

How Am I Packaged

I I don't think that packaging is the right term ~~for~~ self-analysis. That word implies only an outer state while most people have a great deal more to them than what shows. I have tried in this paper to give as full an account of my history and characteristics as possible. It may prove of some help in understanding what makes me "tick."

My name is Sally Trapnell. I was born in New York in 1937 so I am 16 years old. This age has always been a handicap to me, especially in getting jobs since I am younger than most of my class. I came out to Los Angeles when I was six because of a job offer and I have been here ever since. We have never completely broken our ties with the East since all my relatives live there, and I think my parents would really rather live in New York.

My father and mother are both in literary work. My father was a story editor at 20th Century Fox for many years and now does the same work in television. My mother is a high school English teacher. My relatives are also quite literary. One of my uncles is the head of a radio news bureau and the other is sports editor of a Philadelphia paper. My grandmother was also a journalist and wrote poetry on the side.

I think, on the whole, that I have a very happy home life. I have one sister who is 14 and entered Uni this fall. She loves horseback riding, an enthusiasm not shared by the rest of the family. My mother is very interested in politics and is on the steering committee of the Democratic club. She also reads quite a bit as does the rest of the family. My father likes music. He plays the piano very well and also sings in the choir at St. Alban's Episcopal church, to which we all belong. We are plagued by the family failing, bad tempers, so that life can be very hectic at times, but we have ceased to take arguments very seriously which makes life much easier.

I mentioned my family's hobbies but have neglected to say anything about my own. I enjoy making my own clothes very much. I have no great talent for it but as long as I follow directions I get along all right and its very relaxing. Music is another one of my interests. I took piano lessons for quite a few years and enjoy playi-ng for my own pleasure. I also sing in the Methodist church choir where I am going temporarily. I once had a postcard collection but gave it up because it really wasn't very interesting. None of our family goes in for organized hobbies very much because our interests are varied.

As you can see we seem to lack things in common but actually we enjoy doing things together. We go to movies and the theatre a lot and we also take trips during the summer. Most of these have been back to New York and we travelled mainly by car so that I feel I know the United States quite well by this time.

I have many interests at school as well as at home. I am in Mel-donians, Mawandas, and have been on a Girls' League board every semester. I am also a member of my class grad nite committeel. After school I participate in GAA although I don't enjoy active sports. I do, however, like bowling and that is what I have gone out for during the past year. I tried tennis lessons fora while but discovered that I don't have the stamina for that game and I enjoy swimming and dancing much more. I am also a member of a Tri-Y and was president of it for one semester, the most hectic I ever spent. *Why?*

Outside school I belong to the Young Democrats although I don't often have time to go to meettings. I also go to a county museum science workshop. I went to find out whether I would like science as a career, and I think I can answer in the negative even though I had a lot of fun studying minerology and met kids from all over the city. I have also been active in my church group. I started going to the

*You belong to
Episcopal Church?*

Methodist church because I didn't like the youth activities at St. Alban's. I became an officer in MYF and enjoyed it very much until last year. Then I began to differ with some of their ideas and also began to dislike the people who were joining, so I have dropped out of the group almost entirely now.

My formal education has not been neglected either. I went to about five grammar schools including the University Elementary school. This is the one I graduated from and I enjoyed it tremendously. I have attended Emerson junior high where I was happy and unhappy by turns and I am now finishing Uni. I have majored in language although I have no intention of going into that field. I think that everyone should know at least one language besides their own so I took three years at Latin which was a complete waste of time and two years of French. I have learned from these courses that I am not a linguist. I have liked all my classes with the possible exception of Chemistry, which I was very poor in, and music appreciation which taught me nothing. My favorite classes have been anything to do with English. I have enjoyed everything from Modern Lit. to journalism, and have gotten good grades in them as well as in most of my other classes.

I will probably go to either Stanford or Pomona after I graduate but as yet I have no idea of what I want to be. I seem to change ideas every week and our tests in senior problems were no help whatever. I came out low in everything except science where I liked petroleum engineering the best. Co-nsidering my experience with minerology I think this is more a romantic interest than anything else. On my a-ptitude test I was above 90 in everything so that doesn't help much either. When I start college I will have to take a varied program to see what I really like since I don't seem to know now.

I think that my intelligence will be one of my greatest assets in choosing a career as it has been so far. I have never had to worry

about school work very much and that is a great help in going in for extra-curricular activities. I am also responsible in my work and get things done on time. This is especially true when I am interested in what I am doing. Otherwise I tend to do things in a haphazard manner, trying to get them over with as quickly as possible. I also get careless and do things sloppily in my hurry since patience is one thing I lack to a great extent.

I am sincere and truthful in most cases, and am relatively free from prejudice. I think it is hard to be entirely impartial when you are brought up in a society where many people consider other races or religions inferior. It is hard not to generalize or wonder whether they are different. I really think that I am unprejudiced though except that I do not like the Catholic church. This does not mean that I dislike Catholics, I just don't like what their church stands for. My family is very open-minded in most things and they have been a great influence on me.

People scare me. I am very self-reliant and can take care of myself in most situations but dealing with people frightens me. I think it's because I feel inferior to them. A feeling of inferiority has always been my greatest problem. It makes me hyper-sensitive to any criticism and is a great handicap in leadership work. I get dissatisfied with myself often and am always wishing that I had some of the characteristics of someone else. I tend to look for faults in other people to try and convince myself that they are no better than I am. I don't know exactly how I seem to other people but I think it keeps me from being as friendly and free in my relationships as I should be. This is particularly true with boys whom I am very shy with and always have been. I am trying to overcome this problem and I think I am succeeding to a certain extent. I know that I am much