

my SCRAPBOOK

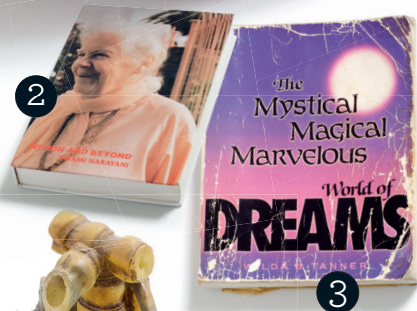
PRIZED POSSESSIONS. MEANINGFUL MEMENTOS. PRECIOUS MEMORIES.

JUNE VAN MERCH

Stage, TV and film actress June van Merch talks about spiritual guidance, mementos from her early acting career and the massage trick a fellow actor taught her



1



2

3



and had a dream that I was standing in a supermarket with a guy I worked with on *Going Up*. I told him that I wasn't ready to die and still had things I needed to do. On my birthday a few weeks later, he gave me a gift voucher for a book shop. I used it to buy this book. I read it often.

4 MY MOM AND DAD BOUGHT THIS FOUNTAIN FOR MY HOUSE.

Eleven years ago, I was looking to buy a home and was looking at a house in Cape Town's Northern Suburbs. It was the first house I looked at – and I've never bought anything so quickly! This fountain was in the house and I told my mom that I liked it. When my parents helped me move in, they gave it to me as a gift. I added my own stones and now and then I add new ones. I find it soothing and therapeutic.



4

5

1 MY DAD BOUGHT THIS HELMET AT AN AUCTION IN OUDTSHOORN WHEN I WAS 17 YEARS OLD.

I used it when I got my licence on a 1928 DKW German motorcycle. When we bought it, it was seen as posh because it's a Porsche design. I use it when I ride my scooter. I go riding with the guys with it on – there's no shame!

5 THIS CRICKET BALL IS MY MASSAGE THERAPIST.

I was doing a stage production and saw actor Oscar Petersen standing against a wall, moving about. He called me over, gave me a ball and showed me how to massage my back with it. You place it between yourself and a wall and move about. It works wonders!

2 THIS BOOK, *WITHIN AND BEYOND* BY SWAMI NARAYANI, jumped out at me

while I was browsing the bookstall outside the Bellville library. I believe that whatever you need comes to you. The book has a spiritual message for every day of the year.

6 MY MOM GAVE ME THIS MINI GAS CYLINDER.

My parents used to travel around South Africa a lot and they'd make coffee on the side of the road on this gas cylinder. I use it during load shedding!



6

3 I BOUGHT *THE MYSTICAL, MAGICAL, MARVELOUS WORLD OF DREAMS* by Wilda B Tanner when I lived in Johannesburg.

It was a difficult time for me. I was alone with no support system. I went to a spiritual retreat

7 I FOUND THESE SHOES AT THE CO-OP IN UPINGTON

while there to perform. I was part of the first group of university-student actors that schools began using to perform matric set-work books. We travelled around the country. The shoes are now 30-odd years old and I still wear them. They are a symbol of those years. GH

7

