



Hello students,

Welcome to Module 3. This class will be even more interactive than usual. So please have a paper and pen handy, and write your thoughts when prompted. A sentence or two should do it. The information may be vague at first, but as we add more shells, we will fill in the details. As you will see, sometimes we need to be part detective. You will also discover a major motivation for why I wrote *Ocean Oracle*.

Many Seashell Blessings!  
Shell

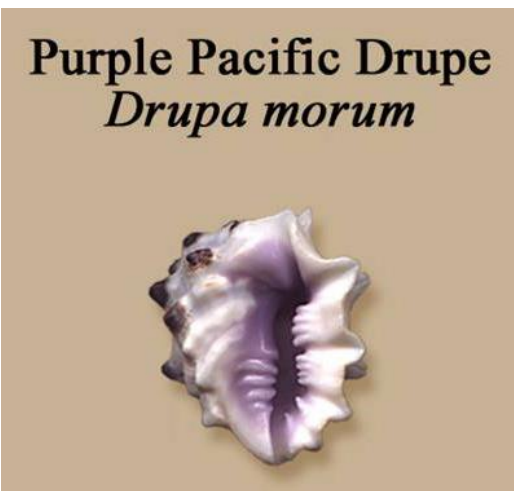
### INDEPENDENT STUDY: Module 3, Class 30

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 30 is 32 minutes long.

Class 30: Shell #s 173, 148, 182, 160, 134, 59

As we begin Module 3, I am going to approach this class a little differently. Instead of simply telling you a story involving a reading, I thought I would pause at certain intervals to allow you the opportunity to see how you would interpret these shells yourselves. As you progress through this transcript, try to **respond to my questions in green** before scrolling down for my answers in **red text**.



The story centers around this shell, which is the **Purple Drupe, *Drupa morum***. In *Ocean Oracle*, it is **shell #173** meaning “*Depression, possibly requiring therapy.*”

This shell has special significance for me because of an incredible boy I met many years ago. I was invited to be part of a group of psychic readers visiting a private high school. The children lived at this school, and from time to time, entertainment was brought in to relieve the pressure of their studies. This was prior to writing *Ocean Oracle*, so I didn't have a handy little deck of shell cards. My method for shell reading was to travel with a huge wooden display case containing trays holding photographs of three hundred different shells. If you think 200 shell cards is a lot, imagine 300!

Although we have not yet discussed the technique for preparing for a shell reading, nor have we covered the instructions for clients, this encounter took place well before I had refined either of those components of shell reading. At that time, I simply asked the clients to look at all the shells and tell me which ones got their attention. Once the shells were selected, I asked the client to arrange them any way they liked.

I love working with teenagers, but I was not prepared for one young man that night. He sat down in front of the display, selected some shells, and arranged them. Before I began the interpretation, he pointed to a shell and said, “That looks like home.” While I took that in, he suddenly asked if there was a shell that meant depression. I was about to reply, when he closed his eyes and said, “Oh, it’s purple.” He then opened his eyes, looked back at the three hundred shells before him, and immediately pointed to the Purple Drupe stating, “That one.”

I almost fell off my chair. I was completely flabbergasted, but I managed to reach down to take out the list of all the shells in the display. I had never shown this list to anyone before. With the potent mixture of awe and excitement coursing through my body, I had completely lost the battle to maintain a professional demeanor. I told him that he had just pointed to the Purple Drupe and to please note its definition, which, in fact, was “*depression, may require counseling.*” Unlike me, he took this in stride as if we were stating the obvious—what was the big deal?

He next inquired if I could tell what his biggest fear was.

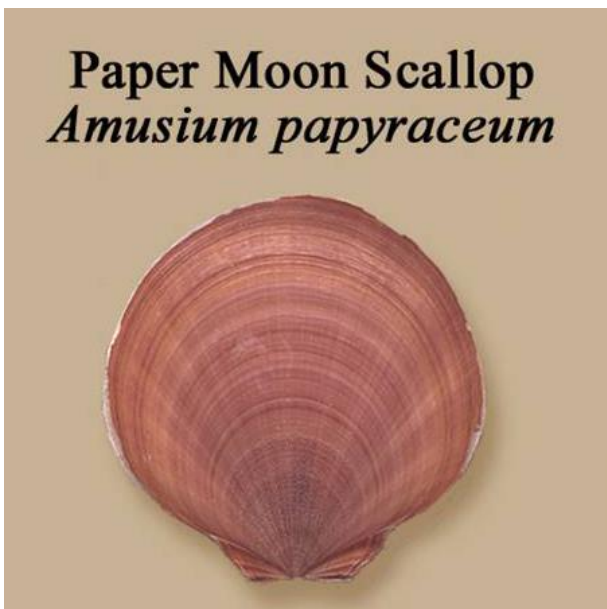


He then pointed to a yellow cone shell that is not in *Ocean Oracle*, but I can show you its picture here.

I explained that the cone shell meant cowardice that leads to missed opportunities.

He digested that, and then asked me if I thought he would have to leave school.

I had no idea how to answer that, and then I realized that I had not yet looked at the shells he selected for his reading.



When I did, the first shell I spotted was the Paper Moon Scallop. Do you remember this shell from the Fossil lesson when, in order to be right, the client had to study subjects that held no personal interest?

As you know from that lesson, the Paper Moon Scallop means “*Books, scholarship, school, study.*”

He asked if he would have to leave school, and here was the shell connected to school. I should not have been surprised. After his demonstration with the Drupe, I completely trusted him to provide the shells I needed to reply to his question.

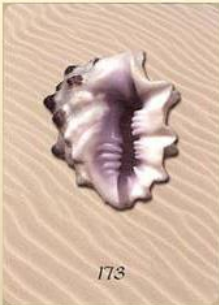
Now the detective work begins. I will gradually reveal the shells from his reading which you can treat as a work in progress. I want to show you how you can get deeper information by asking questions. The first question is his own: Will he have to leave school? The shells will not answer yes or no, but they will reveal the hidden thoughts impacting this situation. Their message removes behavior from automatic pilot status, and presents options. The ultimate choice is still up to him, but with new information, he is empowered in the decision-making process.

## Saul's Murex *Chicoreus saulii*

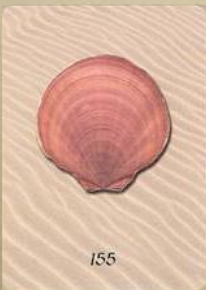


The next prominent shell in his reading is the **Saul's Murex, *Chicoreus saulii*, shell #148** in *Ocean Oracle*.

King Saul was the first king of Israel when all disputes were settled by appealing to the king. His grandson, King Solomon was famous for his wisdom when dispensing advice. This shell indicates an “*Outside advisor, therapist, councilor.*”



“*Depression, may require counseling.*”



“*Books, scholarship, school, study.*”



“*Outside advisor, therapist, counselor.*”

Think about the meaning of the Drupe “*Depression, may require counseling.*” If we approach this reading looking for the answer to his concern about leaving school (the Paper Moon Scallop) and add the Saul's Murex, “*Outside advisor, therapist, counselor.*” what can you tell me so far?

Please pause to write your answer before reading more.

We have “school”, “depression that may require counseling”, and a “therapist or counselor”. My thought on this combination is that his arrangement indicated he would benefit from therapy because he was depressed over an issue regarding school.

It would be helpful to know more about this issue. Let’s look at more shells in his reading.



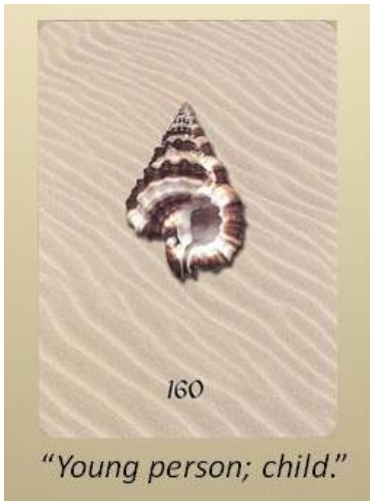
Another shell that revealed much in his reading is the **Gibbous Olive, *Olivancillaria gibbosa***. It is **shell #182** in the Intuition category in *Ocean Oracle* and means “Being a copycat; desiring to do something just to keep up with someone else; fear of being left behind or ridiculed.”

What new piece of information does this shell add to the reading? Please pause to answer before reading more.

He felt a need to copy in order to avoid ridicule. He is afraid he will be left behind if he can't keep up.

However, we don't know who, or what, he wants to copy.

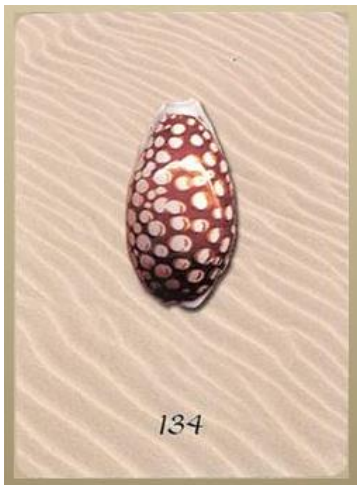
Let's see if we can shine light on these unknown factors.



I wondered who he felt a need to copy in order to avoid ridicule, and saw the next shell was the Tadpole Triton, *Gyrineum gyrinum*. This is shell #160 in *Ocean Oracle*, and is from the Name and Appearance category.

Since a tadpole is the immature stage in the development of a frog, this shell has the meaning "Young person; child."

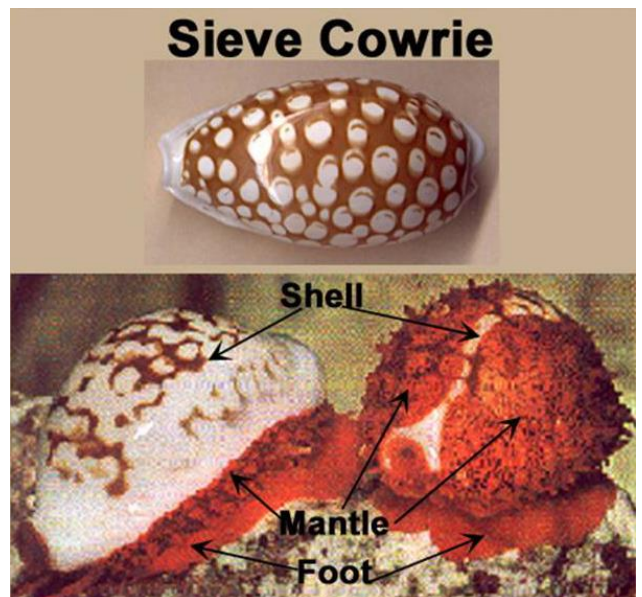
Now that I knew who he desired to copy, I wondered in what way he felt he was lacking and concerned about keeping up.



The next shell he selected was shell #134 in *Ocean Oracle*, the Sieve Cowrie, *Cypraea cribraria*.

If it looks familiar, you met this shell in Class 10 (20 classes ago!)

The sieve cowrie orange mollusk demonstrated wrapping itself around the outside of the shell creating the necessity for a polished exterior. Although you met the animal, we did not discuss the shell's meaning at that time. Its meaning is based upon its name, and this requires an explanation.



Have you ever heard the expression “My mind is like a sieve”?



A sieve is a device with a mesh screen designed to separate and filter items.

Just as these items slip through the holes, the expression “my mind is like a sieve” suggests information can do the same thing. People liken their mind to a sieve when they can’t seem to retain information. The meaning of the Sieve Cowrie is “*Being forgetful; possibly being concerned about appearing unintelligent.*”

With this shell in his reading, let’s recap. We have established that he is seeing a therapist regarding an issue at school that involves keeping up with a young person in some way.

If we probe deeper, thinking about the Paper Moon Scallop, “*Books, scholarship, school, study*” let me ask you, what does the Sieve Cowrie “*Being forgetful; possibly being concerned about appearing unintelligent*” tell you about his concerns and the trait he wanted to copy? Please pause to answer before reading more.

The Sieve Cowrie tells us that he is troubled by forgetting information from his studies and not appearing as intelligent as some other young person.

As this boy's reading continued, I discovered the identity of the Tadpole Triton. He had two siblings who were able to read a textbook, retain the information, and get terrific grades. He, on the other hand, had a learning disability. The Sieve Cowrie was there because it was nearly impossible for him to read a textbook and recall the information. The Gibbous Olive showed that he was determined to be like his brother and sister, and expended every ounce of energy he had in an effort to read a book and get equally good grades.



182  
"Being a copycat; desiring to do something just to keep up with someone else; fear of being left behind or ridiculed."



160  
"Young person; child."



134  
"Being forgetful; possibly being concerned about appearing unintelligent."



72  
"Heart health, blood pressure, doctors and hospitals"

The final shell in this reading is the Quahog Clam, shell #72 in *Ocean Oracle*.

You met this shell in the second class in this course when we were studying mollusk anatomy. In particular, this clam interested us because of its heart. With its 3 chambers and pacemaker, the clam's heart is very similar in structure to our own. The shell indicates "*Heart health, blood pressure, doctors and hospitals.*"

What would this shell add regarding this young man's attempts to mimic his brother and sister? Please pause to answer before reading more.

In his efforts to excel in school, his health was deteriorating.

Looking at the state of his health, what do you think his parents, teachers, and therapist (he acknowledged that he was seeing a therapist) would be advising him regarding school? Please pause to answer before reading more.

His teachers, parents, and therapist were all suggesting he leave the school.

Now we have the full story. This was the situation when he sat down for his reading. Here are all of his shells:



*“Books, scholarship  
school, study”*



*“Outside advisor,  
therapist, counselor”*

*“Being a copycat; desiring  
to do something just to  
keep up with someone  
else; fear of being left  
behind or ridiculed.”*



*“Young person; child.”*

*“Being forgetful; possibly  
being concerned about  
appearing unintelligent.”*



*“Heart health, blood  
pressure, doctors and  
hospitals”*

Do you remember his biggest fear was the yellow Cone Shell....*“cowardice leads to missed opportunity?”*  
When I revealed that, he asked if he would have to leave school.

If his biggest fear is cowardice leads to missed opportunity, how do you think he would view his leaving school? Please pause to answer before reading more.

He would view his departure as a cowardly act.

There is one last shell to add. Do you remember the very first question he asked me was if there was a shell meaning depression?

He closed his eyes, realized it was purple, then opened them and like radar, he pointed to the Purple Drupe. Bull's-eye! If he would view his departure as a cowardly act, the prospect of leaving school contributed to his depression. He would rather die than leave the school.

Can you all see this?



I asked him if anyone knew how strongly he felt about remaining in school. His reply was to point to the shell that meant “*to thine own self be true*” (this was the first shell that he said looked “like home” before I began interpreting the shells in his reading.)

It is called the Ramose Murex, and although it is not in *Ocean Oracle*, I am including it here for you to see.

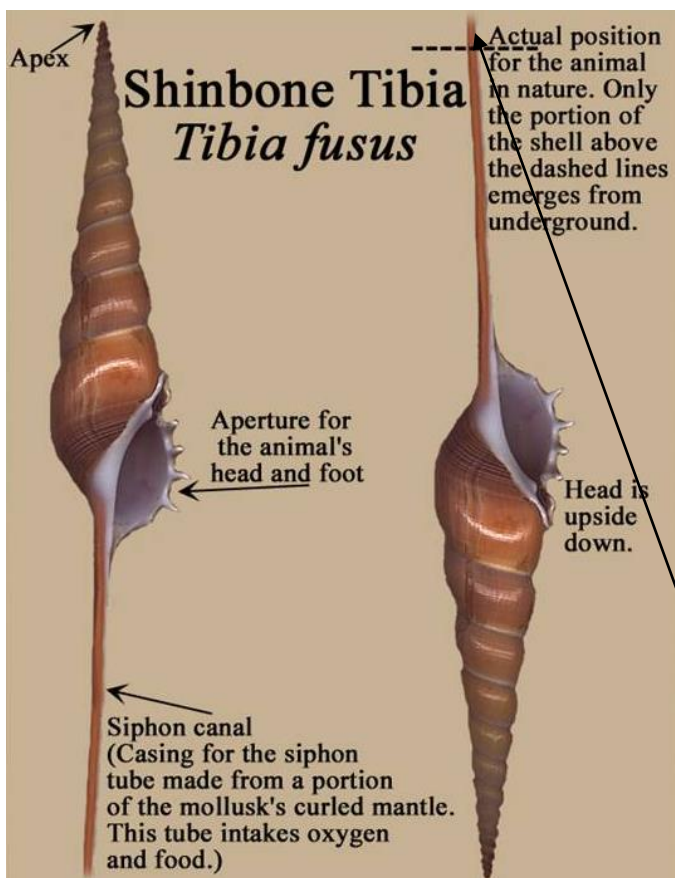
As he pointed to it in response to my question if anyone knew how strongly he felt about remaining in school, he said, “They don’t know. I don’t want them to know me.”

My heart broke at this revelation. This young man had clearly demonstrated to me that he already spoke the language of seashells. My appreciation for his knowledge was dwarfed by the sad recognition that he had all kinds of information inside him that would never be developed as long as he yearned to mimic his siblings.

I was so immersed in these thoughts that I was startled when someone approached us to say that he had to get back to his room immediately to make his dorm's curfew. He hurried off, and only then did I realize that I was alone. Apparently, all the other children and readers had left the room much earlier. Unfortunately, in his haste to get back to his dorm, I never got his name, and he never got any of my contact information.

I have to tell you that this reading stayed with me for a very long time. I kept wondering why I was privileged to know this boy's deepest feelings when I could do nothing to change his circumstances. Meanwhile, he did his utmost to keep the people who did have influence, his parents, teachers and therapist, completely in the dark.

I once told you that I think in Shell, and there is a shell that perfectly reflects what he was doing to his teachers and parents and therapist. Since this shell popped into my head, it seems that it would like to be part of this lesson.



It is called the **Shinbone Tibia, *Tibia fusus fusus*** and is shell #59 in *Ocean Oracle*. The mollusk lives upside down, buried in the ground, with just the tip of the bottom of the shell emerging through the surface. The structure extending from the end near the aperture is called a siphon canal. As its name suggests, this portion of the shell encases the animal's siphon. This is the tube through which it receives food and oxygen.

Although the animal has eyes, its siphon canal is so long, the animal's head is positioned too deep under the ground for the sun's rays to penetrate. Engulfed in darkness, its vision is greatly impaired. In addition, since the shell is upside down, everything goes over the animal's head.

Here you see two views of this Tibia to demonstrate how much of the shell would be visible in nature.

This explains why the shell reflects a situation where someone is "*Feeling left out or being kept in the dark; things going over one's head.*" It is difficult to make decisions if one is not fully informed.

<http://www.shells-of-aquarius.com/tibia-shells.html>

scroll down to the Tibia Fusus which shows dorsal and ventral views. This is the Shinbone Tibia shell.

Please note:

In this picture above, I took the liberty to use computer magic to restore the picture of this shell. I wanted you to see the full siphon canal. I have two of these shells, and both used to be perfect. Unfortunately, over time, I managed to break both canals. In *Ocean Oracle*, your shell photo #59 was taken after I broke the canal.

Now, let me explain one more thing about these readings. Someone once said that we could look at the world as if everyone were a Buddha except for us. Everyone else's role is to interact with us for our spiritual enlightenment. This situation may look like the boy was keeping his teachers and parents in the dark, but he was also keeping himself in the dark. He judged himself as a failure because he could not copy the success of his siblings. He never realized that he had his own gifts that could transform the planet.

For many months, my greatest wish was for someone to help this boy realize that leaving school was not running away from something, but running toward something greater. In thinking about him for this lesson, my feelings of impotence resurfaced. I wished that I could assist him with his suffering as he tried to mimic others and to teach him to celebrate the potential he did not value.



With these thoughts, the Telescope Snail popped into my mind's eye.

As you learned in Class 29, this shell means "*Remaining in the background; being out of sight; inspiring others without recognition.*"

To quote from that lesson: "This shell teaches us the need to distinguish between the desire to heal a situation and the need to take credit for the healing. The person selecting the Telescope Snail may find that approaching someone with direct advice will meet with resistance. You will not be heard. The lesson is to plant the seeds of an idea while remaining in the background which allows the other person to keep ownership of the idea. Eventually, the other person will act upon your seeds as they blossom, but think the idea is his own."

As the last question about this, I am going to ask you to put your detective skills to work about me. Why do you think the Telescope Snail called to me as my thoughts drifted back to this experience with this amazing teenager at that private High School? There is no right or wrong answer, just whatever insights come to mind. This question is strictly optional, but if you have any thoughts about the message from the Telescope Snail, please email me.

I will be forever grateful to him. Although he didn't seem to recognize the significance of the volumes of information residing inside him, his knowledge of the shells gave me the validation to write *Ocean Oracle*.

I am also grateful to a student named Joseph who took this course a few years ago. I was still teaching live classes online, and he was always present in the classroom. Joseph was confined to a wheelchair, and the online format provided a very convenient method for him to attend classes. During Class 30, out of character for him, he did not join us and had not sent advance notice that he would be unable to attend. The next day he sent me an email after listening to the class recording. He granted me permission to share our conversation which you will find on the next page.

He wrote:

*Class 30 was wonderful. I just finished listening to the recording. It touched me very deeply and was very healing for me. I don't have a learning disability but I can relate to that boy in many ways. I often longed to be more like my sister who was able to walk and do many things I couldn't do with my limited mobility. It took me a while to recognize the gifts I was given along with my challenging situation.*

*God Bless*

*Joseph*

*PS, Right now I can't stop crying but I know they are healing tears. I apologize for missing the live class last night. I was working on a presentation and completely lost track of time. When I went to join the class, I realized it was already over J*

*Hello Joseph,*

*There is no need to apologize. After you described such a personal reaction to last night's class, I think there was a reason you were not able to join us. I don't think you were supposed to join us at all. The shells work in partnership with your Higher Self. They respect you and wanted to offer you the time to process this information at your own pace without having to respond to class exercises keeping up with your classmates. I am so glad this resulted in healing tears. Thank you so much for sharing your story with me. You have given me hope that this young boy also came to recognize the gifts he was given :-)*

*Many Seashell Blessings to you!*

*Love,*

*Shell*

*The shells have asked me to email you and give you permission to share my experience with your future students. You can also share it with my classmates if you wish to.*

*JG*

I am sharing this with you because this letter from Joseph preceded the creation of the independent study program, but it is almost prophetic. Based upon his comments, I realize that all of you now share these circumstances. You are processing these classes at your own pace, and the shells will use this opportunity to work on deep levels. May these personal revelations bring you great joy and peace!

Love,

Shell