

Malevolent Maine

Episode 25: Astral Aliens

Malevolent Maine is a horror podcast, and may contain material not suitable for all audiences. Listener discretion is advised.

INTRO:

MEGAN: A farmer with incredibly disturbing crops. A lighthouse built in a most unusual place. And an uptick in strange handmade charms appearing in Franklin county.

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If you have a story you'd like to share, reach out to us through email, social media, or visit our website. Remember, we believe you.

The night is quiet and still, but you've woken up for some reason. You sit up and look around, but at first don't notice anything different. Then you see it, a glowing, semi-translucent person sitting next to you. And you know this person, too. They're still lying in bed next to you. Who is this second, glowing person? And what are they doing in your room?

This is Malevolent Maine.

Guys, what was that?

I saw it with my own eyes

No, seriously, what was that?

It's just not scientifically possible.

I can't explain it.

Oh my God. Oh my God. Oh my God.

This stuff is wild, man. It's real wild.

But... what was that?

Heads up, MMers. This one comes to us from a listener named Steven in Buxton and it's one that's got us keeping our eyes on the skies.

Many Mainers will remember the so-called Grinch storm that hit Maine right before Christmas last year. The storm, which uncharacteristically for December in Maine, brought lots of rain and strong wind, knocked power out to hundreds of thousands of Mainers and left behind millions of dollars of damage. For many, including us here at Malevolent Maine, electricity wasn't restored until Christmas night, or later.

Steven's story begins innocently enough. He says that every year, on Christmas Eve he takes his two young children out to look for signs of Santa in the night sky, while his wife stays home to wrap last minute presents. He says he's been doing it for several years and that both he and his kids love it. "We look at Christmas lights, the kids bring binoculars, and eventually we find some place to pull over and look up at the night sky," he told us.

This past year, despite not having power, he decided to keep the tradition going. His wife Amy was home and safe with the

generator running, so Steven bundled the kids into his truck and they set off on their holiday adventure.

There weren't as many houses lit up with Christmas lights, and more than a few of the country roads he often takes were closed due to fallen trees and storm debris, but they were determined to make the most of it.

Steven said while they were out driving, his daughter, Katie, spotted a red light in the sky. "She thought it was Rudolf," Steven told us. "I didn't have the heart to tell her it was probably just a plane."

Katie and her older sister, Moira, watched the light in the sky, and eventually convinced their father to pull over so they could get out of the car and take a closer look. He said they were somewhere along Route 113 in East Limington over by Watchic Pond.

"That light wasn't moving like anything I had ever seen before," Steven said. "It would cut left, then dart back right. It moved up and down. There wasn't any pattern to it."

The girls were convinced it was Santa's sleigh, but Steven wasn't so sure. Its movements were too erratic, too sharp to be a plane or a helicopter. Steven said at one point the red light seemed to pause in the sky. He was staring up at it while his girls clamored and fought over who got to use the binoculars. He said it was like the light was looking down on him while he was looking up at it. Steven grew troubled by the red light, an uneasy feeling sinking into the pit of his stomach. A moment later it zoomed off, streaking across the sky, leaving an after image burned into their eyes.

Relieved that it was gone, Steven convinced the girls it was Santa and that it meant it was time to get home so Jolly Old Saint Nick could come and deliver presents. Bubbling with excitement, the girls bundled back into the truck and began the journey home.

The red light had left him unsettled, but by the time they got home, he was soon caught up in the spirit of Christmas Eve and all but forgot about the strange red light by the time he went to bed. That's when things got terrifying.

Steve said he was awoken around 2:15 in the morning. At first he thought his wife Amy was calling his name, but when he opened his eyes, he saw she was fast asleep. It was at that moment that he saw his wife sit up in bed, or something that looked exactly like his wife sat up out of his wife's body.

"It was like a ghost or a spirit or something," Steven said. Amy's form was translucent and emitting a bluish glow. She looked at Steven, but her eyes were blank. In stiff mechanical movements, the glowing spirit Amy stood up and crossed the room. She stood at the foot of the bed and looked down on Steven. He tried to sit up but his body was frozen. He couldn't move a muscle except his eyes.

"That's when she started to talk to me," Steven said.

Steven told us that the ghostly form of his wife never moved her mouth, but he heard her words clearly. They echoed inside his head. It was his wife's voice, but devoid of any emotion, and overlapped with another, deeper voice. "It was like they were speaking at the same time," Steve told us, "but I don't think that other voice was speaking English. It sounded like it at times, but I don't think it was. Not really."

The glowing Amy told Steven that it had seen him looking up at it. It said its name was Giz'on, a being from the planet Tu'tlark. Giz'on was an explorer who had traveled across the stars to discover new locations in the name of his people. The being, which Steven believed was an alien, had come to visit Steven because he had been chosen, like the others. He was one of the special ones. He would serve as a beacon to the Tu'tlark people who would be coming to Earth to establish a colony.

The alien reached out and touched Steven's arm, on his lower left bicep. Steven felt a burning flash, he said like a hot coal had been held to his arm. He tried to scream but he couldn't. The whole time Giz'on was projecting images into Steven's brain, complex machines he didn't recognize, star clusters he had never seen before, and strange cities with odd geometries. The pain in his arm grew brighter and hotter and the images came faster and faster. Everything blurred together into a blazing white light. Steven said he was lost in that light, floating in it. The next thing he knew it was Christmas morning and his girls were yelling to him to wake up because Santa had come.

Steven said that lost in the chaos of Christmas morning, the strange encounter of the night before faded into the back of his mind. He said he assumed it was just some weird dream, probably caused by the stress of getting everything ready for the holidays and the unease he felt at seeing the red light in the sky the previous night. Steven and his family open wrapped presents, ooh and ahed over all of the new gifts, and enjoyed a festive Christmas breakfast of pancakes and bacon.

Steven said it wasn't until a few hours later, when he was finally in the shower that he noticed the mark on his arm. It was three dots, arranged in a triangle, each dot the circumference of a pencil. They were black, like bits of ash, but they didn't wash off. Steven said they didn't hurt, but when he touched them, he said it felt like there was something beneath them, little bumps or buttons. He said as he touched them, he suddenly remembered the events of the night before in startling detail. The marks were exactly where the alien, wearing the glowing form of his sleeping wife, touched him.

Steven said he eventually went to the doctor's after the three dots hadn't gone away in a few days. They weren't able to determine what they were, but they did conclude that there was nothing beneath the surface of his skin, at least nothing that showed up on any scans. They told him it was just a strange skin discoloration or mole, and that in a few weeks they would run tests on it to determine if it was cancerous, but in the

meantime he should leave it alone and see if it cleared up on its own.

Steven says the marks are still there, though they have faded just a little. He rolled up his sleeve and showed us when we met with him. The marks were still there, though instead of looking like fresh Sharpie marker they looked more like faded asphalt. Sure enough when we felt the skin, it did indeed feel like there was something beneath the skin, three small nubs buried deep under the surface.

Steven doesn't know what happened to him that night, but he doesn't believe it was a dream. He's positive he was visited by an alien who put something into his body, maybe a homing beacon, to attract others of the creature's species. He doesn't know why he was marked or what it will do, but he believes that some day the aliens will come looking for him. He reached out to us to see if we had heard of anything like this and because Giz'on had mentioned "others." He believes the alien has implanted the same thing on others, maybe using the near statewide power outage as a means of escaping detection.

Tom and Mark were all over this one. Tom has been our resident UFOlogist for years now and Mark said he's been fascinated with outer space and aliens ever since he watched an episode of Star Trek as a kid. So we turned them loose, trying to figure out just what Steven had seen and if any others had seen it too.

Here's Tom:

TOM: So... Steven's descriptions don't sound like the typical Gray alien stories. These usually involved abductions of some kind - like the ones in the Allagash Abductions or The Hill Abduction. We've seen these types of extraterrestrials recovered from Area 51 and depicted all around the world. Steven's case was vastly different, but not without precedent.

Religious author Shraon Gilbert described a similar encounter in November of 2021. She claims she saw the form of her husband sit up out of her husband's body. Her encounter was oddly similar to Steven's, though many discounted her because of some of the more... out there aspects of her story. Still, that wasn't much to go on...

MARK: Right. So we went onto the various message boards dedicated to UFO sightings and alien encounters. We asked if anyone else had any encounters similar to Steven's during the holiday blackout. The response was resounding.

Mark and Tom got over a dozen responses - many of them from people posting for the first time on the boards. They reached out to all of the posters, and while not all of them responded, they were able to set up quite a few interviews. Here's Mark again.

MARK: I spoke with one woman named Charlene. She said she woke up in the middle of the night on Christmas Eve and saw her boyfriend "sit up out of his body." Her story was a lot like Steven's. She said the being that took the form of her boyfriend claimed to be from another planet and then he marked her with some sort of device. She sent us a picture and it was the same three dots Steven had shown us on his arm.

Another one of the people who we spoke with chose not to reveal their name. They claimed they were woken up on the night of December 24th, the night the so-called Grinch storm knocked out power to Maine. This person, who lives in Standish, about ten miles north of Buxton, says they saw their roommate lying next to them in bed, which confused them because they had separate rooms. Then the roommate sat up out of herself.

We want to be clear that we keep repeating the phrase, "sat up out of their body." This is not us editorializing or storytelling. This is the same phrase that Steve, Charlene, and our third witness used to describe the process of what they saw. All three of them, with no prior connection or form of

communication, all described the movement of the extraterrestrial emerging from the sleeping host in the same way. "It was like a ghost rising up out of a body," our Standish resident explained to us.

TOM: So this person in Standish said the glowing form of their roommate walked across the room and sat on a chair not far from their side of the bed. The glowing roommate explained that it was Giz'on [Gee-zon] from across the stars. They remembered because it was such a strange sounding name. The witness claims they were able to communicate with Gi'zon by thinking words at them. They said that they saw a purple energy pass in the air between them as they exchanged thoughts. They asked Gi'zon who or what it was. It responded with an image of a ship sailing across the ocean, only the water was purple and the ship didn't look anything like a sailboat. It was sleek and made out of some kind of shimmering material that looked like metal, but rippled like a bubble. There were glowing lights that seemed to emerge and disappear like blinking eyes. The witness asked where the alien had come from and in response an image of a series of stars. They said Gi'zon marked them the same way it had done with the others and then was gone. They said as soon as they were able to move again, they scribbled down the star configuration the visitor had transmitted into their brain.

The drawing of the star cluster, which the Standish witness sent us a copy of, depicted a series of stars, represented by simple lines. We were able to connect with a local professor of Astronomy at the University of Maine system who told us they appeared to show a collection of stars near Delta Cephei, a star 980 light years away from Earth. The professor told us the cluster of stars appears near the constellations Cepheus and Perseus. Not much is known about these stars, but when asked, the professor said he had never heard of Tu'tlark, the supposed home planet of Gi'zon.

It is possible that the visions these people experienced were nothing more than dreams or hallucinations. Many of what they experienced - paralysis and telepathic communication, amongst the most common - are frequent dream experiences. However, nearly all of the people we spoke to mention Gi'zon or the planet Tu'tlark by name. Is it possible that twenty people all dreamed the same thing? Perhaps, but all in the same geographic area and with such specific details? Highly unlikely.

So what exactly is this Gi'zon?

TOM: It's long been theorized that any species advanced enough to travel the solar system would eventually have to develop means of communication beyond their native languages. NASA scientists have been using math as a universal language for their deep space transmissions, but many forward thinkers believe technology or perhaps even natural evolution might provide a more accurate solution.

A popular theory is that extraterrestrials would develop an ability or technology to allow for telepathy. A direct mind to mind communication would allow for a clearer expression of ideas and allow the aliens to be understood by us. Gi'zon might be telepathic, which would explain how all of the witnesses saw the form of a loved one. Gi'zon could be projecting that image, a much safer image than his alien form, into the mind's of those he marked, in order to keep them calm.

It would also explain how it was able to communicate directly into the brains of those it visited and convey complex images like a star map to its home world.

Which brings up the issue of what exactly this Gi'zon wanted with those he visited. Steven told us that the extraterrestrial seemed to imply that the mark - some sort of biological implant, perhaps - would help the individuals serve as a homing beacon of some sort, a human version of making a specific mark on a tree to indicate which path one should take. Could whatever is beneath the surface of these individuals' skins be sending out

some sort of coordinates to the rest of Gi'zon's people, or is it more similar to something they can scan when and if they arrive? For now, we simply don't know.

At the time of this episode we are trying to coordinate a meeting between some of those visited by Gi'zon. We're curious not just to see them compare their experiences, but to see if the strange marks on their skin (and whatever lies beneath) have any sort of reaction when in proximity to one another.

As near as we can determine, aside from geographic location, the people visited by the extra-planetary being have nothing in common. They do not know one another, and have had perhaps only inconsequential, coincidental contact. They do, however, all live in roughly the same region - the Buxton, Hollis, Standish area.

This hasn't traditionally been a hotspot for alien activity. While Ufo sightings happen all over the state, most direct contact with extraterrestrial creatures seems to be limited to the more remote areas of the state, typically north of Bangor. Such a widespread visitation - at least twenty separate encounters - should have been noted by a much larger portion of the population. We have several theories on this, based on the conversation we had with another one of the witnesses.

Here's Mark to explain.

MARK: I sat down with Eliza, a sixty-five year old grandmother of three who lives in Hollis. She was also visited by Gi'zon [**gee zon**] Christmas Eve. Her story was similar to the others we heard, but she had one interesting detail we hadn't heard anywhere else. She claimed Gi'zon told her the reason it came on this specific night was because with all the power out, there was less electricity to interfere with its systems. Apparently the Central Maine Power grid gives off a certain type of electrical interference that messed with the being's ship. With power

out for thousands, it was the prime time for Gi'zon to make contact.

In a way, this makes perfect sense. It could also explain why Steven was able to see Gi'zon's ship in the sky in the first place. Ambient light on the surface of our planet produces what is called light pollution. Light pollution is the artificial brightening of the night sky, which aside from disruptive natural wildlife patterns, also causes things in the sky - stars, planets, etc. to be obscured by the reflective light. To be fair, according to experts, Maine already has the most land free of light pollution. However, with thousands out of power on the night before Christmas, the night sky would be more visible than ever. While it may have benefited Gi'zon, it also seems to have made its ship more visible.

It is interesting to note that of all the people visited by the being from outer space, only Steven claims to have seen the ship in the sky beforehand. Then again, it was Christmas Eve, a typically busy time for many people. That coupled with the recent storm meant relatively few Mainers were out and about.

In the time we were preparing this episode, we did receive several calls and emails about seeing a red light in the sky. Many of them joked their first thought thinking it must have been a certain red-nosed reindeer. To date, we have had over a dozen confirmed sightings of the ship, though none of these people had an encounter with Gi'zon later that night.

It's hard to tell what made Steven, Charlene, Eliza, and the others visited by the alien so special. What specifically about them made them good candidates for what Gi'zon was planning? Or perhaps it was merely random, it's hard to say. We do know that each of the people who was visited did live with another person and most of them shared a bed with someone else. Whether this was by design or coincidence is unknown at this time.

It is worthy of noting that all of the visits appear to have taken place on Christmas Eve. All of the people we spoke with

were positive of that, and in the time since there doesn't appear to have been any further encounters with the being called Gi'zon. Which begs the question of where this being went. It is possible the alien has moved on, leaving our orbit for another planet, possibly leaving more markers for its people to follow.

The other possibility is that Gi'zon remains somewhere in the area, whether in Maine or somewhere else. It's possible that a being capable of projecting the form of other people, could perhaps escape notice. Gi'zon could be hiding in plain sight this entire time, observing, learning our culture and customs, preparing for the arrival of others of its kind.

One is reminded of the early European colonizers who came to America and their interactions with the indigenous people already living here. History has shown that through manipulation and exploitation, the Europeans were able to carve out a place in this land and continually drive the native citizens further and further back. It is not out of the realm of possibility that Gi'zon, like John Smith and others from America's earliest history is preparing to do the same thing.

And then there's the scary prospect that the beings from Tu'tlark are already here. It has been several months since the encounter with Gi'zon and without a good understanding of how their technology works, they could be here, settling, colonizing. A sobering possibility to be sure. Would we even know before it was too late?

A month after our initial interview with Steven, he called us back. He said that sometimes, at night the three dots Gi'zon marked him with would glow. He compared it to the glowing hands of a wristwatch. He says it's not every night and it's not for long. He says once it pulsed three times, then went dark. He told us there isn't any pain or discomfort but that he hasn't been able to record it glowing at all. By the time he grabs his phone the mark has gone dark again.

One of the things we haven't talked about with these cases is the individuals Gi'zon impersonates. All of our witnesses talked about seeing the form of their loved one sit up out of their bodies. We began to wonder if those people - Steven's wife, Eliza's husband, or any of the others - suffered any side effects.

If the glowing forms the people saw were in fact just mental projections, then the slumbering family members would most likely not feel anything. It is interesting, however, that Gi'zon sits up out of the sleeping person, as opposed to say, appearing across the room. This implies at least some sort of connection between the alien and the person it impersonates.

According to everyone we spoke with, they suffered no ill side-effects from Gi'zon impersonating them. Steven's wife said she was tired the next day, but she attributes that to the chaos of the holiday combined with the general anxiety from lack of electricity caused by the powerful storm.

One of the questions we wondered was how possible it was for a being to travel to all of the various homes on the same night. Even if Gi'zon is capable of mental projection, is it possible for him to physically visit each of the homes where these encounters took place? Not to belabor the point, but this was Christmas Eve and there's another famous individual who makes multiple midnight visits all in one night.

So we tasked Tom and Mark with mapping out the shortest distance between all twenty known homes. Once they mapped out the quickest route between the destinations they got in the Malevolent Maine Mobile - Tom's car - and drove the route trying to see if they could visit them all in a single eight hour window - ten pm to 6 am. Here's Tom with their findings:

TOM: So we did our best to maintain the posted speed limits, only so we wouldn't get pulled over. We also estimated the time at each home as being a ten minute stop, based on the stories of those we spoke to. Now, following

the roads and going the approximate speed limits, we weren't able to do it. Just the visits alone accounts for just over three hours. We did our best to map out a route that would be followed by a vehicle that wasn't bound by roads, namely one that could fly. It's difficult to calculate how fast Gi'zon's ship was traveling, but if we assume it's capable of interstellar travel, we believe it *could* be possible.

Then again, if Gi'zon is a being of pure mental energy, or is able to astrally project itself over great distances this entire point could be moot.

Like many of our cases, at least in the immediate stages, we're left with far more questions than answers. We do have a few conclusions we can reach. One is that these people were clearly visited by *something*. The most likely explanation is that Gi'zon is in fact an alien visitor from another planet. However, there is a possibility that it could be a human with extraordinary powers or an astral being of some sort. The visits on Christmas Eve could have been some sort of group hallucination. We tend to believe it was an extraterrestrial visitation. The lights in the sky, the specific star patterns, and the odd markings all seem to indicate an alien presence.

We're going to do our best to keep in touch with all of the people we interviewed for this story. Some, like Steven, have been great about regularly checking in, while others simply wish to move on with their lives and forget the whole experience.

If you're in the Buxton area, we highly advise you to keep an eye on the skies. There's no way of knowing how long it will take for Gi'zon's people to respond to whatever signal he's using the citizens of Maine to send back to his people. If you see unusual activity in the sky, we suggest you reach out to your authorities or contact us. Maine has a history of storms that seem to knock out power for several days, so if those happen, be prepared not just with batteries and bottled water, but be prepared for potential visits from out of this world.

Stay safe out there, Maine.

Malevolent Maine is Lucas Knight, Tom Wilson, and myself, Chris Estes.

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Thank you for listening to Malevolent Maine.

And as always, stay safe out there, Maine.