



## INDEPENDENT STUDY: Module1, Class 11

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The recording for Class 11 is around 25 minutes and can be found in your attachments.

### CLASS 11

In Class 10, we began our discussion of Cowrie shells. We extended this conversation beyond the divination use of these shells to enter new territory...how they are used as energy tools. I ended the class with a cliff hanger. I promised you a story that needed more time than we had to do it justice. It is time to share that story. I would like you to meet an upperclassman who has one more contribution to make to this topic.

Claudia has been kind enough to grant me permission to share her poignant story with you. Let me begin by giving you some background. At the beginning of 2008, Claudia learned the terrible news that her cherished nephew, Jared, died in a snowboard accident in Colorado. Her family is not open to her spiritual beliefs regarding energy, and she was unable to offer them any comfort.

During this tragedy, Claudia posted on the group website. Here is part of her posting:

*I have not left my sister's side for two days, trying to offer what little comfort I can to someone who is not at all in alignment with my own spiritual beliefs. Not only do my attempts at help fall on deaf ears, today I was shushed several times, gently, but still, asked not to share my ideas.*

My heart went out to her as those words captured her frustration at the impotence she felt around her grieving loved ones.

Her next posting amazed me:

She wrote that she was going to bring her Tiger Cowrie to her sister's house. To quote Claudia, *"Tomorrow I will be bringing my tiger cowrie with me to Pam's house. It is the shell of faith. And it will help me to remember that I am not alone there, that Spirit is with me, that my angels and guides are with me, and that all of your prayers are with me. I have that trust, that faith."*

Do you remember that in Class 10 you learned that the Tiger Cowrie is connected to the womb?

When Claudia made the decision to bring the Tiger Cowrie to her sister's home, she was still a freshman. It was weeks before we covered this Cowrie information in her class. *Ocean Oracle* told her it was the shell connected to faith, but she did not realize that she was bringing the shell that connects to the womb. How much more nurturing can you get than that? If Claudia were prevented from trying to comfort her family through her words, do you see that she could not have picked a better shell to surround them with a nurturing energy?

We also learned that this is the "peaceful child shell". You read some wonderful testimonials from Deb, and Ameena sharing stories of the capacity of the Tiger Cowrie to assist mothers during pregnancies, and to calm babies after they are born.

I wrote to Claudia about the peaceful child shell when I read her posting, and she was kind enough to allow me to share these conversations with you. Here is a portion of my letter to Claudia:

*"I also marvel at the fact that you wanted to bring your Tiger Cowrie. It is the shell of faith, but that is because of its connection to the womb, and the Goddess, and its nurturing energy. Also, in Japan, it is called ko-yasu-gai.... peaceful child shell. I think you were guided to use this shell to send this message that JARED IS AT PEACE. Wow. I did not do that. The capital key must have got stuck. So, maybe that is validation?"*

It is true. I was typing a letter to Claudia, and suddenly the words came out capitalized. It took me completely by surprise, but when I read them, I got chills.

Claudia's instinct to take the Tiger Cowrie is an example of someone speaking shell at a subconscious level without even realizing it. She grabbed it because it represented her faith that her guides were with her, that she was not alone...but it actually came with her for reasons beyond that. Can you all see that?

From time to time, you have commented that you love to hear my stories and they assist you in recalling information. That is gratifying, but it is only half my purpose for sharing these stories. My second purpose for mentioning my experiences is to say, "If this can happen to me, it can happen to anyone." You heard a few experiences in Class 10, but there is one more magical event that involved a Tiger Cowrie, and it was not my story...it belongs to Claudia.

You see, there is a part 2 to this story about Claudia.

Before we pick up this story, I need to share some more information with you. Claudia only lived one town away from me. This made it possible for her to come visit me, and we developed a friendship before I ever taught a class on-line. In the early weeks of 2008, I happened to be sick with an awful cold. While I was confined upstairs, Claudia delivered a healing pot of home-made chicken soup. At this time, I had written the Cowrie lesson, but the shells were not guiding me to teach that class yet.

Shortly after this, Jared died. Claudia had posted the information you saw earlier, and we had exchanged the emails about ko-yasu-gai. This led me to the feeling that the Cowrie lesson had been delayed for a purpose. A month later, I sought Claudia's permission to include her instincts with the rest of the Cowrie information as an example of seashell communication. She was gracious enough to agree, and I informed her that we would only discuss whatever she felt comfortable sharing. A few days before I was set to teach the class, she came over so I could return the pot in which she transported that yummy chicken soup. Little did either of us know, but in hindsight, that was just the pretext for her visit that day.

When she arrived, I thanked her for her permission to share her story. Don't forget, at that time I had written the lesson, but we had not had class yet. As I expressed my gratitude, I noticed that she appeared a little uncomfortable. Then she admitted to me that she never was able to take her Cowrie to her sister's house because it was broken. She had been debating telling me about this because she felt that ruined the story. I immediately assured her that it did no such thing because the point was she had the intention to take that shell. Without her realizing it, it is still the shell of the womb for nurturing, and it is the ko-yasu-gai, peaceful child shell. That was what was important.

Suddenly, I felt inspired to give Claudia a new Cowrie since hers was broken. What she could not know was that morning, before Claudia arrived, I was in my dining room where I store my extra shells, and as I walked past a huge plastic container, I felt it was a shame that the shells in there never get to work with people because they are hidden away. They were sent to me by a woman in Hawaii, and they are all spectacular shells. As soon as I heard Claudia's Tiger Cowrie was broken, I opened the plastic container and took out an enormous Tiger Cowrie, absolutely delighted to know one of those shells could go to a great home. I had received a few huge Tiger Cowries from the person in Hawaii, and I wanted to keep the largest for teaching purposes so people in the back of the room could see it when I held it up. That caused me to give Claudia the second largest Cowrie I had ever seen. That shell is in the picture below.



The next day, as early as she dared, Claudia called me quite excited. Before she could explain why, she reluctantly admitted that when I showed her the Cowrie, her first reaction was to think it was the ugliest Cowrie she had ever seen. Of course, she did not want to tell me that because she was touched by my desire to give her a Tiger Cowrie to replace her broken one.

I realized this admission could not be what made her call me so excited, and I waited to hear more.

Then she told me something that took my breath away. She was looking at the Cowrie later that night, and noticed that in one section, the dots formed a circular pattern. That planted the seed to make her wonder if there could be letters on the shell. That is when she saw a "J" to the left of the circle. Then she noticed a vertical line connected to the right side of the circle that made it into an "a". As she continued looking, she spotted a very clear "E" and "D" a little distance to the right of the "a". When she saw an "r" between the "a" and "E" she thought she was going crazy.

Jared's name was on this shell. When she said that, I gasped and could barely contain my desire to see the shell again.

If you are like me, and wish to look at the shell again, refer back to the shell above to see if you spot any of these letters.

Now, if you had any trouble spotting Jared's name, on the picture below, I have outlined the letters she saw.



In another area on the shell, she saw a heart. This picture shows the Cowrie from this perspective. See if you can spot the heart, and then on the next page, I have connected the dots to reveal the heart on the shell.





There is still more to show you.

Now you know what Claudia saw when she called me. I eagerly awaited her visit to see this with my own eyes. Claudia was able to come over that afternoon, and I photographed the shell. When I examined it, I saw the name Jared with the same J, E, D, but I saw a capital A and R. Then, I saw the word HOME, and the word JOY.

An upper classman said it best: It is amazing and wonderful how the Universe and those we love on the other side send us messages. How awesome when we are open to receive them.

Before you look at the next photo, I would like you to read this entire paragraph. You are each welcome to view the naked shell again on page 3 and see if you spot these words, or any others ☺. If you can't find them, on the next page I have outlined the three words I saw. I invite you to scroll back and explore the naked shell again. This may take a little time. Whenever you are ready, continue to the next page to see what messages jumped out at me.



There is one more thing to tell you. Do you remember my telling you that I hand out Tiger Cowries at the beginning of my workshops?

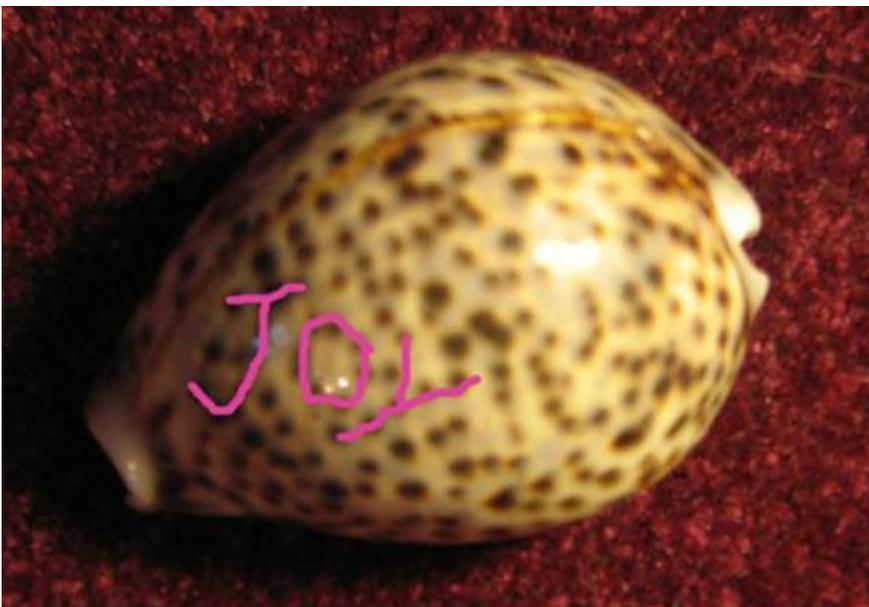
Well during Claudia's visit, sitting a few feet away in my living room was a carton of 50 Tiger Cowrie shells. My usual method of giving a Tiger Cowrie is to have someone look at all 50 and select the one they are drawn to.

For some reason, the day Claudia came for her soup pot, I completely forgot about that carton of Cowries. All I thought about were the shells from Hawaii sitting in the plastic case in my dining room.



Using the process I described earlier, I retrieved one shell without giving her any choice in the selection of her Cowrie. The reason she found it to be ugly was because she had never seen a light color background on a Tiger Cowrie.

When she returned to allow me to photograph her shell, I showed her the other 50 cowries sitting in the living room. From such a huge selection, she could see this variation in background colors was common. However, precisely because the background on her shell was so light, the dots could be seen in much better contrast.



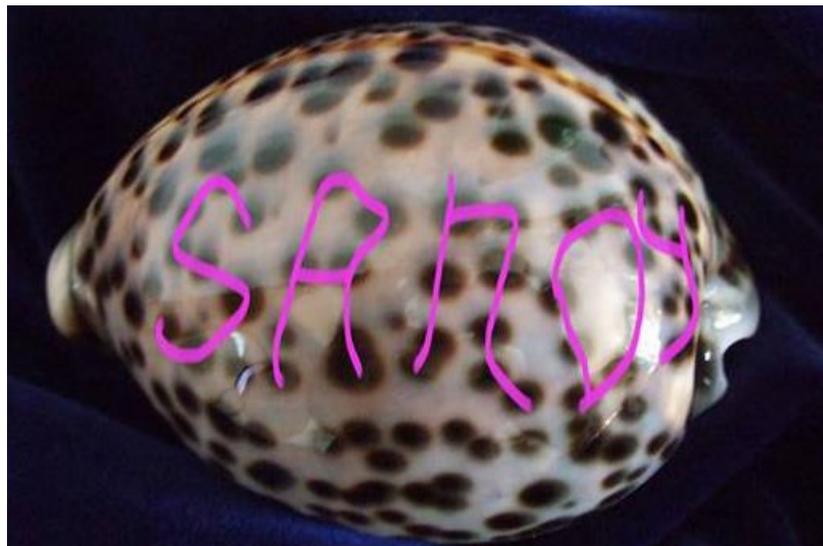
Here is the case of a shell literally talking to someone and it was not to me :-)

An experience from another freshmen:

A few years later, when I taught this class, Claudia came into the classroom to share her story. One of the students visited my home soon after. As a treat, Claudia came over with the Jared shell, and I took out the other large Hawaiian Cowrie I overlooked to show this student that I could have easily grabbed that shell instead. I handed that large Cowrie to the student and we continued chatting. Suddenly, the student blanched and said she thought she was going crazy, but the shell had the name SANDY on it. This student's name was Sandy.

In a state of deja-vu, I looked at this shell that had been sitting in my home in the dark all this time, and sure enough, it said SANDY on it. I knew it had been waiting for her. Sandy took it home, and told me that it is an amazing thing, but when her energy is scattered, she can't find her name on the shell. Then she centers, and when she sees her name, she knows her energy is aligned.

Sandy was kind enough to email me pictures of her shell with and without her name outlined to share with my students. Here they are:



Keep your eyes open...you could be receiving messages too!

Now that you have studied Cones and Cowries, I thought you would enjoy the antics captured in this journal kept by Don Barclay.

<http://www.manandmollusc.net/conewars/conewars.html> read about Helmut the cowrie and Eduardo the cone.

Also, below you will see several excerpts of previous Ocean Speake classes beginning with the first time I taught this Class 11 when Claudia was a freshmen student. The others are during her guest visits over the next few years. We did not have teleconferencing back then, and I could not speak to the students over a microphone. Instead, I taught through writing paragraphs that I posted in the live classroom. We had no videos. The students read the material at their own pace and responded through their written postings. That seems quite antiquated now!

*Here is a conversation between Claudia and the students in her class followed by conversations with 3 other freshmen Ocean Speake classes with Claudia as a guest. Although the story remains the same, each group contributes some new insight. All participants granted permission for me to share what follows with any future students.*

Claudia: First of all, let me say, that now this is the most beautiful cowrie I have ever seen!

Claudia: Hi everyone, and thank you for having me in your class tonight.

I am a tarot reader and love oracles, love found objects and love reading, so that was why I even thought to look at the shell for letters and such. But there is another reason I thought the shell might have a special message. The day of Jared's wake I was out shopping for an outfit. I really felt Jared around me in the car, there was a lot of joy and energy around me, and I was talking to him. And I asked him to give me a sign he was ok, I asked for a tiger cowrie!!!

Now, at the wake, I was seeing his body for the first time. He died in Colorado, and took five days to get him home. All the flower arrangements were set up and as I bent to kiss his mom, my sister, I saw something in the corner of my eye. This is at the funeral parlor, at the wake,... there were shells in the arrangement.

Remember, I didn't have the cowrie from Shelley yet, and I was sort of astounded

Shelley: And what amazed me is this was winter in New England. You don't see shells in floral arrangements.

Claudia: There were Scallop shells and another kind of shell, a type of Babylon

So you can imagine my shock...I thought, ok Jared you didn't come up with a Cowrie, but on such short notice I'll take these other shells!

Claudia: Now about a month or so later we are at the place where Shelley gave me the Cowrie...I had forgotten about my request... and when I started finding the letters in the shell.... I was freaking out!

Claudia: the shell came from Hawaii...at what point did the word get on there...was it always there...you see what I mean? This was a miracle!

Claudia: And not surprisingly, almost no one in my family thinks it is. None of them think this is special or even valid.

Claudia: Just me, crazy Claudia at it again!

Claudia: If you have questions or anything feel free to comment! Shelley, did I forget anything?

Shelley: Just all the ways this could have gone wrong :- ) What if you had told me the shell was ugly? OR if I used the usual 50 shells in the other room?

Claudia: Yes as Shelley is saying I could have said no to the shell but I couldn't hurt her...she is so giving. and Jared is proving to be a very communicative spirit..he tries all the time to reach us

But the shell is really the biggest one, and he never knew in life what a cowrie was I assure you, he was only 21.

Student: Thank you Claudia for sharing such a touching personal story. I believe Jared worked through Shelley to get you your shell and deliver a message you would find

Student: you know, even if no one else "sees" the message in the shells, Jared communicated through it because he knew \*you\* would get \*your\* message.

Claudia: yes, I know that he was talking to me. and my sister kept some of the shells from the bouquet..the two that I didn't take!

Shelley: If any of us doubt that the shells are eager to teach, please realize that Claudia's experience occurred the very week I was preparing to present the Cowrie class. When I first developed the outline for these classes, the Cowrie was slated for the fourth class. However, as I began teaching, the shells started suggesting their own sequence for discussion. Other shells needed to be taught to provide the foundation for you to understand the future classes on operculums or radulas. This delayed the Cowrie class for several weeks. By the time it was ready to present, Claudia began this on-going relationship with the Tiger Cowrie that ended just a few days before we shared it with her classmates in Class 11. Looking back, I don't think I can say the Cowrie class was delayed at all.

Claudia: no the class happened in fine time shelley

Shelley: This class ended up being presented with Divine timing precisely when it should have been. I am grateful to Claudia for joining us to share this powerful story.

Shelley: I wanted you all to see that these communications with shells don't just happen to me.... they can happen with any of you :-)

Claudia: well I was unwitting!

Shelley: I always am too :-)

Claudia: LOL

Claudia: thanks for welcoming me here, and for accepting the message

Claudia: I know now that we just can't ever predict how these kinds of things will happen, and I know Jared is Home, with Joy and at Peace

#### From another class

Claudia\_: I had asked Jared, on the day of his wake, to send me a sign that he was ok. I asked for a tiger cowrie, a shell, that I don't think he even knew when he was alive. When I got to the wake, there was a flower arrangement there with shells in it. There were four shells. Two babylons, and two scallop shells. Now scallop is hero's journey as you will learn, and I forget what babylon means. But no cowrie, so I thought, hey, the guy has only been passed a week, and he got me shells, I'll take that for evidence he is fine.

Shelley: And I never heard of shells at a funeral in New England, much less in winter...that really amazed me at how Jared responded to Claudia.

Claudia\_: well, I had never seen shells in an arrangement either...and my sister did keep those shells, except for the one I stole.... one of the babylons

Note from Shelley: There were questions about the meaning of Babylon. Although this shell is not in Ocean Oracle, it means feeling left out, on the outside as a spectator, not a participant.

Claudia\_: and then I forgot all about my request for cowrie. When the shell came from shelley, the cowrie, I was astounded. Not only did Jared send me a tiger cowrie, he put his name on it!!!  
So there was no denying that it was for me from him.

Claudia\_: Just recently Jared sent another message to me! My sister had a patio brick place near an angel statue at a shrine in a local church. The brick had Jared's name on it and a little sentiment. On Dec. 6th we gathered at the shrine, with about 75-100 people for a ceremony.  
This was for people who lost children, and they had bricks as well, so the angel was being rededicated for the new bricks. Suddenly as we stood in the starlit courtyard I thought I saw Jared walking down the path, but it was another guy...and I just started crying.  
It was emotional, beautiful, candlelit ceremony, very short, only 30 minutes.

The next day I was up early playing scrabble on pogo, before my family got up. A little me time. Well I saw that I could spell the word shrine, which sort of was weird, and I was playing against the computer. So I played SHRINE and then the computer played a word that stopped me in my tracks. The computer played JAY. I was the only one in the family who called Jared Jay!  
I used to try to get the others to call him Jay, but no one ever did. So, that was it, no other contact, but I felt like he was saying..I know you were there...I was there....love you...Jay

ameena: I guess we shouldn't be afraid of passing over then, we are not alone!

shelley: What is ironic is the Babylon...Being a spectator, not a participant. I think Jared is being a great participant!

ameena: My, God, I think the scallop is your hero's journey

Sheila: I see it as symbolic as she was out in the cold... isolated from everyone

Claudia\_: yes Jared is special...thanks everyone

shelley: Yes Sheila...Claudia was the Babylon.

shelley: Or so she thought.

Sheila: exactly

shelley: Enter the Scallop...hero's journey

ameena: Good girl!! That is a story of Triumph...we all need to hear those!

shelley: And a little magic for the holidays!

Claudia\_: also the cowrie helped me to feel protected, to feel safe. I think it was more selfish..I mean selfish to bring it for me, my protection

ameena: Yes, thanks for the magical mystery tour!

shelley: Cute one Claudia....selfish :-)

ameena: that was insightful instincts, and perfect

Claudia\_: LOL

Deb\_S: your protection, but also your great faith which allowed you to hear from jared

Sandy\_C: do you have a picture of the babylon shelley?

Sheila: love those cosmic winks... can never get enough of those...

Claudia\_: I agree Sheila

Claudia\_: Like the Grateful Dead song....I need a miracle every day

shelley: [http://naplesseashellcompany.com/babylon\\_aerolata\\_sea\\_shells.html](http://naplesseashellcompany.com/babylon_aerolata_sea_shells.html) Babylon shell

shelley: It means feeling left out, on the outside as a spectator, not a participant.

Sheila: that described her to a T at the time...

Sheila: initially

ameena: perfectly fitting for the occasion

From another class of students:

I admit that I had asked Jared to let me know if he was ok, so I asked him to show me a cowrie shell, specifically a tiger cowrie shell.

Terri\_of\_OH: wow

Claudia: this was the weekend of the funeral. and I didn't get the tiger cowrie then, but i did get a bunch of shells in a flower arrangement, that had been sent to my sister

When I saw this I was astounded!!!

shelley: We were in the middle of winter in New England.

Claudia: I have never seen shells in flowers, in new england, at a funeral!

Claudia: We got a babylon, acutally 2, and 2 scallops shells, st. james to be exact

Shelley can tell us what they mean

michelle\_J: that is very unusual at least here,

Claudia: so that when the actual tiger cowrie appeared from shelley, I had forgotten all about my request to jared! I wasn't even looking for the cowrie anymore. The night I was checking out the shell at home, I saw the pattern emerging, but before the pattern emerged, I was "aware" that there was something there I needed to see. For the readers in the group, I was being alerted by reading sense, that there was Something There, and as I explored the shell pattern, the letters popped.

Claudia: I don't easily see Joy or Home, for me the shell yells Jared

Claudia: are you interested to hear one more story about this shell?

waltsrode: y

silvia: y

Terri\_of\_OH: y

EllenH: y

nancy\_: y

Pat\_RI: O yes~

tracy\_k\_oh: y

Lilly: y

michelle\_J: y

Amy: y

Elaine: y

Jacquie: y

Amanda: y

Heidi\_B.: y

Kim\_Ca: y

Claudia: Lilly asked if I showed the shell to my sister and family, if they heard about it.

This past weekend I did show them the shell! I was sick to my stomach, but I did it.

Claudia: Interestingly, you all had a much stronger reaction than they did!

They were polite, interested, looked, but they really didn't believe it, or realize what we they were seeing, at least this is what I think.

silvia: really???

Claudia: My own husband said I see because I want to see it! I'm astounded!

Lilly: You see because your open to it.

Terri\_of\_OH: People see what they want to see. Only you know what you had asked for. The message was for you.

Claudia: I must tell you that the day I asked Jared to send me the shell, to let me know he was ok, I was very connected to him. I could feel him, see him in my mind.

Amanda: Yes, it jumped out at you

Claudia: When I got the shell, it was like Amanda said, it jumped out at me. I was literally sure I was talking to my beautiful nephew.

Amanda: wow how special

Terri\_of\_OH: Your family will find their own comfort...jared "sent" this for you.

nancy\_: how beautiful claudia!

Jacquie\_F: yes, because you requested it

silvia: the msg was for you, he knows the rest of the family is not open to it. Beautiful!

Amanda: he knows he can get your attention and talk to you

Claudia: I do believe if you go to you tube and put in r.i.p. j.d. you will see his video. I have not seen the video yet....but do go see it if you can. I want you to see my nephew.

Terri\_of\_OH: And as Shelley is open to "hearing" the shells...she was a great conduit to get the shell to you.

EllenH: I agree with Terri and how blessed you are Claudia.

Jacquie\_F: yes, because you requested it

Claudia: remember tho, at so many points I could have not gotten the shell from Shelley.

What if I told her on the spot, "this is an ugly shell."

Claudia: Lol

Claudia: What if I never made the soup?

Claudia: What if I never told her my shell broke?

Amanda: he made sure that you would get the shell

shelley: What if I had not felt sorry for the shells from Hawaii that morning?

Terri\_of\_OH: Jared would have gotten you a message another way. Because you are open to hearing.

Claudia: but all the events lined up and I was able to connect to shelley, and she brought forward that shell.

Lilly: There are no "what if's" everything happens for a reason.

Pat\_F\_RI: synchronicity!!!

Ellen H: I think if it wouldn't have happened this way, it would have happened another way.

shelley: Yes! It is like watching the Oneness at work.

Terri\_of\_OH: Synchronicity happens all the time....we don't always see...or make the connections

Lilly: Exactly

Jacquie F: and now what are the meanings of the shells in the bouquet? I bet they fit in somehow.

Terri\_of\_OH: Yes Shelley

Claudia: yes, everything does happen as it should, I know that. And this is a great experience for me, because it shows me that this is the kind of miracle we should grow to expect....because we can all have this type of experience

Terri\_of\_OH: And, the shells talk to you too!

shelley: Well, I can tell you the Babylon which is not in Ocean Oracle.

shelley: It means feeling left out, on the outside as a spectator, not a participant.

Jacquie\_Flint: oh my goodness

Claudia: yes, amazing

Amanda: watching his own funeral

shelley: The Saint James scallop is about a hero's journey, but that is an entire lesson for later this year.

Claudia: So my thanks to shelley for allowing me to share this with you, because this story is so special, I really wanted to share it and so did Shelley.

waltsrode: Claudia thats a beautiful story and was really worthwhile waiting for.

Terri\_of\_OH: Thank you for sharing it with us.

Amanda: yes it's very special - I would treasure it forever

nancy\_r: yes, claudia. thank you! its really a beautiful , touching story.

Terri\_of\_OH: And the best resolution to a cliff-hanger....don't you think?

Kim\_Ca: Oh yes...thanks for sharing

Claudia: You are so welcome! The shell is here on my table, and I know that Jared is here with us, smiling as we tell his story

silvia: thank you claudia & Jared

shelley: Now you see why we needed time to do this story justice.

Amy: claudia /shelley would you ever consider allowing shelley to add this story in any revisions to her book? or is it too personal?

Jacquie\_F: very worthwhile

Lilly: I'm sure you will treasure that cowrie and maybe one day your sister will see the message too. Thanks Claudia.

Claudia: the morning that I took the shell to Shelley's house I showed it to my 9 year old daughter. She saw the letters...and was crying and laughing. So yes, I have someone who understands this shell, and story. All of you, and my little girl!

Claudia: Thanks Shelley!!!

shelley: I thank you for sharing this with the rest of the students tonight!

Claudia: Amy, don't know, I think we would need to talk about it....

shelley: And I thank all of you students for your insights!

Claudia: Yes thank you classmates....i appreciate your support.

Amy: I am glad you shared!

Terri\_of\_OH: I'm glad your daughter understood. And thank you for sharing with us.

shelley: This brings up an important point. Claudia, would you want this transcript to remain just with the students tonight, or to be sent to the entire class?

Claudia: I have no problem leaving that to you Teacher!

shelley: There will come a time when the transcripts will only be available to the students in that night's class. When we get into doing readings.

Claudia: I like to think that the story may touch their hearts....but you decide.

shelley: If I have your permission...I agree that it is a gift for all the students to see how they can receive messages if they remain open.

Claudia: absolutely

shelley: Students, do you mind if I include your comments and insights?

Amanda: no I don't Shelley

silvia: n

EllenH: n

walt: no problem

Pat\_F\_RI: Not at all... please do

Jacquie\_F: n

Lilly: n

nancy\_robles: n

Amy: n  
tracy\_k\_oh: n  
Heidi\_B.: if I had any lol  
Kim\_Ca: n  
Terri\_of\_OH: not at all  
michelle\_J: n

shelley: I copied tonight's chat, so I will post it as it is...the honest conversation between all of us.

shelley: What a beautiful evening it has been.

Claudia: yes, amazing

nancy\_robles: yes, thank you shelley and claudia

Jacquie\_Flint: very warm and unifying

Terri\_of\_OH: Happy Equinox everyone. And it is a full moon too.

nancy\_: awesome!

shelley: Keep your eyes open...you could be receiving messages too!

EllenHook: Thank you Shelley and Claudia for sharing this beautiful story.

walt: Shelley & Claudia thank you for a wonderful evening

michelle\_J: Actually, Shelley, I cleaned my room, removed all of my shells to put elsewhere and left one..

shelley: Which one?

michelle\_J: and then decided to look it up, the one I chose to leave meant Joy...

shelley: The Cockle!

michelle\_J: ah, can't place the name...yes!

michelle\_J: the jumping for joy

shelley: Well how perfect. Joy seems to be the theme tonight!

silvia: thank you Shelley and Claudia. Very emotional...good night to all.

If any of us doubt that the shells are eager to teach, please realize that Claudia's experience occurred the very week I was preparing to present the Cowrie class. When I first developed the outline for these classes, the Cowrie was slated for the fourth class. However, as I began teaching, the shells started suggesting their own sequence for discussion. Other shells needed to be taught to provide the foundation for you to understand the future classes on operculums or radulas. This delayed the Cowrie class for several weeks. By the time it was ready to present, Claudia began this on-going relationship with the Tiger Cowrie that ended just a few days before we shared it with her classmates in Class 11. Looking back, I don't think I can say the Cowrie class was delayed at all. It was presented with Divine timing precisely when it should have been. I am grateful to Claudia for joining us almost a year later to share this powerful story.

From another group of freshmen:

Shelley: Here is the case of a shell literally talking to someone and it was not to me J

Shelley: And with that, I am going to turn the class over to Claudia to share more of her story.

Claudia: Hi everyone, and thank you for having me in your class tonight

Sandy\_P: Thank YOU, Claudia!

alissa: Thank you for being here with us. YAY! :-)

Lorraine\_D: Thank you Claudia for sharing such a personal message

Claudia: I am a tarot reader and love oracles, love found objects and love reading, so that was why I even thought to look at the shell for letters and such

Claudia: But there is another reason I thought the shell might have a special message

Claudia: the day of Jared's wake i was out shopping for an outfit

Claudia: I really felt Jared around me in the car, there was a lot of joy and energy around me, and i was talking to him

Claudia: And I asked him to give me a sign he was ok, I asked for a tiger cowrie!!!

Claudia: now, at the wake, I was seeing his body for the first time. he died in colorado, and took five days to get him home

Claudia: all the flower arrangements were set up and as I bent to kiss him mom, my sister, I saw something in the corner of my eye

Claudia: this is at the funeral parlor, at the wake,

Claudia: there were shells in the arrangement

Claudia: remember, I didn't have the cowrie from Shelley yet, and I was sort of astounded

Shelley: and this was winter in New England.

Claudia: there were scallop shells and another kind of shell, a type of babylonian

Claudia: now I knew scallop was the hero's journey...but the other shell was a mystery

Claudia: so you can imagine my shock...I thought, ok Jared you didn't come up with a cowrie, but on such short notice I'll take these other shells!

Claudia: Now about a month or so later we are the place where Shelley gave me the cowrie...I had forgotten about my request

Claudia: and when I started finding the letters in the shell....I was freaking out!

Claudia: the shell came from hawaii...at what point did the word get on there...was it always there...you see what I mean? This was a miracle!

Claudia: and not surprisingly, almost no one in my family thinks it is

Claudia: none of them think this is special or even valid

Claudia: Just me, crazy claudia at it again!

Claudia: If you have questions or anything feel free to comment! Shelley, did I forget anything?

oseaana: that's an amazing story!

Sonja: thanks for sharing your incredible story, Claudia. =]

Shelley: Just all the ways this could have gone wrong :-)

Sandy\_P: Claudia, are we sisters? Because your family sounds JUST like mine. And I think you AND the tiger cowrie are amazing!

Claudia: thanks oseaana, thanks Sonja...

Lorraine\_D: Claudia you are not crazy, you have the ability to accept messages from spirit Welcome to "the club"

Claudia: LOL thanks sonja, it is an amazing journey

Claudia: I mean Sandy

Shelley: What if you had told me the shell was ugly? OR if I used the usual 50 shells in the other room?

alissa: You are definitely not crazy, you are just in tune with the etheric world and your family is still down here

Lorraine\_D: This is a beautiful story

Claudia: yes as Shelley is saying I could have said no to the shell

Kim: Thank you Claudia for sharing such a touching personal story. I believe Jared worked through Shelley to get you your shell and deliver a message you would find

Claudia: but i couldn't hurt her...she is so giving. and jared is proving to be a very communicative spirit..he tries all the time to reach us

Shelley: If any of us doubt that the shells are eager to teach, please realize that Claudia's experience occurred the very week I was preparing to present the Cowrie class.

Claudia: but the shell is really the biggest one, and he never knew in life what a cowrie was i assure you, he was only 21

Shelley: When I first developed the outline for these classes, the Cowrie was slated for the fourth class. However, as I began teaching, the shells started suggesting their own sequence for discussion.

Sonja: you know, even if no one else "sees" the message in the shells, Jared communicated through it because he knew \*you\* would get \*your\* message.

Shelley: Other shells needed to be taught to provide the foundation for you to understand the future classes on operculums or radulas. This delayed the Cowrie class for several weeks.

Lorraine\_D: 21 in numerology is 3 which is the trinity which is a powerful number

Shelley: By the time it was ready to present, Claudia began this on-going relationship with the Tiger Cowrie that ended just a few days before we shared it with her classmates in Class 11.

Shelley: Looking back, I don't think I can say the Cowrie class was delayed at all.

Claudia: yes sonja, I know that he was talking to me. and my sister kept some of the shells from the bouquet..the two that I didn't take!

Claudia: no the class happened in fine time shelley

Shelley: This class ended up being presented with Divine timing precisely when it should have been. I am grateful to Claudia for joining us almost a year later to share this powerful story.

Claudia: there were four shells in the flowers, and I have never seen shells in a flower arrangement before this...shelley what was the babylonian again?

Shelley: It means feeling like a spectator, not a participant.

Claudia: ah yes.

alissa: Thank you for sharing Claudia. How touching. :-) I know that Jared is with you all the time.

Claudia: hero's journey and spectator

Claudia: amazing

Shelley: I wanted you all to see that these communications with shells don't just happen to me....they can happen with any of you :-)

Claudia: well I was unwitting!

Shelley: I always am too :-)

Claudia: LOL

Shelley: That's how they roll

Claudia: thanks for welcoming me here, and for accepting the message

Claudia: I know now that we just can't ever predict how these kinds of things will happen, and I know Jared is Home, with Joy and at Peace

alissa: Thank you for sharing your wonderful story with us. What a blessing to have you in our class tonight.

oseaana: thank you claudia for sharing your wonderful experience with us!