



READING
WRITING
AN EXERCISE IN
NOT-KNOWING

Reading/Writing: An Exercise in Not-Knowing

On Thursday the 10th of May I proceeded to talk about the ever so close relationship between life and work, to discuss my devotion to creating my own (curatorial) writing style through a palm reading conducted by a London-based psychic. Rather than becoming the negation of everything the other person would say, I am inclined to think my writing and curatorial work is closely linked to my own personality. Paradoxically as it may sound to then engage in a palm reading, the question rises whether a reading of our, and in this case my physical make-up could prove to be a more structural and tangible approach to the continuous act towards individuation? Since this exercise is rooted in the physical world of encounter, between two persons: myself, the subject of the exercise, and an external agent, or should I say agents?, the informant, the psychic; the hand, the eye, and the mind; between the physical and the mental; the knowable and the sensible, the unknown and the open-ended, I intend this exercise as to open both a speculative space and to take flight from the common denominators of know-how (experience through practice, learning), know-what (facts) and know-why (science).

The exercise is employed to come to terms with the field of *not-knowing*, or *nonknowledge*. This area of enquiry seems to be in conflict with the scientific and academical modes of rational thinking, and, more generally, could be considered as reactionary and contested in our time-pressured culture of high performance. In fact, artistic “research” often functions as a parody of instrumentalised academic knowledge production: falling short of even its eroding criteria. However, this may not be a negative thing, at least not entirely. The failure to meet a dubious standard always holds the potential to erupt into a questioning of that standard. In this respect, it is interesting to note the place held by the symptom in what passes for artistic knowledge production. While the rhetoric and practice of artistic knowledge production can themselves be seen as symptomatic of the social constraints to which autonomous art is subjected, the outcome of this exercise actively engages with the ‘symptom’ as an alternative to the empire of signs created by academic disciplines: pointing both backwards and forwards in time, beyond the current order of things.

To give a sense of direction for this exercise, the following three statements and reflections form the guiding principles for this text:

1) For Bataille, nonknowledge is the passion for knowing, a type of knowledge that allows us to appreciate, enjoy, and know the world: using the term to place not-knowing *inside* the fabric of knowledge, not outside of or in contradiction to it. Not to replace it, and also *not* to contradict it, but instead to become acknowledged as a necessary part of how knowledge works.¹

¹ Georges Bataille, ‘Nonknowledge, Laughter, and Tears’ (1953), in *The Unfinished System of Nonknowledge* (trans. Michelle and Stuart Kendall), Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2001, pp. 133-150.

2) “There is an abc-ignorance that precedes knowledge, and there is another learned ignorance that comes after and that is created through ‘knowing’ and that will equally like the first be annihilated and annulled by knowledge.”² - Michel de Montaigne

3) The writer Donald Barthelme states that writing is a process of dealing with not-knowing.³ Perhaps, and I presuppose this is the case, Barthelme is alluding to the idea of curiosity inherent to the writing act, or as Michel Foucault noted, “curiosity evokes ‘concern’, it evokes the care one takes for what exists and could exist; a readiness to find strange and singular what surrounds us; a certain relentlessness to break up our familiarities and to regard otherwise the same things; a fervor to grasp what is happening and what passes; a casualness in regard to the traditional hierarchies of the important and the essential.”⁴ In order to think new thoughts or to say new things, we have to break up all our ready-made ideas and shuffle the pieces. In that, the not-knowing in the process of dealing with writing, this curiosity in the evolving and changing text, not-knowing what it will be, what it can be, the state of confusion inherent to the act of writing, until a text is considered to be ‘finished’, might allow us as readers to equally understand the world by not-knowing, grappling with and exploring it through curiosity, without the need for objective distance.

Afterthoughts and the world of possibilities:

The reading of one’s palm is capable of producing a text: to write a text through speculation, foreseeing, linger: to make all the fragments into a coherent text through a gift for storytelling. Plausible as this text might seem for the subject: what it evokes personally and to what extent it relates, or not, to the image of oneself is beyond the point, at least for the reader. What it does bring forward are a number of questions regarding the measurement of quality and positioning. Is the narrative that is being uttered embedded in the outline of the palm, or does the citation stem from a routine: a set of readily existing variations in a trained speech act; cliché after cliché? Also it problematises the position of the reader versus writer: whereas it seems, in this instance, the psychic performs both functions. It is interesting to note that this exercise might indeed be a commissioned text: positioning the initiator as a footnote or a figure in another story written by someone else. To what extent does the material I provided (the initiative, my palm, the remarks and suggestions), the prerequisites, coincided with my presence at the reading, attribute to the portrait-as-text? Should I have intervened more, rather than having listened, seeing where the ‘creative’ act could go? Did we in the end co-produce, if that is the case, a good text? It makes me wonder... Curious, as always.

² Trans. from Michel de Montaigne, *Essays – Over Nutteloze Vernuftigheden*, Uitgeverij Boom, Amsterdam, 2001, p. 369.

³ Donald Barthelme, *Not Knowing: The Essays and Interviews*, Berkeley: Counterpoint Press, 1997, p. 12.

⁴ Michel Foucault, ‘The Masked Philosopher’, interview with Christian Delacampne in *Le Monde*, April 6, 1980.

Transcript of Reading Session

Thursday 10 May, 15.30-16.30, London

1. Clairvoyance

Psychic: This is the introductory reading for Niekolaas Lekkerkerk on the 10th of May 2012. The first image I got with you happens to be quite strong at the moment, it was almost like showing me a pillar of strength. It is saying that you might find it quite hard to relax, and what it is trying to say is try and relax about where you are at in life, it might be easier said than done, but the image I was being shown with you in a hammock, taking it easy, being laid back about things. It is asking you to adopt a little bit more of that attitude if you can, and of course it might be easier said than done at the moment.

It is also asking you to be patient. Yes, you have good ideas, but a lot of these are going to take quite a lot of time to get a return, it is like you are going to plant some little seeds, and they are going to be growing, but it is not going to happen overnight, and I think that has particularly to do with the writing, as well. We will come back more on to that over the course of the session.

It also saying that you may benefit, well, I actually got you, it is almost like a symbolic image of you at a blackboard explaining things to people, and I felt that that is either something you are very good at: you are explaining things in a way that people can understand and digest, or that it is something you need to do more of: so opening up and explaining this is why I am doing this, this is how I feel about this, etcetera. It may also be that, to do with your current circumstances you might feel a little bit alone, and I am not sure whether that is career wise or lifestyle in London, or whatever it is, it is just a sense of a sort of a loneliness. It does not mean that you haven't got friends and acquaintances and people around you, but it is almost as though you have navigate without maps, companions or guides; you are having to feel your way through the darkness a little bit, and because of that this writing thing may have come up, it almost as if though you have your hand on the detonator with what you are doing, and you might be "right, enough, I want to go off and do something completely different." You may also feel a like withdrawing, or hiding even. You are being tested to develop a thicker skin, to do with some of the challenges that are coming up. It does say that there is a gift in the present situation, though you may also have felt upset or quite emotional to do with what is going on, and it feels as though there have been frustrations and things you have not been happy about, but it may have felt very difficult to be able to speak up about these and actually verbalise it. You are being tested again to stay strong. Quite difficult as well, because it feels as if you would love to be direct, but it is not able to get out at the moment. It is really saying that where you are at, actually, is great for gaining experience, so you are being rounded in a way, and some of the skills you are learning are not just necessarily transferrable skills that are coming from a particular job like practical skills, they will be more like things to do with rounding your personality, rounding your way of dealing with certain issues or problems, and that is what you are being exposed to at the moment.

To do with the writing again, which sort of came through spontaneously, it was saying: “Take things carefully, one step at a time”, and it suggests that you enroll in some sort of class before you leap in, and we are going to come back to this area because I know it is a big part of why you are here.

[Psychic concludes introductory reading]

[Niekolaas Lekkerkerk makes remarks and suggestions]

[Psychic continues reading]: I feel as though you have got the potential to make more money back over there, and at the moment there might be a reliance on savings. That is all very positive, and it just feels as though you have done this, whatever you are doing now, and you are going of in search of something that is more fulfilling on a deeper level, and that is what the writing represents.

[Psychic concludes introductory reading]

2. Palmistry

Psychic: We are reading Niekolaas’ hands, and we are reading someones hands who is left handed. With left handed people, the active hand, whether that is right or left, represents work: their work in the world, and their public face, and the least active hand tends to represents their personal life, their inner self, their inner world, family, close relationships. From this I am going to read the left hand as to do with your working life. I am going to start with a general reading and zoom in to a bit more details.

We have got four loops and I think six walls [Psychic counts] on the fingerprints. This is telling me that part of your life purpose is a very broad theme of giving, we have got you as a very generous person: you have got this very large Venus mount which is though to do with your ability to give and receive love, and you are here to get a lot of pleasure from making a difference to peoples lives by giving them something, providing them with something, enhancing something. I would say that you are very generous, I don’t know whether I have already said that, but the Venus mount is very full, it is all about being very sincere, warm hearted: a warm person to be around. I would say that is absolutely perfect for in this life’s purpose, which is about being able to give, because it seems you have enough energy to sustain yourself and than extra to give to other people. This also may come out through your work.

The thing to watch is that sometimes that giving, generous nature, you may feel that in some situations you are giving a lot and actually people are not appreciating you, or you are feeling subservient, or you are feeling a bit martyred and wondering “Why I am doing this?”. In those situations you may feel the withdrawing we have seen in the clairvoyance. That is the other flip side of this, people who have this as a life purpose, they can also feel like “I have been taking advantage of, now I am going to really protect myself”, and they build a big wall around themselves so people cannot

get close, and think “Right, I am going to do it my way”, and then they end up feeling a bit cut off or isolated. The life lesson is all about finding a balance between those two extremes, and it is saying that you will do that in this lifetime, and when you get the balance right, you will feel fantastic because you are really able to give, you enjoy giving and making a difference, and you are giving to people who recognise your worth and value you, and you are getting the reflection back, which is fantastic. That is the underlying theme.

There’s a few areas of growth and development. One is to do with responsibility, and it might be that you take on a lot of responsibility for things that other people should taking care of. It may also be, because of that, you are neglecting things that are important for yourself, whether that is your finances, or your health for example, or developing your own relationships. There is another flip side to that is find on some hands as well, which is that someone could have the opposite problem, i.e. they do not want to be responsibility for anything, and they tend to brush of responsibilities and give them on to someone else. I don’t feel that is you, so I am going to stick with the first interpretation in this instance, but you may have a little bit of both going on. I would say that is something to watch with your work, that you may be weigh down with the burden of responsibility, you may want something to turn out well, and actually you perhaps need to push back some of those responsibilities to other people and assert yourself, and assert your boundaries, and that might be what is happening at the moment: people are eating into your boundaries, and you need to be quite assertive to maintain your own boundaries and value yourself. That is a learning curve you well be getting stronger in.

It is also saying that there is something here about a lot of people having a say about how you live your life when you were younger. This could have been not always necessarily verbal, it may have been something that was expressed in a non-verbal way, unconsciously, by the people who are around you. It may be that you felt you had to live up to certain expectations, sometimes linked with conditioning, either by family, friends, school, society. It might be that in the early time of your life you are not quite sure about who you are and what your identity is and what you need out of life, and that is another thing you will be getting more comfortable in. It is again about boundaries, saying “I am going to do things my way”, and feeling o.k. about letting people down and doing things on your terms. That is another area of growth and development you will be getting a lot stronger in.

There is also something to do with, I would say, there is a very independent streak, undoubtedly, but when it comes to very close relationships, intimate relationships, there may be a little bit of a tendency, perhaps, to give a bit more power to the other person. It might be, for example, that you might have the intuition something is not right, but the other person is saying it is right, and you might think “Well, they must know what they are talking about”: abandoning your own, intuitive sense about what is going on in the relationship, or it might be that you are feeling very comfortable on a superficial level with lots of different people and confident, but when it comes to intimate relationships, you might feel like “ooooooooo - I am not sure about that, I don’t know what I want”; it is difficult to maintain an even level, and this is all early stuff so this will be easier later through life, this is the area,

apparently, according to the system your soul needs to practice on and develop. It is also saying that because of that you might be attracted to unconventional relationships, you might have a very strong bond with someone, but not necessarily live together or you might even be in different countries, or there might be a very different style of relating. Again, it is not about being lonely or disconnected, but when it comes to very intimate relationships you might feel a bit challenged there, early on, and that is going to change over the course of your life.

You are very sensitive, very perceptive, very gifted in the area of sensitivity, and I would say you could use that sensitivity really to make good judgements about people. It is a gift that needs to be managed, your creativity. I would say that it is, in terms of stress relief, or because of this system you might pick up on a lot of energy from the environment around you, whether that is grumpy people, stressed people, or people directing anger, also being on the tube or being in loud or bright environments might mean you feel a little bit overstimulated. [Psychic mentions she can send information on protecting and grounding your energy]

It is also saying that nature is a fantastic antidote for any form of stress, very grounding and therapeutic, and also water. Even when it is raining outside, according to your hands there is very grounding, therapeutic influence to be walking in water, or walking in a river or the sea, or taking a bath, or going swimming. Nature and the earth or both strongly marked here in terms of enhancing how you feel about yourself physically.

It is also saying, I would say, that here is, let's see, let's see, let's see [Psychic asks for age]

NL: 23

Psychic: What it is saying is that you are going to be, you are in this period, I would say, for the last six months to a year have been very transformative for you, and it is partly because you have really breaking away from your old identity, your past roots, probably for two years before that. You may have even mentioned that when you came in that you have been here for two yours, I am not quite sure whether it is linked to this trip or not, but it saying that around twenty-three you have a big marking on your hand to do with transformation. I think there have been two levels of transformation that are both linked to the work you are being exposed to: one probably happened about six months to a year o and one is probably happening around now. I would say that there will be another change for you just before the age of twenty-five. That is also going to be quite transformative. It looks like between twenty-one and twenty-four you have got a bit of what is known as a "ladder of success", than it is also similar to what is known as a "pagoda", which is not about just gaining practical experience in the world, and slow but steady progress in improving your skills, but also it is linked to your spiritual growth, development of character. It can mean that there a lot of challenges coming your way, emotional, spiritual, or existential. A lot of learning in that period in particular.

Between twenty-five and thirty I just get lots of little lines going in different directions. You have got loads and loads of influences going through your life. Very open to experimentation, exploring: having different experiences and being very receptive to what those experiences bring you. Even more so than you have had in your time over the last couple of years. With that there is going to be questioning: “Why am I here?”, “What is life about?”, philosophical and deep questions about the meaning of life.

I would say that is going to bring about another transformation, slightly to do with your work, around I would say twenty-seven and a half, twenty-eight: that transformation at that time has a big affect on your opportunities and the possibilities that are available through your work. That is going to open up a lot of horizons for you at the end of your twenties, around twenty-eight onwards. A real sense of having learned a lot, but having much more choices at the end of twenties as a result of that.

It is showing that there might be a little indecisiveness about what it is that you want and what your actual needs are, and according to your hands it stands back to these issues we have discussed before to do with having to know yourself and having other people’s expectations. That is what you are developing by all these experiences. You are finding yourself. Your twenties are all about that: finding yourself and getting inside yourself, understanding what it is you need to be happy. It is saying it is all right for you not to have a clear idea, a definite sense of purpose, i.e. “This is what I want. I want to go off and do it now: that is my life sorted”. It is o.k. to be a bit indecisive, to have changeable feelings: to do something for a year and then change your mind. That is what is needed in order for you to grow.

To do with being more settled and more confident, it looks like there is, let’s see, there is a big change in your mid-thirties, which might involve a relocation. You seem to be, according to your hand, a fluid influence: you are not someone who is going to necessarily put your roots down and stay in one place. There may also be a move around twenty-nine, thirty, perhaps to another country. I would say there is, let’s see: the main issues affecting your career seem to be that you are not having a clear picture of your true potential. You have a lot of talent in this hand, which I haven’t really covered yet, but you also have got a little bit of a lack of confidence according to what I am seeing on the hand. Perhaps a deeper level to do with older experiences, and that is what will change as you get older. You certainly don’t seem lacking confidence to me, but according to something in your hands about not truly believing that you are great. That is going to come in course of your working life: you are going to get a lot more confidence about yourself.

You push yourself very hard, you are very idealistic. You expect a lot from yourself. You want to deliver things at a very high standard. You are going to gain much more confidence about all aspects of yourself as you go through life, some people want to be sixteen again, and you are definitely going to blossom and bloom as you get older.

I would say there is a great sense of humor that comes out more in your personal life. Quite a wry or deadpan sense of humor.

You are very good with your hands, this is [points out] an angle of manual dexterity. It is found with people who supposedly could turn their hands to anything. So this is about real practical skills, someone who wants to learn how to do things; very adaptable. It may also be that you have a very good sense of timing: either you wake up before your alarm goes off, or perhaps, it doesn't mean that you are always on time necessarily, but when you are late you know exactly how late you are. You may know when to leave a party or crack a joke.

There is a real sense of purpose as well. Your thumbs are quite firm, which is brilliant. That is about setting your mind to something, that is interesting actually, it is a little bit contradictory to some of the elements of the palm, but your large thumb is generally about someone who has a clear sense of themselves in terms of what they will and won't put up with, their tastes and their likes. It might be slightly separate to needs, which is still a little bit undefined. It might be about how you express yourself, your sense of style, your personal tastes in lifestyle or choices to do with visual things for example, preferences about ways you like to spend your time. Moral standards. Ideas about how life should be lived. Ethics. That is all very strong in the thumbs: a strong character.

[Psychic reevaluates both hands]

With this hand [left] to do more on the personal life it is saying that there is a big transition coming up around in about a years time at twenty-four. After that change your social life is really going to open up: you are going to feel much more connected to people. You will go through a four or five year period of being very contented and having love in your life really: knowing that there is affection around you. I think you have got that already, but there is a very good phase between twenty-four and twenty-eight.

Socially, as separate from your work, you have almost got double heart line all the way along. There is a little bit of islanding before thirty-five which is generally about feeling love, but also feeling a bit restricted or held back in some way. After thirty-five the double heart line is absolutely fantastic, very clear. This is saying that from thirty-five you will be in a very good place emotionally. You are putting your heart into your personal life, and this is reflected back in a very supportive way. Excellent really. Some of best things you can have on the hand. Even before that though, these islands are very long and thin, which is about affection: there is a lot of warmth and affection in your personal life. Very good.

There is a big change at twenty-nine, thirty, that is not only going to affect your working life but also your personal life. After that you are branching out, it is like you have your fingers in different pies: you have gone from quite inward looking on a particular community or group of people to suddenly

expanding and being involved in, I would say, up to four new activities. I would say that you are really starting to take control up from the age of twenty-seven through to thirty-six. It looks like you have been given responsibility for some reason in your personal life. I get a good feeling to do with your personal life. Things are being arranged to how you want them to be.

We have got a marking here which is about you being very good in connecting with people emotionally and it is very fortunate for meeting partnerships and partners. On a personal level you have lucky markings to do with attracting people and having love in your life.

You are also very wise according to; you have two rings of Solomon, which are on the index finger on the right hand. That is all about insights about what it means to be human. Great person to turn to if someone has got any problems. You also notice things that other people miss. Great eye for detail. Self sufficient, as shown by this curve on the outside of the palm.

[Psychic starts to conclude palmistry reading]

Except to say that to do with your writing as well, you have got a writers fork on the right hand which is about a gift for words and the understanding of languages. It can also be visual communication. There is an actual talent there, and it looks like you can generate that through your work because it is bigger on the left hand, which has to do with your working life. Also what is interesting; the headline on the left hand, which is your working hand, is drooping down slightly into the Lunar area, which has to do with dreams and the imagination, the subconscious, archetypes, symbols, intuition, colour. You would really suit a job where that part of your brain is being activated because you have got this massive resource there.

It might mean that as you move into that world you might have a melancholy from time to time, this sadness that comes and goes, not relating to anything that is going on in your life. Apparently that is all part of the process that comes with this drooping headline. It goes really well with any kind of creative work.

[Psychic starts to conclude palmistry reading]

[NL makes remarks and suggestions]

[Psychic continues reading]: One of the things that comes through me psychically and energetically is that at least through your twenties you are not supposed to be limited to one thing. I might know that is not the answer you want to hear at the moment. What I am seeing is that you have got your fingers in different pies. A lot of it is creative, and definitely the writing is one of those streams. There is also something about not being pinned down to one place. You are doing something that allows you the

ability to travel, and that seems to be something that is going to be quite important as you go through your twenties.

You are very intelligent. It is showing me this wise owl, but there is also a fear there: that somehow this talent is not going to be realised, or you are waste it or squander it. There is also a need to make money, which is also... [NL: "Fundamental"]... Yes, absolutely.

It feels as though, I am getting judgement, and I am wondering whether this could be someone in your history, perhaps your family history, where you have had a judgement to do with what you are supposed to be achieving in your life. There might be something around: I am getting a judge, someone judging you. It is not necessarily done in a nasty or malicious way, but that you have to prove something to someone. The writing might be a way for you to do that. It feels as though there has been an energy around you that is quite imposing, or it is almost as if you need to keep this energy out of your space. That might be one of the reasons why you like to be independent. You don't want to be overlooked all the time and have that feeling of, not being checked up on, but I am seeing you in this room and there is this energy going around, this judgmental energy, and you are trying to ignore this energy and try to do your own thing. That is part of the motivation for this independence: you want to make these things a success, it is an issue, you want to be successful and prove that you can do it.

Something is coming to its completion, and I am assuming that is the London thing: final pieces are going in the puzzle. It is saying that this is quite frightening for you and you are fixing a lot of problems. I don't think it necessarily a frightening situation, but it feels as though there is a little bit of fear about what's going to happen afterwards. You are going off in search for something more fulfilling.

It feels as though, from what I am seeing, that you're really getting wrapped up and bogged down with stuff you don't want to be involved in: it comes with the job, or comes with the territory, but it's not really your thing and all your energy is going into that, but as a result you don't get any fulfillment from it. What needs to happen is maybe a way to assert yourself so that if you are going to another area that doesn't happen again. It has to do with taking responsibility, being very capable and doing everything, but then all your energy is going into that we none of the fun stuff. It is not necessarily the field, but it is the role that's been assumed. If you did chose another field, you might up in a similar dynamic: "Oh God, this is happening again, I have to find something else now". It is asking you to check in and find ways that you can handle similar situations differently.

You have got such a lot to give emotionally, it would really suit you to be in an environment where you are coming into contact with a lot of people. I know that writing initially might not seem like that, but there is quite a public element to writing where you're doing book tours or presentations. It is showing you as the King of Ones, which is about, I actually don't know the meaning for that card, so I am going to see whether it will tell me in another way. I think that what it is saying you will end up

being in a very stable position because of your work, but it is not going to come in a short term. I would say that you can expect to have a bit of an adventure until your mid-thirties. That is not to be panicked about. Your final destination from your midlife onwards is very comfortable: your needs are taking care of and you are earning a good income from something you enjoy doing. Before then it is all right not to feel like you have made it. It is about you building up friendships: it is saying there is a really good energy about you the way you connect to people. It also feels as though you're going to meet someone with who you will have a very special connection with. Something that is quite innocent. It feels as though, again it might be something quite unconventional: a relationship where it starts of as friends, but you have a real intimacy between you and this person can really talk really easily about everything. From what I am seeing this person is going to be able to help you: he is going to give you what you need in a relationship, with him, and it is going to be a very fulfilling relationship. You will find it very sustaining, very nurturing. When I am asking why this is coming through, let's see: you might feel a bit long in the tooth in some ways as though: "Right, I am 23 now, I should have my act together, know what I am doing, I haven't got it all together yet, so does this mean it's not going to happen for me?". You're putting a bit of pressure on yourself: it doesn't need to happen so quickly. There are certain things you're supposed to be doing before you get to that point, but it is going to happen for you.

I don't know when this person is going to come along. I am not sure whether this is the thing in your mid-thirties that is going to help you to anchor and give you security. For some reason that is coming in as important. More important than the work is getting your emotional needs met through your friends and your relationships. There is a really good phase coming in when you go back to the Netherlands.

To do these areas you want to do it is hard work: it is either competitive, or it is hard work to get things of the ground, but it is asking you to not see things too black and white, in terms of "If this happens it's brilliant, if this doesn't happen I'm a total failure". Try to see all the grays between what all these experiences are giving you. It is showing you studying, it's also showing you painting: you have got an easel in front of you, and you're drawing or painting. Expect slow progress in these creative endeavors. You're going to feel a little bit venerable from time to time.

When I am asking how you can make money, it is saying that ultimately you're going back to qualities that you've always had since you were a child and that is what is going to bring you the security that you need. I feel that is also more on the personal level, not only through employment. It might have to do with getting to a point where you're surrounded by people, like a family, or it might be this key relationship that is actually going to take care of you and look after you.

[Psychic starts to conclude palmistry reading]

[NL makes remarks and suggestions]

[Psychic continues reading]: What you are doing is establishing your independence, and that in itself is very important. It is also saying that there's going to be more travel coming in. I don't think you're going to the Netherlands and just stop: you want to go of and do different things, and that has got a very strong link with writing as well, even if it is just journal writing initially. I am also seeing a typewriter, an old fashioned typewriter, strangely enough, I am sure you won't be writing on one of those.

Let's see what else it is saying. I don't know whether there is something in your life, possibly a relationship, something that came to an end, I am not quite sure why I'm being shown this, that you may have felt quite embarrassed about the ending. It's almost as though I am getting you saying "Stop!". Walking away. Feeling as though you felt to clingy in the relationship, and after that you've done a lot of reflection, mixing more with other people. After that you had to clean up an emotional mess, and you don't want to get yourself back into that situation again. You might be quite cautious about reaching out, connecting with others. You might think "Maybe I am too needy?": that old issue we talked about at the palm about intimacy and that you might lose your balance a bit. I think the reason for that person coming through as part of your future: you are going to have that relationship where you can be yourself, and can be venerable and needy. You are going to be looked after. It is also going to be someone you look up to. It is saying that it is really important for you to know that: you're not doing anything wrong. You might feel quite venerable when you feel attracted to someone. You've got a really good intuition: you are a very good judge of character, very intuitive. It is saying that it is really important in relationships for you to honour your truths, stick to your version of events. Even when that is not necessarily really what the other person is seeing or feeling. You've got to stick with it and not cave in. That also has to do with boundaries: set your boundaries clearly so people know what they can and can't do: avoiding this idea of your boundaries being eaten into. Also, as a reaction to all your boundaries being eaten away, you might become a bit like a Velociraptor: "Why have I done that?", "What is going on, I am going mad." That's because, perhaps, you've not asserted your boundaries more widely. It might come out in a way that you think: "That was embarrassing, I was really hostile or aggressive." It is asking you to keep practicing in those areas. It is like playing basketball: you have to keep practicing, that's how you are going to get good at it. You are very good at rising above your irritations, but sometimes you need to acknowledge there is an irritation: not letting things build up in your relationships. Perhaps because of that lingering in your mind, you might feel more happy being on your own sometimes, but definitely from what I have seen it's such a waste: you're definitely here to connect and have a lot of friends. The energy around your friendships is fantastic, particularly between twenty-four and twenty-eight. Keep going out there, keep connecting. A lot of very good energy in that area, and I do feel there's someone going to come into that area in your life, sorry I can't give a time, but you're going to have this really pure understanding. It just keeps coming through, showing me this time, I know what it means. It's saying it might feel as hard work, but this person is going to squeeze your hand and let you know that you're all right, and you can do it. It's saying: keep maintaining your independence, build up all these friendships, but when the right person comes along, you're going to

know, and they will be able to reassure you. That's the information that is coming through energetically anyway.

[Psychic concludes palmistry reading]

3. Tarot

Psychic: This is the six month tarot reading, and what we have at the center is guidance. It has a little bit to do with what we are doing today. It's also about your own intuition, since we have seen you are a very intuitive person anyway. It is also asking you to know that you are very safe and protected: if you believe in angels or guides, this card is the space to represent those beings being around you, to give you that protection and guidance. It is also about you in a state of mind where you can receive that guidance in a way that makes sense on a deeper level. It might not be from this kind of thing, but also from the world around you: bits of information that haunches enthusiasm for certain things. It's saying that you're very in tune with that at the moment.

In terms of what's enhancing that we've got possibilities. Linked to your independence as represented by this eagle, which is all about independence and freedom, you've also got all these choices: your horizons are going to be expanded and you are looking into your options, and all these things are just that, options, nothings has been closed down, it's all open. It is about keeping your options open and doing a few things at the same time, and doing things little by little, rather than rushing into it.

In terms of what is at the root we've got integration, which is about you integrating experiences that help you to grow: so this will be about your time in London I expect, and it's also very much linked to this new independence. It might seem that during that time there have not been any major changes: well this card is actually saying: "Yes there has at big deep levels there have been some quite deep shifts" - a very important time for growth in the recent past and the last few years.

Also in terms of what is coming in we have existence, which is all about you having a break from things. I am wondering whether that is about having a break from London: not necessarily the move home, I am not sure whether there is something else planned. If you can get away from London perhaps, that might be what this is about: being able to stand back and see the wood for the trees, and see how much else is out there. It is also saying that in the recent past you may have felt a bit offended: you're having to fight your corner in some way. I get the image of steam coming out of your ears, frustrations. The finger on the detonator to blow everything up. Fortunately that's all in the past, so it's moving out of your life which is good.

In terms of what is coming in we've got change. This is you at the center of this cycle, and everything is going to be changing. In the middle of that you are completely safe and protected. It feels

as though there is a bit of a leap of faith, as a result of this change you're going to get more confidence in yourself. A very assertive confident influence is coming in, perhaps because of your past achievements and accomplishments.

In terms of attitudes towards all of this there should be some opportunities for play. It might be about connecting with people more. Opportunities for you to let down your hair, kick off your shoes, there might be more chances to have that before this big change comes in. Go for it. Take advantage of that energy while it is there.

In terms of what you are attracting to do with your home and also general life we have got the new beginning, a new start. This is the fool taking that leap of faith, jumping off the cliff, into the unknown. New adventures starting. It is the beginning of the tarot journey: this is a brand new chapter of your life opening. It is going to lead to a lot of experiences with a brilliant energy around it in terms of what I am seeing physically and energetically it is almost like a very strong tree: it got roots going down into the ground, you are feeling very rooted, grounded, at home almost. The tree got loads of apples on it, and all these apples are your experiences that are there for you to take. A very rich phase of your life is coming in.

I would also say that in terms of hopes and fears we've got the thunderbolt; it is often when there's in disruption in relationships normally because one person is growing and that relationship can't sustain the connection anymore. This might have been a recent experience which you don't want to repeat. It is giving you experience and wisdom for the future, whatever that was, whatever that represents. It is not something predictive or something that is coming up, but something you might have been thinking about.

In terms of July, August and September, we've got conditioning in July, which is about you as this lion and you are surrounded by people who maybe aren't reflecting back your own strengths. You might be in an environment where people don't understand you, that haven't got a clear picture of your qualities. They might have a quite a limited way of looking at the world and doing things, and it is saying: "Try not and let that undermine your sense of yourself, in July in particular."

In August we have got maturity. Any complications or any relationship issues you will be dealing with really maturely and with detachment and in a very adult way. This is a very healing card: you are at this point where you can get your harvest for all the effort that you have put in your relationships. A very good card to get productive results from the people around you.

In September we've got clinging to the past which has probably to do with your life in London. I am not sure: "When are you planning to move back to the Netherlands?"

NL: "I will leave around the end of June, but my belongings will come back the beginning of August."

Psychic: I am wondering whether this is probably looking back on London and that period of adjustment really. The image I am getting is almost like an airplane is coming into land and it bounces a bit on the runway. Just don't let these memories block what's coming in, because emotionally you are going into a very good phase. It is really good that you're making this move back there.

The deck also got the past lives card which is about, most likely, connections with people back in the Netherlands. It is often about connections with people that are quite meaningful, or there is an understanding there on a very deep level. It may also be about people coming into your life that you haven't met yet, but who you might have known in a different incarnation. It's quite a mysterious card: it is about being drawn to a place and has things to offer you and teach you, but with some of the relationships you might not understand fully why these people are in your life.

At last the card that you have picked is brilliant: you have picked one of the strongest cards in the deck: the creator, which really fits with the issues you are grappling with at the moment. It is saying that this represents you and your confidence. The person in this card is very happy, content, and excited, as they know they have everything in their own hands to have that fulfillment in the future. It is about creating the life you want by the imaginative and bringing that imagination down into reality. It is also more about creative fulfillment: the things that you have talked about today. This is really a good card to get satisfaction from your creative side. It is protecting you really over the next six months and it is saying that you are heading in the right direction for that fulfillment. You are on the right track.

[Psychic concludes session without any further questions by NL]