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Last Lecture Thoughts

MART 120

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This might get a little personal but I think it’s important to share my thoughts as they are rather than dress them up.

The thing that impacted me the most about the Last Lecture was that Randy Pausch was born in the same year as my father, a mere two months later than my dad Kevin. My parents are older. I was born when my mother was 39 and my father was 41. The fact that they are showing signs of aging combined with my own poor health at a young age have been points of anxiety for me for some time, as the idea of myself or those I love losing their capabilities, being trapped within their bodies or minds, is terrifying to me. I can’t comprehend it and haven’t experienced a death that really impacted me in my life, so I feel woefully unprepared for the failure of the flesh. Therefore, to see someone practically on his death bed still loving and teaching and being wholly themselves as they were before they knew their expiration date was close is profound to me; it hit me at the right time in my life to help me think through my fears a bit more. While I don’t think I’ll ever be prepared for the grief I know is coming earlier than many, I think this video will crop up in my head from time to time when I am deep in that negativity. That combined with the fact that, since I’ve hit my early 20s, I’ve spent 90% of the time with my parents that most people spend, I think I’ll be okay in the end.