

Can Two Mediums Disagree and Both Be Right?

Hello and welcome to Mediumship Matters, with me, Hannah Macintyre. I want to talk today about differing opinions in mediumship, because I genuinely love them — I love being proven wrong, love exploring different ideas. But it's genuinely hard, as a student, trying to navigate two teachers you respect who hold polar opposite views on how mediumship actually works.

Here's the strange thing: I think two people can hold completely opposite views and both be right. We tend to assume spirit is entirely in control, that it's all about them — outsourcing our own power in the process. If this journey has taught me anything, it's that the power, the intention, the actual energy comes from you. The greatest strength in your mediumship is showing up authentically as yourself. And oddly, we don't want to hear that. We'd rather be told spirit is running the show. That's exactly why different approaches genuinely work for different mediums — your mediumship is a reflection of who you are, how your mind works, what matters to you. That's what makes it unique, and it's worth celebrating.

When a teacher won't allow you to both be right

But what happens when a fellow teacher holds a genuinely different view, and instead of allowing space for both approaches, tells their students you're simply wrong — because they're working with spirit, and spirit told them they're right? Spirit has never once told me I'm right about anything. If anything, they've always taken the tone of “well done for grasping that — now let us show you why everything you thought you understood was incomplete,” and unfold me into something new. The only thing I know for certain, after all this time, is that I know very little. I've barely scratched the surface.

So how do you share a space with someone who won't grant you the grace that you can both be correct, simply working differently? I'm genuinely still trying to figure that out. Part of what draws people to me is my authenticity — my willingness to admit when I don't know something. But I've noticed that the same people drawn to that honesty often find sitting with real uncertainty genuinely uncomfortable, because none of us are naturally good at it. I notice it in myself with something as small as a substitute teacher at the gym — watching my own brain spiral into “how's this going to go, what if I don't like it, what if it's different” — I can observe the reaction with amusement, but I can't stop it happening. It's simply part of being human.

What I see happen, as a result, is students getting swept up by whoever teaches with total authority — “I have the answer, my way is the only way, I'm right” — without ever pausing to ask whether that's genuinely what they want from their own journey. You can disagree with someone respectfully. I think that's a value slowly being lost in our spiritual community.

A confession: the gym changing room

I'll admit I haven't always modelled this well myself. There's a lovely woman I'd been chatting to for weeks in the gym changing room — that whole unofficial community you build there — and one day she

mentioned something about me being a travel agent. I corrected her, said no, I'm not, and she asked what I actually do. I told her I host a podcast. "About what?" "Mediumship." She said, "Oh — I don't really know what to say to that. I'm a Christian, it's against everything I believe." She made clear, kindly but firmly, that we didn't believe the same things — and that should have been exactly where I left it.

Instead, for reasons I still can't fully explain, I tried to convince her we actually shared a similar belief system — both believing in a higher power, angels, Jesus, a spirit world, being a good person. All true, and fine to say to someone who's open to hearing it. She had already told me she wasn't. Looking back, I was genuinely disrespectful in that moment. I don't believe spirit needs any of us knocking on doors, recruiting people to the cause.

The Alex Reed's Tarot backlash

More recently there's been the whole controversy around Alex Reed's Tarot on TikTok — a hugely successful, well-loved account (Hayley Williams from Paramore even referenced her in a lyric) — who's decided to leave tarot behind entirely and return to Christianity, because she now believes the work conflicts with her faith. And the spiritual community's reaction has genuinely disappointed me: fury. How could she abandon us, turn her back on the community, walk away.

I don't understand that reaction at all. Isn't choosing your own aligned path the entire basis of spirituality? You find what resonates, you follow it, sometimes you get it wrong, and the whole thing is a process of exploration. We ask for grace for ourselves as we take that path — we ought to extend the same grace to others. Some of this, I think, is simply the churn of social media rewarding outrage over substance, people needing something to post about and reaching for fury as the easiest option. But genuinely — how brave is it to walk away from a successful, monetised platform because it no longer feels right for your soul, regardless of religion? I don't agree with her theology — I don't believe this work is against God, and I've got a little effigy of John the Baptist on my desk who presumably has opinions on the matter too — but I do think walking away is probably the most aligned thing she could do for her own path. Instead of celebrating that courage, we're belittling her.

Many voices, respectfully held

It's the same principle with differing teachers. I genuinely believe we should have many different views represented — it was part of what inspired Spirit Social; I never wanted to be the only voice in the room. I love a good debate, with students, with anyone, because that's exactly how we unfold into new ways of thinking. Sometimes I think spirit deliberately introduces a polarising view — not necessarily to convert you to it, but to open your thinking up entirely. That's genuinely how I've learned the most.

But we should stay respectful of each other's views while doing it — and I'll admit I haven't always managed that myself, even with guests on this very podcast whose ideas I've quietly disagreed with without ever challenging them, because I've always seen my role as interviewer as holding space rather than debating. Watching the recent backlash around Stephen Bartlett and some of his guests has made me question that instinct — am I doing a disservice by platforming ideas I don't personally agree with, without saying so? I keep coming back to something a shaman I once worked with, Lynn Gosney, told

me: “we serve you a plate of food; it's up to you what you eat.” Why isn't that taught as a basic spiritual principle everywhere?

What I'd hoped, working alongside a fellow teacher with genuinely different views, was that students would simply be served a rich, varied plate — different perspectives to taste, and the freedom to choose what felt aligned for them right now, with room to grow into something else later. It's a bit like learning to drink lager: the first sip is bitter and strange, and then, suddenly, nothing else compares. That's the process I imagined — not “I'm right because I'm working with spirit, and Hannah's simply wrong, she just won't admit it.” If you hold a different view, back it up. Let's talk about the energy behind it, how it actually works for you.

Where I've landed, for now

This has been genuinely upsetting to navigate, because it feels deeply disrespectful when it happens in a co-teaching relationship — and it's left me wondering, unsettlingly, whether that means I can never comfortably share a teaching space with anyone again. This is someone I've known and worked alongside for a long time; I don't fully understand what's shifted enough that this now feels acceptable to them, even given a genuine disagreement. And what does that dynamic teach the students underneath it — are they allowed to question, to hold a differing view, or are they simply wrong until proven otherwise? What does that do to their own confidence and growth?

I've got more to work through here, but that's where I'll leave it for now. I'd love to hear your thoughts — email podcast@hannahmedium.co.uk, as always. My closing thought: we're all just serving each other plates of food. Eat whatever aligns with you. See you soon.