



WHSBER

THERE  
ARE  
DIFFERENT  
KINDS  
OF  
WRITING

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PART 2

*There are different kinds of writing. For instance, there's the kind of writing where you walk over to the typewriter, sit down, and write a first line. You go into the kitchen for a glass of water, light a cigaret, all the while thinking of what you've written. You return to the typewriter and write a second line, then you write a third line, and oh — all sorts of things happen, and there — you find you've written the last line, and if what you've written is any good, why, it's all of a piece, as if the whole thing were implicit in the beginning.*

*As if you put your hand in the water and catch a fish by the tail.*

*However, there is a different kind of writing: you sit down at the typewriter, just as before, and write a beginning. But when it comes to writing more — nothing happens. You have many thoughts, your mind is aswim with phrases, but your hands don't move toward the keys. Finally, you begin again, and write a new first line.*

*I have a big old wire wastebasket which I never empty in which I put things that I think I might work more on, and over a number of years it's got chock-full of beginnings, false starts some might say, failures perhaps — but I've made a book of them, or what-you-might-call a book, of ~~one~~ hundred and one examples of this nameless genre of writing. And I have given them names, just as if they were regular stories.*

*Sometimes I wonder whether there are real stories implicit in such first lines — you might say virtual stories, not unreal, but existing in some never-never realm ~~not-in-reality~~*

*I have also included some different kinds of writing.*

*Allegro* ♩ = 138

1

Musical score for the first system, featuring four staves. The top staff is labeled 'Soprano' and contains a vocal line with various notes and rests. The second staff is labeled 'Alto' and contains a vocal line. The third and fourth staves contain piano accompaniment with chords and melodic lines. The tempo is marked 'Allegro' with a quarter note equal to 138 beats per minute.

Where Is That Part of Me?

Where is that part of me that writes long elaborate stories, writes line after line? No doubt that "personality" thinks that it deserves a vacation in the Caribbean and has departed leaving me here for a while. Or perhaps it is in Canada eating bacon and eggs by candlelight while the Eskimos patiently wait for him and impatient huskies howl. Yet does he loiter perhaps in India collecting prayer wheels and certain satins, green gauzes and yellow scarves ordinarily only treasured by primitive maidens and monks; now in some Himalayan hideaway he drinks dark tea surrounded by chests of ebony in which he keeps his collection of marbles, shining spheres of immortality; and does he not, though I be distant as in some *opium* dream, *ever* think of me? *Desheret*

Musical score for the second system, featuring three staves. The top staff is labeled 'Soprano' and contains a vocal line. The middle staff is labeled 'Alto' and contains a vocal line. The bottom staff contains piano accompaniment with chords and melodic lines. The tempo is marked 'Allegro' with a quarter note equal to 138 beats per minute.

... as in some optimum dream, ever think of me? *Desherenot*

A handwritten musical score for the piece 'Desherenot'. The score is written on ten staves, with the first staff labeled 'Grajio' and a tempo marking of '♩ = 100'. The music is in 2/4 time and features a variety of notes, rests, and dynamic markings. The notation is dense and expressive, with many slurs and accents. The piece concludes with a double bar line and a fermata.

### The Stamp Collectors

The brown stamp on the envelope was carefully removed by a jet of steam from a teakettle by the eight-year-old collector in Venezuela who had just received the letter from Pennsylvania, from an older collector who lived in a tiny house in the woods, who had been snowbound for three weeks, who had been a sailor since his youth and had become familiar with the oceans, for forty years the lookout in the crow's-nest of a clipper ship, come-home old to his birthplace to die in comfort, whiling away the time, doting on his stamp book, cared-for by two orphan girls; and with a fine Spencerian hand he kept up a constant correspondence with those living in many foreign lands for he had a wife in Borneo, Alaska, Australia, Norway, India, Malta, and in China, as well as Venezuela.

All his grandchildren collected stamps.

3

Alto

Alto

Alto

Lemon

He cut the lemon in half and found a hardboiled egg inside.

4

Allegro 3/8

Alto

Alto

Alto

The Floodwaters

The floodwaters left a ring on the outside of the bathtub.

Alto

Tenor

Bass

The Floodwaters left a ring on the outside of the bathtub.

The Floodwaters  
The floodwaters left a ring on the outside of the bathtub.

5 Flute

Bass

The Whistling Buddha

The unpeeled wagon sang a song, some Oriental melody that plain folk from Kansas cannot appreciate; but the whining of the wheel is the whistling of a god, a Buddha no bigger than an elf that sits six inches high between the ears of a horse heading for a house where a baby will be born, the reincarnation of of so-and-so ( I would not dare to try to spell that name).

For centuries upon centuries it has always been the duty of this immortal, magnificent, miniature Buddha to attend the rebirth of so-and-so.

It is his first visit to America.

The Whistling Buddha

The unpeeled wagon sang a song, some Oriental melody that plain folk from Kansas cannot appreciate; but the whining of the wheel is the whistling of a god, a Buddha no bigger than an elf that sits six inches high between the ears of a horse heading for a house where a baby will be born, the reincarnation of of so-and-so ( I would not dare to try to spell that name).

For centuries upon centuries it has always been the duty of this immortal, magnificent, miniature Buddha to attend the rebirth of so-and-so.

It is his first visit to America.

6 Bass  
8 Bass

7 Bass

8 Bass

Blue  
 Three violet flowers nod in the breeze, busying bees,  
 ballooning their violent color in an ultra-violet fog around  
 their pistils, tapering to cobalt.  
 A turquoise insect appears on a twig.  
 It vanishes into the blue sky.  
 "Would you like an orange?"

7 Treble

8 Bass

8 Bass

8 Bass

8 Bass

8 Bass

8 Bass

8 Bass

A musical score for the piece 'A Jumpy One'. It consists of four staves. The first two staves are in treble clef, and the last two are in bass clef. The music is written in a key with one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. The melody is characterized by frequent eighth and sixteenth notes, giving it a 'jumpy' feel. There are several dynamic markings, including accents and slurs, throughout the piece.

**A Jumpy One**

The evening was a jumpy one, the mosquitoes were insufferable, the distant drums were wild, their pet monkey spit in the soup, and so it was no wonder, what with the piano out-of-tune, their servant in tears, her best dress torn by a thorn, that the wife of the escaped convict was fed-up.

A musical score for the piece 'The What-you-might-call Madness'. It consists of four staves. The first two staves are in treble clef, and the last two are in bass clef. The music is written in a key with one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. The melody is characterized by frequent eighth and sixteenth notes, giving it a 'jumpy' feel. There are several dynamic markings, including accents and slurs, throughout the piece. The word 'senzarik' is written below the final staff.

**The What-you-might-call Madness**

The what-you-might-call madness of a man who survived ten days without food at the bottom of an abandoned well was that from then on he developed a passion for climbing trees.

9

Handwritten musical notation for page 9, featuring two systems of staves with notes and rests. The notation is written in a cursive, handwritten style.

Hmm ...

The dumbest guy I have ever met was an editor. There is one thing that can be said about editors — they are idealists; there has never been an editor who would not rather have written a great novel or a great poem than doing the job he was doing. They are all failures in their own eyes.

But this particular editor had developed cancer of the tongue when he was ten and his tongue had been removed surgically. The operation had been successful, and the disease did not recur. However, for the rest of his life he was unable to speak, other than those certain words which can be pronounced without opening the mouth. He breathed through his nose when he spoke.

When he wanted to say "yes", he said — Un-hunh.

When he would say "no", he said — Unh-unh.

When he didn't understand, he would say — Hunh?

When he was thinking something over he would say —

Hmm ...

10

Handwritten musical notation for page 10, featuring two systems of staves with notes and rests. The notation is written in a cursive, handwritten style.

A Peculiar Greeting

"It is I, the rotten apple in the barrel, whose turn it is to fly and smash and splatter, thrown like a meteorite from the hand of a master — ah! I have caught your eye — I greet you!"

A Peculiar Greeting

"It is I, the rotten apple in the barrel, whose turn it is to fly and smash and splatter, thrown like a meteorite from the hand of a master — ah! I have caught your eye — I greet you!"

11 Largo ♩ = 60

Freedom

"Freedom is spelled with seven letters," noticed the wise man, fondling his beard with his finger, thumbing its curls, while with his other hand he turned the pages of the Bhagavad Gita, and at that same moment that he said it, he opened the Book of Splendor, while with his other hand he made a note in pencil of a paragraph in the New Testament, while his other hand held up the Confucian Analects, and his other riffled the Koran, his other two hands are holding this book. He frowns. "Bring me more light! Bring me my glasses!" he exclaims to a disciple. "I have only two eyes, and I can hardly believe what I see here!"

12

Alto

Bass

The Shoemaker  
 To be a shoemaker in a land where the people go  
 predominantly barefoot is an art.

13

Alto

Alto

Alto

Allegro Moderato  $\text{♩} = 90$

Take soprano

