









Posted by u/Jobexi 7 years ago

Requested: My Experience of Dreaming of another Realm. Nearly 4 dream years in 3 nights of time.

I originally wasn't going to post this, because of the personal nature of the story, but I received so much encouragement from this community that I decided to post. Because it is so personal, there are a few details I'll be keeping to myself, but feel free to ask questions.

-=-=- Dream 1 -=-=-

About a year ago, I fell asleep one unremarkable night and dreamt roughly three and a half years of time. At the beginning of the dream, I was in 10th grade, apparently at a boarding school, or something similar. At the beginning of the dream, I was at school, and another student (who we'll call Dan), and who was only in my chemistry class, asked if I wanted to hang out that weekend. I said that that would be great, and that we'd meet up that Friday after classes. It was to be the first time that we were going to hang out, and I was looking forward to it. We went to his dorm and talked about a few things that he asked me to keep in confidence (and I'll honor that), but it had to do with his relationship with his parents.

I felt bad for him, but I didn't let him see that (as far as I know). We had a great night playing board games, and chatting. (Video games didn't seem to exist, now that I'm thinking about it).

Time went by like it usually would in reality - it didn't feel like a dream at all. It felt like waking up, showering, going to classes, studying for exams, writing essays, eating food, using the facilities, hanging out with friends, celebrating holidays. Everything normal.

As time went by, Dan and I would hang out basically every day. By the time the summer rolled around, we were inseparable. I spent almost every day with him at his house. (He lived with his parents who were extremely wealthy. The house was so large, I'm not even sure they noticed I was around half the time. Or him, for that matter. I helped him cope with the issues with his parents, and he helped me cope with the other students that, for some reason, were very angry at our friendship, and took it out on me. I grew to love him as a brother. (I was an only child, in the dream).

Two more years go by this way. he lived at my place (with my folks), the summer between 11th and 12th grade. By 12th grade, things were basically as great as they could be. The anger at us seemed to have died down, and we were participating in all kinds of school events. We had great marks in all of our classes, (I'd've called them grades, but that's not what they were called in the dream) and Dan and I were both in the top 10 of our graduating class. A few months before we were to graduate, on a wholly unremarkable Wednesday I woke up.

It really felt that the previous day was years and years ago. I've since had two other dreams that took place in that setting.

A few months after the previous dream, I had another. This second dream only lasted a few days (Short, in comparison to the other). I was closer to the age I am now (about 25ish), and Danny and I were planning to go for a weekend trip to another city. It was Tuesday, when the dream started, and we were getting everything ready for the trip. Dan came over to my apartment that day and greeted me with a big hug, which was our norm. He told me he was really excited for Thursday, because he was going to go out on a second date with a girl he really liked (I can't remember her name, but I do remember that she was blonde). We spent a few hours chatting, and Dan went home, and I went to bed. Wednesday was an ordinary Wednesday, but I spent a little time getting things packed for the trip. Thursday came, and I wished Danny well on the date, and expected to hear good things tomorrow (Friday). I remember hoping things went well also because I didn't want to have to cancel our trip if I had to pick up the pieces of things going south. Friday afternoon comes, and we're about to leave for the trip. Dan arrives at my place, and as he begins to tell me how things went the night before ... I wake up.

-=-=-

It was less jarring than the previous time (I imagine because it only lasted a few days), but it still felt real. Not like one of my usual dreams. The most recent dream in this setting (A few months ago) lasted several months, and, interestingly, took place out of sequence.

-=-- Dream 3 -=--

I wake up at my parents' house, and am a little nervous, because it's move-in day for 9th graders. Everything's already packed, and it's time to go. I find my dorm, meet my roommate, and get everything settled in. Orientation classes, class schedules, maps of the building, rules, and everything that happens the first few days, as expected. None of this is skipped in the dream, but neither you nor I would get much benefit out of that description, lol. My first few weeks of classes go as would be expected. I made a few friends, who I shared almost all of my classes with, and who were decently smart. We'd help each other study, and remind each other of homework, and stuff like that. We weren't super close, but we talked to each other, and made fun of the other people who weren't in our clique. It was typical high-school stuff.

A few months later (still dreaming every waking moment. I even had dreams while I slept, in the dream), I was walking between classes on a Monday, and as I'm passing a side hallway, I saw a student on the ground with a bloody nose, and another kid about to punch him in the face. I run over and push the other kid off of him and stand between him and the student on the floor. I yell "What the hell is your problem!?" And he's about to respond by bloodying my nose, but a door opens and a teacher pops out. He starts running, but doesn't get far. We all go to the disciplinarian and tell the story. I'm sure you're expecting this, but I find out that his name is(n't) Dan (but that's what we're calling him here).

There's an absolutely no-violence policy at this school. I'm totally expecting him to get expelled. It turns out that his parents donate stupid amounts of money to the school every year, and somehow his discipline issues melted away.

The dream continues as usual. Wake up, get ready for class, eat breakfast, go to classes, eat lunch, more classes, study for exams, eat dinner, write essays, spend time with friends, go to bed. Weeks and weeks. In those weeks, Dan made it a particular point to make my life as miserable as he could. He would spread rumors about things I'd done - one of which almost got ME expelled, and nearly threw me into a nervous breakdown. On a totally normal Tuesday, about a month before the end of the school year I wake up. I haven't been back since.

-=-- Final Thoughts -=---

I'm not sure what happened between 9th and 10th grade that caused things to change so much. After the third dream, I realized that it was my 9th grade friends that turned on me for befriending Dan. It was they who of thinking. I've determined that if Dream-Me could forgive him for being a completely unbearable person in whatever intervening time there was between dreams 3 and 1, then I could, too. Since then, Non-Dream-Me has a greater respect for Dream-Dan - knowing what he had to deal with, and how far he's come.

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I still love him like a brother. Every month or so, my Fiancee will ask me how he's doing, and I'll respond "No more dreams, but I'm sure he's just fine". When he does come to mind, I wish him well. I miss him like I miss any other of my friends I've lost to one reason or another.

People might say that none of it was real, and I don't mind. Believe whatever you like. If even for just a moment (years and years), it was real for me. And for me, that's good enough.

Thanks for reading. :)

Edit: Minor edits for clarification.

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fdubzou · 7 yr. ago

Cool dreams. Although I would hate to have to spend 3.5 years dreaming. Did you at least do well enough at school and retain knowledge that can help you here?

Like suddenly you're excellent at calculus or something?

Sol_Sanctum · 7 yr. ago

That's how I learned to tie my shoes.

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Jobexi OP · 7 yr. ago

I'm afraid the knowledge didn't translate well to here. Certain things were different. Laws of physics weren't represented with the same equations, for example. Math was roughly the same, but I've always been good at math.

genes. Did your father or grandfather have experiences like these?

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Jobexi OP · 7 yr. ago

Nope. My dad went to my high school, and my grandfather had a different teenage experience.

[deleted] · 7 yr. ago

Thats actually an interesting theory. If you dont mind me asking, Im curious to know why you have that theory and what evidence you have to back it up (not because I want to disprove it or anything, I just want to hear more)

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[deleted] · 7 yr. ago

So if Im understanding this right, you didnt know you were in a dream until you woke up right? Also, in the dream, did you have memories of the past at all, like could you remember things that happened in that world (not saying it was actually another universe or anything, but I dont know how else to word it) before talking with Dan in your class, or was that your earliest memory?

Jobexi OP · 7 yr. ago

Within the dream I did have memories of the dream-past, but nothing of this reality. Yes, I could remember everything that happened in that context. But, like in this reality, Not everything was at the forefront of the mind at once.

It was incredibly life-like. Basically like a different life.

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vspinkxx · 7 yr. ago

You said it didn't feel like a dream at all... do you feel like you had really been transported into another realm/reality? Were there current events? Like stuff happening in the news? Were they the same events as ours (gulf war, 911, etc)? What about celebrities and movies? Were they the same? Who was president? What about malls and brands? Commercials? Cars? iPhones (which version)?? (Sorry, just trying to pinpoint if it was a full * true * other-life, or if things were glossed over/excluded as they are in dreams.)

Jobexi OP · 7 yr. ago

I'm not sure what you mean about being "transported to another realm/reality."

There were real events that happened, but it was different. I'm not sure I had ever actually heard of 9/11 in the dream. Or even New York. There were radio celebrities. Technology was just different. There were no personal cell phones, or phones of any kind, and within the dream, I didn't expect that there should be.

If we're comparing it to present consensus reality, I'm not sure the dreams I had fall along this timeline at all. Some things were more advanced, like the ability to convert matter to energy in a more reliable way than even fission, but there didn't seem to be the same push for the same kind of technology we have here. Radio and newspapers were the good stuff.

I'd be happy to answer a more specific question. :)

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rianic · 7 yr. ago

Have you ever googled Dan's name or anyone in his family?

I'm also a believer in genetic memory, Because as a child there were small details in games I played that I could have never thought of on my own (I would say I was cooking quail eggs w rosemary and shallots - even though I had no idea what it meant)

Jobexi OP · 7 yr. ago

I've searched, but haven't found anything. There's no evidence that any such person exists in this reality: just in those dreams. Even so, it was Dream-Me that he was friends with: He probably wouldn't even recognize This-Me.

I think genetic memory is totally a thing. :) I think we've got a long way to go until science begins picking up on those things, but I can't see why it wouldn't be. :)

ashirviskas · 7 yr. ago

What are some things that you know that you really learned in dreams, but may have no use in this world?

Jobexi OP · 7 yr. ago

Specifically these dreams? It wasn't anything I didn't already know. The dreams were set in high school, and I'm presently a college grad with an astounding mind for information (not bragging, just the facts). Vocabulary was slightly different, and in the sciences, certain equations were different (different letters chosen to represent different concepts. For example, Change over time wasn't written 'Delta't, but 'Sigma't. For some reason, there was a different choice of greek letter for that concept).

Just simple stuff that's mostly irrelevant/arbitrary.

KingBroseph · 7 yr. ago

I didn't understand until the end that Dan is also a real person so it was confusing why you didn't want to give details about his parents or his real name. Is there any info you can give on your real relationship and how it might mirror the dreams? Did you two even meet in high school? Sorry, just not seeing what is weird about this other than the amount of time you spent in the dreams. Which I would definitely like to know more about how it felt and the dreams you had inside the dream. I had a friend say he spent a whole lifetime on a Salvia trip so I'm interested in how time can be condensed in the mind.

EDIT: I'm assuming there's an original post I missed...

Jobexi OP · 7 yr. ago

I'm sorry for the confusion. I don't know Dan (not his name) outside of the three dreams that I had.

My interpretation is that there's no condensing of time going on: just further illustration that time is illusory. But that's just my interpretation.

TrustTheGeneGenie · 7 yr. ago

Reality is all subjective anyway! Hope you get to see Dan again.

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Jobexi OP · 7 yr. ago

Agreed! Thank you. :)

egb1971 · 7 yr. ago

This is among the interesting things I ever read. I am in awe.

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Jobexi OP · 7 yr. ago

Thank you for the kind words. :) I didn't realize it would be so impactful. It took me a full three weeks to work up the courage to share it with my fiancee, lol. She's been supportive, as well, which is nice.

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life?

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Jobexi OP · 7 yr. ago

very ponderfully, lol. It was definitely jarring. I took a little longer getting out of bed, just to get my bearings, and had more-or-less a normal day. I wrote down what I thought might have been the important parts of the dream (As I do whenever I have a dream that I feel was worth writing down), and I tried to assess my interpretation on what the heck had just happened, lol.

After a few days, I decided that the only "Real" that mattered from my perspective is what I would term an "Experiential Reality." Once I decided that I'd stop drawing a difference between that which is "provably real" and "experientally rich," I became a lot more comfortable with the experience.

Which is nice, because I went on to have two more such dreams, lol.

the topic of very long dreams came up in conversation with a few friends of mine, about three weeks after I had mine, and one of my friends mentioned that he's had several dreams that last years at a time: The main difference with his dreams is that the setting and time span are different every time, the only similarity (besides the apparent length of the dreams), is the friends he has in the dream. In every dream(set in wildly different time periods and environments), he has the same group of friends, and something tragic happens.

We offered our interpretations, and I haven't heard any more from him on the subject.

egb1971 · 7 yr. ago

Again, this so amazing in so many ways. The fact that it was out of order is incredible, with perhaps free will implications. I presume from what you wrote that you were making decisions, not just witnessing events. Yet it supported later prequel dream. Also, not to pester you, but could you say more about the setting? Did it seem like Earth, having a moon, seven day weeks etc? From reading it seems so, but I do not want to make assumptions.

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Jobexi OP · 7 yr. ago

Thanks for your input! Don't worry about pestering me; I like talking about this stuff.

You are correct in that, from my perspective, it was no different from waking life. I felt like a conscious agent, rather than a passive watcher, in all three dreams. From what I can recall, it was on earth. I believe we were earth-humans (as opposed to being humans on another planet). Dream-me wasn't overly interested in astronomy, but days had 24 hours, and we had a moon. We spoke English (albeit, with a European accent..... Perhaps a dialect of British English?) 7 days in a week, all named the same. School went Monday-Friday, weekends were Friday-Sunday.

I don't feel that the dream took place in our past, though. And it doesn't feel like a probable future, either. It seems like something completely inaccessible from where we are now, as a society. I don't think it terribly likely that we'll suddenly choose to abandon telephony, television and digital computing only to go back to radio and newspapers (though, anything is possible).



 $ambthab \cdot 7 \ yr. \ ago$

This makes me think of an old (although excellent) show called "The 4400". It's about a group of people who are "abducted" at different times and returned all at once with super abilities. One character has the ability to transport herself and whoever she choses to an alternate reality. She and her husband actually live in this "dreamworld" for (I think) ten years before they wake up with very little time having passed.

Not implying any significance here, but the similarity is remarkable.

One question: in the 4400, the man who wanted to go to the "dreamworld" was in denial over the loss of his son. By living in the alternate world, he was able to see his son get married, have kids, etc...by any chance, did you have something traumatic or upsetting in your life that was negated by your "Dan world?". Was there something missing from your life that your "Dan world" supplied?

More aptly put: did your "Dan world" fulfill any needs that were not getting met or resolve any issues that you felt were unresolved in your life? Was there maybe a part of your childhood that you missed out on that you got to live "better"? (For instance, you said that in your "dream" you were at a fancy boarding school-type place...were the schools in your real life perhaps severely lacking, or maybe were you bullied alot at that age, or something else?)

I hope I'm asking this right. Not implying anything, just curious. The human psyche can be an amazing thing. I have had dreams that seemed to last days and days, but only a couple of hours or so had passed when I woke.

Jobexi OP · 7 yr. ago

Very interesting angle! Thank you for these questions.

All-in-all, I've had a rather satisfying life, so far. The dream was a wonderful (sometimes) experience, but I don't feel like it plugged any "Gosh, I wish I had gotten to do x, y, or z," voids.

Others have expressed to me the strangeness of my general outlook on life toward "Experiences not lived," but I don't really concern myself with "The path not taken," so to speak. In general,

Personally, I don't believe in the concept of "Missing out on something." I work to have the experiences I desire, and I choose to be satisfied with what those efforts yield.

There were definitely things in the dream which I've not done in this linear experience of time, that were extremely satisfying. But they were added on to my present experience, if that makes sense, rather than filling holes.

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If I didn't actually answer your question, I'm sorry about that, lol. Feel free to rephrase, and I'll give it another go. And, if you're interested, I'd love to hear some of you very-long-dream experiences.:)

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