

In the 'Last lecture' what affected me most was when he spoke about how one of his coaches was really harsh with him, and how another coach made him realize it was a *good* thing. I have been a bit sensitive to critics in the past, and especially don't respond well to 'tough love.' And any explanation involving someone just wanting me to reach my full potential has always felt a bit patronizing, and the whole thing a bit mean. But the way he explained the reasoning behind strict learning did give me a new perspective on it. Similarly, the way he described how the coach taught them to play struck a cord. The 'got to get the fundamentals down or the fancy stuff isn't going to work' especially. I'm an impatient person a lot of times, especially when it comes to creating things- I have an image of the finished project in my head, and I often become disheartened if it doesn't look the way I wanted it to, even on the first try. Sometimes I rush my projects, and, of course, they don't turn out how I wanted them anyway. This has given me a more disgusting reason to slow down other than 'trust the process,' which, as mentioned, I don't.

One of the messages I identify with the most is his reaction to his diagnosis. I am not a very reactive person, and I have had similar reactions as him to bad news in the past, in the sense of 'cannot control the cards we are dealt, just how we play them.' I especially related to how he explained this to the crowd, how he addressed two of the many sides that may react to his reaction- the ones that maybe expected him to be depressed and despondent, and the other that may try to take advantage of his diagnosis. I, again, am not a very reactive person, though I totally understand and respect why someone else might be, but someone reacting for or *to* me just makes me uncomfortable, and trying to take advantage is just rude.