

Who Wrote the Ransom Note

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General Profiles of RN Writer

Profiles Done At Request of BPD

- **FBI Profile.** Internet poster [koldkase](#) saw retired FBI agent Clint van Zandt answer questions on a book tour. In responding to questions, he asserted that he had been one of several FBI agents asked by LE to work up a profile of the RN writer. He claimed that within a couple of weeks after the murder, they had determined the RN writer was a well-educated female between the ages of 29 and 40 who knew the family and knew the home well; they further deduced that [JonBenet](#) was already dead when the RN was written. The caring and nurturing language in the note--"be well rested," etc. helped convince them the writer was female.
- **Seraph.** [Seraph Security Consulting and Training Company in Berwyn was asked by BPD in 1997 to analyze the RN. This report was prepared by Dale Yeager, CEO and criminal analyst at Seraph. In this report, "in which Yeager was asked to analyze the \\$118,000 ransom demand in the Ramsey case, and a possible reference to Psalm 118:27, in the New Testament of the Bible, Yeager concludes that "the person using this verse would be from a conservative Christian background, i.e. Southern Baptist, Presbyterian, etc. They would see themselves as having committed a grievous sin that requires more than a prayer of forgiveness. Their disgust for their sin would lead to anger toward themselves and towards the person that they felt they have wronged in this case the girl..."](#)
- **Vidocq Society.** The Vidocq Society apparently had a [meeting](#) to discuss the RN but it is not known what they concluded; any insights reportedly would have been communicated with BPD.

Profiles Done by Professionals

- **Steven A. Diamond Analysis.** Diamond is a forensic psychologist who concludes, in a 2017 [analysis](#) at *Psychology Today*, that the RN probably was written by an intruder for whom English is a second language.
- **Kimon Iannetta Analysis.** Iannetta, founder of *Trial Run*, self reports having "served behind the scenes as a handwriting consultant for over two decades on numerous high profile court cases and is considered a trusted resource for major investigations." Ms. Iannetta is a Life Fellow of the American College of Forensic Examiners (ACFE) and a member of the American Society of Industrial Security (ASIS), serving as handwriting consultant to corporate, legal, law enforcement, military and federal agencies. "Throughout the entire sample there are signs of a person with the ability to be compulsively controlled in behavioral patterns and attentive to his/her presentation despite the obvious extreme level of tension and stress." Readers are left to judge which individual matches the characteristics deduced from her [analysis](#).
- **James Pennebaker Analysis.** On True Crime with Aphrodite Jones, Ms. Jones interviewed Dr. James Pennebaker, a context analyst as he reviews the ransom note that was called into question during the initial investigation into the murder of Jon Benet Ramsey ([undated video 2:06](#)).
- **Donald Pugh Analysis.** Donald Pugh's [analysis](#) leads him to conclude that a middle-aged female individual in law enforcement wrote the RN.

Analyses by Internet Sleuths

- **Six Alternative Profiles.** Internet poster [Rupert](#) has analyzed the RN using six alternative motivations for writing the RN: 1. RDI cover-up; 2. IDI Foreign Faction Statement; 3. IDI Personal Vendetta on John Ramsey; 4. IDI wacko; 5. IDI shut-up [JonBenet](#); 6. IDI take-out John Ramsey.
- **Nancy "Ransom Note Writer" Confession.** An online poster who was given the moniker "Nancy" by Internet poster Jameson, confessed on-line to having written the RN as part of a book project (she denied having anything to do with JBR's death as the note purportedly was written 1-1/2 years before the killing). She also went by the names of "No7ThirdPlace" and "I KNOW" in on-line postings. See [acandyrose.com](#) for details.
- **On-Line Discussion.** See [Ransom Note](#) at Webbsleuths forum chat.

[Patsy Ramsey as RN Writer](#)

John Ramsey as RN Writer

- **JR Handwriting Exemplars.** One small sample of John Ramsey's handwriting has been posted [on-line](#).

Evidence John Ramsey is Not the RN Writer

- All six experts cited in the Carnes opinion (see Patsy Ramsey discussion above) "agreed that Mr. Ramsey could be eliminated as the author of the Ransom Note. (SMF P 194; PSMF P 194.)" (Carnes 2003:26).
- Four of these experts were hired by Boulder LE and two by the Ramseys. The unanimity of their findings is difficult to counter unless one argues there was some sort of conspiracy. Given the extended antipathy between the Ramseys and Boulder LE, this seems quite improbable.

Evidence John Ramsey is the RN Writer

- **Brugnatelli Analysis.** Dr. Fausto [Brugnatelli](#) claims to be a certified expert in handwriting analysis, document examination and handwriting evaluation. His [analysis](#) concludes that the note likely was written by John Ramsey.
- **Bagget Analysis.** Bart [Bagget](#) claims to be an internationally renowned handwriting expert and founder of Handwriting University.com. His [analysis](#) is that John Ramsey is the likely RN writer, but concedes there is relatively little known JR handwriting available for comparison.
- **DocG Analysis.** Internet poster docG has posted a comparison of JR's handwriting [here](#) and a written analysis of the note [here](#). He concludes John is the writer. See [Johnisms](#) at DocG's Solving the JonBenet Ramsey Case.
 - Note that he also showed how an exemplar he once thought was John Ramsey's had similarities to the RN; he later found out this writing sample was written by Nancy; see his original analysis at [The Moving Finger](#) and his acknowledgement of this error at [Innocent Little Nancy -- OR -- "Moving Finger" Upd...](#)

Burke Ramsey as RN Writer

- Burke's handwriting did not match the RN (source?).
- Internet poster Cypros [argues](#) that the language in the note was far too sophisticated to have been crafted by even a very intelligent 9-year old.

Others Who Could Not Be Eliminated

Overview

- **Carnes Opinion.** "Other experts believe the Ransom Note may have been authored by other people. In addition to Mrs. Ramsey, there were other individuals "under suspicion" who had their handwriting analyzed and who were not eliminated as the possible author of the Ransom Note. (SMF P 205; PSMF P 205.)" (Carnes 2003:30).

Hunter Deposition. Former DA Alex Hunter videotaped a deposition in the Wolf v. Ramsey case on November 27, 2001; according to Internet poster [Jameson](#), parts of this deposition are under seal. However, the deposition was referenced in the videotaped deposition of Gideon Epstein May 17, 2002 which has been made [public](#). (In this section, which begins on p. 165, line 22, the questioner is James Rawls:) Q. And from Alex Hunter's perspective, you also understood that there were other individuals under suspicion who were not eliminated; correct? A. That's what I understand, yes. Q. Who were not eliminated as the author of the ransom note. A. I understand that, right.

???? Henderson

- According to Internet poster [Athena](#) in PMPT, "p181 Henderson's handwriting similar and no DNA ever taken because Harmon was working on it and she left the case and no one followed up." (This appears to be a paraphrased reference to paperback version of Schiller).

Bill McReynolds

- According to Internet poster [Athena](#) "In his own book, Thomas states that

[McReynolds](#) handwriting was similar but he did not believe he had anything to do with the murder because of his disability." (This appears to be a paraphrased reference; no specific page number provided).

Jeff Merrick

- According to Internet poster [Athena](#), "According to PMPT p166 - Merriman's [sic] handwriting was so close they believed he wrote the note but did not kill JBR" (This appears to be a paraphrased reference to paperback version of Schiller).

Glenn Meyers

According to Internet poster [Athena](#), in PMPT "p182 - Glenn Meyers handwriting was was similar;" (This appears to be a paraphrased reference to paperback version of Schiller).

John Andrew Ramsey

An anonymous poster has [argued](#): "the classmates of one John Andrew Ramsey are known to have said he was "obsessed" with JBR and many initially suspected him. Additionally, if indeed JBR was experiencing chronic sexual abuse, JAR would have been the most statically likely perpetrator of that abuse (adult known to the victim with frequent but irregular access). Now, I am not at all saying JAR murdered JBR; his alibi is obviously rock solid. However, it could be that he authored the note as part of a fantasy that he may or may not have planned to ever actually enact, and that Burke was aware of the note (perhaps because he either participated in or knew of JAR and JBR's "games"). Heck, maybe it was in that suitcase along with the Dr. Seuss book and the semen-stained blanket. It's even possible that the garrote was another sex-game implement fashioned by JAR prior to the murder." Note, however, that [JAR has been officially cleared by Boulder LE authorities](#).

Chris Wolf

- **Lloyd Cunningham Analysis.** "For example, forensic document examiner Lloyd Cunningham cannot eliminate plaintiff [Chris Wolf](#) as the author of the Ransom Note. (SMF P 279; PSMF P 279.)" (Carnes 2003:30).
- **Wolf's Girlfriend.** "Plaintiff's ex-girlfriend has also testified that she was "struck by how the handwriting in the note resembled [plaintiff's](#) own handwriting" and believes that he is the note's author. (J. Brungardt Aff. P 43.)" (Carnes 2003:30).
- **Editing Mark Used in RN.** "Further, to the extent that the use of a single editing mark might suggest to plaintiff's experts that Mrs. Ramsey was the author, given her bachelor's degree in journalism, one should also note that plaintiff, himself, has a Masters' degree in journalism. (Id. P 13.)" (Carnes 2003:30).
- **DocG Analysis.** See [Big Bad Wolf -- OR -- The Dangers of Cherry Pickin..](#) at Solving the JonBenet Ramsey Case.