

Hidden Talents

Aptitudes of Louis Armstrong & Theodore Geisel



Louis “Satchmo” Armstrong is known internationally as a renowned jazz musician, but perhaps only diehard fans

are aware that, despite his lack of formal schooling, he was a gifted writer, too.

He penned his autobiography solo, without the use of the usual ghost writer

or collaborator. Armstrong’s book is regarded as one of the finest written

in the genre, according to *Wall Street Journal* drama and music critic Terry Teachout.

And consider, Theodore S. Geisel, unanimously voted least likely to succeed

during his senior year at an Ivy League college.

He had a 2.6 GPA and ranked 165th out of 385 students, yet during the Depression era

he went on to become a famous Madison Avenue ad executive, a satirist, cartoonist, and Hollywood scriptwriter.

In time, Geisel would walk away from his career,

taking a massive pay cut to focus on the field where he felt he belonged; writing and illustrating children's books.

Geisel had taken only a single art class, having been told long ago by experts that his strange doodling lacked artistic sense. But Dr. Seuss had finally found his calling.

Takeaway: Most people have, on average, six innate aptitudes, many of which are unused or hidden, according to aptitude researchers.

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<http://wp.me/P3Kr4S-U>

References

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***Theodore Suess Geisel: Lives and Legacies.* Donald Pease. Oxford University Press, 2010.**
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