

Most FAQ: “Why did an ordinary guy spend decades trying to connect strange experiences, science, AI and consciousness?”

Good question... it deserves a good and short answer.

The journey has been very difficult for me. It would have been easier to ignore the mysteries that presented themselves over and over again. Tenacity is both a strength and a weakness... I am too close to determine where I fall on the spectrum.

A deeper understanding can be found in my childhood. I was dyslexic. In my case, word blindness was the main problem. Imagine trying to learn when you cannot reconstruct, in your mind's eye, the image you had just seen. I had to grow new neural pathways by the act of repetition. This is possible by what is called neural plasticity. I was relatively successful; however, my

spelling is still a little off. I have finally forgiven myself for not being perfect.

This arc of discovery curates my journey. It allows the reader to journey with me. I encourage you to evaluate my observations, my decisions, and my conclusions as I encounter things that, at least to me, should not logically exist. Along the way, I became what some might call both a fallen agnostic and a fallen scientist.

This childhood challenge developed both empathy and tenacity. Combined with a puzzle-solving personality, they created what I often describe as a "dog wanting to dig up a root" concentration. When the contrast between what should be and what you actually observe becomes large enough, it is difficult to simply walk away. What choice did I have, given my predisposition as a dogged digger? I spent a lifetime doing many other interesting things as well. My Arc attempts to explain my balanced journey. I hope this answers your questions.— **Chip Cook 2026**