

“London, Iceland. What’s the difference?”

— Me

London, Iceland. What's the Difference?

In my childhood, one day my mom said she may need to move our whole family to Iceland, because their business was going to be developed there. I was so excited, hoping to live in a foreign country, making friends with Iceland children.

But finally, we didn't go.

My parents don't speak any foreign language, I was too young and could not speak other languages either. Immigration challenge and my education concern made them decide to choose a stable choice, stay in our hometown.



London, Iceland. What's the Difference?

Without being able to achieve her dreams, my mom tried her best to invest on me. After experiencing lots of bright and dark times, finally I'm here in Canada, doing things I am really passionate about. And I just got nominated and finalisted by an international award - Future Star of Tech, Data Area.

Our CTO gave me VP level treatment, decided to send me to London so that I will have higher chance to win the award. I didn't really care that much, but my manager started to do everything to help me prepare my travel to UK, after I told him I was waiting for my PR card, and better not fly out before August. Finally I still cannot attend that June 20

red carpet night, because in order to return back from UK, I will be stuck there for at least 1 week, and my manager doesn't want that happen.



London and Iceland, what's the difference to me?

When it comes to immigration issue, I cannot do anything to change.

*Sometimes, things will just made me feel helpless,
no matter how hard I could work...*

London, Iceland. What's the Difference?

I truly love Emmanuel.

He's very focused when he's working. Very brave to face challenges and solve the problems. He's thoughtful, full of respect to people. Very easy to talk with. When he really cares about you, he's super sweet and adorable. He will pay all the attention to you, staying there just to be with you. Sometimes, he could still behave like a baby, especially after you saw what he wrote on Reddit. Some games he plays are really fun and make you love him more. He's such a lively person there, having a good taste of life, knowing when to have fun and when to work very hard. He will remember many little good things you did to him and give back. When he did something wrong, he will try to make up later.

When he cares about you, he can also be very sensitive. Sometimes, tiny little things could make him become unpredictable, negative and even sad. Sometimes, he is very stubborn, and never learned from the previous lessons. He could try things in a hard way, looks like not a smart way. However, what is a real smart way? There is not always short-cuts. He's still a good problem solver.

I still love him.

London, Iceland. What's the Difference?

I do want to have my career future in Seattle. Seattle is more attractive, both the technology and the life style.

I got my PR here this April.

So, if I keep working here 2 years, in 2019 April I will be able to apply for Canadian citizenship, the process is also fast. Then I will be able to work in US easier, and get US citizenship much faster than Chinese citizens.

Why not just spend these 2 years with me, then I will stay with you while having a job I am passionate about there, we can support each other, and I can play video games, any other game with you, enjoying nice restaurants, different culture and travel with you.

Why not just give me these 2 years and we learn to fully understand each other. 2 years later I will be at least Senior level Data Scientist, heading to Seattle, and life will be great.

London, Iceland. What's the Difference?

*Immigration issue, culture difference did give me lots of trouble.
I'm learning and growing up all the time.
So it's positive.*

*Life taught me to think positive.
Cannot attend my London red carpet night,
but the DEF CON, KDD this year all look more attractive to me,
and my company will support me.*

*As for Emmanuel,
there is only 1 Emmanuel in this world.
None of us wants drama any more.
Just let it be...*