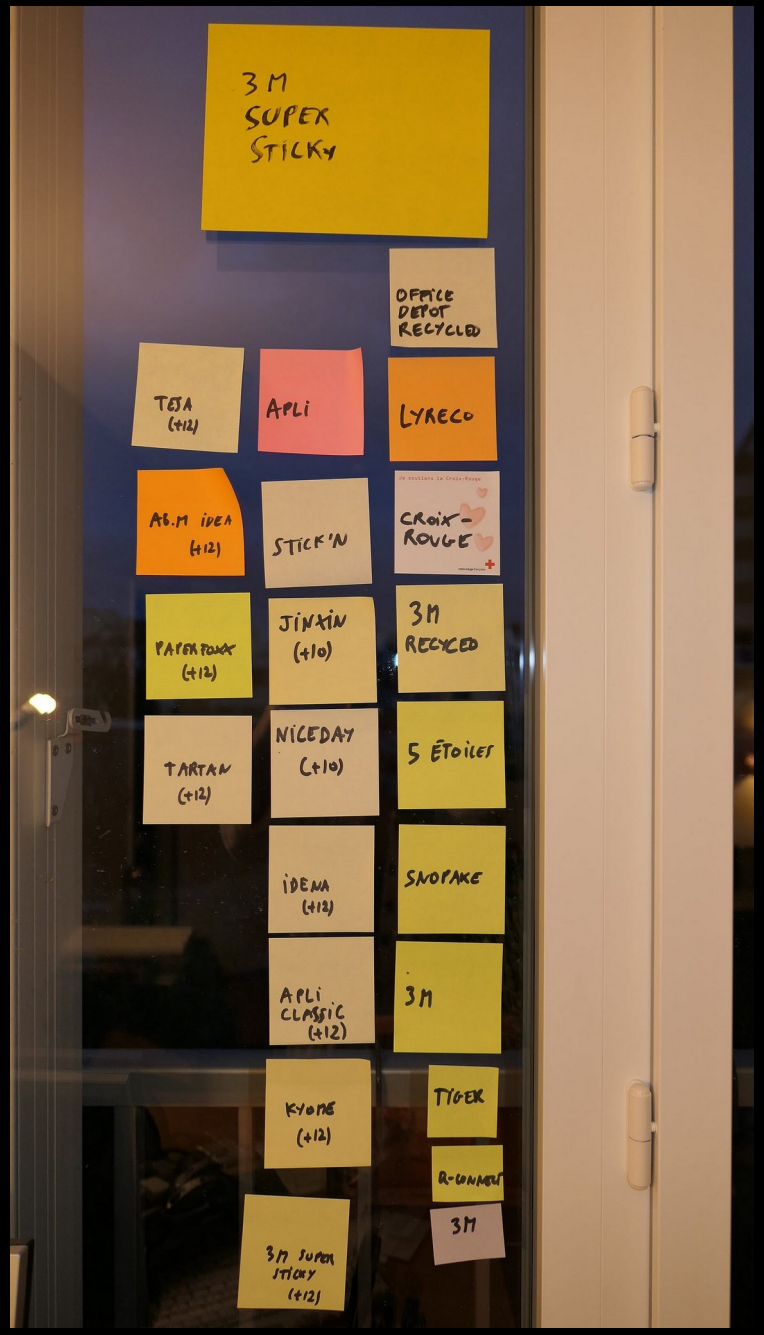
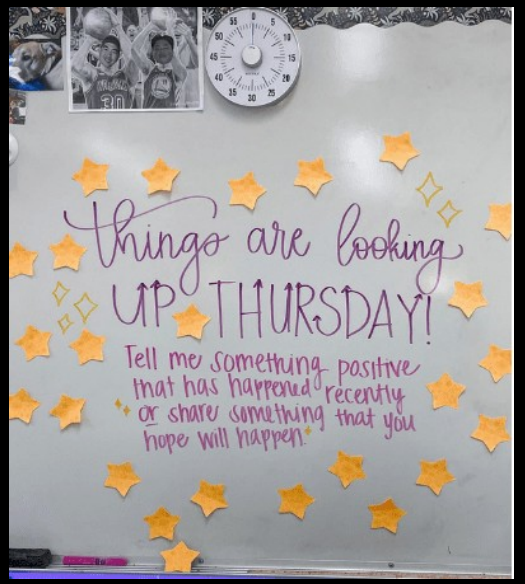
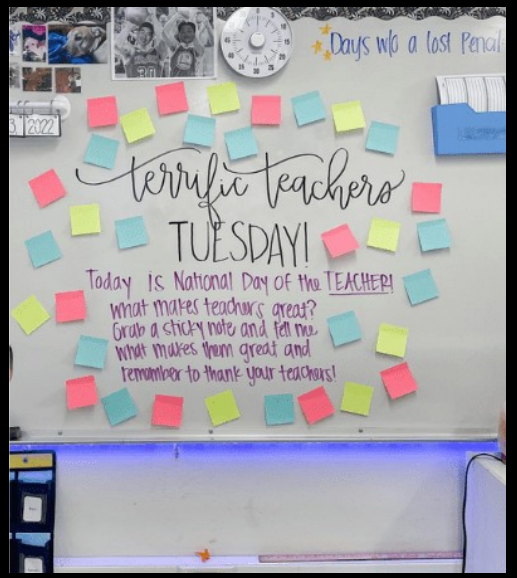
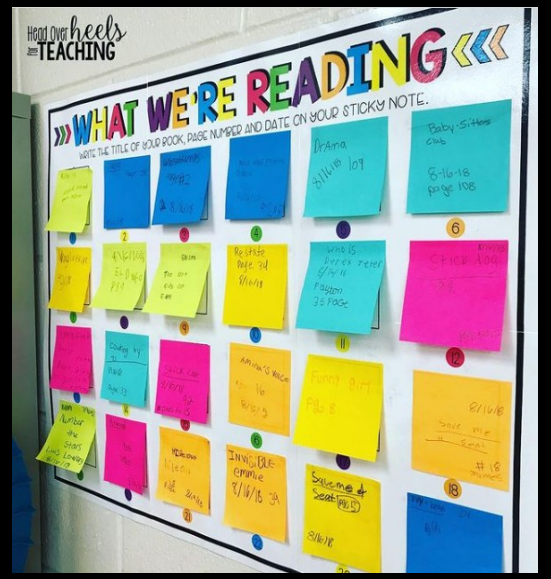


MITV Project 2

:MITV Making the Invisibli Visible







Handwritten notes and personal communication.

Exploring the Invisible Signal and Information Transmission.

A visual and analytical atlas documenting handwritten notes as invisible communication signals in everyday environments.

Learning to Notice Handwritten Signals

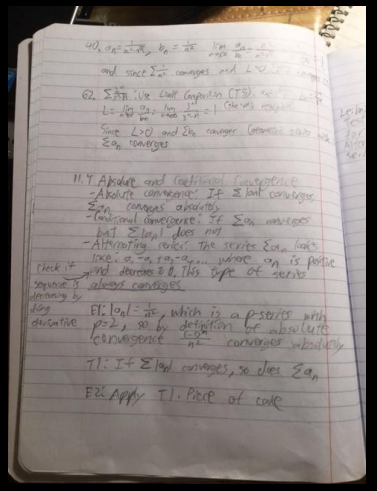
Before this project, handwritten notes existed in my daily environment as background noise rather than intentional communication. I encountered them repeatedly — on walls, desks, floors, and classroom surfaces — without consciously registering them as designed signals.

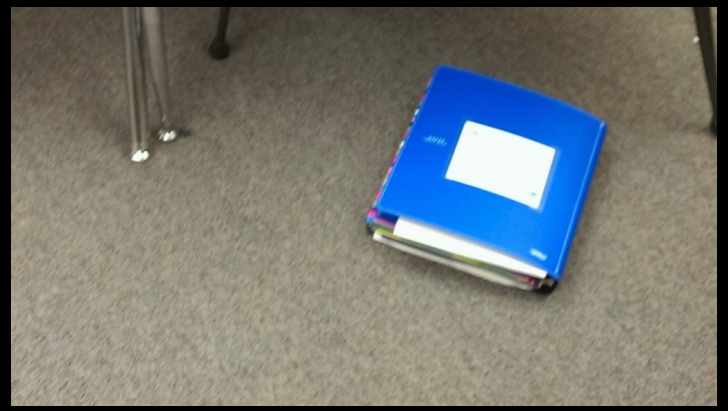
The MITV brief required me to slow down and observe. Through repeated walks, casual photography, and note-taking, I began to document moments where handwriting appeared unexpectedly in everyday spaces. These recordings were not initially systematic; many were captured quickly, imperfectly, and without clear categorisation.

Over time, patterns emerged. I noticed how handwritten notes often appeared at moments of absence — when someone could not be physically present, or when emotions were difficult to express directly. This gradual shift from passive exposure to active noticing transformed my perception of the environment, revealing a hidden network of personal communication embedded within ordinary spaces.

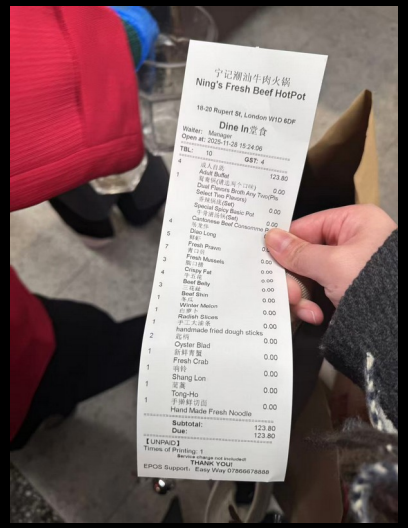


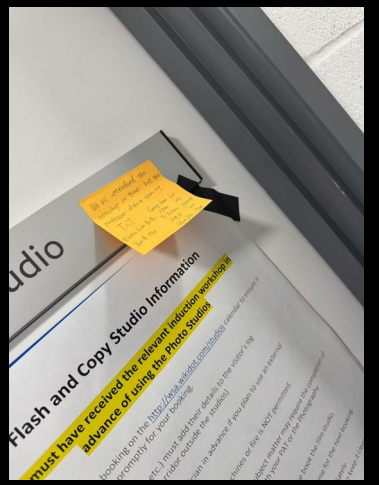


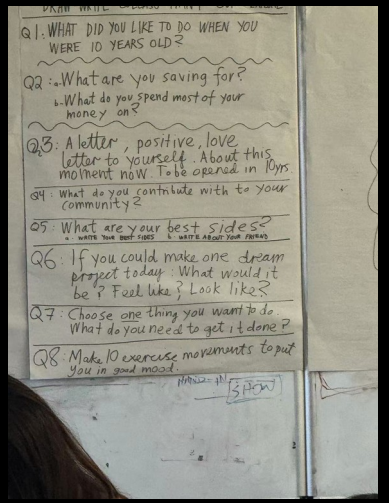












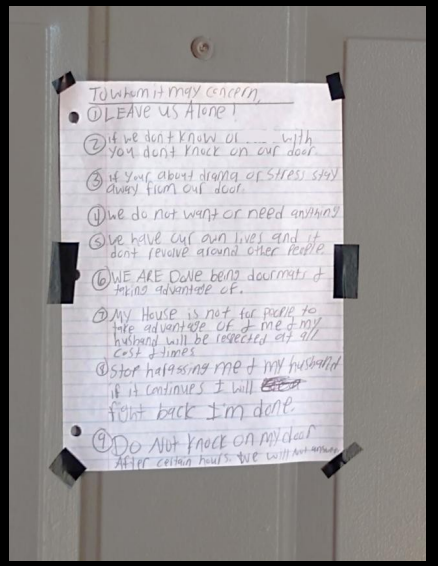
Early photographic records taken during everyday observation walks. These images were captured without aesthetic intention, focusing instead on presence and location.

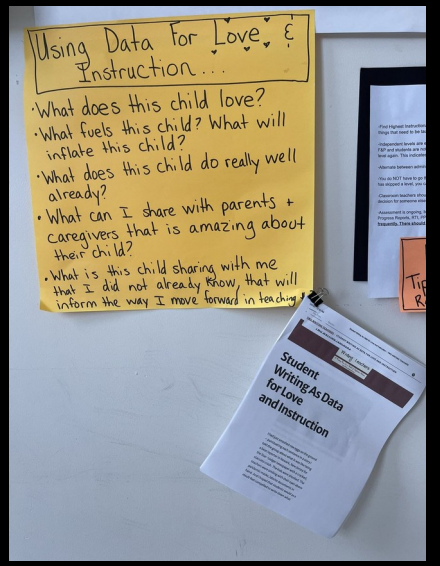
Decoding Handwritten Notes as Invisible Signals

To transform handwritten notes from familiar objects into readable signals, I developed a decoding framework that breaks each note into multiple observational dimensions. This framework does not function as a rigid classification system, but as a tool for slowing down perception and revealing implicit meaning.

The framework examines where a note appears, what material it uses, how long it is intended to exist, who it addresses, and the emotional tone it carries. Crucially, it also considers what is deliberately left unwritten. Gaps, omissions, and silences often carry as much meaning as explicit language.

By applying this framework across different contexts, handwritten notes begin to function as designed communication artefacts rather than informal leftovers of daily life.



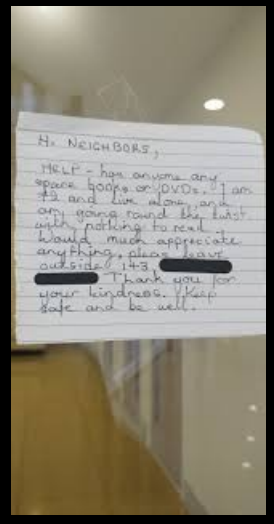








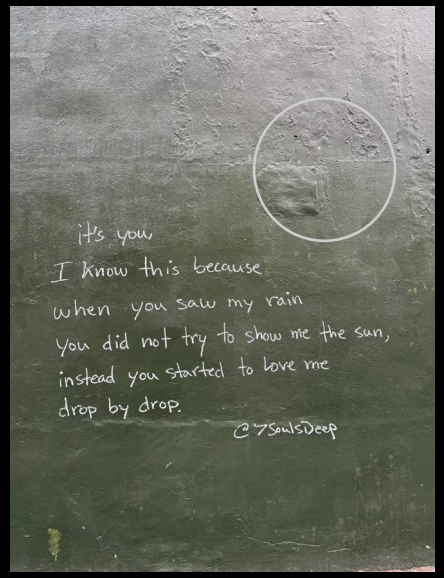


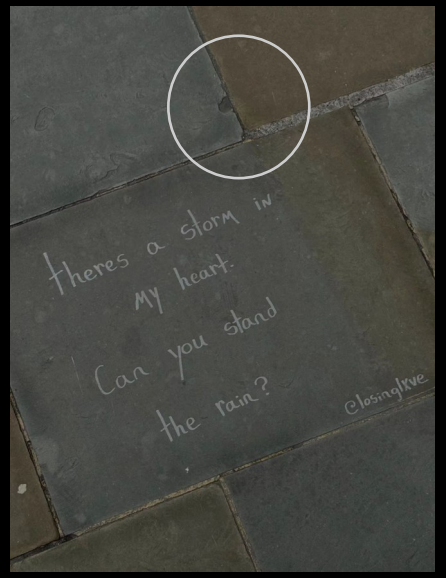




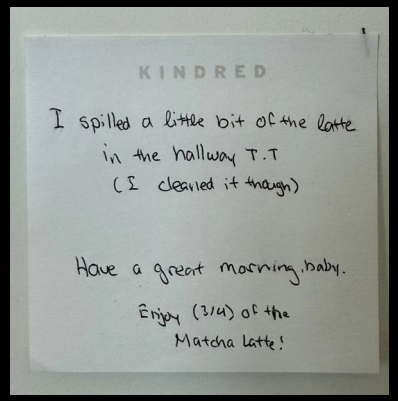
Location.Tone.Material

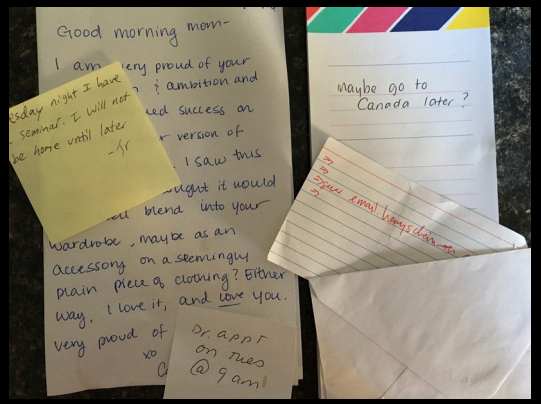
How does handwritten note function as a tool of information transmission in daily life?





Though not written on paper, it serves as a note—whether on walls or floors—conveying the author's intended message to all.



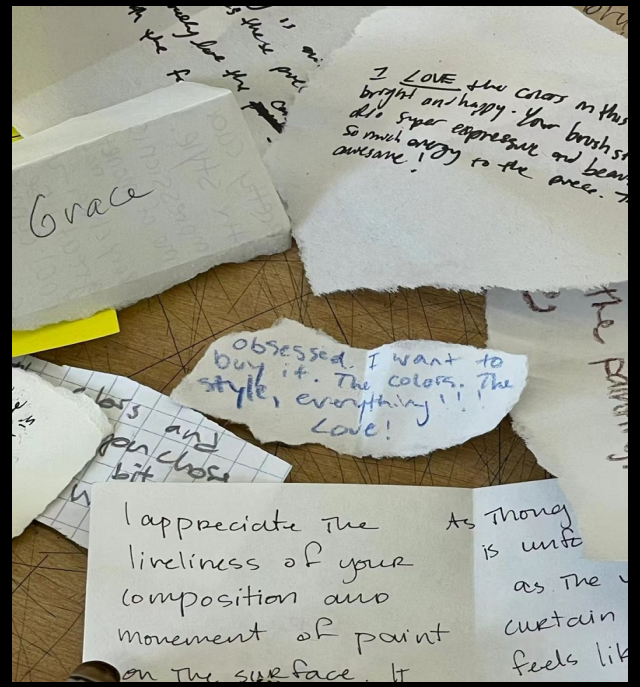


That morning, my partner accidentally spilled coffee in the hallway. But since he was in a rush to get to work, he left me a note asking me to help clean up the spilled coffee when I woke up.



When I graduated from high school, my roommate wrote me a note. Though brief, it carried the heartfelt wishes of a friend.

These notes were interactive responses written by students during art class sessions, where the teacher asked them to participate. The entire class answered the teacher's questions thoughtfully.



Introduction: Making Handwritten Notes Visible

Handwritten notes are among the most common yet easily overlooked communication signals in daily life.
They frequently appear in homes, classrooms, streets and commercial spaces, yet precisely because of their informal, ephemeral and low-tech nature, they are often regarded as background noise and gradually become “invisible”.

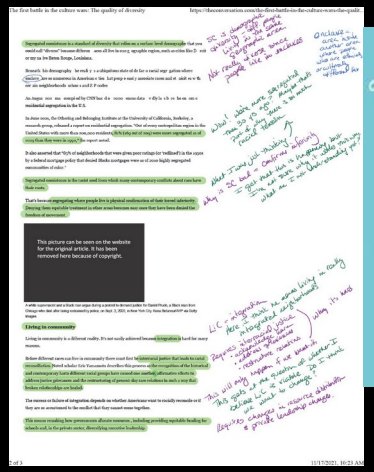


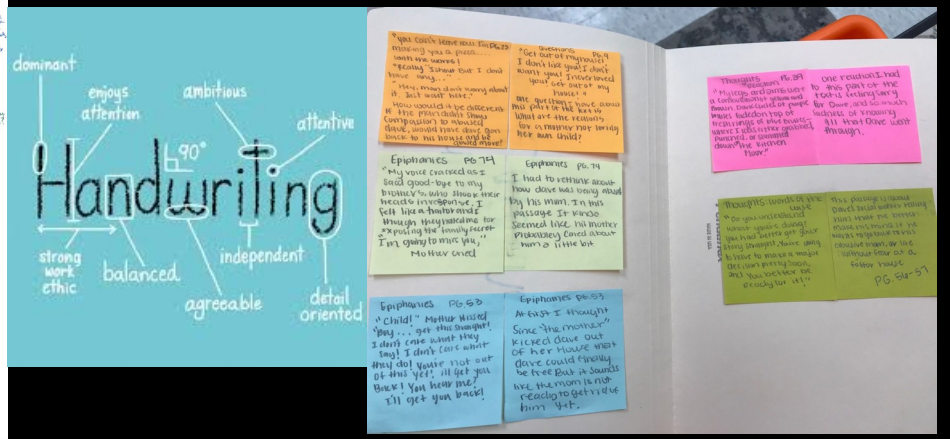
Invisibility does not equate to insignificance; rather, it often signifies that we have grown accustomed to overlooking it.

Decoding Handwritten Notes as Invisible Signals

To make handwritten notes emerge from their everyday context, this project decodes them through the following dimensions:

Location: The spatial setting where notes appear (private / semi-public / public)
Material: Mediums such as paper, sticky notes, chalk, or walls
Temporality: Temporary presence or permanent retention
Audience: Specific individuals or anonymous public
Tone: Reminder, care, command, or self-expression
What is written / What is not written: Implied sentiment conveyed through blank spaces





This decoding framework is not a set of fixed rules, but rather an observational tool designed to aid in understanding everyday communication signals.

From the letter and note in history to the note in modern office and home, the role of handwritten note in cultural communication has gradually evolved from recording to recording and reminding.



This handwritten menu from a gathering meticulously lists dishes and champagne selections, likely created for a high-end event.





1960s United Kingdom Middle Ages Handwritten Postcard.

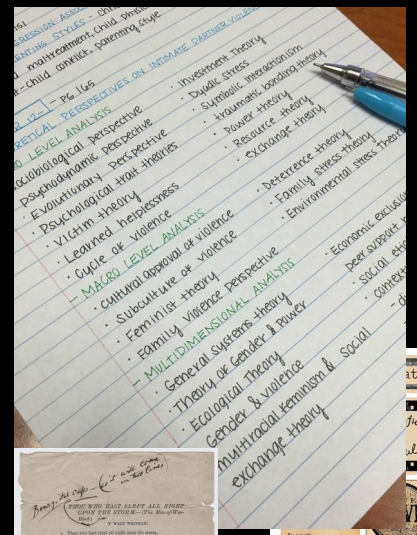
A German postcard from 1919 to 1920, the author's purpose is unknown, the whole content is written in shorthand symbols.

Artefact: A Digital Signal Atlas

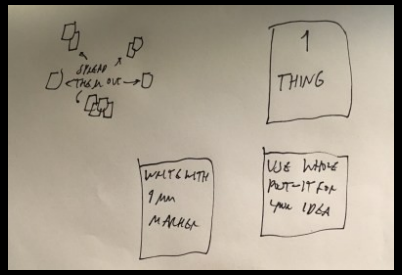
This project takes the form of a Digital Signal Atlas, documenting handwritten notes as everyday communication signals embedded within ordinary environments. Rather than presenting a linear narrative, the atlas structure allows multiple examples to coexist, encouraging comparison across contexts, tones, and audiences.

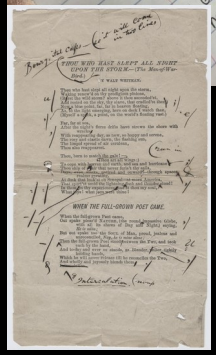
The atlas format was chosen deliberately. Handwritten notes do not function as a single story, but as a dispersed system of micro-communications. A digital atlas allows these fragments to be collected, categorised, and read relationally, mirroring how they are encountered in daily life.

By combining photographic evidence, analytical annotation, and reflective commentary, the artefact bridges observation and interpretation, transforming overlooked traces into readable design signals.





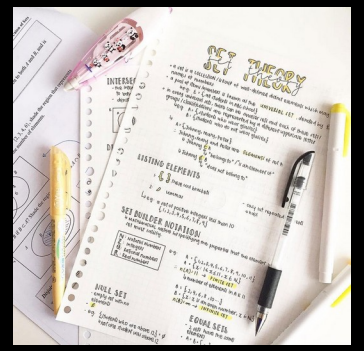




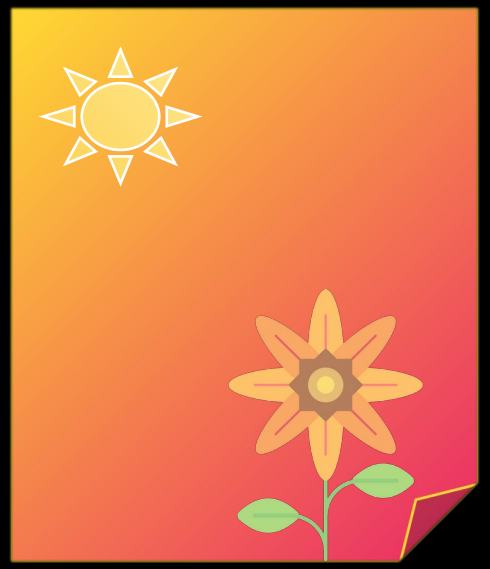


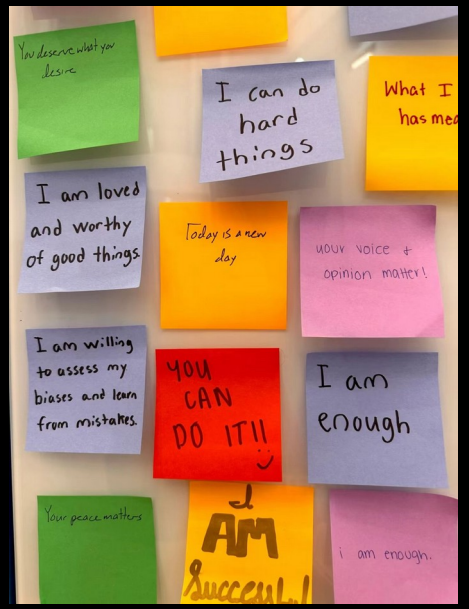


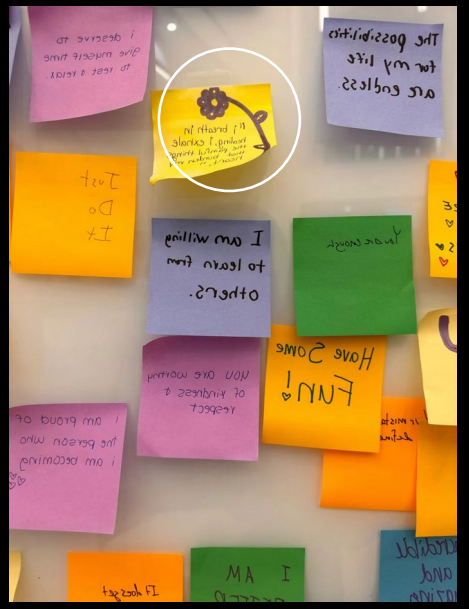


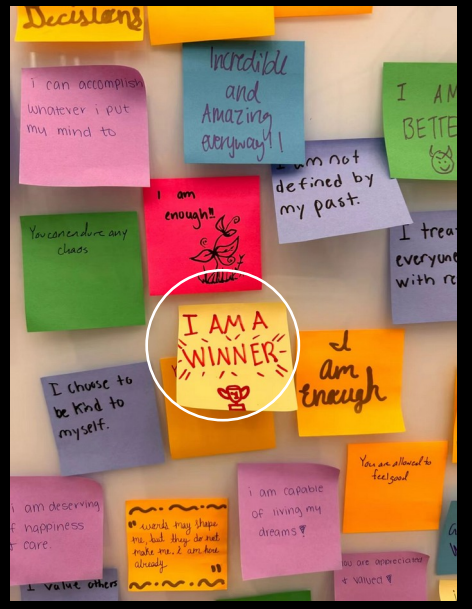


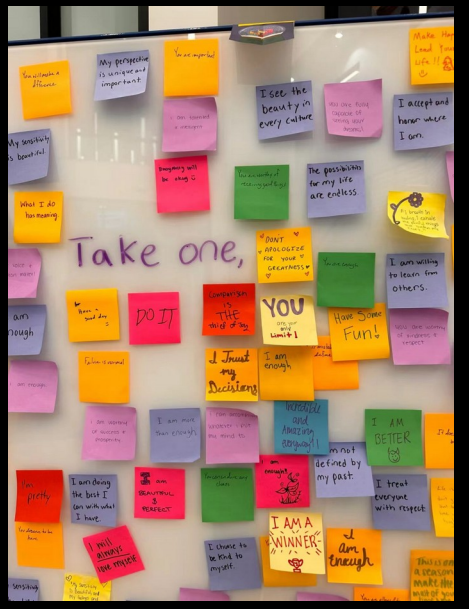
The design elements, font, color, paper, size and so on of the note will affect the transmission of information.



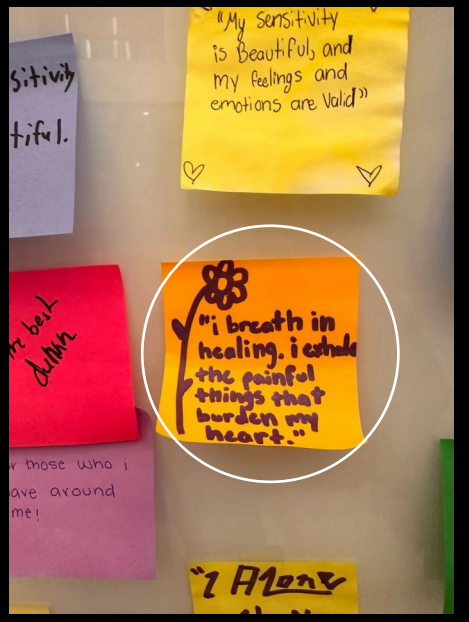


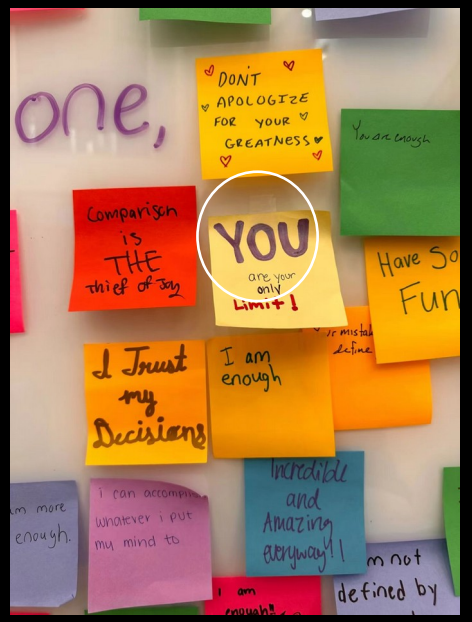


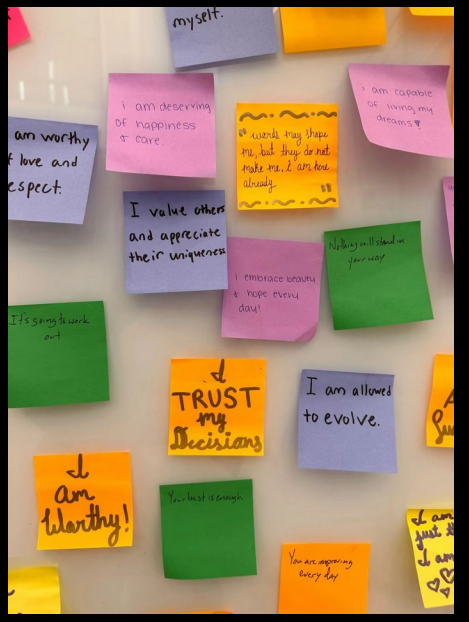


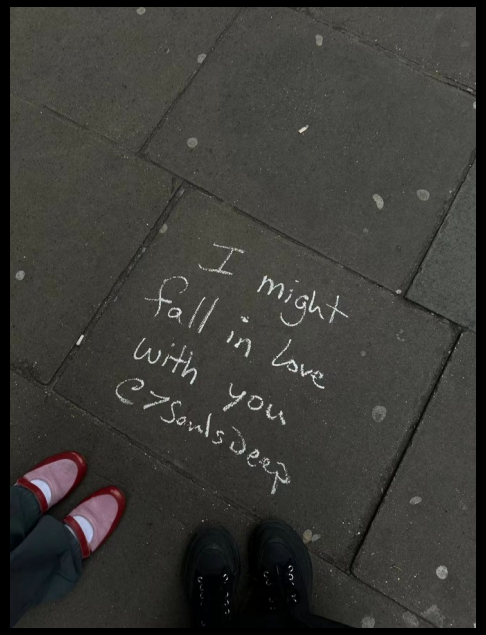


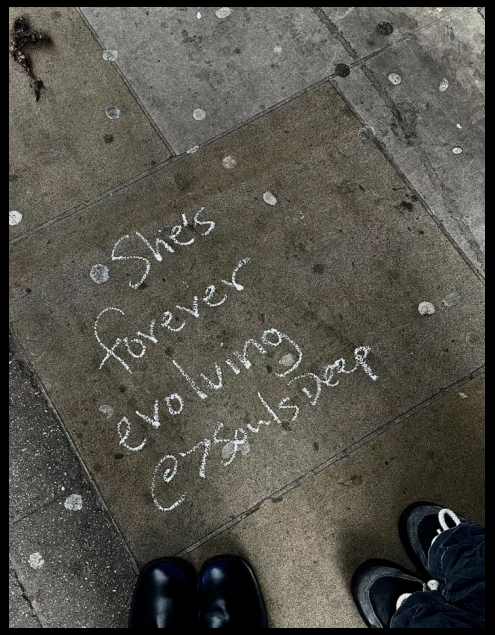
These colorful sticky notes, left by students at the school's learning center, feature diverse handwriting styles yet convey a powerful message. They offer comfort when you're feeling down, anxious, or frustrated.

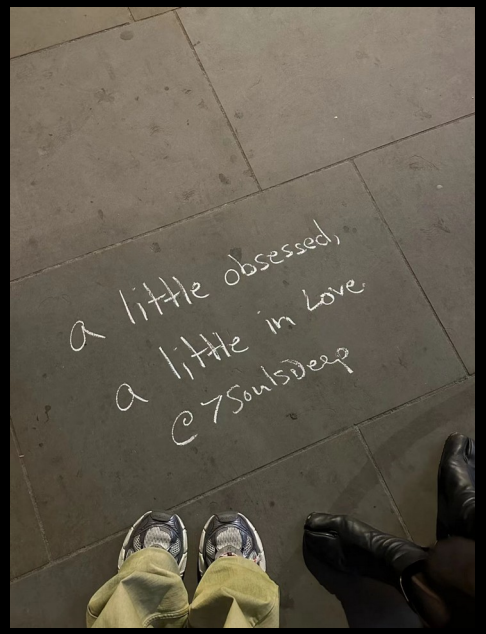


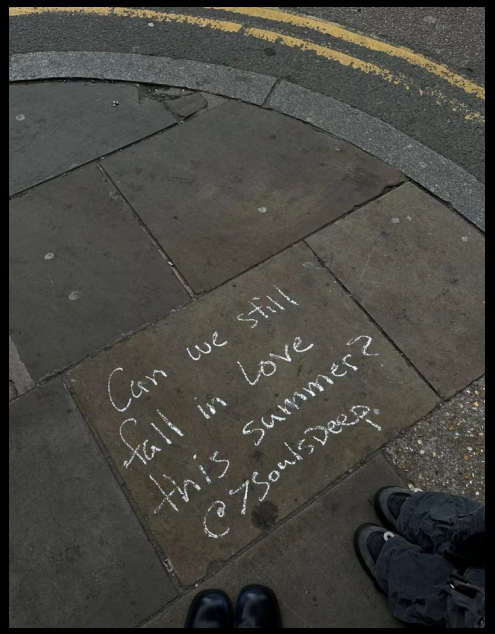












- I might fall in love with you.
- she is forever evolving.
- A little obsessed.
  A little in love.
- Can we still fall in love thus summer?

On city sidewalks, people use chalk to write short phrases. Though not traditional paper notes, these chalk notes serve a similar function to written notes. Both act as informal, real-time communication tools. Like physical notes posted in public spaces, handwritten words facilitate information exchange, emotional expression, and instant reminders.

Commercialised Notes: Sticky Notes for Emotional Labour.









In seasonal retail spaces, particularly during the Christmas season, greeting cards have evolved into pre-written personal letters. Through colors, shapes, and illustrations, these cards transform emotions into visual symbols.From this perspective, commercial greeting cards have become mass-produced emotional notes, extending the function of handwritten notes into public and consumer spaces.

Handwritten notes are natural and spontaneous, full of personal color, while seasonal greeting cards show the same communication function, which is standardized and aestheticized.

Who Writes, Who Reads

Intimate notes: Care and coordination between partners and family members
Instructional notes: Interaction and guidance between teachers and students
Commercial notes: Brands transforming the “handwritten feel” into emotional labour
Anonymous public notes: Emotional projection by strangers in public spaces

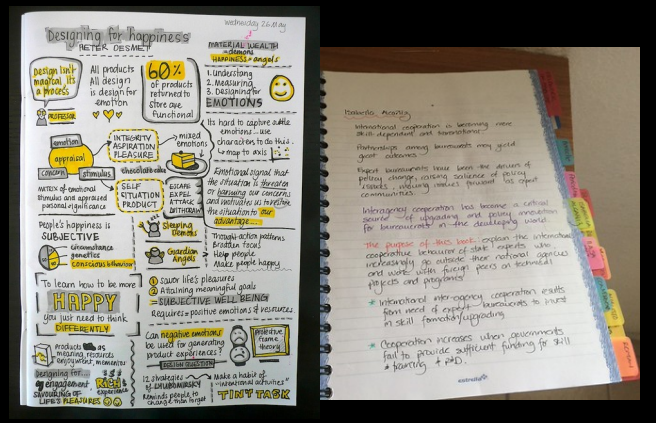


The nature of the relationship determines the tone, format, and visibility of the note.

Process Reflection: Learning to Notice

In the early stages of the project, I frequently encountered these handwritten notes without regarding them as worthy of attention.
Only through conscious recording, comparison, and renewed observation did these everyday traces gradually emerge from the background.

This process transformed my understanding of the environment:
what had been a neutral space gradually revealed an implicit network of communication woven through handwriting.



Design is not always created; sometimes it is merely seen anew.

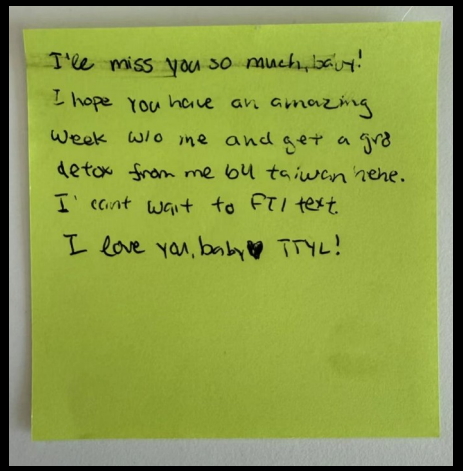


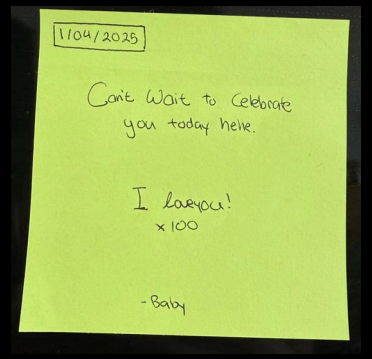
Conclusion: Making the Invisible Visible

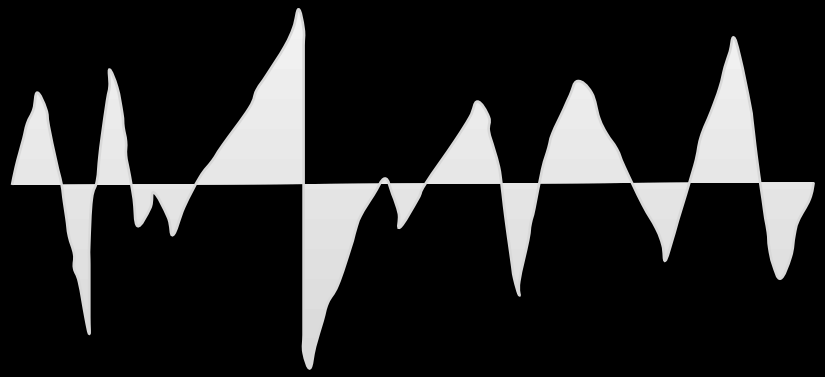
By reinterpreting handwritten notes as invisible signals, this project reveals the design wisdom concealed within everyday actions.
Making the invisible visible is not about creating new information, but relearning how to perceive what has always been present.

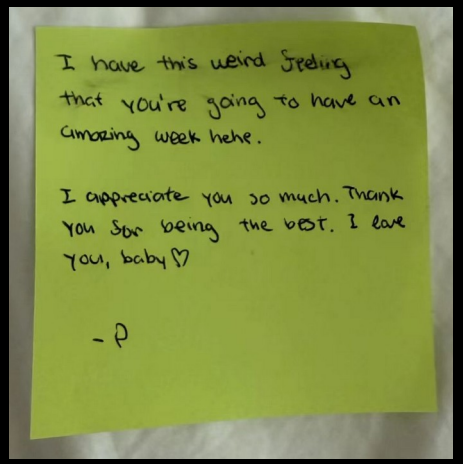
What Is Not Written.

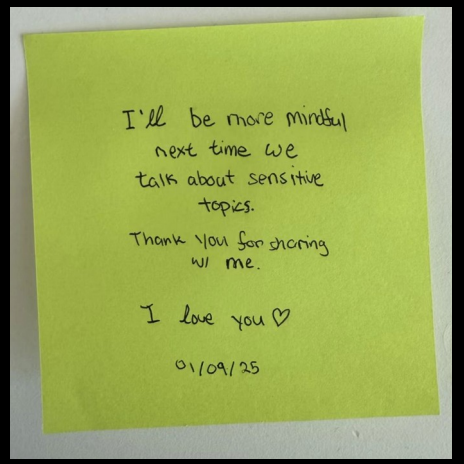
These notes convey emotional care not through explicit language, but through deliberate blank spaces. This allows the notes to serve as a safe vessel, bearing the weight of emotions without explicit words.



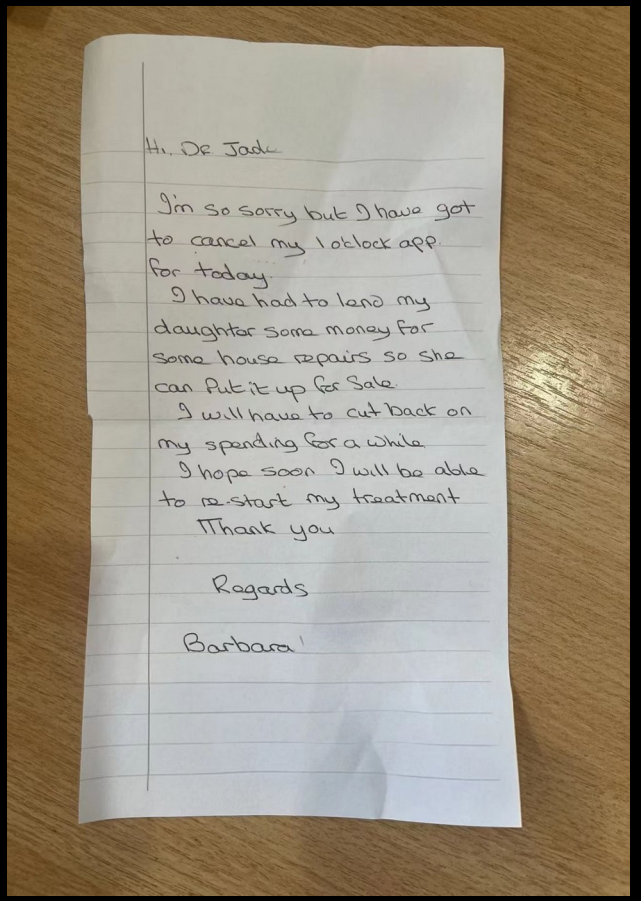






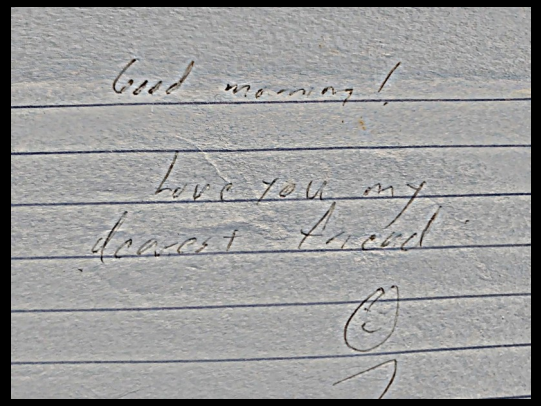


This is a note written by a boyfriend to his girlfriend suffering from depression. The note never mentions the illness. Instead, it conveys care through everyday language, reassurance, and repetitive expressions. This approach of non-mentioning is deliberate—providing emotional support while avoiding the reinforcement of vulnerability.



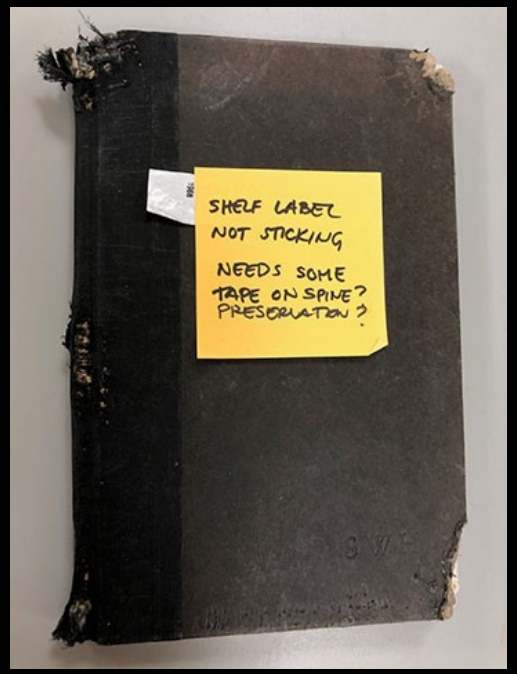
A similar mechanism is also evident in this note. Although presented as practical information, it implicitly conveys unspoken emotions such as guilt, anxiety, and a desire for understanding.

Speculative Extensi

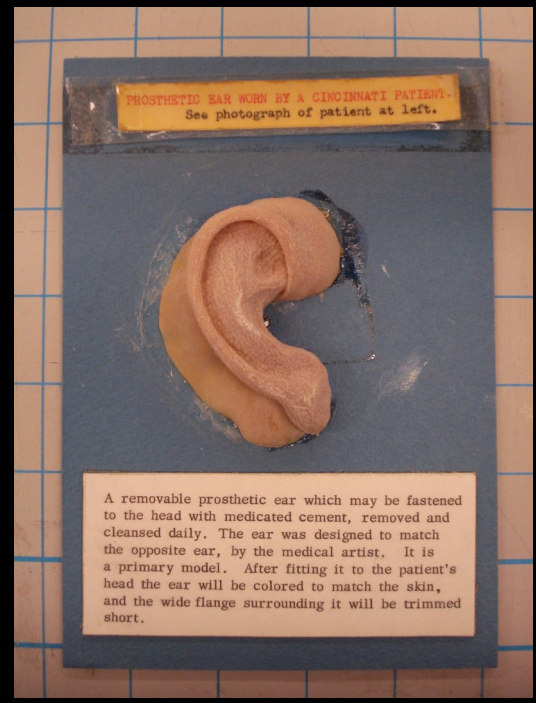




This final section extends the Digital Signal Atlas into a speculative future. By imagining a world in which handwritten notes are replaced entirely by system-generated reminders, the project questions what forms of meaning may quietly disappear alongside efficiency.



This speculative comparison does not function as nostalgia, but as a critical tool — revealing the emotional labour, ambiguity, and care embedded within imperfection.

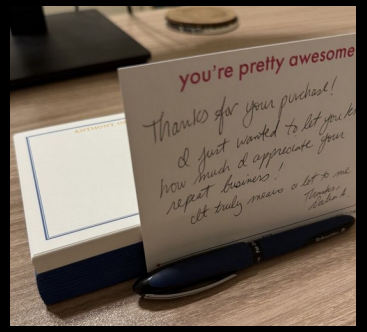


"The notes are gone, but the traces of communication remain."

WHAT IF HANDWRITTEN NOTES DISAPPEARED COMPLETELY?

Every message still arrives.But something else quietly disappe

Handwritten notes
Imperfect · Slow · Persona

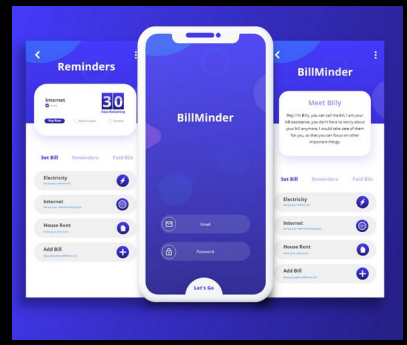


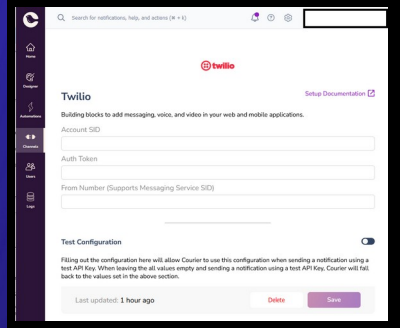


What is not
writte

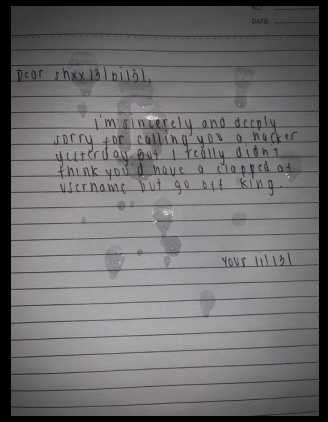
When handwriting disappears, does emotion still exist?

When care becomes automated, can it still be felt?





System-generated reminders
Clear · Optimised · Neutral

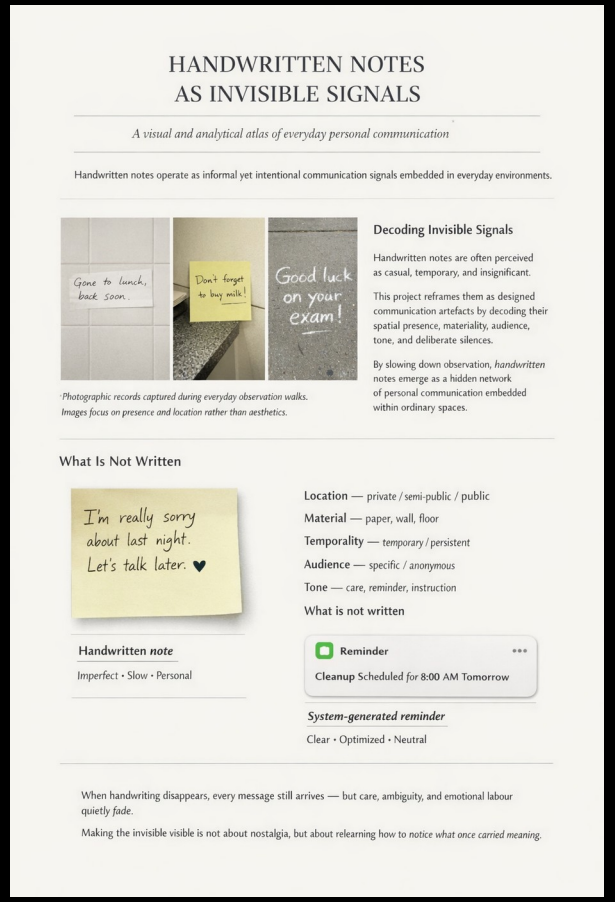


“Sorry…
I was in a rush.
Could you help me later?”

Making the invisible visible
is not about nostalgia,
but about noticing what once carried meaning.

Reminder
Task: Clean hallway spill
Priority: Medium

Making the Invisible Noticeable





The A4 poster installed within everyday environments, re-entering the spaces it studies.

Rather than presenting this project only within academic or gallery contexts, I chose to place the poster back into everyday environments — hallways, kitchens, streets, and shared spaces.

These are the same locations where handwritten notes originally exist and quietly operate. By returning the research artefact to these spaces, the poster no longer functions as an isolated explanation, but as an interruption within daily routines.

People do not encounter it intentionally. They notice it while passing by, pausing briefly, or comparing it to other notes around it. In this moment, the project shifts from being “about handwritten notes” to behaving like one — embedded, informal, and quietly communicative.

This placement transforms observation into experience, allowing the research to be read not only through text, but through presence.