Journal entry 2/16/18

When Meagher writes “The fuller the life, the happier the life, and paradoxically the happier the death,” I personally connect with this ideology of living a full life leads to a happiness of a life worth lived. I came to this revelation after a series of near death experiences, and I learned to value my experience of life rather than the length of it. When I die, and the mortician stands over my body and prepares to burn the remaining husk of my life I hope he/she thinks that the battered remains before them must have had a wild ride. I feel as though I live as mortal and plan my life to fit, which Meagher echoes when he talks about living and dying accordingly. During my time in the military I lived this philosophy by being the first one to walk the fire, which usually meant being the first one into a dark room or being precariously dangled from perilous heights. There was an earlier story we read about a military officer who died in a machine that he believed to be infallible, but I wonder if he felt the same? I still envy his death because it occurs so suddenly, but during something he believes is worthy of doing. The saddest death for me would be to be alone in a hospital room waiting for the cold icy hands of death to take me away. I hope I can channel the life of Meursault by stripping away the feelings of immortality. His stripping away of his material world and sudden lucidity gave him true perspective of life, which made him more universal in thinking.