

Communicating with the spirit world, providing closure to grieving families, and chatting with Lana Del Rey—all in a day's work for Medium Fleur.

# MODERN MEDIUM

Photography by Nicole Nodland  
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# “THERE IS SOMETHING HERE WE CAN’T EXPLAIN THROUGH JUST THE REGULAR EXPLANATION OF ‘IT ALL ENDS.’”

“I think that’s people’s biggest misconception—they think I’m kind of airy-fairy, walking around with big earrings and bangles and flowy skirts, and talking to the flowers. And I don’t go about my life in that way.”

Forget the crystal balls, tarot cards, and arm full of glittery bangles—that’s the stuff of folklore and cartoon caricatures. The spiritual world is far more complex than its pop-culture rendering might have us believe. Less “I see dead people” and more “Healing and comfort,” mediumship is an altogether fascinating and equally mystifying ability—and it means business. Just ask Fleur, a medium who has harnessed her unique position as a “bridge between this world to the next” to create a successful business empire.

Although living, somewhat ironically, in the City of Angels, where airy, new-age types are not uncommon, Fleur is far more down-to-earth than one might suspect. Indeed, the top-ranked LA medium, with celebrity clientele including singer Lana Del Rey and actress Emma Roberts, is quick to dispel such preconceptions.

“I think people are generally confused at the end of the day that, yes, I work as a medium, but apart from that I’m quite grounded and

normal, in that I really look at that side of spirituality with a skeptical tone of sorts,” says Fleur. “I don’t necessarily jump into every new-age fad. I’m very often the person who’s, like, ‘Oh, the light’s flickering. Well, did you check the bulb?’ I just try to stay grounded and centered in the work.”

She emphasizes that plenty of people are dubious about her abilities but come anyway in search of ‘tangible proof.’ “Our innate need for answers keeps mediumship in demand,” says Fleur, “especially when somebody passes in such a way where there’s no chance to say goodbye, there is no time to reflect with that person. It creates a sense, sometimes, of a ‘Catch 22’ where you’re not able to get past a certain stage of grief. And so, in that moment, [the reading] becomes very much a part of their healing.”

Whether she’s holding private readings or doing shows for large groups of people, Fleur never tires of her unique role. Strangely enough, it was a destiny recognized by another of her ilk. In a somewhat bizarre Mary Poppins-esque twist, Fleur ‘the medium’ grew up with a nanny who, too, was a medium.

In fact, it was the nanny who, recognizing qualities not unlike her own in Fleur, alerted

the family to her unique ‘gift.’ “It really was the craziest thing,” says Fleur. Despite her parents’ reservations, she believes that having a medium nanny was instrumental in providing them with an understanding of her experiences. It was only upon starting school, however, that Fleur became aware that her world was different from that of her peers. “I thought that my reality was everybody else’s reality. I went to school and someone was, like, ‘Who are you talking about?’”

Her reality, as Fleur recalls her nanny telling her, was not a choice, but her purpose. “I remember her saying that when I turned eighteen I was going to have to do [mediumship] in some way,” she says. “It didn’t matter if I made it my entire work or part of my work—it had to be there.”

It’s a choice, she believes, many mediums have to make. After graduation, effectively entering adulthood, Fleur says they tend to decide whether mediumship is a viable career path for them to take—one that can help them come to terms with their abilities and places in the world.

“For the mediums I know it’s kind of a pattern to start working right around the time you’re nineteen or twenty,” she says. “And I think,

leading up to that point, it’s been something that’s been very much a secret for you, or something you had to hide from the world or yourself, or you can’t figure out what exactly is going on, but something is going on. It isn’t necessarily like you wake up one day and go, ‘I’d like to be a medium’ or ‘Surprise! You’re a medium.’ It’s more that you’ve been dealing with this your entire life, and now maybe you’ll get some answers.”

This was certainly the trajectory Fleur followed. After completing her pre-med requirements at UCLA, she decided to switch lanes. “I had been doing readings on the side during college for the last two years,” she says. “I did them under a fake name, working in secret. It was really just me trying to come to terms with it and figure it out, and see if it was even helpful for people. And it really took off.” Thus, heeding her nanny’s advice, she chose mediumship as a career. After all, reasoned Fleur, she could always apply for medical school if it didn’t work out.

Today, for Fleur, acting as a “translator [between] those who have passed and of people here in this world who want to connect to loved ones they lost” is a gift that keeps on giving. Her business is booming, and she has found success not only in the US but also internationally, in part thanks to global stars such as Lana Del Rey, whom she now counts as a friend. “We met when I did a reading for her, and then after that we just became friends,” Fleur says. “She herself has a really strong intuition in the way that she works.” Yet she values her role as a medium, not for the fame and accolades that have come with her success in that role, but by what it has taught her personally.

Sitting with people from all walks of life and hearing and experiencing their stories, Fleur says she has gained a deeper understanding and appreciation of the human spirit. “I am definitely more compassionate,” she notes, adding that her readings have shown her how different yet similar our struggles are. “It’s a very uplifting, beautiful experience.”

Be it connecting to loved ones gone or coming to find peace with a passing, mediumship offers us the opportunity to experience something beyond our understanding. Fleur believes that while mediumship may not have all the answers, it acknowledges that “there is something here we can’t explain through the regular theory of ‘it all ends.’” Connecting with the spirit world not only helps people emotionally but also provides a space to reflect on and reevaluate one’s own universe, and to embrace the unknown contingency of life.

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