

What FATE Means To Me

By The Readers

*As part of FATE's 60th Anniversary celebration, we asked our readers to submit essays on what the magazine means to them and how it has touched their lives and hearts throughout the years. Here are their stories.

A Different Place

I grew up in the 1960s with a love for comic books, monster movies and rock & roll...

Though raised in a fairly typical German Lutheran home I soon developed a reader's passion for the odd and unexplained aspects of life. My father, a professional security guard (which also gave him ample time to read), recognized in my early obsession with the fantastic something he could relate to: fond memories of the fantasy genre pulp magazines of the 1930s, and '40s from his own youth. Naturally one publication he would bring home on occasion was FATE magazine. Being a digest-sized publication (like Reader's Digest and his beloved pulps) the magazine was unique and the articles never failed to fascinate and enthrall me.

True stories of UFOs, ghosts, and Sasquatch kept me always seeking the magazine out (sporadic though its distribution might be) on local newsstands throughout the bulk of my life... Today I subscribe to FATE so as not to miss an issue. It never fails to take me to a different place, while simultaneously returning me to my early boyhood quest of the unexplained.

In a world where it seems everything is disposable, fast-moving, or ethically compromised in some way I am so very grateful FATE magazine is still around today to educate, enlighten, and entertain. Warmest regards.

—*Rich Mohrland, Rosemount, Minn.*

FATE Is Unique

I have had psychic experiences all my life—starting at age four when I predicted the unexpected return of my brother from military service. In 1992, I found FATE listed in an advertisement of various magazine subscriptions, so I subscribed. I then read each copy of FATE before it got dark. You see, I had moved to a small town and into a duplex across the street from a very large cemetery. After dark, I could still see the first row of headstones. Stories about vampires and ghosts unnerved me a little, considering my neighbors. Later, during three moves (ah, the address changes your magazine followed me through), and a career change, my FATE always found me.

I have often felt like an outsider in the world due to my psychic experiences and my belief system. FATE has helped me feel like I am part of an interesting world of people for whom life also has many roads.

FATE has brought me stories from places all around the world. Since I can't travel to these places, I am glad that FATE can. An issue, years ago, about dragons actually mentioned the village in Czechoslovakia that my mother's family was from. I never expected the village of Brno to appear in FATE, but it did!

FATE has given me a chance to learn about many areas that scientists are investigating, such as various theories about how the universe might work. I recently saw a show on television about a multiple universe theory. I was already familiar with this theory because I had previously read about it in FATE. I enjoy getting the opportunity to think about the possibilities of the universe, life, and the after-life as I am reading.

FATE is interesting, entertaining, and, like its readers, unique.

—*Betty Marxsen, Kansas City, Mo.*

Something Very Different

For me FATE is an opportunity to relax and focus on something different—even very different. It frees my mind from confinement in the usual concerns. But it also does much more:

While every magazine is about something, only FATE is about everything, alerting us to the newly discovered and the least understood in all areas of interest.

While other publications want us to believe some particular thing, FATE lets us decide for ourselves what to believe and gives us a forum in which to talk about it.

While some journals report on people's strange adventures, FATE has a regular feature in which readers can relate their own remarkable experiences.

While rationalists are raging against the idea of paranormal or supernatural occurrences, in reading FATE we're reminded that an open mind is essential not only for mental health but for science.

While most are wary of taking on the going assumptions and the accepted theories, FATE is always ready to print articles by those with reasons for questioning them.

While many things we read make for a hard transition to spiritual contemplation or worship, FATE makes for an easy one by being oriented dispassionately to far possibilities.

Enjoying FATE doesn't require being credulous, only being curious, imaginative, and alive to wonder. So on to the next 60 years!

—*John Gibson, via email*

Paranormal Interest Fulfilled

I stumbled upon FATE magazine about three years ago at a used bookstore. I was looking through some National Geographic magazines and on the shelf below them were these digest-size magazines with interesting covers that caught my eye. I had never heard of FATE before this so when I picked up the magazines and read the covers describing what they were about, I was real excited. I didn't realize that there were even any magazines being published that were about the paranormal and unknown which I have always been interested in.

Needless to say I purchased a couple of the back issues and my mom and I have been hooked on FATE ever since. We can't get enough of this great magazine and buy back issues like crazy. I have been a subscriber for two years now and plan on being one for the rest of my life.

I've been into the unknown and paranormal pretty much my whole life and can't believe I have never heard of FATE before but I am so glad I came across it, and it was like fate brought us together (no pun intended). FATE has opened my eyes to so many other subjects on the strange and unknown that I wasn't even aware of or at least didn't put much thought into. FATE has also helped me by making me realize that there is more to life than just the here and now. FATE has made me an even more open-minded person than I already was and I now believe in things that I never thought I would. FATE provides its readers with a wide variety of different angles on many subjects. Since finding FATE, I have read other magazines on the paranormal and they just didn't add up to what FATE offers.

FATE magazine really means a lot to me and I couldn't imagine not having this awesome magazine in my life. It is a great feeling knowing that there are others like you in the world that are also interested in the strange and unknown. As long as FATE keeps doing what they have been doing the past 60 years, then I think this magazine will be around for another 60 years (if not longer). I really can't say one bad thing about FATE; it has made my life more fulfilling in many ways and I look forward to receiving FATE every month. Here is to another 60 years of FATE, because you rock!

—*Brandy Wickham, Zanesville, Ohio*

Looking for Answers

To explain what FATE magazine means to me, I have to take you back to the late 1940s to Nashville, Tennessee. Nashville in those days was more a small southern country town that was known for the famous country music radio show known as The Grand Ole Opry.

They had built something exciting on the western edge of town, a golf course driving range. When I was in the fourth grade, my mother and I were passing the driving range one night and we noticed the cars pulling off to the side and the people on the range looking up. I could not make out the shape, but the most beautiful “neon-like” white light slowly, without noise, moved across the range. My mother did not stop but she told me I could not speak of this to anyone because people would call me “a crazy person.” My mother did not even tell my father.

My wife and I knew each other as children because we shared the same cousin, but she lived in New York. She told me she would return someday, and she did. After we both finished our college education, she came to find me in Nashville and we were married. We worked very hard and raised children and they are married and have children. But my story of the paranormal is just beginning.

During my married years I would have flashbacks of being abducted by the “child-like small alien” type from my college dorm bedroom. In later years my wife and I would dream the same dreams being on an alien ship. I could not, but my wife felt like she could see ghosts in the many apartments we lived in in our early married years. She said the spirits were sad spirits always looking for something. I guess ghosts are not happy.

But the real “kicker” was in the late 1990s. I saw, while driving between two rural country towns, in open daylight, a small scout ship that looked more like a clam shell to me, but then I noticed a large mother ship hugging the top of a stand of oak trees. I kept driving as fast as I could down the road.

I really felt the sense of tremendous power. People, we are not alone!

So, I am now getting old and I read FATE magazine looking for answers, and looking for clues maybe from other people’s stories in the magazine.

Yes, I am getting old and I want to know the truth, and I know the truth is out there!

—*Charles Kay, Murfreesboro, TN*

A Good Companion

I am not a very social person. The main reason for this is my deafness. Two different hearing aids have failed to help me, so I get along as best as I can, meeting, mixing, and communicating verbally with very few people.

Even friends and family members become annoyed with my too-frequent “what?” utterances and my asking them to kindly repeat what they said. So I shy away from them, especially those who can’t or don’t want to speak loudly and clearly enough for me.

But people need people. We all need to connect with one another. I am no different. I often feel isolated, due to my disability. I crave companionship. This is where FATE magazine comes in. When I’m depressed, which is often, I pick up one or more back issues and read and relate to the wonderful contributors to True Mystic Experiences and My Proof of Survival. Their psychic experiences intrigue me. Their true stories are often profound, tender, touching, and uniquely human and sincere. We are kindred souls. They believe in dreams, omens, and other paranormal phenomena, as I do. I feel comfortable in their company. We have much in common. Others may laugh at my beliefs, and call me superstitious, but FATE readers and writers know better than to laugh.

I commiserate with the writers who have suffered heartbreaking losses, and are sad and miserable. I even fancy that I am able sometimes to reach out to them telepathically and envelop them in love and understanding, and console them. I tell them that mourners are not alone, that ever since time began, millions of beloved ones have passed away. Heaven must be very crowded. Somehow these thoughts buoy me up, make me feel better.

Thank you, FATE, for relieving me of some of my loneliness.

Thank you for the opportunity to peek into other lives and become acquainted with many of your stimulating contributors.

And thank you for giving us believers a chance to express ourselves in True Mystic Experiences and My Proof of Survival.

Other features in FATE, such as articles on UFOs, famous people, and strange but true happenings also make fascinating reading, but True Mystic Experiences and My Proof of Survival are my favorites.

—*Rose L. Korotkin, St. Louis Park, Minn.*

A Liberating Read

FATE is like a friend.

I can tell you my secret, and you can tell me yours. Despite the seeming strangeness of a personal experience, you will know the truth of its reality.

Your articles open doors to unknown realms; exploring possibilities, expanding consciousness, heightening awareness, widening senses, stimulating curiosity, questioning, all enhancing personal enlightenment while being entertaining. Exposure to the abilities, talent, intelligence, knowledge, ideas, and theories of your contributors is a liberating experience, contributing to a sense of place and peace.

Your articles encourage one to take time to pay attention, to take stock on what's going on in their inner and outer life.

—Dorothy Brendlen, Pleasant Hill, Calif.

Integrity of Personal Experience

I read FATE because I want to get down, not to bedrock, but to the molten state that the rock is in before it hardens. The doctrines of any religion or organization are like rock; they are hardened and you take them as presented. But there was a time when these beliefs were not really solidified into doctrine: they were open, alive, and unoppressive, and they described spiritual experiences that the believers had participated in. These experiences, through time, became hardened into doctrines, much like molten lava is hardened into rock.

To be a believer, you had to acquiesce to the doctrine, even if you did not even have the experience which gave rise to it. This conformity made the organization more efficient and the people more manageable.

FATE magazine chronicles the experiences of people who have experienced the extraordinary.

Many of these experiences are positive; some are disturbingly negative. But they all have the element of experience, and a person who speaks out of his or her experience has integrity. These experiences are presented without being forced into a doctrinal framework.

Lao-Tzu said that a dead limb is stiff and hardened; a living limb is flexible and fresh. Doctrine tends to deaden because it is usually not authenticated by those who profess to believe it.

FATE magazine is about genuine, extraordinary, living experience. It freshens my perspective, and helps me to see new possibilities.

—*James Eubanks, Germantown, Tenn.*

Only a Magazine?

FATE moves in mysterious ways...both as the idea of the inevitable and the magazine. I recently visited a local chain bookstore looking for the latest issue of FATE magazine.

Previously, I had discovered that this particular store carried it, and is one of the few in the area that do. I found it in the most logical place in the newsstand section along with other paranormal and “new age” periodicals. I almost missed it, though, as the copies were tucked almost invisibly behind a second-tier rack. I dutifully placed them where they should have been, with the other digest-sized magazines on the front rack, and was on my way, newest issue in hand.

On this particular visit, I went directly to the spot where I had seen it before. There were no copies to be found. Since I knew the latest issue had to be out, I went to the customer service kiosk in the middle of the store. A pleasant young lady asked me for help, and I inquired as to the fate of carrying FATE magazine in this store.

She replied, to my amazement, “Oh, I don’t even need to look that up. I’ve got them right here.”

She turned to the back of the counter where there was a hand truck with a small stack of magazines on it. I went around to look and saw a number of copies of the brand-new issue of FATE ...right on top of the stack!

She said, “We just got these in and I haven’t put them out yet.”

While standing in line to pay, I continued in my amazement of my good fortune. While not an earth-shattering event, it added a small, but delightful wonder to my day. If there is a lesson in this story, I would have to say that now is the time for me to subscribe to FATE magazine. That way it will be delivered straight to my door, and I won’t have to rely on fateful coincidences, and least not for my monthly dose of FATE!

—*John Navroth, Kirkland, Wash.*

FATE is First

As an author and vocal supporter of FATE magazine, I submit this essay not for competition, but to “renew my vows,” so to speak, and declare my respect and loyalty to the dedicated editorial staff that makes this long-lived print bastion of “True Reports of the Strange and Unknown” an enduring reality.

When other publications offered their readership gossip and wild speculation on the subject of the so-called “Philadelphia Experiment,” FATE had the courage to make public the documented facts about the identity of Carlos Miguel Allende in “Alias Carlos Allende,” October 1982.

While other magazines offered their readers endless rehash over the “Roswell Incident,” FATE published my cutting-edge exploration of UFOs and electrical noise in “Free UFO Detectors,” April 2000.

Long story short, FATE magazine is my first choice when it comes to submitting discoveries for publication. Period.

As an investigative researcher of the unknown and unexplained, FATE is my first choice when it comes to magazines covering the “paranormal.” Exclamation point!

Whether I like or dislike any particular issue or article or point of view, FATE is my monthly ticket to the weird and wondrous.

FATE makes a difference.

—*Robert A. Goerman, via email*

More Questions

FATE is fun! I am a Fatus neophytis with tongue-in-cheek.

My fateful journey began before the age of ten. For years, I diligently researched my library, and dutifully studied assigned text, but the answers in the back of each book only produced more questions. What is it all about?

I asked FATE to intervene and grant me two wishes: to live at a time when many fantastic things happen and to dispatch to me a monthly magazine in which each story is chronicled by an insightful reporter.

I believe in FATE. You meet a person, who invites you to an event, which informs you about a place, that sells a magazine, and so on and on.

FATE found me, and it fits me well.

Thank you, FATE, for being in the right place at the right time. I have a lot of questions.

—*Anita Howerton Louisville, Ky.*

Saves Every Issue

I first heard about FATE in 1978. My daughter had gotten a copy from a friend of hers and she let me read it. I liked the stories that I read, so I decided that I would subscribe to FATE. I received the magazine in the mail for quite a few years until I moved to Savannah, Georgia. When I moved back to New York to my old apartment, I had left copies of FATE on a shelf in the closet. I sent in the coupon to start subscribing again, and I realized how much I missed reading it.

One time in 2005, I did not get my magazine because it got lost in the mail. I was very upset over that. I called customer service, and they sent me another copy right away. I save all of my FATE magazines. I wish that I could get some of the copies that I missed when I moved to Georgia. I know I missed some good stories.

FATE helped me to realize that there are a lot of paranormal happenings in this world. My oldest daughter loves the ghost stories in FATE. We read all of the stories, but we love the ghost stories most of all.

I would rather read FATE than any other magazine. Keep up the good work! I love you.

—*Elizabeth Brantley, via email*

Profitable Journey

I first purchased FATE magazine in the fall of 1978 at a variety store. I was 18 years old and thought I would have all life's mysteries figured out by the time I was 28. It is 30 years later and I am still looking and seeking, but now wisdom and experience have shown me that one lifetime is not enough to learn even basic truths.

FATE introduced me to many philosophies, theories, and beliefs; some crazy and some profound. The ads helped me explore much further into things such as herbal healing, esoteric studies, telepathic animal communication, crystals, pendulums, and dowsing.

Through FATE I explored religious theories and new scientific discoveries ignored by the mainstream press, such as free energy and time travel. I communicated with a few writers and advertisers who became friends for intellectual debate.

A few of the writers and editors whose work I enjoyed were: Jerome Clark, D. Scott Rogo, Rosemary Ellen Guiley, Curtis Fuller, Brad Steiger, and, of course, John Keel.

Keel was always the tongue-in-cheek voice of reason, as in “don’t believe everything you read.” Now The Amazing Godwin has taken on that duty. Keel and Godwin’s advice is “don’t take yourself or your beliefs so seriously.”

Felix Bach told about the structures he has found on the moon that NASA ignores. The Flat Earth Society has a good argument that makes sense and is plausible. What proof do we really have if we have not seen the earth from space with our own eyes and in our own spaceship? All we have are the pictures from the government. Do we really trust them?

Any claim, paranormal, scientific, or otherwise can only be subjective. W. Ritchie Benedict put it best when he wrote (January 2008): “My fundamental position is that you can only know what you experience, and then you know for sure.”

FATE published my True Mystic Experience (June 2004) and paid me for it. I wrote to the editors and they proved that they really do listen to the readers and care what they have to say.

I am very pleased that FATE now has a column on animal communication. I first read about this subject in an interview (August 1998) with Chrys Long-Ago by Dawn Baumann Brunke called “Talk to the Animals.” I later read Dawn’s books when she became an animal communicator. All this learning was helped by articles in FATE.

After reading an article on Tesla, I sent for copies of his patents. I was going to build a Tesla Coil and have free energy. I could not understand that technical stuff on a quick read. It turns out you need a special machine to wind the copper precisely. I never got around to that.

Every month I look forward to reading FATE. It has been a long, interesting, and profitable journey together. I look forward to many more years of reading, enjoying, and learning from FATE.

—Ray Nice J. Hoffman, Reading, Pa.

Things We Don't Talk About

My grandmother used to say, "In my next life I'm going to be rich and live in a big house on the lake." She always believed my older brother was her father reincarnated. But we don't talk about these things outside of the family.

I have seen things in the sky that can't be identified. But we don't talk about these things outside of the family.

Family members would know when someone was about to die because they were seeing and talking to people who had passed over years before. But we don't talk about these things outside of the family.

From time-to-time we smell fresh-brewed coffee in the house. We all know that my dad, who died in 1992, has come by to check on us. But we don't talk about these things outside of the family.

One afternoon my daughter-in-law came over before she left for work and handed me a magazine. "I subscribe to this, and I think you would like to read it," she said. That evening I read my first FATE magazine. I was hooked immediately. Here were articles about the things I am interested in.

In the 13 years I have been reading FATE I have learned about reincarnation, ghosts, UFOs, NDEs, angels, and more. FATE has opened the whole paranormal world to me. My favorite sections are My Proof of Survival and True Mystic Experiences: stories from people who are brave enough to write about things we don't talk about outside of the family.

—Polly Hammarlund, *Harker Heights, Tex.*

It's the Best

As a longtime reader and subscriber to FATE, I find I cannot think of enough good things to say about it. In any event, here are a few things I love about the magazine:

In large or small format, it was and is the best read of its kind out there.

There is something for everyone who has Fortean interests in each issue of FATE, which is why I have trouble understanding those who would restrict the subjects on which its articles are focused.

I "eat it up" as soon as it arrives, and have saved many issues, often passing them around to like-minded folks.

I really can't think of an author or subject I don't like. Even when an article seems of only vague interest at first, it usually ends up being a very interesting and informative read. I learn a lot from every issue.

While this doesn't list everything I like about FATE, it is a start. Keep up the great work!

—*Robin Skeie, St. Paul, Minn.*

Keeps Every Copy

I have subscribed to all kinds of magazines, but FATE is the only one I keep every copy of! When I need a break from life I go back and read the old ones.

I get so excited over getting my FATE subscription it's almost embarrassing. I literally squeal when it comes, and then I try hard not to read the whole thing at once!

It's so nice to have something exciting to look forward to each month. My friends chuckle at how excited I get over it.

Thank you and keep 'em coming!

—*Catherine Schulz, Portland, Ore.*

A Very Different View

FATE magazine has been a part of my life since the 1950s. When I was about nine years old, my mother discovered FATE. We'd both read it and discuss various topics. She'd share her own paranormal experiences with me. As a result, I had a very different view of the world than most kids my age. Since almost all kids are intrigued by "spooky" stuff, I was fairly popular having such odd knowledge.

During the summer of 1954 while we were vacationing at Lake Winnepesaukee, New Hampshire, I watched a glowing flying saucer land on the island across the lake from our bungalow. Since we'd arrived a few hours earlier, it was quite late, around midnight, when I ran inside to tell the folks what I'd seen. They assumed I'd been dreaming. I told my mother that it was exactly like the pictures we'd seen in FATE, but I couldn't convince her.

The next night when we were all sitting on the back porch, the saucer lifted off the island and flew over our bungalow. Although I don't remember if I saw anybody through the

windows, I did receive the impression that they said, "We'll see you again." As far as I can recall, the craft was small, about 15 to 20 feet in diameter, silver, and not glowing when it passed overhead. I've learned that Lake Winnepesaukee is a window area for UFOs.

Because of the wide variety of subjects covered in FATE, I was pretty much prepared for any kind of event that might occur.

When I was 11 years old I saw a Bigfoot while at summer camp in upstate New York. I was alone in the outhouse when I saw the creature quite a distance away in the woods. It reached up and broke a tree branch. When I told my friends about it, they didn't believe me since they'd never heard of Bigfoot and said I'd probably seen a bear, which was scary enough. Any doubt created in my mind was dispelled when I went to the spot and saw the broken branch about 20 feet above. Bears don't have front legs long enough to reach that height. Thinking back on this, I'm not sure this is something a bear would do.

FATE has been a part of my journey throughout my life, either purchased at a newsstand or by subscription. I love FATE!

I lived in a haunted house for a few months while in Cincinnati. The ghost in this boarding house was an elderly man who had been seen by a little girl while her mother was doing the laundry in the basement. She never did her laundry there after that experience. This ghost had a quirky sense of humor. The apartment had a murphy bed in the living room across from the entryway. I often found the door wide open upon awakening, even though it had been securely locked the night before. FATE prepared me for this mischievous spirit.

FATE taught me about doppelgängers. I often hear my husband's key in the lock and the door opening and closing a few minutes before he arrives. My doppelgänger was once seen at work while I was dozing on the subway train. I worked in a large hospital. Upon arriving, I greeted one of the nurses, a rather cranky woman, who told me we'd already been through this ritual 15 minutes ago. I immediately realized she'd seen my doppelgänger, so I just acknowledged the observation.

An even stranger experience that was either a doppelgänger or my double occurred at a shooting gallery in Coney Island Amusement Park. I would occasionally take a train to the shore and spend time at the shooting galleries. When I arrived at my favorite gallery, the fellow tending the place said, "You've come back for another round, eh?" I couldn't convince him that I hadn't been there earlier so I dropped the subject and went about shooting all the ducks down. "Just like before," he said. All I said was, "Uh-huh." Now that was definitely weird!

I'd read of psychic experiments in FATE. I decided that when I grew up I'd participate in experiments at a major psychic society in New York. I was involved with many different tests with a renowned psychic investigator which was a mutually rewarding experience. I've sometimes wondered if my own experiences and abilities would have evolved so fully if my mother had not been so curious about the "strange and unknown." But after some

consideration, I realize that a magazine with the name of FATE would have always been irresistible to me.

Through the years I've frequented many used bookstores. I've found old issues of paranormal and UFO magazines from the 1950s and '60s. However, it's always a delightfully fate-ful day when I find a back issue of FATE that's missing from my collection...especially since my mother hadn't saved those old issues. The reissue of FATE's first issue was a true delight, and if you haven't sent for it yet, don't miss it!

Here's to many more years of FATE magazine! Thank you for my very special education.

—Loree Levine, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Serendipity

I stumbled upon FATE magazine about three years ago at a used bookstore. I was looking through some National Geographic magazines and on the shelf below them were these digest-size magazines with interesting covers that caught my eye. I had never heard of FATE before this, so when I picked up the magazines and read the covers describing what they were about, I was real excited. I didn't realize that there were any magazines being published that were about the paranormal and unknown.

I purchased a couple of the back issues. My mom and I have been hooked on FATE ever since. We can't get enough of this magazine and buy back issues like crazy. I have been a subscriber for two years now and plan on being one for the rest of my life.

I've been into the unknown and paranormal pretty much my whole life and can't believe I had never heard of FATE before. It was like fate brought us together (no pun intended). FATE has opened my eyes to so many other subjects on the strange and unknown that I wasn't even aware of or at least didn't put much thought into.

FATE has made me realize that there is more to life than just the here and now. FATE has made me an even more open-minded person, and I now believe in things that I never thought I would. FATE provides its readers with a wide variety of different angles on many subjects. Since finding FATE, I have read other magazines on the paranormal and they just - didn't add up to what FATE offers.

FATE magazine really means a lot to me and couldn't imagine not having this awesome magazine in my life. It is a great feeling knowing that there are others like you in the world. As long as FATE keeps doing what it has been doing the past 60 years, then I think this magazine will be around for another 60 years (if not longer).

I really can't say one bad thing about FATE; it has made my life more fulfilling in many ways and I look forward to receiving FATE every month. Here's to another 60 years of FATE, because you rock!

—*Brandy Wickham, Zanesville, Ohio*

FATE Stretches Boundaries

Subscribing to FATE is the culmination of many years of interest in and fascination with the metaphysical, paranormal, and what is not seen with the eye or perceived with the five senses.

As a young teen growing up in the 1950s in rural west Tennessee, I recall seeing FATE magazine in McClellan's department store in the nearest large town, Jackson. I would read a little and leaf through the magazines. The covers always caught my eye, but I had no money to buy it then. However, I was definitely intrigued.

Time passed on, and in the '60s I was married and my husband and I bought our first house, right next door to an older lady who had been studying the paranormal for many years. She introduced me to Edgar Cayce and the A.R.E. materials, and I benefited greatly from her friendship and mentorship into the Unknown. I also discovered and read Hans Holzer, Suzy Smith, and the Ruth Montgomery books. Also, I got introduced to Charles Fort and his books and delved into and puzzled over the UFO mysteries.

When I went to the hospital to have my first child in 1970, I carried some of my ghost investigator books into the labor room, thinking they would distract me from my travails. The nurses were not as surprised as I'd thought and one brought me one of her metaphysical books to read while I quite literally labored.

Time passes on, of course, and in the '90s I discovered Art Bell's (now George Noory's) *Coast to Coast AM* and subscribed to FATE magazine. These two metaphysical, paranormal experiences are the serious gourmet diet for the seeker in the field, in my opinion.

FATE has stretched my mind's boundary endlessly, and monthly revealed the mysterious and unknown to its readers in a way no other publication that I know of has. Of course, I don't read any of the others. Why should I, when I already have the best, FATE, to read and ponder over?

All of the entertainment, fun and education I have received from FATE can not be saved and confined in time's bottle. Wonderful investigative writing and the explorations of its writers add to the feeling and flavor of "I have traveled and explored these sites or events and you are welcome to come along on the trip with me."

I, like most people I have observed, love and look forward to True Mystical Experiences and My Proof of Survival every month, since the articles are written by real people with real experiences. My favorite subjects are ghosts and hauntings, reincarnation and past-life exploration, and near-death and angelic visitations. Probably my favorite articles out of many are the ones dealing with the hauntings and orbs following the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

One very important way I've benefited from FATE is to see articles and letters written by people from small towns I'm familiar with or been to in Tennessee (my birth state) and Georgia (where I presently live). This gives me the feeling that I am not alone and isolated with my "odd eccentric fantasy world interests and beliefs"; that there are real people out there who have given their names and addresses to their writings who think like me.

I've been introduced to two really outstanding psychic-intuitive readers through your classifieds. One I consider not only a psychic but a friend, and I'd never have known or met this person via letter and phone if not for reading FATE.

Congratulations, FATE, on your anniversary, and hopefully you'll have many more years of travels and adventures in the unusual. I hope to travel with you. Thanks for it all.

—*Patti G. Morris, Fayetteville, G.A.*