



Title: **The Reality Interface**

Speaker: **Ransom Stephens, Ph.D.**

Description:

You derive every emotion, every memory, every concept however abstract or concrete, everything you know from five inputs: your senses. We'll take a rollercoaster ride through the science of how the brain processes sensory data, how it affects our perceptions of reality, and how reality differs for different people and how it might appear from an animal's senses.

This speech helps participants understand:

- How the brain works in three easy pieces with lots of complicated connections—and very little jargon!
- Show how people respond in different timescales and how that affects our concepts of cause and effect
- Describe the feedback loops between the senses, the body, the brain, and other people
- The inescapably subjective nature of our realities
- The realities of whales, dogs, and trees (and naked people)
- Present the ultimate power of perspective and some ideas for how to use it

About the Speaker:

Ransom Stephens, Ph.D., is a scientist and novelist. He's written hundreds of articles on subjects ranging from neuroscience to quantum physics to parenting teenagers. In his first novel, *The God Patent* (47North, 2010), a troubled father is caught in the science-religion culture war and in his second, *The Sensory Deception* (47North, 2013), scientists and venture capitalists use the relationship between the senses and the mind to give people the experiences of endangered animals. His latest book, *The Left Brain Speaks but the Right Brain Laughs* (Viva Editions, 2016), is an irreverent, accurate look at neuroscience for a lay-audience with emphasis on innovation in art and science. Ransom has given thousands of speeches across the US, Europe, and Asia and has developed a reputation for making complex topics accessible and funny.

Details:

A 15, 35, 50, or 75 minute presentation for anyone interested in how their brains work and how to make them work better. The presentation is best with an HDMI compatible overhead projector, but it's not required. Each speech is customized to address the specific needs of the audience. Past speeches have been delivered to audiences at colleges, cafes, museums, community centers, bars, bookstores, and even atop a mountain!

Ransom W. Stephens, Ph.D.
Scientist • Author • Speaker

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