

## Proust questionnaire: Ari Giligson, MD

The Proust Questionnaire has its origins in a parlor game popularized by Marcel Proust, the French essayist and novelist, who believed that, in answering these questions, an individual reveals his or her true nature.



**What profession might you have pursued, if not medicine?**  
Engineer, sculptor, or astronaut.

**Which talent would you most like to have?**  
Photographic memory, or being a “supertaster.”

**What do you consider your greatest achievement?**  
Diplomatically sidestepping uncomfortable questions.

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Dr Giligson is a general ophthalmologist in solo practice in North Delta, and an associate clinical professor at the UBC Department of Ophthalmology.

**Who are your heroes?**

Leonardo Da Vinci, Arthur C. Clarke, Socrates.

**What is your greatest fear?**

Pain and suffering to the ones I care about.

**What is the trait you most deplore in yourself?**

Loss of equanimity when angry.

**What characteristic do your favorite patients share?**

Logic, respect, sincerity.

**What is your favorite activity?**

Tinkering out in my workshop.

**On what occasion do you lie?**

Only when most appropriate.

**Which words or phrases do you most overuse?**

“Little,” “bit,” and “just.”

**What is your most marked characteristic?**

My moustache.

**What technological medical advance do you most anticipate?**

The paperless medical office—some time around 2050.

**What do you most value in your colleagues?**

Compassion.

**Who are your favorite writers?**

R. Zelazny, A.C. Clarke, P.K. Dick.

**What is your greatest regret?**

Not having any regrets.

**How would you like to die?**

Whiling away the eons at the heat death of the universe.

**Tell us a bit about yourself.** Please complete and submit a Proust Questionnaire—your colleagues will appreciate it.



**Online**

[www.bcmj.org/proust-questionnaire](http://www.bcmj.org/proust-questionnaire). Complete and submit it online.



**Print**

[www.bcmj.org/proust-questionnaire](http://www.bcmj.org/proust-questionnaire). Print a copy from our web site, complete it, and either fax (604 638-2917) or mail it (BCMJ 115-1665 West Broadway, Vancouver BC V6J 5A4).



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