

Synopsis of *Untold History*, 103,500 words:

MARK BESANT, a high-flying, middle-aged salesman from Exeter, has dreams of an alien landscape dominated by ancient pyramids. For twenty years he has failed to decipher their meaning, but the answers are searching him out.

When Mark receives a mysterious job offer from an organisation called SARA, which he later understands to be the Space Agency for Russia and America, he assumes they want his knowledge: both his father and grandfather worked for the British government tracking alien visitations. He is intrigued when it transpires they are really after his dreams.

Administrator of SARA, GENERAL THACKER, theorises that mankind descended from a moon-based civilisation and Mark's dreams are a genetically-inherited memory of ancestor. Eager to know more and rediscover his past, Thacker guides Mark to the concealed caves of the Rora Habab mountains, Eritrea, the cradle of humankind.

Vivid paintings cover the walls leading to a temple. Irish anthropologist and linguist, CHARLIE MCKENZIE explains the 2.5 million-year-old site was built by the earliest humans. Scriptures inside the temple offer a record of humanity's true history, and an incomplete prophecy of a coming apocalypse when the creators of mankind return. Fascinated by this discovery Mark agrees to join the moon-bound *Constellation* programme as a specialist to help understand the intentions of the alien race and assess the threat to Earth.

Mark's knowledge of space is dated, based on books read as a child, so he undergoes an intensive training regime. *Constellation* blasts off from the Centre Spatial Guyanais, but on lunar approach, the *Altair* lander loses radio contact with Earth and is incapacitated, stranding the crew.

Mark is drawn to the pyramids and escorts the crew inside. Guided by the memories of his ancestor he uncovers a strange metallic disk buried in the dust. Charlie deciphers an inscription depicting the past, present and future. The man in the future image is holding the same disk now in Mark's possession and Mark realises, "It was left for me."

Mark is drawn to two dormant stone sarcophagi, a portal he remembers, which his ancient relative used to flee the destruction of the alien civilisation. Activating the device releases hypnotic music which speaks to his DNA. Back on Earth, Thacker feels his mind unlocking and a flood of hate-filled memories return: his ancestor's betrayal.

Overwhelmed with rage, Thacker waits by the terminating device in the basement of SARA. Mark emerges last, staring down the barrel of a gun, greeted by the lifeless forms of the others and Thacker's murderous grin. A nearby technician overhears the struggle and raises the alarm. Thacker is remanded.

Tormented by the loss of his crew, Mark confronts Thacker in his cell.

Aided by further ancestral memories, Thacker now understands he was part of a bigger plot to start a new civilisation without the alien creators' constraints. By sacrificing his life, he secured the continued success of humanity and armed the children of Earth ready to fight back when the creators returned.

Armed with evidence of mankind's extraterrestrial origins and Thacker's stark warning, Mark secures access to an alien spaceship, *Stingray*, captured by his grandfather, held in a British bunker.

Inside the craft's cockpit, Mark realises the purpose of the alien disk he collected, placing it into the console, allowing him to understand and fly *Stingray*, triggering unprecedented UFO activity in the skies above Earth.

Everything about the Untold History of mankind is connected to Mark and he is transformed by this knowledge. He is to lead mankind into battle for freedom and a future beyond the destiny the aliens have laid out for them.