

Irène
Former follower

APOCALYPTIC CULTS

I stand here before you today to give my testimony as a former follower of an apocalyptic cult. I remained under its dominance for thirty years, from the age of 20 till I was 50.

An apocalyptic cult necessarily has a mystical approach. The guru presents himself as a spiritual master: He has a doctrine, and he teaches you that the great religious and philosophical traditions all refer to a golden age which was lost by the fault of mankind, and that one day an apocalypse will occur, and a new era. The guru claims to have been chosen by divine forces: he hears voices which guide him, and which revealed to him that his mission was to work for the salvation of humanity.

When he meets you, he claims that this meeting was not a matter of chance, and that you are one of the chosen few who will assist him in his mission. We will be protected when the apocalypse occurs, and we will assist in building a new era ruled by universal divine laws.

He justifies this by claiming that the world is on the road to ruin, and that it is Evil that rules the Earth.

The concept of Purity is very important: thanks to continuous efforts to purify oneself one will be protected from Evil by divine forces. He is our guide, because he has reached a stage of purity which enables him to receive divine messages.

Once he has convinced you that you are an essential pawn in combating Evil, you feel it impossible to fail in your mission. Despite all the pain the guru inflicts on you while claiming to purify you, you resist and remain. We all have our weak spots, and it is sufficient for us to be affected by metaphysical doubts and to feel unhappy with life, for us to be influenced by his arguments.

The game consists in getting ready for the advent of the apocalypse: One must find a place where to seek refuge as soon as troubles and cataclysms will indicate that the apocalypse is imminent. We must finance the purchase of an estate with buildings to house us in a sufficiently isolated location, away from major trunk roads and close to positively charged places such as Commanderies of the Templars or Cathar castles. We must stock up food and equipment, for instance electric generators, fuel and all sorts of weapons to defend ourselves from armed bands who might attack us; because there will be general chaos, and there will no longer be any institution to maintain order.

The guru therefore holds the Truth and has all powers. He makes us live in a state of continuous siege. For thirty years, I had a knapsack ready filled with basic necessities, in case we would have to leave hastily for our fallback base. You are constantly made to feel guilty. He pretends to know everything and you are not allowed to contradict him.

If you dare to voice any doubt, he accuses you of having evil thoughts which spoil the group's egregore (spiritual energy) and hamper the success of the mission.
He divides to reign: each group member has the obligation to inform against any follower who says or does something unlawful.

There is the group and the outside world

The outside world is perceived as threatening and impure.

Some followers are naturally obliged to work so as to provide for the needs of the group.

They are thus viewed with mistrust, because they might pollute the others.

He asks us about our activities and meetings outside the group.

Even our emotional life is controlled.

We carried out excavations in the region of Rennes-le-Château, opposite Bugarach, for 18 years, permanently camped there.

The purpose was to search for the Treasure of the Visigoths, which comprise the attributes of Solomon's Temple, mainly the Ark of the Covenant.

According to the guru, the Ark of the Covenant is of paramount interest as it derives from an extraterrestrial technology.

There is supposed to be an underground extraterrestrial base and time door which enable one to undertake interstellar journeys.

Humans are considered to be under the dominance of a predatory extraterrestrial people.

We would be under control and the Ark of the Covenant would be a weapon to fight against them.

Hence the importance of this place.

Excavations were stopped in 1998, the guru stating that the location had to be abandoned for some time. He continued to exert his power on us and kept us on the alert for the apocalypse, promising us that the excavations would be resumed.

I soon started to be seriously in doubt, and I eventually accepted the idea that I had been deceived and exploited like a slave during all those years.

In 2003, I left the cultist group, managing to convince three other followers to come with me. When you emerge from such a trial, you find yourself at a loss and with the impression that your life is absolutely meaningless.

You have to reconstruct yourself and learn to know who you are, since for many years you had been thoroughly brainwashed.

You get the impression of an enormous parenthesis in your life, of having been plunged into a phantasmagorical universe, and of now being restored to reality.

You need a lot of time and work on yourself so as to manage to forgive yourself for having been so gullible.

Today, I have washed all that away; I've started enjoying life once again and have moved on. I hope that my testimony may shed some light on what it means to be under the dominance of a cult.