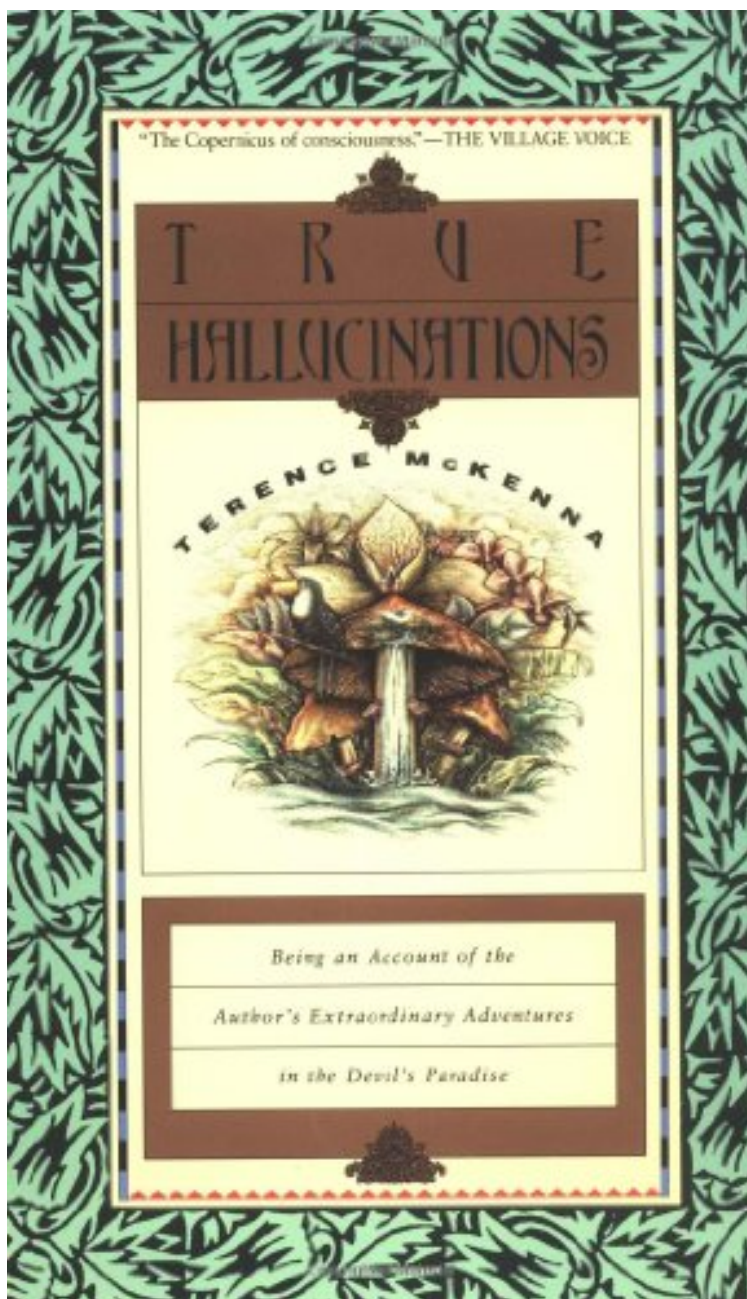


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True Hallucinations: Being an Account of the Author's Extraordinary Adventures in the Devil's Paradise

Terence McKenna

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Terence McKenna : True Hallucinations: Being an Account of the Author's Extraordinary Adventures in the Devil's Paradise before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *True Hallucinations: Being an Account of the Author's Extraordinary Adventures in the Devil's Paradise*:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. On to hyperspace!By DWNAn awesome story about traveling to the brink of the psyche via the shamanistic psychedelic experience, and the questions that occur there. "True Hallucinations" is true to its name. Pair this book with "Food of the Gods" also by Terence McKenna.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I'd imagine some of the concepts in this book re ...By CustomerI'd imagine some of the concepts in this book re hard to grasp if you've never delved into hyperspace.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy CustomerGood shipping time, great book! If you like the trips into other plains

This mesmerizing, surreal account of the bizarre adventures of Terence McKenna, his brother Dennis, and a small band of their friends, is a wild ride of exotic experience and scientific inquiry. Exploring the Amazon Basin in search of mythical shamanic hallucinogens, they encounter a host of unusual characters -- including a mushroom, a flying saucer, pirate Mantids from outer space, an appearance by James and Nora Joyce in the guise of poultry, and translinguistic matter -- and discover the missing link in the development of human consciousness and language.

From Publishers WeeklyIn 1971 ethnobotanist McKenna (*The Archaic Revival*), his brother Dennis and three friends boated to a town in ian Colombia, seeking a hallucinogenic plant that enables the Witoto tribe to talk to elf-like "little men." In psychedelized ravings interspersed with diary excerpts, McKenna records their experiences after ingesting mind-altering mushrooms and other psychoactive plants. A flying saucer slowly flew over McKenna's head; he calls it a "holographic mirage" of a future technology. Dennis had a revelation about a "psychofluid" that pervades the universe. McKenna flashes forward to Hawaii in 1975 where mantis-like creatures from hyperspace attack his lover, and flashes back to his tantric lovemaking in Tibet and to Indonesia where unrepentant Nazi scientists tried to recruit him in 1970. He posits the existence of a particle of time, the chronon , which conditions matter. A bizarre book. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc.From Library JournalUnlike McKenna's last book, the preposterous *Food of the Gods* (LJ 2/15/92), this work is more an adventure story than an anthropological treatise. It is the chronicle of the author's 1971 trip to the jungle in search of secret tribal hallucinogens. While his band of hippie adventurers never do find the fabled hallucinogen "oo-koo-he," they do manage to ingest an incredible amount of native psilocybin mushrooms, which trigger mystical and psychic experiences. It is hard to accept McKenna's conclusion that something unexplainable really did happen in the . Instead, his book reads like an account of an especially chaotic drug experience. Pseudoscientific ramblings concerning the nature of time serve only to move this book farther out toward the fringes. McKenna's story will be of interest to certain subcultures, but the appeal will not extend to most general readers. An optional purchase for public libraries.- Eric Hinsdale, Trinity Univ. Lib., San AntonioCopyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc.From Kirkus sReaders of *Food of the Gods* (1992) will recall McKenna's diverting claim that the ingestion in ancient times of hallucinogenic mushrooms spurred human consciousness into wakefulness and sophistication. Here, this consummate storyteller tells of his first life-changing encounter with magic mushrooms, in 1971 in the Colombian . Veteran of the Berkeley riots of the 1960's and of a self-imposed exile in India and Indonesia--during which he smoked pot, studied alternative religions, collected butterflies, and steered clear of the FBI--McKenna was inspired in 1971 to journey to La Chorrera, Colombia, in search of the psychedelic brew ayahuasca and any plants containing the hallucinogenic drug DMT. Joined by his devoted 18-year-old brother, Dennis, and by several other Americans, McKenna reached the Putumayo River only to be sidetracked by a chance ingestion of some magic mushrooms growing in a field. One mushroom led to another, and soon the wildly philosophizing Dennis had devised an experiment to determine whether the production of a cicada-like noise could bind the wisdom of the mushroom with his own DNA. The local Indians may have laughed as the Americans stumbled through the rain forest chasing flying saucers and talking to themselves, but McKenna's newfound conviction that the mushroom showed the way to higher consciousness determined the very uneven course of his future life and career. Now, 20 years later--on the brink of divorce from a woman the mushroom told him was his destiny, and pressed to earn money for their two kids--McKenna relates his journey of psychedelic self- discovery and study with refreshing candor, humor, and occasional rue. All of which makes this, if hardly a convincing scientific treatise ("My dear young friend, these ideas are not even fallacious," said Gunther Stent, a molecular geneticist at Berkeley), certainly a captivating, all-too-human tale. Here's one man who proudly--even passionately--inhaled. -- Copyright 1993, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.