

Animal Communication Changed My Life: Experiences of Ten New Soul Level Animal Communicators®

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ABSTRACT

Animal communication (AC), the telepathic or intuitive communication between a human and an animal of a different species, is a relatively new profession that emerged in the latter half of the 20th century. Little is known about how professional animal communicators view their profession or how AC has impacted them. To learn more about their experiences, ten Soul Level Animal Communicators® (SLAC; 8 females, 2 males; mean age 57 years) who graduated in February/March 2022 from the Danielle MacKinnon School were interviewed. Pertinent excerpts were extracted from the transcripts that represented various viewpoints. SLAC reported becoming aware of AC from 8 months to 30 years prior to beginning professional training. They were very optimistic about the future of the profession and the potential for growth. The SLAC wanted the public to know AC exists, it is very real, it is legitimate, you can learn it, and it can help you develop a closer relationship with your pet. Learning AC was a life changing experience for the new SLAC. The training was therapeutic and helped them grow and be more authentic. They became better listeners and more kind and compassionate which then improved their relationships with their human family. Learning AC helped them understand the soul lessons their animals were teaching them and develop a closer relationship with their pets. AC also strengthened their other intuitive abilities. Their communication sessions with animals who were dying or were deceased helped them better face the death of their animal companions and process their grief and guilt. AC has far reaching implications for many areas of life including how we relate to all animals, our fellow humans, and the world at large. As the AC profession grows and more people become aware of AC its impact will also grow.

INTRODUCTION

I first learned of animal communicators (AC) in May 2020 when a friend told me that an AC she knew could help me find answers to the questions I was asking about how to support my 18-year-old cat Miko who was dying of heart failure. My first session with the AC was a profound awakening. It changed the way I viewed Miko, my other 18-year-old cat April, and all animals. Subsequent sessions before and after both their deaths were deeply healing and helped me

process the grief I felt. For me, AC is more than just receiving intuitive information that a client can verify. It is an exchange that touches the soul and changes us and our relationships with animals. The impact was so profound that I wanted to learn AC myself. Now, as a newly certified Soul Level Animal Communicator® (SLAC), I am starting a new profession that is very different from my career as a Registered Dietitian.

I wondered if my classmates had similar experiences. How had learning AC impacted them? What did they think about their new profession? To learn their perspectives, I interviewed my nine classmates. This paper reports my thoughts and those of my classmates about these topics.

2022 GRADUATING CLASS

Ten SLAC who graduated in February/March 2022 from the Danielle MacKinnon School (DMS; www.daniellemackinnon.com) were interviewed in April/May 2022 using a semi-structured questionnaire. Interviews were recorded and transcripts obtained. All classmates gave permission to be interviewed, recorded, and acknowledged by name and had the opportunity to review this paper before submission. This is a personal perspective paper and not research so transcripts were reviewed for relevant quotes but not formally analyzed using qualitative research procedures.

The class consisted of 8 females/2 males, mean (range) age 57 (40-68) years. Eight students were based in the United States (US), one in Canada, and one in Central Europe (Slovakia). Eight graduates reported no religious affiliation, one Protestant, and one Christian. All graduates were White and not Hispanic or Latino. Highest educational levels attained were high school (n=1), associate's degree (n=1), bachelor's degree (n=4), and master's degree (n=4). All graduates were "second career" animal communicators, having been employed in other professions. Two classmates are currently or were previously employed in animal-related professions including cat breeder, animal photographer, vet/euthanasia tech, animal rescue, and dog trainer. The remaining graduates are or had been employed as nurses (n=2), a secretary/bookkeeper, custodian, research dietitian, healthcare administrator, or in hospitality management/tourism or sales.

DMS is a US-based online program. It teaches students how to intuitively communicate with animals who are alive or deceased. Sessions (i.e., readings) are conducted live with the human client via telephone or video chat without the use of an animal photograph. The reading format consists of receiving intuitive information about the human and animal personality, the animal's physical body, answers to one or more questions posed by the human client, and specific details about the soul lesson the animal is teaching the human with the goal of helping the client work with the animal to learn that lesson. The program also teaches basic business skills such as website development and use of social media.

WHEN DID YOU FIRST HEAR OF AC?

Half the class had been aware of AC for 7 - 30 years before starting DMS while others were introduced to AC more recently. Three classmates were introduced by friends, one from a book, another from a television program, and one from their veterinarian who 30 years ago(!) recommended they see an AC he knew. Several students sought out AC because their pet was ill or dying. Many had read AC books or taken classes from other teachers before enrolling.

"I've had an interest in this for a long time . . . last year when I started was just the right time for me. You know, it just seemed to work."

"I read both of Danielle's [MacKinnon] books. By the time I was ready to take animal communication 101, I was totally ready and committed to go through the entire program."

Classmates had been expanding spiritually and developing their intuitive skills prior to enrolling in the training program. One student talked to photographs of animals she was painting and asked them to tell her about themselves. Another was offering Reiki to animals and receiving intuitive information from them. Others had engaged in spiritual practices such as meditation, connecting with angels or guides (<https://www.encyclopedia.com/religion/legal-and-political-magazines/spirit-guides>), and were developing their psychic abilities in other ways.

"I was curious, wanted to know if I could do it . . . I had psychic abilities but didn't know if I could control them or manage them on demand."

The decision to become a professional AC was made for various reasons: love for animals, the right timing, realization they could actually receive intuitive information from animals, opportunity to support humans and animals in having their best lives, and it being a profession that can be done in retirement from anywhere in the world.

WHAT DO YOU SEE FOR THE FUTURE OF AC?

All SLAC expressed great optimism for the profession.

"I think it's very bright. I think that it's a huge, huge growth area . . . and people love their animals . . . and want to do everything possible. I think it's just endless. I think it's a huge industry."

"I expect just like with any of the mediumship or healing modalities to get more and more popular . . . I really think COVID had a lot to do with that. It was that kind of shake up that the world had to have to be like, hey, time to listen, we're not gonna let you outside of your house. So now you have to sit with yourself."

"I see it becoming much more mainstream . . . more people will be looking for animal communicators to help them solve their problems and, I mean, they even already noticed an

enormous change in how I talk about being an animal communicator . . . I used to really kind of guard but I don't do that so much anymore . . . as my perspective changes, I sort of feel like the world will also change . . . obviously, there are some people who are more ready for that information than others."

"I think that one day, maybe it will be like a dog trainer or something normal."

"With this movement, especially regarding dogs, and the United Kingdom is way ahead of us . . . towards fostering the relationship between us and our dogs first before talking about training before talking about what sports we want the dog to do is allow the dog to be a dog like do its thing." "And so it's kind of like going back to really appreciating that self, that soul that's right in front of you. And I think that's a huge powerful component where animal communication is just going to pair so nicely with it [training]."

WHAT DOES THE PUBLIC NEED TO KNOW ABOUT AC?

At the most basic level, graduates want the public to know "it exists." "It is very real."

"Animal communication exist because energy exists because language exists because connections exist because relationship exists because bonding exists . . . it is how open we are to embrace it and receive it. And once people have their experience, their connection, then they're vulnerable enough . . . they have to get to that point."

The ability to telepathically connect with animals is within all of us, and "you don't have to be with the animal . . . the animal can be anywhere in the world." "It's not woo woo. It's not something to be afraid of. You can learn it. It's not just for professional animal communicators. It is for everyone. It can help you improve your relationship with your animal. There are a lot of great teachers out there. Find one who is a good fit for you and develop your ability."

"It is legitimate. Maybe some people think it is hocus pocus. We go through learning and study to do what we do . . . dedicate a lot of time and practice."

"It's good for people to know how to choose the right communicator for them . . . as within any industry, some are better than others."

"It works." "We help people." "It can really help a lot of people with their animals."

"It can really help people deepen their relationship with their animals or help them solve what they perceive as problems or issues with their animals because their animals are trying to tell them something and we're . . . so busy with our everyday life . . . we're not tuned in to the language of animals and what they're trying to express to us. I think people should know that our animals love us unconditionally if they don't already and that they're here to

help us, that they're working on some of our soul lessons. But people have to be open to that idea . . . that our souls chose some lessons to work on."

"I think they should know that, and this is kind of true with everything, honestly, that it's 50-50, that it's not just the animal, that your stuff's coming in with it. Like you're part of this. It's the dynamic, not the animal or the person."

"Our animals are really smart. They're in service to us . . . we're their whole world so . . . enrich it as much as you can. And talking with them helps because they can tell you what they like what they don't like or what they want more of."

"We love [our pets], but we don't really respect them . . . many people don't want to hear . . . from their animal because if you know that your animal is absolutely entirely this intelligent soul which is coming to teach you, you cannot scream at them . . . or say I like you but you must do what I want . . . I love this animal but you must do this."

"We help people solve problems that veterinarians can't solve. I mean, obviously, there's a place for a veterinarian but maybe we're the first stop and what they should know is they should work with an animal communicator on a quarterly basis, at least four times a year . . . because everything changes, you know, you're gonna go to the dentist twice a year. So why wouldn't you? You know, if your animal has any sort of a change, or you just want to check in with them."

HOW HAS AC IMPACTED YOU PERSONALLY?

Several SLAC expressed awe in discovering they have this ability.

"I never dreamed I could do anything like that and never dreamed I, you know, could have this, learn to tap into this skill."

"You do it and the stuff comes in and all that just like we've learned, but it still sometimes blows my mind that we can do this."

Some graduates commented that their energy was different.

"When I'm out in the world, and I'm at work I have to use my survival energy because I have to project different things and then when I'm doing animal communication, I have to be in a totally different place. And I love when I don't have to be in survival energy. I love it when I'm in what I call loving kindness energy. I mean, that's my favorite . . . we're all in this lovely bubble of lifting up and helping each other and helping animals . . . this is a totally different thing for me."

"I have never felt this good after like, doing something as part of my career. I still feel almost hyped up after I do a reading it's such a cool thing . . . it's really nice to feel energized. And

I've never had that feeling before and I don't know if it's something just specific to this field . . . I have friends who are mediums who feel very similarly when they're connecting with people."

"It seems so right to me. It's more me. You know, as I get older, I just want to be more real of who I am."

Learning AC changed their relationships with animals.

"It verified to me that our animals are smarter, so much more aware of things going on than we give them credit for."

"I communicate with them constantly. To the point where my husband walks in the room and is like, is there someone here or I'm like, no, no, no, see, just me . . . especially with my own animals there's this unwritten kind of communication that's happening of this understanding. They're like, Oh, you get it now. And so like everything's just become more subtle."

"The whole life lesson component that's kind of what brought me to Danielle [MacKinnon] . . . because I always felt that connection there and like, this dog is trying to teach you something. But I didn't know what that was. Like I didn't know the words for it. I didn't really understand the concept. It just, it felt like it was there. And so that was important."

AC changed their lives. One classmate shared how being quiet and listening to people and their pets during readings increased their ability to listen and be compassionate with their partner which improved their relationship.

"It brings your stuff to the surface so that you're forced to deal with it if you want to move through it."

"I found the work to be very therapeutic in a way because it definitely brought up a lot in me that was positive, but also was definitely needed some work and was some negativity and some fear and some insecurity and some shame, which is my default mode."

"I'm not the same person that I was when I started, not by any stretch of the imagination. . . it was quite stressful. . . there was all this like, shape shifting, everything just changed. And it felt really weird for a while. And then you get to the end and you still can't go . . . I'm done because now you got to run a business . . . but I'm so glad I did it. It's been such a growth experience . . . amazing. "

"I was like, finding some I didn't know the word but the power in me too, to go for . . . my dreams . . . I am not fearing about anything. So, this absolutely changed my vision of life and

everything because this is true. We can communicate with people we can communicate with animals."

"Can't begin to express it . . . before starting I didn't have a purpose, starting program revived a purpose in life."

"I think the interesting thing is that sometimes the lessons were for the, you know, for the human [client], but they were also sometimes for me, too."

AC helped them with their other intuitive abilities.

"It's helped me to take a look at myself more intuitively, and I've learned a lot more about myself . . . I meditate and I have for quite a while, several years, and I think that . . . animal communication has helped me in meditation as well, and getting to know myself . . . helped me feel and understand and hear more from my angels and from my soul level guides."

"One of the things that works well for me with animal communication is that it strengthens your intuition but it's the animal giving you the answers. So the trust helps you grow your trust in yourself. Whereas with a psychic work, you're using your guides and your intuition in a different way to get answers . . . the animal communication I think helps you to grow and expand so that it's easier to go down that other path . . . and the animals want to help us they want to see us succeed."

Several SLAC mentioned how communicating with dying animals and those who have crossed over helped them feel more comfortable with death, eased any guilt, and assisted in the grieving process.

"The animals in the whole dying process and the fact that they kind of map it out beforehand, that was really eye opening in the sense that one it helped heal my soul a little bit from all the euthanasia that I had to do because you know, how do you rationalize that? . . . you can try but it doesn't feel good no matter what. And so that was a big thing. And I found it a big healing thing for humans in general, clients who have been worried."

CONCLUSION

AC Penelope Smith said, "Telepathic connection with other species can be experienced as a spiritual journey helping us to: harmoniously blend all aspects of our physical, mental, emotional and spiritual nature; return to wholeness; awaken to unity consciousness; remember who we are." (<https://www.animaltalk.net/AboutAnimalCommunication/>) I believe that is true. Learning AC changed my SLAC colleagues and I for the better. It opened the door to a new way of viewing animals and the world. It opened our minds and hearts to the lessons animals are teaching us. And it opened us spiritually in other ways.

Our SLAC class feels optimistic and excited about the future. What will the next century bring for AC as more people become aware they can communicate with animals? How will it impact our relationship with our pets? Veterinary practice? Livestock? Animal research? Shelters? Laws? How we make decisions about caring for the earth? How we humans treat each other? I do not know but the animals probably do. I can't wait to find out what they have to say.

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