The Wiland Letters:

Letter 1:

Why do a man write? I am not quite sure of the answers, but throughout my 24 year in this world, I have made an observation.

The first being, a huge amount of the greatest men in history where “writers”, and I say “writers” cause often these were men with other professions aswell.

Leonardo da Vinci, while being one of times most infuential inventors was apperently a great writer. Benjamin Franklin well know for his discoveries within electricity, and being an influential statsman, also was prolific in writing. Marcus Aurelius, one of the greatest roman emperor in history wrote down his thoughts in the now almost mainstream book “Meditationes”.

And I could go on to google search more examples, but the idea being that great men, indepented of profession, have a tendency to be good writers. I will by no stretch of the imagination compare myself with the examples above, but my belife is that by following habits of great people, one is more likely to become great oneself.

Should it be the case, that my writings would never see the face of another human being than myself, is not the point of me writing. Simply the act of expressing my thoughts on paper is of enough value to me, and if they one day should be of use of another, will only be a bonus. The reason I decided to publish my letters is to get a sense of obligation, to keep on writing. With time I hope that my writing shall become articulate, my thoughts more reflected and my dyslexia to be less obvious.

Today is 29.12.2022.

Letter 2:

I want to follow up on the thought I had in my first letter, namely the reason one should be writing. Previously drawing the conclusion that there is a correlation between smart men and men who write, but why is this?

I think Jordan Peterson formulated a good take on this:

*“The best way to teach people critical thinking, is to teach them to write.”*

He is arguing that when you write, you are forcing yourself to express your thoughts, and a good writer can do this with accuracy. Pinpointing in the most precise matter, what you are thinking. In return, this results in you becoming a more efficient thinker.

I feel this is so obviously true, but I just had not thought about it this way before. And Peterson also addresses that: no one is ever told in schools why they are writing. All the hundreds of assignments I have written throughout education, I have never been explained that the act of writing has its own benefit. When you are writing an essay about, let us say: *what was Knut Hamsun message when he wrote the book “Hunger”.* The objective is not necessarily that you shall learn or remember his message, the objective is that you shall learn HOW to analyze and interpret his message when it is delivered in the way he writes.

Then there is that point, why is the ability of critical thinking so important? This should to some extent be obvious, but I want to address the importance of it anyway, so it does not get overlooked. A definition of critical thinking will fall along the lines of: *The ability to analyze and evaluate an issue to form a judgement.* In more vernacular matter, critical thinking lets you analyze things in a more accurate matter, and helps you formulate an opinion on that thing. For every human being, in every situation, I think this is an immensely valuable tool which should not be taken for granted.

Hence why I write.

Today is 02.01.2023

Letter ideas: Read more, and you will have more to write