

Telekinesis

“Size matters not. Look at me. Judge me by my size, do you? Hmm? Hmm. And well you should not. For my ally is the Force, and a powerful ally it is. Life creates it, makes it grow. Its energy surrounds us and binds us. Luminous beings are we, not this crude matter. You must feel the Force around you; between you, me, the tree, the rock, everywhere. Yes, even between the land and the ship.”

- Yoda -

Lifting a Star Wars X-wing fighter out of a swamp bog through the use of one's mind is a demonstration of telekinesis. Of course in the movie it was done with a crane, but is telekinesis a reality?

Telekinesis, or psychokinesis as it is also known, is the power to affect material objects by the power of the mind. That is, pushing, pulling, twisting, lifting or otherwise moving a physical object simply by willing it to move. Now if the truth be known, who among us hasn't tried to do this especially when something we want is just barely beyond our reach. We have dropped a tool while working on a car, and by Murphy's Law, it has bounced to the exact geometric center under the automobile just beyond our reach. We stretch out our hand as we literally try to exert a magnetic field from our fingertips in hope of snagging the tool. The vision of Luke Skywalker's light saber returning to his grasp flashes in our mind. Or we painfully stretch our arm behind a heavy piece of furniture trying to reach a power plug we want to unplug. We literally imagine our hand has an invisible extension that will somehow reach that extra three inches that allows us to pull the plug.

Do we have any hope in these situations? Well, the evidence tells us that telekinesis is a real phenomenon. Unfortunately, the evidence also tells us that many who claim to have telekinetic ability are faking it.

In a number of cases telekinesis appears to be the explanation for actions attributed to poltergeists. In these instances the actions of a poltergeist (i.e., a non-material manifestation that moves physical objects) often are connected with the unconscious activity of people under extreme stress or major changes in hormonal activity (teenagers). In such instances it appears that the subconscious mind is somehow triggered into performing feats that cannot be readily duplicated by the same person in the conscious state. One such person, Stanislaw Tomczyk, who was born in Poland, had spontaneous poltergeist activity occur around her. Under hypnosis in the early 1900s she also was able to demonstrate levitations that were examined at very close range. So, it appears that an altered state of consciousness either triggers or allows this capability to be manifest in certain individuals. However, is telekinetic ability more widespread than we might think?

Uri Geller is a well known “psychic” who often demonstrates spoon bending and other telekinetic abilities. Geller's abilities are not without question, but it's not his abilities or lack of them that was the major factor during a British radio show in 1973. After demonstrating key bending to the astonishment of the host, Geller invited the listening audience to participate by

trying to perform telekinetic activities themselves. Within minutes, phone calls began coming into the radio station from listeners all over the United Kingdom reporting that knives, forks, spoons, keys and nails began to bend and twist spontaneously. Watches and clocks that had not run in years began to work. The widespread result surprised everyone including Geller. Could it be that we self-limit our ability to directly affect objects with our minds? If so, would someone who is somewhat out of control be more likely to display telekinetic capability.

During the late 1950's and 1960 one such man was Ted Serios. Ted was noted for being able to produce images on film that did not match anything within the room in which the photographs were taken. Typically when such images were produced Ted was very drunk, cursing madly and sometimes even running around half naked. Even with this behavior, Ted's psychic pictures seldom happened until this activity had been on-going for hours. There were even people with scientific backgrounds who, at the time, attested to the pictures being clearly of psychic origin. However, things are not always as they seem.

I remember one of the last times I heard about Ted Serios was during the broadcast of a TV show about the paranormal in which a TV video of one of Ted's psychic pictures was shown. One second the video was showing the normal room, and the next second there was a picture of something else which clearly was not in the room. It was amazing. Unfortunately, what was more amazing was the thing the TV video neglected to mention especially since it was the same thing earlier articles about Ted also failed to mention. They all neglected to mention and never showed Ted's "gizmo" that was connected to him producing the pictures.

Ted's "gizmo" seemed innocent enough. It was a short black empty paper tube. Ted would place this paper tube in front of the camera whenever he was trying to produce psychic pictures. Sometime it worked and sometimes it didn't, but Ted never produced any pictures without it. Then one day Ted slipped and someone briefly caught sight of something within the tube. Someone else also noted there was something a little odd about the position of Ted's hands from time to time. It didn't take long to put two and two together.

Ted's empty paper "gizmo" was used to occasionally secret a small optical device which he did with a little sleight of hand. The optical device itself was likely a novelty key chain gadget that could often be seen advertised in the back of magazines at the time. It amounted to a lens, a short tube and a transparency at the other end. It allowed for the viewing of a scantily clad woman when held right up to the eye. By simply changing the transparency and holding the gadget up to the lens of a camera a picture is made of the transparency. How this works is illustrated at <http://www.niler.com/es9.html> .

To produce his "psychic" pictures Ted simply carried on with his usual antics for a time until he was quite sure people were not paying such close attention. Then he would slip the device into his "gizmo", a picture would be taken, and he would return the device to its hiding place while the picture was being developed all while cursing, jumping around and generally behaving as a raving drunk.

One very fundamental question is whether or not the human brain simply has enough power to move heavy objects. The typical brain actually consumes approximately 20 watts. Imagine how

much usefulness you would get from the energy of a 20 watt light bulb and you begin to “see” (pun intended) how much useful energy we have here. It is amazing what the human brain is capable of doing with so little power. However, we should not be too quick to judge the size of the power available to the human brain just as Yoda points out we should not be too quick to judge his capability by his size.

Every day of the week infinitesimal amounts of energy are used to fill our homes with entertainment. A very strong TV signal at the input to a television amounts to 0.01 microwatts or about 1/200,000,000,000th as much as the power consumed by our brain. So, how is it possible for such a small amount of power to produce such a big effect (filling our home with moving pictures and sound)? It is accomplished by letting the small amount of power (the TV signal) control a much bigger source of power (the power available to the TV coming in through the AC outlets of our home). Could telekinesis work in the same way?

The key here is that indeed there is power that pervades the universe but which seems to be just beyond our grasp. This is what is referred to often as zero point energy. This is the background energy that is literally everywhere but is difficult to tap. We also know from certain poltergeist situations that the human mind does seem to be tapping into some form of significant energy. So, perhaps the mind is capable of accessing, controlling, modulating, or in some way directing the flow of zero point energy. If so, what might the limit be?

And God said let there be light and there was light.