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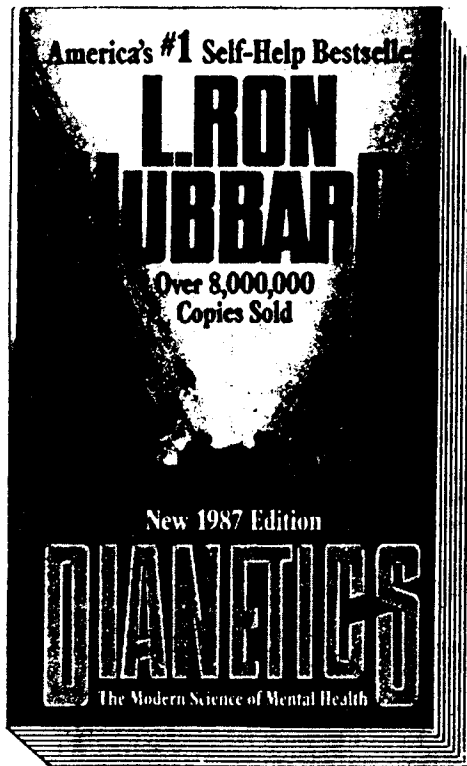
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Can Bizarre Aches and Pains Be Caused by the Mind?



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Scientology Suit Lacking Fraud Facts, Judge Says

By JOEL SAPPPELL, *Times Staff Writer*

A Los Angeles Superior Court judge has ruled that there is insufficient evidence in a \$1-billion lawsuit against the Church of Scientology to support charges that two corporations helped the religion's founder, L. Ron Hubbard, plunder church coffers.

The action last Friday by Judge Norman R. Dowds undercut a key portion of the class-action lawsuit, filed in December by a group of disaffected church members who claim to represent 400 ex-Scientists.

The suit alleged that a profit-making firm run by high-ranking Scientologists, Author Services Inc., had been used as a conduit to siphon church funds to Hubbard. Created for the same purpose, according to the suit, was the Church of Spiritual Technology, an arm of Scientology. Hubbard died in January, 1986.

But Dowds said the allegations were too broad and that the plain-

tiffs, despite court orders, had repeatedly failed to correct the shortcoming. Dowds said this led him to conclude that "there are no facts constituting fraud by them [the two corporations] that can be truthfully alleged."

Consequently, Dowds dismissed the two corporations from sections of the lawsuit that alleged they had committed fraud and had engaged in a conspiracy.

"The heart of the lawsuit is cut out," said attorney Lawrence E. Heller, who represented Author Services.

Lawrence Levy, a lawyer representing the disaffected Scientologists, acknowledged that Dowds' ruling "put a major hurdle in our path," but said he plans to appeal.

Beyond charges of financial wrongdoing, the suit alleges that Scientology officials have intimidated critics, lied about Hubbard's background and breached their fiduciary responsibilities.

Scientologists fail to suppress book about church's founder

Guardian 10 Oct 87

By Peter Murtagh

An attempt by the Church of Scientology to suppress publication of a book about its founder, Mr Ron Hubbard, failed yesterday when the High Court ruled that legitimate public interest far outweighed an alleged breach of confidentiality. The court ruled that the church's action was "oppressive and mischievous."

The book, *Barefaced Messiah*, by Mr Russell Miller, is due to be serialised later this month in a Sunday newspaper. The church alleged that the book contains two photographs of the late Mr Hubbard which were confidential, as well as extracts from his diaries and letters from his mother, allegedly obtained in breach of a California court order.

The church, whose members believe that the arrival on earth of Mr Hubbard was an event of cosmic significance, has been accused of splitting up families by converting children against the wishes of their parents. After a Home Office inquiry, scientologists were banned from entering Britain, but this restriction was lifted in 1980.

The church sought an injunction banning publication of the book until a full hearing of its case for the permanent suppression of the disputed material could be arranged. The Court of Appeal later accepted

an undertaking from Penguin Books not to display or sell the book until an appeal by the church was heard on October 19.

One of the photographs of Mr Hubbard was not used in the church's official literature, but was obtained by Mr Miller from a library which supplied authors. The second picture was a snapshot of Mr Hubbard on a beach with other members of the church.

Other material included in Mr Miller's book comes from diaries written by Mr Hubbard between 1927 and 1929. The diaries were obtained originally by a Mr Armstrong, who

helped Mr Hubbard write his official biography. Mr Armstrong later severed his relationship with the scientologists, but claims he kept archive material as protection against harassment by members of the sect.

The church succeeded in obtaining an injunction against Mr Armstrong in California and argued in the High Court that he also had a duty to keep the material confidential.

Mr Justice Vinelott said the church could not transfer to itself any duty of confidentiality which Mr Armstrong may have owed to Mr Hubbard. "It does not follow from the fact that Mr Hubbard may have had an interest in keeping his diary confidential that the church has the same interest as Mr Armstrong's employer."

Public interest in the affairs of the church and the life of its founder "far outweighed" any duty of confidence.

He said it was simply incredible for the church to argue that it could be injured by publication of the portrait picture of Mr Hubbard or the snapshot. Penguin Books, on the other hand, could be harmed if publication of the book was delayed. The church had applied for an injunction at a time when it would cause the greatest possible damage and inconvenience and was, therefore, oppressive, he said.



Ron Hubbard — had 'cosmic significance'

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'Murder' used in plot against cult author

by Richard Palmer

THE AUTHOR of a new book on the Church of Scientology cult has become the victim of a bizarre plot to link him to the murder of a communist pop singer.

Russell Miller, whose book, *Bare Faced Messiah: The True Story of L Ron Hubbard*, is to be serialised shortly in *The Sunday Times*, is being investigated by private detectives trying to link him to the death last year of Dean Reed, an American singer who defected to the Soviet bloc.

Miller, who can go ahead with the publication of his book after winning a court case in London against the Church of Scientology last week, is facing the new attempt to discredit him three months after an attempt was made to frame him for the murder of a south London private detective.

In July police questioned him as a suspect in the murder after receiving an anonymous tip-off from someone who used an extensive knowledge of Miller's work and private life to try to frame him.

Miller, a former *Sunday Times* journalist, believes the same people are responsible for the latest attempt to link him to the death of Reed. "There are teams of private detectives in the US and this country questioning my friends and trying to discredit me," he said.

Reed, 47, who was reviled in the US after he defected in 1972, was found drowned in mysterious circumstances the

day before Miller was due to interview him for *The Sunday Times Magazine* in East Berlin in June last year.

Reed's family, convinced that he was murdered because he was planning to defect back to the West, has launched a \$2.5m law suit in the US against the East German authorities. The family has been interviewed by private detectives who have a mysterious backer with a particular interest in linking Miller to the death.

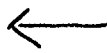
Last week, Reed's first wife, Patricia, said: "They wouldn't say who they were working for. We were just told it was someone with a lot of money who was prepared to help."

Peter Comras, another American private investigator claiming to represent the family, was in London last week interviewing friends, colleagues and relations of Miller.

The Reed family said they had never heard of Comras or his boss, a Washington lawyer called Keith Adkinson.

Comras said he was trying to discover whether Reed was murdered and he was treating Miller as a suspect. But he denied that he was working for the Church of Scientology. "I think they are a bunch of screwballs. If I'm not working for the family, I don't know who the clients are," he said.

Miller said yesterday: "This is absolutely ridiculous. I arrived in East Berlin after Dean Reed died. So I couldn't possibly have had anything to do with his death."





PRIVATE EYE

No. 675
Friday
10 Oct. '87

50p

Literary Review

A profit without honour

Bare-Faced Messiah
Russell Miller

Michael Joseph, £12.95
(copies available from
Church of Scientology,
Tottenham Court Road)

CULTS require their members to believe three impossible things before breakfast. But a successful cult's adherents can't afford breakfast because they've given all their money to the guru.

And, of all the gurus in the world, none was as opportunistic, mendacious, paranoid, miserly and psychopathic as Lafayette Ronald Hubbard, inventor of Scientology and Dianetics. Every story he told about himself was a lie — and some were several. He was a "war hero" whose only action was dropping depth-charges on a nonexistent target on his maiden voyage as commander; his only war wounds were imaginary ones, undetectable by Navy doctors. Subsequently he claimed to have healed these "wounds" by superior mental powers.

Homophobe and misogynist, he blamed the women in his life for all his problems — after he'd finished with their bodies and bank accounts. His first wife he simply abandoned, and he denounced his second, bigamous, wife to the FBI for allegedly having communist connections. His third wife he tried to divorce to protect himself when she was gaoled for conspiring to burgle government files.

He amassed a tax-evaded personal fortune of hundreds of millions of dollars, while his followers worked around the clock for buttons. The only salvation for those freezing dupes outside the Scientologists' shops is to recruit more dupes to take their place and fill the coffers of the "church". With the posed innocence of the paranoid, he and his successors invoke the "freedom of religion" to protect their right to cozen, brainwash and cheat.

He and his acolytes have squawked "witch-hunt" at every adverse comment. But then they follow his clear instructions to thwart his opponents by unleashing private detectives and instigating slanders, burglaries and campaigns of harassment that have the infantile malice and in-

dom of religion" to protect their right to cozen, brainwash and cheat.

Miller is objective, providing evidence that Hubbard was not always wrong. For example, he opposed lobotomies and EST — after all, he'd proved with thousands of converts that brains could be damaged without surgical intervention. He also opposed Nixon in 1960 and at around the same time recalled a visit to

Khmer Rouge and the Church Militant.

Despite the "Church's" customary harassment of Miller and its subsequent attempts to litigate the book off the shelves, it has not given the lie to this meticulously documented information. Miller does not theorise, nor even very often moralise. The reader must provide his own interjections, laughter and gasps of astonishment. There is barely a printed tremor of the dimples when Miller recounts how Hubbard, the saviour of the world, successfully stood as the road safety organiser for East Grinstead in 1960.

Miller is objective, providing evidence that Hubbard was not always wrong. For example, he opposed lobotomies and EST — after all, he'd proved with thousands of converts that brains could be damaged without surgical intervention. He also opposed Nixon in 1960 and at around the same time recalled a visit to

hiding, terrified that his super-human powers would not keep him out of clink if the FBI or Inland Revenue got hold of him, Scientologists have been waiting for his reincarnation to provide them with a leader. They need someone who is personally avaricious, who opposes paying taxes, makes impossible and contradictory forecasts, fears women and is sexually predatory.

Any offers?



BOOKS & BOOKMEN

INDIGNATION is still running high about the preposterous £625,000 paid out by Carmen Callil to her former lover Michael Holroyd for his projected six-volume life of George Bernard Shaw.

Since my references last week to Holroyd's reliance on Princess Michael-style plagiarism, I have been sent some further examples of his questionable habit of passing off as his own passages from the works of Hugh Kingsmill.

Holroyd's *Lytton Strachey* contains a number of highly perceptive remarks about Strachey, but many of them, it transpires, are not his own. For example, on Strachey's *Queen Victoria*:

"His analysis of Albert's character does pierce some way below the surface, and, in portraying a man partially akin to himself he reveals something of his own loneliness."

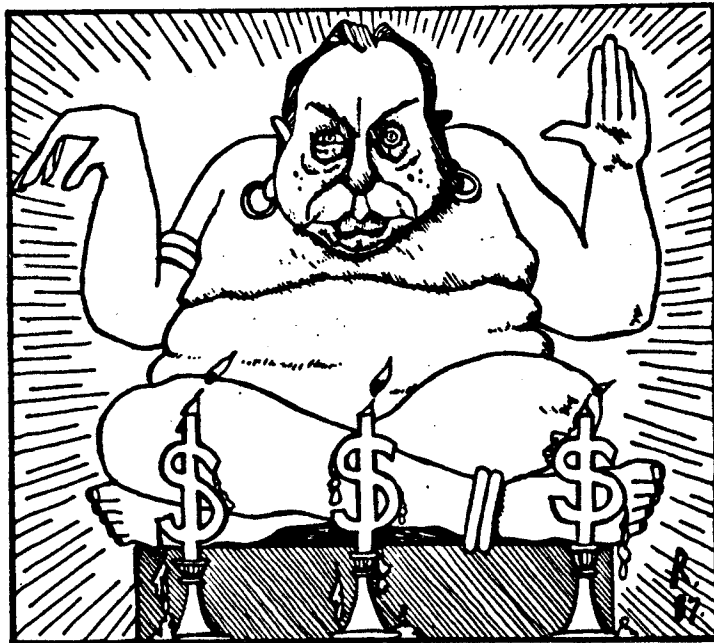
Michael Holroyd
"Only in the Prince Consort does Strachey pierce below the surface, and in analyzing a man in some ways akin to himself reveal his own melancholy and loneliness."

Hugh Kingsmill,
English Review, 1934

ANTHONY Masters, whose book *Literary Agents: The Novelist As Spy* has just been published by Basil Blackwell, seems to be suffering from an interesting form of Holroyd's Syndrome. Consider the following:

"He [Aleister Crowley] was well dressed and middle-aged with the voice and manner of an Oxbridge don. He said his own grace, inflating Rabelais' 'Fay ce que voudras' (Do what you like) into 'What thou wilt shall be the whole of the law'."

(From *Literary Agents*.)



ventionness of a children's comic book villain.

Equally unsurprising is the rush of gullible Christian clergy to defend the Scientologists as a new religious movement. It is true that cults draw upon the accidental discoveries of mystics and mythogues over the centuries, but Hubbard added to these the modern totalitarian techniques of mind-bending and the marketing skills of a Saatchi & Saatchi to produce a destructive synthesis of the

heaven. He could be forgiven a temporary amnesia as this occurred some 42 trillion years before, and memories — even the happiest — seem to fade with time.

Miller's book doesn't try to explain the success of an obvious charlatan who had often recycled the aphorism that the way to make money is to invent a new religion. Perhaps his success depended on his concentration on the money-raising aspect.

Ever since Hubbard died in