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*"In a lucid dream I flew to the Moon, landed, but when looking back to the Earth  
I saw my dog Shazam flying through space to join me . . ."*

## **Tails of the Astral Plane**

by [Ed Kellogg, Ph.D.](#) ©2012

### **Summary**

In the 40 years since the Maimonides studies (1,2) it has become clear, through both scientific research and first hand reports, that individuals can become telepathically linked in dreams, and can even experience one another in a consensual way in a shared intersubjective dreamspace. However, considering the fact that many animals dream physiologically just as humans do, it should not surprise us that, given the strong bonds

between humans and their animal companions, that psi-dreaming might connect humans with other species as well. This presentation will explore human-animal psi-dreaming, and invites participants to share their own interspecies dreams.

## Introduction

The status of animals has varied widely in different cultures and religions. Do animals have a spirit or a soul? In pantheistic cultures, many people believed that they did, in some instances equal to, or even superior to, that of human beings. On the other hand, animals in Western monotheistic cultures often found their status devalued to that of automatons, without any spiritual component, and so devoid of consciousness that they not only did not have feelings, they could not even experience pain - they could only act as if they did so. This kind of human chauvinism led to horrific acts of cruelty and brutality towards animals that continues even today.

Scientifically, research has shown humans do not seem so much qualitatively different from animals as quantitatively different. We now know that many animals can make and use simple tools, although as a species humans clearly do this at a far higher level of skill. Even with respect to thinking, or at least problem solving, *homo sapiens* does not seem so different from animals as some might like to pretend. As anyone who has owned a dog or cat can testify, faced with new and novel situations, they sometimes can and do come up with ingenious solutions that clearly require a lot more than instinct. With respect to the ability to dream - which in some ancient cultures constituted the primary evidence for a soul - research has shown that many animals dream very much like humans do, REM cycles, dream imagery, and all. (3) And when it comes to psi, the ability to mentally transcend time and space, with respect to research done on some animals at least, most humans come in a very distant second. (4)

In the 40 years since the Maimonides studies (1,2) it has become clear, through both scientific research and first hand reports, that humans can become telepathically linked in dreams, and can even experience one another in a consensual way in a shared intersubjective dreamspace. However, considering the many key similarities between animals and humans, it should not surprise us that that psi-dreaming might connect humans with the animals they care about - and who care about them - as well.

Can we really connect with our animal friends in dreams? Can we dream **with** them, rather than just **of** them? For myself, after reading through the reports of many of my own potential interspecies psi-dreams, I'd answer this

question with an "I think so, but other explanations might account for them." On the other hand, from an admittedly emotional perspective, I feel obligated to say, "Yes, almost certainly." Below, as examples, I've included a few of the lucid dreams I've had with my dog Shazam, and one wonderful healing dream that a friend of mine had after her dog's passing. I hope you enjoy them!

## **Examples**

### **Dream Telepathy? (5)**

**EWK 38 33** (Fully Lucid) *"In my living room, (after doing a successful lucid dream healing on myself) I see Shazam, and to my surprise he talks to me. Angrily he tells me that he has gotten tired of the same old food all the time. I respond, "All right! So long as you can talk here, tell me what you do want - crunchies, chewies, what?" However, instead of responding Shazam just looks peeved, and walks through the glass door out onto the deck."*

**Comment:** A year earlier, for various reasons I had decided not to feed Shazam any commercial pet foods, but to instead make up his food myself. I came up with a particular formula, that had by my estimation, everything he needed, and pretty much made up the same food week after week. He never showed great enthusiasm for it, and would not overeat, but he had no problem emptying the bowl whenever he felt hungry. After this dream I kept the basic formula, but would make variations. The day after the dream I added some sardines, which he went after with great enthusiasm, and I made an effort to keep his meals and treats both interesting and healthy from then on. I must have succeeded, as he never complained to me about his food in a lucid dream again!

### **Mutual Dreaming? (6)**

#### **Shazam on the Moon**

**EWK 40 91** (Lucid) *"I fly from the Earth to the Moon, something I've meant to do in a lucid dream for years. I land on the Moon, feeling rather proud of myself for accomplishing this goal, and look back through the blackness of space to Earth. However, to my surprise, aside from a spectacular view of the Earth floating in space, I see my dog Shazam, flying through the void to join me! I feel a little worried as to how he'll get back, but he nonchalantly lands on the moon next to me, looking quite pleased with himself. He holds up his mouth to show me he'd brought his yellow jingle ball with him, just in case I wanted to do something really important, like throw it for him. I find this very funny - of course, even on the Moon, what else would my dog want to do but have me play ball with him! <g> "*

**Comment:** I kept Shazam's toys in a large bowl on the top shelf of a cupboard. It had well over a dozen toys in it, at least a half dozen balls, including three rubber jingle balls in red, blue, and yellow, plus a variety of squeaky toys. When I took them down he got to choose whichever toy he wanted. The next morning, as a sort of impromptu experiment, I felt curious as to which of the toys he would pick. Without hesitation, he picked out the yellow jingle ball.

**EWK 38 9** (Fully Lucid) " . . . I go flying over a rural countryside trying to find J., who would like me to try doing a lucid dream healing on her, but I feel no real pull. I go into a doorway, lose vision, but hold onto my kinesthetic sense . . . my vision returns, and I see a sort of tiffany lamp. I identify the house as mine, but do not notice the differences to my **WPR** house. I chant the god names of the Banishing Ritual of the Pentagram in the living room - they have a powerful effect. I find it hard to recall the whole banishing ritual, my memory seems a bit foggy. I see my Yorkshire terrier Shazam there - he's accompanied me into the dreamworld. Having seen me flying, he apparently decides to try doing it himself. He flies up near the ceiling but now has a brilliant idea - for once in his life he can pee on the top of things! He goes over to a curtain and takes a whiz on the top of it while floating about 10 ft off the ground, which I find very funny. I go outside to look at the dreamscape - I see a garden field lying fallow. From the light, it looks like early morning. I throw a dream ball for Shazam - but hear a commotion. I then see Shazam with a huge black dog - 300+ lb. and 5 ft tall at the shoulder, and a white cat with tan and brown patches. I throw a few lightning bolts to break things up - all three come over, along with another brown dog (about 100 lb. or so). Shazam looks fine, all of them act friendly to each other and to me. the black dog acts especially friendly - and it has Shazam's ball! when I decide to fly off to try my dream task again (to find J. to do a **LDH** on her) the black dog jumps up to catch me but misses. I fly away calling J.!, J!, but I do not feel any pull."

**Comment:** All his life, as a small dog Shazam always had to leave his mark at the bottom of things, but he had no choice. So naturally after having learned to fly, he took advantage of his new ability to pee on the top! Although in retrospect this makes perfect sense, at the time in the dream it took me by complete surprise, so much so, that I almost woke myself up laughing!

**Healing Dreams?** (7)

**EWK 38 92** (Fully Lucid) " . . . I decide to try healing Shazam's ear using an Energy Beam chant. I find it hard to get a good effect, at first. I get a thin red beam of light that I direct towards his left ear - I have to will it. Then the beam becomes blue. His ear grows larger as I work on it." RWPR

**Comment:** Shazam had a growth on the inside flap of his left ear that I thought might seem cancerous. After the dream I found I could now scrape it off with my fingernail, and it did not grow back as it had before. Although that spot on his ear always looked a little odd, with lighter colored skin, the growth never came back.

**EWK 40 97** " . . . Barely semi-lucid, I make up a chant for healing Shazam, which results in a fine spray of what looks like water coming out of my fingers onto him. ... "

**Comment:** My notes to this dream indicate that the next morning Shazam's swelling (not sure of what) had become much reduced, by 75-95%.

### **Psychopompic Dreams? (8)**



### **A Reunion with Diggity**

[From **G.M.** - an accomplished lucid dreamer, and a past participant in a number of my 8 week lucid dreaming groups]. **4/5/01** "In December of 2000 after much agonizing as to when or whether I should have Diggity, my toy poodle of 18 years, euthanized the decision was made for me when she

went into some physical distress. I had never imagined something like this might happen.

I had hoped she would simply fall asleep one day and pass over. I had made an appointment earlier that summer when I thought she really had no quality of life left, at which point she surprised me and made a sort of comeback. At any rate, ultimately she died in my arms and the pain was tremendous.

*This is my dream: "I became lucid and during the course of my dreaming I remembered that my dream teacher had told me that I could in fact look Diggity up should I become lucid. I remembered this and wished that I could see her. Diggity immediately appeared before me. She was sitting and looking younger and very serene. She spoke to me in a voice, though her mouth did not move. The voice was soft, mature and very soothing, it was a woman's voice. I asked her how she was, and she said she was well. I told her that my only mission had been to keep her safe and never let her go. Then I said, but what is more important, is what was your mission. She said "my mission was to love and to teach about love." I asked her, "did you reincarnate into Barkley?" He does some things that seem like you. She said, "when you see those, that is me, I am there to say hello and be close to you again, but Barkley has his own spirit, this is ok with Barkley that I do this." Then as we were finishing she said, "it's ok what you did, and you could have done it sooner."*

Barkley is my new puppy, born so I learned later, on the same day that Diggity passed on. This dream has been the most profound for me of any I have had. I feel a sense of connection that continues with Diggity and I feel at peace with the decision I had to make at the end of her life here on Earth. I believe it has been the greatest healing dream I have ever had."

### **Shazam and the Lost Dogs**

**EWK 59 183, ". . . Fully lucid now, I think over options of what to do, and decide to go with my heart, so I call Shazam! I do this a few times, and hear a scrambling noise. Shazam races out of the night with a pack of other dogs, most smaller than him, trailing behind. They all look scruffy and a little wild. They remind me of the canine version of 'Peter Pan and the Lost Boys' - 'Shazam and the Lost Dogs.' Shazam comes over to me and starts**

*licking me, saying hello. I scratch and pet him, which he enjoys, but he seems more independent and feral now, as do the other dogs in his pack, who he keeps an eye on even as he licks me."*

**Comment:** I'd has a number of psychopompic dreams in which I felt that I'd dreamed with Shazam, rather than of him, after his death on 10/07/09. I had this dream over 4 months later. I felt better, and comforted that he no longer seemed alone, but also a little sad, as he no longer seems the Shazam I knew - much less of a pet, losing his **WPR** personality, and developing his essence - a little wolf in the making. I felt quite proud of him.



## **Conclusion**

Do you think that you may have had a psi-dream **with**, rather than **of**, a pet or animal? Although hard to validate - most animals find it difficult to give detailed verbal feedback <g> - you might look for potential psi-dreams by these characteristics: 1. a strong feeling of recognizing the animal, or of feeling a bond with the animal while dreaming; 2. the animal does something spontaneous and unexpected in the dream, which somehow seems clearly characteristic of them; and, 3. something occurs after the dream, in **WPR**, that validates the dream in some way as having a psi-component. On the discussion thread for this presentation I invite you to explore the possibility of human-animal psi-dreaming, and to share your own interspecies dreams.

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**Dr. Ed Kellogg** has published numerous papers in fields as diverse as the biochemistry of aging, bioelectricity, general semantics, lucid dreaming, voluntary controls, and the phenomenology of consciousness. A proficient lucid dreamer himself, he has studied lucid dreaming and its applications for over 20 years from the "inside-out", and has a long-standing interest in the phenomenology of dreaming. He directs *The Phenomenological Laboratory* in Ashland, Oregon.