

# Index

## Numerics

1-1/2-inchers 237

$2 + 2 = 5$

entirely possible for me in primary school 131

22 (name of cove in Kensico Reservoir in childhood) 228

2-inchers 237

## A

a.c.

questions I had regarding 458

academic career

why impossible for me 473

academics

criticism of 1185, 1196

acne 320, 475, 496

face has come to a slow boil 496

treatments for 351

activist friend of author ("World's Busiest Woman"), 1433

Aida trumpet 515

airports

Armonk 212

Rye 78

alcohol

use of to enhance creativity 533

Aldravandi

Al 30

"Alice in Wonderland" 1032

Allen, John 709, 751, 816

"The Anatomy of Lisp" 816

alternating current

questions I had regarding 458

why not very inefficient because of all those electrons rushing back and forth? 458

aluminum boat factory

riveter in an 442

amateur

I was meant to be an 1185

America

my strong dislike of 1002

"The Analyst" 405

"The Anatomy of Lisp" 816

Andre, Maurice

attending a concert at which he played 759

anger

in childhood, when attempting to build things 21

"The Answer Man" 181

aphorisms

in Hewlett-Packard publications dept. 672

"Are you a lesbium?" 279

"Are you busy?"

at HP, supposed to ask "Are you interruptible?" instead 873

Armonk Airport 212

Armstrong, Louis 415

Artesian Magazine 456

Ashbery, John

"Crossroads in the Past" 793

astronomy

attempts to like 408

## **B**

Bach, J. S.

my mother's attitude toward 350

importance of in my teens 350

Orchestral Suite No. 3 351

Concerto for Two Violins 351

Concerto for Oboe in D Minor, 1026

Chromatic Fantasy and Fugue, 1026

Duet in Cantata No. 78, Stich-Randall and Hermann, 489

Baker, Chet 332

mastery of bop idiom's accenting of notes 516

solo on "Love Nest" a classic 516

ball

bouncing a 96

balloon

paper, in "American Boys' Handibook" 173

band

traveling with the 517

Barnstone, Len 399, 1164

Basie, Count 335

listening to the band at Birdland 337

Batchelor, Egl 852, 892

"Be true to yourself"

argument against 540

Beatles

"Blackbird" 657

"Lady Madonna" 657

"Sgt. Pepper..." 656

Beatles' music 758

Beckert, Eddy 67

Beckman Instruments

working at 555

beer  
    first away from home 328  
    first drink of 29  
Beethoven, Ludwig van  
    The Late Quartets 333  
Beethoven, Ludwig von  
    trying to listen to through my mother's interruptions 378  
Beiderbecke, Bix 415  
Berkeley  
    moving to 915  
    politics in, 984-1002, 1436-1439  
Berkeley, Bishop 405  
Bernstein, Leonard  
    learning he was homosexual 482  
Bessel functions 458  
Bethlehem Steel  
    tour of plant at 450  
Billy the Kid 225  
"Bird" (Charlie Parker) 330  
Birdland 336  
birthmark 730  
biting of 207  
Bittinger, Marvin L.  
    "Logic and Proof" 705  
Bittinger, Marvin L., "Logic and Proof" 690, 705  
Black Streak, the 175  
"Blackbird" 758  
Block, Martin (disk jockey) 346  
Blue Flame 533  
bohemian group in Canyon, 892-906  
book  
    first book of mine to be published by a commercial publisher 1029  
    unsuccessful attempt to sell ideas of my new book to word-processor publisher, FrameMaker  
    1030  
Boolean algebra 689  
bop idiom  
    accenting of notes 516  
bow and arrow 159  
Bowery  
    articulate drunk in the 507  
Boys' State 388  
Bracewell, Ronald N.  
    "The Fourier Transform and Its Applications" 678  
brass choir 342  
breakfast 56  
Brick Road, the 176

- broadcast 471
- brother, author's 221
  - death of, call, 586-87
  - author's son his reincarnation 749
- Browne, Sir Thomas
  - on Milo lifting a calf 63
- Brubeck, Dave
  - "Give a Little Whistle" 345, 350
- "buckets" model of organizing a written work 1033
- bus, in Valhalla 12
- bush pilot 319
- butterflies
  - collecting 243

## C

- caddying 300, 385
- calculus
  - at RPI 403
  - difficulties in understanding infinitesimals 404
  - hatred of students who completed undergraduate education in three years 449
  - hatred of students who simply ground out homework problems 449
- "campus"
  - fashion at HP in eighties for designating groups of buildings 873
- Canal Street 311
- cancer scare, 1446
- candy 117
- Cantor, Georg
  - theory of infinities 692
- cars
  - in childhood 107
  - speeds of small vs. large, per Jeffrey 734
- cartridges 112
- "Catcher in the Rye" 351
- Catskill Mountains
  - summer job playing in hotel band in 391
- cave
  - next to Old Barn 166
- caves 109, 165
- ceilings
  - miracle that they don't fall down 163
- Centi, Florence 64
- Charles, Ray 758
- Chaucer, Geoffrey
  - "The Canterbury Tales" read by Mr. Jones 300
- Cheeseburger, the Perfect 518

cherry bombs 239  
Chessman execution 488  
chewing gum 118  
    at Frank Fetzer's house 118  
chips  
    physicist whose hobby was taking them apart 764  
Christ, Peter 139  
Christmas City Six  
    a possible recording contract 504  
Churchill, Winston S.  
    "A History of the English Speaking Peoples" 352  
cigarette smoking  
    affectations surrounding 503  
    as a jazz musician 503  
cigarettes  
    rolling my own 439  
    starting to smoke 90  
civilized  
    meaning of being civilized 683  
Classic Comics 222  
classical music  
    first understanding of it came through hillbilly music 205  
classical music -- see also "music"  
    attempts to get coffee shop to play as background music, 1447  
Clearasil 320  
clouds moving with the rotating earth 741  
cobblestones  
    in Switzerland 4  
Code, the  
    definition of 77  
    one of the the Two Dilemmas 50  
    strategy for dealing with 147  
Coester, Alice  
    as judge of my early poems 541  
coffee shops 1141  
coin changers 12  
Coke 97, 98  
cold  
    cure for the common 396  
Cole, Natalie, "This Will Be" 886  
Coleridge, Samuel Taylor  
    poetry as the best words in the best order 459  
"collect"  
    Jeff's belief that this was a way to obtain money 733  
Collins, Al "Jazzbeau", disk jockey 339, 656  
comedy

- college paper on 468
- comics
  - classic 222
- comics, making our own 145
- company
  - that I started 1030
- computer
  - anxiety produced by 870
- computer documentation, author's new method for generating, 1023
- computer science
  - best preparation for studying math I could have had 755
- "Confessions of an English Opium Eater", reading 363
- Connery, Sam 572
- Conro, Miss 4, 130, 276
- construction sites 165
- Corelli Concerti Grossi
  - associated with preparing to go out on a date 798
- Cove, the 228
- cowboy suit 110
- craftsman
  - my attitude toward being a 159
  - my father as 20
- craftsmanship
  - the kids' version of 20
- crew cuts 76
- Criswell, Prof. 542
- cross-country running 374
- crystal set 308

## **D**

- Dam, Kensico 97, 98
- Danny in White Plains High School 374
- David's sling 247
- de Paris, Wilbur and Sidney 525
- death penalty
  - changing my mind and deciding I was for it 488
- Debbie, student renter of room in author's house, 1410-1426
- depression
  - refuge in sleep 1024
- dialogue
  - preference for in novels, stories 541
- diatomaceous earth 157
- dictatorship of the proletariat
  - problem understanding the meaning of 700
- Dilemmas of Childhood 49

dinner 57  
dirt  
    playing in the 160  
"divers" vs. "diverse" 471  
Dixieland  
    first playing of 305  
dixieland 525  
Dixieland tunes  
    played by "The Saints" 426  
dog on the back porch 15  
dogs howling at sirens 235  
Domino, Fats 490  
doves, crying of 15  
drawing  
    attempts at 102, 222  
    Orpheus Staples' 145, 260  
dreams  
    lucid 286  
    of flying 286  
dressing properly  
    importance of 377  
drives  
    on Sunday 60  
drug therapy 857  
drugstores 97  
dungarees 110  
Dyson, Freeman  
    on engineers vs. scientists 451  
    on good scientists vs. good engineers 763

## **E**

Easter 121  
education  
    my essay on 535  
Egl's parties 852  
Einstein's theories  
    my grandfather's conviction they were wrong 408  
electrical engineering  
    questions I had regarding alternating current 458  
elevators  
    riding in 216  
Eliot, T. S. 466  
    perfection of his poetry 464  
Elmer 788  
Emil



- death of 837
- endurance, my 76
- engineer
  - early attempts of parents to make me into one 22
- engineering
  - rank of in intellectual hierarchy 451
  - reasons for hating 451
- engineers
  - reasons for my dislike of them 451
- engineers vs. scientists 451
- England
  - as civilized country 683
- Environment concept
  - first occurrence of the 485
- epiphany
  - at age two in Switzerland 4
- eyes open under water means you can't breathe 122

## **F**

- fads
  - among kids 151
- fairy
  - fear of being called this in childhood 279
- fallacy, logical
  - if you can't define the dividing line between two things, they are the same 951
- fantasy life in childhood 107
- farts 76
- "Fat, Fat, the River Rat" 644
- father, my 19
  - as practical engineer 23
  - building a fire 124
  - death of 290
  - his cigars 24
  - his favorite mountain man 224
  - his house in Berkeley in thirties 1150
  - on heating big houses 61
  - on importance of doing things manually 66
  - on wobbly tables 61
  - shaving 27
- Fats Domino 490
- feet, dirty 76
- Ferraro, Kay 373
- Fetzer, Frank 211
- Feynman, Richard
  - on similarity of equations for oscillating weight and current in an inductive circuit 691

fingernails 207  
fire department, Valhalla 235  
fire engine 235  
fire, building a 235  
fire, making 89  
fireflies 123  
fires  
    going to 235  
fireworks 235  
fist through windows 378  
Five-Day Plan for Quitting Smoking 588  
flat-bottomed boat, the 177  
flintlock rifle 423  
florist 63  
flour  
    making explosions using 236  
fly  
    never wanting my mother to kill a 74  
Fornro, Mrs. 130, 276  
Free U. 700  
Free University 700  
fresh air  
    smell of 121  
furniture  
    making 170

## G

Gabe, author's grandson  
    proposes marriage at age  $4\frac{3}{4}$ , 1432  
    as youthful scientist, 1432-33  
"gadgets" 31  
Galantiere, Lewis, on psychological laws in Proust 1136  
garbage truck 108  
gardening  
    my mother's 52  
genius  
    fear of becoming a 137, 199  
    fear of being a 199, 516  
Georgia, academic friend of author, 1003-1011  
German  
    my parents' use of it to hide what they were saying 30  
"get laid"  
    Dr. Riskin's questioning me about my use of the term 580  
"Get rid of sequence!" 637  
"get through" 1449

Gilbert, Tom 772  
girls  
    dressing to be attractive and complaining about men's thinking of nothing but sex 322  
    envy of their privilege of being hypocritical 321  
Gladstone Gander  
    who he was 16  
glaucoma  
    first diagnosis 658  
"glorious noise" 509  
glow-in-the-dark badges 181  
Goat Problem, the 697  
goatee 412  
"God shows" 739  
Goedecke, George  
    technique of improvising 427  
Goelz, Dave 677  
goggles 209  
good  
    things that were inherently 156  
grammar  
    by ear 355  
grandfather, maternal  
    having to "compute the calendar" each year 408  
grandfather, maternal  
    opinion of man's chances of ever traveling to the moon 408  
    opinion that Einstein's theories were wrong 408  
grandfather, maternal, my  
    Swiss astronomer who each year had to "do the calendar" 3  
grandfather, my maternal  
    convinced that Einstein was wrong 272  
"Grandfather's Clock" 290  
Grasslands  
    the Psychological Observation Ward 438  
gravity  
    measuring acceleration of and getting the wrong answer 407  
"gray, cold" 375  
Greek, the 542  
Gristede's grocery store 42  
"The Guardian" 590  
gum at Frank Fetzer's house 118  
guns  
    making, as a kid 159

## **H**

haircuts 76

hands  
  washing 56  
handwriting  
  my early interpretation of 31  
Hardy Boys books 225  
  meeting son of the author of 477  
Hardy, G. H.  
  on puzzles and mathematical curiosities 1195  
Hartmann, Mrs. 59  
"Hate brewed in his heart" 379  
hay fever 122  
hearing tests 136  
Heidegger, Martin  
  first reading of "Being and Time" 683  
Heim, Peter 329, 465  
  as improviser 514  
Heintzeman, Jim 574  
Henderson, Helen, realtor 791  
hep 331  
Hewlett, Bill  
  as engineer 708  
Hewlett-Packard  
  and unions 768  
  bomb at HP Labs facility 702  
  employee policies 768  
  HP Way 768  
high notes  
  difficulty of playing 515  
high-tops 135  
Hilliard, Mr., drugstore owner 97  
hip 331  
hitchhiking 385, 387, 388, 395, 398, 419  
homosexuality  
  reputed signs of in the sixties 577  
Hoolihan, Dan 877  
"Hooray for the Visiting Chairman!" 591  
Hooray for the Visiting Chairman!" 591  
house  
  in Berkeley, 928-934  
housemates 1038  
houses  
  looking at 61  
HP 35 calculator 708  
HP Way 768  
Hurley, Pat 343  
huts 162

The Trench 161  
hypochondria  
mine 658

## I

"I know a great deal about something!" 447  
ideas  
    importance of in mathematics 1327  
    my confidence in my ability to recognize good ones 695  
"idiot-proof" 760  
IHTP 403  
"Imagine your parents making love." 277  
immortality  
    professors left out half the truth about achieving 456  
improvising  
    characteristics of a good improvisation 512  
    perplexity about how it should be done 512  
    question of importance of knowing musical theory in 414  
    self-confidence in judging 334  
inferiors, working for my 1139  
infinitesimal  
    difficulties in understanding 404  
insomnia  
    cure for Marcia's 645  
instructions  
    my desire to reduce all work to a set of 179  
integrals  
    early attempts at doing them 410  
integrated circuit -- see also "chip"  
intellectual development 683  
interpretation  
    as source of tyranny 1091  
IQ test  
    version I would have preferred in high school 359  
"Is this important or it is just mathematics?" 828  
Italian  
    studying 686  
Italian laborers 165

## J

Jason, friend of author at Hewlett-Packard, 831-832  
    end of friendship, 1277-1291  
jazz  
    decision to devote myself to 328

- improvising in
  - is this working 525
- improvization
  - great solo by Sidney de Paris 526
  - in the nineties 512
  - nature of a good improvization 512
- listening to 331
- playing along with recordings 758
- progressive
  - trying to play 516
- self-confidence in judging improvisations 334
- jazz improvisation
  - agonies during 415
- jazz lingo 331
- jeans 110
- Jeff, author's son
  - complete lack of interest in war games, war toys as a child 716
  - results of the way we brought him up 927
  - why he stopped believing in Santa Claus 742, 745 , 746, 891
  - nicknames for 723
  - reaction to divorce, 776-780
    - his heartbreaking question, "Why don't you come back and live with us again?", 779
  - wedding, 1259
  - birth of his son, 1396 – more under "Gabe"
  - career as currency trader, 926-27
- Jenny Clarkson Home for Girls 287
- jewelry
  - as Gadget 35
- Jewish
  - assumption among friends that I am 66
- jig
  - for use in making things 179
- Jimmy Ryan's 525
- Johnson, Pres. Lyndon B.
  - letter to 593
- jokes
  - anxiety of telling 580
- jokes, dirty
  - little kids' version of 730
- Jones, Mr., English teacher at Briarcliff High School 300
- journal
  - beginning of 447
  - Dr. Riskin's opinion of the 579
  - throwing it out 665
  - why didn't call it a diary 447
  - writing in rather than writing short stories 455

Joyce, James  
    attitude toward society and himself 456  
judgement  
    by whether things worked or not 21  
judgement of right to live by whether things worked or not  
    model planes 210  
junk man 108

## **K**

Kaffinetti, David, 1443  
Kafka, Franz  
    "The Metamorphosis" 368  
Kathy, woman with whom author lived for five years, 847-859  
Kaufmann, Walter  
    "Existentialism from Dostoevsky to Sartre" 683  
Kensico 65  
Kensico Dam 97, 98  
Kenton, Stan 332  
kids  
    sayings among 147  
kite  
    tissue-paper 171  
knickers 135  
knife  
    imperfections in a 167  
    sharpening a 167  
knives 33  
Koch, Ilse 41

## **L**

Labhardt, Mr. and Mrs. 20  
Laddie, neighbor's dog 16  
Lane, Frankie 346  
language we used as kids 147  
"lateral arabesque..." 807  
Latin 231  
    study of 689  
Lautremont, on where poetry is 1026  
lawn  
    my brilliant idea of transplanting weed grass from the rose garden 1046  
learn  
    being outraged at someone else telling me how to 451  
learning  
    rage at being told how to go about 48

leprosy, fear of 77  
letters  
    to Levy 551  
Leuenberger, Emil  
    his books 553  
Levin, Dr. Stan  
    the argument over X-rays 586  
Levin, Harry  
    on Joyce's attitude toward society and himself 456  
Levinsky, Jeff 865  
Lifesavers 117  
Lincoln Logs 159  
Lindholm, Len 20  
Lindsay, Vachel  
    "The Congo" 689  
literary criticism 467  
"Little Bix" 415  
load 450  
"Log means exponent!" 229  
logical fallacy  
    if you can't define the dividing line between two things, they are the same. 951  
loneliness  
    of all creatures and all objects in the world 74  
"The Long Way Home" (story) 367  
losing things 35  
lunch  
    in primary school 131

## **M**

MacShane's 84  
magazines 23, 31  
making love  
    nothing but rules 793  
making things  
    absence of pleasure in 159  
    rage at failures encountered in 21  
management  
    nobility of as a craft 561  
Marcella, author's former wife  
    courting of, 621-627  
    marriage to, 627-629  
    birth of son, Jeff, 649  
    divorce, 776-780  
    words of appreciation sent to her, 1399  
    she suddenly terminates all communication with author without explanation, 1400



- marijuana
  - first experience with 558
- master's degree in computer science, earning a 751
- master's degree in English, applying for 691
- mathematician
  - what makes a 448
- mathematicians
  - and graduate students, as factory workers 1190
  - criticism of 1197
- mathematics
  - benefits of coming to mathematics from computer science 1193
  - classroom teaching of 692
  - ideas, not notation, is fundamental 1327
  - my naivete re meaning of symbols 706
  - rage when unable to solve a problem in 21
  - struggles to find readers for my papers 1185, 1317
  - studying computer science was the best preparation for studying math that I could have had 755
  - tutoring, 1370
- Math Wars, 1317
- meals 56
- meaning of things 259
  - provided by music 116
- meat and piano wire
  - self as 382
- "Mein Kampf", reading 352
- message
  - from the Universe 171
- Michelle, former running partner and long-time friend
  - and Jane, her mother, 803-805
  - reunion with, 1306-1308
- microscope
  - looking through the 157
- "Mile of the Century"
  - watching the 396
- milkman 108, 125
- minor poets 467
- Miss Sullivan, my father's secretary 277
- Modern Jazz Quarter 332
- Monk, Thelonious 529
- Montaigne
  - influence on my writing style 1032
- Montesano, Jim, gardener 65
- mother, author's
  - attitude toward "snooping" guests 54
  - buying greeting cards for 475
  - love of waltzes 53

- phone calls to, from 878
- second marriage of 552
- shopping for plants 63
- shopping with 42
- visiting in San Francisco 619
- phone calls and visits to, 842-43, 876-886
- death of, 1246-1250
- "Motivation and Interest" 764
- motorcycles 114
- Mrs. Donovan 118
- mud pies 160
- Mulligan, Gerry 332
  - "Jazz Goes to High School" 524
- muppets
  - HP employee with a talent for making 677
- murder
  - coming close to committing 876
- music
  - as provider of meaning of trees and glade 116
  - associated with preparing to go out on a date 798
  - being interrupted by my mother while listening to 378
  - how many times in a lifetime we hear our favorite works 1028
  - missed opportunity to be avant-garde on piano 198
  - perfect works 758
  - responses to certain great works, e.g., Bach's "Chromatic Fantasy" 1026
  - saddest music ever written 1028
- "Music Days" 306
- music, popular
  - my opinion of as a child 64
- musicians
  - feeling at home with 452
  - formulas for paying 509
  - should be paid by the number of notes they play 394
- "Mysterioso" 758

## N

- Nahikian, Howard M., "Topics in Modern Mathematics" 692
- nails, biting of 207
- Naipaul, V. S.
  - on importance of aspiration, achievement 78
- names, my brother's and mine 18
- Naomi, student renter of room in author's house, part-time piano teacher, 1047-1054
- Nash, Jr., John Forbes
  - biography of 822
- Nesbit, John, storyteller 63

Nesbit, Lynn, literary agent 593  
New Criticism, The 466  
New York accent  
    hatred of 457  
New York City  
    hatred of 454, 457  
"New Yorker" magazine 540, 541  
Newport Jazz Festival 339  
"the News"  
    example of a jazz improvisation "delivering the News" 516  
news story  
    reason for structure of 479  
"Nick Carter, Master Detective" 180  
Nickerson, Peachie 569  
nickname  
    of Alex Gray 324  
nicknames  
    for Jeffrey 723  
nicknames, my 75  
Nietzsche, Friedrich  
    on professionals who can only follow a course that others have given them 1190  
noise  
    lower class's need for 1002  
Nordstrom  
    shopping at 43  
not Being There 147  
"Nulla confessione sine ameliorazione" 784  
numbers vs. structure 695

## O

O'Neill, Michael 1136  
objects  
    transparent 259  
"Of Human Bondage" 352  
"Oh, Happy Day" 349  
oil truck 108  
Old Barn, The 109  
"The Open Cell" 664  
orange  
    squeezing juice out to make a flame 216  
Orpheus Staples 145  
oysters  
    in Schrafft's Restaurant 59

## P

Paddy 397  
pads used by waiters, gasmen 60  
parachutes 214  
Parklane Road 23, 61  
Parks, Jr., Gordon 374  
pencils  
    smell of 131  
perfect pitch (see also "relative pitch") 394, 513  
perfume  
    asking a woman what kind she is wearing 395  
PhD  
    reasons for not getting a 473  
Phi Beta Kappa 458  
phone numbers  
    at 14 Elm St. 13  
photograph  
    of Jeff and me, my deep despair when it was damaged 1250  
physics  
    why can't we derive all the laws? 408  
Pickover, Clifford  
    "A Passion for Mathematics" 1194  
pictures  
    moving, seen through slits in rotating wheel 100  
Pix Theater 117  
placement and routing of integrated circuit chips  
    I propose an interactive program to do this 863  
planes 208  
    my belief I would have been a great fighter pilot 259  
    on backs of cereal boxes 258  
Plath, Sylvia, "The Bell Jar" 73  
playing in the dirt 160  
"the pleasure is in the doing" 159  
pocket knives 33  
poets  
    wondering why they wrote poetry 459  
poison ivy  
    attacks me 6  
    attacks my father 6  
polio 98  
political views  
    my parents' 51  
pool  
    inventions for aiding in the playing of 840  
    playing with Jeff 840  
poor

- pretending to be 166
- popular music
  - in high school 346
- pornography 434
- "The Pornography of Death" 465
- Porter, John 324
- Posey Tunnel 1150
- Pound, Ezra 464
- "Poverty is extra people." 999
- practicing trumpet
  - with mouthpiece off to side of my mouth 193
- Preble, Alan 259
- precis writing
  - introduction to 367
- prerequisites
  - rage against the idea of 448
- Preston, Billy, "Nothin' from nothin' leaves nothin'" 886
- private parts
  - names for 729
- programmed instruction 691
- programmers
  - sayings among 760
  - self-taught 707
- promise
  - to my unborn son 927
- prostitute feeding mice to a snake 788
- Proust, Marcel
  - on "the maniac who deprives himself of all pleasure" 73
  - on death as emancipation 1024, 1140
  - on fearing his lack of writing talent 456
  - on flying 598
  - on futile endeavors of neurasthenics to shake off their malady 1136
  - on importance of neurotics xiii
  - on importance of suffering in artistic work 1024, 1140
  - on losing interest in a woman who loves us 1124
  - on marriage 627
  - on not postponing artistic work 1140
  - on pain of love disclosing our true substance 1136
  - on the effort to make oneself attractive 369
  - on the monotony of possessing women 1136
  - on the mysterious something that lies beneath what the eyes can see 5
  - on time to complete one's life's work 1140
  - on value of suffering at the hands of women 1136
  - on wearisome burden of completing one's life's work 1140
  - switching verb tenses in a narrative 1015
- psychiatry

impossibility of the patient's curing himself 578  
psychotherapist whom author dated briefly, 1033-34  
psychotherapy  
    could have afforded beautiful house in Berkeley Hills but for money spent on therapists 1186  
psychotherapy -- see also "therapy"  
published work, first 316  
pumpnickel  
    my father cutting the 57  
puzzle  
    board with holes for steel balls 776  
puzzles 158, 1194  
    attempts at solving 697

## Q

qualitative analysis at RPI 409  
quantitative analysis at RPI 409  
queer  
    fear of being called this in childhood 279  
Question Day 359  
questions  
    I wish I had the courage to ask in high school 359

## R

radio  
    made of razor blade and graphite 309  
rage  
    in childhood, when attempting to build things 21  
railroad  
    workmen's cars running along on the 100  
rational thought  
    nature of 943  
rats, cruelty to, 1431-1432  
razor blades 209  
reading  
    jam jar labels, backs of cereal boxes 56  
"a reason to live" 158, 160, 171, 179, 259, 310, 431, 456, 486, 540  
"reason to live" 327, 459  
Rebels, The 323  
record  
    Christmas City Six makes a tape for a 504  
"regular fever" 740  
reincarnation  
    Jeff's beliefs concerning 740  
Reitz, Edgar

"2nd Heimat" 395  
relative pitch (see also "perfect pitch") 394, 513  
restaurants  
    eating at 59  
retired  
    I telling people I was "active at home" 1140  
"a reason to go on living" 289  
Rick & Ann's restaurant, 1380  
"a right to live" 351, 359, 366, 382, 384, 391  
RISC project at Hewlett-Packard 817  
riveter, working as a 442  
roadster, blue 52  
Robacker, Dr. and Mrs. 354  
roller coaster ride with Jeff 744  
Roosevelt, Pres. Franklin Delano  
    announcement of death of 182, 656  
rose garden, planting of, 1045-1047  
RPI  
    the lone woman engineering student 414  
Rte. 22 213  
running away  
    Jeff's plans for 739  
running away from home 379  
running away to sea 319  
Russo, Bill 372  
Ruth, Marcia's mother 623

## S

Sagan, Carl  
    on his science courses in primary school and high school 407  
"Sail, gale, pale, rail." 537  
sailplane  
    taking Jeff up in one 790  
Salinger, J. D.  
    "For Esme With Love and Squalor" 368  
Salvo, Mr. 328  
"satyr" vs. "satire" 471  
savings  
    my life's, almost losing all of 1251  
sayings 147  
schematics  
    my difficulty understanding 637  
Schoenberg, Arnold  
    much of his music is written in a key 496  
school lunches 131

Schrafft's Restaurant 59  
Schweizerdeutsch 44  
scow, the 177  
scream (i.e., play high notes on trumpet) 335  
scuba diving  
    lessons 620  
sea  
    trying to go to 319  
seaplanes 214  
self worth  
    conviction of my own, the few instances of 259  
self-confidence  
    in judging music 334  
self-teaching  
    my conviction that it was always inferior to school teaching 692  
    why I preferred it for myself 1196  
    why not allowed in college? 451  
sequence  
    in programs and integrated circuits, importance of "getting rid of" 637  
sequences of words  
    which will be remembered? 539  
Serjenian, Serge 330  
sex  
    not the kind of thing you do with another human being 654  
    possibility of getting stuck to the woman 625  
"Sgt. Pepper"  
    first hearing 656  
"Sgt. Preston of the Yukon" 181  
Shakespeare, William  
    dislike of 470  
"Shaving With Occam's Razor" 862  
Shaw, G. B.  
    "Those who can, do..." 466  
shells  
    bullet 112  
shopping  
    difficulties with 43  
    for books and records 43  
short stories  
    difficulties in writing 537  
    first attempts at writing 367  
    how I wished I could approach the task of writing 537  
    importance of lack of plots in 537  
    what editors wanted 541  
short story  
    first attempts at writing a 367



- my first published 456
- short-order cooks 454
- Signetics
  - working at 634
- "simple", one of my mother's highest terms of praise 294
- Skalet, Ira 305
- Skeleton Man 300
- skin diving 370
- slang used in boyhood 147
- sleep
  - war fantasies as aids in falling asleep at night 260
- "sleeping with" a woman 654
- Slipit 121
- smell
  - part of epiphany at age two 4
- smells 216
- smoking cigarettes
  - starting to 90
- snooping 54
- snow 108
  - appeal of 164
  - building igloos 163
  - tires tracks on 108
- snow bank
  - driving into a 517
- soap, my mother's saving 46
- soldering 312
- son, author's, see "Jeff"
- songs sung in childhood
  - "Billy Boy..." 185
  - "Glow worm..." 185
  - "Grandfather's Clock" 204
  - "I'm tyin' the leaves..." 205
- speed
  - of smaller cars vs. bigger cars, per Jeffrey 734
- speed, measuring by moving-object-lengths per second 843
- Spettel, Gracia
  - her policy of having students criticize each other's writing 538
- sports
  - rule governing Jeff's playing of was based on grades 789
- square roots
  - learning how to compute 362
- steam-shovels 165
- steel mill
  - tour of a 450
- Stephanie

- and Yolanda, 907-915
- as actress , 1443
- Steves, Alberta 289
- Stiers' Hotel 392
- strategy
  - for dealing with the Code and the kids 147
- submarine
  - air pressure in a 370
- suicide attempt 544, 783
- suicide, ongoing desire to commit 1024
- sulfa drugs 290
- Sunday drives 60
- Sunday Morning Breakfast Club, 1380, 1447
- superstitious rituals
  - when throwing paper into a waste-paper basket 560
- Swiss chocolate 117
- Swiss dialect 44
- Switzerland
  - first trip to 4
- Sybase
  - working at 1084

## T

- tabs
  - use of in assembling cardboard Western towns 164
- "Take a look on both sides of you ... " 401
- "Take care of the sense..." 1032
- Telemann, Georg Philipp
  - Flute Concerto in D Major 1017
- telephone
  - making long-distance call 8
- telephone poles 117
- television
  - early sets 141
- temper
  - inability to lose my 580
- tents
  - with cloth windows 164
- tequilla 533
- Thanksgiving 124
- The Five Spot Cafe, jazz club 529
- therapy
  - first 441
- "Things don't merely exist, they exist in a certain way." 684
- Thomas, Richard 374

thunderstorms 26  
tic, facial 234  
tire treads 161  
Toastmasters 699  
toilet running over 591  
"Tom Mix" 180  
tonsils  
    having them out 71  
tool box  
    received in childhood 22  
touching  
    fear of 655  
toys  
    cars 108  
    soldiers 108  
    trucks 108  
track  
    putting a coin on a track for train to flatten 99  
tracking 357  
tractors 165  
transparent objects 259  
Trench, The 161  
trumpet  
    hocking my 551  
The Tunn 592  
tunnels 165  
Tuttle, Mike 779  
TV -- see also "television"  
twins, breakfast with the, 1383  
two people, becoming 79, 298

## U

ultraviolet light treatment for acne 320  
umbrella  
    as parachute 216  
"Uncle Don" 180  
Urania Records 504

## V

Valery, Paul  
    on genius 137  
"veneer all the way through" 473  
Vietnam War  
    avoiding having to fight in the 581

practice of lower echelons only reporting what upper echelons want to hear 817  
virtuoso  
fear of becoming a 199  
vomit  
refusing to 76

## **W**

waiting  
my life of 182  
Wally 788  
weight  
fear of gaining ("I can't see my toes!") 1076  
"The Western Tradition" 472  
"What do you mean, What am I feeling?" 788  
Whitehead, Alfred North, "Science and the Modern World" 407  
Whitmore, Tod 309  
"Why can't we derive all the laws of physics from scratch?" 408  
wife, former, of author, see under "Marcella"  
Wilkins, Bobby 138  
Wilson, Colin  
letters to 441  
wine-tasting, new style of, 1071  
witch in hygrometer 15  
Wittgenstein, Ludwig  
"The meaning is the use." 684  
first hearing about 592  
woman  
in San Francisco, I with thick-glasses 798  
Woodrow Wilson competition in high school 361  
words whose meaning I thought I was not meant to understand 471  
WQXR 29, 257, 344  
Wrigley's chewing gum 97  
"Writers Market" 541  
writing  
as guessing the correct sequence of words 535  
attempts at (RPI years) 442  
copying down conversations 541  
fears associated with learning names of clothing, furniture 540  
putting off 589  
the light dawns regarding how to go about it 1031  
word-processor vs. longhand 870

## **X**

X-acto knives 210

**Y**

yodeling 346

yoga 319

Yolanda 907

"You are what other people think of you." 415

yoyo 104

**Z**

Zen monastery, question asked of Master 897

Zoe, student renter of room in author's house, 1065-1075