

# Script shows fluent mind, modesty

Dear Lorene:

I must admit that however skeptical I am concerning handwriting analysis, I always read your column with the utmost interest.

I would like to ask you a question which has bothered me for a long time. Ever since my middle years of schooling, I have persisted in a bad habit. This bad habit — always putting and never writing — is now so common that I have lost the skill of penmanship learned in elementary school. I actually cannot write a complete sentence. My friends have always kidded me about this.

Any comments you have would be much appreciated.

A.B., Livonia

Dear A.B.:

Perhaps it will put your mind at ease to know that printers are often people who possess art talent. Your marginal spacing frames your script like the shape of a picture. This, together with the shape of



graphology  
**Lorene Green**

I must admit that however skeptical concerning handwriting analysis, I always read your column with the utmost interest.

your personal pronoun I and your small letter F, all suggest art aptitude. You have a natural eye for good design. Tiny letter formations and wide spacing tell how much you value your privacy. Intuitive people do not appeal to you. And in interpersonal relationships, you are the one to decide how close a friendship is going to be. You are able to concentrate for long

periods of time when involved in a project or activity. You dislike distractions and can zero all of your energies into the task at hand. If you first, you don't succeed, you keep right on trying. You are no quitter.

Simplification in your script and small size reveals your good intellect. Your mind is fluent, and you are able to find new and effective ways of han-

dling problems and challenges. The thought association is also good.

You are ever aware of details and you handle them well. However, they are often a source of annoyance to you. Irritation such as this can sometimes be caused by a calcium deficiency.

Modest, you do not seek the limelight. You prefer being part of the audience as opposed to the star.

Articulating your innermost feelings does not come easily to you. So you have developed a habit of suppressing them.

Large, well-shaped numbers suggest a working relationship with budgets and figures. Are you in the accounting field? Your writing suggests that this could be a strong vocational aptitude.

If you have a question about your handwriting, write to Lorene Collett Green, a certified graphologist, in care of this newspaper. Please use a full sheet of white, unlined paper, writing in the first person singular. Age and handedness are also helpful. Feedback is always welcome.

Thurs., February 2, 1984 O&F

moral perspectives  
**Rev. Charles Erickson**

## Personal meetings are way to peace

As I enjoyed hearing our President's good appeal to the Soviets regarding peace, I kept worrying about the negative things he has said about them. I wondered why we get ourselves into tensions which overshadow our good intentions.

The importance of summit meetings and a widely dispersed diplomatic corps seems to increase. It is so easy to say negative things about someone who is not present.

We speak differently when disagreements are faced personally. Modern communication gives other parties our words immediately but we can't respond to reactions when the other is not present.

The way to peace is through personal meetings. It is true for governments as well as for families and communities. Why have all cultures respected elders for wisdom? It is because they insist on personal encounters and have patience to listen.

**OLDER FOLK SEEM** more interested in braving winter weather to be with others than do younger ones who rush around with snap judgments made without intimate contact.

Bad habits come from a legislative stance of deciding for others. We are all armchair experts, especially about someone else's problems. It would be better to withhold decisions

If we are at an abstract distance from those with a stake in the outcome.

Critical talk about an absent person is like cancer. It demeans the speaker and erodes the nobility of our cause. We feel free to say any old thing and sour both our emotions and our thoughts.

Face-to-face conversation is healing. We don't change our principles but they are enlarged in seeking to understand one another. Discussion is risky being accepted or rejected so we try to behave with dignity.

**DISTORTED** assumptions melt in hearing the situation from another who has just as good intentions as ours. In meeting personally, we see the human hopes and foibles in both ourselves and the other.

At the center of every religion is worship. We respond to the worth of a divine person (God) and thus increase awareness of the value of human persons. When religion becomes ideology, it ceases to be help humanity and begins to stir conflict.

The universal human quest is not for answers to questions. It is a need for response to persons. Health and serenity comes to people, institutions and nations in keeping integrity while sharing hopes and disagreements. We need to be in personal relation with anyone whose actions matter to us.

## Alzheimer's is the bane of seniors

Dear Jo: Would you please write a column on Alzheimer's disease? Just what it is — the cause, the cure, who gets it, etc. You often refer to this disease, and I'm not sure what it is — and frankly, I can't even pronounce the name.



gerontology  
**A. Jolayne Farrell**

Alzheimer's disease, which is pronounced so that it rhymes with the words "old timer's disease" is a chronic (long-lasting), fatal disorder involving the nerves of the brain. The cause is as yet unknown. Its course is progressive and so far there is no known cure.

The disease's progress is gradual and continuous; the symptoms are a decrease in judgment as well as in abstract thinking and in other higher mental functions. Changes in personality and behavior also occur. The person with the disease is just not the same person. Gone is the spark, the drive and the person you once knew.

Although Alzheimer's generally affects between 5 and 10 percent of persons over age 65, younger persons have also been diagnosed. Seventy-five per-

cent of all irreversible mental disorders in the elderly are credited to Alzheimer's. For some reason it is found more in women than men. Its course is as short as 10-12 months or as long as 27 years — the average being 10-12 years.

Before physicians diagnose the disease they carefully eliminate the many reversible mental disorders such as drug intoxication, depression, infections, certain physical conditions such as liver failure, low calcium, heart disease and brain disorders — stroke, brain abscess and tumors — also sensory loss, isolation, alcohol reactions and complications associated with hospital-

ization, mostly anesthetics and surgery.

No drug exists that can miraculously cure Alzheimer's disease. Treatment is primarily social and environmental with emotional and physical support given to both the person with the disease and to his or her family.

Death is often due to pneumonia. Alzheimer's disease is now considered to be the fourth or fifth leading cause of death in the elderly in North America. On autopsy, where the final diagnosis is confirmed, there are two major changes found in the brains of Alzheimer's victims. They are in the presence of a protein known as neuritic pla-

que not usually found in the brain, and an abnormal tangle of brain nerve cells called neurofibrillary tangles.

Who gets the disease? The chances of anyone in the general population of being diagnosed are 2-3 percent. If a person has a family member with the disease the chances are increased to 7-8 percent.

Our hope lies in research. Presently research is being done on several theories as to the cause of the disease, including slow-growing viruses, accumulation of aluminum or other toxins in the brain, changes in the immune response and on the causes for a decrease in the nerve transmitter acetylcholine.

Alzheimer's disease is a dreaded disease, but mankind has conquered dreaded diseases before. With hope, research and funding, we will conquer this one too.

Readers can write to Jolayne Farrell at P.O. Box 66, Post Office Station G, 1075 Queen Street East, Toronto, Ontario M4M 3E8, Canada.

## volunteers

The Oakland County Volunteer Bureau has a current file of volunteer opportunities for more than 200 agencies. Non-profit organizations needing assistance may list with the bureau. For more information about these and other volunteer openings, call the bureau, 642-7272.

**HOME VISITOR** — Volunteers with parenting experience are needed by Pontiac General Hospital as home health visitors. High school graduates, over 19, with warm and responsive are traits desired. Volunteers will work two to four hours per week. Time is flexible and training will be provided.

**OFFICE WORKER** — The Cultural Arts Division of Southfield's Parks and Recreation Department needs a person

with business/office skills for a permanent commitment.

**THE PHONE AIDE** — The Furniture Resource Center, Pontiac, needs a person to answer the phone and to help get furniture to callers in crisis situations. Help is needed Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, one half day a month only.

**RECEPTIONIST** — Someone with office skills is needed by the Family Living Center, Pontiac, for 10 to 15 hours a week.

**OFFICE AIDE** — OLISA of Hazel Park needs someone over 18 with office experience to work three days per week. Agency experience is desirable and a car is helpful.

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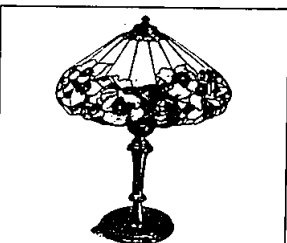
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