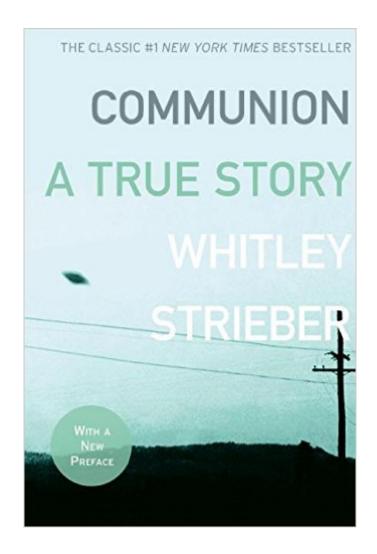
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Communion: A True Story





Synopsis

Book Information

Paperback: 336 pages

Publisher: William Morrow Paperbacks; Reprint edition (January 2, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0061474185

ISBN-13: 978-0061474187

Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 0.8 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

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Customer Reviews

Whitley Strieber's iconic 1987 book "Communion" is important mainly in that it introduced millions of people around the world to the reality of alien abduction: people who might otherwise have no acquaintance with this bizarre and obviously (at some level) very real phenomenon. It's extremely well written, as Strieber was already a successful writer when the experiences began to intrude through his consciousness in the mid-1980s. The publisher did an excellent promotional job and got the author interviewed on top-line mainstream media across the world; the book was very well promoted and distributed, and the striking cover image painted by artist Ted Jacobs - though not quite accurate in some details according to Strieber and other abductees who saw it - became an iconic and deeply disturbing image to many with suppressed memories. The book is written in novelistic style with great skill, as the author tells his own story of the trigger-events in late 1985 which shockingly alerted him to the intrusion of the "visitors", as he terms them, into his life and the lives of his wife and son (whose ID is protected as his name is never mentioned in print). It's a real page-turner and highly readable, as the narrative builds and fills in the complex emerging picture of

the interactions which are always on the visitors' terms and never (by them) explained. Back in 1987, this reviewer first came across the name of Budd Hopkins through the pages of Strieber's book, but did not come to personally know and respect this intelligent, humanitarian and first-class investigator until many years later. New-York based Strieber was lucky to find Hopkins, who helped him unravel the complex tangle of memories and introduced him to others with similar experiences.

I made the mistake of reading this alone in bed in an empty house over a period of 2 days - what a bonehead. It scared the bejeesus out of me. Every time the house creaked I was up like a shot with a baseball bat in my hands. Thanks Whitley, for depriving me of a good nights sleep. God knows when I'll ever be able to sleep peacefully again! Next time my employer asks me why I've got bags under my eyes and my work performance is suffering I'll say "I've been reading Strieber". Having said that I found the book fascinating, in a very creepy horrible way. I know deep inside of myself that there is a lot more to this universe than meets the eye, and I've even had some weird and unpleasant experiences myself when I was young. Though of the ghostly, not the alien, kind. That said, I was deeply disappointed with the end of this book. I got the distinct impression throughout the book that Whitley was gradually gaining an understanding of these beings, what they were, why they were here, why they were doing what they were doing. But at the end - nothing. I was expecting some final chapter on Whitleys belief of just what it was all about. But no, all I got was talk about the Triad and how it represents the pinnacle of Spiritual evolution. He was saying that he thought maybe these beings were trying to 'join' with us, hence the name Communion, in some way to produce a better, more enlightened, more spiritual byproduct. Well Whitley, I already know how to evolve spiritually, to expand my consciousness. All it takes is a moral ethical life, renouncing mundane worldly things and above all turning to God, the Infinite Spirit, every day in meditation and prayer.

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