What is Happiness?  
Haejin Lee
R/W 30

While there are many people searching for happiness, only a few find true happiness. It is not for a lack of honestly trying to find happiness but rather the attributes they assign to happiness. Many people believe happiness can be found through material or monetary wealth. Others believe it can be found if they physically alter their appearance. I disagree. I believe the key to happiness is through building and maintaining a positive outlook and demeanor. In Korea, I worked as a Therapist in a hospital and was often around people who were unhappy. It may be surprising but I am referring to the professionals with which I worked. They were often gloomy and lost sight of the fact they had degrees, earned good wages, and were admired by others. The constant complaining made me realize that happiness was not found in the material world but rather in the way you view and respond to the world around you. For instance, Michael Jackson; famous, rich, adored, and celebrated world-wide could not find happiness as was witnessed by his constantly changing face and skin and apparent drug-addiction. Before I understood this lesson, I too was a gloomy soul. I would ponder questions like, “Why do I fail so often?” and “What is my problem?” I remember thinking how I felt miserable and wretched. One day, I took a chance and changed my life after reading a book by a professor recounting his battle with cancer. He was told that he had less than 3 months to live and over a year later he had written the book and was still fighting. This was a turning point in my life and as I trained myself to be more positive. I found the world around me improving. My relationship with my parents and friends improved and my confidence increased. It is this lesson which enables me to tackle any problem I encounter. I am living proof that being determined to stay positive works. I want to help people understand the power they have within themselves is what matters, not what you buy at the local mall.

The Effects of Country of Origin Image on Consumers’ Intention  
Pei-Yu Wu (Betty)
R/W 60

In today’s Capitalistic world, manufactured products tend not to take raw materials and assemble them in one country, but rather, products ready for consumer use frequently are divided by the labor of individual parts from different countries. When shipping products from country to country, those products are required to be marked with the country of origin and the country of origin will be indicated in import or export documents. In general, the definition of country of origin image is identifying the products’ image to customers by the country where the shipped goods were produced, usually the country of origin is same as the country of departure (How Country of Origin, 2008). Nevertheless, a country’s product directly affects consumers’ purchasing decision. In other words, the buyers not only purchase the products because they perform well or the price, but they also take into account the country of origin. For example, French perfumes or electronic products from Japan are famous based on the country of origin (Maheswaran, 2006). For various reasons people feel compelled to examine the country of origin on the casing of products and will more frequently than not avoid purchasing products assembled in certain countries. Therefore, country of origin image has a direct correlation to the purchasers’ decision. With this in mind, it is important to further analyze how a country’s image affects consumers’ purchasing.

Three effects of country of origin image

Information

Sometimes, once people heard news on the television or read the newspaper about a particular product, people have a first impression about that product. For example, in 2007, a series of products which were produced in China got recalls and import bans by many countries such as the United States because a large number of products caused serious consumer safety issues. In addition, a food safety incident happened in 2008: the Chinese milk scandal. According to a news report this event caused some infants to die from kidney stones or kidney damage. An estimated 300,000 victims suffered from this incident (Branigan, 2008). According to these examples, people got the information that products produced in China are related with a bad impression, so information effects country of origin image.

In How to Beat ‘Made-in-China’ Fear, Dexter Roberts said, “‘Made in China, those three words are shaping up to be a market’s worst nightmare” (2008). Because of Chinese products’ scandal seriously and damaged their country’s image, consumers around the world are thinking twice before buying Chinese-made goods (Dexter, 2007). Low quality is the most frequently associate with Chinese products. That information draws an image which makes consumers fear products “Made in China.” Purchasers refuse to buy the products from China because their awareness is that of Chinese products are inferior or poor quality. Therefore, information is an important factor influencing consumers’ purchase intention. However, besides information there are some other countries of origin images that affect consumers’ decision.
Ethnocentrism

Most people think that the majority of United States’ consumers are ethnocentric. U.S. consumers have a bias of purchasing local products and are more opposed to buying products from other countries. Moreover, the effect of country of origin image in ethnocentrism has become unclear because of the rapid increase of multinational companies, such as Coca-Cola, Sony. However, consumers still see those products are produced from the primary country of origin, for example, Coca-Cola is from the United States, and Sony is from Japan (Batra, Ramaswamy, Alden, Steenkamp & Ramachander, 2000).

In general, ethnocentric consumers usually avoid buying imported products for protecting domestic job opportunities or being patriotic. While consumers are choosing products, a particular group of people would choose local products. These purchasers who have “home product bias” for some specific brands identified are recognized as ethnocentric consumers. Batra, et al. hypothesizes the effects of consumer ethnocentrism makes more positive attitudes for perceived local brands (Batra, et al.). As a result, although it is difficult to define some products’ country origin like Coca-Cola, Sony and so on, ethnocentrism is still a part in determinate affecting the consumers’ purchase.

Stereotyping

Not only does informational and ethnocentric influence consumers’ purchase intention based on country of origin, but purchasers’ stereotype of the country of origin also affects their purchasing. Consumers tend to purchase products in which they have a positive stereotype of the country of origin images, for example, “The quality of American products, the reliability of Japanese products, the workmanship of German products,” those are the images and stereotypes of country of origin (Papadopoulos & Heslop, 1992). Another example is the Swiss watch. People believe Swiss made products embodies a concept of quality, as seen with their watch industry. This image includes the technical quality and the aesthetic appearance of those watches which covers traditional manufacturing and advanced technology (The Swiss Watch Industry, 2005).

Examples are of negative stereotypes can lead to the consumer rejecting the product. As Papadopoulos said in Product-Country Images, “stereotyping is inherent to the process of classification which people use as a means of coping with the world around them” (Papadopoulos & Heslop, 1992). For instance, people buy a product from Sony and think that it is a Japanese product, even though that product was made in Malaysia. Stereotyping in country of origin has a decisive effect on consumers’ purchasing when facing the same quality or the same priced products.

Conclusion

With customers having a choice between buying products of similar quality, price, and design, it is clear that there is another factor that influences a consumer’s purchase: country of origin. Analyzing country of origin image effects helps marketers investigate consumers’ purchase intention. In country of origin image, informational are directly relating with buyers’ awareness about the products which might change consumers’ intention. Also, some people purchase goods based on a national superiority complex and those people deny buying imported goods. In addition, stereotyping is another effect which influences purchasing products. Finally, although there are many ways on country of origin influences consumers’ purchase intension; it might confuse consumers’ purchase intentions and judgments (Li, Wyer, 1994). However, country of origin image has a profound effect on a country’s ability to assimilate into the world market. While this can be a positive determinate for one country, the opposite effect applies to other countries. Therefore, although as a society of purchasing consumers we tend to focus on country of origin images, one should focus on an individual product, rather than stereotyping a country as a whole.

References


http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2008/dec/02/china


My Favorite Memory with My Family  
In Jeong Kim (Lilly)  
Ansan R/W

We went to the soccer stadium to cheer for our team. In 2002, the World Cup had begun for the whole world to watch. The Korean soccer team earned a good score, so my family was very excited and happy. After the game ended, we went to a Japanese restaurant. We ate sushi, slices of raw fish, and many side dishes. My family likes Japanese food. My younger sister especially likes Japanese food very much. We spent a good time there. I hope to go to the Republic of South Africa with my family for the next World Cup. What a nice memory for me!

A Korea Holiday--New Year’s  
Soyoun Jeon (Alice)  
Ansan R/W

In Korea on New Year’s Day Holiday, we have serious traffic jams. Although it is always a serious traffic jam that day, people still went to their grandparents home. My family has met at my grandparents for many years in a row. We cook together. We make various foods. We visit our ancestor’s graves with cooked food. We wear the HanBok. The Hanbok is the traditional Korea clothing. It is beautiful and colorful, and everyone except the grandparents talks to their offspring, and say “Bless You”. The house is warm on New Year’s Day because we are together.

A Birthday Party at a Restaurant  
Hesun Nam (Christina)  
Ansan R/W

My family loves pork! So we go to a pork restaurant when it is any family member’s birthday. We like pork more than birthday cake. We always think about pork as the best food, and we think the best of the pork food is pork ribs. So we always eat pork ribs. When we are eating pork, we are very happy. We love pork ribs!

A Party with My Family: My Grandmother’s 70th Birthday  
Yeseul Kim (Anna)  
Ansan R/W

When I was 17, it was the day of my grandmother’s 70th birthday. So my family met together with other family members. We went to my grandmother’s home. That day her house was very crowded, but I had a very fun time. I gave a gift to my grandmother. My grandmother was very happy. So, I was happy too.

My Birthday Party  
Hyunjin Lee (Sara)  
Ansan R/W

My birthday party was interesting with my friends in my home in 2009. My friends came to my home. They were my friends from high school and middle school. They are very pleasant friends. So this party was a very, very, fun time. We ate many different foods, for example chicken, cake, pizza, and pie. I like my friends and I liked my birthday party!

New Year’s Day  
Hyunjeong Kim (Julia)  
Ansan R/W

Let’s join together with our family! New Years is the day for having a new viewpoint for next year. Also, all families gather together and spend time with each other. We eat Dduk-gook and share greetings with each other for a happy New Year. We play our traditional game called Yut-nole. The whole families can all enjoy this game and it is the best day for many families.

A Korean Celebration!  
Kyungjoo Choi (Joo)  
Ansan R/W

Korea’s most famous holiday is “Chusok”. Chusok is the day we give thanks for our ancestors. On Chusok, all the related people gather in one relatives home, and we cook Korea traditional food, especially Songpyeon. This food is kind of rice cake. Also we talk with others, play games, and drink. That day is a very happy and exciting so we are looking forward to Chusok every year!

My Family Having New Year's Day Celebration  
Yunjeong Bak (Mary)  
Ansan R/W

I love New Year's Day! My family and many close relatives always gather in one home. We eat DduckKuk (rice dumpling soup) and other special foods. We play the Youkt Game. It’s a Korean traditional game. It is interesting. Also, I am given pocket money by my parents. So New Year's Day is a very happy day for me!
My Birthday Party
Eunji Oh (Charlotte)
Ansan R/W

When I was seven years old, I had a birthday party. My mother made food for my birthday party. The kind of food was pizza, pieces of pork, and spaghetti. That food tasted very delicious. My father bought a doll for me. The doll was very pretty. My younger brother was two years old that day, I will never forget my birthday party when I was seven years old.

My Mother’s Birthday Party
Mi Jang (Rose)
Ansan R/W

I wish my mother’s birthday party was every day because on that day we go to a restaurant with the whole family. On that day, my mother feels very good. My older brother and I eat delicious food like steak, chicken and salad. These are foods we don’t eat in ordinary times. So my brother and I are very happy. So I am looking forward to my mother’s birthday this year.

New Year’s Day
Haewon Kim (Bella)
Ansan R/W

I hope you have a happy New Year’s Day. On New Year’s Day in Korea, every family meets for a celebration. We always cook food and play Yut. Especially in the year 2000, my family visited the East Sea to see a sunrise. It was very beautiful. After the sunrise, we went to the sliced-rain-fish restaurant. I ate shrimp, squid, and flatfish. The shrimp and squid were very delicious, but the flatfish was bad. Next we went to the Sea-Rak Mountain. I spent a nice time on that New Year’s Day.

It’s Very Interesting on New Year’s Day
Young Suk Oh (Rebecca)
R/W 3

New Year’s Day is just one day per year. Every New Year’s Day, we meet our relatives. We make many different foods because when my family and my cousins are together, there are a lot of people. But that is just the relatives on my mother’s side. We are about 50 peoples in total. On the other hand, the relatives on my father’s side total about 20 people. Then we eat rice-cake soup. It means one is getting one year older. It’s our country’s culture. So on New Year’s Day, there is a great celebration to meet with relatives in Korea.

Happy New Year’s Day
Sa-rang Lee (Heather)
Ansan R/W

New Year’s Day is a blessed day in Korea. All my relatives come to my house on New Year’s Day. We make rice dumpling soup, and everyone eats the rice dumpling soup. The rice dumpling soup is a Korean traditional soup. My family goes to a theater every year. New Year’s Day is a happy day because I meet all my relatives and spend time with my family.

Our Big Party Is On New Year’s Day
Daheen Kim (Diane)
Ansan R/W

New Year’s Day is Korea’s most important and interesting celebration. On this day, all families in our country come together, and we eat a lot of food, for example Dduckuk and Mandu. There are also very delicious. I greet my grandparents with a bow, and I receive some money from them. All of these things that happened on New Year’s Day make me happy. I am looking forward to New Year’s Day coming soon.

The ELI: Where Eternity Exists
Takashi Tsuchiya
R/W 60

From time immemorial, powers have sought for eternal life even at the cost of their wealth. Unfortunately, such attempts had not been very successful until the innovation of technology took place. Having realized that a human body is composed of several parts of organic materials and a few kinds of inorganic metals, longing for eternity was reduced to a body maintenance technique by means of those components. Not relying on wonder-working medicines or spells, modern technology has embodied the eternal life.

On average, a human body necessitates 65 g (grams) of total fat, 20 g of saturated fatty acids, 300 mg (milligrams) of cholesterol, 2400 mg of sodium, 3000 mg of potassium, 30 g of total carbohydrate, 25 g of fiber, 50 g of protein, 5000 IU (International Unit) of vitamin A, 60 mg of vitamin C, 1000 mg of calcium, 18 mg of iron, 400 IU of vitamin D, 30 IU of vitamin E, 80 μg (micrograms) of vitamin K, 1.5 mg of thiamin, 1.7 mg of riboflavin, 20 mg of niacin, 2.0 mg of vitamin B6, 400 μg of folate, 6.0 μg of vitamin B12, 300 μg of biotin, 10 mg of pantothenic acid, 1000 mg of phosphorus, 150 μg of iodine, 400 mg of magnesium, 15 mg of zinc, 70 μg of selenium, 2.0 mg of copper, 2.0 mg of manganese, 150 μg of molybdenum and 3400 mg of chloride a day. With those ingredients supplied regularly, human bodies are kept in their optimal conditions.

To avoid single fault of nourishment, nutrients are supplied continuously through the tubes connecting human bodies and nutrition fountains, which are large enough to nourish hundreds of human bodies simultaneously. To be saved
Software design or architectural view of a future software project is a very important step in the software development process. This step is important because it creates the main structure of a project and a background for future steps. Mistakes made on this level lead to very severe problems in the future. For example, an incorrect object model of a system is something that is extremely difficult to fix in the later stages of a project. Usually correction of such mistakes requires a lot of changes in different parts of a system that are usually unplanned and very expensive. Software designers have been looking for new ways to avoid such mistakes and make the designing process easier.

There are different approaches to simplify the designing process. These approaches may be more or less suitable for different projects. For example, small projects that are written in procedural languages are more likely to be designed using adequate designing techniques; whereas complex projects that are usually done using object-oriented languages require more sophisticated designing techniques. One new trend that has been gaining popularity in designing complex projects is to use Design Patterns. This is a new technique that helps to find effective solutions for common problems that software designers often experience. This paper will give a brief history of the method, define what design patterns are, show important characteristic of this method and define the main advantages and disadvantages.

The history of the design pattern concept can be tracked back to 1964 and “The Timeless Way of Building,” written by Christopher Alexander, a successful architect. In this book the author is trying to come up with the basic rules that allow an architect to build practical and attractive buildings (1965). This idea lately became the concept of design patterns. The idea will be explained in details lately in this paper, but for now according to Alexander design patterns can be seen as a collection of reusable solutions to the common problems that architects experience creating any kind of buildings. In “A Pattern Language: Towns, Buildings, Construction,” the authors give detailed and practical examples of using the theory addressing many common problems like shortage of materials and the high cost of labor (Alexander, Ishikawa, Silverstain, 1977). This book and several experiments conducted by Alexander have proven that design patterns are extremely useful in architecture.

While the idea of patterns was first introduced in the construction field, it has been adopted and successfully used in many other engineering fields and especially in software design. The first attempt to use the idea was done by Ward Cunningham and Kent Beck, software developers and researchers, who tried to create a small pattern language for teaching students. The results of this work were presented in a paper titled “Using Pattern Languages for Object-Oriented Programs” (1987). In 1995, a group of four developers wrote “Design Patterns: Elements of Reusable Object-Oriented Software”, which contained the explanation of the theory and a catalog of 23 ready to use design patterns for object-oriented programming (Gamma, Helm, Johnson, Vlissides, 1995). Today, developers have created hundreds of new patterns applicable for different areas from graphic user interface to server programming and mobile application developing, yet this book and design patterns described in it are considered the basic for the concept. The book became so popular that developers started to use a nickname “Gang of Four” or “GOF” to address the authors.

Having quite a long history, to give a definition and clear explanation of what design patterns are is a difficult task and different sources give different definitions, yet most of them include a context, a recurring problem, and a solution. The context includes a set of rules for the problem. The recurring problem is a specific problem that the design pattern is trying to solve. The solution is a specific way to solve the problem. For example, Alexander defines a design pattern as “a three part rule, which expresses a relation between a certain context, a problem, and a solution” (1965, p. 23). Another definition can be found in “Understanding and Using Patterns in Software Development” that defines pattern as “the abstraction from a concrete form which keeps recurring in specific non-arbitrary contexts” (Riehle, Zullighoven, 1995). These definitions truly explain the main idea of a pattern, yet one may find it too abstract and a specific example from the real world would be helpful.

A simple yet clear example that can be used to explain the idea may be the “enter the place” pattern. Everyday people enter different places using different techniques. For example, entering someone’s own apartment, entering an elevator, or entering the bus are three completely different tasks, and can be viewed as different contexts. The problem in this case is to complete the entering procedure. The solution is common for all three contexts. First, a person needs to make sure that the
Design patterns in software development use the same principles. For example, the Singleton pattern, which is one of the patterns described in “Design Patterns: Elements of Reusable Object-Oriented Software”, is a simple example of a pattern that is used in many software systems (Gamma, Helm, Johnson, Vlissides, 1995). The goal of this pattern is to ensure that a class, which is the main concept in object-oriented programming, has only one instance and provides an access point that can be used from different modules, a group of classes, and other classes. This pattern may be used in different contexts to ensure that only one instance of a clock, a file system, or a security manager exists in the system. To make sure that there is only one instance of the class in the system, the pattern delegates the function of instantiation of new instances to the class itself. Typical implementation of this pattern includes a public static method as a global access point, a protected or private constructor, and a private static field that holds the reference to the instance of the class. Because the constructor is protected or private, it is impossible to create a new instance of the class without invoking a public static method of the class. This method uses private field in the class to hold the reference and check whether the instance of the class already exists. In multi-threaded applications this method should be also synchronized to ensure that there is no concurrent invocation of the code. This pattern is a good example because it is obvious that it can be used in different contexts and situations and is easy to explain without providing source code or algorithm diagrams.

The definition of a specific pattern and explanation of its idea is not the only part of a design pattern. According to the “Gang of Four”, a pattern should have four main elements. The first element is the name of the pattern. The name of the pattern is very important because it helps developers to communicate with each other and allows them to describe a solution using one or two words (Gamma, Helm, Johnson, Vlissides, 1995). Another element is the problem itself. In the previous example it is a need to have only one instance of a class. The next element is the solution that solves the problem and can be reused in other contexts. The last element is the consequences that are the results of applying the solution and possible negative effects. Other sources include other elements that describe a pattern besides these four elements. For example, Appleton in his article “Patterns and Software: Essential Concepts and Terminology” uses additional elements like “forces”, “examples”, “rationale”, “related patterns” and “uses”, yet the main elements are still the same.

After defining the main characteristics of patterns, it is important to summarize the main advantages of this method. Sue Spielman in her article “J2EE Design Patterns” provides the following examples. Design patterns help to “capture engineering experience” (Spielman, 2002). In other words, a catalog of design patterns can be viewed as a storage of solutions that can be searched. Additionally design patterns help engineers with different levels of knowledge to use common solutions. It means that beginners can easily use design patterns as the way of learning and experienced developers can use them as a way to share their experience. Another advantage of design patterns is that they save time because a designer can find an existent solution in the catalog instead of reinventing it.

Not only do patterns have advantages, but they also have several disadvantages that should be noticed. For example, like any abstraction-based technique, this method can increase complexity of the project if used incorrectly. Sometimes a problem can be solved using a simple solution without applying a pattern. Another disadvantage is that a design pattern by itself is not a guarantee that the specific problem will be solved in the most efficient way. For example, the singleton pattern in multi-threaded applications can be a cause of a significant performance decrease. The synchronized static method in this case creates a block of code that can be executed by only one thread at one moment. If the application frequently invokes the singleton, there is possibility that most of the threads will be waiting in the queue for one thread to return from the method. These possible disadvantages are important and it is considered a good practice to describe known trade-offs of a pattern in the comment section of its description.

In conclusion, design patterns is an important technique that helps to build more elegant and sophisticated software projects. There are several disadvantages, yet paying attention to these problems can help to avoid them. Overall this method has proven to be helpful and some software giants like Sun Microsystems and Microsoft maintain their own catalogs of design patterns (Welcome). Some universities, for example, the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, are offering special courses that teach students about design patterns (CMSC44). It might be predicted that because design patterns are based on the object-oriented paradigm, learning them in parallel with the object-oriented programming course would be helpful for the students. Moreover, some object-oriented ideas can be explained using design patterns.

References
In the 1964 movie A Hard Day’s Night, four young men, dressed smartly with disheveled hair, are running and gasping with impish smiles into an alley, and the screams of girls running after them could puncture an eardrum. The four young men seem to enjoy their lofty status amidst hearty cheers from the groupies, not even thinking that they will change the landscape of popular music. They are the members of a marvelous group called The Beatles weaving the world into one through their music; they had a great influence on future generations: the name of The Beatles is recorded in the English lexicon and they inspired human beings’ advanced artistic consciousness through the medium of rock music.

There is an inevitable question that most Beatles’ fans are asked while talking about The Beatles, “Which one do you prefer between John Lennon and Paul McCartney?” In practice, there have existed two separate groups of Beatles’ fans around the world: Lennon’s fans and McCartney’s. It suggests that they walked different paths in their musical lives, which resulted in excessive competition and bitter conflict between them later on; they were incompatible with each other in artistic temperament and songwriting styles. This paper will discuss how their fierce rivalry began in The Beatles and has been continued during The Beatles and after.

**Lennon and McCartney’s perilous living together in The Beatles**

The encounter between the two musical geniuses, Lennon and McCartney, goes back to 1956 when they were attracted by each other’s musical talents, and McCartney joined the band Lennon had formed called The Quarry Men, the predecessor of The Beatles. Before McCartney’s joining, Lennon seemed to forecast that McCartney would become a threatening rival in the band later on. In his book, Albert Goldman quoted Lennon’s as saying, “I half thought to myself, ‘He’s as good as me.’ I’d been kingpin up to then. Now, I thought, ‘If I take him on, what will happen?’ It went through my head that I’d have to keep him in line if I let him join” (1998, p. 68). That was the way the Lennon-McCartney partnership began; that is, from the outset, their relationship was in peril. As the calm before the storm, this partnership was still peaceful and even strengthened by a strong tie because they both lost their mothers at a young age. However, as time went by, this tie didn’t seem to matter to them any more.

As a price comes with success, by 1968, the group’s success had to pay for the antagonism between Lennon and McCartney. As mentioned at the beginning, they were different in musical abilities and styles although it was hidden by the huge shadow of The Beatles’ success; however, their supreme confidence because of the group’s success made their differences come up to the surface (Paul McCartney, 2008). In their different musical abilities, subtle tension was evinced. Lennon seemed to have an inferiority complex to McCartney’s marvelous ability to produce fine tunes, such as “Yesterday,” “Michelle,” “Here There And Everywhere,” “Penny Lane,” “Eleanor Rigby,” “Hey Jude,” “Let It Be,” and so on; McCartney was also envious of Lennon’s eccentric creativity, especially his inherent talent for writing lyrics, displayed in “Nowhere Man, Girl,” “Strawberry Fields Forever,” and “Julia” (Miles, 1997). In terms of their songwriting styles, Lennon’s songs were normally pessimistic whereas McCartney’s were optimistic. An example of this can be seen especially in the song “A Day In The Life,” on the album “Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band,” consisting of two separate songs, of which both Lennon and McCartney wrote their portions independently where Lennon’s cheerless voice enters and ends with an exhausted “oh boy,” unlike McCartney’s entering with a cheerful voice (Paul McCartney, 2008). Once those differences in the early days of The Beatles were a driving force of the group’s success, which can be proved by many musical authorities calling the partnership “one of the best-known and most successful musical and cultural collaborations of all time” (Lennon/McCartney, 2009), but their differences turned to conflict and hostility.

In the same year, 1968, the death of Brian Epstein, The Beatles’ manager, practically amounted to the end of The Beatles when the situation that Lennon had predicted turned into a reality; McCartney was trying to take the leadership in the group (Blaney, 2007). Below describes a famous scene in the Let It Be film where his bossiness was revealed.

Paul and George get into an argument after Paul tells George how he should be playing guitar. George ends up walking out of the session. Paul had a similar experience with Ringo months earlier and Ringo walked out of the session as well (Lennon, 2005).

After seeing the film, Lennon cynically remarks, “It was set up by McCartney for McCartney” (Lennon, 2005). Also, he was resentful towards McCartney in the last studio sessions of The Beatles because he felt McCartney tried to
undermine some of his songs like “Strawberry Fields” and “Across the Universe” (Spitz, 2005). In its early stage, Lennon was reluctant to accept McCartney in his band since he was afraid that McCartney’s talent for music might surpass his, but Lennon made a decision about McCartney’s joining for the same reason; he believed McCartney’s talent would contribute to the band. However, it seemed to be hard for Lennon to take responsibility for his decision.

In this unavoidable breaking down of their old alliance, there were two women: Ono Yoko, Lennon’s lover, and Linda Eastman. Both Ono and Linda stopped by the studio, where The Beatles worked together. Unlike Linda, however, Ono constantly interrupted the “White Album” sessions as if she had been one of The Beatles, which developed a sticky tension in the studio. In his book, Bob Spitz quoted McCartney’s as saying, “Yoko’s appearance in the studio functioned as a declaration of war” (2005, p. 777). In 1969, in the two couples’ matrimaries, the antagonism between them was continued. Only two days before, the press had announced the surprising news of McCartney’s marriage to Linda, and the ceremony was performed with no other Beatle present. Wild with frustration, Lennon called the office and said, “I wanted to marry within the next half hour!” (Miles, 1988) His sudden anger over McCartney’s matrimony seemed to be a clear case of not wanting to be outdone, not an inexplicable impulse. Eight days after McCartney’s marriage, Lennon and Ono got married without any notice just as McCartney did. This shows that Lennon and McCartney entered into rivalry even when they fell in love.

Public announcement of The Beatles-break up
As there is an expression that the collapse of a castle is for an internal confusion, not an external invasion, it wouldn’t be too much to say that the beautiful castle of The Beatles, built by their passion for rock music in their younger days, ended up being destroyed hopelessly by bitter conflict between the two, Lennon and McCartney.

When McCartney made the official announcement of The Beatles breakup in 1970, the relationship of Lennon and McCartney entered upon a completely hostile phase. With regard to this break-up announcement, Lennon seemed to have a good reason to get into rage by McCartney’s abrupt attack on him; in fact, Lennon unofficially said that The Beatles were relics of ancient times, and it should be changed or broken up by him as he had formed the band (Goldman, 1998). According to Blaney, “He’s even announced his intention to leave the band at an Apple meeting but was persuaded to keep quiet by manager Allen Klein, who was negotiating The Beatles’ contract with EMI” (2007, p.30). In the meantime, McCartney held a sudden press interview when he announced that he would leave The Beatles on account of personal and business matters, and a musical difference (Miles, 1997).

After the breakup, while McCartney was winning great success with the group Wings he had formed in 1971, Lennon’s stinging tongue toward McCartney in the press continued, and McCartney reacted to it by releasing his second solo album “Ram” when he included the picture of him pulling the ears of a ram on the album cover; in general, it is assumed that the ram referred to Lennon. However, in the book, Blaney quotes McCartney, “In one song, I wrote, ‘Too many people preaching practices,’ … I mean, that was a little dig at John and Yoko. There wasn’t anything else on ‘Ram’ about them” (2007, p. 45). Regarding this, Lennon’s response was to include a postcard of him holding the ears of a pig in a parody of Ram’s cover photograph the song “How do you sleep?” on his “Imagine” album 1971 (Miles, 1997). The lyric of this song is as follows.

You live with strangers who tell you was king
Jump when your momma tell you anything
the only thing you done was yesterday
And since you're gone you just another day
Ah, how do you sleep?
Ah, how do you sleep at night?
A pretty face may last a year or two
But pretty soon they'll see what you can do
The sound you make is muzak* to my ears

(muzak*: background music transmitted by wire or radio)

“Yesterday” and “Another Day” in the lyric refer song titles written by McCartney, and the lyric “a pretty face may last a year or two” went right to the point. In his article, Booth states McCartney’s hidden fear toward his music: McCartney's unspoken fear is that he will be remembered only as a pop singer who made pretty records. The Master of Ear Candy, shallow and self-indulgent if catchy and commercial --and, of course, never as good as his now dead collaborator, Lennon. (1992)

Reevaluation of Lennon/McCartney after the death of Lennon

There would be no doubt that the aesthetics of death contributed to the fact that Lennon has become a synonym for The Beatles to many people. The sudden death of Lennon in 1980 attracted public attention, which made the world pop fans reevaluate his music, and he came to receive a sort of posthumous fame.

As a matter of fact, during The Beatles and after, Lennon didn’t keep up with McCartney in terms of their official records. A majority of the songs epitomizing The Beatles, such as “Yesterday,” “Hey Jude,” “Obladi-Oblada,” and “Let It Be” were McCartney’s composition, and in their solo careers, McCartney had nine number one singles and seven number one albums while Lennon left no more than two number one singles (Artist, 2007). Even such a famous song Lennon’s “Imagine” wasn’t ranked first on the chart. Apart from their music, McCartney also got the lead in general popularity because of his ‘cute’ looks and good manner.

Nevertheless, time seemed to be unfair to McCartney; Lennon died, and McCartney’s past glories became faint; in fact, McCartney’s greatly successful solo pieces, such as “My Love,” “Band On The Run,” “With A Little Luck,” are hardly remembered now; in contrast, Lennon’s “Imagine” has become an immortal pop song, and his songs “Love,” “Oh My Love,” and “Woman” are still loved. Recently, Lennon and McCartney
were each ranked fourth and 13th respectively in “Mojo greatest 100 singers all the time” (Mojo, 2009).

To conclude, many people will think it is a great pity that The Beatles was disbanded, and they might be willing to charge the disbanding to the rivalry between Lennon and McCartney. It is somewhat true in that from the beginning of the rivalry to the end, there was no room for compromise to save The Beatles; they pursued only their own interests in music and lives while the fierce rivalry was continuing. However, it should be remembered that the rivalry between Lennon and McCartney, two of the most prominent songwriters in modern time, was integral to the success of The Beatles, which can be seen in their excellent piece of music in those days. Also, it might be wasted efforts to choose the favorite one between them in order to tear down the one to laud the other; in the past, the two musical geniuses, Lennon and McCartney were great for being together in The Beatles, and as for the present, they would be great for being out of The Beatles. As McCartney said, perhaps we should just “Let It Be.”

References


How to Tempt Someone

Seung Jin (David) R/W 2

Sit down near a target and watch the target for a long time quietly. Then when you look at each other, you should do a wink.

God bless you.

The River of Moldau in Prague

Jiin Jung R/W 60

“Have you ever been to Prague in the Czech Republic?“ “If you haven’t, you should go there because Prague is the most beautiful city in Europe.” This is what I heard from an old lady I met in the subway in Frankfurt, Germany, while traveling in Eastern Europe, which made me give a smile of satisfaction since my next destination was Prague. It also reminded me of a music critic in Korea depicting Prague as the most beautiful city in the world, which looks like a piece of landscape wherever we see in Prague.

That I first encountered Prague was when I read an article about “Prague Spring,” referring to a democratic movement of Czechoslovakia in 1968. Later on, with reading well-known novels of Czech’s greatest writers, such as The Unbearable Lightness of Being by Milan Kundera and The Trial and The Castle by Franz Kafka, I personally gave a definition of Prague; Prague is a city full of resistance and love of arts. By the time I almost forgot about Prague, I happened to listen to a symphonic poem named Vltava, after the longest river of Veltava in Czech Republic (better known as “The Moldau” from the German), composed by Bedrich Smetana, one of the great composers of Czech’s history, and I fell in love with The Moldau.

Such a passion for The Moldau led me to be in Prague, where there is the river of Moldau, and as I’d heard, Prague was a really beautiful city: the ancient Prague castle, showing a delicate feature, Karluv Bridge, holding out for a 500-years-old history, thirty statues lined on either side of the bridge, and the river of Moldau, flowing calmly below the castle. Of these beautiful cultural properties, however, I’d say a real beauty of Prague is that it has its own aroma and subtle perfume produced while the nation had been enduring a long time of glory and shame, which never will be able to be felt in modernity and refinement.

The Moldau, which made me full of admiration in Smetana’s symphonic poem, probably would contribute to such a real beauty; it has been a symbol of Czech’s tireless resistance and their emotional prop to sustain their native country under the dominion of Austria. As Alexander Dubcek, leading “Prague Spring,” there were many people who bore up under an adversity and oppression, and one of them was Bedrich Smetana, the composer of The Moldau, considered the nation’s anthem that Smetana dedicated his father land. On the basis of Bohemian nature, legend, and history, he composed six
symphonic poems, named “My fatherland,” among which The Moldau is the second poem. Every year, a festival to commemorate “Prague Spring” takes place when it opens with this music, which reflects what the Moldau symbolizes, unyielding resistance.

The unyielding resistance I felt in the symphonic poem, The Moldau, was the reason why I was fascinated with the music. In the piece, I imagined Moldau to be a great river, flowing in a large stream through a long time when I could feel this nation’s history from time immemorial and an indomitable spirit. The introduction of The Moldau starts with a description of a swirling small stream intermittently, and the most famous lyric tune follows it. In this flowing and elegant melody, paradoxically, there were a dauntless spirit, dignity no one dares access, and potential power of the nation.

Before visiting Prague, I expected the huge river of Moldau as it is described the symphonic poem; however, the Moldau I saw there was rather small and calm, so it seemed to be a bit awkward to name it a huge stream, national spirit, and swirling patriotism. Then was it merely because of his heart burning with patriotism? Perhaps, Smetana would have wanted to describe a great national spirit flowing at the bottom of Bohemian’s heart by his music and the river of Moldau.

Yet, their national-self respect, a symbol of the Moldau, seemed to fade while the capitalistic economy advanced on the nation after the collapse of East European bloc has been making Czech happier materially than before. With seeing people touting travelers in front of a station square, I sighed out my regrets thinking that this historic city would go through lots of hardships in the future.

The Moldau doesn’t flow in a large stream, at least, outwardly. However, as Smetana did, I could feel their national self-respect running majestically at the bottom of the Moldau. Although they have a long way to go now, I believe that someday this nation will ride the wave of a great prosperity again by the power of the majestic culture and their inner strength, not economic power and military strength.

While waiting for the train at the station to go to the next destination in my journey, I heard one of tourists saying, “The national income of this country is low, and Prague is also nothing,” and I had to feel “the Unbearable Lightness of Being.”

A Humpback Painter Son, Sang-ki
Jiin Jung
R/W 60

A person experiencing the bitterness of life at an earlier age! His life was as miserable as he couldn’t bear. Nevertheless, it was shame for him to have to face such a wretched world; though he spat at the abominable and absurd world, he was always depressed in that he couldn’t break or transcend from it.

A humpback painter Son, Sang-ki is called Henri de Toulouse Lautrec of Korea. He counted a sole thing he’d had was a heavy inferiority complex: projecting sterna, the back like an Arabian camel, and below 5 feet in height. Although he refused that his deformity spread to a mental defect, not being able to hide was self-pity and an inferiority complex, segmenting and being proliferated tirelessly as a fatal virus is spread. Only in an act of painting, he seemed to be able to console himself and express his identity, and the end of his sense of inferiority might have come to him at the moment his life ended.

One of his works Construction City - Isolation reveals the inside of an ugly city: a landscape describing a dreary city, where human beings disappeared. A sharp metal from a barbed wire fence erected around the city suggests violence of a cruel reality and exclusion from others.

No access.

However, a hope might begin to bloom as a lotus flower in the mud. A path winds along a village, a church, and a hill molding ‘Y,’ and the path will reach the sky; then the picture might be a conception of the shallow and shabby world where he looks for a gleam of hope!

Although his divine punishment, a humpback, made a mockery of his defeat and despair, it could never crush his artistic passion; the rigor of life and physical misfortune threatened his life and art, but he denied being a victim of the adverse fate. However, how difficult would it be to transcend a physical inferiority complex and limitation with only an unyielding spirit? He was never free out of the burden of his deformity; he said that the very thought of his deformity made him suffocate.

Drawing was the only method to escape from the choking and to realize his scratched dream. In the darkness, he picked the inner words in severe pain and repeated drawing with hard and stern training. He concentrated his efforts on depicting poor neighbor’s uneasiness and neglect as his life itself was. The picture of people’s severely twisted faces and women’s nude picture with blank faces were also to express the neglected people in the world. His pictures always had being sharp and subtle seeing through him. A lonely soul, Son, San-gi, who did battle with the world paradoxically comparing himself to an unwithered flower!
Thanks from the Editor
Thank you for sharing your writing with everyone. I hope you enjoy reading your fellow students' essays, paragraphs, and poetry. Also thanks to Megan Forbes and the University of Florida Bookstore for arranging the gift certificates, to Todd Allen for publicizing this issue of Student Voices, to the Reading/Writing instructors for supporting their students in their writing, and to Debbie Kellerman, Valentina Komaniecka, Melina Jimenez, Fiona Lama, Patricia Moon, and Todd Allen for reading and evaluating the entries.
Thanks everyone!                                      Steve Flocks

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