

'Amazing Grace' better than ever

By SUZANN M. OWINGS, Ph.D.

"Things of this world are mighty precious," I was reminded at "Amazing Grace," the wonderful play running through August 14 at the Back Alley Theatre in Van Nuys.

After Thursday night performances, the theater also hosts interviews with psychic channels discussing and demonstrating their actual practices.

Only the play's tenderness kept it the best part of this Thursday evening.

In the month since opening Sandra Deer's heart-warming play, the cast has settled into a lovelier, even more endearing pace steadied by the performances of Patricia Huston who plays Grace Tamer and Jim Hiestand playing her grandson Troy.

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AMAZINGLY GRADEFUL — Patricia Huston cradles Jim Hiestand as they teach about real life in "Amazing Grace" at the Back Alley Theater in Van Nuys.

The experience poignantly focuses on the intuitive's possible contribution to society using Grace and Troy's lives after moving from Georgia to Los Angeles.

A catalyst, Grace softly and powerfully changes Maggie the actress who's bought Grace's life story, Joshua the police lieutenant seeking a psychic to find abducted children and their murderer, and Ramona who's been abducted.

She also softly and powerfully influences her audience in a pattern: Deer carefully weaves leaving the play in the audience's heart and minds.

Beautifully performed, it's moving, emotional and educational.

"Amazing Grace" teaches us about ourselves, our own strengths and weaknesses, our fears and the power always available to us.

The character Grace knows the real-world. She's Everywoman, a loving daughter, wife, mother and grandmother. Grace is a healer and seer.

Gentle and wise, the

Georgia countrywoman views life as being totally connected and totally about choice, a theme echoed by real-life psychic Darryl Anka in his Talkback presentation after the play.

An articulate, interesting medium, Anka answered questions from the audience and shared his psychic experiences. He demonstrated channeling entity Bashar whom he's brought through for five years.

There's no additional charge to the audience for Back Alley's psychic Talkback series.

The play and Talkback marvelously remind old psychics like me and novices that the "things of this world are mighty precious."

I hope you'll attend the play soon you can revisit several times before it closes.

Remember Thursday night's double-header with psychics Margo Chandley July 28, Margaret Rodgers August 4 and Neville Rowe August 11.

Dr. Suzann Owings appears weekly as *The Toluca's* psychic columnist.