Near-Death Experiences


Whole In One, David Lorimer. An Arkana Book, 1990
Though this work takes the near-death experience as its focal point, it deals with a number of other issues, including reincarnation and life after death. It is a sophisticated, erudite work. It also contains an extensive esoteric bibliography. An excellent book.

The book that first called the general public’s attention to the NDE phenomenon. It is a good book and an important book, but compared to later works on the subject it is quite rudimentary.

Moody’s second book. In my opinion a better book than the first, if only because by the time Moody wrote this book he was somewhat more “familiar” and “at ease’ with the NDE phenomenon.

One With the Light, Brad Steiger. Signet Books, 1994


A virtual encyclopedia of the NDE, including criticisms and replies to these criticisms. As Kenneth Ring, another respected NDE researcher says, “It is a tremendous achievement.”

Near-Death Experiences: The Rest of the Story: What They Teach Us About Living, Dying, and Our True Purpose, P. M. H. Atwater, 2011. After the book listed above, one might think that Atwater had said everything she could possibly say about NDEs. Not at all! And this book is probably not “the rest of the story” either. She keeps finding things to write about. (See her latest book, below)She is an amazing researcher.

Children of the New Millennium, P. H. M. Atwater. Three Rivers Press. 1999
Note: Atwater has written 15+ books (at last count), the latest of which is *Dying to Know You: Proof of God in the Near-Death Experience*. It was just published (September, 2014), and I have not read it. From the description of the book on Amazon, it seems well worth reading.


**Heading Toward Omega**, Kenneth Ring, Quill Books, 1984. Ring thinks that the prevalence of NDEs in recent years, and the spiritual message which they bring, suggests that humanity is progressing toward some sort of higher consciousness for humanity, an "Omega" point of spiritual consciousness.

**Lessons From the Light**, Kenneth Ring. Moment Point Press, 2001 (A very fine work by one of the leading NDE researchers. Some remarkable excerpts from NDE experiences. Of course, all of Ring’s books are fine.

The books listed below are first-hand accounts of near-death experiences. Atwater’s also contains extremely important research regarding the NDE phenomenon. They are truly amazing, almost unbelievable accounts. Indeed, many people probably do find them unbelievable. One will have to make that decision for oneself.

**Coming Back to Life**, P. M. H. (Phyllis) Atwater. Ballantine Books, 1988 (Atwater is one of the most respected of NDE researchers. She also has the advantage that in 1977 she herself had three near-death experiences in the space of some two months. This book recounts some aspects of what she experienced. It is an exciting, almost incredible account of these experiences and also contains material regarding important research concerning NDEs which she has subsequently conducted.)

**Saved by the Light**, Dannion Brinkley. Harper Paperbacks, 1995 (An extremely interesting, readable, memorable—and important—account of Brinkley’s own transformative NDE and the aftermath thereof. Very worthwhile.)


**Fast Lane to Heaven: A Life-after-Death Journey**, Ned Dougherty, Hampton Roads, 2001 (The title of this book is rather “off-putting,” but it is well worth
reading. The significance of the title is that prior to his NDE, Dougherty, owner of two high-profile nightclubs, lived a “fast lane” pleasure-seeking lifestyle. His NDE totally transformed him.)


(The two books by Ritchie cover the same NDE, but there is additional material in the second book.)


This is an account of a negative NDE. Extremely interesting and moving, though you might have reservations about some of Storm’s views regarding the experience. The experience itself is remarkable.

**Proof of Heaven: A Neurosurgeon's Journey Into the Afterlife**, Eben Alexander, M. D. The title of this book was not Alexander’s choice, but the publisher insisted. It is an excellent book by a man who, before the experience, had no belief whatever in the authenticity of NDEs. Subsequently he has helped found an organization, Eternea, which is described as "the convergence of science and spirituality." Its web-site, which is well worth visiting, is simply "eternea.org."