

The Ears Have It

by Dennis Payton Knight

Beyond being the better to hear you with, my dear, having large ears means you are generous and wise. The treatise I offer here on ears, big and small, comes from an exploration of the Internet. It is as scientifically solid as you would expect from any on-line excursion; in short, I present herewith a load of balderdash.

Ancient Egyptians believed the breath of life enters into the right ear, and the breath of death enters into the left. But today we know if your right ear tingles, someone is saying something good about you, if your left one tingles, you are the victim of nasty rumors. If your ears are square, you are of noble blood, if they are flat and pasted against your head, you are lacking in refinement.

Ringling in the ears is associated with messages coming from spirits of the deceased. One theory is the souls are contacting you to settle matters lingering from their former life in order to pass peacefully into the next. There are alternative suggestions on the same Internet, different channel, that a ringing in your ears is your guardian angel calling, even if you don't think you need any help and didn't ask for it.

Chinese facial readers believe ears reveal character. If yours are hard, thick and long, you are robust and fond of sports. If they seem chiseled, you are smart and studious. If they are thick with big, pendulous earlobes, you are successful in managing money and quick to seize on opportunities. If they lie close to your head, you have excellent managerial and investment skills and are wealthy. And if the previous two sentences seem to assign similar characteristics to opposite ear types, remember, this is balderdash. They have it in China, too.

If you would like more observations about our aural appendages, there's this: ringing in one of your ears can make a wish come true. You will have a better chance of that happening, though, if you secretly make your wish at the onset of the ringing and then ask a person nearby to guess which ear is ringing. If he or she chooses the correct one, your wish is almost certain to be fulfilled.

Another web page, under the banner of a Royal Pharmaceutical Society, advances the theory that the piercing of ears improves the owner's eyesight. In this connection, the article refers to a report of a woman in Devonshire who used to make door-to-door collections, from men only, to pay for earrings that would improve her sight. Additionally, according to that particular fountain of balderdash, at one time golden rings pierced into the ears were known to affect the brain.

With the foregoing research and analysis, my own conclusion is, when you hear a ringing in your ear, you should answer the phone. I'll leave it for another essay to research and explain the reason we are born with two ears and one mouth.