

21 February 2000 : watching you on Presidents' Day

Dear Brian:

You light up my life! I've been watching you for the past couple of years on C-Span, and your work has touched me deeply. I can't remember how I found you; it may have been my mother.

The Presidents series was brilliant - ageless and human: a classic. Book Notes is life itself and has opened doors to places I would have never gone; it inspires.

I could listen to you forever. You are a man with a Renaissance mind. Your brilliance, mild humor, integrity, tolerance and articulate manner bring out the best in all.

How do you manage all you do?
Do you sit down and write letters as Thomas Jefferson did?
Would you write to me and tell me about yourself?

Take some time and share the priorities of your life - those that guide you?

I am trying to lead an ~~an~~ authentic life - how do you keep that authenticity?
You shine like a piece of beach glass in the sand.

What are the passions that move your soul?

What keeps you up at night?
What next? Where are you going?

Tell me a place you want to visit.

Tell me a person you want to meet.

What are the yearnings of your heart?

I'm fascinated by you and instinctively drawn to you.... your eyes! your spirit!
who am I?

I'm a teacher. I teach French and Spanish in a junior high in Deerfield, Ill. (it's a suburb N. of Chicago) It's consuming and will never let you go (like parenthood) It's the exterior life. History and books are passions in my life. So is music. I also work in the children's dept. of a public library.

I am researching Bernard de Cluny (medieval French monk)

I am writing a Native American Nativity Pageant based on the Huron.

I am researching the French in Illinois. The Lewis and Clark expedition haunts me. My favorite biography is David McCullough's Mornings on Horseback. It changed my life forever. I love Theodore Roosevelt; I look for him in every man I meet.

I sing in an Anglican church choir. I play the Chopin Nocturnes when time permits and I can sit down at the piano.

I'm 54 years old - and, yes, with 4 children - single and doing it all

_____ is at Indiana University; he's a French horn major in the School of Music
_____ goes to U. of Ill. next fall to study architecture

_____ is 15, _____ is 7

Now you know me - can you trust me and write?
It's okay if you think not - I understand.
You are in my prayers. _____

Do you keep a journal or diary?

I graduated from _____