

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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“Ahem . . . Ahem . . . One . . . Two . . . Three. Judy, this is Mark, as if you couldn’t guess. I’m doing some overtime tonight and I know you’ll find this tape tomorrow. I’m going to dictate a story that I want you to put into letter form for me to sign and send out tomorrow. I’ll be using my usual rambling style, but you should be able to pull it together in your usual efficient fashion. I won’t be in until tomorrow afternoon.”

“The letter is to be sent to Thomas Jenkins, editor of the MAGAZINE OF PALMISTRY AND PSYCHIC PHENOMENA. Judy, don’t roll your eyes or make any comments. You know that this type of information is important to me. I wouldn’t have hired you if the signs hadn’t been right. So, don’t stick your tongue out at my recorder. I know that you’re doing it now.”

“Anyway, to continue. Dear Mister Jenkins. I’m a subscriber to your magazine along with a few other mags in the same genre. I find the articles and your own personal column to be helpful to decisions that I make in my life.”

“Something has come up that I don’t understand and I find it very baffling. I haven’t read of anything like this happening before and it has me worried. I’d like to tell you my story and to hear from you what it might mean.”

“I’m a successful businessman. Not wealthy or famous, but I do okay. I’m in the business of selling stuffing used in stuffed toy animals. It’s kind of an interesting business for me. If you’re not in it, then stuffing isn’t the most interesting subject around. I have four major clients that I supply with stuffing and I have fourteen employees. I’ve been in the business for eight years and as I’ve said, I do enjoy it.”

“I became interested in the psychic world when I was in my teens. I came from a small town, down south and there was always some type of psychic ability that someone in the town possessed, but really no one thought that much about it. It was just part of life in the town. In my late teen years, I started interacting with the rest of the world more regularly, and found that these people I took for granted were considered unusual by the rest of the world. This opened up a whole world of study for me. I read all that I could get my hands on about the subject when I had the time.”

“After high school, I went to a small liberal type of college that was a few hundred miles from my hometown. I got a two-year degree in business management, but more important to me, it opened up more opportunities to explore the psychic world.”

“After graduation, I got a job in the office of a factory which produced the locks used in car doors. I was in the accounting and finance office. After three years there, I started my own company, selling stuffing, which is what I run now.”

“How I got into stuffing is the type of thing that helped confirm my belief in the powers of the mind. I was at a small psychic fair and I was talking with a numerologist and she told me to wait around because today was a day that was going to require a quick decision I would need to make affecting my life. She told me that the atmosphere at the psychic fair would help me make the correct decision.”

“Well, I hung around and while I was waiting for this momentous decision to be made, I got to talking with this lady who had joined me sitting on a bench. She was a toy maker and she started telling me about her troubles getting good materials for her toys.”

“My hometown had a textile factory. I had worked there for the summers of my college years. There’s a lot of scrap cloth material left over when clothing is made and this is thrown out.”

“Well, I told the lady perhaps I could help her with some of her supply problems. She told me that I had a week to try because she was trying to line up a foreign source and she had to decide within the next week whether to sign a contract.”

“I took a week of vacation and got in touch with some of the people that I knew back at the textile factory. They were willing to sell me scrap at a few cents per pound. I took four hundred pounds of material and spent two days shredding it to the specs required to put it into the stuffed animals.”

“Well, I was successful. I got the contract and I then quit my job the next week to form this company.”

“As I mentioned before, I’ve used the psychic world and its connections to help me get along in the world. There are other stories I could tell you, but I think that you get the idea and this letter is long enough as it is.”

“Judy, fix that history up as best you can. Please don’t use the word coincidence, you know that I don’t believe in that.”

“To continue. There are many ways that people use the psychic world to get by in life. I went through all the different methods and styles to find what worked best for me. I’ve had some successes and some miscalls trying them out.”

“I’ve found that palm reading as the most effective way for me to get through life. I visit two different palm readers at times when I’m facing decisions and every once in a while, just like a dental checkup, to see how things are going.”

“I’ve read numerous books on the subject along with your magazine and others. I keep emphasizing the point that I know a lot of what has been written and how important this is to my life because of something that has just happened to me. I have no explanation for it and again I would like your help.”

“So my story is the following. A couple of months ago, I was in my bank cashing some checks and checking on the status of a loan application to expand my business. While I was with the teller, the bank was robbed. Two men came into the bank, yelling that they were robbing the bank. Like the masks and guns didn’t give us enough clues. Anyway, so I turned with my arms in the air and watched them.”

“In the bank with me there were three tellers, two other customers and two bank officers in the lobby at the time. They directed everyone to get on the floor and not to look up. They both had shotguns. We got on the floor as they were yelling. One robber went to the teller windows while the other one watched us. They were quick and it was all over in a few minutes.”

“Now to the part that really affects me. I have excellent eyesight. I watched them go through the first set of doors going outside and that’s where they stopped to remove their ski masks. They turned their back to the camera in the entrance way and as one ducked his head I got a good look at his face. Right angle and right time for me to see him.”

“When the police arrived, I told them what I had seen and described the man. They took what I told them and said that they would be in touch if they were able to find the men. I came back to work with a good story to tell everyone.”

“A couple of days later, some detectives came to my office with some further questions and some books containing mug shots. I sat with them and went through their books with them.

We found the guy that I had seen. I couldn't believe it. I never did expect to be part of the story again. I thought it would become one of the unsolved mysteries in town."

"Well, they knew the guy and were able to pick him up a couple of weeks after our meeting. I was taken to police headquarters and I picked him out of a line-up. I was the only one to had've seen him. They were able to use that and some other circumstantial evidence to officially charge him. The police told me that my eyewitness report will be the most important part of the trial."

"Well, everything was set in motion and the trial is to begin in two weeks from today. Now, here is the part where I need your help Mister Jenkins."

"I've found out that the guy I identified is a nephew of one of the local hoods in town. I had no dealings with this type of life, so it was all new to me. I'd received threats from the robber's relatives to let the case drop by having memory problems so that my business wouldn't begin having problems."

"I checked with some of my psychic connections and had them look for the worst that I could expect to my business from these threats and they said not to worry about my business, it would be fine. Talking that advice, I've ignored all the threats I've received about my business."

"Well, now that we're days from the trial date, the threats have changed. Instead of threatening my business, the threats have become personal. I told the detectives and they said that it happens all the time. As people get closer to the trial date, they start to panic. The detectives said that they would keep their eyes and ears open for anything about me."

"Well, I listened to the detectives, but then I went to check again with one of my own palm readers. She said that I ..... huh ..... what's that?"

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"Judy, you left the back window open."

"Anyway to continue. I had my palms read today and this is why I'm asking for your help."

"My lifelines that I had on my palms have always been long. I've been told to expect to live a long life. The line went all the way down to my wrist, to right below the base of the thumb. The readers said that I'd live until my nineties."

"Well, when I had it checked today, the lifeline had SHRUNK! It's about a third of what it had been. I shouldn't live past the thirties that I've reached now. I don't understand what . . ."

"What the . . ."

THUMP

CRASH

"You stupid man."

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The End