

THE UNEXPLAINED FILES
BOOK TWENTY-NINE

PREMONITIONS & PRECOGNITION

CAN WE SEE THE FUTURE?



Prophetic Dreams, Strange Warnings
and the Science of Knowing What Comes Next

ALDEN M. CORVALE



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PUBLISHING NOTE

This is a work of general-interest nonfiction about premonitions, precognition, prophetic dreams, psychology, neuroscience, parapsychology and theories of time.

Extraordinary personal accounts are presented as reports unless independently verified. Historical stories are distinguished from contemporaneous records, and laboratory claims are described with attention to replication and methodological limitations.

Scientific and historical sources were checked through August 2026 where relevant. No claim that humans can reliably obtain information from the future is presented as established scientific fact.

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PREFACE

There are few experiences more unsettling than the feeling that tomorrow has arrived too soon. A dream seems to replay itself in waking life. A sudden certainty tells someone not to board a train. A stranger's name appears in the mind hours before the phone rings. After a disaster, people remember warnings, images and fragments that now look like advance knowledge. The question is ancient and emotionally powerful: can human beings sometimes know something about the future before ordinary information could have reached them?

This book approaches that question with the same rule used throughout *The Unexplained Files*: experience, interpretation and evidence are not the same thing. A person can sincerely remember a striking premonition without that memory proving that information travelled backward through time. A laboratory result can be statistically unusual without establishing a new law of physics. Conversely, a weak explanation is not strengthened merely by calling an event coincidence. The task is to ask what was recorded before the outcome, what controls were in place, how many misses were forgotten, and whether independent investigators can reproduce the effect.

The modern scientific record is especially instructive. Daryl Bem's 2011 experiments ignited a major controversy by reporting apparent retroactive effects in ordinary psychological tasks. A later meta-analysis argued that the overall database remained positive. Yet increasingly transparent and pre-registered replication projects have failed to reproduce the headline effect. In 2023 the Transparent Psi Project reported chance-level performance, and a high-powered 2025 metascientific replication program again found no stable above-chance precognition across hundreds of thousands of critical trials. Those results do not prove that every extraordinary personal experience is understood, but they sharply raise the standard for claiming a repeatable effect.

Premonitions also teach us something even if they are not paranormal. The brain is a prediction engine. Dreams remix