

Friday  
April 30th  
2021

# The Bellevue Times

KYOUNGCHE KIM & INYOUNG CHEONG

Issue  
#1



## How would you introduce your partner to your friends?

### Inyoung :

Kyoung-che is an enthusiastic world artist at Bungie. His job is creating a magnificent virtual world for video games. He moved to Bellevue in 2017, and he spent several years in Southern California to study gaming arts at AAU and work for Blizzard, which once was his dream job.

One of the fascinating aspects of his job is that he can be inspired by anything--nature, skyscrapers, parks, and furniture at West Elm. I enjoyed standing safely on dry ground as he trudged through swamps to take photos of ferns. Also, he is a caring person. He talks with his family several times a week and thinks about contributing his skills to help underprivileged students. His kind heart always makes me feel warm.

### Kyoungche :

Inyoung is one of the smartest and the most charming people in the world (I can find the peer reviewed study that confirms this!). She has worked for Korean government for over 8 years and she is a PhD student of law at the University of Washington.

She is always being lost in thoughts and sometimes even seems to stare off into space but I like to see her being like that. Since she is very into drinks, books, and music, those of you who are interested in those, I highly recommend you to have a chance to have a chat with her. You will have a great time.



## How did you meet each other?

**Both :** The most typical way of modern relationship, a dating app! Pandemic was a good motivation for both of us to try a dating app, since meeting new people got to be extremely challenging.

## What was your first impression?

**Inyoung :** I thought he was a player, initially due to his profile, saying something like "teach me any language including alien language." But he was cute in his pictures. [chuckles] I was attracted to artistic talents and his Korean ethnicity. I did not always want to meet Koreans, but I became more appreciative of 'no language barrier' over time. When we had a first date, we didn't stop talking. He showed me a portfolio of his artwork and it captivated me.

**Kyoungche :** When I first saw her, I thought was she is cute, pretty, and small haha :P Prior to seeing her in-person, I was a bit nervous because I assumed my field--gaming and arts--quite distant from law.

However, after I found her interested in arts, I felt more comfortable with having a conversation. I was especially touched that she looked genuinely (I believe) excited about my portfolio.



First video game gifted by Kyoungche @Walmart

## Wasn't there any red flag?

**Inyoung :**

A big one. When I ordered a drink, he said "I can't drink alcohol." I asked, "you mean, you can't drink at all?" "No. I would pass out with a bottle of beer." Oh, my goodness. I have never dated a person who does not drink. My inner voice said "it's not gonna work." Nevertheless, he was affable and suggested ordering a second glass of cocktail. So, I thought "well, let's give it a try."

**Kyoungche :**

I wouldn't say it was a red flag, but I was concerned that she would prefer guys who like drinking. Fortunately, it worked out well. She likes to drink while watching Netflix together, and I like to see her get excited to try a new drink, which triggers me to buy her more and more. I am sure this strategy would work well for everyone.



First Whiskey He Bought @BALVENIE



## Were there green lights?

### Inyoung :

When he invited me over, I realized his kitchen was quite small and packed with a lot of stuff. From my perspective, there wasn't enough space even for cooking pancakes. But he managed to cook three different main Korean dishes—spicy pork, soy paste soup, and egg rolls. He got at 4.5/5 for his cooking skills and a 5/5 for his choice in dishes. I thought, 'oh, this guy can achieve anything.'



First Meal He Cooked for Her @Home

### Kyoungche :

It was a green light that she truly liked arts. Still, South Koreans tend to look down upon either game developers or artists, which made me feel hesitant to talk about my profession in front of them.

But she was open-minded and even fascinated by popular culture artists as she worked for policies facilitating Korean entertainment industries. It was also cool to hear that she used to hang out with famous artists in Korea!

## How would you describe your partner in five words?

### Inyoung

drinks  
smart  
honest  
books  
jazz

### Kyoungche

game  
attentive  
open-minded  
romantic  
ICE CREAM



@Kyoungche's Freezer



## Marriage is a huge decision. How did you come to the decision?

### Kyoungche :

This might be cliché, when I first met her, I had an immediate intuition that she might be the one. That surreal feeling was what I had never experienced before, thus I was soon absorbed in the relationship. Luckily, my instinct was right, and she turned out very thoughtful and passionate about what she's doing. I became assured that she was the person I would like to spend the rest of my life with and started to talk about marriage.

### Inyoung :

He often mentioned marriage using general language, not specifically talking about us, just after we started dating. I didn't ask, but I guessed maybe he was thinking about getting married with me. And I was quite surprised that it made me feel warm (I wasn't a big fan of marriage). Soon after we realized that both of us wanted to commit, we have dived into discussing very practical things such as visas and buying a house, like other international couples.



The Day When He Asked Her Out @Car

## Would you share the most romantic moment you remember?

### Inyoung :

He created many artworks related to me. Recently, he showed me a game package in the protagonist's room of his new video game. He said, if you look at the blurred title closely, it says "Inyoung love." Haha, I think he would kill me if he knew I told this.

### Kyoungche :

Seeing Inyoung while having an ordinary meal on an ordinary day is a perfectly romantic moment for me. :) In addition, I like the moment to lay my head in her lap and see the beautiful sky after finishing our picnic in the park.



## What was the best place where you traveled or visited?

### Inyoung :

I loved outdoor Jacuzzi in Vancouver (WA) when we traveled to Portland. The premium outlet shopping went well, a pinot noir that I was suspicious about turned out decent, there were a lot of stars in the sky, it was not too cold or too warm, we also had cheese and hams, and most importantly, I had him. It was a perfect night.

### Kyoungche :

Fern Thai. We had our first date there.



The place we first met @Fern Thai

## Do you have any restaurant recommendations around the Seattle area?

### Inyoung :

Fat Duck's in the U District! The best bagel sandwich I have ever had. It is heavy and fatty, but insanely delicious! I also like the Tres sandwich in Bellevue. They are more like light and neat Japanese sandwiches. They close at 2 pm and generally have a line during the weekend.

### Kyoungche :

There are no other restaurants.  
Only Fern Thai.

## What is the weirdest thing of your partner?

### Inyoung :

He eats ice cream EVERY night, but he never gains weight, which is very unfair.

### Kyoungche :

She has a superpower to fall asleep anytime. There is no limit. She doesn't have any problem falling asleep at night after having a 3-hour nap.



Happy Chef @Home





Snowy day @Maydenbauer Park

## Did you think about life after retirement?

**Inyoung :**

He has a plan. He said, I will read books and he will play WOW.

**Kyoungche :**

I came across a loving old couple walking along the street holding hands. Gazing after a couple, I used to dream of being like them. I am very happy as it is now. All I want is that these ordinary and happy days will sustain. Also, as she mentioned above, I want to indulge myself in playing video games that my busy schedules haven't allowed me to focus on, lol.

## What do you feel most excited about getting married?

**Inyoung :**

Romantically, I will see his sleepy face every morning for (hopefully) tons of years. Pragmatically, he said his company would pay for my new sunglasses.

**Kyoungche :**

People share something fun, pretty, nice or delicious with their loved ones. Similarly, I am excited about the idea of sharing those with Inyoung always and forever. ■

