

- Yakov M. Hirschson



Superhumans: Extraordinary People with Extraordinary Capabilities

Among the seven billion people who populate the planet are individuals with such amazing abilities that they are literally in a class of their own. Like other forms of natural wonders, these people serve as a living reminder of Hashem's unfathomable powers and how, on a small scale, He granted some of them to mankind.

Electric Human

The Man Who Conducts Electricity with His Body!

The discovery of electricity has brought much benefit to the world, yet it also has introduced a new hazard to humanity that—other than in the form of lightning—was previously unknown. The tremendous advantages of harnessing electricity for our use must be undertaken with the necessary precautions such that the end result causes much more good than harm.

Anyone who has accidentally touched a live wire will not quickly forget the decidedly unpleasant experience of feeling an electric surge race through his body. In America alone, 500 people die each year from accidental electrocution. The electric chair was long used as a method of carrying out capital punishment.

Rajmohan Nair of Kollam, India, has the unique ability to grab a live electric wire and allow the electricity to pass through his body without suffering any ill effects. In one of his tricks, he attaches a live wire to his feet and sticks a light bulb in his mouth. Wonder of wonders—the bulb lights up!

An average man would go into cardiac arrest if he was exposed to 1/10 of an amp, but Nair can pass a three amp charge through his body—enough power to operate a kitchen mixer. In another trick, Nair plugged himself into an outlet and connected himself to a hot plate. Everyone knows that hot plates use far more electricity than an average appliance, and if another person were to try this trick for even 1/10 of a second, he would not survive. Nair waited calmly in this position while a reporter fried some French toast on the hot plate. All he suffered was temporary blindness as a result of the stunt.

How did Nair discover his unusual nature? He lost his mother at the age of seven and the depression he suffered brought on suicidal thoughts. Having heard grownups say that touching a live electric line could cause death, he climbed an electric pole and



Rajmohan Nair conducts an electric current through his body to power a hot plate. Inset: Lighting up a bulb through his body.

cut one of the wires from the transformer. Nair was shocked not to feel any shock!

The very means that he had chosen to bring an end to his life actually brought him a new lease on life. Nair has since become world-renowned for his incredible capability.

“It is G-d’s gift,” Nair says humbly.

Scientists have no explanation for how this man can survive an electric current. A device used to test how much electricity a given person can survive indicated that Nair can survive 10 times the amount of electricity that would kill another man.

Marathon Man

The Man Who Can Run For Days without Sleeping

Dean Karnazes can run at top speed for days without stopping to rest. Yes, *days!*

On one occasion, he ran 350 miles without letup in a tour-de-force that took him over three days. Karnazes participated in the only marathon to the South Pole (he came in second) and recently, at the age of 44, he ran in 50 marathons over 50 days in each of the 50 states. The final marathon was the famous New York Marathon. When he completed that run he decided to run all the way back home... to San Francisco.

Karnazes was raised in Los Angeles by his Greek immigrant parents. He began running while in kindergarten to relieve his mother from having to pick him up from school every day. With time he began taking roundabout routes home to improve his stamina, and by third grade he was taking part in track events. At 11, he ran the length of the Grand Canyon—a distance of 277 miles! He also climbed eastern California’s Mount Whitney, the tallest peak in the 48 contiguous states. By his twelfth birthday he did the 40-mile bike ride to his grandfather’s house just for fun without even bothering to inform his parents.

Once after winning a race in high school, Karnazes’ track coach congratulated him and asked him how he was feeling.

“Very good,” he said.

“If you feel very good,” the instructor retorted, “then you weren’t giving it your all. It’s supposed to hurt!”

Karnazes took the lesson to heart and since then he continuously pushes himself harder and harder to achieve more, not giving up until he feels he can’t go on any longer.

Among the various, unbelievable marathons Karnazes has taken part in is the 135-mile run through Death Valley in the Mojave Desert of California in 120°F! He once spent 24 hours on a treadmill, during which he racked up 148 miles. More recently he ran 3,000 miles across America from Disneyland in California to New York City in 75 days, running 40 to 50 miles each day.

Human Bee Hive

He Controls Hundreds of Bees Crawling Over Him

If you’ve ever been stung by a bee, you’re undoubtedly not looking forward to repeating the experience. And we all know that being attacked by a swarm of angry bees can be life-threatening. No wonder that



Dean Karnazes can run for days on end. Here: Running up a mountain’s side without much difficulty.

most of us are uncomfortable when a bee gets too close, and some of us actually suffer from bee-phobia.

Dr. Norman Gary, a professor in Sacramento, California, is so unshaken by bees that he allows them to crawl all over him without suffering the least bit of discomfort. Dr. Gary has the unusual ability to control bees and he has performed at shows around the world in which he is covered from head to toe by hundreds of bees without the slightest ill effects.

It’s not that Gary is immune to bee stings. He’s suffered his share of painful memories in his life. What sets him apart is his ability to control them so they don’t get aggressive and attack him. One of his first rules of bee farming is to make sure that the bees never feel that they are in danger or under attack. One wrong move and the entire colony can turn against their handler.

Dr. Gary is a musician who likes to play the clarinet—while he is covered by bees. He has to put up with the occasional bee entering his open mouth, and he will sometimes get stung when he lowers his fingers as he plays the instrument and one of the bees takes this as a personal offense. Then he must suffer in silence and control his instincts to break loose or else he would anger the entire mass of bees at once, and that could be fatal.

Gary was born on a farm in Florida and survived the Great Depression in childhood.