

# **Katie—7 years old**

*Closer to the Light—Melvin Morse, MD*

**Katie was found floating face down in a pool. An emergency CAT scan showed massive swelling of the brain. She was on a breathing machine. Emergency room physicians said she was a ‘train wreck’, with less than a 10% chance of survival.**

**“I was the doctor who resuscitated her ... She was one of the sickest children I have ever cared for. I was sure she was going to die. Three days later she made a full recovery ... one of those medical mysteries.”**

**When she felt well enough, I had a follow-up exam. Katie clearly remembered me. She turned to her mother and said, ‘That’s the one with the beard. First there was this tall doctor who didn’t have a beard, and then he came in’. Her statement was correct. Katie remembered more. ‘First I was in the big room and then they moved me to a smaller room where they did X-rays on me.’ She accurately noted such details as having ‘a tube down my nose.’ Most physicians intubate orally, and that is the most common way it is represented on television. She described many other details ... even though her eyes were closed and she had been profoundly comatose during the entire experience ... she still ‘saw’ what was going on.”**

**I asked her what she remembered. ‘Do you mean when I visited the Heavenly Father? I met Jesus and the Heavenly Father,’ she said. Her first memory was of darkness and feeling so heavy she couldn’t move. Then a tunnel opened and through that tunnel came Elizabeth. Elizabeth was tall and nice with bright golden hair. She accompanied Katie up the tunnel, where she saw her late grandfather and met several other people. Among her new friends were two young boys—‘souls waiting to be born’ - named Andy and Mark. At one point in the voyage, Katie was given a glimpse of her home.” She went from room to room and observed what her family members were doing and wearing. Her parents were shocked that Katie was able to accurately describe all of these details, including the meal that her Mom was preparing at the time. “Finally, Elizabeth—who seemed to be a guardian angel to Katie—took her to meet the Heavenly Father and Jesus. When Jesus asked her if she wanted to see her mother again, ‘Yes’ she replied, and awoke.**

**Katie’s first words when she recovered in the ICU were, “Where are Mark and Andy?”. She repeatedly asked about them throughout her recovery.**

**“I probed her family’s religious beliefs ... to see if she had been heavily indoctrinated with belief in guardian angels and tunnels to heaven.” Her mother was emphatic that Katie had not been. Her family was middle-of-the-road Mormon, but no one in the family believed in spirit guides or tunnels to heaven.**

**Katie’s incident is what led Dr. Morse to the study of near-death-experiences.**