

HS101 : Final Assignment

“There’s a time for daring and there’s a time for caution, and a wise man understands which is called for.” – Dead Poets Society

I heard this quote and found that it is a very interesting way on looking at the aspect of life. It has been shown quite a few times in the movie. For instance, Knox Overstreet was tempted to be with Chris. He was in a party at the Danburry’s where Chet, Chris’s boyfriend was also present. He should have understood that it was a time of caution and not daring, but he couldn’t control himself and he did what he did. The result was that he got punched on his face by Chet.

The same day Charlie Dalton published an article in the school paper demanding girls to be taught at Welton. The next day, when Mr. Nolan was inquiring about it in the assembly, Charlie stood and mocked Mr. Nolan and he was beaten by Mr. Nolan. The very next day Keatings came to meet the boys and he told Charlie that it was a very bad idea. He said this quote for a reason. He knew that when he told his pupils to use Carpe Diem into their own lives, they might use it for the worse and not take the consequences into the consideration.

At last, when Keatings came to collect his belongings during Mr. Nolan’s lecture, Todd argued with Mr. Nolan and stood up on his table and said “O Captain, my Captain”. After him, several other students did the same. I can’t say if it was audacity or foolishness, as they could be expelled for their deeds. But it was the last time when they could show their gratitude for Keatings, so I do not consider it as a foolishness.

Personally, I very much like this quote. One should analyse the situation first and then act accordingly. Taking actions without considering their consequences can have adverse outcomes. One should clearly understand whether it is a time to show some daring or to be patient. The one who understands this is a wise person. For

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example, when Keatings was asked to leave the Welton Academy. He agreed patiently as he knew there is no point of arguing about it with the Welton staff.