

Sisters in Crime Hawaii, March 9, 2011

Speaker: Alice Anne Parker, Psychic. “What Psychics Really Do.”

Honolulu Magazine has called Alice Anne Parker “Hawaii’s best known psychic.” She has written several books on interpreting dreams, is an award-winning filmmaker, and offers private counseling to organizations throughout the world. She trained with Thomas Maughan, chief of the Ancient Order of Druids in the United Kingdom.

Her talk

Alice started by reading six pages from her new novel, *Crimes of Pleasure*, in manuscript. She’s working with someone who’s going to package it as a book and movie. “It’s actually a very spiritual book,” she said, “but with some violent moments.” One of the four main characters was, formerly, a prostitute and nun, and now is an FBI agent. She’s short and stocky, a weight-lifter.

Q: Would the FBI hire a former prostitute?

A: Oh, yes. The FBI’s not too proud to hire one. If you’ve got the skills . . .

Alice spoke of one of her first heroes: a famous San Francisco hooker named Margo St. James. Margot was the first woman Alice knew who was “complete in her power, the kind of magnetism that comes from having no defenses.” Margo organized the first prostitutes’ collective. They actually had a union in the late 1960s. She was part Native American, promiscuous as a teen, and had no education. She started as a B girl, and became a prostitute to finance herself through law school. As for her personal magnetism, Alice compared her to author Ken Kesey. “When he comes into the room, all the energy is directed to him.”

Q: How do you do a reading? How do you perceive the information about a person?

A: At the first reading, I work with nonphysical energetic beings, whom I call “my guys.” They’re not individual dead people or spirits. They’re a presence, vast, angelic presences, avatars. I have this team—what I perceive as a team, and I get downloads from them. At the first reading, I get a map, an architecture, the layout of the person, the lifetime destiny pattern. I also often do an astrological chart. If someone has cancer, for instance, an astrological chart can give me a much more accurate reading on time, so I can see if there’s something specific that triggered the cancer; the chart will help me to see how long it will take the cancer patient to recover.

Case: Alice had a client/friend. Alice predicted that her client’s husband was going to have a horrific accident, either death or a terrible disability, on a particular date. Instead, her client became a paraplegic. Alice said, “Sometimes I can’t tell, and what I saw was absolutely wrong.”

Case: Alice has worked with some very violent clients. A man called her about his wife’s disappearance. Alice realized he had killed her. “That made me very very uneasy. I’m relieved that he’s never called for another session. I was afraid to say to him, ‘I’m a psychic for God’s sake, you can’t hide from me.’”

Q: What did you do about it?

A: I called a close friend who works with abused women and told her about it. That was all I

could do because I had no evidence and neither did the family. The husband never got caught.

In another abusive situation, Alice was a friend of the “baddie” abusive husband. She got the wife to divorce him and move away with her children from an earlier marriage.

For five years Alice produced and hosted a live, call-in radio show in Honolulu called *Dreamline*. The inmates at Halawa Prison had radio hours and listened to her show. She had a huge following there and was invited to the prison to discuss dreams. “Wow,” she thought, “this is going to be exciting. Testosterone! I like dangerous things. You have to be trained before you can do a session at the prison, and you’re not allowed to talk about sex or violence. The prisoners’ dreams were all about those things! I’ve been locked up myself for different things, so I thought that was the best place to start with these inmates.” The workshop/therapy room had a glass wall. They were being watched. In those sessions, Alice envisioned something really bizarre. “One prisoner, who was always friendly, had a little vestigial head like a doll’s head asleep on his shoulder. I knew that when the head woke up the guy would be violent. That head was a psychopath. Like in the movie *Men in Black*; my vision of this was before the movie was made.”

Alice went to England and was living in a tiny 200-year-old cottage with her daughter. The first time Alice ever saw a ghost, it was in this cottage. She and her daughter both saw a ghost in the form of a beautiful big white cat. They had two cats of their own who didn’t notice. Later, she learned that the man who had renovated the cottage was Austrian. He’d joined the RAF as a bomber pilot in WWII and was ordered to bomb his own village in Austria, which was traumatic. He remained in England, married, had a dog and cat. He had a car accident in which his pets were hurt and he put them down. His wife never forgave him. Eventually he killed himself. Alice and her daughter also saw his ghost in the cottage a few times.

Case: In 1984, a boy about 7 was injured in an accident and was in a coma. His family called and asked Alice to come to see him. She went with her husband, Henry. “The boy in the coma was empty. Usually, if nobody’s there they’re not going to come back in (even though the little machine was running). There was nobody in the body. I went out of the room and it was like being in the woods and I kept calling the boy, who was in a brilliant red outfit, and I was racing after him. He was being naughty and running away from me. I kept calling him and was kind of having a good time. I went inside and told the boy’s mother, ‘He’s such a naughty kid, I can’t catch him. I’m really sorry, I can’t get any information other than that.’ He was a really engaging, fun kid. I went home and found out forty-five minutes later that the boy was dead. I felt guilty that I’d called him naughty.”

Alice spoke about Elizabeth Kubler-Ross, the psychiatrist and pioneer in near-death studies. “She came to speak here. She was tiny, like a bag lady, shabby, wearing an anorak that was too big for her. She was also to become a client of mine. When she stepped up to the podium to speak, everyone in the audience began weeping. Not like grief, but from unexpressed feelings coming up. Something emanated from her.” At that lecture, the mother of the dead 7-year-old boy was also attending and rushed up to Alice. “She was so grateful for what I’d told her about her son. It turned out that, before the accident, he had playfully run from his parents and they’d kept calling

him to come back, and he was being naughty and not coming, and ran into the street, where he was hit (during a bicycle race).”

Arny Mindell, a physicist who became a therapist, does “process work.” *Working on Yourself Alone* is one of his great books. He gave a workshop on death at the Esalen Institute. Half the group attending were terminally ill and half were not. No one knew who was which. Alice was the only psychic there. A woman asked Alice to connect with her daughter, who was in a coma. Without even being in the presence of the daughter, right then and there Alice realized the daughter was in the coma to escape from her mother! The mother asked what she could do to bring her daughter back. Alice was tempted to say, Move away, get a life. “I wanted to slap her. Of course, it was a poor choice on the daughter’s part, there are other ways. She wanted to escape from her mother and punish her.” Alice has no idea whether the daughter ever came out of the coma.

She receives calls from relatives who have a loved one in a coma and hope she can communicate with him or her. Some comatose patients can hear people and some don’t.

Case: A man, not old, dying of cancer. “He was beautiful, already in an exalted state. Like an Egyptian mummy but not mummified yet. All the pain was gone and he was already perfect; all the stress and pain had gone from him. He died a few hours after that. He didn’t need any help from me.”

“Sometimes I’ve lifted people who wanted to die and couldn’t get out.” When her dad was dying at Tripler Hospital, both of his nurses said he was exhibiting the behavior of military types of men, making a lot of noise like death rattles, but it wasn’t true. It was more of a growling, chanting like the families of Tibetan monks do. “That sound helps shake the person loose.” Alice and her family were gathered around her dad’s hospital bed and Alice told them to make these growling noises. “Pretty funny to talk about now, but eventually he died.”

She is also a Reiki master/teacher. She hasn’t been teaching it for awhile, but when she did, it was to teach people how to do it on themselves.

“In England,” Alice said, “I was doing too many readings and was losing too much of my own life. My life is getting a lot shorter. Now I do as much in a week as I used to do in a day. I do my best work when I have an hour between sessions.”

Q: Do you lie awake at night, not be able to sleep?

A: No, I sleep. My “guys” have been leaning on me to meditate before going to sleep. They tell me “If you would do your meditation before you went to sleep, you could haul out all the trash and wouldn’t have to spend your dream time doing it.” Dreams are natural healing devices.

Q: I have horrible dreams. What can I do about that?

A: Here's my book *The Last of the Dream People*. You need to read this. It teaches you how to dream.

Some of us bought her books. Before signing each one personally, she asked us our birthdays.

One of our group, whose mother is close to dying, calls upon Alice as both a friend and client to help her with specific crises. "It's very helpful to have someone like Alice on your side to talk you through it, give you a different perspective."

Q: When did you become a psychic?

A: I was a professor teaching at the San Francisco Art Institute, getting my doctorate at Cal, and making films. At the time I had had no contact with the psychic world. I went to see "the Lucille Ball of psychics." I was such a snob. I thought I was hot stuff. The psychic told me, "You're so open." I thought this was great. Then the woman said, "You've always thought you were so smart. You're not really smart, but you are psychic." I immediately understood that that was true. Taking tests, man, I'm really good. I sit next to the smartest person. I've been doing that since I was 6 years old. But this woman just took me apart. I cried for two weeks because I didn't know what to do about it. I didn't know any psychics. I went to England to look for a teacher.

Q: Did you know you were different when you were a child?

A: I thought everyone was different from everyone else, and we are. I was not a particularly happy child."

There's no professional organization of psychics. "I know some psychics and healers who are wonderful." Her husband is an executive chef who teaches at Kapiolani Community College. She has an old BMW and once got caught in a flash flood. "I called on my "guys" to get me out of here. They said I had some emotional issues to get rid of. I told them my car is floating! Some local men pulled me to safety."

Q: Do you work with the police at all?

A: Yes. They call me in. They're lovely, and on occasion I've been able to help, for instance, when someone has disappeared.

Case: Alice and a colleague here would do automatic writing and go out independently. They got a case of a man locked up by the secret police. Independently, Alice and her colleague came up with the same information that helped the family get him out. "But going it alone is scary."

Alice has many clients who are attorneys, and within that world it's not okay to talk with psychics. A friend of hers is a federal prosecuting attorney and wanted to make a job change. Alice told her to go to one successful firm of attorneys, a particular man there. They hired her.

"Attorneys are so respectable; clients would be shook up by psychics. But I'm very good at *voir dire* for juries. I'm a jury consultant, but not as a psychic. Sometimes you want people on the jury who are attentive to rules. Other times you want someone who doesn't care about rules but has

other important attitudes. If I can't tell, I say I can't. I think really good attorneys are psychic. My dentist, my hairdresser, my vet, my mechanic, my dad, my husband—they are all healers.

Case: Alice has found lost persons. A young man went on a bike ride or hike in a deep ravine. Alice knew he was dead. His parents called her from the Mainland. Alice knew their son didn't want to be found, even though it was an accident. She kind of avoids that sort of thing and doesn't charge for it. Once she healed a cow that had been hit by a car. It got up and was okay.

Q: Do you accept everyone who wants a reading?

A: You can't do a reading and not love them. It has to be someone you like. I'm very manipulative, this is very manipulative work. People have this vast potential, but they're afraid. I try to get the door open a little bit. People have this huge "house" and they've only lived in a portion of it. If you dream of being in a house you're not familiar with, it's you—ready to open up to new experiences.

Alice mentioned two anthropologists who visited tribes in Cambodia. There was no violence in these tribes, not even words that depicted violence. They had evolved because of the way they worked their dreams. She cited *Altered States of Consciousness*, a book by parapsychologist Charles Tart. Alice fictionalized the Cambodian tribes in *The Last of the Dream People*. She received a letter from a Dutch anthropologist after her book was published. He had worked with these people. Alice had made up some stuff in her book that turned out to be real.

Q: What drives you to write about sex and violence?

A: "I write about sex and violence because my life has been full of sex and violence."

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