# THE SIX CONVERSATIONS

Pathways to

Connecting

in an Age

of Isolation

and

Incivility

### HEATHER HOLLEMAN

FOREWORD BY GARY CHAPMAN



# PROFESSOR HOLLEMAN'S 100 FAVORITE QUESTIONS TO GET TO KNOW HER STUDENTS (OR ANYONE)

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- 1. What is the most interesting course you have ever taken in school?
- 2. What is your favorite quotation?
- 3. What is one item you might keep forever?
- 4. What were you known for in high school? Did you have any nicknames?
- 5. If you could have witnessed any event in sports history, what would it be?
- 6. What is something you consider beautiful?
- 7. What was your first song you played over and over again?

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- 8. What accomplishment are you most proud of?
- 9. If you could be an apprentice to any person, from whom would you want to learn?
- 10. What are three things that make you happy?
- 11. What's one movie you think everyone should see? What's a movie nobody should see?
- 12. Who inspires you?
- 13. What's one thing you want to do before you die?
- 14. Get in groups of three people. What's the most bizarre thing you have in common?
- 15. Whenever you are having a bad day, what is the best thing you can do to cheer yourself up?
- 16. Have you ever experienced something unexplainable or supernatural?
- 17. What was your best Halloween costume?
- 18. What's the last item you purchased and why?
- 19. What was the last thing you Googled out of pure curiosity?
- 20. What YouTube or TikTok video do you watch over and over?
- 21. What's the kindest act you've ever witnessed?
- 22. Tell us one thing you know you do well (a talent?) and one thing you know you cannot do.
- 23. What is your favorite way to procrastinate?
- 24. What is your favorite home-cooked meal?
- 25. What was your favorite childhood toy?
- 26. What clubs are you involved in?
- 27. What was your first paid job?

- 28. Have you met a famous person? Who?
- 29. What's the story behind your name?
- 30. Do you believe in anything that most people might not believe in?
- 31. How would you answer this: I wish everyone would
- 32. What's the best sound effect you can make?
- 33. What's the funniest thing you did as a kid that people still talk about today?
- 34. What idea do you think is worth arguing about?
- 35. What is something quirky about you?
- 36. For what reason do others often seek your help or input?
- 37. What is your guilty pleasure—something you love that almost embarrasses you?
- 38. What is one thing that's important for others to know about you?
- 39. Do you still do anything today that you also loved to do as a child?
- 40. Do you have any daily rituals?
- 41. What is the most misunderstood word you can think of?
- 42. What is the first book you remember changing you somehow?
- 43. What piece of wisdom do you like to pass on?
- 44. Do you have an irrational fear or strange addiction?
- 45. What's been the most surprising thing about this stage of life you're in now?
- 46. What is your biggest pet peeve?

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- 47. Who are your animal friends?
- 48. What's your latest failure?
- 49. What's something new you've learned this week?
- 50. What thought keeps you up at night?
- 51. What's a question you like people to ask you?
- 52. What's one thing that truly fascinates you?
- 53. Think of the best community you've been a part of. What made this community so great?
- 54. If you had to pick a song for your "entrance music," what would it be?
- 55. What's something funny or surprising that happened to you lately?
- 56. When did you do something you thought you couldn't do this year? When were you brave?
- 57. What are you learning?
- 58. What is your latest victory in life?
- 59. When was the last time you felt really good about yourself? What was happening?
- 60. Tell us about an encounter you had with a stranger, a strange place, or a strange animal.
- 61. What's something that made you experience wonder or awe this year?
- 62. What's something you experienced in childhood that children today don't experience?
- 63. What's one piece of good news?
- 64. What's stressing you out most today?

- 65. What changes when you enter a room?
- 66. If you had to sing a karaoke song, which one would you choose?
- 67. What could be the best compliment someone could give you?
- 68. What trait do you most admire in someone else?
- 69. How would you want others to describe you?
- 70. What do you look forward to each day?
- 71. What is the most heartwarming thing you've ever seen?
- 72. What have you most recently formed an opinion about?
- 73. Where is the most relaxing place you've ever been?
- 74. What fictional place would you most like to go to?
- 75. What are you most likely to become famous for?
- 76. What's worth spending more on to get the best?
- 77. What is special about the place you grew up?
- 78. What fad or trend do you hope comes back?
- 79. Where's the farthest you've ever been from home?
- 80. What takes up too much of your time?
- 81. What's an essential workplace item for you?
- 82. What job would you be terrible at?
- 83. What's the story behind the longest you've ever gone without sleep?
- 84. How is your day going on a scale of 1 to 10? What would make it a 10?
- 85. What do you like to do the old-fashioned way?
- 86. What popular TV or movie do you refuse to watch?

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- 87. What's the story behind a piece of clothing or jewelry you're wearing?
- 88. What concept do you try to explain but often feel misunderstood when you do?
- 89. What is your ideal city to live in and why?
- 90. Have you ever tried to grow something? What happened?
- 91. What's overrated? What's underrated?
- 92. What's something you didn't want to do but were glad you did?
- 93. What's your signature meal? What's the best meal you've ever
- 94. What are your tips for staying hydrated?
- 95. What's your favorite study spot?
- 96. What is your role in a group or in your family?
- 97. What feels like "home" to you?
- 98. How do you pass the time on an airplane/train/car trip?
- 99. What did you bring for show-and-tell as a child? If you can't remember, what would you bring for show-and-tell now?
- 100. What quality do you most respect in other people and why?



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