

## Others Who Determined Patsy Wrote RN

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### [Back to Evidence Patsy Ramsey is the RN Writer](#)

#### Michelle Dresbold (Book Author)

##### Dresbold Findings

[Michelle Dresbold](#) has written a new book [Sex, Lies and Handwriting](#) (2006); in a recent Bill O'Reilly [interview](#) (full interview posted 12-22-2006 08:07 AM by Internet poster [Candy](#)), the author stated: "**The chances that Patsy Ramsey did not write the ransom note are about 2 percent** [Emphasis added]. So it's an extremely high, it's an extremely high..."

##### Dresbold Qualifications

According to her [Website](#), "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." Her Website contains further [testimonials](#) but no CV or other formal statement of education, training, certification, professional memberships or experience, elements typical of on-line qualifications [statements](#).

##### Dresbold Methodology

In the O'Reilly [interview](#), Dresbold concluded: "in the book what I did was I actually profiled the person who wrote the ransom note. And then what I did was I gave the reader Patsy Ramsey's handwriting, and step by step I compared it to Patsy Ramsey's writing. And what I, letting the reader do is be the jury and actually see in black and white the comparisons between Patsy Ramsey's handwriting and the handwriting on ransom note."

#### Mark McLish (Book Author)

##### McLish Findings

- **RN Written by One Person (Probably a Woman).** [McLish](#) purports to be able to detect deception through a method of his own devising called *Statement Analysis*. In applying this method to the RN, he concludes: "We see deception in this ransom note with the changing pronouns. This kidnapping was not the work of a terrorist group. **One person, probably a woman, wrote this ransom note** [Emphasis added]"
- **Ramseys Cannot Be Excluded as Suspects.** "Since the ransom note was written as a ruse, we can conclude this was not a kidnapping that turned into a murder, but a murder made to look like a kidnapping. This means **we cannot exclude the Ramseys as possible suspects** [Emphasis added]."
- **Full Analysis Available.** [McLish](#) has placed his complete analysis [on-line](#) and has written an apparently [self-published book](#) (2001, 2003) with further details, *I Know You Are Lying: Detecting Deception Through Statement Analysis*.

##### McLish Qualifications

[McLish's Website](#) asserts: "I have been in federal law enforcement for 23 years. From 1991 - 1999, I taught interviewing techniques to federal law enforcement officers at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in Glynco, Georgia." His [on-line biography](#) shows that he has a B.A. in Physical Education from Messiah College (Grantham, PA), but lists no other formal training in document examination. He served as a Federal Officer in the U.S. Secret Service Uniformed Division (The White House) from 1983-85; as a Deputy U.S. Marshal in Springfield, Illinois from 1985-1991; as Inspector/Instructor at the U.S. Marshals Service Training Academy from 1991-1999; and currently serves as a Supervisory Deputy U.S. Marshal in Greenville, North Carolina.

##### McLish Methodology

[McLish's Website](#) states: "During my nine years at the FLETC, I conducted my own research on how people respond to certain questions. I studied hundreds of statements and found that people will lie in the same ways. Likewise, people will tell the truth in a similar fashion. I call my method for examining a person's words "Statement Analysis.""

#### Cherokee (Internet Poster)

##### Cherokee Findings

Internet poster [Cherokee](#), a FFJ Senior Member/Moderator at [Forums for Justice](#), has posted a composite analysis of the RN, that includes linguistic statement analysis, graphology (handwriting analysis) and exemplar comparison, using handwriting samples from Patsy and John Ramsey as comparisons. From this overall analysis, Cherokee [concludes](#) "Patsy Ramsey is the author of the Ransom Note."

- **Full Analysis.** Cherokee's original analysis is posted in full at [Forums for Justice](#) in a series of 26 consecutive posts (September 21, 2005).
- **Additional Analyses.** Cherokee has compared the Ramsey in an autographed copy of *Death of Innocence* to the Ramsey at the beginning of the RN (<http://www.forumsforjustice.org/forums/showpost.php?p=103759&postcount=1> [July 6, 2006]). More handwriting comparisons to other recently discovered Patsy Ramsey exemplars are on the same

thread ([July 6, 2006](#)).

- **Analysis of Pageant Application.** Cherokee also has shown] that Patsy sometimes wrote her "a"s in the same style as the RN even though in many of the exemplars used, she used a different style ([July 22, 2006](#)).
- **Analysis of Patsy's Painting Signature.** Cherokee has compared the Ramsey in Patsy's paintings to the Ramsey at the beginning of the RN ([August 28, 2006](#)).

## Cherokee Qualifications

### Cherokee Methodology

- **Combined Analysis.** Cherokee [states](#): "Much of this same work has been presented by various linguists, graphologists and document examiners. I do not pretend to break new ground or make startling revelations. I am only posting my own analysis and research. Most of it was done before I ever came to the forums."
- **No Other Composite Analysis Has Been Done.** Cherokee further [asserts](#): "I have found people and web sites devoted to linguistic statement analysis, handwriting analysis, and exemplar comparison of the ransom note, but none that combine all three areas of analysis into a composite picture. Of course, opinions on the Ramsey case, and particularly on the ransom note, are a dime a dozen. All I can offer is what I have done with the knowledge I have."
- **Strengths of Independent Analyses.** Cherokee [concludes](#): "Because this kind of analysis is a subjective science, there can be disagreement as to the correct interpretation and conclusion. Therefore, confirmation of a conclusion from multiple, and varied, approaches is the best way to insure an accurate interpretation of data. That is why I think it is important that more than ONE area of analysis be used to determine the authorship of the Ramsey "ransom note." By itself, linguistics is not enough, graphology is not enough, and exemplar comparison is not enough ... but taken together, they offer a more complete picture of the truth."

### Critique of Cherokee's Methodology

Internet poster DocG has provided several in-depth critiques of Cherokee's analysis arguing that it is "[deeply imbued with confirmation bias](#)."

- [The "Experts" See Patsy - Part 7: Cherokee](#)
- [The "Experts" See Patsy - Part 8: Cherokee](#)

## Delmar England (Internet Poster)

### England Findings

England's complete analysis of the RN has been posted at [acandyrose.com](#) (April 21, 2000); while not stated explicitly, it is clear from the conclusions provided that England believes Patsy Ramsey is the RN writer.

### England Qualifications

England has offered no indication that he has any sort of formal training in linguistic analysis, graphology or exemplar comparison. In a letter written to Boulder DA Mary Keenan ([May 20, 2003](#)), he states he first began researching the case in March 2000 (implying that he completed the analysis of the RN within roughly 1 month of becoming familiar with the case); in his analysis of the garrote he [states](#): "I do have the background of experience and knowledge that enables me to evaluate this part of the crime scene by definitive criteria. Its not that I go around garroting individuals, but do know the physics involved as well as being long schooled in ropes, knots, handles and that sort of thing. Indeed, these things have been so much a part of my life that evaluation of the garrote scene is almost by mental reflex taking less than a minute." To all appearances, England is relying exclusively on an untrained amateur's "common sense" when it comes to analyzing the RN; readers can interpret his own statement below to see if an alternative conclusion is warranted.

### England Methodology

England's analysis relies exclusively on deductions from the contents of the note itself, not on handwriting analysis, exemplar comparison or related techniques of forensic document examination. He [states](#): "Words spoken or written are prints of the mind and identify the source no less than fingerprints identify the fingers that made them. The analysis to follow proposes a detailed examination of the ransom note in isolation from circumstance. By this method, we shall come to know what is revealed in the note itself rather than an emotional interpretation to fit preconceived notions. I am, of course, familiar with the circumstances of the note, but will consciously strive to keep circumstances out of my analysis except the circumstances expressed or implied by the content of the note under examination."

## JustinCase (Internet Poster)

### JustinCase Findings

This poster has posted an analysis of the Patsy's handwriting from a pageant application and various other exemplars at [Forums for Justice](#) (August 31, 2004). She concludes Patsy's handwriting is very similar to the RN's and that based on misspellings in other Patsy Ramsey writings, the misspellings in the RN may have been the inadvertent consequence of writing in haste.

### JustinCase Qualifications

[JustinCase](#) has offered no evidence of education, training, membership in professional organizations or experience in doing handwriting analysis.

### JustinCase Methodology

[JustinCase](#) relies exclusively on comparison of roughly one dozen brief handwriting exemplars.

## FuryoftheDragon (Internet Poster)

### FuryoftheDragon Findings

FuryoftheDragon has [posted](#) his analysis at Reddit.

- **Handwriting Similarities.** Maybe SOME similar letters. Not THAT many. And maybe you guys have forgotten, but there were people, including John Ramsey, who were ruled out as the note writer. So where did THEY learn to write, on MARS? Let me lay it out for everybody in simple, direct words: we're not talking some similar letters here. We're talking about numerous similarities and very distinctive ones at that. "c"s that look like Pac-Man, "q"s that look like "8"s, "d"s with bent stems, the use of manuscript "a"s, and the list goes on and on. What's more, the way the letters combine with each other points to her, as well.
- **Changed Handwriting Style.** And keep in mind, she was the only person who changed her handwriting style after the murder. In fact, she typed most of her writings after that.
- **Denied Recognizing Own Handwriting.** Plus, there's the spectacle of her not even recognizing her own writing from her own photo albums!
- **Acrostic Style.** Moving away from the actual writing, the note used an acrostic. She was known for using them. The acrostic had periods between the letters, which is something she was also known to do. Add to that, only someone of her generation or earlier would have been taught how to do (I was not taught to write that way).
- **Grammatical Errors.** The note contains the grammatical error "and, hence." She used the same error in her private writings.
- **Use of Attaché.** The note contains the word "attaché," complete with the proper French accent mark. Patsy liked French things, even giving her daughter a French-sounding name. The note contains inside terms Patsy's relatives were known to use.
- **General Profile.** The note contains maternal-sounding language. Patsy even fits the profile of the ransom note writer: a southern female, age 35-45. And she was the only person not ruled out who can be placed in the house at the time of the killing.
- Now, maybe you can argue each one of those points. No way can you argue them ALL! It all adds up.

### FuryoftheDragon Qualifications

FuryoftheDragon has no formal qualifications or training in handwriting analysis.

### FuryoftheDragon Methodology

FuryoftheDragon has not explained which handwriting exemplars he has used in his analysis, which appears to be based on a global subjective assessment of similarities between RN and various handwriting samples available on the Internet.

## Anonymous Website Owner

### Anonymous Findings

An anonymous statistical analysis has been [posted](#) with 9 displayed handwriting comparisons.

- **10,000 to 1 Odds.** The author concludes that just from the 9 comparisons: "There is only a 1 in 10,368 chance that anyone other than Patsy Ramsey would write with all nine of the above characteristics."

- **10 Million to 1 Odds.** The author further states: "Remember those 24 of 26 letters that Chet Ubowski supposedly found in the ransom note which matched samples from Patsy Ramsey? Just 10 more matching letters at 2:1 odds each, added to our existing nine exemplars, would bring the odds over 10 million to one."
- **55 Million to 1 Odds.** The author then argues that "the odds that during the next 1-year period, if a young girl is murdered by a sadistic intruder, the chances she will live in Boulder, Colorado are: 5,281:1" The author concludes: "The chances that during the next year - a girl between the ages of 5-14 who lives in Boulder, Colorado - will be killed by an unknown intruder who enters her home - and the intruder's handwriting will match nine characteristics in her mother's handwriting are: ONE in 55 MILLION."

## Anonymous Qualifications

The author freely [acknowledges](#): "Nor does the author claim to have the least bit of background or interest in "handwriting analysis"."

## Anonymous Methodology

- **Author's Approach Unique.** The author [states](#): "What you are about to read, is a different type of ransom note analysis than has previously appeared on the Internet. To our knowledge this type of analysis has never been performed by any amateur or expert. Until now, all previous analysis of the ransom note has been by handwriting experts who can only offer their professional "opinion" as an end product. This web page was not written to offer any "opinion". It is not a "handwriting analysis". Nor does the author claim to have the least bit of background or interest in "handwriting analysis". This web page presents only solid visual evidence and calculations that can be easily witnessed and verified by the reader. If you have the concentration to read through this entire web page, and the intelligence to comprehend it, by the time you are finished reading there should be no doubt in your mind who wrote the famous Ramsey ransom note.
- **Exemplars.** The author relies on writing from a single pageant application, making 9 different comparisons in 9 [exhibits](#).
- **Possible Variations.** For each comparison, the author offers 2 to 6 potential variations on how the author might have elected to form a particular letter being compared. Patsy's handwriting matched in all 9 instances, so the author calculates the total number of other possibilities given the variations possible for each match, concluding there were more than 10,000 different combinations. Based on these 9 comparisons alone, the author concludes the chances are 10,368 to 1 that Patsy wrote the note.

## Critique of Anonymous Methodology

Using the identical technique to compare each and every letter in the RN, and noting the multitude of differences (which far outnumber the similarities), the author could have as easily concluded the chances were infinitesimal that Patsy Ramsey wrote the note. The odds of a child being snatched from Boulder illustrate the problem with this method. These odds are calculated by dividing the number of children age 5-14 in Boulder compared to the U.S. total. But the author could have as easily extended that logic to just the Ramsey block, thereby making the odds even more minuscule, OR to the Ramsey house, in which case the reasoning of the author would be that without even reading the RN, the odds were 20 million to 1 against JBR being taken from her bed by an intruder in 1996 (and even more infinitesimal if we calculate the odds of being snatched on a particular night during that year). According to this logic, the Ramseys or any other parent whose 6-year old daughter is taken from the bed should simply be hauled before a jury and convicted since the odds are 20 million to 1 that they did it! This analysis by anonymous betrays a serious misuse of probability and statistics and cannot be taken seriously.