

Fortune Teller

Tanya Heine lived in a part of town that few people if any, ever went into or stayed. It was a good place to not be seen. The town of Verna was not a destination town. She did her fortune telling around the Bradenton area. She often entertained tourists from around the world.

Tanya made her living as a fortune teller. She was often dressed in a gypse style costume. This gave her the look of a fortune teller; it was after all good for business. Her mother Betty Heine was the daughter of a Stavrosian sailor. He arrived in America, 1898. His life was all about the sea as a fisherman. After he died in 1971, at 94 years old, his daughter started to use her Stavrosian skills to tell fortunes to the locals. Betty helped Tanya improve her skills as she was growing up.

Tanya was born June of 1907 in her small town of Verna. She started telling fortunes at 16 years old. She kept telling fortunes for the rest of her life. In 1972 Tanya was being investigated. Some people thought she was somehow accessing private records. It was only her Stavrosian skills. There was no way anyone would understand it or accept what she could do.

By 1974, she was no longer able to stay in Florida. The local law with those that wanted her out had reached a level she would no longer put up with. So, before she could be taken into custody, Tanya left the States for Cancun Mexico. Here she could continue to practice her skill to tell fortunes to the tourists on vacation. Without fear of being found out.

She did find another Stavrosian family on one of her readings. Tanya introduced them to the S.G.L. to have the family registered. Tanya tried to warn the New York mayor about a vision she kept having. She saw the world trade centers on fire. Unfortunately, she had no luck in telling anyone. She could only reach a few people, but they didn't listen.

Maybe it was too unbelievable, or the mayor's office thought it was a prank call. No one was hearing her, they hung up on her. She felt so sad about not being able to convince them to warn them or to save them. All her efforts were for nothing. It broke her heart and she felt such guilt that it made her physically sick. It was all just too hard for her to deal with. She had never married, had no children with no one to help her. She never recovered from it all. Tanya gave up November of 2001. She died alone in her small apartment at 94 years old.

You most likely will never hear of Tanya the fortune teller. Yet her skills were well known by the S.G.L.. Her input on family histories had been very important to the library.

She was a gift to the world; Tanya Heine the Gypsy lady.

S.G.L. Researcher
G. Stavros