



Hello Students,

This class is very interactive and involves some soul searching. It will benefit you to have a paper and pen handy enabling you to pause the recording at each shell and write down your own reactions before you resume listening. (Or pause as you scroll down with the written transcript below.) If you like, you can send me your reactions as you view the Tropicophora, Sea Biscuit and Fossil. You will also find places where I have questions for you to ponder **prompted in green** in your transcript, or cued to pause for your insights in the recording.

Many Seashell Blessings!

Shell

## INDEPENDENT STUDY: Module 2, Class 27

Please note: The pictures and comments in the transcript and recording below have been gathered over many years and where possible, I attribute them to their original source. If anyone connected with these photographs or comments would like them removed, please notify me and I will be happy to comply.

The recording for Class 27 is about 23 minutes long.

Class 27: Shell #s 190, 187, 174

In your last class, we discovered the importance of determining what is on your radar. With that in mind, we ended the class watching a video of an elephant. Some of you were quite amazed as you figured out what the elephant was painting. Although this video was presented to stretch the possibilities of what is on your radar regarding the intelligence of other animals, it involved the behavior of an animal, and its interaction with humans.

For the next few lessons, we are going to work with shells from the Intuition category. The meanings connected to these shells do not derive from a scientific source. They are not based upon the behavior of the animals, nor are they due to the interaction with humans. They come from intuition that challenges us to search our souls. They explore our beliefs regarding the value of struggle, or pride, the need to be right, or even confronting our destiny. Working with these shells can lead to dramatic revelations that can prove transformational.

We have seen shells in this Intuition category move to another category when scientific evidence for their assigned meanings eventually came to my attention. Remember the Razor Clam and its meaning of compassion years before I was gifted with the book explaining how they cannot tolerate bitterness in their system?

Perhaps someday these shells will also have a reason to substantiate their meanings. Meanwhile, though they lack a valid reason for their meaning, each of the shells we discuss in this lesson will give you soul-searching questions to consider.

## Tropidophora Land Snail *Tropidophora deliciosa*

2.25"



Let's begin by looking at the **Tropidophora Land Snail**.

What is your reaction? Like it, bothered by it, like some parts and not others? Perhaps it reminds you of something, and if so, how do you feel about the thing it reminds you of?

Please write down your reaction before you proceed.

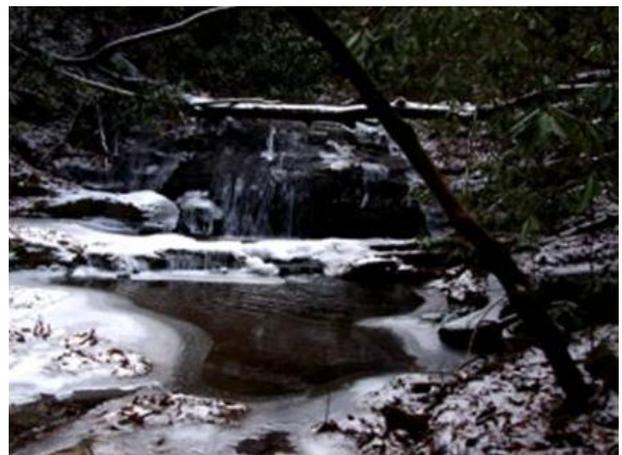
This is shell #190 in *Ocean Oracle* and its meaning is "*Feeling that nothing comes easily, progress through struggle.*"

Attraction to this shell indicates a belief that life is a constant struggle, with nothing handed over easily. This person has learned value comes from struggle and is not interested in anything that comes too easily.



Ascending the mountain, we can be chauffeured in style or ....

we may claw our way through the back trails on foot. This person would not appreciate the view unless arriving scraped and bruised from the arduous climb.





Let's apply this to relationships.

Suppose a female client is attracted to the heart cockle "Love, romance" and the Tropicophora "Feeling that nothing comes easily, progress through struggle". Imagine this woman entering a club. An attractive man approaches her who is immediately smitten, and begins extolling her virtues. He tells her that the moment he saw her enter the club, he had to get to know her.

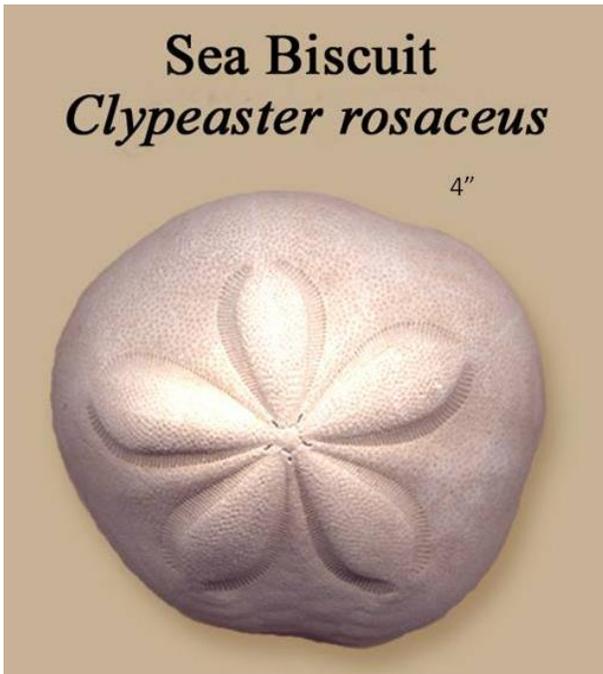
Another attractive man won't give her the time of day. All other things being equal, which man do you think would interest her? Again, please write down your thoughts before you continue reading.

She would be interested in the second man who ignores her... Since she has to earn his attention, this challenge increases its value. Always remember that the client may not be aware of her subconscious thoughts. She will dismiss the man who is instantly attracted to her, but she could be making that decision while operating on automatic pilot. Her beliefs impact her life without her realizing this. The result is that in relationships, this client's energy would attract a high maintenance partner. She is drawn to a partner who requires constant effort, or constant vigilance in her quest to earn that person's love. In her subconscious belief, if she works to earn it, then she deserves it. The point of the shell reading is to bring her beliefs to her awareness to empower her with options.

When the Tropicophora is involved, it is time to ask yourself these questions:

- Can I value something if it is easy?
- Would I be happy with someone instantly attracted to me?
- Would I value an item given to me if I didn't have to work for it?
- Can I accept something [an object, a job, love] if it is given freely, or must I struggle to feel I earned it?

If you are willing, the view from the top can be just as lovely, no matter what route you took to arrive there.



Now let's see what reaction you feel to Sea Biscuit.

Please pause to write your reaction.

This **Sea Biscuit** is not a mollusk. It is an echinoderm (from the Greek meaning “spiny skin”) and is a member of the same family as Sand dollars and sea urchins. I don't want to get too scientific, but I wanted you to know that I extend the wisdom from the seashell kingdom to include other members of the ocean that share their environment and contribute to the information.

Sea Biscuit is **#187** in *Ocean Oracle*, meaning “*Pride; being concerned about other people's perceptions of oneself; craving external validation.*” Sea Biscuit teaches about pride, which can involve external validation when relying upon other peoples' feedback to determine self-worth. A proud person carefully orchestrates all actions to elicit proof that she deserves love and avoids doing or saying anything that might take the admiration away. She may succeed in maintaining a balance on someone's pedestal, resembling an angel in that person's eyes, but the price can be steep. Maintaining the halo becomes challenging when she denies her truth to keep from falling off her precarious perch. Someone once observed that a halo only has to slip a few inches to become a noose. As the life is squeezed out of her, anger arises at the one who placed her on that pedestal. Soon enough, the finger of blame comes full circle and points back at the self, and in that clarity, she wonders how she could have given another that much power over her.

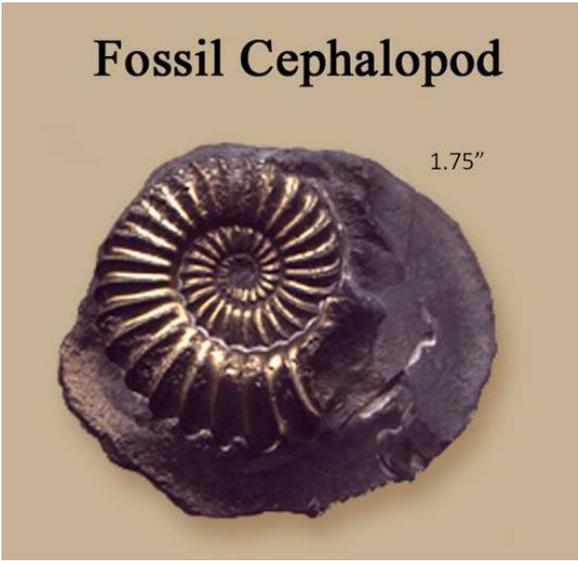
With Sea Biscuit, the important questions become:

- “Do I care more what you think of me, or what I think of me?” I can get you to love me, but at what cost?
- Will I recognize the reflection in the mirror?
- Is it worth it if I can't say or do things that will cause me to fall off your pedestal, and I lose my identity in the process?

If you find that craving this external validation no longer serves you, here is a wonderful motto to adopt:

“Other people's opinions of me are none of my business.”

# Fossil Cephalopod



Please take a look at this next photo and see what your response is.

Please pause once more to write your reaction.

If it looks familiar, you met this **Fossil** way back in Class #2 when we studied the octopus and learned that fossil evidence proved its ancient ancestor once possessed a shell. It is shell **#174** in *Ocean Oracle* and it means “*Vindication; being proven right (perhaps after a long wait.)*”

Clients attracted to this shell usually feel an increase in esteem when someone comments that they are glad they listened to the client, or wish they listened to the client, because the client was right. **Does this hold true for you?**



There is something important the shells have to say about this. With this shell, the need to be right supersedes all else. When combined with any other belief, this need to be right is very powerful. When something expected manifests, whether positive or negative, it is subconsciously received with *equal joy*.

Let’s examine what this means using a shell reading.

Suppose a man is attracted to the shells you see here: #73 Heart Cockle “*Love; romance*”, #79 Marble Cone “*Ruin; disappointment*”, #81 Golden Cowrie “*Feeling cursed; a run of bad luck*” and he combines them with the Fossil “*Vindication; being proven right*”.

**What would you think this client needs to be right about?**

This message indicates the client believes there is a dark cloud over his head so that any attempt at romance will end up unlucky and disappointing.

When someone requires validation of his beliefs, and believes he is constantly unlucky in love, then it benefits him to encounter unhealthy relationships rather than a wonderful partner because this makes him right. No matter how much he may consciously suffer from heartbreak, the hidden part of him that needs to be right gets to celebrate.



In another combination, a client selects the Fossil with #104 Precious Wentletrap "*Con man; fraud; deceit*".

If she likes these shells, what does this tell you about her beliefs?

**She believes people are dishonest.** If she requires validation, then it benefits her to encounter liars rather than those who tell the truth because this makes her right. No matter how much she may suffer consciously, the hidden part of her that needs to be right gets validated.

When it becomes more important to be right than to be happy, then this need is limiting your life. There are two possible solutions:

- 1) Allow yourself to be wrong, or
- 2) Change the thing you are right about.

If, as in the first example, you believe you are unlucky in love, you can *change the thing you are right about* by choosing to believe you will find the perfect partner, and through this create circumstances to be right about that belief. Alternatively, you can *allow yourself to be wrong* about your belief. Let's say you encounter a wonderful partner who loves you. This would disprove your original belief that you are unlucky in love. If you can accept being wrong, then this can continue to be a very nurturing relationship. However, if you can't accept being wrong, the relationship will no longer hold promise, making you right, but unlucky.

The questions are:

- What beliefs do I hold that may be limiting my quality of life?
- How important is it for me to be right about these beliefs?
- Is it OK for me to be wrong?

Once again, I have a story to share. Many years ago, I was shopping in a grocery store and I spotted a \$20.00 bill on the floor. Nobody else was in the aisle, so I had no idea how to return it to its rightful owner. I took it to the customer service desk and explained that someone must have dropped it. They asked for my name and telephone number, and they informed me that their policy is to keep the money for 3 weeks. If nobody claims it in that time, they would call me and it would be mine. Three weeks later, that is precisely what happened. They called, and I was given the money.

I share this with you because a few months later, I had a client whose shells included the Wentletrap and the Fossil. As we saw above, this revealed that her belief was that nobody was honest, and she needed to be right. Dishonesty had become her expectation...on automatic pilot. The problem was that since everyone else was deceitful in her eyes, she was tempted to demonstrate dishonest behavior herself. The part of her that thought "Everyone else does this, so why shouldn't I?" was winning the battle.

Although she claimed to believe this, the other shells in her reading told a different story. They revealed that some part of her was tired of operating from this belief.

Let's examine the rest of her reading:



Although she thought she had justification tempting her to join in the dishonest behavior, she also liked the Green Tree Snail...*change of comfort zone.*

She also disliked the Nassa Snail "*The ends justify the means*". Do you remember from Class 16 that disliking this shell *reveals there are some things a person will not do in pursuit of a goal?*

That shows us this temptation toward dishonesty troubled her conscience.

With two pieces of evidence pointing to her subconscious desire for transformation, I began to tell her the story of the \$20.00 bill. As soon as I said that I took it to the customer service desk, she said "You should not have done that, you will never see that money again. They will pocket it, and you will never know." Spoken like someone who liked the Fossil and the Wentletrap. With her belief that people are deceitful, and the need to be validated, I am certain if she had tried this, she would not see the money, and she would be right. Needless to say, she was shocked by the outcome I experienced. Imagine her surprise when I told her that I tend to be absent minded, and more than once I have had people point out that I was leaving my purse on a chair, or a wallet on the counter. I have had many opportunities to witness honesty in the world.

Our last class taught you about evaluating what is on your radar. Because of the cues from her other shells, I was inspired to share that story of the \$20.00 bill with my client. She was given the opportunity to learn that there are lots of honest people in the world. If she chooses, she will be able to draw some of these people into her environment...but it will require allowing herself to transform. If she clings to the need for validation, then she can change what she is right about so she will be validated when someone is honest.

Do you all see how the shells can assist with transforming beliefs?

In Class 28, we will pick up with our discussion of the Fossil. What happens if you don't like the Fossil?

Stay tuned..... ☺