

Writing Response by Edward Zheng

Homework #13

Short story: "Mono No Aware". I've attached a pdf on the google-drive. Find the story titled "Mono No Aware" It is about a spaceship hurtling away from a destroyed earth. Take your time, really read through the story.

Writing:

You've been living on a spaceship for 20 years. In three paragraphs write an essay about the things you would miss most about the earth.

If I were on a spaceship for 20 years, the things that I would miss the most are the vast green trees, fireworks, and nature itself. Though out of all, the most important thing to me is earth because it is the only planet that has life. But I still have hope for the new dawn to arrive.

From the day I open my eyes to the day I close them, I love, to see life grow and sprout out of the earth, and to have the feeling of welcoming it into the world. Nature and forests remind me of heroes, helping to keep the atmosphere clean but also people who had served us now buried underground and living like plants now. So, if I show respect to heroes, I do with all life.

I miss the flashes of fireworks that remind me of the accomplishments of humanity: Alberts's theory of gravity, the Saturn-5 launch (the first launch that brought us to the moon), the invention of the telegram etc). Seeing everything go away is just too painful to see.



Homework #14

Hello everyone, the next class will be our last together. These are the things I'd like you to accomplish.

Reading: Xuan Juliana Wang's short story **Mott Street in July.** I've uploaded it into the google drive

Writing: I would like you to complete a 3 paragraph essay describing what novel, short story, or character you liked the most over the past 14 weeks. Be you, write informally, include personal details and how you understood your chosen text. Express yourself!

The books you choose, the characters are in some ways just the same, I don't see books and characters the way you see them. For some reason, I just have this bittersweet feeling of boredom and this force that forces me to keep reading. That's why I don't like reading so much but the characters in the novel that you had given have something special when I read them. I think about the characters, their problems and solutions, how clever they are, and such a strong bond between them and their loved ones or things, and that encourage me. So, I can give the fact that *all* the characters and novels are my favourite.

The thing that impresses me is the bravery of the characters in conditions far worse than mine. The things that inspire me to survive but with hope and a strong bond of their family, people, and possessions. Like Echo, simulating us to be characters in the novel; how people didn't just survive their problems, they connected by the connection of the harmonica which also encourages me to even forget their problems like how Mike and Franky did.

If I have a chance to choose the next book, I would like it to be a new book that does not follow the rules (beginning, setting, problem, solution, ending). Maybe the drag of boredom can just be that. Every time I read a novel, it's the same structure with different environments and solutions with or without. It all just falls flat. I wish it could be with different and unique features and arrangements like the "I Survived Series". Out of all, I think your novels are amazing. Thank you for being my teacher...Dr. Stanley!