

**READING CHARACTER
AT SIGHT, SEVEN SIMPLE
LESSONS, LESSON FIVE**

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Reading Character at Sight, seven simple lessons, Lesson Five by Katherine M. H. Blackford

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SEVEN SIMPLE
LESSONS BY
KATHERINE M.H. BLACKFORD

LESSON FIVE

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READING CHARACTER AT SIGHT

LESSON FIVE

The Meaning of Race

CHAPTER I

THE FOUR GREAT WHITE RACES

In this lesson I am going to show you some things of highest value in reading character at sight.

They will be easy for you because they will be based on the difference between people of different races.

You do not need a course in reading character at sight to teach you, in a general way, what the typical Frenchman's traits are—or the leading traits of a man of any other race.

You know that the Frenchman is debonair, courteous, artistic, beauty-loving, demonstrative and frugal.

It is true, some of us may have thought, before the Great War, that the Frenchman was excitable, frivolous and decadent. We have been shown our mistake. But these popular misconceptions of one another, by the races of the world, are common. They usually apply only to surface indications. Intelligent and observant Americans especially, since they see so many immigrants and travel so much themselves, know about what to expect from typical members of the races of Europe.

But America has been called "the melting pot."

People of all races have been mingled and fused here from the very beginning. Many were mixtures of various races when they came to our shores.

Then too, children of immigrants—even those of purest racial blood—differ from their parents because America has



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a different environment and gives a different training from those of the Old Country.

So you cannot read character merely by looking up a man's race.

There are too many races mixed in his blood and he himself has undergone too many changes.

While this is true, it is true also, that every man's racial inheritance is one of the strongest forces in molding his character—and that it is responsible for some of the most important traits of his character.

In this lesson, therefore, you will learn something about the meaning of race, something about how to see a man's racial traits in his looks, something about how to read these traits correctly, no matter how mixed his blood. This you will do, in regard to some very important traits, by observing the shape of his skull.

Now you already read character at sight, to some extent, by noticing the shape of a man's head.

You know a "highbrow" by the height of his forehead. You know, by experience, that a man with a low, flat head has low ideals. You know that a convex forehead indicates quick, practical thought and a concave forehead means slow, theoretical thought. You know the difference between mental, motive and vital head shape.

The shape of the skull is one of the most persistent and reliable of all racial marks. Those who study races depend upon it very largely in determining race.

Since you deal almost entirely with white people—also because when you have learned the principles, you will find that they apply equally well to any people—your study will be much simpler and easier if you confine it to the white races, at least for the present.

To understand fully all about the traits of a race and how they show themselves in a man's looks, you would need to learn the history of mankind all the way back to the begin-

ning. This history no one knows—probably no one ever will know, although we are learning more and more about it.

Even what is known is too long a story to tell here. But it is a fascinating story and you can read it in works on biology, anthropology, ethnology and history.

A brief review of some of the steps in the development of the white race, however, will help you to see and understand racial traits in the people you meet.

The white races probably had their origin, as white people, in Northwestern Europe, although some scholars say they came from Asia.

How they originally got into Northwestern Europe nobody knows. From there, however, they spread long before the dawn of recorded history to the British Isles, all continental Europe, Egypt, Asia Minor, and even as far as India, conquering as they went and setting up the ancient civilizations of India, Egypt, Palestine, Persia, Greece and Rome.

Because they were not fitted to survive in tropical and subtropical climates, these ancient white conquerors and rulers died out and the empires and kingdoms they had set up toppled over.

Afterwards Europe was overrun by Asiatics, who killed many of the white people who were left and drove some of the others back into their original northwestern homes.

Origin of Alpines, Mediterraneans and Nordics

The descendants of these Asiatic conquerors intermarried with the white people in Central Europe and gave rise to what scholars call the Alpine race.

The white people left on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea in Greece, Italy and southern Spain gradually developed characteristics of their own. These and their descendants are now called the Mediterranean race.

The original white races of Northwestern Europe are called Nordics.

Since the Asiatic invasion there have been further migrations and more mixing of races until to-day there are four great principal branches of the white race, or to put it in another way, four great white races. These are:

The Anglo Saxon;

The Teutonic;

The Latin;

The Slav.

Jews, Turks, Syrians, Persians, Armenians, Arabs and some other peoples, are commonly considered as belonging to the white race. Broadly speaking they do. They are white men. But there is in them little, if any, admixture of the ancient Nordic race, which is more or less represented in all four of the great white races named in the foregoing list.

Origin of Anglo Saxons, Teutons, Latins and Slavs

The terms Anglo Saxon, Teutonic, Latin and Slav, are very loose, and for that reason are popular rather than scientific.

The Anglo Saxon race is a mixture of the Nordic and the Mediterranean principally.

The Teutonic race is a mixture of the Nordic and the Alpine principally.

The Latin race is a mixture of the Mediterranean and the Alpine principally with some Nordic.

The Slav is a mixture of the Nordic with the Alpine and other Asiatic race elements.

These statements are only general and refer only to a broad classification. As a matter of fact, people have always been so restless and have moved about so that every race has in it a good many strains from a number of other races.

While this is true, the leading traits of character of each race are quite distinct, just as their leading physical characteristics are distinct.

There is what is called a "typical" complexion, body build, form of features, and shape of skull for each race, which can be easily recognized by any keen observer. By studying these, we learn to know to what great white race any man belongs, and thus tell what are some of his mental and emotional traits.

In making this study, we shall learn just what kind of people form the English, the French, the German, the Italian, the Russian and other nationalities.

To this end we shall study carefully three of the great white races—the Anglo Saxon, the Latin, and the Teutonic. The Slavs are so diverse in their racial inheritance that there is no such thing as a "typical" Slav. There are, instead, several different types. The principles of skull shape apply to all of them, however. When you know what skull shape indicates, as you will before you finish this lesson, and you keep in mind the other principles learned in this course, you need not be puzzled in reading, at sight, the character of any man, no matter what his race.

An Important Warning

In reading character at sight from the marks of race, do not go to extremes.

Remember that every race is a mixture.

Remember that no two human beings are exactly alike in either looks or character. So, Anglo Saxons are not all alike—not all "typical." Neither are Latins or Teutons or Slavs.

Remember that you cannot read character at sight accurately from one mark alone. You have to observe many marks and take them all into consideration.