jerome] Clark – I think you probably know him. Ah, and it's ... you know, there are no pterodactyls in Texas as far as we know." [JS Query: What about a thunderbird?].

AB: "I know there are people out investigating, actually going out into the field looking for pterodactyls now."

JK: "Are they?"

AB: "Yes there are.

There are safaris down to South America and Central America looking for these things."

JK: "Hmpf."

AB: "So a lot of people believe they're still around. (AB snickers). And they might be."

JK: "Well if they were, they would have *to eat a lot!* And what we would find [is] evidence of that.

Of course, we do have the animal mutilations that have been going on for years. And, ah ... ah ..."

AB: "A lot of them going on right now in Montana. Right now!"

JK: "That's ... I ... I think Linda [Moulton Howe] is probably there."

AB: "Ah, Linda probably is there, and ... um, I ... I know that, ah, other investigatory agencies that, um, come on this program are also there. There's a lot of people investigating this right now. I have no answer for them, do you?"

JK: "Well, you know, ah, some years ago a group of farmers in ... in the western states, ah, held [filed] a class action suit against the government, claiming the government was doing this. I think they won the case. Ah, there is ..."

AB: "They won the case? (!)"

JK: "There was a book published of the transcript of the trial and everything. It's called, ah, *Atomic Holocaust*. I can't remember the name of the author. He was a reputable newspaperman."

AB: "Really?"

JK: "And ... and this, you ... you barely heard about this in the news ... in the news media. But I did accidentally find a copy of the book, which I have buried here somewhere with my own books.

But, ah, I ... I remember reading it carefully. And they ... you know, the ... ah, radiation collects around the anus of the animals."

AB: "Uh-huh."

JK: "And they found that in a lot of these animals.

And they apparently had a real case against the government with them."

AB: "The only ... the only problem I ever had with that was ... well, you know, our government wouldn't have a hard time gettin' their hands on cows if they needed them."

JK: "Yeah, they should have their own ranch."

AB: "At the very least, right?"

JK: "Yeah."

AB: "So why would they need, ah, various poor farmers' cattle? That part just never made sense to me."

JK: "Well, maybe it was some kind of an accident. And, ah, these ... these animals were involved in a ... you know, they, ah, I don't know if you remember that far back, there was a case where a lot of sheep were killed ..."

AB: "I do ... oh, I do remember!"

JK: "Dugway."

AB: "Yes, uh-huh."

JK: "And, ah, that was ... that was a government mistake."

AB: "It was, yes, it certainly was.

And so, yes if it happens once, I guess it can happen twice (2) or three (3) times. Yep!

You are absolutely right."

JK: "We have ... we have enough trouble with all these other things without chasing ... the government chasing animals.

Ah ... it's, um ... everything is so weird and so interconnected in all this."

AB: "Well, a lot of people have speculated that they need animals that have been exposed, um ... ah, in certain areas, you know, in specific areas.

They have to take samples or something in certain areas. A lot of people think it may be ... speculate it might be environmentally ..."

JK: "Hmpf."

AB: "... ah, some sort of environmental test that's going on, because changes show up very quickly in cows, I guess."

JK: "Well, I ... I ... why wouldn't they come out in the open? And go to the farmer and say: 'Listen, we got a problem. We wanta look at your animals.'"

AB: "Well, that would ..."

JK: "Why do it in the middle of the night?"

AB: "Well, because John ... people like John Keel would write *big stories* about it."

JK: (chuckles). "That's true."

AB: (laughs). "And ... and then we would find out we had a big environmental problem they didn't really apparently wanta discuss.

So they might not go up to the farmer and say ... all that."

JK: "We ... we know we have a big environmental problem ... problem ... at all levels.

Water and, ah, air ..."

AB: "Well, we sort of know it. A lot, but not ... not enough of the right people know it.

Um, tonight in the first hour, ah, John, I was showing a picture of the Antarctic. Ah, where there oughta be ice, there's water."

JK: "Yes, it's melting."

AB: "Uh-huh."

JK: "And that's ... that's pretty scary."

AB: "Yeah."

JK: "As you know the ... what will happen if the, ah, the ice caps melt?"

AB: "Nothing good!"

JK: "And then we have the ... the problem of, ah, the superstorms and all that. The weather is, ah, really going ... undergoing a strange change."

AB: "You've noticed!"

JK: (laughs) "Everybody has noticed! (AB laughs). You ... you have a book out on it."

AB: "Okay, you know about that."

JK: "I've read it!"

AB: "Oh, you've read it!"

* * *

AB: "And I think I'm about to knock your socks right off, folks. Listen to me closely:

Ah, you heard John say: 'Pterodactyl' earlier in connection with this, ah, disaster ... and, uh, with the Mothman. And I would like for you to go to my website immediately – artbell.com – because the moment I heard that, I remembered this photograph that I got that, ah, that still staggers me. And if you'll just go to 'What's New,' it will take you to the appropriate place. It says 'Bird Image from 9/11 photos?' (question mark), and ... ah, just scroll down below John A. Keel's name. The last link says: 'Bird Image in 9/11 pictures.'

Now you take a good look at this for me, and I don't care, if you're one of those people who says: 'Well, the bird was close to the camera,' – fine, I don't think so. It doesn't look that way to me *at all!*

Looks like to me this ... this bird was back by the building, ah, where the photo was snapped. In fact, the enlargement – ah, no matter what 'chu think how close or far away this bird was from the camera – looks like a pterodactyl ... to me! It looks exactly like one! So ... if you wanna little eerie *déjà vu* from hearing this about the Mothman, go to my website right now – artbell.com. Go take a look at this and you tell me! You tell me!

It brought ... the moment John said that it brought this photograph to mind, and I had Keith [Rowland] bring it up. Under '*What's New*' ... '*What's New*' right now: 'Bird Image from 9/11 photos.' Click on that and then *you tell me* what you're seeing, regardless of how far away you think that bird is from me, ah, the cameraman. What kinda bird is that, folks?"

* * *

AB: "Coming back in just a moment is John A. Keel. We're talking about *The Mothman Prophecies*."

* * *

AB: "Well, John, I sure wish you had a handy computer because we sure got that photograph up here right now, and if you saw it, it would give you chills.

So if you can make it to a computer in the next couple of days – after you've probably slept for two (2) or three (3) days – after doing all of these interviews ... (JK laughs) ... you'll eventually get to it. Go up and take a look."

JK: "It sounds fascinating. Now these ... these are real photographs with a real camera? Not digital or ..."

AB: "Well, um, you know, I don't know. It's either a digital camera or it's a regular camera scanned photograph. I don't know which. But it's a very clear photograph."

JK: "Um-hmm."

AB: "Very clear."

* * *

AB: "Now, uh, these ... ah ... these ... these whatever ... There's the next question for you ... Um, how do you ... I understand you have a theory about *windows* [portals]."

You know I was about to say: 'How do these things get here?' But, um, I was ... you had a theory about windows [portals] – things that open, ah, temporarily, um, occasionally – in certain places, in certain conditions – certain windows that open to a different place ... somethin' like that?"

JK: "It ... it seems these ... these paranormal ... paranormal stations cluster around certain areas century after century. And, ah, for example, not far from Point Pleasant is Moundsville."

AB: "Moundsville."

JK: "And that's where all of the Indian mounds are. Which are shaped like snakes and elephants ... (!)"

AB: "Oh?"

JK: "And, ah, you don't know about Indian mounds?"

AB: "No, sir."

JK: "Indian ... Indian mounds are very interesting.

We say they're Indian mounds, but they may have been done, you know, ah, thousands of years ago by somebody else. And, ah, this particular area of, ah, West Virginia had a succession ... succession of mysterious events.

Flatwoods, West Virginia is not far from Point Pleasant, and they had a monster sighting there in 1952. And then a little further up the river is a town called Sistersville. And in 19--, rather 1896, the whole community was awakened by a very bright light! Which, ah, came out of the sky. And, ah, they ... they never had a logical answer for it.

'Cause if it had been a meteor, it would hit somewhere and might have started fires and things. Because it was that low and very bright!"

AB: "Hmpf."

JK: "And I talked to one (1) man – an elderly man there, who ... ah, sort of remembered it. But he was a child at the time that it happened. And, ah, eventually the people there I think tried to say that it was some kind of astronomical phenomenon. But it ... it was a rare event.

Ah, Sistersville is, ah, still a tiny town there.

But all up and down the Ohio Valley, we've had a long succession of these strange things."

AB: "What would you say was the most recent sighting you've heard of ... of, ah ... Mothman?"

JK: "Of Mothman?"

AB: "Yes."

JK: "Ahh ... I ... I think there was ... there was a young man in Pennsylvania, who, ah, saw a giant bird just a few months ago. Ah, he was nineteen (19) years old. And he ... he reported it to a local, ah, Fortean, ah, a guy named Stan Gordon. And that's how we heard about it.

There was a sighting in South Dakota last summer. This giant bird was roosting on a tree for a long time, because a lot of people saw it. And it was larger than anything they'd ever seen before. And then it flew away."

AB: "Um-hmm."

JK: "But, ah, we do get these reports frequently, and ... ah, Loren Coleman tries to keep track of them more than I do."

AB: "I know he does, yes. I've had him on the show several times, and as I mentioned, he was on just before you were. That ... that is a coincidence, believe it or not."

JK: (laughing) "Yesss ..."

AB: "Anyway, um, this creature, ah, so then this creature may well still be around."

JK: "Yes."

AB: "And may ... may visit the area where either, ah, horrendous events are going to occur or have occurred?"

JK: "That's very possible. If ... if this is all related to psychic phenomena – *and I think it is!*

I ... I looked, ah, all over West Virginia for signs ... physical signs like a ... a bird that large has gotta leave, ah, spoor and all kinds of traces. And probably would need a large nest or a cave"

AB: "Not to mention gigantic eggs."

JK: "Gigantic eggs, right! (AB smirks). And there was no trace of anything in that area. So ... the, ah ... and the bird also, ah, Mothman had a habit of disappearing suddenly."

AB: "Uh-huh."

JK: "These people would see it and then it would be gone. That's of course also true of these, ah, bright lights."

AB: "Yes!"

JK: "Ah ..."

AB: "So ... so that brings us right back to the paranormal and these areas that seem to, ah ... I don't know ..."

JK: [unintelligible].

AB: "... for a time ... for a time something opens. What do you think opens? What is it, John, that's opening?"

JK: "Well ... you know there are scientists working on all kinds of theories about other dimensions 'n' all."

AB: "They sure are."

JK: "And they're ... they're getting closer all the time to some kind of spectacular explanation for the Universe.

Ah, they're ... they're just finally recognizing that most of the Universe is made up of dark matter ..."

AB: "Um-hmm."

JK: "... that doesn't reflect light.

And, ah, we ... the stars that we see are only a tiny portion of the real Universe ... whatever it is."

AB: "All of that is dead correct. That's exactly what they're saying.

Hey, you know, it's eventually going to turn everything upside down on its ear about what we believe and, ah, what can be true and what, you know, what was called science fiction and just legend and myth, ah, it may all come from somewhere."

JK: “Hmm ... that’s true.

The ... and of course, first the scientists have to fight among themselves. You know, that’s part of the process.”

AB: “They’re doin’ lots of that now.”

JK: “They’re doing lots of it.”

AB: “Yeah! So ... so maybe a lot of what you saw then ... I mean, what were you thinking then? Then the scientists weren’t saying things like they are now. Other dimensions were pure science fiction, you know, then. So ...”

JK: “Well, I ... I was thinking a lot of things, because I ... I was ... I was totally baffled by all this. And, ah, it was, ah, very unsettling, ah, because, ah, I couldn’t talk about it much with other people – certainly not with the people in West Virginia.

I ... I ...”

AB: “Probably not, yeah.”

JK: “... could not discuss these things.

And I ... I was aware that these ... these things were always clustering around certain areas ... generation after generation. And, ah, if somebody named Jones saw something in 1896, somebody named Jones would see it in 1910 ...”

AB: “Huh?”

JK: “... in the same area ... and so on. It was almost *hereditary*.

But, ah, these things kept recurring. And of course, the historical records were very vague. We had to depend on ... on newspapers of the period, which, ah, were known for their hoaxes. And it was a difficult research job.

And today, ah, many of the newspapers in small towns have gone and we’re not getting any records at all.”

AB: “That’s right.

Wouldn't it, ah, being West Virginia – kind of in the 'Bible Belt' there – wouldn't a lot of the people who saw these things probably regard them as *evil entities of some sort?*"

JK: "Yes, there was ... there was a lot of that.

We had a rash of 'Men-In-Black cases ..."

AB: "Oh!"

JK: "... which seemed evil. They would arrive in black Cadillacs and they looked, ah ... well, they had, ah ... ah, angular features and a very dusky skin. Sort of like ... when I ... I would carry pictures around with me of different racial groups and they would always pick out *Laplanders!* Now that ..."

AB: "Laplanders? (!)"

JK: "... that didn't make any sense at all!

But that was ... that was what people thought these men looked like."

AB: "Oh, isn't that odd!"

JK: "So ... ah, then the ... then we had also ... we had, ah, phantom photographers, would, ah, drive out and photograph somebody's house, and ask to photograph the children (!) And this is going on in recent years in England and they call them 'phantom social workers.' But they're very interested in children."

AB: "That's, ah ..."

JK: "That's spooky!"

AB: "... that is really strange! (AB laughs). God, that's really spooky!

Ah, do you have any best guess about ... what they were, ah ...?"

JK: "There ... there again, I ... I don't know. Because I put out the word to all the police up and down the Ohio Valley to watch out for these guys. And sometimes I would miss them by ten (10) minutes. (AB snorts). And ... and they would disappear somewhere.

So ... the ... eventually, you know, this built up into the Men-In-Black lore, and they finally made a ... a ... a comedy out of it in the movies."

AB: “Yeah.”

JK: “There’s another *Men-In-Black* movie coming up this year.”

AB: “Yeah, it’s not all comedy though – believe me!”

JK: “No. I ... I’m the first one to agree with that!

Something is, ah, very strange going on out there. Ah, for example, ah, I was talking to a woman on the phone one day, that I had met in West Virginia ...”

AB: “Uh-huh.”

JK: “... and she said: ‘By the way, as I told your secretary the other day ...’

Hey, wait a minute, I don’t have a secretary!”

AB: “Right!”

JK: “This woman [JK’s ‘secretary’] had been going to people that I had interviewed – and she was re-interviewing them and telling them that she was *my secretary*.”

AB: “Really? (!)”

JK: “And, ah ... they, ah, said it was an attractive blonde woman – I think with blonde ... hair – and carrying a clipboard and looking very, ah, *secretarial*.”

AB: “Gee, John, *she was really interested in your work*.”

JK: “Well, I ...”

AB: “**Really interested!**”

JK: “That was part of the growing paranoia in that period. Which of course, I ... I’ve given detail in my book and the movie ‘n’ all.

But, ah, it was a ... a very frightening period.”

* * *

AB: “Why do you think they’ve decided to make this *big* motion picture? And, oh! ... Ah, have you seen it yet?”

JK: “Yes, I’ve seen it.”

AB: "You have!"

JK: "And I liked it."

AB: "And you liked it? (!)"

JK: "Yeah. The, ah ... the ... they, of course, couldn't do the ... exactly what's in the book, but they did a lot of the things in the book.

And they did it ... they captured the mood of the book and the atmosphere, and, ah, did a very good job with the production on this. And I think it's going to cause a sensation.

For example, there was one (1) thing – I told you I had all these problems with the telephone ..."

AB: "Right."

JK: "And at one time I got disgusted with the telephone and I pulled the plug out of the wall ...!"

AB: "Yes?"

JK: "And the phone rang!"

AB: "What!"

JK: "How can you explain that?"

AB: "You cannot."

JK: "And, ah ..."

AB: "Well, unless there's a separate device inside the telephone that has been there for quite a while." (AB chuckles).

JK: "Well, I ... I was going around taking telephones apart. In those days the phones you could easily open them up."

AB: "Oh, yes!"

JK: "With modern phones, you ... you need special tools I think to do that.

But, ah, that ... that little incident is in the movie. And, ah, many, many other things that I encountered in those days are in the movie. And it's ..."

AB: “Pretty well represented then. Obviously of course, Hollywood always takes liberties here or there, and will change something here or there, but as a general rule it follows pretty much what you wrote or there’s enough of what you wrote in the movie to make you happy.”

JK: “Yeah. Enough to keep me from having the usual author’s fit. (AB grins).

You know, most authors scream and tear their hair when they see the movie of their book.”

AB: “So I hear, yes.”

JK: “Yeah. And, ah, the director did a fine job. He, ah ...”

AB: “Were ... were you part of it?”

JK: “Not really, because I ... I was undergoing some eye problems and I couldn’t go. They shot it in Pennsylvania.”

AB: “Uh-huh.”

JK: “And I was supposed to go out there, you know, and take a cameo part. But, ah, I ... I have medical problems and I couldn’t go. And, ah ... otherwise you’d see me in the movie sitting on a park bench or something – you know how they do that ...”

AB: “Certainly ... that’s right! It would have been fun though.”

JK: “They shot the film in a place called Kittanning, ah, which is outside of Pittsburgh. And it was a town that looked pretty much like Point Pleasant.”

* * *

AB: “Now I wonder, ah, John – I bet you wonder too – after this movie comes out, if it’s a gigantic hit, I wonder what will happen to the number of reports of sightings of Mothmen ... suddenly. I bet they go right through the roof.”

JK: “I ... I’m willing to bet that too. And as you certainly know, ah, this is oh so very contagious. If somebody sees a Bigfoot going through his garbage can and reports it, very soon everybody in the neighborhood sees somebody going through their garbage can.”

AB: “And there’s a couple of ways of looking at that, um, aren’t there? In other words, ah, I’m not even beyond thinking that these things – whatever they are – might even come from us ... inside of us, you know, *the id.*”

JK: “Well, that was one of the things that I ... I was afraid of. That wherever I went, I might have been causing this (!)”

AB: “Hah-ha-ha-ha!”

JK: “And, ah ...”

AB: “There you are!”

JK: “Oh! When I ... you can imagine my mental state at that time.”

AB: “Well in that case, John, think what you’re about to cause with the release of this motion picture! ... Maybe?”

JK: “Well I ... when I worry about ...”

AB: “Hold on! We’re ... we’re at the bottom of the hour here. We’ll find out what you worry about in a second.

I’m Art Bell. This is Coast to Coast AM.”

* * *

AB: “Regarding the pterodactyl that I ... picture that I think I put up. The 911 [nine-one-one] photo – stuff on the website, right now I’m getting a lot ... lot of reaction now ...”

Aud: ‘I don’t know what’s in that picture – *Bird Image from 911* [nine-one-one] – but that sure as hell ain’t no bird! Pardon my grammar here ... almost looks like a flying Loch Ness Monster to me (!)”

AB: “Yeah, me too.

That’s why I put it there ... just hit me (?) ... Boom!”

* * *

AB: “When John said what it resembled, what people say it resembles, and ... and the, ah, tragedy that occurred there ... and then ‘911 [nine-one-one] tragedy’ – the word ‘tragedy’ certainly occurred.

And then that picture flashed in front of my mind , and ‘Oh man, you’ve gotta see it!’

So ... go take a look. It’s at artbell.com.

John A. Keel will be right back.”

* * *

AB: “Now with what I’ve heard I can easily see how this is going to make a really, really, really good motion picture – *it’s got all the elements.*”

And I’m kinda curious, ah, of course, Richard Gere is in the movie, but, ah, who played ... who plays you, John?”

JK: “Well, ah, there’s also Alan Bates – the English actor – in it.”

AB: “Uh-huh.”

JK: “And he does a ... a little cameo. He’s very good. He ... he plays an eccentric, ah, scientist.”

AB: “Uh-huh.”

JK: “I think the Gere character and his character are sort of a composite of me.”

AB: “Of you?”

JK: “Yeah, sort of.

And, ah, I ... I ... I like the Alan Bates, ah, thing very ... very much, because he talked just like I talk. (AB laughs).

I ... I’ve never met Alan Bates.”

AB: “What, ah, you know, you ... you did tell me originally that you were ... you went down there to look for this ‘winged-cat,’ and so, were you doing all those kinds of stories then?”

JK: “Oh, yes! I was traveling all over and doing stories about everything I found ... and, ah ...”

AB: “Bizarre, paranormal ... that kind of thing?”

JK: “Well, that and human interest stories. In those days there was a big market for human interest stories.

And, ah, there was, ah ... sometimes I would stay up all night and, ah, sleep all day, because I’d be sitting in a graveyard or some dumb thing because they were seeing these lights in graveyards. As you know, that’s ... that’s an old phenomenon, and nobody has an explanation really for that either.”

AB: "It's a current phenomena too!"

JK: "Hmm?"

AB: "it's a current phenomena ..."

JK: [unintelligible].

AB: "Yes it is! And, ah, I have a group, ah, that comes on the program, John, and they do Electronic Voice, ahh, Phenomena [EVP] ..."

JK: "Um-hmm."

AB: "... and I'm sure you've heard of that.

And ... and you can hear ... God, you hear these voices that, ah, ... they ... they ... they seem to harvest well in graveyards, John."

JK: "Well, ah, they've been doing that for several years now. Ah, recording voices.

And they also ... you know that the Radio Luxembourg and, ah, places in Europe have been able to get pictures of the dead on television (!)"

AB: "No, John, I hadn't heard about that!"

JK: "Well, it's never gotten much publicity in the United States, but it's a sensation in Europe ..."

AB: "Tell me about it, please."

JK: "They ... they have some kind of a system where they arrange mirrors around the TV screen ..."

AB: "Oh?"

JK: "... and when everything is adjusted properly, ah, images of, um, dead people appear on the screen. Rec- ... recognizable dead people."

AB: "Really! (?)"

JK: "And this ... this, ah, was going on for some years in Europe ..."

AB: (under his breath) "God! I've never heard of ..."

JK: "... but I think it's sort of quieted down now."

AB: "I've never heard of it.

Ah, you reported on that?"

JK: "I've written articles about that."

AB: "Have you seen any of these images?"

JK: "No, I haven't. Ah, a lot of people have. And they say Radio Luxembourg got involved in this somehow. And they were doing it a lot, ah, over there. And, ah, that's just one (1) of the many strange ...

I think the business with the voices started with a blind man in England, didn't it?"

AB: "I don't know."

JK: "I think ... I think he ... a blind man, ah, had a tape recorder. And, ah, at first somebody thought ... everybody thought that somebody was 'pulling his leg!' You know, they [were] whispering out or through the window or something."

AB: "Yes."

JK: "But it ... it turned out that many people were able to pick up those voices."

AB: "These people that I have on, ah, use a lot of careful controls, John. They use only brand new tapes, ah, never recorded-on tapes ... that sort of thing."

JK: "Right."

AB: "And what they capture really is totally freaky. I mean, it really is freaky. And they ... they go to graveyards all the time. I couldn't do that.

I wouldn't do that. You did it though, huh?"

JK: "I ... I ... because I've been interested for thirty (30) years in a phenomenon in graveyards where the tombstones are knocked over. This sounds like, you know, not very much of anything, but the, ah, early tombstones were made to stay erect forever.

They had steel rods through their bases. ..."

AB: "Right."

JK: "In order to knock one of these over, you'd almost need a machine to ... because they ... they bend the rod inside the tombstone, and it breaks off! And often ... (AB sighs quite audibly) ... well, right here in New York City, we've had occasions where the police would go through a graveyard or around a graveyard, and then they'd come back two (2) hours later and two hundred (200) stones would be knocked over."

AB: "What!"

JK: "And unless you have a tractor and a lot of chains and things, you're not going to be able to do that."

AB: "So ..."

JK: "It's one thing to think teenagers are doing it ..."

AB: "Yeah."

JK: "... but they're ... they're not that, ah ..."

AB: "No!"

JK: "... interested in hard work!"

AB: "Ahh ... two hundred (200) tombstones ..."

So you sat in a graveyard trying to see this phenomenon occur?"

JK: "Well, I'm tryin' to figure it out ... Because it never happens when you're there."

You know, you leave the graveyard for, ah, two (2) hours and you come back and they're knocked over. And, ah ..."

AB: "That happened to you?"

JK: "Yes ... yes, and it doesn't just happen in one (1) city – *it happens all over the country!*"

And I understand they've had a ... a rash of this in, ah, France."

AB: "Any ideas ..." (AB laughs).

JK: "I have no idea."

- AB: "... Asking you to speculate? No, huh?"
- JK: "Ah ... it seems to me that they would need machinery to do it and that would leave a lot of tracks. And there are no tracks."
- AB: "Same problem with the crop circles. They never find any tracks."
- JK: "That's true."
- AB: "And even deep, ah ... ah, very damp, ah, earth where there would absolutely be tracks, they don't find tracks. It's very puzzling."
- JK: "Well, you know, ah, some years ago that was a big phenomenon in England."
- AB: "Uh-huh!"
- JK: "And you would ... I ... I was over there, and you would take a train through the countryside and you'd see these circles in the fields. And they ... just in the middle of nowhere. And nobody paying any attention to it."
- * * *
- AB: "Do, ah, do you think that there are just these areas where these things happen? Because these very complex, ah, crop circles – and they've become by the way every year including this last, more complex and more interesting, and, ah, harder to figure out ... um, do you think there are just areas like Great Britain that ... where these particular things or this kind of phenomenon manifests itself?"
- JK: "Well, I think if you have the money to do it, you could examine this worldwide and see if these circles are following a pattern around the world. 'Cause they turn up in every country, you know?"
- AB: "Oh, yes (!) ... I'm aware."
- JK: "Ahh, if ... if we could map it out ... They ... they never bother with maps, you know, and I'm a map ... map nut. And if we could follow the ... the path around the world, we might find this: Something like a satellite is doing this ..."
- AB: "Maybe. Finding them, John, in ice and snow, and even in dirt and grass ... ah, in areas where, you know, you have to look more carefully because it's not as obvious. When, you know, it knocks down wheat, it's very obvious. But they're occurring all over the place, John. All over."

JK: "Well, I ... I've examined them, and you ... you can't figure out what would do that to the ..."

AB: "No."

JK: "... bend the plants over like that. Ah ..."

AB: "No."

JK: "Of course there were a lot of hoaxes too. At one point college kids were trying to out-hoax each other.

But, ah, that's ... it's pretty obvious that they used a stake in the middle of it and a string or a rope, and walked around in a circle."

AB: "Yes, and these are obvious. And they're easily detectable, but then a lot of them are not. And ... and you've had to really do the same thing. You did all the reporting on this kind of thing.

How did you separate ... hoaxes? Or did you ... did you even try to?"

JK: "Well, I ... I would find a lot of hoaxes, you know, as I traveled around. There ... there were a lot of hoaxes where people claimed to see something just for the hell of it. And, ah, it would, ah, turn out that it was a ... a couple of guys, you know, just having fun."

AB: "Uh-huh."

JK: "But, ah, we do ... we do have a lot ... One of the mysteries that I got involved in, was the mysterious holes in the ground that appear."

AB: "Heh."

JK: "And these ... these are *very deep holes*."

AB: "Yes."

JK: "And you know about those?"

AB: "I know something about holes, yes."

JK: "Yes ... and, ah, that ... that, ah, has puzzled me.

Because a farmer will wake up in the morning and there will be this huge hole in his field."

AB: "Huh?"

JK: "And no idea of how it got there or what caused it."

AB: "Well, I have done some stories. In fact, next week I'm going to do another on an apparent *bottomless hole*. I mean, truly a hole without a bottom."

JK: "Really?"

AB: "Yes."

JK: "Ah, where ... well, you probably don't wanta say where it is, because ..."

AB: "Well, it ... it ... it's been discovered ..."

JK: "Probably disc..."

AB: "It's been discovered by the same man, who discovered one in Ellensburg ... near Ellensburg, Washington.

Ah, it's a fascinating ..."

JK: "I remember that one I think!"

AB: "Do you! (?)"

JK: "I think so."

AB: "It was, ah ... it was called '*Mel's Hole*.'

And, ah ..."

JK: "Did it get press?"

AB: "Ah, I believe it did, yes."

JK: "I think I know about that, yeah."

AB: "Um-hmm. He's found another hole.

And you're telling me you've heard about holes that just suddenly appear?"

JK: "And, ah, in various parts of the world.

I remember there was one (1) in Switzerland. And, ah, again plausible explanations don't work (!)"

AB: "No! Not ... not with holes. They're usually there or not. I suppose there could be some sort of geologic movement and suddenly a hole might be revealed!

But aside from that ..."

JK: "Yeah. An underground cave-in or something, but, ah ..."

AB: "Has anybody ever attempted to explore any of these holes?"

JK: "Oh, sure! There, ah, people tried to go down with ropes and things, and they give up.

Some of these are very, very deep."

AB: "That's exactly right! Um, they literally give up, ah, it's so deep! And do these holes then remain for scientific study or is it your experience something else happens to them?"

JK: "Well, I guess they just remain. A farmer can't fill them in. Or whoever owns the property."

AB: "Uh-huh."

JK: "And, ah, scientists aren't interested in that kind of thing."

AB: "But why not! (?)"

JK: "Because they're ... *they're afraid of the unknown.*"

AB: (laughs).

JK: "They ... they want to be able to explain it. They're, ah ... whatever happens. You know, there's ... there're 'ice caves' all over and these are just holes in the ground that are filled with ice, and that there're only, you know, ten feet (10 ft.) down. And nobody knows how ... why ... why it's so cold in there.

And we ... we have all ... all kinds of scientific anomalies. And very few scientists allow themselves to look into it."

AB: "Well, you know there's really a good reason for that. And that is because they're all subject to peer pressure and they're *all* subject to grant money

needs. And when you go and you start investigating apparent bottomless holes and things like that – you get in trouble.”

JK: “Well, they’re also afraid for their reputation.”

AB: “That’s what I mean by ‘trouble.’”

JK: “Yeah ... yeah. That’s a big factor when you’re a scientist. You gotta protect that reputation. Imaginary or real ... whatever.”

AB: “But you’d have to think there would be some ... I mean, the scien- ... a person who turns to science with a scientific mind, uh, at least some percentage of them would say: ‘To hell with you, this is really interesting! Um, I’m gonna look into this.’

But we just don’t get a lot of that, do we?”

JK: “It’s happening more with astrophysics than with anything else.

That people are speculating about, ah, anti-particles and particles, and all that. They’re more daring than, ah, most scientists, ’cause they sometimes have to put their neck out on a limb here to ... ah, project their theories.”

AB: “Yes, you’re quite right. Ah, there are some out there on the edge. No doubt about it, but the great majority of them seem to live in some small, fearful world that I don’t fully understand, and doesn’t seem to fit my concept of the scientific mind.”

JK: “Well ...”

AB: “Have you ... have you had a lot to do, in other words, as you’ve investigated some of these *really* anomalous things, ah, have you approached scien-, you know, scientists? I mean, obviously to bolster the credibility of anything you might write, you would think you would wanta have somebody of science involved in some way.”

JK: “Well, it’s not that easy. Ah, with the Mothman thing, I ... I was trying to find something that a scientist could look at and I found some very odd footprints of a ... what looked like giant dog footprints.”

AB: “Really?”

JK: “I ... I couldn’t get the local university in, ah, Virginia ... West Virginia to do anything about it.”

- AB: "Really!"
- JK: "Now these ... these were strange footprints. They were very, very large. If this ... this was a dog, it must have weighed five hundred (500) pounds! (lbs.)."
- AB: "Heh!"
- JK: "So ... on one (1) occasion I found in the snow next to a road, I found one (1) single human footprint."
- AB: "One (1) single footprint?"
- JK: "With ... without shoes. Just the ... human foot."
- AB: "Oh now ..."
- JK: "I ... and I ... I had no explanation for that. If ... if somebody was walking around barefoot in the snow, I would have found other footprints."
- AB: "But not one (1)."
- JK: "Not one (1). And ..."
- AB: "Maybe if a giant, ah ... ah, pterodactyl had a human in its mouth and it landed for a moment, ah ... (AB laughs) ... just one (1) footprint (both AB and JK laugh) ... and took off again.
- Otherwise I can't imagine how a single footprint would get anywhere!"
- JK: "Well, that's one of the many little problems that you run across in these ..."
- AB: "So anyway ..."
- JK: "... searches."
- AB: "... toward the, ah, end of the last break, we were talking about responsibility. And, ah, that when you ... you get, ah, publicity about this kind of thing and you put it in people's minds, inevitably you are going to cause a lot of sightings and a lot of people see the things this movie is going to bring, ah, first to the screen and then, you know, eventually to their TV screens, and they are going to start seeing this thing, John. No question about it."
- JK: "I ... I imagine they will."

And I also ... I fear for the people in West Virginia, because they're going to be inundated with tourists. And they're not prepared for it.

There's ... there's going to be first a trickle of tourists and then maybe by the end of the summer it'll be Coney Island (!) in Point Pleasant."

AB: "Oh, brother!"

JK: "And there's nothing much I can do about that."

AB: "Do they know this ... ? Do they suspect there that this is in ... ?"

JK: "I ... I've tried to tell 'em that now is the time to build hamburger stands and souvenir stores."

AB: "Hah-hah!"

JK: "And you know their economy is not very good there. And, ah, we ... we'll see what happens.

Well, you know what they did in Roswell. They, ah ..."

AB: "Oh, yes!"

JK: "... they opened museums ..."

AB: "Oh ... yes!"

JK: "... and they're every year they're drawing thousands of people now."

AB: "I'm very well aware. Very well aware.

And so that ... that could occur here. Ah, this would be really something.

Ah, this movie opens today ... what? It ... probably in the big cities like Los Angeles and New York, and so forth."

JK: "No, it's opening *nationwide*."

AB: "Nationwide ... all at once!"

JK: "Yeah. It, ah, they must have hundreds and hundreds of prints out there."

AB: "They must have, yes!"

JK: "And by curious coincidence, a new reprint of my book is about to appear in the bookstores."

AB: "*Another gigantic coincidence!*"

JK: "It's ... it's unbelievable!"

AB: (laughs) "Listen, um, I know they've been, um, bleeding you dry, ah, John, but I have one (1) hour left and I would like to take this moment to ask you whether ... you know, all my guests at this point have a choice either to go to bed if they're tired – 'cause I know you're on the East Coast – let's see, it's almost four o'clock in the morning (4:00 a.m.) there OR if you wanta stick around for one (1) hour you can answer questions of the audience. I know they'd love to talk to you, but It's your choice ..."

JK: "Oh, I'll stay with it."

AB: "Will you really? (!)"

JK: "Yeah. If, ah, if you ... if you think I can hold up here." (JK laughs).

AB: "Well, I'm not the best judge of it ..."

JK: "I'm very tired, but ... ah, I'll ... I can ..."

AB: "You wanta give it a try? (!)"

JK: "Yeah, let's give it a try."

AB: "All right. I know a lot of people would like to speak to you, so ... ah, stay right where you are, John."

JK: "Yeah."

AB: "Have a cup of coffee."

JK: "Right."

AB: "All right. John A. Keel, staying up very late with us. And believe me he's been doin' the rounds for the people who are releasing this movie. A lot of publicity. It's like all the time, so for him to spend this much time with us is really, really something.

Your opportunity to talk with John A. Keel coming up next."

* * *

AB: “Now I’ve learned about this Mothman ...

Now, John A Keel is my guest and in a moment, we’re gonna open the phone lines.”

* * *

AB: “Back now to John A. Keel, and just before we go to the phones, ah ... John, thinking back on everything that happened and how it happened, and what happened, how has all of this affected your life?

I mean, how has it changed your life? Something like this cannot occur without inducing a major change.”

JK: “Well, it’s, ah, changed much of my thinking. And, after the tragedy at the bridge, I, ah ... it was, ah, to me it was similar to the World Trade Center thing.

I was in shock for six (6) months and very, ah ... I couldn’t even think about the stuff in West Virginia for a very long time. I, ah, finally wrote the book almost ten (10) years afterwards.”

AB: “Huh! ... Ah, it’s very cathartic isn’t it to write a book like that?”

JK: “Yeah. **And fortunately I made careful notes all throughout. And I had a vast collection of information that I might have forgotten otherwise.**

But, ah ...”

AB: “Well, I’m glad it’s saved!

And now with the movie it’s really saved.”

JK: “Yeah, it’s, ah ... who knows what’ll happen next now? (!)

That’s hard ... hard ... hard to tell.”

AB: “Well ... huh? I have some theories about that, John. (JK laughs). Ah, I ... I think that those windows (portals) that you talk about ...”

JK: “Yeah?”

AB: “I think, ah, they’re more of them lately. They’re more frequent, and ... things are getting stranger very quickly – exponentially quickly.”

JK: “I ... I certainly agree with that. Everything is speeded up.”

AB: "Yes!"

* * *

Aud: "Back in '64 [1964] ... '66 [1966], I figure I was eight (8) to ten (10) years old, and, um, we lived on a farm between Darlington and Shullsburg, Wisconsin. Kind of hilly farmland with, ah, small woods here and there.

And, ah, my father and uncle shared a driveway. We had farms on separate sides of the valley.

And I figure I was maybe a thousand (1,000) yards from my uncle's hog house."

AB: "Right."

Aud: "And, um, one night I was out playing in the yard – like I say, eight (8) to ten (10) years old and I could've sworn what I saw was a *man with wings* down behind the fence of my uncle's hog house."

AB: "A *man with wings*."

Ah, that ... basically the silhouette. But it was huge! I mean, it, ah ... looking back on it now I could easily say it was six (6), seven (7), eight (8) feet tall – according to the size of my uncle's hog house.

And I ran in and told my Dad – he took ... got done milking ... he was reading the newspaper. He was tired, and he: 'Yeah, sure. Uh-huh. Yeah.'

But I told my Mom, ah, and she went out and looked. Of course, she ... she didn't see anything.

The next morning my uncle called us: 'Where's my litter of pigs?' He was missing an entire litter of pigs (!)"

AB: "Wow!"

JK: "Huh!"

Aud: "And my Mom said ... well, my Dad didn't believe me at all. But my Mom said: 'Well, are you sure it wasn't a hawk or something like that?'

I said: 'Mom, a hawk wouldn't carry off a whole litter of pigs (!)'"

AB: "Nor would it be eight (8) ... eight (8) feet, ah ..."

Aud: "Yeah, I know. I mean it literally covered at least a third (1/3) of the end wall of the end of the hog house.

AB: "Heh!"

Aud: "Unbelievable!"

AB: "Well, ah ..."

Aud: "And I couldn't see any details, but like I said it was the definite silhouette of a man with wings. And I couldn't believe it! And I think it was something ... ah, I don't know how paranormal it is, but I think it's something biological.

If, ah ... like you had mentioned ... windows [portals] – something from another world – that's possible, but ..."

JK: "Well let me ask you one (1) thing: Isn't there a nuclear ... nuclear plant near you? Near Monroe[, Wisconsin]?"

Aud: "Nooo ... that's ..."

JK: "That's another Monroe?"

Aud: "... a hundred (100) miles away in Illinois [near Moline], yeah."

JK: "Yeah? Well, this is ... you know, there are other sightings of men with wings?"

Aud: "Yeah?"

JK: "And ... and we're baffled by them."

Aud: "Oh, well, ah, another thing that was interesting – probably two (2) or three (3) years later my Mom got interested in things like this, and she subscribed to Fate magazine. And lo and behold, you know, two (2) or three (3) years later there I read about sightings like this of men with wings chasing ... men with wings chasing cars, so ... I was really surprised – It almost, ah, verified what I had seen."

AB: "Hah! Ha, ha, ha, ha ... all right."

JK: "Might have been one of my articles."

AB: "It ... it sure must've been."

* * *

Aud: "Why is it that people misconstrue good science for apprehension? We physicists love the unknown, but science requires that we create a model for any phenomenon. Otherwise observations are meaningless."

JK: "Well, I ... I can't argue with that. Ah ..."

AB: "Not ... not technically, but, um, to me they're not meaningless. And when you hear something like this man just said and things like you said tonight ... to me they have meaning anyway. And, ah, they will be explained in a satisfactory way one day to people like this, ah, person who's sending me the message – I ... I believe!

It's just that we're a little ahead of the curve, that's all, John."

JK: "Right. Ah ... I'm interested in the loss of the pigs. Ah, this is a very interesting, ah, incident."

AB: "Well, it would take a ... gee, it would take a little more than, ah ... than a big bird to carry away a bunch of pigs, that's for sure."

JK: "Yeah."

* * *

Aud: "I want to speak to two (2) things. Ah, I believe the world's sort of a mysterious and strange place at times as you do. Um, but I want to speak first of all to the nineteenth (19th) century sky lighting incident ... in Virginia, was it?"

AB: "What was that?"

Aud: "Ah, the one you referenced earlier."

JK: "Ah ... Sistersville."

AB: "Oh!"

Aud: "Yeah, that's right. 'Cause I was fortunate enough to, ah, be outside under dark skies for a Leonid meteor storm ..."

JK: "Uh-huh."

Aud: "... and there were several bollides who ... that ... that exploded and basically lit the sky like a ... a close lightning bolt would've."

- JK: "Well, this ... this was very close to the ground ..."
- Aud: "Well, the ... ah ..."
- JK: [unintelligible].
- Aud: "... when this went off it was ... it was very bright and, ah, it lit up the area that I was in like day, even though it was a very high altitude explosion."
- AB: "Yeah, but things about bollides though, sir, are that they don't *hover*."
- Aud: "Yeah."
- AB: "They don't come down near ..."
- Aud: "Okay, so this was a ... a sustained light, was it?"
- JK: "Yes. It was, ah ... ah ... ah ... bright enough and low enough, and there long enough to wake up everybody in the village."
- AB: "And people would just come out and look at it, right?"
- JK: "Well, at least they'd go to the window."
- AB: "Uh-huh."
- JK: "'Cause it ... it lit up the whole town (!)"
- AB: "Hmpf.
Ahh ..."
- JK: "But, ah ..."
- AB: "... and appeared ... again, appeared to be intelligent or driven by intelligence – one of the two."
- JK: "Well, we ... we can't say that at this late date, but, ah ... ah, I ... I know the, ah, meteor shower just lasts, ah ...
The last me- ... meteor shower was really spectacular."
- AB: "I saw it, yes."
- JK: "Yeah."

AB: “Yes, but, ah, it’s nothing like what you described [at Sistersville].”

JK: “No.”

AB: “I saw ... I saw many meteors enter and a few bollides, and, ah, they’re all very distinctive. And, ah, they keep on going, ah ... they explode or they, you know, hit the ground or whatever they’re gonna do. But you don’t mistake them for what you’ve described.”

JK: “That’s true.”

* * *

AB: “Now, you know, going back, ah, John, to whether the Mothman was giving prophecy in order to save people, or people were just sensing what was about to happen with this creature’s presence – and the creature was the actual perpetrator of the event is ... is unknown – but you would think that if something wanted ... if it could manifest itself in any way and it was coming to warn us, it would manifest itself in some way that would not scare us to death.”

JK: “Yeah, I ... I certainly agree with that.”

AB: “Do you?”

JK: “It, ah ... um ...”

AB: “Have you given a lot of thought to ... to ...”

JK: “I ... I ... I have written books about Time and Prophecy.

Because, *if we can predict the future*, that means the future already exists in some form. [A questionable postulate, no? – JS].

AB: “Right.”

JK: “And, ah, that’s a ... a baffling problem.

And I think some day the scientists are gonna tackle that one. Because the ... the future has to be out there (!) ... in some form (?), whether it’s electronically or whatever. But they’re ... you know, fifteen percent (15%) of the population have this psychic ability to, ah, foretell the future. [Where’s the proof of this? – JS]. And by all logic, it’s impossible ... unless the future exists!”

AB: “I’ve had one (1) absolute premonition. **Absolute premonition.** It occurred immediately after I had it.

And, ah, that's it ... only one (1). Never been back since.

Ah, no matter how hard I try, I can't repeat it – it just happened!

So ... you've gotta be right about Time. I mean, it's one (1) of two (2) things: It's either out there *fixed* and, um, and is simply going to happen no matter what OR we're sort of marionettes on strings acting out the whole thing down here. (AB laughs). I don't know ... it is puzzling to contemplate, isn't it?"

JK: "Well, there're so many things happen to me that indicated that some- ... something or somebody, or you know, is keeping track of me!

And they know before I knew what I was going to do next! (?)

And, ah, for example, they would leave messages in a motel that I stopped at. *And I didn't know I was going to stop at that motel!*

And I'd go into the motel, and they would ... they heard my name, they had a stack of messages for me (!)

They were nonsensical messages ... (AB laughs), but that's, ah, pretty odd that somebody knew"

AB: "Do you think that some sort of madman could have been following you? I mean, what other answer could there be?"

JK: "I ... I ... I know that, ah, occasionally they were following me, because I ... I was going into areas where, ah, the government was doing, ah, *naughty things*.

They were ... you know, they constructed over ninety (90) *underground cities* in the United States."

AB: "Was that 'nutty' or 'naughty,' or both?"

JK: "'Nutty,' I guess. (AB laughs).

'Cause they were ... they were wasting a lot of money!"

AB: "Yeah, I understand our government has built a lot of underground, um, *stuff*. You know ..."

JK: "I ... I have been to three (3) of them. And they ..."

AB: "Oh?"

JK: "Ah, there's one (1) in New York state. There's one (1) in Connecticut. And then there's one (1) down outside of Washington[, DC]."

AB: "Oh!"

JK: "Which has gotten a lot of publicity."

AB: "That one I've heard about! Ah ... ah, they've done some television on that one."

JK: "But there ... there is ... there's at least one (1) in every state."

AB: "Really?"

JK: "And the one (1) in New Orleans is interesting because it's above ground.

They, ah ... it was very controversial. They built a long ... it looks like a concrete worm. You know, New Orleans is sinking!"

AB: "Ahh, yes. It's actually below sea level."

JK: "And they ... they had to build this above ground. And the big controversy was at the time they had a hundred (100) beds in there for the black people and a thousand (1,000) beds for the white people."

AB: "Huh!"

JK: "And that ... that, ah, this was during the period of the civil rights movement 'n' all ..."

AB: "Right!"

JK: "... and so there was a lot of controversy about that one. But they're ... they're everywhere.

Ah, outside of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania they were building one (1) when I was there."

AB: "Do you think that all of these underground facilities are ... were specifically built for nuclear war or what?"

JK: "Yes. They were built I think in the early sixties (1960s). They realized we had really no civil defense at all! And, ah ..."

- AB: "We still don't."
- JK: "They ... they are required by law to open them one (1) day a year to the public. And they never tell the public what day that is."
- AB: "Really!"
- JK: "So, you have to know somebody who ... who is either working there or has the information."
- AB: "How'd you get the information to know what ..."
- JK: "Because I ... I knew somebody who worked there.
And I ... when I went there, ah, they have like dentist offices ..."
- AB: "Yes?"
- JK: "... ah, they have, ah, all kinds of facilities in these places – *they're huge!*
And when I was there, there was a couple of trucks unloading cases of whiskey (!) And it occurred to me that ..."
- AB: "Whiskey?"
- JK: "... if there were a nuclear war that's one (1) thing we would **need** ... lots of!
But, ah, these are huge and the project must have cost billions of dollars. And now they are probably decaying ... empty."
- AB: "I bet the whiskey's still good (!)"
- JK: "(laughs). Yeah! (AB laughs too). Okay."
- AB: "Yeah, you'd need whiskey, all right, in case of a big nuclear war.
Ah, that's eerie stuff though. Underground stuff."
- JK: "Yeah. But ah, in the ... in the sixties (1960s) they ... they realized – you know at that time the, ah, Cold War was very hot (!) – and, ah, we hadn't [sic] really no defense. Like where would you move all the people from New York?"
- AB: "Well, you can't."

JK: “Any city.”

AB: “That’s what I’m saying! We still don’t really have any defense.”

JK: “Well, if in case of war, they probably would move the politicians into these underground places.”

AB: “They would.”

JK: “Yeah.”

AB: “And, ah, you have to contemplate what sort of world it would be if all of the normal people got vaporized and, ah, the only ones to emerge from a nuclear holocaust are our politicians (JK laughs), ah, who probably are to blame for the whole thing in the first place.

What kind of new society rising from the ashes would that be?”

JK: “Well, if ... it would be *frightening*.” (AB smirks, then laughs along with JK).

AB: “That is a thought – nuclear war itself!

Hold on, John, we’ll be right back.

John A. Keel is my guest. He’s got a very good point: The Phoenix rising from the ashes would get about a foot off the ground and crash.

I’m Art Bell.”

* * *

AB: “My guest is the author of *The Mothman Prophecies*, John A. Keel. ...

The, ah, *Mothman Prophecies* motion picture starring Richard Gere and many others is being released *today nationwide*. I repeat *today nationwide*. And so you’ll be seeing a story about the life of my guest.”

* * *

AB: “Once again, here’s John A. Keel. It is now going on five o’clock (5:00 a.m.) back in New York.

A man whose blood has been drained by doing interview after interview, has spent nearly, ah ... ah, three (3) hours with us now, and, ah, soon the sun will be coming up where you are, John.”

JK: “Uh-oh.”

AB: "They've got a lot of, you know ... anyway, ah, here we go!

Aah! Better not say that ..."

* * *

Aud: "When I was about, ah, thirteen (13) years old, I was, ah, going to sleep in my bedroom and, ah, I think I might've actually dozed off, but I woke up and I thought I saw a really ... *like a really huge dark figure* in my room (!) And I actually got out of my bed and I walked across the room. It grabbed me and it made this ungodly noise, and I screamed at the top of my lungs, and everybody in my house ran into my room and was, you know, wonderin' why I was screaming. I mean, they thought that somebody had broken in or something."

AB: "You're sure you weren't having a nightmare?"

Aud: "Well I don't really know. I mean, I was standing in the middle of the room, and it was very real, and I couldn't sleep for about a week! I mean, it was really ..."

AB: "Got 'cha!"

Aud: "... it still freaks me out to this day!

And about a year later *my sister was murdered!*

And it's like the day she died, actually my mother was ... was working in the ... she was working in an office. And like the front window of her office, like a dove just flew right into it and died!

And it's like ... I don't know if those things could possibly be connected, but because of those you know, instance[s], I spent many ... many a night in cemeteries and places like that. So I thought I would call ...

I never really knew anything about *The Mothman Prophecies* until like this week when I saw some movie stuff on TV ..."

AB: "Um-hmm ..."

Aud: "I really didn't know what it was about until I started listening to your shows, so I was just kinda curious what ..."

AB: "Well, we live in a really strange world, sir. Ah, thank you very much.

On the day my father died, a bat landed on our porch and just stayed there. I mean, this is a sunny, um, summer desert hot day – and the day my father died, ah, which was not long ago, a bat landed and just stayed We removed him by hand and put him in a shaded place, and he flew off at night. But such thing has never happened before. He just landed on our porch and stayed ...

We live in a strange world don't we, ah, John?"

JK: "Yes, we ... we have a whole category for this kind of thing. Ah, they're called 'Bedroom Invaders.' And it's ... it's a lot more common than you would think.

People wake up and see something in their bedroom."

AB: "That's right."

JK: "Ver- ... very often they see a man in a plaid shirt."

AB: "Um-hmm."

JK: "And you didn't see any ... any sign of, ah, what he was wearing, did you?"

AB: "No, he just said 'dark.' Umm ..."

JK: "Yeah ..."

AB: "And I have a *zillion* reports like that, John. Just one after another after another – some people call them 'shadow people.'"

JK: "Well, we ... we also know that you're ... if you're dreaming and you wake up, the dream overlaps into the real ... your real consciousness, and ... and temporarily you ... you see these things.

I ... once when I was very ill, I ... I woke up and saw a giant Coca-Cola bottle in my bedroom. (JK laughs)."

AB: "Really!"

JK: "And, as I watched it slowly, ah, got smaller and smaller and faded away.

And that was one of those, ah ... ah, waking dreams that, ah, people have. But, ah ..."

AB: "Giant Coke bottle – that's a new one!"

JK: “Yeah, yeah, isn’t it? I ... I was of course taking medication for a ... I had pneumonia at the time. And that probably helped ...”

AB: (laughs). “That ...”

JK: “... cause it.”

AB: “... that’s interesting!”

* * *

Aud: “North Louisiana, when I was a kid – I’m thirty-five (35) now – I came across an area that was just *dead*. Um, of course, it’s, you know, green in north, ah, west Louisiana there and it just ... it looked like the bottom of a lake! It looked like it was ... just had been dead for a long time. And ...”

JK: “Was anything burned in it?”

Aud: “Sir?”

JK: “Was there anything burned in the area?”

Aud: “It kinda ... it had that feeling! *It was all brown ... (!)*”

JK: “Was this near Camp Lejeune?”

Aud: “There wasn’t anything all round it like in a circle ... covering it like ...”

JK: “What ...”

Aud: “You had to walk into it to see it.”

JK: “Was this anywhere near Camp Lejeune?”

AB: “Well, no, Camp Lejeune is in North Carolina. I was born on Camp Lejeune. I know where that is.”

JK: “Oh, is that in North Carolina?”

AB: “Yes, uh-huh.”

JK: “I ...”

Aud: “There were very strange birds in that area at night that would *scream* (!) It would make the hair on the back of your neck stand up.”

JK: “Hmpf.”

AB: "In a dead area?"

Aud: "It was like a dead area!"

AB: "How big?"

Aud: "Ah, about as big as a ... ah, like a medium pond."

AB: "Hmpf."

JK: "Hmpf."

Aud: "Fifty (50) yards. Um ..."

JK: "What year was that?"

Aud: "Probably, um, seventy-nine (1979)."

JK: "Uh-huh."

Aud: "Also once, ah, me and my friends used to walk around in the woods there.

And once we, ah, we were walkin' around in the woods. We come up on where there's a little farmhouse and all of a sudden, ah, by the little barn there, a bonfire started up (!) and there was a group of people standing around it. (AB laughs lowly). And three (3) huge, ah, luminous balls shot up into the [sic] space!

So then ... it freaked us out. We ran back ... we know where the place was, so we took our cars – we were seventeen (17) by then – drove back, ah, walked up 'n' down the driveway and, ah, saw one (1) man walking around the perimeter of the barn. And it had some floodlights (!) One (1) floodlight on one (1) corner.

Then that scared us, so we started runnin'. And when we started runnin', there were cars all out in the woods and it musta been like twenty-five (25) people and they were all standin' by their cars. So we just *hightailed* it outta there and as soon as we turned around all those car lights went out!"

AB: (laughs).

Aud: "And then we just left."

AB: "Wow!"

JK: "Ah, it sounds like some kind of ritual."

AB: "Yeah, yeah, it really does, yeah."

Aud: "But do people do things like that?"

JK: "Yeah."

Aud: "It's a strange area Y'all were talkin' about how maybe the ... on maps and how lands have some kinda connection to strange things ... I don't know – it's just a comment, so ..."

AB: "All right, well, so ... so good comment.

Um, you ... you have to be absolutely convinced, John, based on what you told me, that our government is really, really well aware that these things are going on and maybe they don't understand them any better than we do, but they're sure investigating them."

JK: "Yeah, I think that's been the case for a very long time. And, ah, I ... I would suspect that they're as baffled as we are.

And, ah ... it's, ah, you know, there's a common, ah, theory of UFO buffs that this is a government secret, ..."

AB: "Um-hmm."

JK: "... but there's other things going on in the government.

I ... you know, I worked in the government for a couple of years."

AB: "And what ..."

JK: "Inside the government ... in Washington. And, ah, I worked directly under, ah, the Secretary of HEW (Health, Education & Welfare), who was Elliot Richardson at the time."

AB: "Oh, of course, yes."

JK: "And, ah, while I was there I managed to snoop around a lot from inside the government."

AB: "And?"

JK: “And I ... I couldn’t find anything realistic enough to ... to say that there’s ‘Great Conspiracies’ going on.

And every ... everywhere I went, if I brought up the subject of UFOs, all the bureaucrats would have their own UFO story, which they’d tell me.”

AB: “A-ha-ha.”

JK: “And I ... I ... I never found the ... only once in the Pentagon, an officer in the Pentagon, ah, was talking to me and I was talking about all of this, and he was on the phone and he whispered into the phone: ‘There was a guy here he had [I have] to stop.’

And that’s when I was making inquiries into the UFO thing.”

AB: “That he had to stop?”

JK: “Yeah, that was his phrase. (AB laughs). So I put it in the book.”

AB: “Oh, did you?”

JK: “And with his name.”

AB: “With his name? (!)”

JK: “Yeah. While ... while I was there talking to this man, a secretary came in with a big **red folder** marked ‘Top Secret,’ and she put a newspaper clipping in it. (AB laughs).

That was an entertainment they devised for visitors’ benefit.”

AB: “You think so? (AB laughs). I don’t know.”

* * *

Aud: “I wonder ... that Silver Bridge that went down, ah, if only symbolically, from the right ... from the correct angle, would those two (2) **red** traffic lights that were left from the correct angle be those two (2) glaring, bright **red eyes**?”

AB: “Well, there’s something to think about!” (AB laughs).

Aud: “I wanted to throw that at ‘cha. From the correct angle, they might be – if only symbolically.”

JK: “Well ... mostly these lights, ah, these eyes were being seen in dark Christmas auras.”

Aud: "Well, you know, that was for Art, but ..."

AB: "I'm ... I'm with you, yes."

Aud: "... but the ... the thing for Mr. Keel, ah ... um, ah, a dream, um, I ... concerning the ... what I term as 'the past of the future' – and that's the only way I can, you know, terminology given to it – The Past of the Future, 'cause when I was there in the dream I know that I hadn't just moved to the Future. I had moved through the future and back to the past of that future.

And ... and you know how you have like the bird in the picture, um, at the tragedy [9/11]?"

AB: "Yes."

Aud: "The perspective ... the depth perception of the bird close to or away from the camera?"

AB: "Yes."

Aud: "The perspective ... the depth perception of the bird close to or away from the camera?"

AB: "Yes."

Aud: "The same with two (2) ... let's call them two (2) *walls*. You have the further wall and the wall closer to ya, and the opening between those cannot be seen from the normal angle. You have to get around the first wall ..."

AB: "Right."

Aud: "... to enter."

AB: "That's right."

Aud: "That's how I entered that time in the dream. And that's the same way I exited it ... if you see what I'm saying?"

AB: "So you believe you've traveled in Time?"

Aud: "Not literally ... maybe only in my dream ... as a concept."

AB: "Um-hmm. Well ..."

Aud: “But those are the things that are related to those larger things that are done ... you know, allegedly and suspectedly so for real, if ...”

AB: “Well ...”

Aud: “... potentially.”

AB: “Yes, but if, ah, as in *Mothman Prophecies*, if in your dream, ah, you dream of an event that is going to occur – and that event occurs precisely as you have dreamed – then, ah, you should be asking your- ... yourself lots of questions about the nature of, ah, of Time itself, um, don’t ya think, John?”

JK: “Well, I’ve ... I spent years asking myself these questions (JK laughs) and, ah, it’s ... it’s a major mathematical puz- ... puzzle.

There was a book published in the nineteen twenties (1920s) called *An Experiment [with] Time* – which is still in print I think, and it tells you ... it’s a very thin book, but it tells you how to control your dreams.”

AB: “Really?”

JK: “And if you ever come across that, you know, in a secondhand bookstore or something ... The man who wrote it was an aeronautical engineer. I’m trying to think of his name. [J.W. Dunne – JS].”

AB: “But it’s called *An Experiment [with] Time*?”

JK: “Right. And it’s a classic work about dreams and how you can control them. And how you can, ah, move forwards or backwards in Time.”

AB: “Um-hmm. I don’t doubt it at all. Ah, but that long ago ... written that long ago.”

* * *

Aud: “About two (2) years ago I moved into this house – and have now left there ...

Anyhow, activity started in the house shortly after we moved in, but we would just hear voices every now and then, little girl laughter, stuff like that ... doors opening and shutting. And it never really got anywhere else until just like last year, that it really started pickin’ up and, ah, started hearin’ a lot [of] heavy footsteps up and down the stairs ...”

AB: “Hmpf.”

Aud: "Different things going on, and it started attacking my girlfriend."

AB: "Attacking?"

Aud: "Um ... yeah ..."

JK: "Scratching her or ... ?"

Aud: "There was bite marks. Um, it pinned her down a couple (2) of times. And I was kinda like: 'Okay, you know, I'm not seein' anything,' so I wasn't really, you know, I thought more of a ... you know, somethin' else was goin' on.

So, it gets to this point, um, where I start tryin' to figure out ways to get rid of this or whatever's goin' on. And I kinda start callin' this thing out.

Well, right around that time there was like during a day she was upstairs puttin' away the stairway (?), and that's where we seem to hear a lot of this stuff at. And you go up the stairs from this hallway, and then ya do a ... a one-eighty (180 degrees) and you go up the stairs again, and then there's like a bedroom and you turn, and there's like our room, and then go ... go ... take another turn to the right and keep like circling to the right, and there's a bathroom and another bedroom.

Well there's a deal (?) where we kept all the towels at 'n' stuff, and she was puttin' towels away, and she turned around and there was this black figure standing in the stairway looking up at her with these **red eyes** – and I know you don't like **red eyes**."

AB: "Uhh ..."

Aud: (laughs). "It's the night [unintelligible]."

JK: "You ... you've got a nasty poltergeist on your hands."

Aud: "Yeah!"

JK: "How old is your daughter?"

Aud: "Um, well actually this is my girlfriend that seen this.

My daughter's eleven (11) and my son ..."

JK: "Is your daughter jealous of your girlfriend?"

Aud: “No, no – she loves her with all her heart!”

JK: “Uh-huh.”

Aud: “So ... but then, um ...”

AB: “John is right. Ah, that ... that age, ah ...”

Aud: “Things start to happen.”

AB: “... young girls seem to produce poltergeist activity.”

Aud: “Uh-huh. So ... but this is where it gets really freaky.

So I start callin’ this thing out. And then it was a Sunday morning about ten o’clock (10:00 a.m.) ... I had just taken a shower, came back, we were standing in the bedroom had the radio on, my kids were gone at my folks for the weekend, and there was nobody there but us.

And we’re in there. We got the door open, and all the other doors to that hallway are closed to the stairway so it’s dark in there, *and we hear this really heavy thump*. Thump. Thump trottin’ up the stairs (AB sighs audibly) and I’m like ‘Who the hell’s in the house?’

So I look out our window, [from] which I can see the driveway – No cars! So we both turn and we’re looking through the doorway and here it comes: **It’s solid black matter (!)**

Not a shadow. This is pure ... I mean, it’s got dimension to it and it’s solid black. And I just froze ... *petrified*. You know, it’s like fight, flight, or you know, freak out! (Aud laughs).”

AB: “Right.”

Aud: “An’ , ah, she like dropped to her knees and I’m watching this thing and it just ... it hits the top of the stairs there and it rotates toward us. And I can tell that its head’s down and it’s like I’m thinkin’ to myself: ‘If this looks up and we make eye contact, that’s it ... we’re done!’

And it starts to come towards the door and then it just turned to the right AND [POOF!] GONE! Like a blink of an eye ...”

JK: “Hmm.”

Aud: “And she just screams, you know: ‘Did you see that? (!)’

I'm like: 'Did you see the size of the head on that thing? (!)' ...

But that night I took some pictures in the house and I got some stuff on film."

AB: "Oh my!"

JK: "Really!"

Aud: "Yes. Um, we were in the front room, had the wood stove was [sic] going, like eighty (80) degrees [Fahrenheit] in there ... she went in the kitchen, comes back in, and the room just turned ice cold." ...

"I took several shots and then there was [sic] two (2) that I took – one right after the other one instantly ... um, I'd walked over across the room in the front room and back towards – we had three (3) windows and these are the only ones in the room that the blinds were up, *and we counted at least six (6) faces in the windows.*" (AB and JK laugh).

AB: "God!"

Aud: "And there's something that is holding the glowing orb that is illuminating the hair on the back of her head."

AB: "Ai-yi-yi!"

* * *

AB: "Ah, John, what a pleasure to have you on! We're running out of program here."

JK: "Right."

AB: "That was some story, wasn't it?"

JK: "Yeah, he ... he needs more help than we can give him in a phone call."

AB: "That's right. that's what I thought too.

Um, but all you have said ... well, today is gonna be a *big day* for you, isn't it?"

JK: "I hope I can sleep a few hours ..." (AB and JK laugh).

AB: "Are you going ... are you going to one of the openings?"

JK: "Ah, probably, yeah. Ah, if nothing else, I'll go and count heads."

AB: (laughs). "And probably sort of sit in the theatre and try and judge what the reaction is like as the movie goes on, I'm sure."

JK: "Yeah. They better not laugh. It's a very serious, ah, motion picture here."

AB: "I don't think they're gonna laugh, John."

JK: "Yeah."

AB: "John, it's been a pleasure!"

JK: "It's been a real pleasure to talk to you finally, and, ah ... ah, good luck with all of this."

AB: "Let's ..."

JK: "And sooner or later we'll talk to you again."

AB: "Yes, indeed. Let's do it again. [Unfortunately, they never did – JS].

Thank you, John. Good night!"

JK: "Thank you very much."

AB: "John A. Keel – *The Mothman Prophecies*.

I'm Art Bell. From the high desert ... ta-ta!"

* * *