

Interview with Annette Betcher ... by Eve Haslam

Please tell me your entire name and you live.

Annette Betcher. I live in Port Orchard, Washington, which is across Puget Sound from Seattle

What is your proper title?

I am an animal communicator

When you say "animal communication" - exactly how do you "hear" them and how do they "hear" you?

Eve, I use all of my senses, not just hearing or clairaudient. What ever means the animal feels that I can understand them best is the way they will communicate with me. That is usually a combination of all senses including sight, hearing, feelings, smell and taste. The method by which myself and other communicators use is telepathy: thought transference. Everything in the universe is made up of energy. This energy travels at different frequencies and resonates at different speeds. My method is using the energy of the name of the animal and the name of the human caregiver to connect with the specific animal.

How did you come to become this in your life? Describe the first time you heard an animal talking to you?

I have been communicating with animals for as long as I can remember. It is something that came to me naturally. Animals talked, I listened, and vice versa. It is something I assumed everyone did. I remember feeling surprised when I learned that wasn't always the case. I can remember back before I was 5 years old communicating with our cocker spaniel, Ginger. She had very long ears and when she drank water her ears got wet.

I told my mother about it. When my mother noticed that indeed, Ginger's ears fell into her water bowl when she drank, she provided her with a bowl that wasn't so large around. This solved the problem. From then on when Ginger got a drink of water, her ears stayed dry.

Is it something that anyone can do?

Absolutely. In fact people do it every day. I'm sure we all talk to our pets. Sometimes when you "surmise" that your pet needs something, or has something to say about a certain situation, most likely you are picking that up from the animal.

Is it something that some are better at than others or is it the same for everyone?

We are all born with intuitive gifts. Some folks are maybe a little more intuitive than others. I like to look at intuition as a muscle. The more you use it, the stronger it gets.

How can someone know if an animal is communicating?

As I said earlier, when you are working with an animal and you recognize a need, or you think maybe the animal is telling you something, they most likely are. The idea is to not get too hung up on which sense they will use.

Sometimes you hear, or see pictures or you might get a *feeling* or sensation to a part of your body that you know is directly connected to the animal. A pain or sensation in a leg or arm could indicate a message from the animal that their leg is hurt. Sometimes they will send you a certain smell that is around them (especially with lost animals).

One time I was doing a consultation with a woman and her dog and during the consultation the dog told me he smelled something like this and sent me the scent of soup simmering. He said he

loved that smell. I mentioned this to the woman who confessed she was making homemade vegetable soup. Whenever she made it her dog would come and lie in the kitchen and not move.

Have you ever been challenged about charging a fee for helping others with a your gift?

I have not ever received a hard time regarding charging a fee from the public or clientele. My hard time came from myself. I used to think if I charged money I wouldn't be able to use my ability anymore. I was told that everything in the universe has to balance or exchange of energy. If you go to the market and purchase a loaf of bread, you give the clerk the money, and they give you the bread. That is an even exchange of energy. So for me, I changed my mindset. I provided a service for a client, and they paid me money for it. If I didn't think my service was worth something than neither would clients.

Once I made that decision and changed my mindset, my business took off and continued to grow. I have been a professional animal communicator for nearly 35 years.

What do you say to the skeptics who think that you are guessing?

No one has ever said that to me. I do not attract that kind of energy because I do not project that kind of energy. I have worked with a lot of so called, skeptics. In actuality, using your imagination is a part of telepathy.

Describe the benefits of talking to animals.

There are too many to describe. The main one I suppose would be to better understand the animal so that decisions can be made that benefit both the animal and the animal's caregiver. Understanding is the key to resolving most issues regarding the animal, from the caregiver's perspective and many times the animal has issues of his own regarding the caregiver.

Have you been able to help lost animals or missing children who are lost with their pet?

I was sort of thrown into working with lost animals. They are not easy to work with and not all communicators will tackle it.

I try not to work with lost humans. I had a very difficult missing child case about 20 years ago and vowed I wouldn't go through that again.

Can "abused" rescue animals be healed and have changed behavior as a result?

I do a lot of work with breed rescue clubs around the United States. It has been my experience that the animals that have been abused can be healed with understanding and love.

One of the latest is a Samoyed in Texas. The dog was at the vet to be put to sleep because of many reasons. On a "hunch" the vet tech decided to call a woman in the Samoyed rescue club. She took the dog home, nursed him back to health, made a show dog out of him after getting the dog's registration papers from the breeder and one year to the day went to his first dog show. He took Best of Winners on both days.

That's what understanding and love can do for the abused dogs that someone throws away.

Thankfully, there are many more success stories just like that one.

Mostly abused dogs who are living in happy homes are adjusting nicely.

Have you ever been wrong? Have you ever been scared?

I have been wrong with lost animals before even though I think I have a pretty good recovery rate or am able to tell if animal is still in its body. I don't know any animal communicator who hasn't been wrong. I can honestly say I have never been scared in a communication session.

I've heard that when an animal is killed suddenly or violently, they do not always know they are deceased. Can you elaborate on this for me?

I have heard that does happen to some animals. It happened with a case referred to me, for a dog named Little Bear. I don't know why it happens and it doesn't happen to all animals.

What are some of the most common things animals tell you?

It depends on what kind of consultation I am doing with them. If they are lost or if their human has concerns about them, or if they have concerns or are ill. Like humans, all animals are different and they have different concerns. Some general topics of concern are separation, food, and other animals in the house.

What about animals from another country and language - does this matter?

No, it doesn't matter at all. If they "speak" to me I hear it in English. Any other sense that they use would be the same to them as to me. I recently worked with a dog that came from France. He was a stray that was picked up and is now in Canada making movies and TV. I understand him perfectly because as I said, I hear the words in English.

Can you describe the most challenging time you've had doing this?

Most lost animals are a challenge.

I imagine missing animals have to be the most emotional. What would you describe as the most rewarding?

When a missing animal is found and returned home to their family, that's always most rewarding. I am rewarded anytime I have a consultation with an animal and can help that animal and their human work together.

I also provide a service for animals that are euthanized. I will connect with their spirit and accompany them to the rainbow bridge where they are always met by other animals.

Would you please describe your religious or spiritual feelings about God in your life?

I feel God and angels help me and the animals to a positive solution in every aspect of my work and my life.

What do you believe happens to an animal when they die?

From what I've seen, their spirit crosses the rainbow bridge and returns to heaven just as I assume ours does.

How do you deal with all the suffering and grief you hear?

I don't experience it first hand. In other words, when an animal or its human describes a negative experience, I view it like an overview. I am detached in the way that I don't actually feel physical pain that an animal might have endured. That way I am able to be objective and not get caught in the karma of the experience.

What is the most important aspect of what you do and how has this talent changed your life?

Animals are void of ego. They show us unconditional love and compassion no matter what. They never lie so it's refreshing to communicate with them. You will never get a *song and dance* from them; they are purely honest.

I feel that even though I am human and do have human frailties I have learned some very positive lessons from animals. My life is changed for the better, because of my relationship with animals. In my opinion, if more people brought animals into their lives, they would be happier in every aspect.

What would you most like to share with the public about animal communication?

Animal communication can open anyone up to the wonderful experience of being an actual partner with our animal friends. They understand us, and we learn to understand them. It's a win-win proposition.
