



Clarion Review

Body, Mind & Spirit

Soul Journey from Lincoln to Lindbergh: Revealing the Mysteries of Karma of Rebirth

Richard Salva

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Five Stars (out of Five)

What happens to us when we die? Does our consciousness simply snuff out, or is there more to life after life is finished?

Soul Journey from Lincoln to Lindbergh is a book about reincarnation, using a unique theory: that Abraham Lincoln might have reincarnated as Charles Lindbergh.

While at first glance one might have reservations about such a radical idea, author Richard Salva painstakingly and exhaustively takes the reader on a spiritual adventure, comparing the lives of the president and the famous flyer, and makes a very strong, convincing argument in favor of his theory, in terms of life events, similar thought processes and reactions to life experiences, and even similarity of names. The theory behind the book was inspired by the words of yoga master Paramhansa Yogananda.

Point by point, Salva, an author and minister, brings up parallel scenes from the lives of Lincoln and Lindbergh. In a very convincing chapter, Salva compares the two great men's ladies: Lincoln's Ann Rutledge, who died before they could be married, and Lindbergh's Anne Morrow: each was a delicate beauty with dark hair and blue eyes, each petite at five foot-two, each woman twenty-two to the suitor's twenty-six. Salva discusses how the disappointment of Rutledge's death, and the following, less-than-happy marriage to the emotionally unstable Mary Todd Lincoln, might have found its fulfillment in the happier, more stable marriage of Lindbergh and Ann Morrow.

Certainly the whole cycle of reincarnation as it applies to the lives of the rest of us is addressed in a brilliant way. Comparing the lives of Lincoln and Lindbergh is a marvelously educational model of the theory of reincarnation at work. Salva discusses how a soul may not necessarily incrementally improve in each lifetime, but may slip back a bit here and there, like a line on a "reasonably successful business's financial chart." He describes the life of Charles

Lindbergh as “Lincoln on vacation.” Fascinating glimpses of the spiritual lives of these men emerge, and the gift of the author is to make the reader feel as if he knows these great men intimately. At one point, the author offers a comparison of a quote of Lincoln’s: “The world shall know that I keep my faith to my friends and enemies, come what will,” as a heartrending parallel to Lindbergh’s refusal to use marked bills in order to keep faith with his son’s kidnappers.

The author offers so many fascinating ideas and aspects of the two men’s lives that the reader will probably want to continue investigating on his or her own. Salva has included a bibliography of source material just in case the reader chooses to do just that.

Even those who do not subscribe to the idea of reincarnation will find the book most rewarding for the extensive historical work that Salva has achieved. History lovers as well as those on a spiritual path will enjoy and learn from this fascinating, consciousness-expanding book.

Kathleen Youmans