

FROM THE MEMORY OF BUD KAGAN re: Harold & Martha Shaman's Diaries

Harold and Martha's diaries are fairly close to what really happened with a few corrections. I never called Doctor Sadler a "Dictator: but rather a very autocratic person who wanted the conversation to go his way or else! I still liked Doc, to me, he was a nice guy and had a very heavy burden on his shoulders being the titular head of the Urantia movement. Doc was a fantastic orator and when he bellowed out in the second floor room of 533 the windows rattled.

Bill Sadler was much closer to me as a friend, a teacher a mentor and I was in awe of his brilliance and knowledge of all subjects – even airplanes! I can say without equivocation Bill and I was soul mates. Bill was more or less aloof to the Sherman so called "rebellion" Bill did not believe that our unseen friends warned Doc about Sherman, but it had a real impact on the simple minded Forumites.

Clyde Bedell was up to his neck in this petition business; even Christy was taken in by Sherman. Let me describe Sherman (Harold) he had silver hair not Grey but true silver, very good looking and a wonderful command of language.

Doc called each member of the Forum in to line out their names (I am convinced someone squealed about the petition) and that is where Doc got his information, not the Midwayers, Seraphim or other beings then on the planet engaged in the Urantia Revelation. Doc was very clever unlike his son who called 'em like he saw it.

The Shermans really bought the Urantia Papers; (Martha admitted this to me in her kitchen of their little apartment on Sunset Boulevard where many "B" actors and unsuccessful screenwriters lived on the cheap). Martha said to me as we were collecting the tea and crumpets that Harold really believed in the "New Revelation Papers" as she termed it but he could not stand the arrogant Doctor, there was a real "Blood Feud" there.

I speculate that when you have two egos like Sadler (Doc) and Sherman (Harold) there will be a clash of the "Titans" evidently this is what happened.

When all is said and done the Sherman's caused a real shake up in the (then) Urantia community. It took a year for everyone to take a position on whom to side with. So, in effect it was like the Lucifer Rebellion (on Urantia) where everyone had seven years to make his or her decision. see:

P.756 - §1 For more than seven years this struggle continued. Not until every personality concerned had made a final decision, would or did the authorities of Edentia interfere or intervene. Not until then did Van and his loyal associates receive vindication and release from their prolonged anxiety and intolerable suspense.

Harold wanted to take over the Forum group and with his charm and charisma probably could have pulled it off, but Doc had a secret weapon. He was communicating with the Revelatory Commission and used this to his advantage.

There is a letter floating around written by Forumite Elsie Bumgartner (I never met her) that Sherman wanted to steal the plates (which were in the basement of 533 then) and write a screen play about them. This story does not make any sense since hauling out 2200 lead convex plates would be a logistics nightmare. (He should have gone for the galley proofs which he could have tucked in his trousers and walked merrily away).

Now we can get to the nitty gritty of the Sherman diaries. Yes I had dinner with them (Shamans) I am not certain if Marie Methgen (a novice reader with less than three weeks of struggling through the Book) was there, But Julia Fenderson and Dorothy Elms were present. Subsequently, I had two more interviews with Harold and Martha Sherman at their Hollywood Apartment. Julia evidently caught a streak of whatever and phoned Doctor and said; "Bud is talking to the Shermans" She forgot to mention she set up the appointments. So a phone call from Chicago where the great doctor commanded me to appear before him the next day. Evidently 1600 miles distance did not phase him one bit. So I traded a flight with another crew member and flew the Cargo flight all night (propeller days) and took a taxi from Midway Airport to 533 Diversey, where I was led into Doc Saddler's office and got a real ass chewing for an hour or so. But I explained to Doc, "It was not me but Julia that wanted to bring the Shermans back into the fold," then I got another hour of Julia's physiological profile. I was a bit uncomfortable with the whole event. Doc "orftrf" me to never see or communicate with the Shermans again. I did not take this well, even though I was familiar with taking orders from superiors (and commanders) I told

Doc he could tell me who to see or talk to, I was not under his (sic) medical care and I did not consider him (Doc) as my spiritual advisor – at which time doc became irate and began to yell and scream at me. (I am convinced this is how I got the reputation as a “trouble maker”, (which I freely admit, I am).

I can summarize: The Shaman’s were really charming people, Martha was petite about 4 foot seven inches and very attractive (there is another story here). If there was a Sherman Rebellion so be it, Bill Sadler thinks not. But they did remove him (by force) from the second floor meeting room and escorted him out of the building, although Doc said Martha could stay; she followed her husband, and that it the sum and substance of the whole Sherman affair.

In summary: The Revelators chose the Sadlers, they did NOT choose Sherman! I would have to go along with the wisdom of our unseen friends. Of course, Doc Sadler was not a perfect man ... but he and his fellow Contact Commissioners got the job done, They received and published the Fifth Epochal Revelation to our planet Urantia. We should never forget that, as it was a momentous transaction. As Doctor’s son said, “When I see the Gold Plated Cadillac in this ...I’m out of here” As I see it, no one got rich over this mystery that lasted over 50 years, and many more.

As for myself, I was lucky having to be thrown into an experience that put me at the right place at the right time, I take no credit for this, it was one of those events that happen in time and space, and is was a propitious time for myself. I am very grateful for it.

Bud Kagan
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