



The article that must be
repeatedly accused
are someone's beliefs
BW to interpret her
soul,

Adviser downplays Hillary Clinton's conversations with Eleanor Roosevelt

To collect stories of fan reports

June 24, 1996

Web posted at: 12:10 a.m. EDT

NEWARK, New Jersey (CNN) -- The woman described by Bob Woodward as a spiritual adviser to first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton disputed several of Woodward's published assertions Sunday night.

Jean Houston, interviewed at the Newark Airport by CNN, said that Mrs. Clinton did indeed have imaginary conversations with Eleanor Roosevelt at Houston's suggestion. (153K AIFF or WAV sound)

"(But) that was maybe four minutes out of hours and hours of conversation," she said.

In his new book "The Choice," Woodward wrote that Houston, co-director of the Foundation of Mind Research, urged Mrs. Clinton to write "It Takes a Village," and assisted extensively in rewrites. Houston said that she did help edit the book, but that Mrs. Clinton "wrote that book entirely."

Houston said she made the suggestion to hold the imaginary conversations with Mrs. Roosevelt and others "to focus her busy mind on issues that surrounded the book." (255K AIFF or WAV sound)

"That was it," Houston said. "No spooks. No seances. Nothing. She's the least psychic person I've known, and I'm a close second. ... I don't have a psychic bone in my body." (204K AIFF or WAV sound)

Mrs. Clinton wrote about her imaginary conversations with Eleanor Roosevelt in her June 10 syndicated column. She said she talked to Roosevelt about the role of a first lady.

"She usually responds by telling me to buck up, or at least to grow skin as thick as a rhinoceros," Mrs. Clinton wrote.

Houston responded to questions about her comparison to the astrologer who advised Nancy Reagan, saying the difference was "about 180 degrees."

"We (Houston and Mrs. Clinton) were just friends," she said. "Our friendship was one of ladies of a certain age, with similar experience, trying to see how the world is going."

"I hope it's just a two-day wonder," Houston added, about the media attention Woodward's book has given her. "I think [journalist H.L.] Mencken said 'today's tragedies are tomorrow's jokes.' I hope I become a joke fast." (77K AIFF or WAV sound)

The White House also defended Mrs. Clinton on Sunday, saying the revelations, which take up only a few pages of Woodward's book, were overblown.

"To describe it as a consultation with psychics, I think, is to try to .. put it in the wrong frame," White House



Houston



Hillary Clinton on her book tour

Chief of Staff Leon Panetta said Sunday on CBS. (162K AIFF or WAV sound)

"This is not a mystic, this is not channeling," said Neel Lattimore, Mrs. Clinton's spokesman. "This is just her talking, especially at a time when she was working on her book."

The Associated Press and Reuters contributed to this report.

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To: SABRINA
CORLETTE

Woodward script

(nat sound .. convention)

BOB WOODWARD:
Running for President is crazy.

(nat .. campaign ..)

BOB WOODWARD:
You have to have an ambition that goes
beyond what you would have anywhere
else.

(nat .. campaign ..)

BOB WOODWARD:
And I wanted to see these people as
close as I could.

(nat .. typing)

FOR THE PAST 18-MONTHS, WASHINGTON POST
REPORTER BOB WOODWARD HAS BEEN FOCUSING
HIS INVESTIGATIVE EYE ON THE ELECTION
CAMPAIGN.

AND IN A NEW BOOK, DUE IN STORES LATER
THIS WEEK, WOODWARD SHARES AN EYEFUL.
AS YOU'LL SEE, NEW REVELATIONS
-- ABOUT CAMPAIGN FINANCES:

BOB WOODWARD:
This was effectively a slush fund.

-- ABOUT DECISION-MAKING BY THE MEN AT
THE TOP:

BOB WOODWARD:
They call this Dole world.
STONE PHILLIPS:
Dole world?

BOB WOODWARD:
Yes, this is the way decisions are
made.

-- AND ABOUT AN INTRIGUING SESSION
THAT RAISED EYE-BROWS EVEN IN THE WHITE
HOUSE.

BOB WOODWARD:
Jean Houston asked the First Lady to
shut her eyes and carry on an
imaginary conversation with Eleanor
Roosevelt.

(nat .. inauguration)

LESS THAN TWO YEARS AFTER BILL CLINTON
WAS SWORN IN, HE WAS ON THE POLITICAL
ROPES. REPUBLICANS HAD WON CONGRESS IN

A. L. WELLSIDE.

REMEMBER CLINTON'S FIRST T-V SPEECH
AFTER THE ELECTION?

super: December 15, 1994

(nat .. Clinton speech)
Tonight I propose a middle class Bill
of Rights ..

BOB WOODWARD SAYS WHAT FEW PEOPLE KNEW
AT THE TIME -- NOT EVEN TOP WHITE HOUSE
STAFFERS -- WAS THAT CLINTON HAD A
SECRET COLLABORATOR ON THAT SPEECH.

BOB WOODWARD:
Clinton in a political sense, I want
to be careful with this, had a
mistress: Dick Morris.

DICK MORRIS HAD BEEN AN ADVISOR IN
CLINTON'S EARLY DAYS IN ARKANSAS.

WOODWARD SAYS NOT ONLY WAS CLINTON
GOING BEHIND THE BACKS OF HIS STAFF ..
BUT MORRIS WAS TALKING BEHIND CLINTON'S
BACK TO A REPUBLICAN WILLIAM WELD OF
MASSACHUSETTS.

BOB WOODWARD:
Morris was advising Weld maybe you
should think about running for
President, saying issue in 1996 is
gonna be ethics. I know Clinton, I've
worked for him, I've been in Arkansas.
And he said in classic Morris overblown
style: Clinton is gonna be indicted in
the Whitewater scandal.

STONE PHILLIPS:
So on the one hand, he's advising
President Clinton, on the other hand,
encouraging Republicans to run against
him?

BOB WOODWARD:
This is a new form of playing both
sides of the street.

((nat .. political ads))

ANOTHER DISCLOSURE: WOODWARD SAYS
CLINTON HAS BEEN PERSONALLY CONTROLLING
MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN ADVERTISING LIKE
THIS, PAID FOR BY THE DEMOCRATIC
NATIONAL COMMITTEE.

STONE PHILLIPS:
What's wrong with that? Isn't that
just smart politics. Creative, clever
financing?

BOB WOODWARD:
It's clever financing but it forgets
something called Watergate.

WATERGATE. THE POLITICAL SCANDAL THAT EARNED BOB WOODWARD HIS NATIONAL REPUTATION AND DROVE A PRESIDENT OUT OF OFFICE.

((nat .. Nixon resigns ..))

REFORM LAWS AFTER WATERGATE WERE INTENDED TO PUT LIMITS ON PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN SPENDING.

BUT WOODWARD CLAIMS CLINTON WAS ABLE TO SPEND SOME \$20-MILLION MORE THAN THE LAW ALLOWS DURING THE PRIMARIES BY PAYING FOR COMMERCIALS THRU PARTY FUNDS EXEMPT FROM THE SPENDING LIMITS.

BOB WOODWARD:

What Clinton did is said, oh, we'll use the Democratic National Committee, which those rules don't apply to. This was effectively a slush fund.

STONE PHILLIPS:

Well, can it be argued that these are not campaign spots?

BOB WOODWARD:

When you look at the spots, the only person who appears in the spots is Bill Clinton -- and the American flag.

((nat ... Dole campaigning ..))

AND WHAT DOES WOODWARD KNOW, THAT WE DON'T, ABOUT BOB DOLE?

WELL, FOR ONE THING, HE SAYS DOLE NEARLY DROPPED OUT THE NIGHT OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE PRIMARY WHEN EARLY RETURNS SHOWED HIM FINISHING 3RD.

WOODWARD

He confided to an aide, if I finish 3rd, I'm finished. I'll have to drop out.

BUT DOLE SQUEAKED INTO SECOND BY LESS THAN 8-THOUSAND VOTES, AND STAYED IN.

WHAT'S MORE, WOODWARD SAYS DOLE'S DECISION TO RUN IN THE FIRST PLACE DIDN'T COME EASILY.. AND WORRIED HIS WIFE ELIZABETH.

BOB WOODWARD:

She made an appointment to go see him at his office. Highly unusual for a spouse.

STONE PHILLIPS:

Why a meeting at his senate office instead of just a personal conversation at home.

BOB WOODWARD:
So they could really get down to business. No one is better at getting down to business than Elizabeth Dole, as I believe this books shows conclusively.

BUT IT WOULD TAKE WEEKS, AND AN AGONIZING SERIES OF MEETINGS BEFORE BOB DOLE WOULD COMMIT TO RUNNING. WOODWARD SAYS DECISIONS OFTEN COME SLOWLY FOR DOLE.

(nat .. Dole speech)

REMEMBER THIS HARD-HITTING ATTACK ON HOLLYWOOD, FOR TOO MUCH SEX AND VIOLENCE?

(Dole speech ..)
"Must you debase our nation and threaten our children for the sake of corporate profits.

ACCORDING TO WOODWARD, DOLE'S CAMPAIGN STAFF WASN'T SURE HE WOULD EVEN DELIVER THE SPEECH ..
EVEN AS HE TOOK THE PODIUM..

BOB WOODWARD:
And there's kind of this moment where his aides wonder is he gonna do it?

WOODWARD SAYS BEHIND THE SCENES, DOLE HAD WAFFLED FOR DAYS -- AFTER BEING WARNED THAT THE SPEECH MIGHT OFFEND SOME BIG CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTORS.

STONE PHILLIPS:
You write: "In some ways the central feature of his personality was his passivity." Case after case where he's reluctant to be bold, decisive, definitive, let people know where he stands.

BOB WOODWARD:
That's correct. You inch along, inch along and then momentum carries you over the finish line. The decision kind of oozes out.

BUT NOT ALWAYS. WOODWARD SAYS DOLE MADE HIS SURPRISE DECISION TO LEAVE THE SENATE COMPLETELY ON HIS OWN ..

(nat .. Dole quitting)

AND KEPT IT SO SECRET THAT WHEN HE FIRST BROKE THE NEWS TO HIS WIFE, ELIZABETH DOLE THOUGHT HE WAS JUST GIVING UP HIS POST AS SENATE LEADER.

BOB WOODWARD:

He said no, no. The whole thing. She said are you sure? ~~And he said~~ yes, I'm sure. She said, well, let me think about this. And in true Elizabeth Dole style, she wrote him a memo.

STONE PHILLIPS:

Is this a wife who worries that her husband doesn't think through things clearly enough?

BOB WOODWARD:

One of the things she said to me is that he has the best instincts in politics.

STONE PHILLIPS:

Instincts.

BOB WOODWARD:

Instincts. But he's not a systematic person. He's not somebody who makes lists, writes things out. She's maybe the strategic part of his brain.

STONE PHILLIPS:

Strong, assertive, analytical. At times hounding her husband. A lot of people may read this and think you're talking about Hillary Clinton.

BOB WOODWARD:

Well, there are some similarities.

((nat .. campaigning))

HILLARY CLINTON. SHE'S BEEN A LIGHTENING ROD FOR CRITICISM, FROM HER FAILED HEALTH CARE REFORM TO QUESTIONS ABOUT WHITEWATER.

AND WHAT WOODWARD REPORTS ABOUT HER IN HIS NEW BOOK MAY BRING MORE UNWANTED ATTENTION.

REMEMBER WHEN THE CLINTONS INVITED A GROUP OF SELF-HELP GURUS TO CAMP DAVID? WOODWARD SAYS THAT WAS THE BEGINNING OF AN UNTOLD STORY ABOUT SOMEONE WHO'S BECOME A CLOSE CONFIDANT TO THE FIRST LADY.

BOB WOODWARD:

A woman named Jean Houston, who is an author, somebody who believes in spirits and other worlds.

THIS IS A PROMOTIONAL VIDEO FOR JEAN HOUSTON.

JEAN HOUSTON (on promo video)

"I define myth as something that never was -- but is always happening. A kind of coded DNA of the human psyche that gives us our larger story."

BOB WOODWARD:

Jean Houston has this concept of a

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spiritual partner and that by conversing with them, you can learn and expand your consciousness and understanding.

WOODWARD SAYS, OVER THE PAST YEAR AND HALF, HILLARY CLINTON HAS BEEN INVITING JEAN HOUSTON TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

BOB WOODWARD:

And in one rather extraordinary moment in the solarium atop the White House Jean Houston asked the First Lady to shut her eyes and carry on an imaginary conversation with Eleanor Roosevelt.

STONE PHILLIPS:

So in this session, the First Lady is there, eyes closed, talking to Eleanor Roosevelt?

BOB WOODWARD:

Yes. And Eleanor Roosevelt, through Mrs. Clinton, talking about how hard it is to be under attack. Like -

STONE PHILLIPS:

What do you mean 'Eleanor Roosevelt through ...' ?

BOB WOODWARD:

Meaning Hillary Clinton with her eyes closed is playing both roles. She is talking as Hillary Clinton to Mrs. Roosevelt and then answering back. It's unusual.

STONE PHILLIPS:

Did the First Lady have conversations with anyone else other than Eleanor Roosevelt?

BOB WOODWARD:

The First Lady had just come back from the trip to South Asia, India. And Jean Houston asked her to carry on a conversation with Gandhi.

STONE PHILLIPS:

Mahatma Gandhi.

BOB WOODWARD:

Yes. Then Jean Houston asked Mrs. Clinton to carry on a conversation with Jesus Christ. Mrs. Clinton declined and said that was too personal.

JEAN HOUSTON'S TECHNIQUES MAY SOUND UNUSUAL, BUT SHE DOES HAVE A PhD .. SHE'S TAUGHT AT SEVERAL UNIVERSITIES .. AND, FOR YEARS, SHE'S HAS BEEN A WIDELY-READ AUTHOR AND A POPULAR MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER.

STONE PHILLIPS:

She's not without some credentials and some acceptance.

BOB WOODWARD

Absolutely. No one is more aware than I of the potential for this being misinterpreted, misused.

STONE PHILLIPS:

by reporting this, are you inviting people to misinterpret it? I mean, in fairness to the first lady, they ~~aren't~~ lighting candles and summoning the dead. I mean it's kind of a role-playing session, if you will. You don't feel that you have portrayed Jean Houston as perhaps more fringe than she is?

BOB WOODWARD:
I've read her book, looked at her background, talked to people about her, she is on the fringe.

STONE PHILLIPS:
Was the person who leaked this to you out to hurt her, Hillary?

WOODWARD:
No, No, No.

DESPITE HILLARY CLINTON'S STRONG OUTWARD APPEARANCE, WOODWARD SAYS THE SESSIONS WITH HOUSTON SUGGEST HOW DEEPLY WOUNDED THE FIRST LADY HAS BEEN BY HER WHITE HOUSE EXPERIENCE.

BOB WOODWARD:
Hillary can't play in the game that she cares about."

STONE PHILLIPS:
And what about the president? Did President Clinton have any of these sessions to your knowledge?

BOB WOODWARD:
He knows her. I was not able to advance that any further.

(nat .. outside, Washington scenic)

FROM THE WIVES TO THE CANDIDATES, THE PORTRAITS THAT WOODWARD PAINTS ARE OF FOUR PEOPLE WHO, DESPITE THEIR CONTROVERSIAL MOMENTS, ARE ALL THOUGHTFUL, CAPABLE AND WILLING WHEN IT COUNTS TO RISE ABOVE POLITICS.

(nat .. Clinton w/ troops)

ABOUT BOSNIA: WOODWARD DESCRIBES HOW CLINTON -- WHO'S OFTEN CRITICIZED FOR SHIFTING WITH THE POLITICAL WINDS -- PUT PRINCIPLE AHEAD OF POLITICS WHEN HE PUT U.S. TROOPS ON THE GROUND.

BOB WOODWARD:
When you get the top secret notes you see that this is a time when Clinton truly took the moral high road.

(nat .. Dole campaigning ..)

AND ABOUT BOB DOLE AND HIS REPUTATION FOR BEING MEAN-SPIRITED:

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~~STORY NEVER~~
HEARD BEFORE ABOUT A MAN STRONG ENOUGH
TO ADMIT A MISTAKE .. AND SENSITIVE
ENOUGH TO SAY I'M SORRY.

(nat .. TV news)

JANUARY 1994, THE DAY AFTER BILL
CLINTON'S MOTHER DIED.

BOB DOLE WENT ON TV, ATTACKING CLINTON
ABOUT WHITEWATER.

(nat .. Dole on TV)

AND THE ATTACKS CONTINUED, EVEN AS
PRESIDENT CLINTON WAS ATTENDING HIS
MOTHER'S FUNERAL.

WOODWARD SAYS CLINTON WAS DEEPLY
OFFENDED.

BOB WOODWARD:

Clinton said to one of his aides that
in 1994 that he thought what Dole did
was unforgivable.

STONE PHILLIPS:

Did you ask Dole about this?

BOB WOODWARD:

Dole was quite shocked and said
I'm sure I never would have done that.
That's not Bob Dole. That's not the
way I was raised.

WOODWARD SAYS DOLE RECALLED HIS OWN
MOTHER'S DEATH 13-YEARS AGO.

BOB WOODWARD:

And he broke up as I was interviewing
him.

STONE PHILLIPS:

Crying?

BOB WOODWARD:

Crying. Overcome with emotion.

WHEN DOLE CHECKED, HE DISCOVERED THAT
INDEED HE HAD ATTACKED WHILE THE
PRESIDENT WAS MOURNING. AND MORTIFIED,
HE WROTE THIS PRIVATE LETTER.

IT BEGAN: "DEAR MR. PRESIDENT, THIS
LETTER IS WRITTEN NOT AS A SENATOR OR
AS A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE, BUT AS AN
INDIVIDUAL WHOSE PARENTS INSTILLED IN
HIM A SENSE OF COMMON COURTESY."

BOB WOODWARD:

He sent a letter of apology to Clinton
saying I didn't realize this. I
shouldn't have done it. I admired your
mother. I wish your mother and my
mother were alive to see this campaign.

(nat .. bill ceremony)

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THE NEXT DAY, DOLE ATTENDED THIS
BILL-SIGNING CEREMONY AT THE WHITE-
HOUSE.

BOB WOODWARD:

Clinton took him into a hallway and
said I want to thank you for the
letter. It meant a lot. I read it
twice. And Dole said with emotion,
mothers are important. And there was
a kind of emotional coming together
there.

A BRIEF HUMAN INTERLUDE ..
IN A VERY LONG CAMPAIGN.

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CHRISTOPHER
REEVE'S
COMEBACK

Newsweek

July 1, 1996 : \$2.95

EXCLUSIVE EXCERPTS

The Hidden Campaign

Bob
Woodward's
Book on
Clinton
Vs.
Dole

Plus:
Hillary's
Spiritual
Guru



Lissa - FYI

N A T

JUST HEART AWAY

By NANCY GIBBS and MICHAEL DUFFY

ONE CAN NEVER REALLY KNOW HOW ANYONE ELSE'S marriage works. Some unions may be more opaque than others, but all marriages are mysteries born of chemistry and Providence, self-sharpening, soul scrubbing. For movie stars and princesses and Presidents, the drama plays out in public and dares you not to watch, to read its dreams and trace its wounds. There is a reason most First Ladies tend to get along well later in life; they all know what it is like to try to protect the most powerful man in the world, to cancel the rally when he needs his sleep, to can the speechwriter who just won't cut it, to worry about who's in charge, to say the things no one else will when she tells her old man to clean up his language (Bess Truman), eat his broccoli (Barbara Bush), upgrade his jogging shorts (Hillary Clinton) or remind him with a Post-It note on the bathroom mirror to "Smile" (Elizabeth Dole). And to do it all with the curtains open and the lights on.

There may be little privacy at all in the First Marriage, but there is still plenty of mystery, which suggests one reason why friends of Hillary Clinton and Elizabeth Dole say each is obsessed with the other. They can't help noticing all they have in common, these two devout Methodist daughters of prosperous families, both Ivy League lawyers who married men of

The proposal that the First Lady aspirants hold a debate suggests how much the role has changed. Both are accomplished and ambitious. But while one is spontaneous, the other is premeditative. Guess which is which

T BEATS

modest origins and vast ambitions. As the summer unfolds, they will campaign against each other, symbolically if not substantively: Bob Dole went so far as to suggest that the First Lady aspirants have a debate, rather like vice-presidential candidates, an admission of just who is really a heartbeat away from the President.

Four years ago, Bill Clinton became the first candidate to reinvent First Ladydom when he joked that with Hillary, Americans could buy one and get one free. That proved too true for his own good. The Dole camp, having studied the pathology of Hillary's troubles early last year, is eager to argue that this is a marriage, not a political partnership. Dole has called Elizabeth his "secret weapon," his "Southern strategy," all the while making it clear that he is old-fashioned about the East Wing, that Elizabeth won't be sitting in on Cabinet meetings and serving as the unofficial Minister of Health Care.

This is all the more ironic, given the fact that Elizabeth Dole, at 59 the only woman ever to serve in two different Cabinet posts for two different Presidents, has probably attended more Cabinet meetings than either Bob Dole or Bill Clinton. And that the 48-year-old Hillary, in a sense, is the more traditional of the two, the one who passed up the fancy New York City law firm and moved to Arkansas for love. Elizabeth put her career first, found her love later in life and never had children. Hillary is the soccer mom of the pair who went grocery shopping and to the baseball games and firmly hitched her wagon to her husband's star. Elizabeth was a player with portfolio before she met Bob Dole.

Elizabeth Dole now finds herself under the lights, well rehearsed, before an audience curious to see what she may bring to the role. Polls find that she is marginally more popular than Hillary but far less well known. So as the scrutiny begins in earnest, she will have a chance to offer her own interpretation of a much reinvented part and demonstrate just what she has learned from those who have played it before.

Nancy Reagan understood the attacks on her redecorating, her weakness for fine bone china and her passion for evening wear were indirect attacks on her husband. This was true of

BROOKS KRAFT—SYGMA





HEAD OF THE CLASS

Hillary, honored here as a National Merit Scholar in high school, was rocketing on her way to Yale Law

Elizabeth learned to fly under the radar as one of only 24 women in her 1965 Harvard Law class

Hillary from the moment she moved the First Lady's office to the West Wing and set off a spirited debate about whether her critics disliked her simply for being a powerful woman or for how she used her power. She was too proud for discretion and too ambitious for mere ceremony. Hillary was certainly not the first to dive into policy. Ellen Wilson, appalled by housing conditions for workers in the capital, lobbied quietly for the Alley Dwelling bill of 1914 to demolish slums and build new housing with federal money. Nor was Hillary the first to be embroiled in financial scandals: the House Banking Committee investigated Julia Grant for allegedly making a \$25,000 profit in an 1869 plot to corner the gold market. And controversy? Hillary's oft-invoked role model, Eleanor Roosevelt, pressed a resistant Secretary of War to integrate the officer corps and fought for antilynching laws and workers' rights, and was loved and hated for it.

But Hillary has gone her predecessors one better, drawing big red and black concentric circles on her tunic. Her office has become a target all its own, a secretive, insular place where protecting the queen isn't just a priority, it is a matter of national security. The human being on whom the Commander in Chief most relies is, incredibly, at or near the center of Whitewater, the Travel Office purge, the health-care task force lawsuit and, because of its tangential link to Travelgate, the FBI file scandal. In a CNN/USA Today/Gallup poll last week, 57% of Americans surveyed said they believed Mrs. Clinton had participated in a cover-up of the Whitewater situation. She is at once Bill Clinton's best asset and his worst liability.

That problem reflects a difference between the Clintons' partnership and the Doles'. Both women abhor the loss of privacy that comes with a campaign but endure it because they are intricate parts of strong working teams in which each is the intellectual equal of her husband. Yet Elizabeth and Bob have somehow remained separate entities; she advises, she comforts, she consults, but he is forever alone with his decisions. The Clintons are such full partners in his career that it seems like one shared project, like a child or a hobby. They seem to be not just in love with each other (and at times not even that) but to share a love of policy that binds them together as a love of sailing or Mexican food or Fellini movies binds others. He owes his greatest triumphs to her talents: Hillary is the one who in 1992 rescued her husband's campaign, giving an identity to the famous war room, explaining to a bewildered campaign staff how to get the best out of him and mowing down a forest of wannabes to put James Carville in charge. And Bill Clinton can thank her for his worst failure too: Hillary is the woman to whom the President turned to implement his biggest domestic initiative in 1993—a decision that apart from its other lessons, proved that the elasticity of the First Lady's role has limits.

Elizabeth Dole, in contrast, would at first seem to bring to the job a style, all honey and suckle, that might have served Hillary well—an advantage common to her generation and actively rejected by Hillary's. It is hard to imagine Hillary acquiring or abiding the nickname Sugar Lips, as Elizabeth came to be known during her tenure as Transportation Secretary for her ability to



BORN TO RUN

Like Hillary, Elizabeth was an only daughter, raised in a traditional family



Like Liddy, Hillary was from a prosperous home, marrying a man of humbler origins

sweet-talk warring parties into compromise. She learned to fly under the radar; these women who slipped past the sentries helped fling open the gates for Hillary's peers to storm through. She is far better camouflaged, resolutely bland in an interview, unrelentingly inoffensive and offers no ammunition, while Hillary, to her peril, tossed it out like confetti when she began ruminating on the Politics of Meaning and the excess profits of pharmaceutical companies.

That said, there are those who argue that both women would make better candidates than their husbands; unlike Elizabeth, Hillary can give the impression that she thinks she would be a better President as well. Both are more disciplined, more demanding, much less forgiving. Both are excellent speakers, though their styles are different. Hillary can speak in perfect paragraphs for an hour without notes and changes her speech with ease to suit different audiences. While Hillary knows the benefits of preparation, Elizabeth is a slave to it, ordering up dozens of position papers and memos from staff and driving campaign aides crazy with requests for clippings and briefings and updates about what is happening today with her husband, what Dole has said about Fidel Castro, what Clinton is saying about Cuban-American relations. Elizabeth never gets a word or pause or chuckle out of place, but she can no more ad lib than levitate.

Hillary may be the velvet fist in an iron glove, Elizabeth the reverse. The First Lady is considered wonderful to work for, devoted to her aides (who repay her with a loyalty that has cost them thousands of dollars in legal bills); she consults them about their lives, their loves, their clothes; she likes to have fun. Elizabeth, by comparison, is working on her third press secretary in six months. Kicking back with aides, admits one who worked closely with her for a half-decade, "is rare." Hillary's aides love to tell about the First Lady at play; an aide to Elizabeth could think of only one example in five years.

But the biggest difference between the two women is that we know so much about one and so little about the other. Hillary's world has been much explored: her marriage, her feelings about children, her work as a lawyer, her attitude about money and religion and her changing views of politics and change. To help us follow along, she has written a book, pens a newspaper column and has given countless interviews, a running concordance. In baby-boomer fashion, this very private public person has become nearly as confessional as her husband.



POWER COUPLES

Elizabeth was already a Washington player when she married Dole in 1975



That same year, Bill and Hillary united to become a potent political team



WORKING WOMEN

Hillary gave up a big New York City law firm's offer to follow her future husband to Arkansas; she is the soccer mom of the pair, her career defined by family demands

Elizabeth won the nickname Sugar Lips while serving as Reagan's Transportation Secretary for her ability to sweet-talk warring parties into compromise

Elizabeth, by comparison, has been slower to fill in the blanks and undress the contradictions. On the rare occasions when she talks about her faith, she can wow audiences who don't expect spirituality from a woman who teeters on high heels in an age of sensible shoes. She smiles a lot, as if to encourage her husband by example, and wears suits with such obsessively matched accessories that voters may be forgiven if they forget that this is the woman who is responsible for those little lights at the center of the rear windows of our cars that tell tailgating drivers to hit the brakes. And while Hillary may tell us that it takes a village to raise a child, Elizabeth made sure that we know how to find the emergency exit in a smoke-filled airline cabin. If the two women ever did hold that debate, Elizabeth might try to argue that she's "a doer, not a talker."

Elizabeth is a Democrat who became a Republican, Hillary a Republican turned Democrat. But it is worth noting that amid all the rhetoric on both sides about the end of Big Government, these two women share a belief in its benevolent potential. Elizabeth has spent 28 years in government, largely acting on behalf of consumers, while Hillary spent 1993 trying to expand government and guarantee all Americans access to health care. If they ever sat down together, not to arm wrestle or debate but to share thoughts and trade stories, these two Methodist women might find themselves communing with all the equally devout, hopeful social reformers of their faith who over the past two centuries tried to use power to do good. And they might also wonder together about the price they pay for trying.

—Reported by Ann Blackman/Salisbury and Tom Curry/New York

DRAFT

STATEMENT OF FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
JUNE 24, 1996

On Sunday, June 23, The Washington Post ran a front page excerpt from Bob Woodward's latest book, The Choice, which recounts meetings I had with Jean Houston and Mary Catherine Bateson and suggests that Ms. Houston is my "spiritual adviser." While I have had a number of conversations with Jean Houston, it is simply not true that she is my spiritual adviser.

For more than three years, I have met with a wide range of contemporary thinkers, including Roman Catholic cardinals, bishops, nuns and priests; Protestant clergy and lay leaders; Jewish rabbis; Muslim clerics; theologians, ethicists and religious activists; historians, political scientists, sociologists and anthropologists; professional communicators, management consultants and motivational speakers; business and labor leaders, writers, artists, poets and entertainers, and many other Americans from all walks of life who have interesting ideas or insights into what's happening in our country today.

Mary Catherine Bateson and Jean Houston are two of many people who have been generous in sharing their ideas with me. Mary Catherine Bateson, the daughter of anthropologists Margaret Mead and Gregory Bateson, is herself a distinguished field anthropologist and author of a now classic book on women's lives, Composing a Life. Jean Houston, who has published more than a dozen books, has served as a consultant to companies such as Xerox and IBM, as well as worked with the international children's organization, UNICEF.

Both women were helpful to me in discussing their work in foreign cultures as I prepared for a trip to South Asia in the spring of 1995. They were also helpful when I returned from South Asia and was facing the task of writing my book about the challenges of raising children in the modern world. One of the many meetings I held at the time about the themes of my book included Jean Houston and Mary Catherine Bateson.

During the hours of free-wheeling discussion, Jean Houston suggested that I imagine a conversation with Eleanor Roosevelt, who grappled with the difficult social issues of her day. This was an interesting intellectual exercise to help spark my own thoughts; it was a brainstorming session for my book -- not a spiritual event. In fact, in previous public speeches, I had used the device of an imaginary conversation with Mrs. Roosevelt as a way of discussing what Mrs. Roosevelt would think about the problems of contemporary society and how she would approach her role as First Lady.

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Imagine my surprise when what I have been doing since 1993 in front of large audiences was now being reported as a sensational revelation.

The bottom line is: I have no New Age "gurus." I have no spiritual advisers or any other alternative to my deeply held Methodist faith and traditions upon which I have relied since childhood.

And I do wonder what Eleanor Roosevelt might think of all this.

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