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REACHING FOR HIGHER GROUND

A NEWSLETTER DEDICATED TO EXPLORING SPIRITUALITY WITH JOHN DENVER



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Open up your eyes and see the brand new day
A clear blue sky and brightly shining sun
Open up your ears and hear the breezes say
Everything that's cold and gray is gone
Open up your hands and feel the rain come down
Taste the wind and smell the flowers' sweet perfume
Open up your mind and let the light come in
The earth has been reborn and life goes on

Do you care what's happening around you
Do your senses know the changes when they come
Can you see yourself reflected in the seasons
Can you understand the need to carry on

Riding on the tapestry of all there is to see So many ways and oh so many things Rejoicing in the differences, there's no one just like me Yet as different as we are we're still the same

And oh I love the life within me
I feel a part of everything I see
And oh I love the life around me
A part of everything is here in me
Words and music by John Denver

GREETINGS!

Happy New Year to all my JD family. I was hoping to get this newsletter out sooner, but it has been quite a hectic winter, all in all. My van has needed extensive repairs (to the "tune" of about \$1,000 total!), and my husband dislocated his shoulder, so I've had to take over all the shuttling of the kids around, do most of the cooking, take him to his doctor's appointments, and basically be his "other arm" while his is in the sling. Hardly a moment to myself! (Oh yeah, and not to mention working fultime and the snow!) But I have managed to get quite a bit of my Higher Ground workshop prepared and ready to present, which I'll explain in the "Choices in Action" section. I also received my Reiki Level II in December, although I have not had much time to use it yet!

Remember in the last newsletter I mentioned that I had given my Reiki master a picture of John? Well, when I went back to her house for Level II I didn't see the picture on her wall anywhere, and I was a little concerned that maybe she didn't like it after all, or something. But I "heard" John say not to worry, that she had put it in a special place.

Well, a little while later I had to use the bathroom, and when I walked in, there was the picture! Then I remembered an e-mail that I had exchanged with Meow back in the summer of '98, in which we discussed John "visiting" people in their bathrooms, giving them songs, ideas, and inspirations there, and it all made perfect sense! Kate then told me that she had originally put him up on the wall in the Reiki room, but she didn't really feel as though it belonged there. She felt drawn to put him in the bathroom. I told her that it was very appropriate, as John's favorite scene in the movie "Oh God" was when he encountered God in the bathroom, and also that John really liked the solitude and peace that he found there in his life.

So as you can see, the very undeniable presence of his love and peace that surrounds and embraces us continues to be a blessing in my life. It is just so incredible! I hope you know that he is still really watching closely over us, as much as ever. Even if we don't know it, he's there.

Just the other day my friend Jerry (who always comes through for Lance and me and wouldn't ya know it, his birthday is 12/31) was taking me to the transmission repair shop to pick up my van (that was \$800 of the \$1,000!), but we were having trouble finding the place. At one point we knew we had passed it so we turned around, and just before we reached it again, a beautiful red-tailed hawk flew across the road in front of us and circled over the place as though he was pointing it out to us! I just looked up and said to myself, "Thank you, John," and to my husband who had come along for the ride I commented, "Isn't it funny how the hawk appeared just as we got to the place?" He's used to these things happening though, and so he knows better than to think that it was "just a coincidence."

Then there was the time on December 15, 1999 (the same day in 1997 that I also received some signs from John), when I was driving to the grocery store on my way home from work thinking about all the 27 coincidences that keep happening, and what they could possibly mean. The first line from RMH came into my mind, and I saw myself standing in the check-out line at the store and the song coming on the radio. I saw myself talking to a woman about how I had a vision of hearing the song on my way

to the store. Well then, imagine my surprise (or not!) when I was walking up the last aisle in the store on my way to the check-out counter and "Rocky Mountain High" started playing! There was a lady in front of me in line, and I did mention to her that I just knew I was going to hear this song in the store, and she said, "Oh, I just talked to a man today who is leaving for Colorado on Tuesday." Oh the stories and the laughter, may they never, ever end!

Which reminds me...please continue to send in your contributions to this newsletter! It can be poems, stories, or anything that you think people would like to hear about. I know that what we have here-this grand and timeless intimacy with John-is something very, very special, and something I believe the whole world will know about someday. I continue to work on the book I am writing about it in bits and pieces, but it will be awhile before it is finished. I think it's important that we share these feelings and experiences with one another. And it will help others to keep John Denver's memory and spirit alive in their hearts, as well.

Peace, love and light always, Hummingbird

IN JOHN'S WORDS

"SPIRIT" - John's contribution to the book Mind of Our Mother by Bob Samples

I observe purpose in the universe. I see absolutely nothing that is without purpose. From the smallest particle of an atom to the universe itself, it is full of purpose. There is seemingly intelligence

smallest particle of an atom to the universe itself, it is full of purpose. There is seemingly intelligence behind it. It works-on a time scale that perhaps makes our day-to-day existence in this world insignificant.

To me, ours is a living, breathing universe. It contains life. Everywhere I see life there is purpose, from the smallest blade of grass to you and me. As I look at things, it is pretty easy to figure out purpose. I am not talking about reason, but purpose. There is a purpose in the existence of all things. And yet so many of us seem to question our own purpose.

Human experience is the same for all of us. We are human beings and we experience the world. It is most clearly that which binds us together, the spirit of life itself. It is time that we all start representing this spirit in each and every thing that we do. It is time to make the world work.

The world was made to work, but it hasn't been working too well lately. If we pull it off, it's going to be because we choose to do it. We will start acting again like human beings.

I know that we have everything it takes to have life grow fruitfully, multiply, and be fulfilling and satisfying for every living creature. We have all it takes. I believe that we are here for each other, not against each other. We are here for each other, and for the world itself. It is when we start acting in this spirit we will make the world work.

Unfortunately, we live in a world of separationist tendencies. Everyone is supporting some kind of separation-some people by not thinking about it, not doing anything, not caring. Other people support it consciously by encouraging us to be against each other.

I think that we have come to a time where our survival as human beings requires us to totally turn around. I am talking about a shift in consciousness. I want to propose to you that we turn it around. What I am here for is simply that. I wish to encourage our honoring of harmony in the universe, harmony between people. I want us to be living, breathing, as a single organism, committed to a life that is worth living.

LETTERS

This is a letter sent to Sky King (Harold Simpson) from John's friend Lynn in Australia. Harold taped it and played it at the campfire in Aspen:

Good evening. I sure wish I could be here with you tonight. I am in spirit and writing this in the hope it gets read out. Hopefully this letter will make you feel that I am here.

Well it's been two years now since John left us in his tragic accident. I must admit it hit me hard losing my friend like that. John will always have a part of my heart that no one else can have. I guess it has a small sign there saying Private Property. John Denver owns this space. John taught me so much and he helped me through some very tough times in my life. We did laugh together but we also cried together. I never thought of John as a star. John was just like you and me. So down to earth. He had emotions like any one of us have. He was not stuck up, he did not have a big head. He would stop and talk to anyone & even stop to pick up rubbish. There was a time I saw John change a tire. Yes John did do this. I should know as it was my tire he changed. It was late after one of his shows. I was glad he stopped & helped me not that I could not change it my self, it was just very late & I was a bit scared. John had a big impact on my children. My son Chris learned so many things from John, he even embarrassed some people aged about 30 years old. You see Chris was about 3 years old, we were at a park for the day, Chris saw the couple throw some trash on the ground, he then walked over picked it up & told them they were naughty & they should put it in the trash. The quy looked at Chris & said go away you little brat, Chris just turned around & said MY Uncle John says that if we all put our trash in the bin we can have a clean world, so please put it in the trash. Boy they turned so red by being told off by a 3-year-old. John was so proud of Chris when he heard about that.

My oldest son was 18 when he heard the news of the crash, Chris called me and said "Uncle John's plane went down mum" my son was crying his eyes out. I tried to tell him it was not for sure John was in it. But I knew in my heart that it was John. I had this confirmed by another friend of mine Kris O. I remember saying to Kris please tell me it was not John. Kris could have easily told me they were not sure at that time. But Kris would never lie to me. When Kris confirmed it was John I just cried & asked Kris to please take care of himself. And seeing we had been friends for 25 years I also said can we please keep in touch. Kris said sure. After 25 years we say we are family. Let me speak of John Denver the man, not John Denver the singer songwriter. John was too honest for his own good. Like the time he admitted smoking pot to the Australian press. Boy did they have a field day on him. Front page news. John asked me if he had done the wrong thing by telling the truth well that was a catch 22. John had not done the wrong thing in my eyes so I told him no. John feared he would lose some fans over his honesty. When John came out to Australia just after the passing of his dad & his final break-up with Annie he sang Annie's Song & it really broke him up. After the show he said to me do you think any one noticed what happened & would they turn away from him. Well I was honest saying there was no way anyone could have missed how he sang Annie's song. And that just showed people that he was no different to all of us. He had had some rough times like we all do. John could have stopped singing Annie's song but he knew that people loved the song very much so he kept singing it, of course the emotion was going to come out as he sang. After all he never stopped loving Annie. Now before Harold closes this letter to you all. I have one more thing I want to share with you. In 1986 I had moved from Sydney to Melbourne. John went to Perth from Sydney. I called him on the phone & the first thing he did was say, Where were you? You see I was not at the airport to see him in. John was upset with me at first until I told him I had moved states. He then gave me his flight details so I could be at the airport in Melbourne when he came in. I then told John I was glad he was not on the space shuttle that had blew up. John said he wishes he had been on it. Well that started an argument between us, it went on for 2 & * hours. Mind you I was on a pay phone. John wanted to know why I was glad & I told him I loved him very much, & so did the kids & that we would miss him. He said to me that he loved us all very much too. He then said the kids & I were the only people that would miss him. I said no way you have plenty out there that love you & that would miss you. He said he was only a singer/songwriter & people would forget him in no time at all. Well after arguing about this & some yelling on both parts I just lost it & told John to pull his head out. In the end I think he was starting to believe me, but he said one day Lynn you will see I am right & you are wrong.

Well John I guess you can see now I won the bet. To me John was my best friend. I still do not know to this day why he picked me for a friend but I sure am glad he did. John opened my heart to allow me to find so many wonderful friends. I thank you for that John.

Love & Miss you my Friend Lynn & Kids.

THE GAME OF HIDE AND SEEK

Once upon a time ago
When we were one and same
We broke into our separate selfs
To play a special game

We hid among illusion
And let the game begin
Whichever one should find one's self
Would be the one to win

So just to play at reminding
I wrote this little poem
Remember that when you find your self's
You'll have already run to home!

On Feb. 12, my daughter Amy awarded me with the highest honor! It reads:

"THIS CERTIFICATE IS PRESENTED TO EILEEN STEIN (MOM) FOR BEING THE BEST JOHN DENVER FAN AWARD PRESENTED BY AMY STEIN"

And Amy's friend Katy (who's dad, Amy says, loves John Denver too!) was over and saw me working on this newsletter and said, "Wow. You like John Denver so much that you're writing about him?" I said yes, and was going to explain a bit about why, but they ran off to play. Well, there's always tomorrow. Another opportunity to share with someone new about "what one man can do!"

LIFE'S REMINDERS - Sent by Diane Delozier

Maybe God wants us to meet a few wrong people before meeting the right one so that when we finally meet the right person, we will know how to be grateful for that gift.

When the door of happiness closes, another opens, but often times we look so long at the closed door that we don't see the one which has been opened for us.

The best kind of friend is the kind you can sit on a porch and swing with, never say a word, and then walk away feeling like it was the best conversation you've ever had.

It's true that we don't know what we've got until we lose it, but it's also true that we don't know what we've been missing until it arrives.

Giving someone all your love is never an assurance that they'll love you back! Don't expect love in return; just wait for it to grow in their heart but if it doesn't, be content it grew in yours.

Don't go for looks; they can deceive. Don't go for wealth; even that fades away. Go for someone who makes you smile because it takes only a smile to make a dark day seem bright. Find the one that makes your heart smile.

THE NEW ORDER OF THE UNIVERSE

"You begin to see there are miracles you will find" John Denver, from the song Wandering Soul

This is a message of hope for the future that I obtained from John Denver after he made the transition to spirit. Since then I have come to experience these truths in a real, concrete way, as well as the validation of them on a daily basis.

Up until now you may have said, "I've heard there are big changes coming, but they just don't seem to be noticed on a positive basis by the masses. Only the negative circumstances seem to be deserving of national and world-wide attention and reinforcement."

Well, that is about to change-permanently! There are certain individuals that thrive on this negativity, and the only way its energy can have any effect on the earth and humanity as a whole is if it is experienced by a certain percentage of the population. And that percentage is decreasing. Everything God has made, in its purest form, experiences perfect synchronicity-the planets, the stars and suns, the oceans, the moons, and all creatures-except humankind. Why is that? It is because people think that to have free will means to choose whether to fight, freeze, or flee when circumstances seem to be outside of their expectations. We have not, as an entire culture, learned how to surrender-to choose to go with the flow, so-to-speak, and let life take its course-to let that perfect synchronicity take over, and take care of us, just like it takes care of all other life forms, just as it was set in place by the Creator to do. But since things have gotten so out of hand most everywhere on this planet, soon we will have no other choice anyway.

The return to consciousness, the realization of our oneness, and the restoring of deep love on earth is the new order of the universe. It is earth's people waking up to the synchronicity and rhythm of creation, and cooperating in harmony with it, rather than trying to work against it. It involves allowing our inspirations to guide us to our inclinations, and learning to follow our hearts in order to make the most conscious decision in every situation. It involves God's plan, positive consciousness, and the cohesiveness of love.

First of all, God's plan is for everyone-not just this religion or that one, not for just those who believe a certain way. Yet not everyone will be able to participate in that plan. Only those coming from a place of love will be able to. Those that choose to continue to live in fear will be directed otherwise until they are healed. It is not a punishment. It is a question of the soul being ready to move on to higher ground. When you are ready to work with God, God is then ready to work with you. Secondly, having a positive consciousness goes beyond positive thinking and having a positive attitude. You actually embody the concept, and it becomes you. It will eventually eliminate all negativity in your life. Nothing else in your outside circumstances need change; you just transform the place where you come from to that of love rather than fear. Love brings things together that resonate with each other. Fear can keep them apart and bring that which you fear towards you. Once you have made your decision to operate from love, and activated that energy in your life, what happens is, as you open up to the positive occurrences, that allows more love in-for you have become a receptive field to the love you desire and are open to.

John once said, "Receptive fields attract what they need." I have lived what that means, and understand it now. So the idea is to become receptive to love!

So how does one go about acquiring a positive consciousness and attracting love?

The first step is to realize that the reality of such a state of being does actually exist, and that it is accessible to anyone. I'm not sure if this has always been the case on earth, but we are moving into a higher, love vibration now (perhaps the beginning of the biblical 1000 years of peace and the Hopi fifth world), and so these sorts of uplifting changes are not only more possible, but are becoming more common. Bringing this fact into your awareness will help you to notice things you might otherwise have missed, or dismissed, as inconsequential.

The second step is to verbally acknowledge to the powers-that-be your intent to be open to experiencing love and its miracles in your life. It will probably not happen overnight (although it could), but it's more likely to start slowly, then accelerate once it does start to work for you. That is because love is cohesive and draws more love to itself, which in turn draws more, and more and more. You will be amazed to see that, one day, just when you think life couldn't get any better-voila! Another miracle bounces you up even higher! It may take awhile to get to that point, but I guarantee if you're open to it, you'll get there. God wants you there, and He will help you.

Which brings us to the third step: Hang in there and don't get discouraged! There is that slimy negative stuff that will try and get you down at times, but if you keep your mind and heart focused on that higher vision of love consciousness, that slime will just slide right off and out of your life. For some reason that I cannot explain at this time, it is part of the process, and can be expected. It is not always easy to get through these tough parts, and to live up to a new truth (that life can be enjoyable and fulfilling), but it is so well worth the effort!

There are certain other things that you can do as well to bring more loving experiences into your life. Of primary importance is to create loving experiences for others. Treat your life as a gift and make your life a gift to everyone you meet. Give to others that which you want for yourself. This may seem contradictory at first, but you'll find it coming back to you in unexpected and wondrous ways! Also, listen to music that inspires you. Read books having to do with miraculous events in people's lives. Spend time with nature-beauty heals. Pray. Learn a guided meditation. Write poetry. Think idealistic thoughts even as you go about your "real" life. At some point, the two worlds will merge. Continually repeat the second step above. It is true that when you ask, you shall receive, when you seek (with your heart), you will find, and when you knock, doors shall open for you. Here are some signs that you can look for that will let you know that you are on the right path to a positive consciousness and deep love:

You will begin to experience "synchronicity" in your life-two or more (seemingly) unrelated events happening "coincidentally" (coincidence is actually the principle of synchronicity being manifested).

New people will start coming into your life, perhaps that you feel you've known all your life, that seem awfully familiar to you, and that you connect with so easily. Other people may leave your life, ones who you no longer require to fit your agenda of fear.

Your life will begin to flow more smoothly, things will fall into place at just the right time, sometimes at the eleventh hour! This is a true test of faith that you must pass before things can really accelerate for you, and you must learn to trust the process.

You will feel guided to do and say the right things in life-and the ratio of acting over reacting in situations will begin to increase. You will be able to comprehend the fact that the Holy Spirit of God, your guardian angels, and your loved ones who have passed on are working with you to help create a better world for us all, because the hereafter is just that-here, after.

When you are truly in touch with God's rhythms, and in sync with the universe (which comes from living totally from the heart), it seems as though the whole universe is actually revolving around you-it feels as though everything that you encounter is being created just for you-truly a magnificent future unfolds before you.

At some point, you will also begin to notice the ripple effect that the cohesiveness of love has on those around you. Some begin to experience synchronicity in their own lives. Others just feel that there is something "different", even if they can't explain it any better than that. What that "something" is, is humanity beginning to experience collectively the interconnectedness of all things. In an essay John wrote entitled "In the Quickening Light," he said, "Life on earth brings us closer to one another each day. There has never been a time on earth like we see today. What we need are more ways to experience our interconnectedness. It is a precursor to deep love." And, "if we could, each day, imagine our hearts to be beating as one in rhythm with all that lives, we would bring peace

to life throughout the world." (Incidentally, I did not find out about his essay until after I'd written this one!)

So, coming full circle around to God's plan again...part of it points to something like our loved ones in spirit and our angels helping us to build new places of habitation that are more in line with natural universal principles and rhythms. These places have been called Holy Cities, or Cities of Light, in certain scriptures. They represent the new world we are creating for ourselves, that truly can be heaven on earth. We must do our part at this end if we wish to live in these cities (which will really be more like garden communities). All souls will unite and re-unite, here in these cities, including those who have passed from this physical plane. We will learn how to communicate with the spirit world, and sorrowful "death" as we know it will cease to exist.

READERS' EXPERIENCES

From a letter to Neale Donald Walsch from Margit Voell:

The experience I choose to share is part of a much bigger picture, something that started back in the spring of 1997.

I should begin by pointing out that I was always sure that Life never ends, just changing form. Over the years (I'm 31) I learned/experienced that those who "die" actually move on to another dimension. They are only one thought away (not at some far away place in heaven as some religions teach)... About two years ago, however, I became painfully aware that I still had feelings of loss and separation inside me. The passing of a dear friend left me devastated. Looking back now, I think I begin to realize why things happened the way they did. There are no coincidences.

On October 2nd, I started a 3-week-trip to America. Choosing between flying to Denver with my German friends or visit with a friend in Ohio, and meet the others in Aspen on the 7th, I went to the travel agency to make my flight reservations. It turned out that ALL flights to Denver that weekend were already booked. There was only ONE empty seat from Frankfurt to Cincinnati (and on to Cleveland)... My friend picked me up at the Airport Saturday evening, on Sunday I knew why I had to spend some time with her and her family. From that day on, things kept falling into place. To tell everything that happened in this email, is impossible but here's one story:

In Snowmass, CO, we attended a church service. The female priest began: "As we gather here in the name of the Father, the Son and the..." She couldn't say "Holy Spirit" because a strange, VERY LOUD NOISE that seemed to come from the loudspeakers, startled everyone. It lasted maybe 10 seconds; and made everybody laugh in the end.

The service led into a little ceremony that was held outside. (After a snowstorm on Oct.7th, we had glorious weather during the rest of our stay.) A singer entertained us with the song "Bells Of Rhymney". About halfway through the song, my friend and I looked up to the incredible blue sky AT THE SAME MOMENT. Literally "out of the blue" we saw this BALD EAGLE circling above us - majestic, graceful, in harmony with the music. Exactly with the end of the song, the eagle was gone, too... The friend who went to the spiritual dimension (the ceremony was dedicated to him) was given the name "Sees the Eagle" by the Native American People. A few weeks before he passed on, he made a documentary on Wildlife, and said: "When I come back, it will be as an eagle, you can count on it!" Perhaps he was (one with) the eagle that day. The setting was perfect.

On my last day in Aspen, I had the strong feeling about going to Windstar, a piece of land which is preserved as wilderness area. It is located near Snowmass and I wasn't driving a car, so I couldn't figure out how to get there. Most of my friends had already left in the morning. Still wondering and wandering around at noon, I ran into a lady from England. We didn't really know each other, and met for the first time there in Aspen. She said she was going to the park, having lunch there, and then probably drive out to Windstar - and she invited me to come along!! Of course I jumped at the opportunity!

On our way to the Motel (her car was parked there) we met a friend, and then another man, who used to be a friend of "our friend in spirit". We talked for a few minutes and as we said goodbye, he added: "Take care, and continue the healing." His words caused my heart to beat faster, as always

when I get a message from spirit. I hurried to my Motel room, grabbed my Walkman and the tape with a special song "Healing Time On Earth" on it, and on we went to Windstar.

We were all by ourselves there, sitting on the wooden meditation platform placed on a hill, overlooking the land. We just let the peace wash over and through us, and then listened as the words and melody of "Healing Time" spread across the country (via earphones, but music is also energy and not limited to technical equipment). I'll never forget that feeling of ONENESS with my true Self, my friend(s), the land, and the song during this healing process. "...in each brand new day, in our own rebirth, in this healing time on our Mother Earth."

Thanks for reading this long letter. Thank you, Neale, for sharing your Conversations with God with us. Your books touched me deeply. Have a peaceful, joyful Christmas season!

May Peace Prevail On Earth as we enter the millennium, with a vision of a new world, One World for you AND me...

Sincerely, your friend,

Margit Voell

P.S.: On the morning of the "Windstar day" my heart was heavy as a dear sister went back home to PA, when I sensed the presence of spirit and heard a soft "It is just beginning..." Yes, I know IT IS. If there's an answer it's just that it's just that way.

FROM A POST ON THE WORLD FAMILY GATHERING PAGE:

For those of you who believe in angels and spirits......for those who don't?? You're missing a whole world of newness and 'knowings.'. I have it on good authority that "Spirits have ALL the fun!!"

Jan in NE

From: Suzy-q, In: USA

Posted: Thursday, November 04, 1999 at 22:07:00 (CST)

READ ME PLEASE!!!!

Sorry, need your attention. This was tooooo cooooollllll to pass up....

I work at Target. Today our computer system went on the fritz. Only the electronics department was affected. The glitch became apparent went several cashiers tried to ring out CD's. Although the prices rang up right, the artists were not.

Every CD rang up as one artist. Whether it was Garth Brooks or some new grunge band, they all rang up under one name. The name: JOHN DENVER. No one knows what happened. Most of my fellow coworkers thought I had something to do with it.

As I left, they were "fixing" the glitch. I begged and pleaded but to no avail. Just think. for one day, John Denver may have outsold all other titles! Far out indeed!!!!

ANGEL CONNECTIONS

There came a frantic knock at the doctor's office door, A knock, more urgent than he had ever heard before, "Come in, Come in," the impatient doctor said, "Come in, Come in, before you wake the dead."

In walked a frightened little girl, a child no more than nine, It was plain for all to see, she had troubles on her mind, "Oh doctor, I beg you, please come with me, My mother is surely dying, she's as sick as she can be."

"I don't make house calls, bring your mother here,"

"But she's too sick, so you must come or she will die I fear,"

The doctor, touched by her devotion, decided he would go,

She said he would be blessed, more than he could know.

She led him to her house where her mother lay in bed,

Her mother was so very sick she couldn't raise her head, But her eyes cried out for help and help her the doctor did, She would have died that very night had it not been for her kid.

The doctor got her fever down and she lived through the night, And morning brought the doctor signs, that she would be all right, The doctor said he had to leave but would return again by two, And later he came back to check, just like he said he'd do.

The mother praised the doctor for all the things he'd done, He told her she would have died, were it not for her little one, "How proud you must be of your wonderful little girl, It was her pleading that made me come, she is really quite a pearl!

"But doctor, my daughter died over three years ago, Is the picture on the wall of the little girl you know?" The doctors legs went limp for the picture on the wall, Was the same little girl for whom he'd made this call.

The doctor stood motionless, for quite a little while, And then his solemn face, was broken by his smile, He was thinking of that frantic knock heard at his office door, And of the beautiful little angel that had walked across his floor. Author unknown ******

FROM THE ANGEL SCRIBE NEWSLETTER, NOVEMBER 16, 1999:

We are each born with a gift. It is up to us to use it in good ways to uplift and inspire others. When we share our gifts, the joy it brings to others is the first of many gifts returned to us.

Becky Banks wrote to say a "GODINCIDENT" happens when one is lead to something through a coincidence. It is a moment you realize something Divine has happened to direct you on your path of destiny.

"ON THE WINGS OF A PRAYER"

A Cat Story with a Happy Ending

Authors: Linda and Lindsay, Port Orchard, WA

This summer our 14 year old daughter Lindsay begged us to let her have a cute black kitty. Perhaps against our better judgment as we already had two older cats and 3 dogs we said yes. We named this little black "furball" Kitty Kitty...not very original, I know!

Kitty Kitty has become quite the addition to our home: she chases the other cats and tackles them, confronts the dogs and hitched a ride in my van one day last week without me knowing! She has truly wiggled into our hearts.

Yesterday, when I came home from work I didn't see Kitty Kitty outside to greet me. I thought she was off somewhere exploring in the woods close by.

At 9:00 PM we still had not seen Kitty Kitty. We searched the house...no luck. Finally, calling outside, we heard a faint meow!

Lindsay and I went into the woods with flashlights and searched and searched in the undergrowth for some time before we finally figured out that the cries were coming from overhead! Lo and behold, about 40 feet up in the tree was our little cat!

Lindsay started crying and I tried to reassure her. I made a few phone calls and we learned of a gentleman on Bainbridge Island who does "cat rescues."

I dialed the number and his wife told us her husband had just left for 2 days! She went on to say how they have saved cats which have been in trees for 2 weeks!

She explained that the cats will lick the bark on the trees and leaves for moisture. somewhat reassuring but not the answer I was looking for!

We woke my husband to have him give Lindsay the same answer I did, that there was really nothing we could do at 10:30 at night!

I laid down with Lindsay to help her fall asleep as we all do when our children are upset and hurting.....all the time hearing Kitty Kitty faintly in the background. We were so worried for this loving young cat.

I have enjoyed a particular religious show every morning at 6 A.M. I woke up this morning, turned on the show and ran down to the front door in hopes of seeing Kitty Kitty...nothing..... I could hear her meowing the instant the front door opened...in the tree so high up!

I woke Lindsay and told her Kitty Kitty was still in the tree. I reassured her and said I would try my best to find a way to get the cat down today...maybe a logger could help?

I started to make Lindsay's breakfast and as my show was finishing...the host said, as he always does, "expect a miracle today."

I decided to pray for Kitty Kitty and for God to help her.

Lindsay came downstairs and carried her breakfast into our family room.

I heard her scream! "Mom, my cat is at the door!"

Sure enough there was Kitty Kitty meowing to get in not 10 minutes after I had prayed.

I opened the sliding door and picked our kitty up and started to cry! Not a scratch on her, she was happy to be held and wanted some water and food!

Lindsay and I both strongly believe in the power of prayer, we know our prayers were answered!

Some may think the cat was hungry enough to come down, and maybe so....but we know better and we will always know what a very special cat our Kitty Kitty is!

(Ironically, MY male cat, Booch, has now been missing for almost 4 days. We cut down the tree that he got stuck in several years ago, but I'm getting VERY concerned, cuz he's never been gone this long, and nights are pretty chilly around here! I hope John is watching over him for me. HEY, he just came back! Far out!!!)

EARTH RHYTHMS

From the Synchronicity e-mail list: DRAGONFLY

Dragonfly symbolizes illusion (nothing is ever exactly what it seems), the illusion of the facade that we accept as physical reality. All of us are seeing our reality changed and expanded far beyond our physical environment as we move closer to being 4th dimensional beings. Dragonfly says that it may be time to break down the illusions you have held that restrict you. That is something that it is necessary for all of us to do to grow, open and move on on our path and for some of us this is happening with confusion and breakneck speed. Think about what is real to you and what is not and why? Which of those things or ideas would you benefit from changing? Are these thoughts and questions that have been in your mind lately? Have you been thinking about or wanting to make changes in your life? If so, perhaps that is why dragonfly has been so much in your field of vision. Or, perhaps, you have not, but need to look at some form of change. We are repeatedly exposed to those things that represent the answers, understandings or nudges that we need our lives. Such is the beauty of synchronicity — and the FUN.:)

Dearest Synchronicity Family!

Have a little experience I'd like to share. By the way, I did download the demo copy of SofTarot that was recommended here on the list. It has been working out amazingly well for me...and so much FUN!

This past week-end was my birthday (Sunday, actually). During this time I was given the privilege of being able to go to my beloved mountains and stay with my spiritual family for two days. No words can express the joys I experienced in this now.

On Sunday morning, I felt called to take a walk. It was a beautiful, warm sunny morning... so warm, in fact, that my jacket became cumbersome and I removed it to further enjoy the warmth of Father Sun.

While on this walk, I came upon two horses in their enclosure. I have a very strong connection with horses, and decided to walk to the corner of their enclosure to see if they wished to speak with me.

JOY! The first came over and presented its face and neck for me to pet. He(she) then was pushed out of the way by the second. The second horse presented his nose and we exchanged breath for a moment. LOVELY!

Then...he(she) nipped in my direction...missing...made me giggle.

As most of you know, I have a book and deck of cards that I use regularly. This deck/book is called "The Medicine Cards." They are all about aligning with the specific energies shared with us by the various creatures we come in contact with. I rarely use the deck to read a card spread; rather, as I come in contact with a creature-being in my day-to-day experience, I read the lovely message in the book about this specific creature.

In this way I am able to apply their specific "energy message" synchronistically to what is occurring in my life.

Today, I again saw a robin while outside. I have seen robins out back every day this week. Now I know that this is a prediction of spring...but decided to make sure that there wasn't more info here in the book. Nope...no Robin stories. But WAIT! Here is Horse, and I realized that I hadn't read the Horse message after my experience this past Sun.

I'd like to share this with you now, then I'll add my interpretation of my personal experience with this it at the end.

35 -- HORSE -- Power Mighty Horse . . . Power to run

Across the open plains,

Or to bring the vision,

Of the shields

Dancing in purple dream rain.

"Stealing horses is stealing power" was a statement made frequently in historical native America and a reference to the esteemed role which Horse played in the native cultures. Horse is physical power AND unearthly power. In shamanic practices throughout the world, Horse enables shamans to fly through the air and reach heaven.

Humanity made a great leap forward when Horse was domesticated, a discovery akin to that of fire. Before Horse, humans were earthbound, heavy-laden, and slow creatures indeed. Once humans climbed on Horse's back, they were as free and fleet as the wind. They could carry burdens for great distances with ease. Through their special relationship with Horse, humans altered their self-concept beyond measure. Horse was the first animal medicine of civilization. Humanity owes an incalculable debt to Horse and to the new medicine it brought. It would be a long walk to see one's brother or sister if Horse had not welcomed the two-legged rider upon its back.

Today we measure the capacity of engines with the term "horsepower," a reminder of the days when Horse was an honored and highly-prized partner with humanity.

Dreamwalker, a medicine man, was walking across the plains to visit the Arapaho Nation. He carried with him his pipe. The feather tied into his long black hair pointed to the ground, marking him as a man of peace. Over the rise of a hill, Dreamwalker saw a herd of wild mustangs running toward him.

Black Stallion approached him and asked if he was seeking an answer on his journey. Black Stallion said, "I am from the Void where Answer lives. Ride on my back and know the power of entering the Darkness and finding the Light."

Dreamwalker thanked Black Stallion and agreed to visit him when his medicine was needed in the Dreamtime.

Yellow Stallion approached Dreamwalker next and offered to take him to the East, where illumination lives. Dreamwalker could share the answers he found there to teach and illuminate

others. Once again, Dreamwalker thanked Yellow Stallion and said he would use these gifts of power on his journey.

Red Stallion approached, rearing playfully. He told Dreamwalker of the joys of balancing work and heavy medicine with the joyful experiences of play. He reminded Dreamwalker that he could better hold the attention of those he taught when humor was integrated with the lesson. Dreamwalker thanked him and promised to remember the gift of joy.

Dreamwalker was nearing his destination. The Arapaho Nation was close at hand. White Stallion came to the front of the herd. Dreamwalker mounted White Stallion's back. White Stallion was the message carrier for all the other horses, and represented wisdom in power. This magnificent horse was the embodiment of the balanced medicine shield. "No abuse of power will ever lead to wisdom," said White Stallion. "You, Dreamwalker, have made this journey to heal a brother in need, to share the sacred pipe, and to heal the Mother Earth. You have the knowledge through humility that you are an instrument of Great Spirit. As I carry you upon my back, you carry the needs of the people on yours. In wisdom, you understand that power is not given lightly but awarded to those who are willing to carry responsibility in a balanced manner."

Dreamwalker, the shaman, had been healed by the visit of the wild horses, and knew that his purpose in coming to the Arapaho was to share these gifts with them.

In understanding the power of Horse you may see how to strive for a balanced medicine shield. True power is wisdom found in remembering your total journey. Wisdom comes from remembering pathways you have walked in another person's moccasins. Compassion, caring, teaching, loving, and sharing your gifts, talents, and abilities are the gateways to power.

CONTRARY:

If your ego has gotten in the way, you may have failed to notice the lack of respect you have been receiving from others. You may, on the other hand, be struggling with others who are abusing their power. "Should I say something?

Should I fight my desire to put them in their place?" you may be asking. Remember the times in your own life when you have fallen out of grace with Great Spirit, and then have compassion for overpowering another or feeling overwhelmed. Horse medicine in both the dignified AND contrary positions is a simple reminder of HOW to balance your shields.

In allowing all pathways to have equal validity, you will see the power and glory of the unified FAMILY OF HUMANITY.

This is the gift of the Rainbow Warrior or Warrioress. The "I" has no place in this Whirling Rainbow that comes from the Great Mystery and is replaced by the universal "we." All colors of the rainbow and all pathways are honored as one.

Apply this knowledge and reclaim the power you have given away by forgetting to come from compassion. Untangle yourself from the present situation and understand that every human being must follow this pathway to power before galloping upon the winds of destiny.

WOW! What a gift indeed! Throughout the week-end with my beloved family, they frequently shared with me their observation of my growing ability to remain balanced and present in my now moments, and to be detached from ego...just enjoying each moment without attachment.

I observe that "You have made this journey to heal a brother in need," (as spoken by the White Stallion) is most appropriate, as I was actively doing exactly this throughout the week-end. I performed healing ceremonies with two of my brothers over the week-end for physical ailments. Also, I already feel strongly that the entire interaction with my spiritual family in the mountains was to provide healing interaction for a new member of our spiritual family, whom we believe was present to reconnect with us...the feeling that we had been together before in other incarnations was omnipresent!

So what about the "attempted nip" from the black horse?...my usual interpretation would call me to look at the "Contrary" message for this and observe that an "actual nip" might be truly contrary, but the "attempt" at one more of an "attention-getter." I definitely resonate with coming on too strongly from my empowered beingness sometimes...I choose to embrace the compassion I've gained through my personal journey in this incarnation...and...Hey...what was the message from the "Black Stallion?" Cuz the one that nipped at me was black..."I am from the Void where Answer lives. Ride on my back and know the power of entering the Darkness and finding the Light."

Wow! This is SO right on I can't even begin to tell you...:-)

Our beloved brother who was present at the time, has since returned to the space from whence he came. In so-doing, a necessary element of void and darkness has taken place. It has been my calling to trust the perfection of divine truth whilst dealing with this void. Profound, indeed!

And so...the final sentence of this Horse medicine story is healing for me indeed:

Untangle yourself from the present situation and understand that every human being must follow this pathway to power before galloping upon the winds of destiny.

Author unknown

SONG DISCUSSION

From Peggy K:

On Sunday, I had to hold back some tears several times during the day while mentioning [D. I said to Pat that it must be PMS, but all I want to do is cry! Well, on the way home, I finally did cry, for some reason. It was dark, and I had the RMH tape in. I'm weird with music in the car -- I put in a cassette and let it there for a bunch of days, then will get in the mood for another tape and finally change it. But I'll listen to the same one a bunch of times before I do. On the way there on Sunday, I popped in the RMH tape, and will usually listen to Late Winter, Early Spring 8,000 times until I change it. Well, I got this "message" on the way home to put in the I Want To Live cassette, which I promptly listened to and did. I had to pull over to find it, cause it was kind of buried in the pile. Anyway, I put it in, pulled back out onto the highway, and the first thing that came on was Singing Skies and Dancing Waters, which was kind of strange in itself, since that's in the middle of the tape. I usually either rewind it, or let a side play through before I take it out. Anyway, I truly listened to that song for the 1st time! I've played this song so many times, I couldn't even begin to count -- I wore out an 8-track tape of this album! But for some reason, this song played "to me", and I listened to it with my soul. John was telling me that if I believe, he's there, and will be there when I leave this "level" and go to the next one. And he's here with me now. I heard a quality in his voice for the very first time in this song -- he was singing this song to me! I know, it sounds strange, really, and I can't even really begin to explain this, but it made me cry and cry, knowing that he gave me this message. And I can't even really tell you what that was in words. You know? I had to pull over again on the side of the road until it passed enough that I could see! I felt him there with me in the car, his presence was so strong, and I heard his voice in the song like it was being sung aloud. I was "asking" him if he was still with me, and I miss him so much, and he was answering me. He's with me in singing skies and dancing waters, laughing children, growing old.....And the fact that he wrote this song to begin with and bared his soul, well, that gets to me, too.

(Others have reported similar incidents, where they have been listening to John, and suddenly there will be some kind of change in the quality or tone of the music, accompanied by the feeling of his presence. Kewl!)

GOOD READINGS

Well, now I must tell you about a book I am reading. It's called Love is Stronger Than Death by Cynthia Bourgeault, and it's about two people who meet at a Benedictine monastery in SNOWMASS, COLORADO, and the relationship continues even after the man dies. He is a monk--a hermit--and she an Episcopal priest. They prove just what John seems to be trying to tell us--that life continues after you die! But the synchronicity of this doesn't end there.

I just recently received the Windstar newsletter, and it gives a little history of the land. I quote, "In 1963, [Harold] Pabst started selling parcels of his ranch. The ranch house and a small piece of land were acquired as retreat facilities by the newly established ST. BENEDICT'S MONASTERY. In 1979, JOHN DENVER PURCHASED THE MONASTERY LAND, along with 863 additional acres of Pabst's Bohan

Valley land, and gave all 957 acres to the Windstar Foundation...."Is that a trip, or what? Windstar was once part of the monastery where these people met!!! That just blows me away, because of how our relationship with John has continued just like this woman's did with the monk. Maybe it's the land that is magic, who knows? Maybe that's why John wanted my roommate in Aspen to go there the day I left, and maybe that's why he wanted me to be alone there on the first anniversary of his death. In John's own words, "You just never know!"

MEDITATIONS

(Also excerpted from the Angelscribe Newsletter) RESTFUL SLEEP

Imagine you are lying in bed, rethinking yesterday and tomorrow...and you can't get back to sleep. A Light shines in your bedroom, an Angel appears and says...... To attain peace at bedtime, and enjoy a wonderful sleep, and a content and relaxed feeling upon awakening, try this gentle and loving technique.

Lie on your back, eyes closed, and bring into play that wonderful imagination you have. Breathe deeply a few times. Now wiggle your fingers and believe you are reaching out and holding the hands of two Loved ones, or two spiritual friends, or Jesus, or the Angels. "Form a circle of those you wish to include . . . all holding hands . . . quietly. . . and enjoying each other's presence. With this gentle Loving feeling building between friends, it is as if you can feel God's energy of Love building.

Breathe deeply, a few more times, and feel a gentle breeze move from the person's hand on your right to your hand, through you and out your left hand to the next person. As this energy goes around the circle to all, feel it come back to you, repeat its courses and then send it onto your left-hand partner again. Many fall asleep before this time. They feel so peaceful and content.

If you are still awake and beaming from feeling so close to so many Loved ones, (they may be alive or passed over . . .this is your imagination and all are allowed to enter) then ask your friends, one at a time, to move into the circle of prayer/healing/Love and all others to direct a flow of God's Energy and Love to them. This will surely put you to sleep.

But, if you are still awake, at any time you wish . . . enter the circle of Love/healing/energy and receive the Blessings and support from those that Love you. Oh, on awakening in the morning what a joy you will hold in your heart! You start your day filled with peace . . . with a deep-seated tranquility . . . with an inner smile.

The more often you employ this technique, the more wonderful you feel on awakening . . . and the longer you can hold/experience this feeling during the day.

How can one ignore the Love of others...one cannot! This technique will make you feel so secure . . . in your heart.

You will not feel alone.

You will feel a feeling you have searched many years for. Search no more.

You hold the key to your own happiness...and inner contentment.

Practice this technique and it will prove its truth to you.

This is the end. Until we meet again, peace, my friends!