



INTERVIEW NOTES: 5137

Donor 5137 came in looking very professional, wearing a crisp white button-up shirt, slacks, and thin rimmed glasses. His thick, dark black hair was neatly trimmed, and his face was clean shaven. He has a grounded nature to him with balanced energy, the kind of person that calms the room down just by being in it. He spoke with an even tone and cadence, in a thoughtful, intentional, pensive way. As I asked him questions, he would pause, and then give his answer, in a way that made it evident that he was thinking carefully about each of the words that he spoke.

Donor 5137 is inquisitive and curious. He loves to figure out how things work. Beginning at a young age, he would take simple household objects, like the only home phone cord and cut it open; looking at the wires *just to see what was inside*. These mini- research projects did not originally sit too well with his parents, as he slowly started to disassemble the whole house. Ultimately, he reconfigured his father's electric razor and figured out how to make it function even better.

What intrigues Donor 5137 are *complex tools of measurement*; machinery that helps to answer his big questions of how things work. This interest developed from his love of science fiction. He said that these books *are filled with all sorts of interesting, fantastical high tech tools and instruments of measurement*. His love of science fiction naturally led him to dive into science. In his first biology class, he learned about breeding fruit flies and using electrophoresis to map gene expression. These pursuits cemented his passion for science. As an undergraduate, he worked in a laser laboratory. This was his first introduction to the reality of research; staying up late, tinkering with machinery to collect specific reactions and collecting data that may or may not ever be useful. The challenge of spending countless hours alone on hard, uninterpretable data did not deter him, but inspired him to get his Ph.D. in condensed matter physics.

Having spent most of his life on the West coast, Donor 5137 decided on a change of scenery and applied for graduate school in the Midwest. The thing that he noticed most about the Midwest was the change in seasons, something he had never experienced before. He found beauty in the harsh weather of the Midwest; he spoke fondly about the beautiful change of colors and *the soft sound of snow falling*. He was able to find beauty even in not being able to open a car door because the entire vehicle had been glazed in ice. I asked him if he was happy to be back on the West coast, and he actually said that he missed the weather. *I love a challenge, and though the Midwestern weather is harsh, it makes me appreciate its beauty more.*

Back on the West coast, Donor 5137 spends his days running a lab: *tinkering* with complex machines, and analyzing data. *I have to figure out if what I am collecting has any application; it is difficult, but also rewarding*. On his time off he loves to discover more about history and culture with his partner, centering their vacations on the places that they learn about. He is a great chef, and told me that *I cook whatever I would like to eat. If I taste it in a restaurant, I want to create it*. One of his major complaints about Bay Area is that kitchens are always much too small for how many *cooking tools* he has.

I enjoyed the time spent with Donor 5137. He is a man that loves a challenge because of how he can be enlightened by a new perspective, not out of competition. He is mature, kind and very intentional; a wonderful person to have in our program.

Interviewer Lauren A.

6/17/15



Reproductive Technologies, Inc.

THE SPERM BANK OF CALIFORNIA

Donor Profile: 5137

The past and current personal and family medical history, physical examination, and laboratory test results determine that donor **5137** is eligible and approved for semen donation at THE SPERM BANK OF CALIFORNIA. This profile was prepared in **March, 2016**.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Identity-Release® Program: **Yes**
- Month/year of birth: **May, 1983**
- Education: **BS Physics, PhD Physics**
- Current occupation: **Post-doctoral researcher**
- Ethnic origin: **Korean**
- Religion: **None**

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

- Height: **5' 11"**
- Weight: **204 lbs**
- Hair color: **Black**
- Hair type: **Straight**
- Eye color: **Dark brown**
- Complexion: **Fair/rosy**
- Body type: **Medium**
- Blood group/Rh: **O+**
- Baby photo available: **Yes**
- Other distinguishing features: **Small nose, dimples when smiles.**

FAMILY MEDICAL HISTORY

KEY: **D** donor **Ch** child **F** father **M** mother **S** sister **B** brother
Co cousin **A** aunt **U** uncle **MGF** maternal grandfather **MGM** maternal grandmother
PGF paternal grandfather **PGM** paternal grandmother

Allergies: **D: Seasonal allergies at 12, treated with OTC meds as needed, ongoing managed. F: Seasonal allergies at 35, treated with OTC medication as needed, managed.**

Heart: **M: High cholesterol at 40, treated with diet change and medication, resolved at 43. MU: High blood pressure at 61, treated with diet change, managed. PGF: Stroke at 68, no treatment, cause of death. MGM: Heart attack at 65, no treatment, cause of death. MGF: Heart attack at 71, no treatment, cause of death. PGM heart attack at 70, no treatment, cause of death.**

Mental Health: **D: Depression at 29, treated with medication, ongoing, managed.**

Muscles/Bones/Joints: **MGF: Osteoarthritis at 66, treated with OTC medication, managed.**

Neurological: **F: Migraines at 38, treated with OTC medication and rest, ongoing, managed.**

Sight/Sound/Smell: **Right eye 20/40, left eye 20/40.**

Skin: **D: Acne at 15, treated with medication, resolved, minimal scarring.**

Cancer **M: Oral cancer (tongue) at 47, treated with surgery and radiation, in remission.**

Other: **D Benign bone cyst on heel at 3, treated with surgery, resolved.**

DONOR LAB RESULTS

Chlamydia: **Not Detected**
HIV 1 & 2: **Non-Reactive**
Hepatitis B: **Non-Reactive**
Urinalysis: **Normal**

Gonorrhea: **Not Detected**
CMV total antibody: ***Positive**
Hepatitis C: **Non-Reactive**
Chem panel: **Normal**

Syphilis: **Non-Reactive**
HTLV 1 & 2: **Non-Reactive**
CBC: **Normal**

**CMV IgM is negative/IgG positive. This combination shows a historic CMV exposure and donor is presumed to currently be non-infectious*

GENETIC SCREENING RESULTS: ALL TEST VALUES IN NORMAL RANGE

Genetic screening tests can significantly reduce, but never completely eliminate, the chance that a person is a carrier for a particular disorder.

Cystic Fibrosis: (> 500 mutations) **No mutation detected**
Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA): **Two copies of SMN1 detected**
Hemoglobinopathies/Thalassemia: **No abnormal hemoglobin detected (including sickle hemoglobin);
No evidence of thalassemia**

DONOR NARRATIVE: 5137

The content of this narrative has not been altered by TSBC staff. It reflects the original written work of the Donor

Describe your personality: introvert, extrovert, funny, serious, goal-oriented, curious, shy, etc.

On our way back home from a get-together with old college friends, my partner remarked, "Your friends really like you." I take things like that for granted but it surprised me to hear her say it. It got me thinking about myself more carefully. Of the lot, I'm not outgoing and I don't like being the center of attention, but after all these years they have strong memories of me and want me to visit them. What is it about me that they like?

One reason is that I can enjoy doing just about anything. I try to be open to as many things as possible and not let my own preconceived notions hold me back. For example, even though I'm a homebody, I've gone on camping trips and hang-gliding classes with my friends. These activities weren't always fun (hang-gliding left too many bruises) but it was time well spent because of the stronger bonds we formed. I might slow them down on a hike, but my friends invite me anyway because it's clear that I enjoy their company.

I am also affectionate and silly with people I love. I count my cats as friends and they like me a great deal despite the hugs and kisses they get. My human companions receive affection in other ways. I support my friends when they embark on new adventures, even if it means shivering with them on a cold morning at their farmer's market jewelry stall. It's never a burden to commiserate with them when they're down, either. For example, I took a pint of ice cream to a friend after a painful dental surgery and spent a few hours talking, which I think did more good than the painkillers did. No matter if they are happy or sad, I try my best to empathize with them and keep their spirits up when they sink.

As much as I like giving energy and care to my friends, I think they enjoy doing the same for me. When it comes to my work, I am serious and diligent but I often get carried away and work too hard. If they see this happening, my friends are quick to put things into perspective and remind me that my well-being is more important than my work. In general, I am happy to listen to good advice and, while I can be a bit stubborn at first, I usually take their advice to heart. This is another reason why I believe my friends like me as much as they do, as they can feel the rewards of positively affecting me as much as I can affect them.

Anyone can be amiable to others but the depth of a friendship can be judged by how open the members of the relationship are. I feel that my most likeable trait is my openness to feelings and new ideas. That is why my friendships are often so deep. Without it, no one would know that I was affectionate and silly, or see through my seriousness and ambition to see my fun-loving side, especially since I tend to be introverted and reserved around others. I'm grateful to my friends and happy to accept them and have them accept me.

What are your interests and talents?

From an early age, when I spent a lot of my playtime taking apart things like electric fans and my father's electric shaver, I have been fascinated by how things work. Exposure to science fiction as a youth led me channel that desire into finding out how Nature works through science, particularly physics. There are no greater rewards for me than finding exotic and beautiful effects and working to find a set of ideas that explains what I observed. I have a great deal of fun creating new ideas and connections between seemingly unrelated topics to explain my observations. Beside the excitement of success, science holds my interest because it awes me that we humans, in our tiny corner of the universe, can describe and predict many of the behaviors of Nature.

When I need to take time away from physics, I have fun looking for hidden connections in things. There are many of these to be found in history, international affairs, and jazz, which are what I give my attention to in my off time. I also like cooking new dishes as often as I can. I enjoy eating and experiencing novel flavors and it is neat to see how cooking techniques from one cuisine can be used in making another. I also keep and enjoy the company of cats. While cats are clearly different from humans, by watching them, playing with them, and caring for them I now appreciate how similar all we living creatures are.

What are some of your goals and ambitions in life? Where do you see yourself in 5 or 10 years?

In the next five years, I hope to deepen my relationship with my romantic partner and to marry. Professionally, I would like to pursue my own research agenda as a professor.

How would you describe your skills and interests in the following areas?

Math: My interest in math goes back to childhood. As an ambitious high schooler, I spent a summer vacation teaching myself geometry and trigonometry to advance a year in classes. Since I work as a physicist, I have a good grasp of some advanced fancy mathematics but I still like geometry best.

Mechanical: Over the years, I found that I am good at operating and repairing machines. I have fashioned parts out of aluminum and stainless steel using lathes and mills. Having the scent of machine oil after hours of working on a part is satisfying.

Athletic: As a young boy, I was quite athletic and often played baseball in the common yard of my apartment complex. As I grew more interested in academics, however, I lost my interest in sports. I still enjoy walking and hiking in scenic environments, like parks and forests.

Musical, Artistic, Creative: When I was 11 years old or so, I played trombone in my middle school's band. I liked it but quit because the public performance aspect was too stressful for me. A holdover of my earlier musical talent is my ability to quickly make up lyrics to songs I parody.

Language (what languages besides English do you speak?): Other than English, I know French, Korean, and a little German. My French education was in high school and I got to know it well enough to read and somewhat understand French news magazines. Most of that knowledge has gone away from disuse. The German comes from a fascination with the country after a vacation, though I only took one class on it during college.

Writing: Writing is very difficult for me as I torture myself finding the right words to my ideas. I put in so much effort since I know how easily readers can get confused and discouraged by poor writing.

Literature: When I pick up a book, I tend to read histories. My tastes are broad in that sense--- medieval Europe, the Great War, the history of technology and connections between ideas. They hold my interest because I enjoy seeing how the past affects our modern lives and perspectives.

Science: Science is my profession and passion. It is challenging to juggle broad concepts and mathematical models in my head, but when I can convincingly explain my observations to others it is deeply rewarding. My concentration is on the physics of materials. It is amusing to find out how crystal structure and seemingly exotic quantum mechanical effects determine the properties of the world we see and touch every day. Another fun and surprising aspect of my studies is how many ideas and theories about effects in materials overlap with cosmic topics, like models of the first moments of the universe or high-energy physics concepts.

Please list a few of your favorite:

Movies: The World's End, Hot Fuzz, Dr. Strangelove

Books/Authors: War: The Lethal Custom/Dyer, The Civil War/Foote, A Distant Mirror/Tuchman, The Feynman Lectures on Physics: Volume II/Feynman, Leighton, and Sands

Albums/Musicians/Performances: Fox Confessor Brings the Flood/Neko Case, Kind of Blue/Miles Davis, Deeds Not Words/Max Roach, Aerial/Kate Bush

What are a few of your reasons for becoming a sperm donor?

While I do not want children of my own, I still hope that whatever I am made of can help someone find a child to love and be happy watching grow up. I would like to think that some part of me can be born and thrive in the care of others, especially those who have worked so hard to conceive children.

Did you choose to be an Identity-Release® Program donor?

Yes No

Why did you make this choice?

New technology may improve the way we understand and predict inherited diseases or conditions from relatives. I wish to make myself available to any of my descendants who might want this kind of information from me.

Is there anything else you would like to share with participating families and offspring?

I hope that my contribution gave you all of the good parts of my nature and none of the bad. All my best wishes to you!





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HEALTH PROBLEMS DONOR 5137

FAMILY MEMBER	HEALTH PROBLEM	TREATMENT/RESOLUTION
Donor	Benign bone cyst, heel	Age at onset/diagnosis: 3 Treatment: Surgery Outcome: Resolved
	Allergies <i>Seasonal</i>	Age at onset/diagnosis: 12 Treatment: OTC meds as needed Outcome: Ongoing, managed
	Acne	Age at onset/diagnosis: 15 Treatment: Medication Outcome: Resolved, minimal scarring
	Depression	Age at onset/diagnosis: 29 Treatment: Medication Outcome: Ongoing, managed
Mother	High cholesterol	Age at onset/diagnosis: 40 Treatment: Diet change, medication Outcome: Resolved at 43
	Oral cancer <i>Tongue</i>	Age at onset/diagnosis: 47 Treatment: Surgery, radiation therapy Outcome: In remission
Father	Allergies <i>Seasonal</i>	Age at onset/diagnosis: 35 Treatment: OTC meds Outcome: Managed
	Migraines	Age at onset/diagnosis: 38 Treatment: OTC meds, rest Outcome: Ongoing, managed
	Sinusitis	Age at onset/diagnosis: 43 Treatment: Surgery Outcome: Resolved

Maternal Grandfather	Osteoarthritis	Age at onset/diagnosis: 66 Treatment: OTC meds Outcome: Managed
	Heart attack	Age at onset/diagnosis: 71 Treatment: None Outcome: Cause of death at 71
Maternal Grandmother	Heart attack	Age at onset/diagnosis: 65 Treatment: None Outcome: Cause of death at 65
Paternal Grandfather	Stroke	Age at onset/diagnosis: 68 Treatment: None Outcome: Cause of death
Paternal Grandmother	Heart attack <i>Died in sleep</i>	Age at onset/diagnosis: 70 Treatment: None Outcome: Cause of death at 70
Maternal Uncle	High blood pressure	Age at onset/diagnosis: 61 Treatment: Diet change Outcome: Managed

The above family medical history information has been self-reported by the donor. We work with each donor to obtain as complete and accurate information as possible, but we are unable to completely rule out the existence of other health information that is not known, or that remains unreported to us.

As a board certified genetic counselor, I have reviewed this donor's family medical history for identifiable patterns of inheritance that may place the donor or his biological offspring at increased risk for certain health problems. ("Increased risk" is risk that is greater than the risk in the general population).

Upon review of the available family medical history information from this donor, it appears that the older family members have suffered from heart disease, but none before age 50, and all may have been influenced by lifestyle factors. Otherwise, the risk for similar health problems occurring in offspring is not expected to exceed the risk in the general population.

Cynthia Kane, M.S., C.G.C.
Genetic Counselor