

Immaturity

Since moving into college one thing that has troubled me is the feeling of immaturity, both in the people around me and also myself. No really connected to knowledge or understanding class or conceptual material, but just childishness. I don't feel any different than highschool and examining the actions of my peers they appear to have a same or similar mindset. Funnily enough their appears to be the same highschool cliches and groups that occupy the university. There is the weird kids, the nerds, and the athletes. With significant tribalism between groups. Honestly College feels more like a Disney Original Movie than my actual highschool did. Before coming to college I had this notion that college helped cultivate adulthood, responsibility and a general growth. I'm probably too nihilistic, but that is not what it appears. It is probably a stupid conception of growing up. Moving to a campus of other kids is not going to create a "well-round" well defined man. Instead it is the response to the life experiences that transforms people from boys to Men. I find it interesting that on the cross-country team during workouts other teams would congratulate and encourage with the phrase "Lets go Men". It felt weird for me to be captured by this phrase. Like I am 18, but I don't feel like a individual person not tied to my parents to familial expectations. It seems oddly familiar like the phrase "Lets go boys" which I heard a lot at cross meets in highschool, yet alien. It almost feel to me like adulthood is being thrust on to me and yet I feel unprepared and confused. At college it becomes painful clear that, my life could end up on a completely different trajectory than the rest of my family. I think what is terrifying is that fact that the only relationships in my life that are set in stone is family. Like as much as sometimes I dislike the actions of or disagree with they are still going to be their or be a part of me, but everything else could all only be temporary. Honestly I have made some interesting friends so far both on and off the team, however, I feel myself holding back, because in many ways I am terrified in investing into friendships or relationships that will end, much as my highschool and middle school friendships ended, with time and distance moving on. I think that is what really what drives my perception of immaturity, people here seem to live lives of quickening pace, over things that I think ought to last forever(the aforementioned relationships and friendships). I feel like its a funny juxtaposition though. College in this town clashes against the nature of youth with the nature of a small town. I'm a fast paced college kid with a burnout attention span and stressful classes living in a town that has stood not only nature and time, but generations as well. Ultimately a bit of immaturity comes from what I feel is the my own inadequateness in terms of background knowledge and skills. I don't seem to understand the programming problems or ideas as wholly as my cohort. I need extra time to complete the first tasks. Overall, I need to learn the basics, while my classmates seem to be flying along with blazing fast speed and knowledge. A lot of this is caught up in being in a different pond. A pond where the people are as passionate or more passionate compared to me about computer science, Which actual is a good thing: I am where I am supposed to be if is as interested as me. Also I tend to not think about how much others had to put in with training and growth. When I look at those more mature than me in knowledge or wisdom or just pure age they usually have gained that through practice or difficult experience. Maturity and Wisdom is not something that a comfortable person gains. It is something that a battle hardened warrior, adventurer or an explorer discovers within himself that he had previously not known. In the end I need to keep a clear heart and mind and realize that it is okay that I am not a finished product, the greatest craftsman in the world is still molding my heart and soul and even if I haven't grown in recent years my person is still under development. When my own childishness becomes apparent or I feel very inadequate, I have to turn to the Lord, to search for

his direction and comfort. It reminds me of the story of Elisha when the king of Syria wanted to find him in Dothan. They surrounded the city with chariots and horses and when asked by his servant what they should do. He answered "We have more on our side than they have on theirs" and prayed that God would open his eyes and he saw "the hillside covered with horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha" Lord help me to see your in my childness and weakness and see the army that fights for me. Amen.