Personality Assessment of

Sirhan Sirhan

We have been asked to react to Sirhan's handwritten "diary"
and make some kind of personality interpretation from his hand-
vriting, his doodles and his comments. Obviously, with the floor
of other material on Sirhan appearing in the newspapers and
national magazines, it is probable that we have been contaminated
or influenced by material presented there.

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There is no question in our minds but that Sirhan is a
person. On the basis of his handwriting alone,
he would have been picked up as
We are convinced that due to the
professionals charged with the responsibility of describing him
to the courts and the public will have many honest disagreements
As a result, after the trial is over there will be a general
gnawing doubt about the "true" Sirhan Sirhan.
We doubt that we can describe his "illness" really satis-
factorily. Had we seen his handwriting before he assassinated
Senator Kennedy, we would have described him as
However, under no circumstances would we have pre-
dicted that he was "capable" of doing what he did. We do not
see him as the kind of person who can be
and systematically . We do see him as
. On the basis of the way we see his illness,
what he did can only be explained by a tragic combination of
being successful were tremendous. Obviously, we cannot see
him as part of a conspiracy. He could be a tool of a conspiracy
in the sense that the attempted assassin of Secretary of State
Seward and the assigned assassin of Vice President Andrew Johnson
(George Atzerodt) were tools of the Booth conspiracy. It is
very unlikely however that he could have effectively acted
under precise instructions.
In summary, he appears to be a person who is innately
, but who will appear
conditions. Basically,
he is an who
behind a usually normal

He would be unexpectedly and whenever he felt

. Most people of this type attack their mother or their girlfriend. Occasionally they will lash out against an employer or colleagues (a case in point is the recent Pennsylvania case of the "quiet" man who killed his car pool and then himself). Sometimes they will pick public figures and make abortive attempts to get at them. Essentially, we see Sirhan as being much more like the assassins of Garfield and McKinley than the assassins of Lincoln and President Kennedy.

Calculating

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