

## Donor 3703 Interview Notes

Donor 3703 is intelligent and engaging to talk to. He peppers his introspective conversation with funny, wry, and sarcastic commentary. He is an acute observer of people and situations. He is very tall and fit. He has long limbs and moves gracefully. He is by far the tallest person in his family and says that he never had an awkward growth spurt, but was always tall and therefore well coordinated. He has thick dark hair and intense, dark blue eyes. He has a neatly trimmed beard and a handsome, well-proportioned face. He has a serious affect that dissolves when he says something funny and smiles at his joke despite himself.

Donor 3703 talked about enjoying life and being an open person, even at times when things have been more difficult. He is very open about the process of donating. He describes himself as someone who isn't a social butterfly, but keeps a few very close friends. He is very close to his mother and very open about the process of donating. He has discussed the process with his mom. His parents divorced when he was nine and though he lived with his mother, he greatly enjoyed the time he spent with his dad, playing tennis and going to movies.

He has a wide-range of talents that began showing when he was a small child. His grandmother worked at a bookstore and taught him to read at age three and a half when he was visiting her. He was a bright child who could readily entertain himself and spent a lot of time playing in his room and reading. He read a lot, especially action adventure, horror, and sci-fi. His favorite books were the Goosebumps series. He was good at school and tested in the 98<sup>th</sup> percentile and above in both reading and math. He skipped the fourth grade because of his abilities. He also showed talent in sports. His coaches were always extremely encouraging and thought he showed tremendous potential, especially because of the combination of his height and coordination. He was particularly good at tennis and basketball. He still plays basketball with his buddies once a week and weight lifts six days a week.

School was very easy for him and sometimes aggravating. He always felt that there was too much busywork. A creative, nonconformist since a young age, he would turn the coloring book pages over and draw on the other side. He got in trouble in kindergarten for writing in cursive, when they were only supposed to be printing.

His bent for creative expression is still with him. An English major, he prefers discussion classes where students can really dig into the material themselves to lectures, which feel too passive. Speaking his mind is very important to him. He loved his public speaking class, where he was able to have some space to share his opinions and be funny.

These days his passion in life is music. He is getting his degree, but is ready to be "done with the system" and get to focus as much time as possible on composing music, playing instruments, and singing. He reluctantly described the genre of music he writes as "falling under the rock umbrella." He is a fan of everything from "Johnny Cash to Death Metal." (Though had to clarify that his leanings aren't that strong toward Death Metal, though he does appreciate the genre.) One of his favorite things about living near a larger city is getting to spend time in jazz clubs and take advantage of the local music scene. He realizes that a career in music is difficult to achieve, but knows he won't be able to live with himself if he doesn't try. He hopes to someday be able to support himself solely with his music and in the meantime, find work that will allow him to continue to have time to pursue music.

When he's done with college, he's planning on taking some time to travel. Possibly moving overseas to teach English as a second language and explore other parts of the world, before coming back to the states to focus on a music career.