## Animals Know! Sample Blog Post

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## **Locating Lost Pets**

By Denise Norberg-Johnson, Friday, Jan. 24, 2014 at 2:50 pm

In my animal communication practice, I'm frequently asked about the possibility of locating lost pets. This is difficult work, and I continue to learn the newest techniques from practitioners who have a deeper understanding of the process of locating lost pets.

Many animal communicators avoid lost pet work, for several reasons. A successful outcome is rare, if it's defined as the return of the animal, alive and well.

There is a lot of blame, guilt, and anger being carried by the pet's guardian, and this energy can obstruct the process. People want quick solutions, and the process

takes more than a few minutes, and often several sessions. Finally, the animal may not want to be found or returned.

Communication with a lost animal can be extremely difficult. Fluffy or Buster isn't typically relying on the same perceptual structures humans use, so you won't receive a message like, "Oh, yes, I'm just out for a walkabout having a great time downtown, but I'm about finished here. Come and get me. I'll get a latte and wait in the Starbuck's on the southeast corner of 5th and Main." More likely, we'll receive things like an impression of a maple tree, a farmhouse, and a red mailbox next to a gravel road. Second, it's hard to tell whether the animal is still alive physically. Third, the animal may not want to return to you. Even if we locate the animal, he or she may not wait until you arrive, or someone else may have already rescued your pet. Events may also trigger the pet to run in another direction before you arrive, and then the process continues or the client accuses the communicator of fakery.

When animals are missing, it isn't always by chance. In fact, they may be teaching or learning life lessons. If you believe that each person comes into this life with a contract, having agreed to voluntarily be placed into situations that challenge, reward, or harm us, then you are probably open to the idea that animals are living similar contracts. They have the right to their own choices, and the understanding that there are consequences and lessons to be learned for themselves, and often taught to the humans whose paths they cross.

You may think your pet belongs to you, but the animal has also chosen to be with you in this life. When an animal leaves, bolting out of the door may be triggered by instinctual response - chasing the squirrel, running from the chaos of your frat party, or getting away from the toddler who insists on pulling his ears because you refuse to restrain her.

However, the animal may also have completed his or her time with you, and have another purpose that doesn't include you. Yes, it's hard to imagine, but they may love us and still leave us.

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We experience many different emotions when a pet disappears. It's easy to blame Aunt Mildred who removed Buster's tags because they made too much noise, and then left the gate open by accident. But Aunt Mildred is also learning a lesson, and probably suffering from a load of guilt. Meanwhile, Buster has found a way to leave and move on to his next job, family, or even physical death. We hold on to our beloved pets so tightly that, even when they are ready to physically die and move on to their work on The Other Side (yes, they do have jobs in spirit, and very cool ones, too!) we insist on extreme medical treatments they prefer to avoid. So, getting "lost" can be an exit strategy that bypasses the prolonged angst and physical suffering.

It may be possible to find your lost animal, and even successfully have him or her returned to you. Just realize that this work doesn't take place in a few minutes. It is a long, slow process in most cases, like investigating a crime. There are clues to find, methods that may or may not work in a particular case, and it can be difficult to determine if Fluffy or Buster is still in a body, unless our questions are phrased correctly. Unlike most crime solving, there is no victim and no perpetrator. And you may never know what really happened, despite your best efforts.

You may also be asking for your pet to turn away from the next lesson in his or her life, and set aside his or her free will choices because your love is an anchor instead of a gift. Sometimes, the most loving act is letting go without guilt, fear, or sadness, trusting that there is a higher purpose operating for the benefit of all involved. That is what your missing animals may hope you can understand. Be sure that you are considering what's best for Buster or Fluffy, not just what's best for you.