

This article from the New Nation dated 18 May 1972 is for your reading pleasure.

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The story of your life 'is in your hands'

Next I visited Mr. Robert Pwee, astro - palmist. He took off his glasses and started cleaning them. He put them on again and peered at me penetratingly.

"What do you want to write about palmistry?" he said. "It's a very complicated science. And a much abused one.

"Many people have been misled by fortune-tellers who give you vague superficial readings for just a few dollars, and threaten you with witchcraft if you don't believe them.

"I operate differently. I have studied the science since I was 17 (he is now 31) I use the combination of the Chinese, Indian and Western science of palm reading.

"And I keep a record of all my clients' readings so that should they return after a few years. I counter-check what is written on the card and the events that happened to them." He pulled out a cabinet full of name-cards, alphabetically filed.

There was at least 1000 of them.

He said that he has read about 2000 hands but he had only started making records recently.

"My duty is to help others help themselves. By making you aware of the bad periods in life, you can be more careful and therefore avoid possible disaster.

"Predictions are 80 per cent correct. It is up to you to make it 100 per cent accurate."

Mr. Pwee is very confident of himself and his science which he loves so

much. His background is interesting. He studied palmistry because he was in search of the "truth." His father died when he was 2/2, his mother when he was 12. Filled with bitterness he wanted to find out why fate made him lose his parents at a young age.

He believed he could find the answer in palmistry.

He said that he mastered palmistry the hard way — through years of study and reading palmistry books. Throughout he was guided by one local palmist who also dabbled in black magic —and Mir Bashir, a world-renowned palmist in London, with whom he corresponded lengthily on the subject.

He said: "This local master was good but he made use of his knowledge for purposes of sorcery. This is bad. We all can do the same if we want to make people fear us and threaten them with spells and black magic if they don't believe us. But it is bad and I myself never do it."

He said that he found the truth after mastering palmistry.

He said: "I am happy now with no personal problems. Only the problems of my clients.

"Many of them try to test and challenge me. They doubt my readings. I tell them that I read what I see and if they can't accept it's up to them. Time only will tell. Usually after being proven wrong they consult me again but with greater respect."

Mr. Pwee said that medical science should make use of palmistry as an aid. He claimed that years ago, he predicted that he would develop eye trouble. He then consulted medical specialists to take precautions.

DEFECTS

He said that the doctors could not detect any eye defects at all. They thought he had gone mad to believe that his palm could tell him so. But 14 months later, his eye-trouble started, he said.

Mr. Pwee charges anything from \$15 for a general reading to \$1,500 for a detailed consultation from year to year.

He said that he also specialises in career consultation, advice on marriage, business problems and court cases.

He said: "I notice every little detail about a person's hand the minute I see him. "You, for instance, from the moment we shook hands just now to the way you hold your pen.

"I can tell you have quick reflexes, you are a moody person but you have good judgement.

"Show me your hands and I can tell you the exact date you were born according to the Chinese calendar which is the most accurate."

He looked carefully at my hands, especially the thumbs and came up with the answer. Asking me for my date of birth according to the Western calendar; he counterchecked it with the 100 year calendar.

The Chinese date against my recorded birth-date was exactly the number he stated.

I was quite prepared to believe in him already. "Why don't you give me a general reading?" I asked.

He looked into my hands again.

"You passed through a period of discontent seven months ago." (I was down in the dumps at that time, what about I can't remember now).

"When you were 20 you had a major crisis in your life. It was a sickness." (That was when I was seriously ill and thought it was better to die than live. I suppose you could call it a major crisis).

CRITICAL

"You are stubborn. You are apt to be philosophical. Your lines indicate an inclination towards reading books on philosophy and development of an interest in studying the occult.

"Your mind thinks fast and so uses up a lot of energy. You are active, a sparkplug and so a good mixer.

"But you suffer palpitations of the heart. Don't get alarmed. It's not a disease or any defect. It's because you use up too much energy. Have you felt before as if you couldn't breathe and were short of air, taking deep gulps now and then?" Twice, I told him. It was years ago. I couldn't breathe properly then for two weeks.

You tend to lapse into moodiness. And people can't understand you at times.

"You are open-hearted and sociable, but when the time comes to develop a really close relationship you tend to clam up and become reserved."

He thought I was independent.

Career-wise he said I was in a "safe" environment. In the sense that I was in the right profession. Though he said I would have made a good lawyer. And a PRO too though a bored one.

He added: "But the time will come when you may have to make a critical choice: either journalism or marriage. Hopefully both can make a compatible combination.

"You are due for an up grading soon in your career. (I hope it's true) but a major promotion will take place around

"You have had two romances already and I see another one coming within a year."

FUTURE

Like the others he said that I would marry at 27 or 28. He also saw the possibility of a second marriage and advised me on whom I should marry to make my first marriage successful. Again "a foreigner is possible."

There you are. My characteristics, my past, present and future life, as told by an astrologer and two palmists. And they score more hits than misses.

Still, as all of them has said I have a suspicious nature so I am taking what they have predicted with a pinch of salt.

And as they all said: "I have told you what the future lies in store for you. It is up to you to prove it true or false. Only you your self can change it."

Concluding of a four-

part series by Tan Chung Lee