

**How To Know  
Everything  
about  
Anyone**

*through  
Handwriting*

Anne Conway

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## DEDICATION

For my affectionate, inspiring Thinker husband, Jim, who wanted me to share the methods I used to get us together, and how we're making it happily and ever after. This is also for my mom, Lucille Silver, who taught me how to teach—with love, caring and realism. And for little Aimee.



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# 1. Handwriting: Your Guide to Yourself



Handwriting unveils the mysteries of the soul. You can actually find out why you're here, what lessons you should be learning and if you're doing a good job learning those lessons. In that sense, your handwriting is like a report card. You can tell just about anything you want to know about a person from the symbols in handwriting. If you compare handwritings, you can even determine the compatibility of the people who wrote them.

Your handwriting reveals how passionately you kiss, which traffic lane you drive in, what kind of greeting cards you send, how you behave in long grocery store lines and how often you call your mother. In a more practical vein, your handwriting can pinpoint perfect career choices, creative potential, self-imposed hurdles, irritating habits and lovable qualities.

This book is different from other handwriting analysis books in two ways. First this book will shake up every idea about handwriting that you've ever had. After you read it, you'll never look at a page of script in the same way again. Second, while others say they won't pigeonhole you, this book will. It will label you, and you'll love it as if "Adolfo" was on your backside pocket. This book will give your handwriting a designer name and a place in the sun, a "sign" of its own, actually.

I'll tell you stories that give you an entirely new way of looking at yourself and everyone you know, and by the last page, you'll be able to assess the potential of any relationship. Don't tell my husband, but I wouldn't have dated him if I hadn't seen his handwriting first.

There are plenty of other advantages in learning handwriting

analysis, too. For one thing, you can stop feeling guilty for not loving those family members who are so easy to loathe. You know who I mean, that Goody Two Shoes sister, for example, who has made you look bad for twenty years. You're the only one who knows she cheated at Mr. Potato Head and Cootie, and she'd cheat again tomorrow if you gave her half a chance. So when you get to the Red Light chapter, dig up that letter she wrote from the Peace Corps, and you'll see huge capitals, high t-bars and tall, loopy letters. Aha! You were right: pathological liar. She can't see herself for who she is, poor thing, but you don't have to beat up on yourself for wanting her to change.

Two warnings: You won't ever find the perfect handwriting. After all, you won't find the perfect mate either. Don't worry though. If you're like most people, you too might leave a mere scrape of Rocky Road at the bottom of a carton.

Second warning: Don't analyze your parents' handwriting. It's too difficult to be objective about them. You'll look at their handwriting and forget everything in this book.

When I lecture, I'm almost always asked the following questions. You probably want them answered, too.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: My handwriting changes all the time. Does that mean I have a split personality? Can it still be analyzed?

A: That's not uncommon. Maybe. And yes. It can all be analyzed. Elements of handwriting change because we have different moods, we react differently to new situations. These changes are reflected in writing size, upper case letter sizes, slant and spacing between words and lines. However, basic letter formations, margins and signatures remain relatively stable.

Q: Can you analyze printing?

A: Some aspects of personality such as confidence, generosity and communication styles may be deduced from printing. But handwriting analysis as we know it, graphology, is based mostly on upstrokes, while printed letters are formed by downstrokes. Chronic printers may be saying subconsciously that they prefer to have an ambiguous image. Architects and draftsmen print

for legibility's sake on blueprints, and they may continue to print off the job from habit.

Q: Can you tell if I fake my handwriting?

A: You might be able to fake a couple of lines, but you won't be able to keep it up.

Q: Is handwriting analysis a psychic science?

A: No. And it's unrelated to astrology, numerology, ESP or any form of metaphysics. Recently the Dewey Decimal System moved handwriting analysis from *Occult* to *Psychology* (much to the chagrin of the psychology establishment). So if you want to read more books on handwriting, go to the psychology section.

Q: Can French or German writing be analyzed?

A: Yes, if any handwriting uses the alphabet and travels from left to right across the page, you'll be able to analyze it. But it's important for you to have a sample of the writing style the person was originally taught. For instance, French people use a capital "J" instead of the capital "I." That makes a big difference because the personal pronoun "I" is the most important individual letter to be analyzed.

Q: Is graphology scientific?

A: Yes, but it's a science that depends on the talent of the graphologist. In that way it's like clinical psychology. And because no psychological test works 100 percent of the time, graphology prides itself as coming in at 94 percent accurate. If you'd like to look up scientific and psychological journal articles, look under *Graphology*. There are literally hundreds that verify graphological reliability.

Q: Is it true that graphology is used in Europe for personnel selection?

A: Yes. In France, for instance, handwriting analysis is often given the same respect as empirically based psychological testing and evaluation. Eighty percent of European corporations use it for the purpose of hiring the best person for the job.\* But that doesn't go on only in Europe. You may be surprised to know General Electric, International Harvester, U.S. Steel, Firestone Tire Company and over 3,000 other United States companies have used graphology for personnel selection.

\**Wall Street Journal*, September 3, 1985, front page.

Q: Is graphology difficult to learn?

A: I don't think so. I've been teaching it for six years and my students seem to find the course easy, fun and useful. But it's up to you to practice. Like learning to throw pottery on a wheel, play tennis and train a puppy, it takes patience and practice.

Q: How soon will I be able to analyze handwriting?

A: Today. And as soon as you start practicing. But a word of caution: As a beginner, you need to develop objectivity; don't jump to conclusions based on a few written words. Do not analyze unless you have a whole page of handwriting on unlined paper. Without that, your results will not be accurate, and you may get frustrated when people tell you you're wrong. And it's demeaning to graphology as a science to treat it lightly.

So—when you meet someone who has what you consider to be perfect handwriting, and bells start ringing in your head, stop a moment and think. It's very easy for a beginning graphologist to get all excited about one aspect of handwriting and overlook others completely, coming up with an entirely misleading analysis. For instance, you may discover a sense of humor stroke and ignore the down-slanted and pointed t-bars. What you will neglect to put together is that the sense of humor is aimed sarcastically at other people.

In a new friendship you may become entranced with the possibilities, assuming that your acquaintance is going to be the best friend you've ever had. And as a result, you'll downplay any negative indications in the handwriting. There is no perfect friend, mate or parent. We all need to develop objectivity and patience.

Q: Where do I start?

A: At the beginning. Where else?

*Part 1*

---

*The Basic  
Personality: Slant*





## WHAT'S YOUR SLANT?

The first thing to do to evaluate your own handwriting is to get a ball point pen and a sheet of 8 1/2" x 11" unlined paper. Fill the sheet with your natural handwriting. Don't copy from an encyclopedia. Express yourself in a few spontaneous paragraphs. It doesn't matter what you write, as long as you do it spontaneously.

Once you have a whole page of writing, look at all the squiggles, shapes and margins. It all reflects who you are, how you live and how you relate to the world around you. You actually developed more than 600 variations from the writing method you were originally taught. A lot of individuality went into developing that unique style of yours that began with your third grade teacher's penmanship poster! If you ever doubted your creativity, you can put that idea to rest!

As you wrote, you began each line at the left and continued writing to the right until you began a new line. Have you ever thought about what it means to write from left to right? Wonder no longer: the left side of the page represents the past, the self, or where you've been. The right side of the page symbolizes the future and other people. It makes sense, because the future is where you're headed when you begin each new line.

Right now we're interested in how you moved your pen up and down as you wrote your way across the page. That's *slant*, and it reflects your underlying, inner emotional responsive nature. This chapter will help you determine which slant type you are, and see how your inner reactions affect the rest of your personality. Slant reveals how you react to all the people and events in your life—from your inside out.

Slant ranges from extreme left to extreme right. Generally speaking, leftward slants signify emotional caution while rightward slants indicate unrestrained enthusiasm.

The more letters lean to the right, the more future-oriented, aggressive, courageous, expressive and reactive the writers are. The farther writing leans to the left, the more passive, past-oriented, covertly defiant, introverted, repressed and cautious the writers are. Vertical writing shows independence, self-reliance, emotional con-