

## The Cavalier Nurse

The Survival Files — Case 3 — ESS = 172.5

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Dr. Raymond Moody, philosopher, psychiatrist, and author of the best-selling *Life After Life*, relates an incident in which he was attempting to resuscitate an elderly woman. While he was giving her closed-heart massage, a nurse on duty in the emergency room hurried into an adjoining storage area to get some medication he needed. This was packaged in a glass vial that was intended to be opened by snapping the thin neck with one's fingers. Protocol called for protecting the fingers by wrapping the vial in a paper towel. Upon her return, the nurse handed Moody the vial open and ready for use.

When the woman regained consciousness, she looked directly at the nurse and admonished: "Honey, I saw what you did, and you're going to cut yourself doing that."

The astonished nurse confessed that she didn't want to take the time to find a paper towel, so she had broken the vial with her bare fingers.

### Discussion

Commentary from [The Survival Files](#): This case "beautifully counters the idea that patients extrapolate their OBEs from sounds they overhear while comatose. It is extremely unlikely that anyone, even if they were awake and possessed exceptionally sharp hearing, could detect the snapping of a glass vial in a room adjoining a noisy emergency room. It is even less likely that a comatose person, whose chest was being urgently pounded, could properly interpret the meaning of such a minute click. The idea that someone could do all that *and* discern whether the vial was held by bare or paper-towel-covered fingers is so preposterous ... well, I'd sooner believe that all toys are made at the North Pole by tiny elves."

### ESS Score

The CS rating is "ee" CS = 101.

With a bonus in recognition of the interviewer's sterling reputation, the WR rating is "d+", WR = 71.

The IC rating is "f". IC = 0.5.

Total ESS Score:  $101 + 71 + .5 = 172.5$

For Further Information See: [The Light Beyond](#) by Raymond Moody, 1988, pages 19-20.

END CASE 3  
[TheSurvivalFiles.com](http://TheSurvivalFiles.com)