

SPIRIT MESSAGE WASN'T ALL GREEK!

Now one of our regular and most popular contributors, London medium Ronald Hearn tells of some of the physical séances he has attended. Sadly, sometimes all was not what it seemed...

There has always been communication with the spirit world since time began. The Bible reports that Moses and other prophets went up into the mountains to pray, but it would appear they had some kind of communication with God, or perhaps with their forefathers. We read about certain phenomena such as burning bushes, the writing of the Ten Commandments on tablets of stone and the changing of water into wine, and can only believe that so very long ago people accepted that God speaks, albeit through his agents.

These were originally accepted as angels, but in these modern times, if we are to believe there are messengers of God, then it must refer to those of our loved ones who, having passed on to this other dimension, are able to communicate with us through mediums or sometimes directly to an individual having no knowledge of the psychic scene. I find that during my work as a medium or agent people receive extraordinary evidence of survival accompanied by direction and help of all kinds, which they find hard to accept because they feel they have to take another's word for it. So many people say they would be happy if they could "see" and "hear" for themselves. Whilst we cannot all be mediums, nonetheless for most of us, seeing is believing.

In all my years of practicing as a medium, though I have strongly desired to witness what is generally called physical phenomena, there is very little I can report. Like most, I have read many accounts of pioneer mediums and the physical séances they held, and been very impressed. Everything lends itself to fraudulence. No doubt there were undesirable happenings in those days, but many of the mediums were tested, tried and apparently found to be genuine.

It is good to receive personal messages from Beyond, but one often feels how much better it would be if they were to be given by materialized forms, who we could touch and talk to without there being any doubt. I have had some odd experiences which happened unexpectedly, but although I ran a

materialisation circle for a number of years, despite a few movements, shadows and knocks, very little else happened. I had always been told I was a materialisation medium. Some may say it takes a lot of time and patience, yet I felt after so many years it would not happen, and concentrated on other aspects of the subject.

The question arises as to why, if this kind of phenomenon was popular at one time, is it now seemingly non-existent. There are purported to be groups of people who claim to be producing materialisations, but always one finds a closed shop attitude. Only the chosen few can attend...and how does one reach that exalted state? I have tried for many years to be allowed to witness such phenomena, always without success.

Not being a person who wishes to destroy, but rather one who encourages others to build and develop, it seems strange if anyone has found such success that they wouldn't want to share it with everybody. Always "It is not ready yet" or the guides say, "I can only be for chosen people."

I have attended direct voice and materialisation séances - run by people who shall be nameless - but who nonetheless put on a somewhat questionable show. One imagines direct voice to be just that, but on one occasion I was sitting in the dark next to a young Greek girl when the trumpet hovered and called her name. A voice said: "It's mummy, darling. How are you?" to which she quickly replied: "But mummy, when you were in this world you couldn't speak a word of English, so why don't you speak to me in Greek?" The trumpet beat a hasty retreat, leaving a very disappointed young lady and a very puzzled medium sitting next to her!

One of the biggest problems is gullibility, and people can be easily fooled, as in the case of another direct voice séance with a different medium. Eight of us plus the medium sat in a darkened room and were treated to music from an old wind-up gramophone placed outside the door. The song "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves" was seemingly appropriate for the occasion, but very grating on the nerves and perhaps meant to cover a multitude of sins.

After a while there seemed to be a lot of movement in the room. Luminous trumpets appeared to be flying around. We were tapped on the head and touched on the knees. A variety of things happened, like a luminous plaque showing healing hands hovering above our heads. A friend who accompanies me had the chance to try to hold the plaque, whereupon it fell to the floor and he knocked it under his chair. Not to be unfair, he thought that if spirit power was really there it would surely move again. It did not.

After that things quieted down. The medium informed us that he was out of his chair that night as the guides wanted him to be able to move around! Finally, the trumpet began to hover. It called "Florrie" whereupon a lady sitter immediately asked, "Is that you Dad?" Of course, it had to be Dad. The sum total of his conversation with his daughter was: "How are you? I love you." This performance was repeated a few times. Apparently, all those who answered were regular sitters and well known to the medium. My friend who got hold of the plaque did not get a message as he was not known.

I realized I had been recognized as I arrived so was not surprised when the trumpet called out "Ron." I answered courteously and for a few moments was quite surprised. A voice which could have been that of my grandmother, except she had a deep voice almost like a man, and the medium was male -- started talking to me about how she had seen me yesterday moving a silver cross on a blue altar. This was perfectly true as I had been to a Spiritualist church where I helped out and indeed moved a silver cross which was on a little blue altar. I felt elated until the voice, after one or two other things, said, "When you get home, give my love to your mummy." My heart sank because of one word. For many years whenever I visited my grandmother, when I left, she would come to the front door and her last words always were, "When you get home, give my love to your mother!" Mummy was a word no one in the family ever used so it was hard to imagine anyone would suddenly change that. I could accept the message as good clairvoyance but not direct voice, since even if people do change, I doubt if they would present themselves in any way but as one would remember them.

Once I had an experience of what could be materialisation, but unfortunately it happened at the wrong time. I had been asleep for a while when I woke feeling rather uneasy. The feeling was that someone might have broken in, and although I live alone, there was another presence. I turned around in bed and suddenly saw a huge man standing there. He had long, dark hair, very strong eyes and was naked right down to the waist and possibly below, but his legs and some of the lower part had not formed. I dislike being disturbed and in a way was very frightened so I jumped out of bed and started to pummel the man with my fists, but they seemed to go right through him. After a few seconds he disappeared and I sat on the bed very angry with myself for having sent him away when he might have had something to say. Mentally, I called him back. For a while there appeared to be a white light in one corner of the room, but no more occurred.

On another occasion I saw my mother's face in a grey cloud, which appeared in the corner of a room, and in daylight. She seemed to smile and then

disappeared. Sadly, this is really all the materialisation phenomena I can report.

For a while it seemed such things were possible, but after a time it raised questions in my mind. A lot of people have told me of their experiences which sound wonderful, like walking arm-in-arm around the séance-room with the materialized form of a loved one. Always, it seems, they have no feet - at least that could be seen. It possibly depends on the amount of ectoplasmic power available, but still raises the questions, "Why do we not see all of them?" It could just be that in not forming completely, it rules out any possibility of fraudulent impersonation.

There are too many reports of fraudulent behavior, like people being covered in sheets, and voices coming from the next room, but it would be impossible for a fraud to float amongst sitters without any legs. In my opinion, there is no need, nor any room, for cheating in that respect or any other.

With clairvoyance or spirit communication, the medium is required to interpret, which is not always easy, and leaves a margin for error. But with genuine materialisation, there is no margin for error since it is supposed to be an independent happening where seeing is believing. It saddens me to think that where we should be progressing within this field it is the opposite.

Any form of communication and phenomenon take a lot of dedication and hard work, but it is always the results that count. And what better contribution to world peace and prosperity could there be than to produce irrefutable evidence of survival?

One cannot be blamed for being skeptical, but seeing is believing. I always claim that I do not give proof of survival as nothing is proof positive until or unless we see and experience for ourselves. I do give strong evidence, which is greatly comforting and reassuring to many people, but how wonderful it would be if we could all witness something that leaves no doubt whatsoever. If it has happened before, it could happen again.