

Case #11 — Evidence By The Book

“Book Tests” are a category of evidence in which a discarnate entity directs an incarnate person to words or phrases written in a place never previously accessed by that person, thereby communicating a message that supposedly could not be a product of mind reading or unconscious creation by the living. The first book tests on record were initiated in 1917 during sessions held by Gladys Osborne Leonard, one of the most renowned mediums in England.

Once, when the Reverend Drayton Thomas was having a sitting with Leonard, the spirit of his father came through and told him that he had tried to communicate in the past by knocks and raps but had failed to make sufficiently distinctive and noticeable sounds. A few nights later, Thomas was at home when he heard a systematic rapping punctuated three times by a loud double knock.

When next he attended a session with Leonard, the Reverend was told by *Feda* (Leonard’s control) that his father had asked her to make the knocks, so she had gone to his house and attempted to spell her name using Morse code. Then *Feda* announced that the elder Thomas had devised a test. The son was to go to the bookshelf behind the door of his study and, from the second shelf up, withdraw the fifth book from the left. Near the top of page 17, he would find words describing what had occurred.

When Thomas did as instructed, he discovered that the fifth book from the left on the second shelf was a volume of Shakespeare, and in the third line from the top of page 17 (Act I, Scene 3 of King Henry VI) was the phrase: “I will not answer thee with words, but blows.”

Discussion

Book tests demonstrate a form of remote-sensing and are evaluated according to how likely it is that the medium/percipient could accomplish the feat on her own and how meaningful the information proves to be. Additional commentary on this case and book tests in general may be found on pages 85-87 of *The Survival Files*. See also Case #52.

For further information see: *Some New Evidence for Human Survival* by Charles Drayton Thomas, 1922, pages 15-16. Also: *Immortality* by Alson J. Smith, 1954, pages 75-76.



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