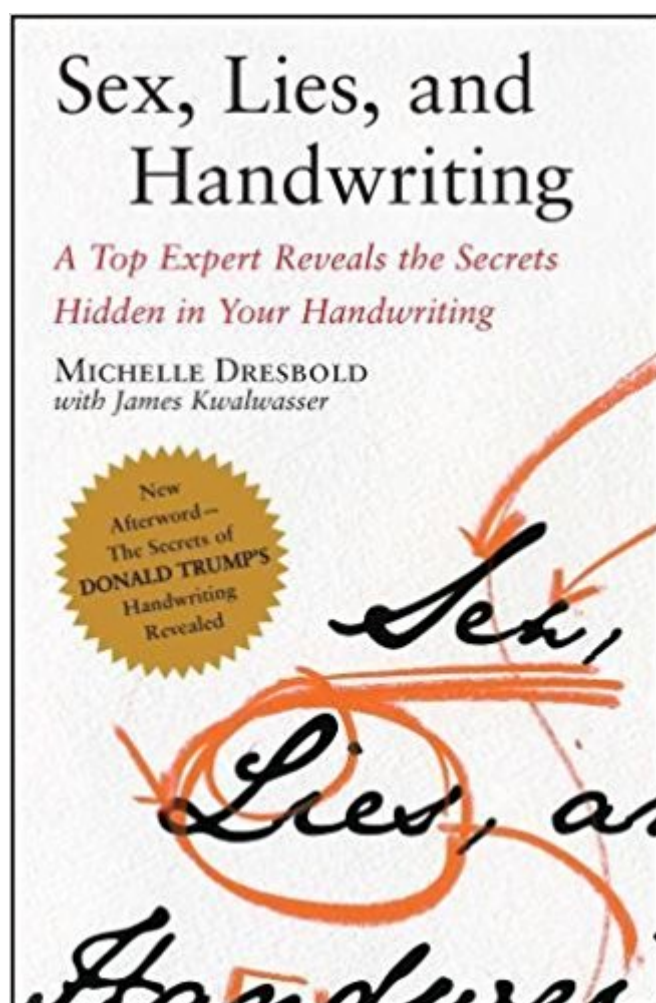


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Sex, Lies, And Handwriting: A Top Expert Reveals The Secrets Hidden In Your Handwriting



Synopsis

A handwriting expert reveals the secrets hidden in your penmanship—now featuring a new afterword analyzing the handwriting of President Donald Trump. Handwriting expert Michelle Dresbold—the only civilian to be invited to the United States Secret Service's Advanced Document Examination training program—draws on her extensive experience helping law enforcement agencies around the country on cases involving kidnapping, arson, forgery, murder, embezzlement, and stalking to take us inside the mysterious world of crossed t's and dotted i's. In *Sex, Lies, and Handwriting*, Dresbold explains how a single sentence can provide insight into a person's background, psychology, and behavior. Throughout the book, Dresbold explores the handwriting of sly politicians, convicted criminals, notorious killers, suspected cheats, and ordinary people who've written to Dresbold's "The Handwriting Doctor" column for help. She shows you how to identify the signs of a dirty rotten scoundrel and a lying, cheating, backstabbing lover. And she introduces you to some of the most dangerous traits in handwriting, including weapon-shaped letters, "shark's teeth," "club strokes," and "felon's claws." Dresbold also explains how criminals are tracked through handwritten clues and what spouses, friends, or employees might be hiding in their script. *Sex, Lies, and Handwriting* will have you paying a bit more attention to your—and everyone else's—penmanship.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“Informative and entertaining.... The prose is bright, conversational, witty and not bogged down by technical jargon. This book will have you excitedly minding your Ps and Qs and all the other letters, too.” Pittsburgh Post-Gazette “Dig out all those old birthday and holiday cards and love notes you’ve been hoarding over the years. You may just learn something new and shocking about the person who penned them.” Charleston Post and Courier

Michelle Dresbold, a graduate of the United States Secret Service’s Advanced Document Examination training program, is considered one of the top experts in the nation on handwriting identification, personality profiling, and threat analysis. She consults to private attorneys, police departments, and prosecutors throughout the United States. Dresbold writes a syndicated column, "The Handwriting Doctor." She is also an accomplished artist. She lives in Pittsburgh, PA. For more information visit MichelleDresbold.com James Kwalwasser is the cocreator and editor of "The Handwriting Doctor" syndicated column. He lives in Pittsburgh, PA.

The book describes some very interesting cases that the author was involved in solving, along with a pretty fascinating chapter on Jack the Ripper, and her conclusions in that case. There is a chapter on the JonBenet Ramsey murder, where she doesn’t come right out and say who the killer was, but it’s pretty darn clear who she thinks it was. The book didn’t address some of my key questions, however, such as, do these patterns in writing hold true in any language? The English pronoun "I" for instance is shaped to give significance (according to the author) to the mother/father relationship the writer has with his or her parents. But how does that carry over to French, for instance, where that pronoun is "je"? Or, do the aberrations that criminals have in their writing apply to we so-called normal folk as well? Also, I found some of the conclusions somewhat arbitrary, in that the author would say something about a style in one chapter, and something different in another. Clearly, she is seeing subtleties I can’t, and she has been noted for that talent. Ms. Dresbold has a light and humorous way of writing, but sometimes that comes across as glib, and often at times when I the reader just wanted more information! This is particularly true in the section towards the end when she does excerpts from her column of handwriting advice. Some of the suggestions she makes as to the psychology of writing are just plain intriguing though, such as the left side of the paper represents our past, the right our future. Depending on how the writing is positioned on the paper can reveal a lot about a person’s feelings for those parts of their lives. Letters that fall way below the

baseline or pierce other letters is a sign that the writer does not observe everyday societal rules. The examples Ms. Dresbold gives about human sexuality and how that plays out in writing is quite alluring, if sometimes lurid. All in all, however, she raises some interesting questions, such as, if you change your handwriting, can you change your behavior? It stands to reason that, as we learn to write as children, our own personalities and sub-consciences come into play to form our unique style of writing, and as she comments, handwriting changes over the course of a lifetime. She tells a story of changing her own way of forming the letter p, and becoming a more open listener, less argumentative in the process. It seems that behavioral scientists could delve a little more into that claim, as it could have enormous consequences.

This is an excellent introductory book on handwriting. Why is it so great? It's because the author analyzes handwriting of dozens of historical bandits, miscreants, and murderers, to try to find out if they're guilty or not. This book tells the sordid details of some of the worst scoundrels of the last 150 years, and everyone wants to know the juicy details. And are they guilty? Yes, they all are. That's why you should beware--after you read this book, you're not going to have any skills of analyzing normal people's handwriting, but you will know how to analyze a killer's handwriting. For a couple days after reading this book, I would grab people's handwriting, suspiciously eye them and their handwriting, and then after a few minutes of staring them down, say, 'okay, you're safe.' I'd recommend another, more boring book on handwriting analysis right after you finish this book, to balance you out. Beware, and don't just read this one book. This book is really only 1/3rd handwriting analysis, and 2/3rds whodunit mystery book. That's why it's a great introductory book on handwriting analysis is that it's a fun, quick read that educates you at the same time it entertains you. If you're looking for boring textbook, pick another book. I've wanted to learn about graphology for a long time, but the other books just seemed so boring, and I never made it past the first chapter. Thanks to Ms. Dresbold for writing a handwriting analysis book that everyone can enjoy, and read quickly!

Pros: +Awesome first book on handwriting analysis +Makes handwriting analysis fun and exciting +You can read straight through this book and learn while you're entertained, without having to do any boring exercises.

Cons: -Mainly centers on the handwriting of criminals, so it might make you suspicious of everyone, including normal people. -Talks a lot about murderers, so it might be a little dark if you're not used to watching things like CSI -Isn't very in depth, but it will make you excited enough about handwriting analysis that you'll be excited to read another more in-depth book.

I've read three or four books on handwriting analysis and I like this one the best. The claims associated with various writing strokes seem plausible. The analyses of various killers' writing also holds up under scrutiny. The only thing I would have preferred would have been more discussion of regular old Joes' handwriting so that we could evaluate ourselves! Hopefully there won't be many readers who write like these offenders!

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