

Donor Pen Sketch and Goodwill Message

Donor Pen Sketch

Donor 1896

Academic Background

I was an academically gifted child and the top performing student at my school throughout my primary and secondary education.

I enjoyed all subjects at school but had a particularly strong aptitude for art, science, mathematics, and languages. I am currently bilingual and pick up languages quickly. I wasn't the best at P.E. but you'll see below that I've always kept fit and healthy!

My academic abilities enabled me to secure a place at one of the top universities in the world where I completed undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in natural and social science disciplines, including a PhD.

Personality and Physical Traits

Friends and family who knew me as a child would describe me as well-behaved, affectionate, and studious.

I had pet dogs throughout my childhood and loved caring for them. I even have a pet dog now who I love to bits.

As an adult, I would describe myself (and my girlfriend would agree) as stoic, loving, and curious - traits that are reflected in my professional career, interests and hobbies (see below).

I grew up in a stereotypically large, loud and affectionate Latino/Hispanic family. I loved being part of a big family growing up even though I am definitely one of the quiet ones!

I am of mixed heritage. My father is caucasian (mostly of Spanish heritage) while my mother is of Ecuadorian heritage.

Consequently, I have a lighter skin tone and am taller than most Latinos/Hispanics, but I tan easily and have thick, straight hair.

Throughout my life I have maintained a healthy BMI and an athletic physique by maintaining an active lifestyle and eating a healthy diet - ever since I can remember, I have enjoyed eating fresh (and mostly exotic!) fruits.

Professional Background

I am a firm believer in the importance of public service and so have steered my career in this direction. I have a prestigious job which has enabled me to travel across the world and represent the UK internationally.

I thrive on intellectually challenging, fast paced, and impactful work, but money is not my primary driver. I see myself continuing to work in public service or charities in the future.

Spirituality, Interests, and Hobbies

As most other Latino/Hispanic families, mine is Catholic, and so I regularly attended and helped out at my local church. I would describe my adult self as a very spiritual person but I am not particularly religious - I find most religions clash with some of my core values such as gender equality and LGBTQ+ rights.

I am passionate about improving the lives of disadvantaged groups and so volunteer at my work place and with charities to address racial inequalities in the UK.

I love cooking (especially South American food).

I am a keen landscape and astro photographer - which means I am often travelling to remote places across the globe (including on motorbikes) looking for beautiful places to photograph.

I am a huge movie buff, but prefer independent cinema to Hollywood. My favourite movie is Gattaca - I recommend it to everyone and anyone!

I keep fit by doing calisthenics, swimming, and plyometric sprinting - I would much prefer being outdoors to inside an artificial gym.

Finally, I love dancing to Latino music like cumbia, salsa, and merengue. I also really enjoy live Jazz, Blues, and Country music - you could say I am an old soul when it comes to music!

Donor Pen Sketch and Goodwill Message

Donor Pen Sketch

Donor 1896

Motivation for Donating

Some people close to me have had trouble conceiving, so I know how distressing this journey can sometimes be. I also firmly believe that everyone (regardless of background and protected characteristics) should have the possibility of having a family, and be able to choose a donor that looks like them. It's my sincere hope that my donation contributes to a more diverse sperm bank and helps create new loving families.

Donor Pen Sketch and Goodwill Message

Donor Goodwill Message

Donor 1896

Hello,

You may be reading this once you have become 16 years old, or perhaps at some later point in your life.

You may just be curious about where you come from and this letter will answer your questions, or perhaps you want this to be the beginning of a journey to find out more about your biological origins.

You may have mixed feelings about all of this - and that's okay. I don't think there is a 'right' way to go about this.

My suggestion is that you speak to your parents and people you trust about how you're feeling and do what you feel is right for you. I say this with a bit of experience - my parents separated before I was born and my biological father lives in a different country. I don't really know him and have only spoken to, and even seen him, only a handful of times. I have gone through lots of emotions with regard to him and I wish I had a letter like this when I was younger. I will do my best to answer the types of questions you may have, but I do apologise in advance if it is not enough.

Before I begin, I want you to know that I think you are so lucky to have been born into a family that wanted to have you so badly that they went through what can be a challenging process for you to be born. It may not have been easy but they did it for you - they must love you so much.

About me

People who know me would describe me as intelligent, caring, and adventurous. I am Latino/Hispanic heritage - that means I am tanned, with black straight hair, and bilingual.

As a child I was always the top performing student and went to one of the best universities in the world. Ever since I can remember, I enjoyed eating healthy food and having an active lifestyle (swimming, weightlifting, running) but I have never been very good at team sports - I guess I don't have great hand-eye coordination!

Growing up I always had a pet dog, and that was probably because I was always nagging my mum for one. I love animals and even wanted to be a vet when I was young. I'm writing this now, with my current pet dog (a jackahuahua) sleeping on my lap.

I love taking travelling to the extreme. I have visited more countries than I can count and always take the more adventurous route possible e.g. local buses, ferries, motorcycles, and small boats. I'm not a big fan of resorts, all-inclusive holidays, or tour guides. My mum would not be pleased to know the precarious locations I've visited just to get a great photograph e.g. cliff edges, edges of huge waterfalls, or scarily close to volcanoes.

I have been fortunate to have a great education and lots of opportunities to fulfil my professional dreams and ambitions. I'm most interested in what makes me happy and helps others - money is less important to me.

I spend most of my free time keeping fit, hiking, photographing landscapes and the Milky Way, listening and dancing to music (jazz, blues, salsa, cumbia, and reggaeton) and watching movies.

Perhaps you see similar traits in yourself, or perhaps you are a completely different person. Maybe you are really into sports, prefer cats, love package holidays, want a really high paying job, and prefer books over movies. That's absolutely fine - as long as you are happy and your parents support your choices, you should do and be what you want.

Why I am a donor

I have seen people close to me struggle to have a family for reasons completely out of their control. I have friends who are LGBTQ+ who I know would create loving families but are obviously biologically not able to start a family. I also wanted families who are looking for a donor with my kind of physical or behavioural traits to have more options available to choose from. I have always felt a strong desire to help people and so jumped at the opportunity to become a donor with the aim of helping people achieve their dream of having a child.

Growing up away from my biological father and not knowing much at all about him, I always felt like I was the child of a donor. At times I felt confused about my identity and what my role should be in the world. I don't have great words of wisdom for you if you feel the same way, but you should know that a lot of people and circumstances have come together for you to be born. That means you are truly wanted and meant for this world - I hope you feel loved and wanted.

Donor Pen Sketch and Goodwill Message

Donor Goodwill Message

Donor 1896

What advice would I give to the 16 year old me

This section is short because your parents know you and are best placed to give you advice.

If I were speaking to the 16 year old me, my advice would be to 'be yourself'. Time has literally flown by since I was 16 and I am sure will continue to fly by. Life is too short and precious to be worried about what other people think, or constantly try to meet other people's expectations.

Next steps

I sincerely hope that this letter has helped you understand a bit more about your biological origins. I would say more about people who were important to me like my mother and grandmother, but that may be less interesting for you and you might prefer to have some things unknown about your heritage.

If there is more you would like to know, provided your parents are fine with it, you should feel free to reach out to me. I'd be happy to tell you more about me, hear about your life, and whatever else you would like. I'm a nice and understanding guy so you can ask whatever you want.

But if you would prefer to read this letter and leave it there, that is also more than fine.

I'll take this opportunity to wish you the absolute best for your life ahead - there will be ups and downs, so try to enjoy the ups and remember that the downs don't last forever.

Yours sincerely,