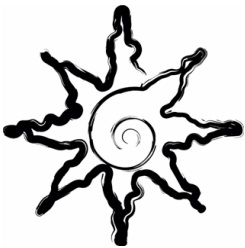


Days with Daisy

Daisy Wood & Nancy Hohmann



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Nancy and Daisy, Winter 2005

Never be afraid to accept the love of a dog.

Daisy

Writing is a dog's life, but the only life worth living.

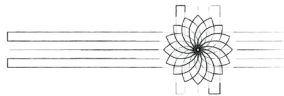
Gustave Flaubert

Acknowledgments

From Daisy

It's my book; I get to do some acknowledgements!

Thanks to Bill and Marsha, of course, and Tigger and Tink and Gerard and Brownie, my family. Pam, thanks for all the care. Gracie, beautiful Gracie, thank you for making the bridge between me and Lilly. And Nancy, we're in this together. Thank you for giving me a voice.



From Nancy

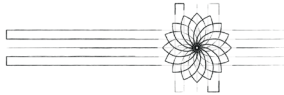
First, thanks to my daughter, Alden Chadbourne, who made me call an animal communicator. Did you know what you were starting? Thank you to Melanie Clarke, who taught me to hear the animals. Bill and Marsha Wood, thank you for allowing me to be taught and graced by your beloved Daisy.

Daisy, thanks for being my teacher. David Dexter, patient husband, thanks for not calling the men in the white coats! Lee Dassler, thank you for being an extraordinary friend who believed, listened, encouraged, and hired the photographer. Thanks to Murad Sayen for the fun photo shoot. Chris Harris, thanks for taking on this project.

About Daisy

Daisy Wood (March 13, 1995 to September 16, 2006), was a golden retriever who lived with Bill and Marsha Wood in Harrison, Maine. She enjoyed running, playing with her abundant toys, visiting her friend Brownie, greeting visitors, eating, sleeping by the wood stove, and spending time with her family. She was brave and steadfast in dealing with her many operations. She was loyal and loving, always doing her best in every situation. She discovered her voice the last two years of her life, after the diagnosis of a rare bone cancer.

Daisy's love and spirit are always with those of us who knew her, and she is happy that her thoughts on life are finally being made public.



About Nancy

Nancy Hohmann is an animal communicator, retired public school educator, and therapeutic riding instructor living in the western foothills of Maine. She became seriously interested in animal communication after the death of her horse companion Josh, who had been with her for 25 years. After several workshops with communicator Melanie Clarke, Nancy was able to practice her newfound skills with Daisy, with whom she was pleased to

be able to coauthor this book.

When not speaking with animals, Nancy particularly enjoys outdoor activities, spending time with her family, teaching at Riding to the Top Therapeutic Riding Center, and reading to her horse as well as riding her. She lives with her husband, David, her horse Mistel, and an independent cat, President Wilson (who found Nancy and David on “a dark and stormy night”). She has three grown children, two daughters-in-law, two granddaughters, and one grand dog.

I teach calm. You need to be calm to be around me or I skitter away. I am ever on the alert, looking for danger. Rabbits are very vulnerable, you know. So are people, only in a different way. Listen and watch, be alert, but quiet. You learn that way.

Bunbun, rabbit

Daisy's Introduction

Okay, here we go. This is the real story of a real dog. As I dictate this I am in spirit form. Hope I didn't lose too many of you right there! I was a puppy mill puppy. I never walked on the grass until Marsha took me home. I wasn't an easy puppy because I had been locked up inside. But love and patience brought me out.

As I grew it became evident that I had some physical problems. Lucky for me I landed in a family where I could get the right medical treatment. Over the course of my life I had five major operations. I had both hips replaced. I was doing really well, so when the cancer hit, it was tough on all of us. I wasn't ready to check out, but on the other hand there wasn't much I could do about it. Bill and Marsha tried everything they could. One day I heard from Nancy and was pretty surprised. We hear and understand most of what you humans are talking about. We also tune a lot of it out, because a lot of it doesn't have to do with us. We have trouble with your body language, too, but that's another book. Anyway, Nancy was willing to listen, not just talk, and so through Nancy I was able to let my family know exactly how I felt. She really could hear me and give the information to Bill and Marsha.

One day I decided I actually had quite a lot to say. For a dog I had lived a long time and, of course, I had been around many times before. Hope I didn't lose a few more of you there. Anyway, I was lucky because I woke Nancy up one morning and she actually got up and started typing. We helped each other. That's what it's all about. She practiced listening to me, and I organized my thoughts for her. It's teamwork. All of life is teamwork. We are never alone. These are my thoughts on life and

how to live it. Writing this book kept me going day after day.

Perhaps you ask why I didn't die earlier if I could continue to write as spirit? That would have been a big leap of faith for everyone. It's hard enough for you to believe I really wrote this book when I was alive. How could anyone have sold a book of "thoughts from a dead dog"? I had a job to do, so I had to stay around and do it. My hope is that this book will help get the word out: we are all on this planet together; we need to listen to each other and work for the common good, the greater good. It's simple, really. We do not exist alone. I was an ordinary dog living an ordinary life. If all of you look at your own ordinary dogs, or cats, or horses, or fish you'll soon realize what a grand universe we live in, for none of us is really "ordinary." We are part of the whole, and we must always be working toward being a positive part of that whole. I hope you enjoy my thoughts, and even more I hope you will recognize the sacredness of all of our lives.

Love,
Daisy
03/05/2007

There is one person you can always trust and understand, and that is you.

Josh, horse

Nancy's Introduction

The day I handed my horse Josh a carrot and he couldn't chew it was a cold one. Cross-tied in the garage, he lipped the carrot, tried to bite it and dropped it repeatedly. "No, no, no!" was all I could say as I bit into the carrot myself and chewed it. Tears mixed with my saliva as I offered the now carrot mush up to my beloved, old equine friend.

So began the journey of finding the proper soft food to nurture my dearest companion. Little did I know where that journey would ultimately lead me. Try as I might to produce the most appetizing and nutritional meal, I was failing. Josh dumped every carefully-formulated pan of soft food onto the stall floor. I desperately wanted to know why.

My daughter suggested I contact an animal communicator. Skeptical, I resisted, but eventually agreed to call Melanie Clarke. It was a life-changing decision. Josh told Melanie that he wanted the chopped apples and carrots on top of his "mush," not hidden on the bottom. Dessert first! I wanted to learn to hear him for myself, but the time was not yet right.

After Josh's death three years later I again called Melanie and asked her to speak with the mare who had been Josh's horse companion. Melanie offered to talk to Josh as spirit also, and now I really knew I needed to learn to do this. After two workshops with Melanie, I was beginning to accept that I could indeed hear the animals. But I needed another teacher, one to practice with day after day. Enter Daisy.

Daisy, a golden retriever who belonged to my friend Marsha, had been diagnosed with a rare bone cancer. The word "terminal" was in the air. A couple of months was all she had left. I offered to talk to Daisy, to ask her how she felt, what she

wanted to say. Marsha had no idea what I meant, but I persisted and asked again for permission to speak with Daisy. Little did I know, as we “talked” most mornings for over a year and a half before I went to school, that Daisy would become my teacher. This is the story of those conversations, the story of the most magnificent thoughts of a seemingly “ordinary” dog, the story of the one who helped me learn to hear the animals.

Many animal communicators believe we are all born with the ability to speak with other beings telepathically. As we grow and learn the accepted mores of the culture in which we live, most of us lose this precious gift. Through patience, faith, and practice we can regain our intuitive connection to the Universe and its inhabitants. To communicate with animals requires the acknowledgment that all beings are sentient beings. The purpose of all animal communication is to work toward the greater good. When I communicate, I receive information as words, images, feelings, or actual pain in my body. **In this book my words always appear in this font.**

After speaking with an animal I offer healing. This is a spiritual healing which can translate into a physical change and/or healing. We all have a healing team ready to help us if we but ask. My team appears to me as short, round individuals dressed in very soft, white garments with hoods. I do not know how many there are. Because I usually see them from behind, I have never seen faces. Various animals, incarnate or spirit, also occasionally help with the healings. After calling the healing team I watch what happens and write it down. I have included descriptions of some healings with Daisy, but the general thrust of this book is Daisy’s philosophy.

This is not a how-to book on animal communication. It is Daisy’s book, and she wrote it.

Foreword

I have a few words to say. My lessons appear later in this book, but I have also been an overseer here. I am one of Nancy's guides, and have been for many, many years. At age six I came to her, a scared Morgan gelding who had been trained hard and fast and pretty much put aside wet. This isn't my story here, but I assure you these are Daisy's thoughts. Nancy, being human, doubts herself too often, but I can attest that she can hear us. Daisy lays out in her daily philosophizing what it is that's important for you humans to remember. This is important business, and it is not over. If you humans want to continue successfully and happily on this planet, you have much work to do. Daisy can help you with that work. So can your own pets and the wild animals around you. You do not have dominion over us, rather we are each others' keepers.

Daisy continues her work, as I do. We are all on the same team. Enjoy your world. I have convinced Daisy that we need to include some "Other Voices" as well as her thoughts. Thank you for listening. Thanks especially to Daisy for all of her work.

Josh
Paramount's Mentor (registered name)
02/05/1972 to 01/03/2003

We are helping you humans to get back in tune with your world. Do not throw your gifts in the trash. Treasure this planet and all that is in it. If you have to sit still a long time to figure it all out, then sit down and be still. Think about your place here. How will it be when you are gone? Better? Worse? The same? Live now, but be aware that all of your living, all that you do, has repercussions. You are the pebble in the pool. Will you send out warm, helpful ripples, or angry ones? Always be aware that what you say and do and how you live, all those acts, have effects on the universe. That is why being still is so important some times. To remind yourself that you are part of a huge whole; you are not the center of it, nor am I. Tune in. Hum the music of the spheres. As you know by now I will be fine when it is time to go, because it is a thin difference or barrier between the worlds of here and beyond.

Tupac, llama

2004

Daisy came quickly, and with a sense of calm. I introduced myself and asked if she would speak with me.

I know who you are. I know you are going to talk to me. I know I am sick, but I am calm and okay about it. I know Bill and Marsha love me; there is no question. I know I am the center of their lives. They are so good to me. I have had the best life ever. I am worried about them. I hope they will get another dog, so another dog can be so lucky. They are just great. I am sorry to cause them pain. I can't help this illness. They have given me so much. I don't want to give them sadness. What can I do?

I assured her she has given so much.

I have some aches and pains, but not really very much right now. I don't have a sense of how far the cancer has grown.

**In her body I had a sense of her right rear leg, in the knee area, being painful, but other than that nothing specific.*
What do you have to teach us, Daisy?**

That love is the most important thing, and patience. Dedication, and always being there. Bill and Marsha know all about it. I hope I have brought them joy. Well, I know I have. I love all my toys and attention and walks. What's not to love about living here?

I don't really want a lot of surgery. Maybe I can heal without it, or maybe it is time for me to go. I can't complain. I have had a good life. I don't know if the surgery helped or not.

Thank you for talking to me. Marsha talks to me all the time. Tell her I know, I know everything. She needs to be okay. She will be okay, because I will always be with her.

Healing, as I see it: Daisy is lying on a carpet in her house surrounded by her toys. The healing team wants to

play with the toys. They are all playing and throwing the toys around. Daisy is laughing and catching them in her mouth. She is so happy, dancing and twirling around in the room filled with toys. It is a happy, happy time. "It's a Small World" is playing, and they are all singing. The spinning stops and Daisy lies back down and goes to sleep with a smile on her face.

Daisy, I honor you and thank you for talking.

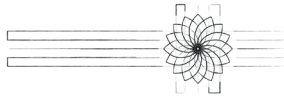
Thank you. I will be okay one way or another. I am at peace with what will happen, but I don't want or need knives. I don't think that will help.

I wish I could go to school with Marsha and see the kids. That's all. I love her, them both. Thank you.

I didn't feel any sorrow.

***At the time, I did not know the bone cancer was located in the right rear leg and knee area. It was because of my picking up on this pain that Marsha's perspective on this work changed.**

09/29/2004



Daisy, are you sad today? What do you want to tell Marsha?

I am not in great pain, I am just tired and weak. Some days are harder than others. I want to be here for Marsha, but I cannot do what I want to do for her: get up and run and play and kiss her face with joy. I just can't do that, and so I am sad about that. I'm sorry to be so sad today.

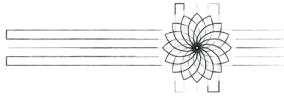
Let's be happy and thankful for what we have had, and look forward to a new puppy, a new life. I will have all my energy and more when I pass on, and I will be here. I will play with that puppy and tell her how lucky she will be.

I feel better. Sometimes I just need someone to talk to.

Tell Marsha I love her, I am okay. She needs to keep going and not fall apart. That is for me. And get that puppy! I know she has doubts. She can get one lined up, or at least start looking.

Healing: Daisy is in her field of daisies, smiling. She is a puppy, running around chasing butterflies in the sun. There are daisies everywhere, even falling from the sky. Daisy is romping in the midst of them, happy and smiling. She is in very bright white light and is going up into the white light. But all around is warmth and love. She is gone, but not her love.

Morning, 12/01/2004



Daisy, maybe this morning you weren't through talking to me. I thought later you needed to tell me more.

Yes, here is what I want to say. Thank you. You are really helping me with this. I know Bill and Marsha aren't about to get a puppy right now. I just need to know that they will get another dog after I go. I want another dog to have this experience, and I don't want them to be alone.

I am having some trouble right now because I am sad to leave them in this form. I will still be with them, but it will be different. Change is always hard.

I want to know that it is okay for me to leave, but I am not sure that it is. It is hard to hold on, hard to be here and not be the dog I want to be for them. Can they tell me it is okay? Do they understand I have to go? I know they don't want to have to let go.

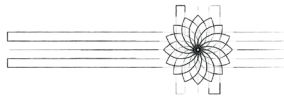
What did I have to teach them? Oh so much that they have learned. They give back so much. Give and you will receive, right? Learning to let go is hard. It is a great gift, that part. But when something ends, something else will begin. We will begin a new way of being together.

I sent her mental pictures of Josh and my feelings about him.

So we will be okay. It's just hard now, and will be for a while. I have filled holes in their lives for them, and they have filled holes in my soul. I have grown a lot with them. There's no need to say any more. Thank you for being our friend. I am glad of that, and glad you are doing this.

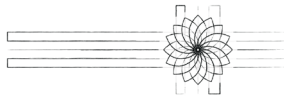
Daisy, I honor you. You have taught me so much, to listen, to respect. I have been able to hear you, and that has helped me believe in myself. I thank you for that. I am privileged to know you.

Evening, 12/01/2004



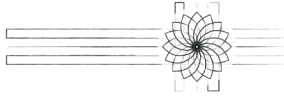
You are loved, therefore you can love. Don't ever be afraid to love someone.

12/06/2004



My thought for today: treasure every moment of life you have. Never give up, but don't be afraid of what is to come. Don't worry.

12/12/2004

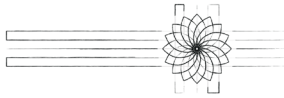


Today is Solstice. Happy Solstice! The light is coming; be happy. Never let the darkness overcome you, because the light will always come back.

Tell Marsha I am feeling fine, better. The oatmeal* is wonderful. I love it. I will make it to Christmas. Let's have fun!! I am in love with life, but I am also ready to move on to the next adventure. I feel better today than I have felt in a long time.

***I was in North Carolina when Daisy called me and said she wanted oatmeal with maple syrup. Later Marsha told me Daisy had hardly eaten for several days, and that the day Daisy told me she wanted oatmeal, Bill had mentioned to Marsha that he would like some oatmeal. Daisy ate her oatmeal with maple syrup, and then started eating her regular food again.**

12/21/2004



I awoke with the feeling Daisy wanted to write a book. Here is how she started:

Puppy mills should be against the law, but then I wouldn't be here if they were.

So I'm sitting in my wire cage when in walks this woman I know is my human, and I charm her but good. She does what she knows she shouldn't do. She buys me. Best thing she ever did. Best thing for me!

It's all lovely until I start to fall apart at the hips. But Bill and Marsha, unafraid of commitment to me, fix me up at great expense, time, effort. So right away they've learned my first

lesson: giving to one you love only gives you back more than you gave.

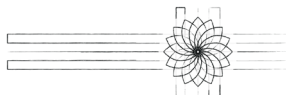
Maybe that's enough for now.

I'm tired.

We'll work on this again.

Don't worry about me.

12/28/2004



Hello! We have work to do! So the old year is winding to a close. I am feeling tired, like the old year. But I am not gone yet. If I go before we finish, you know it is okay. We will finish when we finish!

I told Daisy about Josh writing *Lessons from Josh* after he passed away. She wanted me to put them right here, so I did!

Lessons from Josh

Love unconditionally.

Take naps in the sun.

Always eat breakfast.

Stay outside as much as you can.

Don't complain.

Keep your head up.

Eat lots of green things.

Take care of your teeth, or you'll have to eat mush.

Don't walk when you can prance.

Keep an eye on your friend; stay close.

Swat flies off your friend.

If a friend bites at you, don't make a big issue of it.

When you come to a field, run with joy.

Kiss those you love; kiss them until they laugh.

*Watch where you put your feet.
Chew carefully.
Always be ready for a new adventure.
Be thankful for manure.
Don't be afraid to get dirty.
Beware of turkeys... and lupines... and clothes flapping on a line.
Take special care of small children.
Be tough with teenagers.
Enjoy whimsy.
Silence is okay.
Dress up once in a while.
When you come to an obstacle, jump it, or plow through it.
Be happy at home.
Fight for life.
Don't be embarrassed by flatulence.
It's okay to lean on a friend.
Tell those you love you're glad to see them.
Give everything you've got... and then give more.*

I really like what he had to say! As the old year ends we think of how we can do things better. That's always a good idea, but you know, we shouldn't beat ourselves up about it. If we always try to do what's right and what is our best, then we shouldn't feel so guilty. That guilt thing I think is not so good.

I don't want Bill or Marsha ever feeling guilty about me or what they have done for me. They have given me everything and more. They gave me my legs, my locomotion back. It's sure going now, and I hate to have to depend on them, but there is nothing left for me to do. I think that is another lesson: when you need help, accept it gracefully. But work, work, work so you don't need help. It's when you really need it that you have to just accept it.

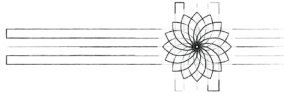
When I was a puppy I learned fast and had a lot of fun. I had so many toys and so many walks and romps. It is important to be part of a family, and it doesn't matter what the family make-up is. It's just important to be a part of it, and commit to it, and

enjoy it. Well, today I think we got a little side-tracked with talking about Josh, but I know that was important to you, this being the first anniversary of the week he was sick. I will meet him in the spirit world. I know he helps you today and every day. So that's all for today. I'm going to go take a nap.

12/30/2004



Josh, Nancy's horse of 25 years



Today I want to talk about the importance of play. Some people like to work all the time, are driven or something. They don't take the time to play enough. Some people think all a dog does is eat, sleep, and play. Playing is important work. Think of a child. If he or she can't play, he or she won't develop properly. Dogs help us learn to lighten up. We give people exercise and help them take their minds off what they think is "important."

Well, the important stuff is sometimes the least obvious. Time spent playing with another being, soul, is some of the best time there is. Look into a dog's eyes when you're playing with him and see how happy he is. Spend time with a child, really playing with the child and paying attention to him, and you'll see the same joy.

People need to slow down and spend time with each other, not just watching that tube thing and playing those electronic games. So that's today's message: play. Don't feel guilty about it. Feel guilty if you don't do it!

12/31/2004

Do not run on the pavement.

Spar, horse

What I want to say is this: change is inevitable. Change is good and is a part of life.

Regalia, llama

We all have an eternal part; you may call it a soul. We all go on, and the good thing for us is we know about it. Humans have lost touch with that knowledge. We are messengers of hope and happiness. Love each other the way you love us. Take care of each other the way you do your dogs. Remember to care for the earth, or you will lose it. Think about the things that are really important to you, and you will see me and your other dogs as symbols of love and respect.

Sierra, dog

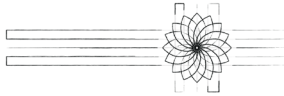
2005

Here's my New Year's message: enjoy the idea of a fresh start! Embrace the possibilities of the new year. Be excited to greet the morning every day you are alive. You can choose to do this or you can choose to be depressed and sad. I have been so lucky that it is easy for me to be happy and help others be happy.

If you are unhappy, go outside and do something silly! Jump up and down, smell the air, roll on the lawn. Yes, people can do that! Probably you don't want to roll in something smelly, but that is fun, too. Show you are happy to those around you and they will be happy, too.

I always try to be happy, too.

01/01/2005



Today's topic is friendship. What else is there in life? I guess you know that. Marsha and Bill have been my friends through everything. Friends are it; they are all important, what we have to count on. If you have no friends, how awful.

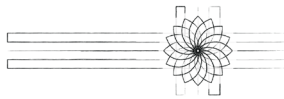
How to be a good friend: always greet your friend with joy. Humans are way, way too conservative. Just because you don't have tails doesn't mean you can't show how much you are happy to see or hear from your friend. If you show your friend how much you care, he will show you back, and then you will both feel better.

It is important to listen. Dogs listen well. Have you

noticed that? Now I mean, do we interrupt? Do we have to butt in with our two cents when someone is talking? No, we can sit and listen. Put your hand out to your friend when it is needed. Look him in the eye and send love. You don't have to say it if you are embarrassed. Send it through your heart.

Friends are the best; never forget that. You are my friend too, my typing hands. I will never forget that. I will be with you, too. So, that's what I think about friends. Be one!

01/02/2005



How long do you think this book is going to be, and what do you want to talk about today?

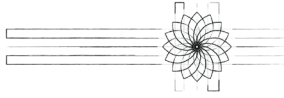
Does it matter to you? I'll tell you when I'm done. I don't mean to be a smart aleck, I really don't know yet.

Today let's talk about taking risks. I don't mean stupid risks; I mean taking a risk outside your comfort zone. Sometimes it's a risk to open up to someone you might not trust. Well, what does it hurt? You might be a little embarrassed if this person doesn't respond the way you hope, but most of the time it is worth it.

People tend to keep too much to themselves. We are all here together to make the best of it. We should share our thoughts, ideas, and feelings. And we don't always have to do that by speaking. I have shared a lot before you began writing for me. I think most people who know me, know me well, and all of that "knowing" was without talking. Talking sometimes gets in the way.

So don't be afraid to let people know who you are, in any way that you can. Don't be afraid to let who you are shine through what you do all day. Thanks for listening!

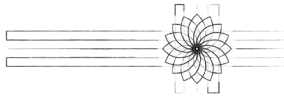
01/03/2005



Today we should talk about work. Whatever you choose to do for your life's work, make it honest and true. It doesn't matter if you are the garbage collector. That needs to be done. Do it with grace and with your best shot.

If you are not being honest in your work and can't be honest in your work, then it is time for a change. I'll say that again: maybe it is time for a change. You don't have to change overnight, but recognize when your work is no longer what makes your soul sing. You need to find another audience for your song. So go to work with joy in your heart and do what you can. If your work is snuffing out that joy, then you make the changes you need to make.

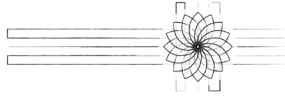
01/04/2005



Hi. I'm tired today. I've been working very hard. Today's topic: work ethic. We've talked about doing your best and working hard, and taking time to play. It all ties in with work ethic. Find something to do that is helpful work, that doesn't hurt anyone or any animal. That's what I mean by work ethic.

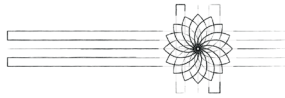
I have lots more to talk about; I just think I need a day off from "deep thoughts." I wish I knew a good joke, ha, ha. So go do your work and know that you are doing something to advance the cause of good in the world.

01/05/2005



Put on a happy face, that is today's message. No one wants to see a sad sack all the time. It's okay to be sad, but not all the time, so if you try to be happy things will get better. Tell Marsha to smile while she's running, and think of me.

01/07/2005



Okay, back to work. We had a little vacation. Today I am going to talk about running. Why not? Marsha just got back from running. Running is good to a point. I love to run, but can't much now. I run in my mind sometimes. Running is good because it gives you time to think and enjoy the scenery and look for things along the way.

I'm not into this running for the sake of running, but running for the joy of it. If it doesn't please you, maybe you shouldn't do it. But try it. You don't have to do marathons. It's so good for your body and soul. You can clear out the cobwebs. Sometimes when I'm lying by the fire I think, oh I don't want to go running around. But afterwards it feels good to come back to the fire and lie down. It gets my heart going.

Now, I don't approve of all the "running around" people are doing these days. That's not the running I mean. People get too wound up in doing things. Take time to run, and look around when you do it. Smell the air, feel the ground with your feet. Go even if it is raining or snowing. It's even more fun then!

Don't be afraid to get wet. I love to get wet and dirty. Then it's fun to shake off and watch the humans go crazy. Well, you can't shake off like that can you? Too bad. You're missing a

lot by not being a dog!

So that's it for today. Go for a run, and take a dog if you can!

01/12/2005



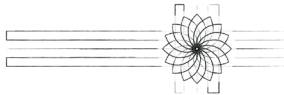
I am weaker today. Let's talk about weakness and courage. What does it mean to be weak? I feel weak, but I am not a weak soul. My body is wearing out, but not my soul. People must understand that what the body shows is different from who the Being is, because the Being is the eternal part of all of us.

I am not weak! I am D-O-G in caps! So be careful when you say someone is weak. Be sure you know what you mean. Is the person or animal physically weak or spiritually weak? There is a big difference.

Now that is something to think about for today. How does one become a strong soul? It takes courage. Doing what needs to be done even when you are afraid or feeling "weak."

Now I am going to go take a nap after all of this philosophy stuff.

01/13/2005



I am stiff today, but let's go. I'm thinking. I'm feeling this fog in my bones. It is hard today here on this Earth.

I want to talk about showing affection. It is so easy for a dog. We can wag our tails, lick people, lean against them, look into their eyes. We are so lucky. You guys have put too many restrictions on yourselves. It really is better to be a dog.

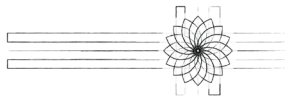
So what can you do as a human? I guess you can't go

around patting people on the head, but a pat on the back is good, even a verbal one. People talk about how therapeutic dogs can be. Why can't people be therapeutic for each other? I think you can do a better job of showing each other that you care. Be present with each other and listen, look. It's hard at school, I know. Again, it's so much easier for a dog.

If you were a dog, what would you do to show someone you cared? Think about it and try to translate that into acceptable human behavior. Or maybe be a rebel and try something more dog-like. Maybe people need to put on headbands with dog ears and wag themselves. There's a picture.

I am feeling a bit strange today, can you tell? I think I am done. I don't know about this weather. It is hard on old me.

01/14/2005

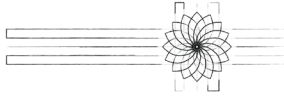


There is birth and there is death. It is all a cycle. I am getting close to that part in the cycle. I will go soon. But even today puppies are being born; I think a puppy for Bill and Marsha. After I am gone, go find her.

Cycles are part of nature's way, natural. If there were no cycles life would be boring. It just wouldn't work. So appreciate the cyclical nature of life. Feel and sense it always. Enjoy it. Don't fight it. Don't fight this coming death, please. We must all be ready. Remember I will still be with you.

Everything goes in cycles, and it must. Stay calm and feel the flow. You'll all be okay. I'm just riding the big bike in the sky; it's part of what's meant to be.

1/15/2005

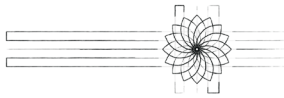


Today's lesson: perfection. Forget it. It's overrated and not worth it. It's the old "do your best thing" taken way too far. Stop trying to compete with God. You can't do it, so why bother? Just do what you can, then play and rest to regain your strength so you can try again another time. Perfection is really no good. Who wants that kind of pressure? Not me! Sometimes it's just fun to be a bit annoying, just to remind everyone no one is perfect.

So I am hanging close, lying low, taking this one day at a time. I don't feel great, but I am not in big pain. Stiff, tired, low energy, and somewhat worried about Bill and Marsha. I know, I gave the chapter about not worrying. I told you I'm not perfect!

I am not afraid to die, and I am not afraid of the process. I know that Bill and Marsha will not let me suffer, but I think and hope I can just go on my own. In the meantime, we are all still here smiling and happy to see the sun today! Take care of you.

1/17/2005

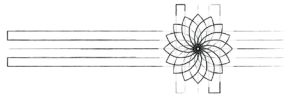


Iam just lying here by the fire staying warm. Cold. January is cold. How is cold good for us? It draws us in. It makes us work to keep warm. We don't take as much for granted when it's cold. Cold puts an edge on us, too. That's not always so good. It can isolate us. Be aware that in cold times we draw into ourselves and forget to reach out. I am here. I am warm. Just lying here. Stay warm. I am sending out love as I lie here by the fire. It's too cold for anything else now!

What do you have to say about Bill going to see his friend who is lying in a coma?

It is so good Bill went to see him. The soul knows whether the body does or not. People tend to say things like, "He's in a coma. He won't know." Or, "She won't recognize you." It's still important to be there. The soul knows. So Bill's friend was helped by Bill's presence.

1/18/2005



Hey, where have you been? Today we're going to talk about patience. January is a month to practice patience. We have to wait through the cold to get back to the warmth and the light. We have to work hard not to get discouraged. It just takes patience. Already the days are getting longer. Sometimes you just have to wait for things. Then you appreciate them more when they come.

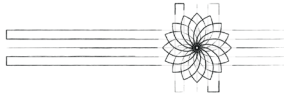
What would it be like if the seasons never changed? Some think it would be fun, but not me. I love the snow. A winter day has its own beauty and joy. Learn to enjoy it for what it is. Even the snowstorms have a purpose, blanketing the Earth with insulation.

I have to have patience waiting for my humans to come home every day. You humans have to have patience over and over again all day long. Learn to use that time and grow from it. Relax into it. It really doesn't do anybody much good to get impatient, does it? Kids and puppies don't learn faster if you try to hurry them up, that's for sure. Just have patience, and most things will work out the way they should.

Now if you will excuse me, I'm going back to the fire

where I will patiently wait for someone to come play with me or give me attention.

1/21/2005



Hello. I am feeling pretty good today. Not perfect, but I actually think I have gained some strength. I'm not ready to go out and run around too much, but I don't hurt. I like talking to you nearly every day. I still have some stuff to say. Don't go away.

Today I want to talk about professions. We've talked about work before. What's the difference between a profession and work? Work is what you sometimes just have to do. You humans lots of times just work for money. Dogs don't worry about that!

Your profession should be what you love to do. Of course, Marsha loves to teach. She loves her students and loves to get them excited about learning and thinking and being proud of what they can do. That is her profession. At one time Bill dressed up in funny clothes and made people laugh and think. They are both lucky because their profession is their work and they don't have to "work" to make money.

So how can some people's work become their professions? An equine massage therapist helps more than just the horse. A janitor does more than clean the floors. The waitress does more than take the orders and serve the food. An animal communicator does a lot for animals and people.

So no matter your work, it needs to become your profession by making it more than what it is. I don't have a salary but I have a profession. I get paid in love and food, shelter, toys. The most important is the love, but I do like the food, too!

Today, think about how your chosen profession makes a

difference in the world.

Daisy, have you ever lived before?

Of course, we all have. I have been dog for a long, long time. I want to stay a dog. Why would I want to change? This life has been my best. It has healed me in so many ways.

How long have you been talking to us?

Oh, I've had things to say right along. Marsha has known I'm special. I've been teaching her things without talking, but it is very good to get my thoughts down in words for you humans. It is because I have been so loved that I have been able to be me, to express my purpose and my thoughts.

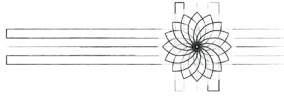
What about purpose? Do we all have a purpose whether we know it or not?

I am really surprised to have you ask that question after all we have talked about, but I know. You have a disadvantage: you are human and can't help it. We animals know and accept purpose. It is part of life. Not everyone is able to fulfill his purpose, even the animals. Or sometimes it may not seem like a purpose, but it is how it should be. We can't understand it all. We can't. Acceptance is a big thing. If you can accept that you have a purpose and honestly strive to live for it, that is all that is expected of you. That is all. This morning my purpose was to enjoy the moment and give Marsha that view. Daisy in the snow. Daisy in the snow will stay with her for a long time. That was a gift.

What about death, can you talk about that with us?

What is this, "Twenty Questions" or something? Usually you just listen to me. Now, I'd really rather not talk about death tonight. How about the moon? Have you seen it tonight? Go look. Enjoy the universe. It is inside you, and you are inside it. Every part of you is part of this universe. Look in awe, and enjoy the feeling of greatness. The Universe will heal you if you allow that to happen. Power and glory. Energy. It is all there for you to see.

1/24/2005



I am okay, but weaker. When I say I am okay, I mean I am very much at peace. Whether I am here or on the other side, I am okay. I have done a lot of good work here. I would like to stay a while longer, but who knows. It won't be all that long.

What is time? It is hard for humans to grasp. We animals have a different view of time, a whole different understanding of it. We "take" time to be in the moment. You humans "spend" time doing busy stuff. Your language about time, you should think about it. Waste time, spend time, save time. Can the time you save gain interest? Can you put it in the bank?

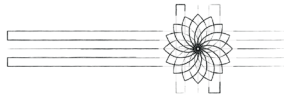
And what about this silliness of double-tasking? Why not just do one thing at a time? I have time: time to lie in the snow or sit by the fire or lie beside Marsha and poke her with my paw.

Time is a gift. How will you use it? Spend your time carefully, slowly. Enjoy your time, and don't worry so much about what time it is. It is time to do what you know in your heart you need to do.

I know you are all wondering when I am going to die. I don't know exactly. If I say I don't have much time, what does that mean? Much in comparison to what? We thought I would be gone before Christmas, but here I am, and happy for it. My time here is a gift that I appreciate because now I have found a voice. Oh happy time! Do not worry about me, for I am happy and not in pain.

Just let me enjoy my family and friends and this Earth and this universe. Come and sit by my side and we will look time in the face. It's okay to cry. That means you can feel. What if you couldn't? That would be worse. But now I think it's time to go to bed.

01/26/2005



Daisy, would you like your picture taken by a professional photographer for the book? This is Lee's idea and she has a photographer all lined up.*

Yes, yes, yes have my picture taken. Yes, with Bill and Marsha. Also alone, maybe for the cover? I am so serious about this book. Please promise me you will work on getting it published. Oh, I love the photo idea. Thank Lee for thinking of it. Brilliant. I want bows in my hair.

How do I want the book set up? The early conversations. I like the way you've been doing the chapters. I know they're short. That's okay. I'm short, too. Well, not for a dog of course. Yes, please work to get this published. You should be able to do it. How many books out there have been written by a dog, now I ask you? Maybe there are some.

It is so cold tonight, and clear and beautiful. I will not complain of the cold because it clears the mind and is good, but it is sometimes hard to want to go outside! And it is getting harder for me. But that is okay.

Do you have other questions tonight, or should I just talk?

I'm only looking for directions about the book.

Just do the book. Use your judgment. You've already got it set up, and I know you have good ideas. With your ideas and my words it will be fine.

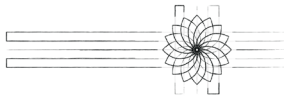
So tonight's thoughts are about expectations. We must always be careful of expectations. You can hurt a relationship by having too many expectations, you know. It's easy to get angry when someone doesn't live up to your expectations. Why don't you limit your expectations to yourself? Then you can only get angry with yourself if you don't achieve them.

Why should you expect things from other people? Give to other people, don't expect things from them. Then when they give to you, oh what a joyful surprise. It's just a change of attitude, that's all. Of course teachers need to expect things of their students. That is different. I'm really talking about relationships here. What do you expect of your family and friends? Well, I receive my food and shelter from my family, and love. I need these things to exist, but I look at every meal as a gift, every pat and expression of love a gift. So I don't really expect a lot.

My family does the best they can for me, all the time. Yours probably does, too. Most people are truly trying to do their best, it's just our expectations are often messed up. Change your expectations and see what happens. Good night. I wish you good dreams and good rest.

***Lee is my dear friend, and the photographer is Murad Sayen.**

01/27/2005



What a beautiful morning! A good day to connect with the universe. Yes, cold, but so clear. It's important to look to the sky today and feel the power of this universe. I am joining it. We are all a part of it. The wheel is turning.

Greet today with gladness. Greet each person and being you meet with openness. Who knows what gifts they will have to offer you? Yes, it is cold, but we choose to live here, don't we? We must like this part of the cycle too. We can gain warmth from others as we go through the day if we are open to their warmth.

So often we have our own agendas which get in the way. We think we have important things to do and we can't stop to