



The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting

By Philip Hensher

Download now

Read Online 

The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting By Philip Hensher

When Philip Hensher realized that he didn't know what a close friend's handwriting looked like ("bold or crabbed, sloping or upright, italic or rounded, elegant or slapdash"), he felt that something essential was missing from their friendship. It dawned on him that having abandoned pen and paper for keyboards, we have lost one of the ways by which we come to recognize and know another person. People have written by hand for thousands of years? how, Hensher wondered, have they learned this skill, and what part has it played in their lives?

The Missing Ink tells the story of this endangered art. Hensher introduces us to the nineteenth-century handwriting evangelists who traveled across America to convert the masses to the moral worth of copperplate script; he examines the role handwriting plays in the novels of Charles Dickens; he investigates the claims made by the practitioners of graphology that penmanship can reveal personality.

But this is also a celebration of the physical act of writing: the treasured fountain pens, chewable ballpoints, and personal embellishments that we stand to lose. Hensher pays tribute to the warmth and personality of the handwritten love note, postcards sent home, and daily diary entries. With the teaching of handwriting now required in only five states and many expert typists barely able to hold a pen, the future of handwriting is in jeopardy. Or is it? Hugely entertaining, witty, and thought-provoking, *The Missing Ink* will inspire readers to pick up a pen and write.

 [Download The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting ...pdf](#)

The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting

By Philip Hensher

The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting By Philip Hensher

When Philip Hensher realized that he didn't know what a close friend's handwriting looked like ("bold or crabbed, sloping or upright, italic or rounded, elegant or slapdash"), he felt that something essential was missing from their friendship. It dawned on him that having abandoned pen and paper for keyboards, we have lost one of the ways by which we come to recognize and know another person. People have written by hand for thousands of years? how, Hensher wondered, have they learned this skill, and what part has it played in their lives?

The Missing Ink tells the story of this endangered art. Hensher introduces us to the nineteenth-century handwriting evangelists who traveled across America to convert the masses to the moral worth of copperplate script; he examines the role handwriting plays in the novels of Charles Dickens; he investigates the claims made by the practitioners of graphology that penmanship can reveal personality.

But this is also a celebration of the physical act of writing: the treasured fountain pens, chewable ballpoints, and personal embellishments that we stand to lose. Hensher pays tribute to the warmth and personality of the handwritten love note, postcards sent home, and daily diary entries. With the teaching of handwriting now required in only five states and many expert typists barely able to hold a pen, the future of handwriting is in jeopardy. Or is it? Hugely entertaining, witty, and thought-provoking, *The Missing Ink* will inspire readers to pick up a pen and write.

The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting By Philip Hensher Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #713640 in Books
- Published on: 2012-11-27
- Released on: 2012-11-27
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.85" h x 1.05" w x 6.39" l, 1.01 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 288 pages

 [Download The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting ...pdf](#)

Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

While there are no rigorous surveys tracking how many people write personal letters these days, it's a safe bet that in this era of ubiquitous e-mail and text messaging, letter writing isn't what it used to be. Partly to encourage readers to take up their pens and partly to indulge his curiosity, acclaimed British novelist Hensher (*King of the Badgers*, 2011) provides a droll and eclectic tour of handwriting history. Prompted by the realization that he had no idea what a close friend's handwriting style looked like, Hensher interviewed friends and family about the topic, with amusing and illuminating results. A handful of chapters records their testimony, while the rest of the book is devoted to penmanship styles, famous letter writers, like Dickens and Hitler, and the pseudoscience of handwriting analysis. With his novelist's gift for shimmering prose, Hensher may be just the man to inspire a public handwriting revival. If not, his work is a fitting tribute to a dying art that, with voice recognition software now approaching human proficiency, may be poised to disappear forever. --Carl Hays

From Bookforum

In *The Missing Ink*, Hensher unearths some of the sadistic, stylish, and occasionally sympathetic attempts to teach penmanship to generations of reluctant European and American children. —Jennifer Howard

Review

“Rediscover the joys of writing . . . Like a charming dinner guest, [Hensher] brims with fun facts, good humor and amusing reminiscences . . . [He] enlivens his musings about penmanship's demise with sharp insights and wry wit.” ?*Abigail Meisel, The New York Times Book Review*

“An ode to a dying form: part lament, part obituary, part sentimental rallying cry . . . Eloquent . . . There remains something wonderful about receiving a letter that has been physically touched--actually crafted--by the hands of your correspondent.” ?*Julia Turner, Slate*

“Lively.” ?*Gregory Leon Miller, San Francisco Chronicle*

“We all communicate, of course (tweet tweet tweet, and yack yack yack on the mobile), but not by pen and ink. Does it matter? I didn't have to read 274 pages to be persuaded that it does, but I am very glad indeed that those pages were written and that I have read them. From this book, the wisest and wittiest argument imaginable for the preservation of handwriting, I have learnt so much, and by it have been so happily entertained, that I am compelled to recommend it to everyone.” ?*Diana Athill, The Literary Review*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

William Lyons:

Why don't make it to become your habit? Right now, try to ready your time to do the important work, like looking for your favorite e-book and reading a publication. Beside you can solve your trouble; you can add your knowledge by the publication entitled *The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting*. Try to stumble through book *The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting* as your pal. It means that it can to be your

friend when you really feel alone and beside that of course make you smarter than ever before. Yeah, it is very fortunate for you. The book makes you considerably more confident because you can know anything by the book. So, we should make new experience and also knowledge with this book.

Donald Diaz:

Reading can be called thoughts hangout, why? Because if you find yourself reading a book specifically book entitled *The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting* your brain will drift away through every dimension, wandering in every aspect that maybe unknown for but surely can be your mind friends. Imaging each word written in a publication then become one type conclusion and explanation this maybe you never get ahead of. *The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting* giving you a different experience more than blown away the mind but also giving you useful details for your better life in this particular era. So now let us explain to you the relaxing pattern the following is your body and mind are going to be pleased when you are finished reading it, like winning a sport. Do you want to try this extraordinary paying spare time activity?

Charles Buffington:

Beside this specific *The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting* in your phone, it might give you a way to get nearer to the new knowledge or information. The information and the knowledge you are going to get here is fresh from the oven so don't possibly be worry if you feel like an previous people live in narrow commune. It is good thing to have *The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting* because this book offers for you readable information. Do you often have book but you would not get what it's about. Oh come on, that will not happen if you have this in your hand. The Enjoyable agreement here cannot be questionable, including treasuring beautiful island. Techniques you still want to miss the item? Find this book along with read it from at this point!

Michele Williams:

On this era which is the greater particular person or who has ability in doing something more are more treasured than other. Do you want to become among it? It is just simple solution to have that. What you need to do is just spending your time little but quite enough to get a look at some books. On the list of books in the top listing in your reading list is actually *The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting*. This book that is qualified as *The Hungry Hills* can get you closer in turning into precious person. By looking way up and review this e-book you can get many advantages.

Download and Read Online *The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting* By Philip Hensher #2CYSIVUFLEQ

Read The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting By Philip Hensher for online ebook

The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting By Philip Hensher Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting By Philip Hensher books to read online.

Online The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting By Philip Hensher ebook PDF download

The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting By Philip Hensher Doc

The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting By Philip Hensher Mobipocket

The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting By Philip Hensher EPub

2CYSIVUFLEQ: The Missing Ink: The Lost Art of Handwriting By Philip Hensher