

Interestingly, science is moving towards a view much closer to that of Wyrd than to the view we commonly assume in our daily lives, which is based on outmoded scientific assumptions. The old view that we experience the world directly with our senses is in modern psychological science becoming increasingly implausible. It is now believed that our sensory system itself is built to be selective in what it takes in of the outside world, while in experiential terms the effect is even more pronounced. Ordinary awareness is now becoming to be seen not as a 'natural' or given state, but as a highly complex personal construction. 'Reality' is how we each subjectively perceive the world to be. This is not to say of course that we do not share much of it - if we did not, the result would be chaos. But it is clear nevertheless that there is an enormous wealth of 'private' experience which is as

important as the so-called 'reality' of the shared world.

So what of the werewolf? After my encounter with the wolf, I suggested to the woman that she had hypnotized me, and induced in me a state of mind that led me to hallucinate. She rejected this notion. She said that what had happened between us was in another dimension; an energy field not yet known to science. As a scientist, I cannot rule this out and say it is impossible; the history of science is littered with discoveries of the supposedly impossible. But I do not need to be convinced of the material being of the wolf to know that I had a powerful perceptual experience that will live with me long after I have forgotten many of the 'real' happenings of so-called ordinary consciousness. **Experientially** I saw a werewolf, and that is real enough for me.

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**intellectual**

compassion and understanding were her yardsticks.  
love, however, was beyond her compassion;  
because she couldn't understand it,  
she couldn't measure it.

**Wilson Stapleton**