

# *Déjà Vu*

by Linda Hollatz

*For Anthony who may have been twice in the right place at the right time*

I had one distinct *Déjà Vu* experience in my life. *Déjà Vu* means 'already seen' in French. People use it to explain the moment of surprise, when they encounter a person or a place, which looks familiar, but they are sure that it is the first time in their life.

In my experience it was not a place, which looked familiar. It was not about meeting one person, who seemed familiar. I found myself in a complete new setting, in which I definitely had not been in this life with two other people. Every move, gestures, and the conversations felt like we had been there before and were playing it out again. It actually was more a *Déjà Vécu*, 'already lived.'

I tapped into the mysterious world of human memory and read about scientist's and psychologist's explanations and experiences. Could this have been a glitch in my memory? Yes, absolutely, it is possibly that parts of the experience, which felt familiar, overlapped the rest. It is also possible that I imagined this experience before it happened and then it felt familiar.

However, I clearly recall a slight difference, which set this experience apart. I can best describe it with the perception of 'illumination' and 'higher' frequency. And yes, this could be because even without it being an official *Déjà Vu* this event was already a miracle by itself and had complex consequences for my life.

My friend Kiki and I lived in Laguna Beach in 1990. We were both practicing holistic haircutting. One night Kiki went to a meditation gathering and in the circle was Anthony Morrocco who introduced himself as a hairdresser who cut hair according to the lunar cycle. Kiki got his phone number and when she told me about him I called him a couple of times to set up a meeting. Laguna Beach is a small town and to our surprise and relief since we didn't have a car, we found out that we lived in walking distance from Anthony's home.

The miracle was that we met a pioneer in sustainable and holistic hair care who became our friend and my mentor. Pioneers in this professional field are extremely rare like one in a billion and we lived down the road from him!

The moment Anthony opened the door and invited us into his home, the *Déjà Vu* started. His home featured very unique designs and furniture, Moroccan style carpet seating with lots of oriental rugs, cushions and a marble table. His studio and all the plants covering his house and gardens were beaming with colors. We talked for hours. Yes, it felt like we knew each other for ages. But I had met people before who felt familiar. This was different. This had happened before.

I have since pondered my *Déjà Vu* from different angles. Why was it that moment in my life and that one only? Scientific research finds that most *Déjà Vu* experience happen between the ages of 10 and 25. I was 24 at that time. Eventually, I was intrigued with the concept that a *Déjà Vu* could be a point in time where you travel back to in order to do things differently, a reset button. So did I travel back in time to do change something and why and what? Or did we, the three of us? Or was I thrown back to that point in time by a higher force? Why was I coming back to exactly that point in time? And yes ever since the movie *Back to the Future*, I believe in time travel.

Now 27 years later, Anthony's and my lives have been interwoven in many professional and personal ways. And so far I know one thing about my *Déjà Vécu*. It was one of the most magical moments in my life.

