

Xavier Speaks

by

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AN OLD FARM HOUSE IN AN ISOLATED AREA, IN WICHITA, KANSAS
RITA sits in a "trance" at her crystal ball as SALLY enters.

SALLY
(off stage)
Hello? Is anyone there?

RITA
Yes, yes, come in. Be seated. I'll be with
you in a moment.

As Sally enters she accidentally knocks over a small side table.

SALLY
Oh my God! I'm such a klutz! I'm so sorry...

Rita goes to clean up the mess. Sally assists her.

RITA
Don't worry about. No harm done. See?
As good as new.

SALLY
I'm just so nervous. It's just that I've never
been to a fortune teller before.

RITA
We prefer the word *psychic*.

SALLY
I'm so sorry! Did I offend you? I didn't mean...

RITA
Have a seat.

Sally sits.

SALLY
You probably think I'm an imbecile. I'm not.
It's just that if my Momma found out that I
was seeing a fortune... I mean a *psychic*, she'd
probably fall right over and have herself a
heart attack.

RITA
You don't think your Mother would approve of
you seeing a physic?

SALLY

No M'am. You see she's very religious. As a matter of fact our whole family is. So if it's all the same to you, I'd like to keep this all *private*. If you know what I mean M'am?

RITA

Call me Rita.

SALLY

(relaxing a bit)

Rita. I'm Sally. I know I'm a bit early. You should probably go back to whatever it was you were doing before I came in.

RITA

I was *channeling*.

SALLY

Oh...

RITA

It's so hard for me to connect these days so when I do I want to stay in the moment.

SALLY

And I interrupted! I'm so sorry M'am... I mean Rita.

RITA

Why don't we just begin?

SALLY

All right. Who were you channeling? I'm sorry, that's none of my business...

RITA

If you must know I was speaking with *Xavier*, my spiritual mentor. He no longer lives among us but in "The Territory."

SALLY

The Territory? Is that like the after world?

RITA

Sort of but not exactly. The Territory is a dimension that is not for mere psychics or mediums. You see, when one dies, spirits usually have no choice. Their souls are sent to their destiny and they follow out the spiritual rules of karmic law. The Territory is completely different. Completely.

SALLY

Really? How do you mean?

RITA

It's hard to explain, especially to a mere novice. It's not like Heaven or Hell if you believe in that sort of thing, which I'm sure you do, it's more like a *chosen* purgatory.

SALLY

Oh, I get it. I think.

RITA

You see Sally, it is Sally right?

SALLY

Yes.

RITA

Xavier lives in the Territory by choice. Because of this he is able to explore, encounter, and be among entities beyond anyone's imagination. Xavier planned for this his entire life. Only a select few are able to achieve entry into the Territory so when you start to think about it it really is an incredible thing.

(closes her eyes)

Xavier has achieved total selflessness. Total freedom of material binds and needs. Total enlightenment.

(opens her eyes)

You do have cash don't you? Because I don't take plastic. I used to, but the credit card companies charged me up the wahzoo. I gave the machine back.

SALLY

Cash is fine. Should we take care of all that now? Before we start?

RITA

If you don't mind. I always find it best to take care of business beforehand this way we end on a more *spiritual* note.

SALLY

It's fifty, right?

RITA

That's right.

Sally hands over \$30 in rolled up coins and one twenty. Rita holds up the bill to the light.

RITA

Sorry dear, I need to check now. I got stuck with some bad twenties last week.

SALLY

I understand.

RITA

Herbal infusion? Would you like a cup of tea before we begin?

SALLY

Yes please, thank you.

RITA

(looking outside)

It's getting rather dark out there. I think we're in for a bad storm. Did you come far?

SALLY

About an hour. Pretty Prairie. It's just on the other side of Cheeney Lake.

RITA

Of course. Very pleasing there by the water.

SALLY

Yes M'am. Our family has been there for years and we like it quite a bit.

(looking around)

You have some real interesting things here Rita.

RITA

Thank you. When I was younger I traveled quite a bit. Granulated ginger crystals? It's good for the colon.

SALLY

Whatever you think is best. You say you traveled?

RITA

Oh yes, all sorts of fascinating places. Nepal, Egypt, Sri Lanka... Pittsburgh. Here's your tea.

SALLY

Thanks.

Rita looks out the window as Sally nervously drinks her tea. Silence.

RITA

You know, Xavier saved my life once.

SALLY

Really?

The sound of rain is heard. Rita sits and gets herself into "story mode."

RITA

Years ago I was on a spiritual retreat on this farm in western Connecticut. One day I broke away from the group and sat by a small creek under a large Willow tree. It was a massive tree and it demanded the attention of everyone and everything around it. I had brought a small 3 legged stool from the farm house to sit on. I placed it under the Willow and began to meditate.

The air was so clean, so pure, and the silence was unlike any silence I've felt before. I soon found myself in a deep state of meditation. I began to chant the Buddhist prayer "nam-yo-ho-rhen-gay-keyoh." I was completely at peace. So much so I began to experience "visual actualization."

SALLY

What's that?

RITA

It means my thoughts became manifested and I actually saw them in front of me. It was then I had my first *significant* encounter with Xavier. He told me to feel the wind... Because the air was so still my mind protested it at first but he assured me to find it. I did. I found the wind. My eyes were wide open now. I suddenly began to experience colors, shapes, and shadows. Everywhere I turned I saw things differently than before. I saw things through *Xavier's* eyes.

Swiftly, my scarf floated out of my hands and began to drift towards the stream. Without actually moving from the stool I began to see myself walk towards the stream. It was such a bizarre sensation to be aware of being still, but seeing myself traipse into the water. I saw myself retrieve the scarf and then beheld my reflection on the surface of the water. I examined myself in wonder but suddenly things began to change.

A clap of thunder is heard. The room takes on a spooky energy.

SALLY

What happened?

RITA

The water turned pitch black and the temperature dropped. Severely. I was shivering. Suddenly I felt this huge rush accompanied with a horrible noise. I felt the noise start inside my toes, and it continued to build and flow through my body until it released itself through my vocal cords and out of my mouth. "MOVE!" I shouted, but it wasn't my voice. I abruptly awoke from my trance and found my body thrusting itself away from the Willow tree towards the stream. At that moment I turned and realized that a massive branch from the willow tree had snapped off and fell to the ground! The very spot where I had been sitting. The 3 legged stool was crushed by the blow, as I would have been, if I remained there.

The thunder and rain subsides. Rita "returns" to the present moment.

SALLY

That's an incredible story Rita.

RITA

I found the wind... you're worried about something aren't you?

SALLY

Yes! Yes I am. Did you sense that?

RITA

Your aura is emitting troubling colors. Give me your hands.

Sally puts out her hands. Rita examines them then sniffs at them.

RITA

Yes, yes... there is suffering here. Your family is on your mind, does that make sense?

SALLY

(eager to believe)

Yes! Yes, it does!

RITA
I'm getting a name... It's starting to come to
me. R... R?
(Rita realizes she's off base)
No, no... R.. S... S something... S?
(no response from Sally)
S... SH.... sh... H...
(Sally perks up)
H! Herman... Henry... Har...

SALLY
HARRY!

RITA
(searching Sally's lips for clues)
..HARRY! Yes Harry, I'm sensing Harry! Harry
is your broth...

SALLY
Father!

RITA
..Father! Harry is your father.

SALLY
Yes, yes he is! That's amazing. What about Daddy?
What do you see? Tell me!

RITA
He's reaching out to you... he wants to
communicate with us... how long has it been since
he's been gone?

SALLY
A week.

RITA
(shocked)
A week?

SALLY
Yes. But he comes back from "the Knife and Gun
show" next Tuesday.

RITA
(covering up)
What, um... what I mean is, how long has he been
emotionally and spiritually gone? How long has
it been since you felt your father's love? When
was the last time he gave of himself to you?

SALLY

(confused)

Well he did buy me a used Hundai for my birthday
if that's what you mean.

Rita realizes her scam isn't working. Suddenly Rita begins to
tremble incoherently. Her eyes roll back as she speaks in
tongues.

RITA

BASH! MEE SO BAHHH... COMMO... COMMO...
BAHH... KEEEEE OOP!

Silence.

SALLY

Rita? What happened?

RITA

Too much pain. I could not process it. We
need to begin with something more simple.
Here, hold this.

Rita hands Sally a large rock.

SALLY

What's this?

RITA

Black tourmaline. It's a cleansing stone. You
need to sleep with this for a week. It will
absorb all of your negative energy. Take baths
with it too if you can. Water is a healing agent.

SALLY

If you think it will help.

RITA

I do.

Rita begins to walk around the room picking up strange objects and
items. She brings them to her head and meditates on them. After
two or three attempts she finally makes her choice and takes out a
small velvet bag and empties it on the table.

SALLY

What's that?

RITA

Runes.

SALLY

Runes?

RITA

Yes. They're an oracle of the gods. The Vikings used to use them to predict the future. Are you familiar with Norse mythology?

SALLY

I don't think so. But I did see "Lord of the Rings." Is it something like that?

RITA

Not really. By the way the rock is extra if you take it home. I'll give you a good price, we'll talk about that later, what I want to do now is to do a spread on you.

SALLY

A spread?

RITA

A reading. Take out three stones and hand them to me.

Sally reaches into the bag and hands Rita 3 stones. Rita places them on the table and studies them.

RITA

Very interesting. Very, very interesting.

Rita takes a deep breath and stars at Sally. Finally

RITA

You've come to me today because you're... you're...

SALLY

(interrupting)

..Searching for something?

RITA

(in sync with Sally's words)

..Searching for something. Yes. You are searching for an answer. You are definitely on a journey. A quest. See this stone here? He's the warrior. And this stone here represents his journey.

SALLY

What's this last one mean?

RITA
That Sally, that is your *future*.

SALLY
It is?

RITA
Yes it is.

SALLY
Wow. What is my future?

Rita picks up the stone and examines it.

RITA
It's hard to tell. There is seems to be an indication...

SALLY
An indication of what?

RITA
(making it up as she goes)
An indication... that you will be giving something up. Yes. That's definitely it. You will be parting with something soon. It is going to be difficult but definitely necessary.

SALLY is stunned. She gets up from the table and speaks.

SALLY
That's incredible. You see all of that?
All in the dunes?

RITA
Runes. Yes, it's all there.

SALLY
Do you see anything else?

RITA
(eyes closed)
The future is complex. Xavier always told me when it comes to the future you need to go with your gut.
(opening eyes)
For now that's all I see. Sally?

SALLY

Let me make sure I understand what you're saying. You're saying that I'm going to be parting with something in my life and it's going to be painful but necessary. Is that what you're saying?

RITA

That's what the Norse Gods are suggesting to me. I'm just the messenger. Does the reading make sense to you?

SALLY

Yes M'am. But are you sure that's the message you're getting?

RITA

Positive.

SALLY

You see all that in my future?

RITA

Yes. And the future is your *destiny*.

SALLY

Well I'll be a son of a gun. The Gods have spoken. Thank you Rita. I needed guidance today, and you provided me with it.

Sally begins to collect her things.

RITA

That's what I do but we still have more time. Don't you want to continue the reading more in depth?

SALLY

I don't see why. It was all very clear to me. Very clear. Anyway, I need to get going. I should call the adoption agency and get the ball rolling.

RITA

Adoption agency?

SALLY

Yes. You see, I just had a baby last month and I've been so confused what to do so now that I know what my future actually is, I can begin to move on and begin the procedure with a clean conscience. I'm mean you can't change the future right? Thanks Rita.

Sally begins to leave.

RITA

Wait!

SALLY

Yes?

RITA

You're putting your baby up for adoption?