

I didn't plan to become a professional psychic

When people discover what I do for a living – professional psychic work – I receive varying reactions.



*Practical
Intuitive Tools*
Dana Shino

Some shut down and change the subject, some launch into paranormal stories of their own, some ask me questions. The question I'm most often asked is,

"How did you become a professional psychic?"

I didn't so much choose this work as it chose me. It took me some time to learn it, commit to it and go public with it. Before I plunge into my story, please know I deeply believe we are all psychically or intuitively gifted to varying degrees and talents.

My psychic gift came to me easily and early on, but I didn't consciously know this until much later. When I was 17, I felt the urge to put words to paper. In doing so, I naturally opened myself and found words – at first intermittently and then flowingly – falling to the page. Sometimes the words were from and of me. Some-

times I felt they came from a far greater source other than me. But this was my little secret.

Gradually through college – even as I took my journalism classes – these secret writing sessions became my solace and source of deep connection with myself and what I felt was the greater source of spirit.

During this writing time, I experienced a sense of other beings around me, not of our physical plane. I experienced my writing hand held by something or someone else while it wrote out words. I could not logically explain it, but I knew something different was occurring.

I graduated from Indiana University in 1993 and my life carried me away for many years, but my writing was never far. About 15 years passed from the time my first words hit the paper to the day a woman at work identified my writing as something else. It was 2001, I was an insurance agent in Fort Collins. Linda, an accountant, said "Dana, this isn't writing. It's channeling."

I will always remember the sensation I felt of a record needle scratching across my psyche when she said those words to me.

"What's channeling?" I asked.

She said, "Oh honey, you go look that up on the Internet."

So I did. I learned channeling was about opening oneself to exterior etheric energy sources and allowing them to flow through self. That's exactly what I'd been doing for years.

It took me four more years of metaphysical research and psychic accidents to grasp and accept that channeling and empathizing (sensing others' emotions) is my psychic gift. This was a large stretch for me, considering I grew up in a very traditional family.

Since then, I experienced dramatic life changes that brought me to Durango in the spring of 2006. That summer, while in meditation one evening, my spirit guides presented me with my career options. The only choice that fit was professional psychic, along with metaphysical teacher and writer.

That fall I established my professional psychic business. Like I said, this profession and the words on the paper eventually chose me.

Dana Shino lives in Durango with her partner, Bob, and their two cats. She owns The Purple Phoenix, a business providing practical intuitive tools.

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