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Handwriting example 16

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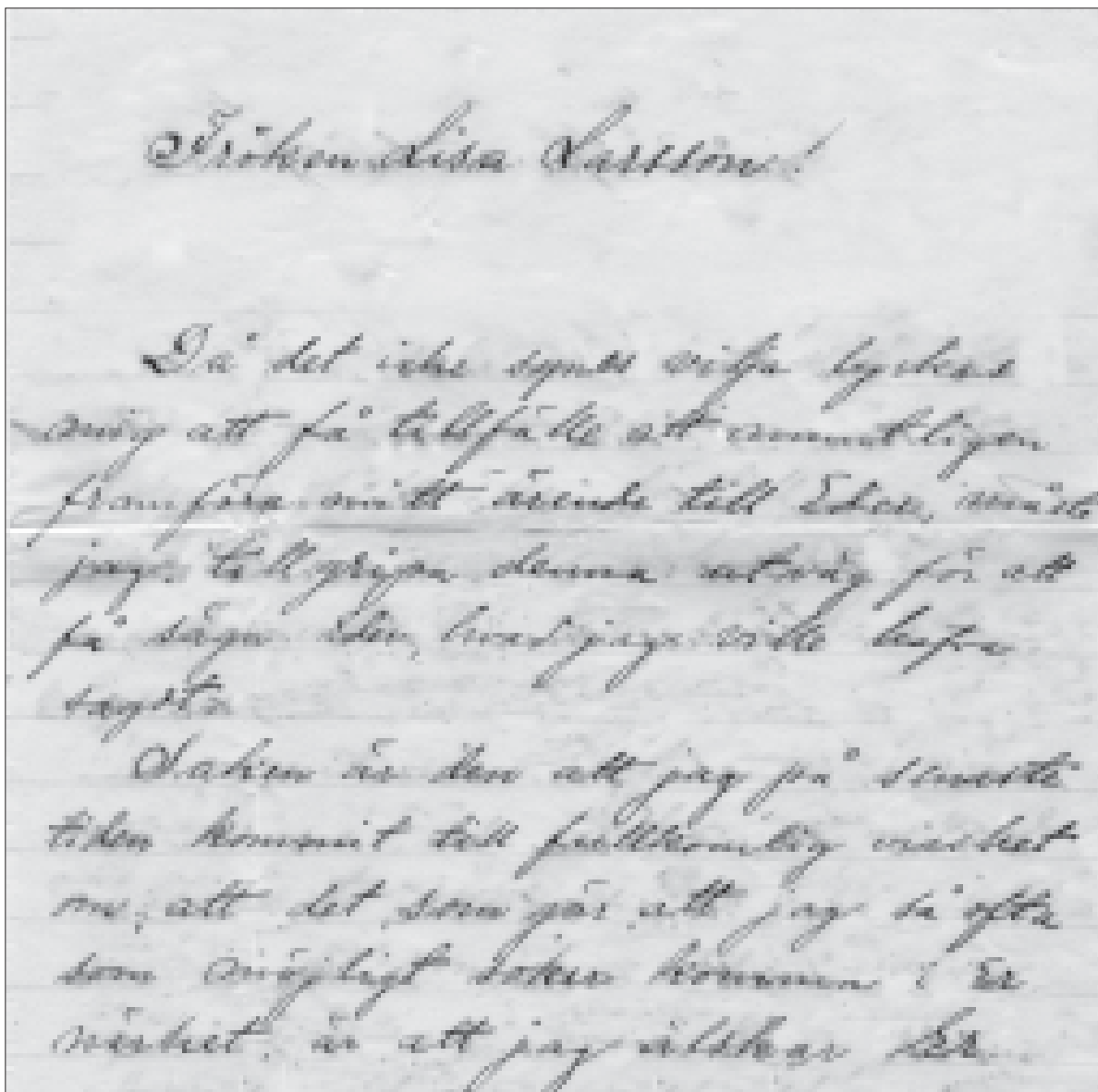
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Handwriting Example XVI



Here is a letter from a young man to a young woman, in which he tells her something, and later asks an important question.

The date of the letter is not known but probably in 1907 or 1908.

The young man was a mining engineer living in the mining village of Malmberget in Gällivare parish in the far north of Sweden, which at this time was considered a Swedish Klondyke. The big mine did not yield gold, but iron ore, and is still worked. In

the early 1900s the mine had just opened and people came there in hundreds, as the word spread about good wages and opportunities.

The young woman was a teacher from the local girls' school, where she had worked since she moved there from Stockholm in 1904. She had met with a nice group of young people of her age. She later always said that the years in Malmberget were the best of her life. Before coming there she had a rather tragic life, as her

mother died when she was 7 years old. When she was about 12 years old her father, a sister, and her much-beloved oldest brother all died within a year, leaving her and another brother all alone. Their guardian wanted her to get a steady job in a bank, but her father had promised that she could go to teacher's school, which she did, and then came to Malmberget.

Transcription on page 30.