

SAM McMANIS

Around Mount Diablo

Healing From The Psychic Hard Hatter

Sometimes, in the search for enlightenment and book sales, a guy's got to suffer a bit.

Lafayette's **Chuck Coburn**, deep in the Ecuadoran rain forest researching his latest metaphysical masterpiece, "Reality Is Just an Illusion," let a shaman from a healing circle slip a live bee down his pants to "cure" him of a nasty bout of colitis and dysentery.



Psychic Chuck
Coburn of Lafayette

Gee, wonder if Chuck's HMO covered that.

"I didn't move any of my body parts for 20 minutes after he put the bee in there," Coburn says. "It felt like *something* was down there. After the healing was over, I made a

beeline to the outhouse, pulled down my pants and felt a buzzing movement where one does not want to feel that. Then, the bee flies out. The shaman says, 'I told the bee not to sting you.'"

And you know what? Coburn felt better.

The book (Llewellyn Trade, \$9.95) is chock full of interesting and bizarre events chronicled by Coburn, who left his \$8 million-a-year construction business in 1988 after discovering that he was a psychic.

Chuck knows what you're thinking, namely that the guy must be a first-class oddball. "I deal with that all the time," Coburn says. "Basically, you have to be open to the experience to benefit from psychic work."

Coburn swears by the spiritual and psychic healing that he's witnessed. There was the Brazilian healer who jammed 12-inch tweezers into the back of patients to cure hypertension, the shaman who heals with light emanating from seven locations on his body (don't ask which) and the shaman who rubbed an egg over a body to remove disharmony.

Try getting that kind of treatment at Kaiser.