

# Donor Pen Sketch and Goodwill Message

Donor Pen Sketch & Goodwill Message

Donor 1767

Hi. This must be one of the strangest reading experiences of your life, it is certainly one of the most daunting writing challenges of mine. I hope you are well and that your life so far has been a good one. You must have so many questions and maybe I can answer a few here. First of all, a little about me.

. I live, or suppose lived, in a boat and work as a journalist. I like to read and write, cook and eat, and think about life far more than is healthy. I like to exercise in principal, though in practice, somewhat less- unless it involves dancing like an idiot, I enjoy that very much. I'm in the process of writing several novels, by the time you read this, maybe one will be published. If you've inherited a restlessness, that might come from me.

. Travelling is one of my life's greatest delights and I have learned by doing that this world is far bigger than you could ever imagine. I hope this is something you see also, because if you do choose to come and find me, I might be further away than you expect. You must be wondering about what led me to become a sperm donor and hence, a small part of why you exist. What strange explanatory power this situation gives me but, I'll try to do my best to help you understand. Before anything else, you exist because your parent(s) wanted you badly, and that's all that matters. But, in terms of my choice, well, it has a lot to do with my childhood. My parents were foster carers, I wasn't a fostered child, but I grew up around and with them. I saw first-hand the damage parents can do to their children simply because many had not wanted, or not been ready, to be parents. By contrast, I also saw the good a motivated, loving care figure can do, even for the most traumatised of people. My mother was amazing in this regard, and you should be proud that on some level her genes reside within you. She took in some of the most hurt people in this world, and often, she made them better. So, when I heard about this program, it dawned on me that anyone seeking this kind of treatment would be a seriously motivated parent - no accidents happen in a clinic. This is not to say I don't believe in some people's right to be a parent, actually I believe everyone who wants to should be able to. It is very important to me that the random chances assigned by birth and circumstance don't hold people back; everyone should have the same opportunities as everyone else. Rather, it's just that if people really want a child and are willing to go through so much to get one, I think it provides a good likelihood that they will be amazing parents- as I hope yours are. If you have a single parent, exactly the same stands, so please replace my plural pronouns with singular and know they have my respect just as much, if not more. Secondly, like so many things in life, it was a chance conversation with a close friend that pushed me over the edge into donating. Over breakfast, she disclosed that she was thinking about donating her eggs (I mean her cells, not the ones on her plate). She outlined much the same argument about equality of opportunity as above, and it resonated with me strongly. I am a queer person, both in terms of gender and sexuality. This is an important part of my identity, and I hope it does not come as a shock to you. But as a queer person, I live in a society far more accepting than that my parents grew up in, but (hopefully and unfortunately) less so than the one you currently inhabit. Thus, using what I have at my disposal to afford opportunities to those who do not possess my biological endowment, appealed to me as a way to improve equality for all. So this conversation struck a chord with me, and I went on to read about the process, as well as the looming fertility crisis, and I was convinced. It's funny thinking about what kind of world you'll be living in, though it'll be the same one I am. As I write, the climate crisis occupies nearly all of my waking thoughts. On that last one, I hope it is resolved by the time this note is opened, and I want you to know I'm doing my best to make sure it is. I hope you arrive in a kinder world, and if not, that you are able to help the world you're born into towards a kinder future. That's all I can honestly think to write at this point, I hope it's answered more questions than its raised, or at least raised some good and interesting ones. What happens now is up to you. You are welcome to reach out, but there is no pressure to do so. If you want to know anything about me or your predecessors, I will happily oblige. If not, I hope you live the best life that you can in the way that you see fit. If you don't know what that is yet, that's ok, you'll figure it out.