



Rainbow Fianna:
Wisdom School for Earthkeepers

ANIMAL SHAMANISM
LEVEL I
MODULE ONE

Billie Dean

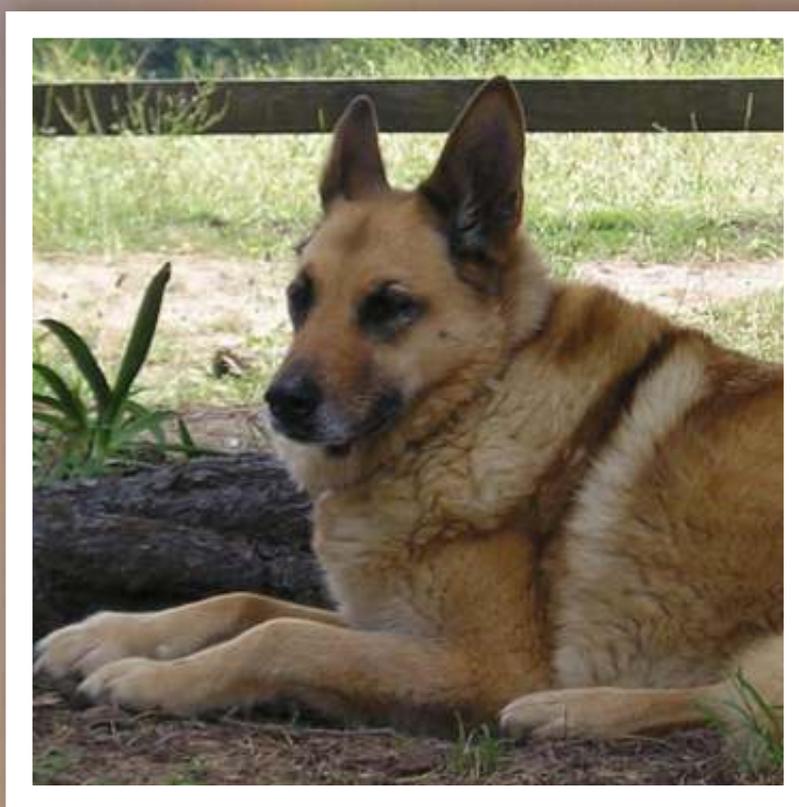


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Animal Shamanism Level I: Module One

Introduction

Hello, my name is Billie Dean and welcome to Rainbow Fianna: Wisdom School for Earthkeepers and Animal Shamanism Level I, where you will be studying what I have coined the New Shamanism, with its full appreciation of animals, nature and the fae. Steeped in the old, old, old wise ways of native traditions, we wind a shining bright path for animals and nature with the latest transmissions from these realms, honouring them in the light of a Golden Age of harmony and new understanding, respect and reverence. The New Shamanism is for the New Era of Deep Peace for All Species. It is the path of the visionary.

As this is the path of impeccability and highest integrity, we ask that you only share the wisdom with others where appropriate. If others are interested in the work, please encourage them to buy their own programs from us, which supports us and the animals we support. These programs will be available from billiedean.com.

The journey we want to offer you in Rainbow Fianna is a magical and mystical one. It will help you understand yourself more, and also the animals with whom you share your lives. I want you to imagine Rainbow Fianna as I do – a lovely Georgian building on a property outside an old world heritage-listed town, where students come and gather from all over the world like they might have in the old days of Avalon. This is where talented and gifted students – you – come to hone your skills in Listening, the Magic of Words, the Arts of Tracking and Seeing the Invisible realms, shamanic journeying, Poetry, the Importance of New Story, Ceremony, Self Knowledge, Healing, the Elements, and more.

Through the levels, you will deepen your understanding of, and connection to, the sacred world of animals and nature. You will also understand yourself better and the way you create your world.

And at the end, when you have integrated the Rainbow Fianna teachings, it is the intention that you will be a human angel for animals. Of course you already are, which is why you want to do this course. But the school is designed to help you find your own inner diamond and shine your light brightly.

So thank you so much for joining the school. And a huge thank you from the animals who are in big need of people to represent their Voice, without personal projection and prejudice.

About the Fianna and Shamans

The Fianna were a group of magical warriors in ancient Ireland who were skilled in martial arts, poetry and magic. And it is from them I draw my inspiration from because we do need warrior-like courage to help us shed our old skins of conditioning and limitation. We need to shed our old stories, and turn them into new ones, which serve us and our higher purpose.

You will learn the importance of poetry and ceremony to personal change as these things bypass the limbic brain, and speak to our soul.

What really spoke to me about the Fianna was that they were outcasts, just as we who are sensitive have been in our society. And through their tests for initiation, they were sculpted into courageous, magical, mystical men. They had to be deeply well versed in poetry so they were lore-keepers in the best of Bardic or Druidic tradition, and they had to run through a forest without breaking a twig or mussing their hair.

Lore also tells us they had to get into a hole and be fired at with arrows from nine warriors, defending themselves from the onslaught and in the process dying a ritual death to their old lives and connections.

This is very shamanic. A shaman typically goes through an initiation where they die to the old ways and conditioning, and are born again into service to Spirit and tribe. A shaman communes with Spirit, is a lore-keeper, and a healer. In the Celtic tradition, the shamanic path can include being a bard, a healer and a druid. Each person on the shamanic path reveals their own skills and abilities in which to hone their true service. So you, too, will hone your own path with imagination and vision.

There is also magic in the number nine – a highly spiritual number. One thought of the number nine from [Avia Venefica](#) is that it “beseeches us to recognise our own internal attributes and extend these abilities out into the world to make a positive, influential difference.” So it makes sense that the final test for these warriors was with a 9.

So in a school which draws on much Celtic and other shamanic wisdom, we can turn an old legend into something sparkly and new, and draw inspiration from it. All the old stories live within us, either ancestrally or through our spiritual line. Our soul hears these stories and connects to certain aspects, in remembrance. But as a planet and a species, we are now going beyond previous Golden Ages – and we have to create a new one.

In Avalon, of course, we had the magical isle beyond the mists or beyond the veil, where the priestesses learned the high magics and healing. They were often sent out to the mainland to work, as part of their calling.

This is why I have called the school Rainbow Fianna – for it is a school for healing ourselves so the animals can be free. The rainbow represents the chakra system in beautiful health, not discoloured by sludge and dirty energy. The Inka say the rainbow is God reaching down to us.

The school is a spiritual path with a focus on animals and nature, with ancient wisdoms wrapped together with the knowledge that has come through from the animals and trees and fae themselves. This makes it quite unique, and gives students a window of professionalism that sets them apart and helps them be an inspiration to others.

A new story for the new era might be written as such.

Once upon a time there was a girl who felt the pain of the animals and trees, and couldn't understand why others didn't. She was imprisoned for speaking up for the animals, and when she was finally freed, she fled to the wilderness where she lived with animals and trees and a man who was cut from the same cloth. As she understood that the world is a reflection of her unconscious thoughts and wounds, the girl spent many years walking the paths of healing. She listened to the wisdom of the animals and the trees, and she found her relationship with other species became deeper and more meaningful as the walls between them fell away. She walked until she came to understand that the world needed to Listen, and her skills and sensitivity were not that of an outcast, but that of a visionary and trail blazer.

And then the girl and the man came to a clearing where they built a beautiful building, and called to others who were different.

Most, they realised, came from the realm of faerie – because it is the faerie who are the traditional caretakers of the earth and the animals. Others came from other places – but all loved the earth and their

brothers and sisters, and wanted to know the best way of caring and service.

And so a new tribe began. The tribe of the Rainbow Fianna, a group of strong men and women who loved animals and the earth and wanted to make a difference. They came to understand the magic of words and the healing of the soul and body. They wrote new stories for themselves, turning their pain into strengths and instead of feeling like outcasts, they understood themselves to be important trailblazers in the New Era of Peace.

And the animals rejoiced and whispered their great gratitude.

And like ripples in a pond, when the initiates went back out into the world, they found it a different place, where their wisdom and knowledge was welcomed and the world became one of peace, kindness, and compassion to all species.

(Music Break)

Universal Silent Language

The Universal Silent Language is a language with much nuance, and my desire is to pass onto you the benefit of a lifetime of listening and understanding healing and behaviour and the unseen, so that you can become the best you can be for the animals you love.

In this first module, I would like to begin by explaining about this work and the school, and say up front that I am a vegan and animal rights advocate. I don't drink, smoke or take any form of drugs – and I keep healthy with natural supplements and traditional medicines. This keeps me a clear channel for animals and nature, because to be a Voice for the Otherworlds, one needs to be responsible – I think, anyway. I see it as a big responsibility to be an interpreter for someone else. Especially when those someones have been abused for so long by human hands.

I walk a path of compassion and strive for Deep Peace for All Species. When you truly hear the silent language of animals, you will understand that they are finished suffering, that they want us to grow up as a species, that they are not here for our use or entertainment, and they definitely don't want to be eaten.

But I don't expect all of you to slavishly follow my own path. It is my hope that you take my lifetime of experience in listening with all my senses, and do something wonderful with it. Have a better relationship with your cat and your home and your land. Become a

better, more awake, more self-aware and healed person, and most certainly become a fabulous human angel for animals.

Whatever you do with the words and experience from the Rainbow Fianna teachings, it is my intention that it is a joyful and illuminating journey that will help you in all areas of your life. The clearer we are in our every day life, the more mastery we have over ourselves and live free from limitations, the more freedom and deep peace the animals have – and that is my mission, my goal, and my purpose.

Honouring My Teachers

Here is where I want to give thanks to my own teachers, for this knowledge is precious and much has been handed down through the ages. When I was growing up as an ultra-sensitive, I had no one to tell me I was communing with the world of animals and nature – and that that was a precious gift. Instead, I was made to feel that being a sensitive was wrong. I felt alone and strange, and the pain in the animal and natural worlds was a weight on me. I began my advocacy career at the age of 10. But no one listened to me then.

And despite beginning a career in journalism, I was called to study healing, even though I had no desire to hang out my shingle as a healer. But you will find that in life there are many reasons why the soul calls you to do something, and today I am grateful to all the knowledge I gathered over the decades. And the person I am most grateful to is the young, wild herbalism student who told me to read J. Allen Boone's [Kinship with All Life](#).

Having kept my sensitive nature to myself for so many years, reading *Kinship with All Life* was like coming home. I found someone like me. Not only was he a writer, but he had a curious and open mind, and he learnt to listen. It's a wonderful book and I highly recommend it. J. Allen Boone comes from the heart.

It's important to name your teachers so students can understand the lineage they are being educated from. In animal communication, my first teachers were the animals and the trees and shrubs. You can read about that journey in my book [Secret Animal Business](#). They were also my first shamanic teachers, and they were tough teachers! Because I was able to understand the world of spirit at a young age, they guided me and taught me some of the most profound wisdoms I have ever learnt, and they also gave me the New Shamanism.

I also learned from a tribe of Native Americans in spirit, and through Grandmother Kitty and Grandmother Twylah of the Seneca Wolf Clan

Teaching Lodge. I've studied with American shamanic teachers Denise Linn and Lynn Andrews, and I have studied with Hawaiian kahunas. I have Maori and Aboriginal family, and my roots lie in the Tuathe de Daanan, the Shining Ones of Ireland, who are also my teachers. I studied with the Order of Bards, Ovates and Druids in England, and am still a member of that order, and finally I am a full mesa carrier in the tradition of the Inka of Peru, through the Four Winds Society. These have all been my mentors for whom I am truly grateful. Growing up in a white culture when you have a native spirit is a challenge. So to meet and learn from others on the mystery path is truly a gift.

Each of those paths has strengthened my sacred connections to animals and nature and the world of the unseen, and I am delighted, in return, to share this path with you.

Today, it is more important than ever that we Listen, Respect and Revere, and so I am incredibly grateful that you are here. The Earth and the Animals need people who are willing to skip along the shining path of beauty to make the world a better place.

New Shamanism

This is a course in what I call the New Shamanism. It teaches you how to Listen to the silent language of animals and nature, in a shamanic framework of impeccability, Beauty, great Love. And compassion. The New Shamanism brings ancient teachings into the New Era of Deep Peace for All Species – the Golden Age of awareness, unity and harmony.

With great respect, there are many people out there doing wonderful things for humans. But unless you can really hear the animal world clearly, without projections, then animals tend to get the rough edge of the stick. They are still eaten by many animal loving and earth-honouring, spiritual people, and in the preparation of this food lies a lot of animal suffering. Take it from me, animals are social beings with a great love of family and when you get to know farm animals, you quickly learn they are intelligent, full of humour and great wisdom and don't want to be eaten.

The Christian Bible tells us it is okay to eat animals with cloven feet. However I bet that wasn't written by anyone who could listen to the animals, otherwise the animals would have said "no". We have abused the little Christian clause that says, "Thou shalt not kill", and that we have dominion over the animals – not domination.

The Hindus understood this, and didn't eat cows.

Across cultures, ancient humans sacrificed animals to the Gods with little thought to asking permission from the animal, who of course would have said no! They were sacrificed for divination, and they were certainly used as food, clothing and shelter. Today, they are still used by shamans for types of healing, which takes their life. They are still ritually sacrificed in the name of religion. And they are hunted, killed and eaten all over the planet. We think nothing of torturing them for our vanity and curiosity, and euthanizing our dogs and cats and horses when they become too much trouble.

And so it goes on, and I don't want to give this particular train of thought any energy because times are changing and I believe in what is called the 100th Monkey Effect. If enough people become peaceful vegans, we'll reach a tipping point and animals will be free. It is said. It is so. Ho. Animals are free.

Now, many people ask me about killing your own animals in the way of the old shaman of the tribe. This is why this path is called the New Shamanism, because today we no longer need meat in our diets. In the old days, the shaman of the tribe would ask permission of the souls who wanted to cross over. The hunters would go out, and know that the animals who wandered into view were the animals who wanted to cross over and the deed was done. It was very honouring.

However, today this no longer works for many reasons. One – as I keep saying – you have to be a clear channel with no agenda to really listen and give a clear reading about who wants to be killed – and really I haven't met many animals who do. Most want to live their lives in love and peace with their families. Two – animals are killed in abattoirs, which are very confronting places reeking of suffering and death. And to those people who say that eating meat gives them the "energy of the animal", sorry – the energy they receive today is nothing but fear-soaked adrenalin.

If we want to ascend spiritually, the eating of meat keeps us firmly anchored and therefore is not a good idea. For spiritual evolution, we need to be light. We do this through forgiveness, and author Dolores Cannon speaks of the new diet being one of raw food vegan, smoothies, and soups. This makes sense to me. She says the meats are definitely too dense to be on the menu as our vibration gets lighter and lighter and lighter. If you understand that 35 years ago it was difficult to be a vegetarian, let alone a vegan, you'll see how we are evolving as a species because the vegan movement is one which

has exploded. More and more people are considering the effect of their diet on the planet, and also the cost of animal suffering,

So this argument regarding the shaman is horribly outdated. Today we have factory farming and even so called "organic" meat is the temple of an animal's soul – killed in fear and suffering.

And if you are a meat eater, then you are probably not going to hear the still, small voice that says, "No, not me – not me," if you wish to kill your own.

I sat next to a guy on a plane in the USA once, and he told me he was a rancher and that he knew that when he was out in the woods, God had given him a rabbit to appear next to him – because God took care of him. And that Rabbit was his to kill and eat.

But what about the Rabbit? Isn't there a God who takes care of the Rabbit? Maybe it is the Goddess, who is worshipped by the nature honouring religions. In Irish Celtic traditions, it is forbidden to eat rabbits, as the ancient Celts knew that the soul inside that furry body could be the family grandmother. So just sit with that thought.

So if you trace it back, you will find that even our mythology has a wrongness to it, and that is what runs deep in our DNA. Adam and Eve were supposedly the first people on the planet. And immediately Eve, the woman, does something wrong – she listens to the Serpent and eats the apple and gets them both cast out of the Garden of Eden.

What is wrong with this picture?

She has the ability to listen – a brilliant quality to my mind, belonging to the Wild, Deep Feminine. The serpent is often represented throughout history as a healer, a bringer of life energy, transformation, regeneration, rebirth, and spiritual strength. Apples are fruit and extremely healthful. So what our mythology is telling us, among many things, is that it is wrong to Listen to the Universal Silent Language. It is wrong to be intuitive and instinctive and free, and it is wrong to well, eat apples and be healthy.

For this we were punished, and the Wild Deep Feminine was banished. Human beings were disconnected from Mother Earth and Nature, women were reduced to second-class citizens, animals to third class and men were punished for their weakness and given a garden where only thorns would grow.

Wow.

A New Story

For our world to right itself, we need a new story. This is a time for balance and harmony. This is a time for the Divine Feminine archetype, with all her wildness and creativity and intuition and heart, to return and balance the Divine Masculine Archetype.

And please understand that all native traditions, and of course the animals and the fae, already have a different Origin story. So they *weren't* kicked out of the garden.

For your homework, I would love you to come up with a new Origin story. This is a class for animal shaman Earthkeepers after all, and we all have a responsibility for the Earth and her future.

Finally, times have changed. We don't need to eat our brothers and sisters for survival. To become fully realised human beings we have to understand that animals are a fellow species, journeying as souls in a physical body, just like we are. And instead of demanding that they take us for a ride, win blue ribbons and races, play with our children, be our child substitutes, and a myriad of other things, we need to respect them just for themselves.

Everything is alive and everything speaks and you will hear a lot of psychics and others say they talk to animals and still others say they are deeply spiritual.

And yet they eat the animals they say they can hear.

We say we are a culture of animal-loving people, and yet daily even spiritual people surrender their animals to pounds because they can't cope, strike them, hurt them, punish them, feed them garbage, wash them in toxins, demand to ride them in tortuous metal and leather.

And you know – we need to bless them all and forgive them, because each person is on a journey of awakening, and often it takes time. It is just that now, the animals themselves are crying out for us to change. Which is why I just went on a rant!

I can tell you stories, like Connor, the steer, who fell in a hole and refused to get up, his mother standing vigil over him for days until the farmer finally called the vet. And also, one of my graduates, an equine masseuse. She massaged the cold legs of Connor the steer and named him for the farmer. Connor told her he knew of his future and there was no point to getting up. It broke my student's heart. Connor died, his mother still standing vigil over him.

And then there is the story of Finn the wild horse, who shouted at me in the wilderness "I don't want to be dog meat". And being a small stallion who was incredibly fearful, he was right in tracking his future. His story is a happy one, as I took him home to safety with his entire herd. And now he runs free on the hills of Ballyoncree.

But if a horse in the wild knows about becoming dog meat, then what does serving horse for dinner, as they do now in WA and other places in the world, do for horse human relations? Horses are a flight animal, a prey animal. They know you.

This is not a school where we dwell on what is wrong. It is where we make the world a better place, by stepping out of the chains of old conditioning and seeing a brand new world of animal-human relationships. This is a school where we become human angels for animals.

And like any spiritual tradition, the emphasis is on self-work and self-realisation, which add to the shift in the collective consciousness like a ripple in a pond. When we change our stories and become new healed heroes, we become a fully realised grown up species and animals will rejoice. Much gratitude to you — each one of us is important. So thank, you thank you, thank you!

(Music Break)

Guided Journey

Let's start with a journey to the mystical, magical otherworld, where I will take you to my school as it shows itself to me in my waking imagination. Imagination is something that you will be exercising a lot as we go through the levels, as it is far more important to human development that we have been led to believe. If you break it down, we have "image in action".

Imagination helps us see the other world of the unseen. It helps us travel to the upper and lower worlds of the shaman, it helps us hear the muse, hear the Silent Language, and develop our tracking abilities. It helps us create new and visionary paths.

I'm not talking about making things up. I'm talking about exercising a part of our brain that has been locked away with our conditioning. This is our sleeping self.

So get comfortable, take a deep breath, hold it, and let it go. Take another deep breath, hold it and let it go. And another – breathe out.

And find yourself in a forest. It is an old forest with great oaks and a narrow path. You follow the path because you see a bluebird, and in your heart you know you are supposed to follow this path.

The bluebird takes you to an old oak tree with a door. You turn the handle, and inside there is a staircase lit with fairie lamps. It's friendly and welcoming, glowing with yellow light, and you eagerly go down, deeper and deeper, deeper and deeper.

At the end of the staircase, you see a long hall with a light at the end of it.

You find yourself emerging from the light into a world, which is like this one, but not this one. You see a green meadow, and there is a small crowd of students like yourself, waiting for you. A tall woman with a ready smile greets you.

Together you walk along a path that takes you through a mist and into a pretty valley, where you find a lovely old stone building, weathered and welcoming.

Inside, a large fire burns and students lounge in comfortable sofas. Dogs, cats and birds roam freely and are friendly and at ease. As you climb the stairs to your dormitory, you see outside there are students doing graceful yoga movements, with horses grazing peacefully near them.

The bedrooms are cosy and spacious and clean, and you know you are going to love your stay, devoting yourself to the soul calling of your Higher Self. You refresh yourself in a bath of sea salt and baking soda, showering it all off in the shower. Somehow you feel lighter and you wonder at that.

Dressed in clean clothes, you meet the others in the conference room, a cosy place with beanbags and couches and colour.

The tall woman's name is Shira, and she explains that before you can become one of the Faerie Rainbow Fianna, you must be initiated by the gnomes – because this first level is the foundation level, and belongs to the element of Earth.

You find yourself with a smiling gnome sharing your seat, and he or she takes you by the hand and takes you exploring outside or under the earth.

Take good note of what the gnome shows you. Learn your gnome's name.

After exploring for a bit, the gnome explains that the Earth is alive, and takes you to a special place where you meet the Goddess, the Mother of All.

Her light shines. And you are touched by that light and have true understanding that the Earth has a presence and is alive.

She also has a voice,

What does she say to you?

On the way back, Gnome gives you a gift. You thank Gnome and give him or her a hug. And you find yourself back in the conference room, saying goodbye to your gnome.

It's time to come back to this reality now and write down all you have experienced.

Shira is waiting for you and shows you a short cut back to the forest of this world – in a tree just outside the Hall of Studies. You thank her, clutching your gift, and whizz up the stairs, and back through the door, into the old oak forest and back into the room in this time and place.

Rubbing your hands together and your feet on the floor, helping you come back to now.

Write down your journey, the gift you received, anything you learnt from Mother Earth and your gnome and how the experience touched the yearning inside you.

As I champion the visionary thought of Deep Peace for All Species, I urge my students to consider how that can come to pass, and help make it so.

What I want to awaken inside of you is the archetype of the new hero or heroine. The one who walks gently with the land, understanding that the Earth is truly our Mother who will never leave us, and that Father Sky is the Father who will never leave us.

This is the human angel who loves unconditionally all species, who does no harm, who expects the best from all, who does not kill, who acts compassionately and who treats everyone with kindness. This is the human angel who walks the path of impeccability and aspires to the New Shamanism, where animals are truly revered – not for their

use to the human species, but simply because they are a soul, sharing the planet with us.

In truth they are our brothers and sisters.

(Music Break)

Souls

Before we start any animal communication at all, its important to know who the animals are. In my experience the souls of animals can come from anywhere. They are our relatives, they are our soul family, they are souls who choose to come back again to us in animal form, and they are from the stars. In this regard, they are often with us for a reason – to help us learn a lesson, to end some old karma, to teach or guide us, to put us on the path of natural healing, to stretch us, to reflect our inadequacies and be that perfectly awful mirror for us to learn from and become whole.

We don't like it when the animals, or our children, reveal our warts, our shadow side. But when they act out, it is a wonderful opportunity for us to change. To know ourselves, and heal.

Animal souls can reincarnate, they can soul hitchhike, they can pop into another body, and they can be walk-ins. Anything a human soul can do, so can an animal.

Now, many spiritual traditions talk about animals having a group soul – and I understand what they believe. But in my experience, you can always communicate with an animal of any species and ask for a message for you. I have spoken with trees, birds, turtles, ants, rats, mice, wild pigs, wild goats, kangaroos, wombats, dolphins, whales, lions, camels – you name it. And they have, of course, individual thoughts and hearts and conversation. They have their own souls and soul journey.

Expect miracles. When our kelpie Suki died, she told me she would be back quickly because we had more work to do. She sent me an image of a brown kelpie and the impression that this dog would not be in a pound – she wasn't going to be damaged in any way. She might be in a basket of pups in the vets. She would be local.

Suki also asked me to watch out for the floppy ears. She had floppy ears herself.

I put the word out around town that I was looking for a brown kelpie. All I heard about were these black kelpie pups, desperate for a home.

I had people stopping me in the street about them. When their person finally rang, I got it! The mother was a brown kelpie, there was a picture of them at the vet, and they desperately needed a home.

I took all three. Interestingly, the dog who was Suki – now Tusuque (Suki II) was being growled at and pushed away by the mother. Our Suki had only died three weeks previously and these dogs were five weeks old. Suki was a walk-in, and that's why the mother was pushing this pup away.

Suki had chosen a very fit and healthy pointy eared body. The one with the floppy ears ended up becoming my little shadow, my protector dog Daisy.

In my experience, souls in animal bodies can be from a human lifetime, or they can go on to live in a human body.

I implored my German Shepherd Reka to return to me after she died, but she very clearly showed me herself as an attractive human woman. She wasn't coming back as a dog. However she did send me to the pound to find her replacement – an aspect of her.

And I came home with two dogs, and began my animal rescue work, which prepared me, I now see, to be a voice for animals.

I've also had animals who just come in for a short time. We had one soul here – Daisy and Tusuque's brother – who was killed instantly by a horse. As there are no accidents or coincidences, we were devastated, and I asked him why he left. He had received love, he said. And his life was complete.

And then we found a wild goat with a broken jaw who we called Valentine. Valentine wasn't able to eat but had received love and healing and his life was complete, according to him. And he was gone.

We found another wild goat baby. We called him Bramble. Bramble died young too.

All these bodies were the same soul, coming back again and again to receive love and also tenderness and healing.

But it was devastating to us. So I asked if this pattern could end and if he chose to come back again, to stay for a long while

Now the soul is back again – in another body – this time a healthy young goat who is about to be a movie star as, like Tusuque, she's in

a healthy young body, and she's discovered climbing trees and going swimming to be loads of fun.

So please know that the beings you are communing with can come from anywhere, and I always like to begin my classes getting people to understand this very important concept. Because if you are speaking to a cat who tells you he is from a planet whose name you can't pronounce, you don't want to offend him. Or negate the conversation. You want to say "yes", and keep writing down every word you hear.

And for the record, many cats *are* from the stars, often curious about being here on the planet at this time of evolutionary change. And many are former Egyptians, with lots of ancient wisdom to share.

So accept the strange and the wonderful, and go into your communion with our brothers and sisters with an open mind and an open heart.

(Music Break)

Words

Finally I want to talk about language and the power of words. Words are swords and we can commit sorcery or healing with them. We will talk about sorcery and names in another module, but for now I want to ask you to consider how we address animals in our society, and how language makes a difference.

Things like the word "pet". That makes an animal sound like a thing, a commodity, something that can be thrown away and disposed of. So let's call our animal family our "companions" and "kin".

Lets talk about the word "owner". Now, how can you own a soul? An owner implies a slave, a thing. And that thing you own can be disposed of and abused. And if the thing you own misbehaves or doesn't work properly, you can dispose of it. You have power over that thing you own. It is yours.

I don't like the word "owner". So how about again we choose a term like animal "guardian", like animal "carer". You are the animal's person. The animal is your beloved.

In Quechuan, the native language in Peru of the Inka nation, there is no word for "to have". Referring to a dog, they might say, "This beautiful gift of a dog who is with me."

This is everything I teach, in a nutshell. "This beautiful gift of a dog who is with me." How perfect is the feeling in that sentence -- the sentiment expressed?

Then there's the way we address an animal as "it." An "it" is a thing. It depersonalises. How about "she" or "he" or the animal's name?

We have found that when stock, another horrible term and badly in need of changing, were given names, they became more endearing to a farming family and were less likely to be killed. So how about calling "stock" the names given them – sheep, cows, goats – Maggie, Bessie, Joe – Connor.

Finally, we have to look at those old terms like "beasts" or "creatures". Both are still used today, but they are terms that are tainted with a brush of darkness. Ugly, scary things.

And animals are not dark. Animals are light, and need to be seen in the new light of fresh language. If everyone started using these terms we would see a shift in animal welfare. It's harder to abuse and dump your animal family when you are a "guardian", "carer" or "kin". Society's expectations of you have changed. It is no longer cool. Language is important to the way animals are treated, and peer pressure will encourage others to see animals as who they truly are.

Practice

To really help stimulate the right side of your brain and heal some deep unconscious wounds, we're going to begin working with story and archetype.

1. Origin Story

Please think of a new origin story for our culture. Instead of Adam and Eve, come up with a new story. For example, much indigenous thought is that we have come from the stars. Perhaps Adam and Eve both listened to the serpent and lived happily ever after.

2. New Hero

Think of a new type of hero. For example the new Merlin created by the BBC TV series – a young man who cares and shows compassion to a dragon brother, who everyone else is set to kill.

Your imagination is an important asset so let's stretch those muscles.

3. Your Own Story

Write your own story – just a page, not a book! Outlining the bumps in the road, the main sore points that caused you to feel wounded.

When you are done, burn it!! Stick it in the fire or burn it in a candle. It is done. Time to move on.

4. Your Own New Story

Now write a fresh new story. If your story was something like, “I grew up in a home with one parent, I wasn’t understood, I was never encouraged, I was bullied by my older sister, and so on,” then this is an opportunity for you to get the childhood you would have wanted, ideally. Start with “once upon a time”, get yourself out of the way, let Spirit guide you, and write a page of new story – how your life might be if you were living in a fantasy novel. And I say that to free your imagination. We’re at the dawn of the Golden Age. Life can be fantastic if we just allow ourselves to be free. So have fun with that one.

5. Altar

Create an altar in your home and begin to explore the element of Earth. We will explore earth for the next several weeks, because it is so important. Earth is our home. I want you to find a special stone, which calls you and understand that this stone is as old as time, and carries within, much wisdom. Place the stone on the altar with some leaves you’ve found on the ground. Some twigs, and some dirt. This is your earth altar. In another module we will speak with the stone but right now I want you to get to know him or her.

I want you to think about Mother Earth as a Mother – the mother who is always under your feet – who will never leave you.

6. Bare feet

I want you to stand barefoot outside, and drink in the sunshine, imagining it filling every cell. You are absorbing the rays from the sun and drawing up energy from the Earth. Allow yourself to feel how that feels. Alive!

7. Dance!

And I want you to take some music outside and dance to that music, barefoot. This is something the animals have told me we need to do

now. We need to dance barefoot in nature and activate our chakras this way, move blocked energy and raise our vibration.

8. Journey to your sacred inner school

Your sacred inner school is a place you can go to, to commune with your gnome at any time. Don't forget it is important to offer him or her something in return for the gifts he or she has given you. I heard once that people of the white culture were known as "the people who come empty handed". Native wisdom speaks of the importance of right relations, of energetic exchange. So always give back, when you are given to.

9. Sacred Sea Salt Baths

I mentioned in our journey that a bath was taken to cleanse the student. A sea salt and baking soda bath draws off the negative energy that might have attached itself to you from being in a crowd of people, at work, in a bus, in a plane, in a mall... It's something I ask my clients to do.

You take a couple of tablespoons of sea salt and a couple of tablespoons of baking soda (depending on the size of the bath—it could be more) and pop this in the bath. This draws off and absorbs the negative energy as you soak. Then, you rinse it off under the shower – most important!

If you don't have a bath or are short of water, then just put some sea salt and baking soda on a washer and scrub yourself, then rinse off. Always important to rinse off.

You will find yourself feeling both cleaner and energetically lighter. So please try this, and experience how it feels.

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Resources

Secret Animal Business, by Billie Dean, available at my [web site](#) or on [Amazon](#).

[Kinship with All Life](#), J. Allen Boone. (Amazon link)

About Billie Dean

Billie Dean is Australia's leading animal shaman and animal rights advocate and advocate for the use of alternative modalities for animals. Born with an innate ability to understand the silent language of animals and nature, Billie made a stand for animal welfare at an early age and today personally cares for over 40 rescued horses, eight rescued dogs and a host of other rescued farm animals on her country property. Trained as a journalist and professional filmmaker, Billie works tirelessly to improve the situation of animals, has written a book Secret Animal Business, and has made three films through Wild Pure Heart Productions, the company she runs with her husband Andrew Einspruch. She is committed to the path of peace, founding The Deep Peace Movement and The New Shamanism. See www.billiedean.com and www.wildpureheart.com.