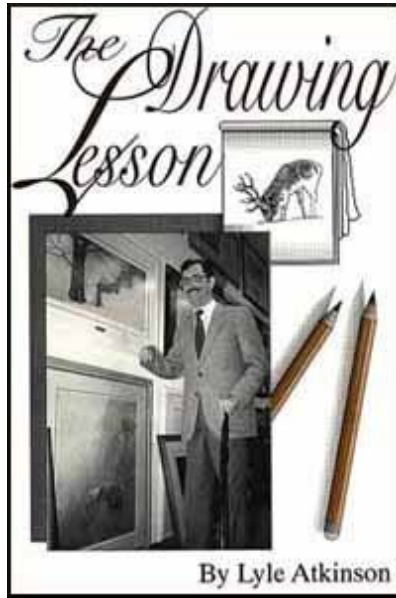

The Drawing Lesson



The Drawing Lesson



Prospects Literacy Association

Copyright© Prospects Literacy Association 1995
9913 - 108 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
T5H 1A5

ISBN 0-9695587-5-9
Printed in Canada by Alberta Repro
Cover Design: Steven Nederveen
Layout: Rachel Sanders

Acknowledgements

We gratefully acknowledge funding from the Canadian Give the Gift of Literacy Foundation which made the Job Shadow Project possible.

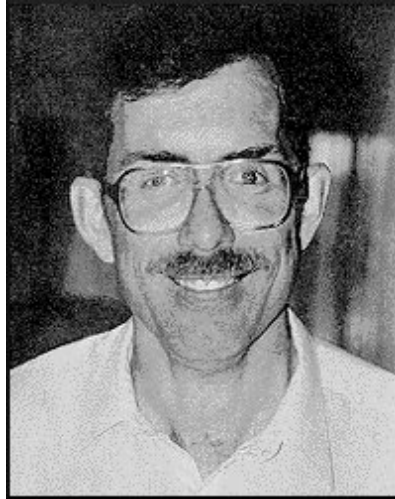
Our thanks also to Alberta Advanced Education and Career Development which provides funding for our literacy programs and writing workshops.

Special thanks to Editions Gallery (West Edmonton Mall) and Robert Bateman for their kindness and cooperation.

The Drawing Lesson

by
Lyle Atkinson

Assisted by Don Trembath
Photographs by Rachel Sanders



My name is Lyle George Atkinson. I was an apprentice cabinet-maker, until I had an aneurysm. I was 27 when it happened.

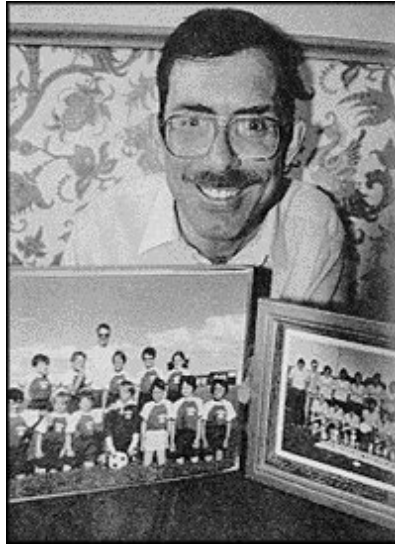
I am usually pretty happy. I live at home with my mother. We read together. We have quite a few books in our house.



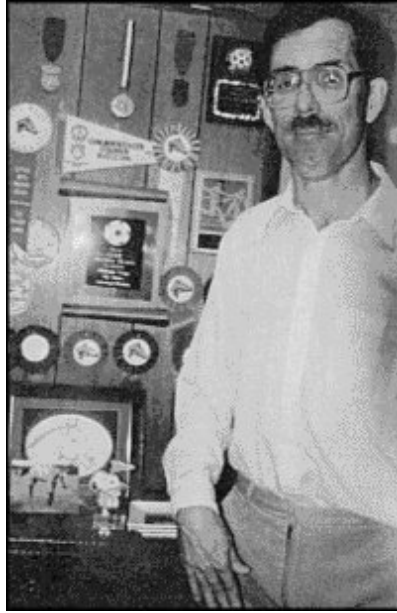
My favourite author is James Herriot. He is a very good author, and his stories are quite hilarious.



This is my dog Katie. She is part husky and part labrador. She is a very well-trained dog and a fierce watchdog.



Before my accident, I coached a lot of soccer. These are the two teams I coached. The team on the right were the champions of the year in all of Canada.



This is about half of the trophies and medals I have won in soccer and horseback riding.



I have two canes and this is my favorite one. It was made in Kenya.



I use my cane to go out for walks. I usually go to the park near my house or a mall.

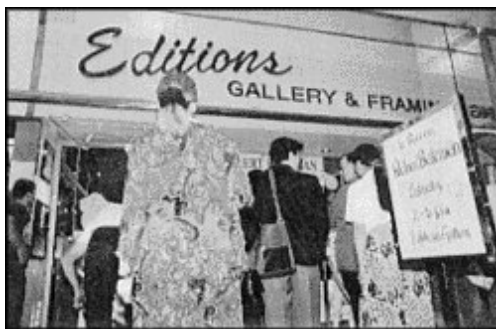


I have always enjoyed drawing. I used to be very good, but since the accident, I am a little slower and a little more hesitant. But I still like drawing.

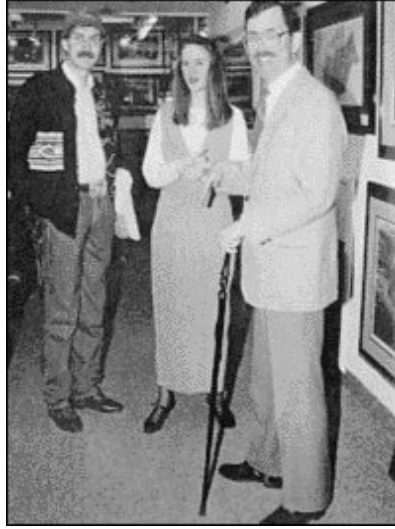


My favorite artist is Robert Bateman. This is one of his prints. He is one of the best artists in the world. He is also a very genuine man.

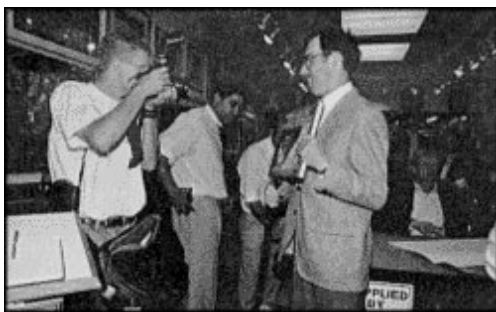
I had a chance to meet Robert Bateman at West Edmonton Mall in September.



I went to the *Editions Art Gallery*. He was there to sign autographs, but before all of the people got to see him, I did.



Before he arrived, I had my picture taken with Vicky, the manager of *Editions*. She helped set up the meeting.



I also had my picture taken by the *Edmonton journal* newspaper. They did a story on me meeting Robert Bateman.



This is the Robert Bateman print I have in my room at home. It's my favourite.

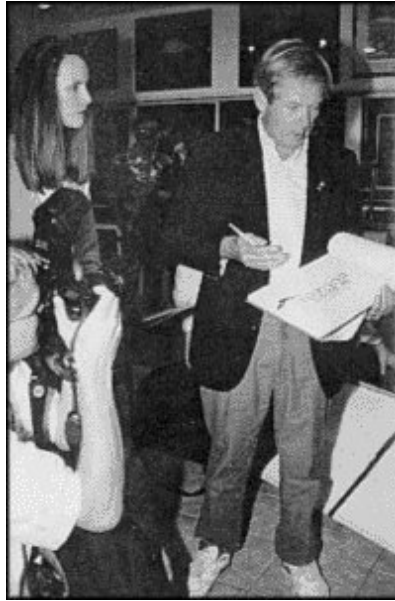


I was calm and relaxed when I met him.

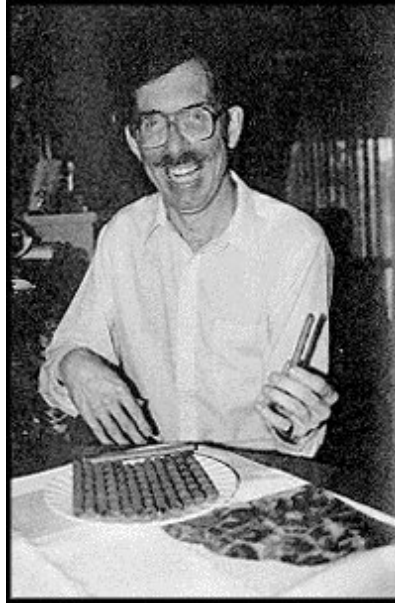


I was trying to be serious and everything, but he said something funny and we started to laugh. He is a very pleasant man.

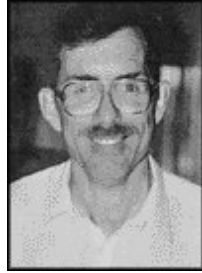
I showed him some sketches of mine, and he told me I was doing really well. He said my drawings were contour drawings and the next step is shading.



He signed a print of a book of his own art.



After the visit, I went back home and had my favorite snack - wafer rolls! I was in a great mood.



About the Author

Lyle Atkinson returned to his love of drawing during his recovery from an aneurysm that struck him 10 years ago. His fondness for the works of Robert Bateman inspired their meeting and this book. Lyle attends writing and math workshops at Prospects Literacy Association.