

Can Your Fido Really Talk? The Unbelievable Story of Amelia Kinkade...

By Linda Sivertsen

(published by Los Angeles Family Magazine, June 2001)

What's the difference between Dr. Dolittle and Amelia Kinkade? For starters, Amelia, a beautiful, petite woman with a lion's mane of curls, is not a man, not Eddie Murphy...and she's not kidding. There is a real-life Dr. Dolittle alive and well in the San Fernando Valley and she does indeed "talk to the animals." "If you think your animals can't understand you or correlate language, you should hear what they're saying about you behind your back!" says Amelia with a grin.

Not only is interspecies communication *not* a fairy-tale, but veterinarians, animal rescue organizations, and animal lovers around the world, many of whom howl her praises, seek this celebrated specialist out. "We need each other," says Amelia, whose unique abilities have earned her appearances on many talk shows and on the *Animal Planet network*. After being featured in the book *100 Top Psychics in America* from Simon & Schuster, Amelia was barraged with endless calls for help and gave up her practice. "It was devastating hearing people sobbing on the other end of the phone about their sick or lost pets. I wanted to run away and never talk to another suffering being, animal or human. But one day I woke up and knew it was time to start again. The animals were haunting me, especially in my dreams," sighs Amelia as she reveals that even animals on the brink of extinction appear psychically to reveal their plight in brutal detail.

In June, Crown books will release *Straight From the Horse's Mouth: How to Talk to Animals and Get Answers*--the first comprehensive how-to book to teach us

normal folk how to telepathically communicate with our furry or scaly or web-footed companions, and like the movie, bring healing to us all.

If you're having trouble wrapping your mind around the topic of a valley girl actually speaking dog or cat, consider this: Revered scientists, doctors, psychiatrists, physicists and best-selling philosophers across the U.S. are backing her work, even at the risk of their own reputations. "They are laying their names on the line because of their love for animals and because they've seen the proof," says Amelia, offering examples. Surgeon and *New York Times* best-selling author, Dr. Bernie Siegel has written the foreword to the book, attesting that she not only found his lost cat thousands of miles away, but has also helped him awaken his own psychic abilities. What appears to be fiction on the screen is very real, as many of us are learning by speaking with Amelia's clients.

In an interview with Deborah Engler of Van Nuys and her two children, Josh and Jesse, I am told that for Amelia Kinkade, miracles at the "office" are an everyday occurrence. Deborah's 8-year old boy and 10-year-old daughter tuned in with Amelia's reading immediately, which according to Amelia is natural because the intuitive ability of children is often more easily accessed. "Their right-brain intuitive abilities have not been inhibited by social conditioning or 'logical' schooling practices," explains the psychic.

"From the minute Amelia walked into our home, it was magic," says Deborah. She had never been here and knew nothing about us. She sat down in the den and had a "chat" with our three dogs, telling us immediately that Jazz, our 12-year-old lab mix "really likes the green alligator bean bag toy." I didn't know what that meant and told Amelia that we didn't have a toy of that description. The kids knew otherwise and ran into their room at the other end of the house, returning with a small stuffed alligator that had been sitting on their bookshelf.

It was stuffed with beans! And that was just the beginning. Many profound things happened; my favorite was when our 2-year-old chocolate lab mix named Tahoe supposedly said, 'I like Penelope's pictures. Tell her to keep drawing me pictures.' We were all shocked because Penelope is the nickname I have for my daughter Jesse. Several days earlier, 'Penelope' was drawing in the kitchen and drew a picture of a dog. She wrote Tahoe's name at the top and asked me to tape it on the window facing Tahoe's separate area of the yard, which I did. Tahoe must have liked it and obviously knew that it was just for her."

Suddenly Deborah's voice became very serious. "Then Amelia spoke of something we had all been trying to forget. Two weeks before, the neighbor's beautiful orange and white cat sauntered into our yard...in enemy territory." I could hear the pain in Deborah's voice as she remembered how Amelia had looked nervously around the room, checking to see how the children would handle the news before she began... "Tahoe says, 'The orange and white cat was delicious and I'm sorry.'" At this point the family screamed, knowing that this could only have come straight from the dog's mouth. They shed more tears as a family for the beloved cat (and for Tahoe's pain about the event), and then found the healing they had all been hoping for.

"Amelia has taught me and my children what we have suspected all along. Our animals are deeply affected by everything we do for them, and everything we don't do. Never again will we take their feelings for granted. Jesse calls Amelia Kinkade the Real Dr. Dolittle. I'm just grateful that she stepped out of the fantasy of movies and graced our lives with her healing touch."

Linda Sivertsen, columnist, speaker, editor & award-winning author of *Lives Charmed: Intimate Conversations with Extraordinary People* has been featured on CNN, *Leeza*, *Extra*, the E-Channel & in the *Star* & *NY Post*. Linda interviews many of the world's most successful people for her books. She lives in Los Angeles and in New Mexico with her husband, son, four dogs and two cats. Web site: www.LivesCharmed.com.