

With a degree in psychology, Marshall has volunteered as a crisis hot line counselor and has spent 25 years at Portland Community College teaching medical terminology—another arcane language that delights him. “I even put some of those symbols in my tarot cards,” he reveals with a grin.

In fact, he studied alchemy for two years and actually can prepare planetary elixirs! He’s also into *Harry Potter* and *Lord of the Rings*, which comes as no shock, considering he’d be right at home in Middle Earth.

Marshall sees himself as a spiritual counselor, conversant in all forms of alternative spirituality. So if you’d like a more esoteric approach to life planning, or if you’d like to purchase one of his decks for just \$10, call him at 503-233-0854.

If that’s not extreme enough for you, how about a consultation with a saint? A living, walking-among-us, self-proclaimed saint named Gravity Jade—and that’s Gravity as in gravely serious, not the force that keeps her feet on the planet. “Life is a serious matter,” she explains without a hint of amusement.

Trying not to be disrespectful in case she’s the real deal, I have to ask about her sainthood. “I’m using the word so people will know what I have to offer is very deep love,” Jade avows.

When I press her on why she would choose a label that is so charged for many people, she says she doesn’t see it that way. “It’s a word I’m accustomed to using...I was never a Christian,

but I’ve followed spiritual traditions from all over the world for my entire life.”

Her condensed story goes like this: For numerous lifetimes she’s lived and died as a martyr, because she didn’t know how else to help people. Only during this go-around has she figured out how to break the pattern. “I’ve learned to leap over martyrdom and how to stop evil,” Jade claims.



The Sundance card from the “White Eagle Medicine Wheel” deck

As to her divination process, it’s interactive and, from my experience, can be conducted at a tiny table in a bustling Coffee People. All in black, she doesn’t stand out in this crowd of somberly dressed Portlanders, although she displays an intensity of focus that enlivens her small-boned features.

I don’t waste her time with minor bad habits. I spill out my most debilitating life patterns for her to divine the underlying causes.

Her procedure is by its very nature abstract and mental. At times it feels no different than a talk therapy session, although our dialogue is frequently punctuated by her seemingly unrelated questions, which she then answers herself before I have a chance to.

This turns out to be her way of tuning into my energy and reading it directly to discern whether some particular thing is involved in the solution to my problems. It’s a bit like watching a big switchboard with different lights quickly flashing on and off in random sequence.

I observe that she has developed some psychic abilities, and she is right on target with several conclusions and suggestions. Because I’m dealing with serious health problems, much of our discussion zeroes in on causes and healing.

Where the saint takes over is when she says she will absorb two of my problems herself, so that I no longer have to be bothered by them. Jade says she has helped people overcome all kinds of traumas. “I can take on their suffering, then they will never suffer over it again.”

She uses no props other than a notepad and pen, and she doesn’t flinch as she claims to process my pain while moving forward with the session. If it works, it is surely painless for me, but because of the nature of the issues I want to solve, it might be some time before I can tell

whether she has delivered on her promises.

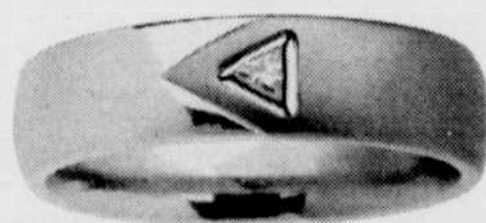
Jade does appear sincere and has a strong desire to help people, but saints aren’t cheap. For \$200 an hour she says, “We’ll discover the highest priority for your greatest growth and happiness and do whatever is required to bring that about.” Find out for yourself at 503-228-0433. **JW**

Portland writer ORIANA GREEN has never been so well prepared for a new year!

Is she or isn't she? Gravity Jade appears saintly.



YES!



That is my FINAL ANSWER

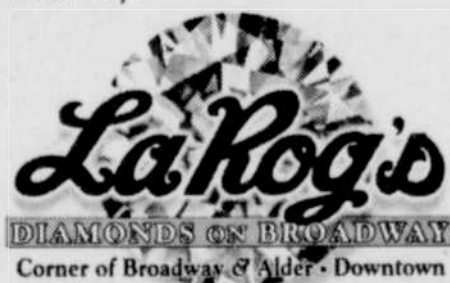
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