

Ordinary People, Extraordinary Lives

A Folio by the Feature Writing Class
Fall Semester 2004-2005
School of Communication
Hallym University



 **한림대학교**
언론정보학부



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Introduction

by Joel David

The articles collected here were produced by their respective authors as their final requirement in a class on Feature Writing. Twelve out of nineteen students were able to complete the process – admittedly rigorous and distressing even for native English-language users. This does not mean that the rest of the class did not participate at all, burdened though they were with exigencies such as internships, early job offers, illnesses, and other unusual distractions. Truth to tell, I would have preferred at least one more student to have completed her or his article, so that I would not have to be the thirteenth contributor, chronologically speaking, to this Folio.

Why a Folio in the first place? Initially the students and I thought that it would be a fitting commemoration of the first English-only communication skills course (in writing, to boot) in Hallym University. When the process became too fraught with complaints, frustrations, delays, and postponements (myself not excluded), we also unitarily agreed to scrap the notion of producing a Folio, which would have originally required everyone to produce fifty formatted copies of her or his final article.

In the solitude of my first non-Western winter, however, I looked back at what these young adults had mustered and marveled at my good fortune. I'd overlooked the signs from the students' email submissions, where they were saying how glad they were to be able to claim that they had finished one full-length feature article in English. I'd come to regard these expressions as so much politesse, when in fact they were written during the most stressful part of the semester, when people's tempers were shorter and their schedules did not permit too much by way of decorum.

So I picked out the genuinely completed entries and formatted them for publication, this time savoring the unique accomplishment of each one. A casual scan through these pages will reveal a similarity of procedure – a data-intensive introduction, followed by a Q&A interview with a singular subject, then a closing salvo – but this formulary was my imposition, a way of making sure that the entire class was on the same wavelength as mine at any point during the semester.

How much do I appreciate these pieces? I tried to answer this by playing the (treacherous teacher's) game of favoritism, but I found I could not zero in on any article, or even group of articles, at all. Each one brings with it not just the memory of a long, burdensome, but ultimately rewarding interaction, but also the distinctive and evolving personality of a citizen who, as I am always ready to admit, will be further growing and distinguishing herself or himself come the time. At this point I was privileged to take a printed-word snapshot of these individuals, and I can only hope the reader can find out what exactly I'm talking about by moving on to the succeeding pages.

For Love of the Bicycle

by Ahn Sun-yung¹

I prepare to go school in the morning after I get up. My friend has been waiting all night for me in front of the house. My friend comes out always and we ride together. My thoughts cannot wander if I forget him. My friend is the bicycle, which is not different from my other friends. My motive to become its friend was a bicycle travel.

He is my subordinate and my one friend. I always take a ride together with my friend when it rains. Let's decide to look into the advantages that my friend gives to me.

A bicycle exercise has the capacity to make our lungs strong. A bicycle exercise is interesting especially compared with different exercises. We can refresh ourselves as we activate our body for health.

The facility of our lungs will be improved if we take bicycle exercises. Our hearts will be strengthened also. Health will improve if we do the bicycle exercise continually. Blood recursion will be fine and the ability to release effete matter will be regularized.

Bicycle exercises work on the lower part of body, on muscular strength especially. The muscles of the body move the bicycle pedals repeatedly. The muscles' ability to store energy consequently grows bigger.

I interviewed a master of bicycling to aid me in this endeavor. It only cost me the price of a bicycle travel to contact my high school batchmate.

Q: When did you touch the bicycle for the first time?

A: In my 7th year, my father bought me one as a birthday gift.

¹ **Ahn Sun-yung** is an incoming senior in journalism. He likes to work out and ride his bicycle. He wants to live and work close to nature.

N.B. This and all other authors' descriptions were solicited and compiled circa January 2005.

Q: Did your bicycle travel much?

A: I did not have any definite plan to travel from Seoul to Pusan. The challenge of overcoming the pain in my legs overcame my imagination. I succeeded in finally going to Pusan and I used the train when I came up.

Q: Great really. When did this story happen?

A: During our 2nd-year summer vacation in high school. Really though I thought that I would die.

Q: Did you prepare a bicycle travel for yourself?

A: It was then only the start for me. I traveled every weekend since then.

Q: What about the bicycle fascinates you so much?

A: Its speed, which forces the leg to move to get a faster resulting speed. The pleasant sensation is really surprising.

Q: I know of course. What is your advice in riding the bicycle?

A: Remember the muscle of the fleshy inside of your thigh. The exercise can raise the consolidation of the lower part of the body muscle.

Q: Good. I am envious. Can I acquire that kind of leg if I ride a long time?

A: Sure. The bicycle does not prefer only special people.

Q: What should we be careful about when we ride the bicycle?

A: We must not be self-satisfied absolutely. I was self-satisfied once and collided with a car. I thought that I had died really. I was injured seriously though I did not die fortunately.

Q: Over-confidence is not advisable then. So is it just a matter of being careful?

A: We can enjoy a lot from bicycle travel but then we should also take care about safety when we ride the bicycle. The way to care about safety seems to lie in not being self-satisfied.

Q: That sounds like good advice. What things should a bicycle traveler prepare for?

A: Towel, socks, underwear, water and sleeping bag are useful if these are packed for the trip.

Q: We did the interview and I am grateful really. Do you think we can try to come out and have a bicycle trip?

A: Really? We will see sooner or later.

I discovered that it was hard to predict when I could have the interview with him. He does not have any spare time currently, as an office worker for a construction company. But he organized a bicycle coterie. I was surprised at his story of how he leads a bicycle travel every weekend to the village with his friends. It was really wonderful to know that he and my friend knew how to enjoy themselves. I am on the other hand a mere student and I do not do like the hectic life of the salary man. What am I to do with this life? A busy salary man invests precious time for his own interest. My friend is actually therefore an image of myself.

Time for Men to Cheer

by Baek Seung-ho²

"I think basketball is a very interesting sport, because I handle a ball with my hand. So we can control it just as we wish. I like this feeling. And when we play basketball, our team must have cooperation." This was spoken not by any man, but by Ms. Sin Hye-in, the tallest player in the Samsung women's basketball team.

If you watch basketball, you would be excited. Also, you can play it anytime and anyplace. So you can be charmed into watching and even playing basketball. Basketball is a popular sport around the world. Many people enjoy it at gym, a park, and on the ground. You can see easily the people who play basketball on the street.

The game started with 18 men in a YMCA gymnasium in Springfield, Mass. Since then, it has grown into a sport that more than 300 million people play worldwide. The man who created this sport was Dr. James Naismith.

Women and men both play basketball. But many people think men's basketball is more interesting. So many people don't know about

² **Baek Seung-ho** is an incoming junior. He likes to watch and play basketball.

women's basketball. However, if you wanted to

know more about women's basketball, you would have to go to a stadium to watch it. Women are playing as excitingly as men. So I strongly recommend that you watch women's basketball.

The professional women's basketball league in Korea began in 1995 and consisted of six teams. There have been two kinds of leagues: the summer league and the winter league. The teams, each of which has twelve players, are named Kookmin, Kumho, Samsung, Shinsegea, Shinhan, and Woori. Also, each team is sponsored by a corporation and is chaired by the head of the corporation, which takes charge of its coach and supervision.

I had interviewed Sin Hye-in who plays in the Samsung women's basketball team.

Q: Why and when did you start playing basketball?

A: I started in basketball when I was fourteen. My coach recommended me because I was the tallest student in my class. So I started playing. At that time, I was just thinking of exercise. But now basketball is my profession.

Q: What is your way of getting rid of stress?

A: When I get stressed, I don't think about it. I never mind it. Then I eat something, because when I eat, I don't feel any worry.

Q: How do you feel these days?

A: Hmm...I'm good. I joined my team this year, and my colleagues treat me well. So I'm happy.

Q: What do you think about women's basketball? Should you do hard training as a woman?

A: Yes, I'm a woman but I think between men and women, distinctions do not exist. So I can train hard as a player, not as a woman.

Q: Do you wish that you were born male?

A: If I were a man, I would do slam dunks. I am envious of such playing and I feel that I can play it very well.

Q: You are the tallest player in this team and you are taller than men. How do you deal with that fact?

A: My position is team center since I'm the tallest. I think my height is my weapon. If I'm the tallest woman I couldn't play in my team. I'm proud of my height. If I were playing with men I would not play as well. However, if I were a man, I would play like the NBA stars do and hope to be the best player.

Q: What do you think about the best player among the men?

A: I think Kim Ju-sung is the best center in Korea: He is very tall but he can play very fast. I wish my ability would develop just like Kim Ju-sung.

Q: What are your favorite sports?

A: If I do not play basketball, I could play volleyball. I have been interested in it since I had watched it on TV.

As you know, we have just explored the many possibilities of basketball. And we got to know a woman player. Now you may have an idea why basketball is considered charming. If so, why don't you go outside and play basketball? If you are going to stay at home because it may be too cold outside, you would be bored in winter. Therefore you must go outside even in winter; otherwise your physical condition might deteriorate.

A lot of games started all around the world like the NBA and KBL games. If you watch these games, you would gain fun and excitement. All of this is up to you. Do you have a lot of stress nowadays? If so, let's all play basketball today, men and women together.

Swim for Life!

by Bak Seon-young³

In the early morning, Mrs. Kim Young-me (age 46) goes to a swimming pool as she does everyday. After she finished her exercise in sixty minutes, she got excited. She said "I really love swimming, it makes me healthy and when I started it two years ago, I could know how a man can be

feel pain in her waist and joint, but now she no longer does.

For now, I will relate to you the origin of swimming and four types of swimming.

Swimming had a purposive origin. In the Middle Ages, it was for military intentions, but in the 20th century, it changed to a physical exercise. In fact, swimming is the most historical of all sports. Swimming was selected for an item in the 1st Olympics in 1896. But Korean participation was

delayed. In Korea, swimming was accepted as a sport in 1945.

These days swimming is considered good for health, so many people are able to enjoy it. Swimming exercises the whole body equally, develops the respiratory organs, and in addition it's good for overcoming the fear of drowning in water.

As Lee Young-gu (43, swimming enthusiast) said, "I wanted to lose weight three years ago, and I thought swimming would be very powerful and charming. When I moved to Chuncheon as a change in my office location three years ago, I decided to start swimming."

As you see, many people start swimming, so now, you'll know how many swimming styles there are.

There are four swimming styles. The freestyle is the most popular but it is not a real style. You can do any style in freestyle. Generally, many people use a crawl style in freestyle matches. The crawl is the fastest way. It was made by a British man whose name was Crawl. Second, there is the backstroke. This is done just lying down, so if someone has a fear of drowning, it is good for her. Third, the breaststroke simulates the action of a frog, so some people call it the "frog swim." It requires concentration on learning leg action because of its complexity. When you put together arm and leg action, you may experience some difficulty. Last is the butterfly, which is the hardest style. You'll spend much energy in attempting it. An expert says that the swimmer's legs act like a dolphin and the arms act like a butterfly. If you try this style, you will feel powerful.

Most people can learn all the possible styles in four months. Of course, it depends on each person's abilities. But you would already know that. The most important thing is that when you swim, you must do it constantly.

These days, when you go near a swimming pool, you can see many salary men enjoy their swimming. Besides, amateur matches have become so famous that many people participate in them. They can't swim well, but they exercise very hard.

Generally, they say, "I feel delightful after swimming for a long time."

Sometimes they make a group for friendship. The members of the swimming group get together for exercising, eating something delightful, and camping. When they meet in the pool, they teach and learn from one another so they develop their swimming skills. If you're ashamed about your first time to swim, why don't you join such a group? It's a good way to learn how to swim.

Now it's time to meet a swimming enthusiast. His name is Lee Young-gu. He's 43, from Seoul, but he has been living in Chuncheon for the past three years. Because of his job as a construction company executive he moved a few times. When I met him, he had finished his day job. It was seven p.m. We met at an indoor swimming pool. He looked tired from the day's work, but he let me interview him gladly. He looked fit in spite of his age (43). Mr. Lee started the interview very smoothly.

Q: How's your condition these days?

A: Pretty good, I still enjoy swimming four days a week at least.

Q: When and why did you start swimming?

A: I wanted to lose weight three years ago, and I thought swimming would be very powerful and charming. When I moved to Chuncheon, I decided to start swimming three years ago.

Q: Although you're very busy, do you find time to swim?

A: Of course I do, I swim after many work hours, because swimming dissolves my stress about the day's work. For that reason, I can't stop swimming.

Q: You formed a group in your pool, didn't you? What's the group's name?

A: Yes, I did. The name of the group is Mul-jang-gu. The meaning is "Just play in the pool, don't be afraid to swim."

Q: When and why did you make it?

A: I made it last year, to develop intimacy in our pool.

³ Bak Seon-young is an incoming junior in the journalism program. She is active and enthusiastic in her endeavors, and hopes to be working for a magazine or broadcast station 6-7 years from now. She believes in the saying, "The best way for anyone to succeed in life is to hold on to her dream." strong and feel alive." Actually, Mrs. Kim used to

At that time, many people had a swimming lesson in our pool. I wanted to have more exercise after the lessons and many people supported my motive, so I was able to form the group easily. At first, our group had only twelve members.

Q: How many members are there now?

A: As of last month, [we had] twenty-five members. It was steadily growing. I hope our membership will hit forty by the end of this year.

Q: What are the activities in Mul-jang-gu? Is there anything special?

A: We usually practice swimming, teaching, and learning from one another. Sometimes, we go camping. In winter, we go skiing.

Q: Have you ever thought you wanted to stop running the group?

A: No, I haven't yet. Because many members help me. I think our group's friendship is very good. Naturally, there was some trouble, for example some members never participated in monthly meetings or paid their membership fees. A few women were jealous of the swimming competence of the others.

Maintaining a Shop Is a Lonely Job

by Cho Hye-jung⁴

Few people succeed their father's occupations in Korea, except for descendants of financial executives. If the father is a doctor or lawyer, the son hopes to follow his father's occupation. But if the father is a farmer or woodworker, there is little hope for the son to follow.

Long ago identity and occupation were passed on from fathers to sons. At present, people

⁴ Cho Hye-jung will soon be a graduate of advertising, in search of a job. She plans to become an account executive and observes the dictum, "Make every effort count." follow their own aptitudes. It is not necessarily bad but it is a unique trend.

Q: What's your future plan for the group and yourself?

A: First, I want the group to flourish in terms of the number of members and their swimming competence or skill. Second, I'll have it not only for swimming; we enjoy other types of sports. When spring comes, we enjoy badminton in a park, and during fall, we can climb a mountain or play golf, and then we go skiing in winter.

Until now, you have sympathized with the origin of swimming and its benefits. You have also read about a person whose life is focused on swimming and running a swimming club. You also knew how charming swimming exercise can be, and how useful it is for your life and health. If you realized all that, why don't you start swimming or join a swimming club? You can catch a good chance of advancing your life through health.

Of course you can hesitate to start, but as you know the saying, "No guts, no glory." Look around, you'll notice a swimming pool nearby. Don't be afraid, even the most famous swimmer was always an amateur in the beginning.

Data from Naver show that almost 30 percent of Koreans are in supervisory positions, almost 18 percent are in management, and less than 14 percent are in professional jobs. This has emotional implications for Koreans. When parents think about their children's future, they want their children to have more success than they had had.

Since 1916, there has always been this same shop in Seoul. It continued to exist even during the Japanese imperialist occupation. Its name is Jong-ro Custom Tailor.

I interviewed the present owner of the shop, Mr. Lee Kyung-ju, 50. Mr. Lee is a tailor.

Q: When did you move to the shop?

A: My grandfather operated the store initially from Jong-gak. And then in 1941, the shop moved to this place. Originally, this building was a clothing store. The first floor operated a tailor shop. The second floor was a factory. This store was generated by the efforts of my grandfather and my father.

Q: What time is your shop open?

A: From Monday until Saturday, everyday for 10 hours.

Q: What is your job?

A: This is no easy task. When a customer arrives, we take his body measurements for new clothes. Then we help him select a fabric. Afterward we create a pattern based on his body measurements. We cut the cloth according to this pattern. Then we send it to the factory for finalizing. My work consists of taking the measurements, which is a very important thing.

Q: Have you thought of a different line of work?

A: My dream was to become an architect. I wanted to become rich by building houses. So I majored in architecture. But I don't think there is a difference between building a house and making a man's clothes. An architect creates a building. A tailor creates clothes. It is the same thing, in my opinion. There is only one difference between the two: one uses stones and the other uses fabric.

Q: Why succeed your father's occupation?

A: Our shop had operated for about 60 years. If I don't succeed my father's occupation and break off from it, I will feel a lot of inconvenience. Recently people try to think it is only natural to do that.

Q: When was the most painful moment in your occupation?

A: Right now. In the modern tendency, many people do not order a suit made to measure. They buy ready-made clothes. With this prolonged slump, the situation is actually pretty touch-and-go.

Q: Do you want your son to follow your example?

A: Of course. But I'm the only one who wants it. My son gives no definite answer. But I don't think he will break off from his father's occupation. Our fathers' occupation is historical. History should not be broken. So our fathers' occupation should also continue, I think.

Q: Did you understand your father? I heard your father was very severe.

A: My father never praised me. He had a reputation for coming down hard on the people under him. I understand my father now. It enabled me to have a better technique more than he did. That's the reason why he was strict with me.

Q: I think this makes you feel proud, doesn't it?

A: When Seoul turns 600 years, this shop can be included in a time machine. I am proud of it. Because I succeeded my father's occupation, I was able to produce good results.

Q: If you will be reborn, will you still follow your father's occupation?

A: Of course, I feel a call to do this type of work.

When I finished interviewing, I also felt pride in his occupation. I understand how he may well be proud of his grandfather and his father. He has earned the right to express pride.

Success from the Other Point of View

by Kang Hye-jeong⁵

A recent prizewinning student film's content is all about dieting, presented in music video format. Generally we have a common desire to possess a good body. Because of this many people are interested in such topics for their films.

The winning film, according to director Sim Hye-min, is about a cute fat girl who likes to eat at ordinary times. She saw a good body (which had a halo around it) by chance while she was walking. Since she was inspired to have the same physique she decided to diet. So she did all possible types of diets but she failed through many mistakes.

Student participation increased sharply during the 5th Hallym Student Festival. As proof, on October 7, 2004, about 150 professors and students participated in the festival awards ceremony.

The treatises presented included human knowledge, social science, basic engineering, and life science. Image creation was classified in the media of print, animation, and computer light earthquake (homepage – software). The foreign language contest covered attainments in scholarship content, English speech, etc.

One hundred six teams participated in the arts. The teams were divided into four fields. The treatise and Image creation fields finished their requisition on September 8 and went through an examination period of about 2 weeks. Also, the computer light earthquake and foreign language contest participants thanked the students heartily on October 6 through their announcement and examination.

Field judges in this festival worked harder than in the past years. Creativity and an experimentation that were accomplished by university students were credited although points were given for work that looked better.

⁵ Kang Hye-jeong is an incoming junior in broadcasting. She is a member of the Hallym broadcasting station, where she is currently president. She enjoys watching movies and plans to produce television and radio programs.

Prizewinners by field were:

▲ For scientific treatise: Na Ju-yeon (4th year, attainment in human knowledge, major in social science, and national script), Hwang Yo-jung (4th year, attainment in basic engineering, major in environment) outside 1 person, Kim So-yeong (4th year, attainment in life science, major in genetic engineering) outside 1 person.

▲ For Image creation: Cha Beom-ju (3rd year, attainment in print media, major in advertisement) outside 2 people, Sim Hye-min (3rd year, attainment in animation, major in communication) outside 2 people.

▲ For computer light earthquake: Kim Jun-won (4th year, attainment in software, major in information-communication) outside 3 people.

▲ For foreign language contest: Kim Yong-gyun (2nd year, attainment in English speech, major in medicine), Kim Hyeong-won (1st year, attainment in scholarship contest, major in medicine).

Works of homepage parts of the computer light earthquake field were not selected in this list. Treatises, image creation, computer light earthquake first place, bonus, grandeur, and spur, won cash prizes of 1 million won, 500,000 won, 300,000 won, 100,000 won, and a certificate of merit respectively. The very best in the foreign language contest won 500,000 won; for superiority, 300,000 won; for grandeur, 200,000 won; for encouragement, 100,000 won and a certificate of merit.

For this article, I interviewed Sim Hye-min, winner of the creative image prize. I met her in Kim You-jeong building. She looked cheerful and cute.

Q: How do you organize your group?

A: Our members are Nam Gi-bak and Choi Bok-gil, for photography and editing; Song Ji-he, actress; and myself as director. We produced and photographed together. We formed a team for a working project assigned by Professor Kim Huk-jo. In this class,

there were five other genres. Each team was formed with five proponents standing before the blackboard and the other students deciding what genre to do. At first, no one came to me so I was very ashamed. At that time, I told Gi-bak to join my team out of our personal friendship. Ji-hye agreed to play the lead role in the movie. Although Bok-gil was absent, I decided that he should be our member and I told Professor Kim. After all he had no other choice so we decided to make him our member.

Q: Since when have you been interested in film, and for what reason?

A: When I was a freshman, I joined our film club. But the time that I got interested was when I attended Professor Kim Huk-jo's class last term. I really got to know gradually about film through this class. It became an opportunity for me to understand more concretely about the image, through the process of directly making a film.

Q: What are the contents of your film's story and the goal of your program?

A: The content is an episode on dieting in connection with having a good body. This movie's goal is not to tell something but to give a chance to lessen stress by showing easy content, powerful passion, comedy, etc. Most of all we want to promote the common notion of what we want to be and to have a good body. At first, we will do the preceding content of diet with music that has fast tempo, and to have fun with contrasting images of two characters' actions. We will have more fun in seeing that cute fat girl follow different diets in fast tempo. In encouraging the viewer to decide on something (in the movie it is dieting) we will work hard to breathe some power into life and expend our energy for affecting the viewer's expectation. So that first, the viewer can have a more positive outlook on life, and second, it is a chance to show that not just external beauty but all of personal development is important.

Q: What are the characteristics of your program and the points of difference with other programs?

A: Our planning of content is all. One point of difference is in our having a common goal with not too much excessive contrast as is the usual approach. Also we progress naturally with episodes in sequence. Compared with many types of music video, we

progress like a drama. But the viewer will be able to understand easily. Our movie draws comic scenes through contrasting two different types of characters.

Q: What is the production episode of the film?

A: There is a scene where the actress punishes various foods in the music video. The incident in which we ate food that was our prop after photography ended because a member of the team went hungry all day for the scene was funny. Also, among our images, the balloon striking another person's cheek was really exciting. In the scene where the character fights with the devil we were surprised and went to the end because the balloons burst carelessly while we were blowing them up, so the take was no good. The expression in the performance in the school's first and last scenes where we see the shape of a good woman that passes by and loses her soul was really funny.

Q: Which scenes in your film impress you?

A: I like the turnaround because the camera caught the actor's underpants in that scene. When the fat woman character does her beer bottle diet by rolling the bottle on the floor, the scene where she drops on the sofa was very impressive.

Q: What are the difficulties in production and what are your expected problems and how do you make alternative plans for them?

A: Time scheduling was difficult for different grades and lessons. And for other major meetings, we had problems with scheduling. The most expected problem was weather...so we did not take a picture in sequence. If it rained, we did indoor photography. If not, we did more outdoor photography. We did want to add more technical skills while editing. But we did not know many skills for our level as students. Fortunately in studying editing with a reference book, our male members finished editing.

Q: What was inconvenient after having a production in film?

A: It was good meeting people, but I cannot withdraw from school temporarily after our term ends. Because I was a student, because there were not much production costs, there was a little difficulty in doing production. So, the last scene of our film was



inconvenienced a little.

Q: What's your impression on Hallym students' prizewinning festival films?

A: Maybe their mind is same as everybody's. I was much pleased to be awarded a prize. Also, it was worth doing it, and it gave me pride. I am appreciative toward the members of the teams who took the trouble. And I'm also grateful for other people who assisted us on making our images more

interesting.

Sim Hye-min's film is very creative and funny. Also she is cheerful. As a film director, she knows herself well because she can read a person's character through the person's eyes.

On any account her prize has a motive and a new point of view. Like all beginning directors, she will need to assume a defiant attitude and maintain her passion as well as be concerned about film.

Could There Be a Contemporary Renaissance Man?

by Kang Jin-kook⁶

Have you heard of the Renaissance Man or the term "jack of all trades"?

The Renaissance Man is someone who becomes skilled, sometimes to greatness, in several areas. The Renaissance Man is constantly learning and mastering new skills. It's the quality that allowed fellows such as Leonardo da Vinci to become skilled at both scientific and artistic endeavors.

Never give up and never be domesticated like a wild horse. The term "jack of all trades" is a person who is good at many things, but does not specialize in anything and doesn't know what he is really good at.

If you chose one between them, what would you like to be? Even harder than just choosing between them is to live your own life. Nobody would want to live her or his life bumpily and to get in trouble on purpose.

⁶ Kang Jin-kook will soon be a job-seeking broadcasting graduate. He describes himself as a former black sheep who's now trying to claim as much of the world as he can. He likes movies and martial arts, is eager to learn English, and is highly motivated.

Surprisingly, here's a man who throws his life into adventure and danger. It is not easy for this guy to make his life normal. That is Jong-Bae Lee. This person always has a lot of dreams that he wants to fulfill and a whole bunch of things to do.

I met Mr. Lee at Mt. Gubong at around 11 p.m. He finished his work 10 p.m. and changed his clothing to a casual one and rushed to Mt. Gubong. Right after stepping out of the car, he smiled at me, bought me a cup of coffee, and said "Hey! Long time no see. What's up?" He would always smile and look happy. This is the way I like him as well.

After graduating from high school, he got into the university as an A-level scholarship student. He wanted to be a prosecutor initially. About a year later, he wanted to learn technology so much.

All of sudden, he dropped out of the university and got into a professional technology vocational school. Passing through the two-year-long period, he acquired several certificates. But then he wanted something more special and challenging, so he volunteered in the army as a staff sergeant, which requires a four-year training.

During his army service, he always looked for something new and decided to open a bar. It was never easy to do two different jobs at the same time. He did the army service, operated a bar that was pretty big, and studied a lot of things he was interested in.

He would go to bed at 3 a.m. and get up at 6 a.m., which most people never could do. Right after he finished the army service, he started up two kinds

of stores. One is an online shopping mall and the other is an electronic components store.

Now, he is still finding something new and fresh to do, and is studying many things.

Q: How many people are in your family? What do your family members do?

A: I have four. My father is working as an Air Force operator at the US military base in Chuncheon and my mother is a typical housewife. My younger brother is a university student but he also operates an online shopping mall.

Q: What was your dream when you were a little kid?

A: I had a lot of dreams. Since I was good at sports when I was in elementary school, I wanted to be an athlete. And I also wanted to be an astronaut. Sometimes, I wanted to be the President of South Korea. I think I was good at everything, and was always the best in class [laughs], that is why I still believe I'll succeed in anything I do now.

Q: You have had a lot of experience and jobs, is there any special reason why you have changed them frequently?

A: Yes, I think so. As you may know, I'm really enthusiastic and eager to do anything I want until I feel successful, but there is not just one thing I want to do. I want to do as many things as I can. Even if I sleep one hour a day, I could stick to that if those are the things that I want to do. Young blood is a generator from which I can get the power to do many things. And I never regret what I did even though it was not successful. I did what I want to do, and I believe those experiences will be an asset to my future.

Q: Have you ever had the feeling that you wanted to live your life like others do?

A [laughing loudly]: No, never! If my life were the same as others, I would feel like dead meat. You should realize the difference between being a conformist and being a leader. I have never thought that I would conform but I always think that I will be a leader or innovator. Despite the fact that I am nothing in this society, I will be remembered for a long time after all.

Q: What is your ultimate goal in your life and what would you like to be twenty years from now?

A: Well, of course, I will be very well-off by operating several companies, invent a revolutionary scientific theory like Albert Einstein, and I don't know but I'll never stop doing things for my future.

Q: What if you can't succeed in the future and end up regretting everything that you did in your life?

A: Well, I never think that I'll fail, I always think positively and that is my strong point. Even if I failed, I would never think I failed in anything I did. Anyway, I am doing everything enthusiastically and devoting my soul. Therefore, I am happy now. No retreat!

Q: Your family and even your close friends ignore what you are doing and make fun of you behind your back, and many think that what you are doing is not prospective and treat it as a bad idea. How could you get through this?

A: I don't actually care about what they think about me or how they regard my thoughts. My parents know about me much more than others and they always believe me and support me. Since I was graduated from middle school, I never got pocket money from my parents and I earned money by myself. I never blame them, we have never gotten in trouble. I know what I am doing, and my life is just mine, unchangeable. I would say to those people who like to indulge in gossip, "Grow up! And make yourselves independent!"

Q: Have you heard of the term "jack of all trades" or Renaissance man? And what do you prefer to be?

A: I know about the first one. However, I don't know the second one. [After finding out.] I prefer to be a Renaissance man. Actually, I am a jack-of-all-trades now I guess. But I really like the Renaissance man concept, thank you for letting me know. I am going to turn myself into a Renaissance man eventually. Trust me.

Q: What are you doing these days and what are you training for?

A: I am operating two online shopping malls and doing an off-line sales business. It is really fun to

close deals with people. I have never done that kind of sales business in person. It is fun to do and good for improving my conversational skill. And whenever I get the time, I read books such as science, philosophy, law, et cetera...actually I like to read anything that is printed.

Q: Is there anything else that you want to tell the readers?

A: I don't know if I can be an issue or not. Mmm...not yet I guess...as you said I might be just a jack of all trades or something. But I know one thing that is absolutely true: "Make your life your own, just do what you want, and sweat for it." These days, many students heavily depend on their parents, and follow without being aware of their own choices and don't know where they are going and what to do. At the very least, I know what I am doing and how to do it. The only difference I have from others is that I want many things to come true.

Passion and Dreams: The Tonic of Life

by Kim Se-jin[†]

All of us are in contact with broadcasting everyday. Normally, people enjoy it. But they don't know the effort that goes into any broadcast program made by various staff members. And these problems are not exclusive to national broadcasting.

Our university broadcasting faces these problems too. When I come to our university, I can listen to beautiful voices and music through campus speakers.

That is our university broadcasting. Many people say that university broadcasting couldn't be

[†] Kim Se-jin is an incoming junior in broadcasting. He enjoys watching movies. He wants to become a television drama producer some day. important, because its practitioners are amateurs.

We commonly call people who do something special professionals. What's the difference between a professional and an amateur? Undoubtedly, there are more amateurs in the world than professionals. In

As you may have realized, this fellow has a unique personality. He doesn't know those words that could disappoint his will such as "give up," "surrender," "it all depends" etc. He would never look back regretting his past no matter what happens.

Apart from his success, we could all learn how to control our mind from him. Some people may not agree with that and say, "I am more successful. He is nothing now and he won't succeed in his life."

What I would like to say is that whether he succeeds or not, he has a stronger spirit than most of us do.

It is always worth it when we challenge ourselves with new things that we have never experienced before like the Renaissance Man concept.

this world, there are many people who, although they are not professionals, have the passion of professionals

Although the people whom I met were amateurs, one person had a passion and a dream. This person is Mr. Kang Min-soo.

When the announcer's voice comes through our speaker, I wonder; who works for the broadcast? I'm going to look at the history of university broadcasting and meet with university broadcasting system people.

First, I needed to know the difference between professional and amateur.

On the internet, professional means "relating to a person's work, especially work that requires special training. Professional people have jobs that require advanced education or training. You use professional to describe people who do a

particular thing to earn money rather than as a hobby. Amateur is someone who does something as a hobby and not as a job" (Naver Dictionary <<http://eedic.naver.com>>).

Next, I searched for the first instance of a university broadcast and the history of university broadcasting in Korea. The first university broadcast was in Sungkyunkwan University in 1955, while the first university broadcasting system was made by Jung-ang University in 1957. In the 1960s, university broadcasting became an important form of student activity. In the 1970s, technology and equipment for university broadcasting expanded. In the 1980s, opposition to government was expressed by students because of its pressure on the discussion of public opinion. Reflection broadcasting started in 1990 (Internet reference in Naver homepage blog <<http://blog.naver.com/pyokorea>>).

What does the Hallym Broadcasting System (HLBS) do? The HLBS broadcasts three programs in a day, the first in the morning, second at noon (comprising news), third in the evening. Apart from news, they also broadcast student productions. They sponsor two festivals per year. One is the creation music festival and the other is where they announce their broadcast material to audiences in the hall. (Hallym Broadcasting System Website <<http://www.hlbs.wo.to>>).

I met Mr. Kang one afternoon for early dinner. When I met him, he wore glasses and a brown sweater. And then as we ate, he spoke diffidently, little, but his eyes were very bright. While having dinner we talked about many things. He accommodated my questions kindly.

Q: How long have you been working in the Hallym Broadcasting System (HLBS)?

A: Since March 1999.

Q: What do you do now in HLBS?

A: I am the manager of the internet and new media department.

Q: What is your dream?

A: I want to be a producer of radio programs.

Q: How are you preparing for your dream?

A: I study English, Korean and at present, I use common sense. I also listen to music in many genres – Korea traditional music, northeast Asian instrumental music, Korean 20th-century music, et cetera.

Q: What do you think of university broadcasting and its difference with other broadcasting systems?

A: I think they don't have a significant point of difference. But definitely I find something. Typical broadcasting staff members are different from normal people. They are professional and they make a program and broadcast it for unspecified individuals. But a university broadcasting system is aired for university students. So in university broadcasting, subject and material have to be differentiated because in this case people might experience difficulty in understanding.

Q: What are your joys and sorrows during your work in HLBS?

A: We had a hard time during festivals because of the lack of money. And also we find ourselves staying up all night [to prepare for the festival]. However, after every festival I feel my heart is fully satisfied.

Q: Tell me about real broadcasting as you have known it [in your opinion].

A: I think what's important for me are my attitude and bearing. Although audience rating is low, the staff will do their best for preparing and will keep their mind on their job during the broadcasting of the program. Maybe it'll be like real broadcasting.

Q: Do you have any project in life?

A: After I get a job I wish to take up graduate studies during my mid-thirties. And I'm going to become a professor of communication study, specifically radio broadcasting.

In this world there are two types of people. The first type consists of those who have no passion for their profession. At present, our society has about a million unemployed persons. So each university student prepares many things to get a job, like studying English, scoring high on the TOEIC, and

getting a license. But all these things are only for the purpose of getting a job. These people don't really know what they want or like.

The second type consists of those who pursue their dreams with passion. They do not announce their existence, but they work silently to realize their dreams. They are regarded as amateurs.

To Get Into Someone Else's Mind

by Kwak Sung-won*

Nowadays, we live in a world whose complications are produced by and produce a variety of stressful situations. Nobody can be free of those.

Such stresses can cause many kinds of mental disorders, which are not as rare around us as we think. It may strike anyone today and turn her or him into a mental patient tomorrow.

In this article, I'm going to be concerned about a mental patient. There are number of mental patients in the Chuncheon National Mental Hospital. They are not criminals. They are not enemies, either. They are only patients who require treatment.

Sometimes, they take a threatening attitude. However, it's evidence of their mental pain. They feel isolated from the outside world.

So, communicating with other people is not easy for them. Therefore, we have to care for them. We must aid them in recovering their health.

* Kwak Sung-won will soon be graduated in broadcasting. He enjoys playing soccer and traveling. His interests include a wide array of music and films. He describes himself as a good man and intends to remain that way.

In the following interview, I'm not an interviewer and the patient is not an interviewee. I will never inquire of him about the reason why he is staying in the hospital.

I will talk with him as a friend.

Q: Did you have some lunch?

What distinguishes the second type from the first? It's the elements of passion and dreaming. To which category would you prefer to belong?

At the moment, I can hear Kang Min-soo's broadcast through our campus speakers. I can feel his passion and his dream. I can envision that someday he will be an outstanding radio producer through the effort that he pours into his calling today.

A: Yes, I did. Today was my day on duty. So, I carried our food and I cleared our dining room. In a short time, I have to take some medication.

Q: What kinds of your medication do you have?

A: I will take an anti-depression pill, a digestive, et cetera. I took a sleeping pill due to insomnia last night.

Q: Was that delicious?

A: Food? Pills? Both food and pills are not good. But I have to have some food so that I can take some pills. If I do not take the food, I would be placed in a cell like Papillon.

Q: What were you doing before you entered this place?

A: I was head of a department in a major company. When Korea was facing a financial crisis [IMF], my company laid me off. So I began to drive a taxi. My family disliked the fact that I drove a taxi. They felt it was shameful for me to do so. But I had to do the job as head of the family.

Q: How about your current state?

A: I had driven a taxi for fifteen hours a day in order to earn money for my family. I could not get enough sleep for a long time. For that reason, my overwork damaged my health. Finally, I was divorced from my

wife. I was left behind. It was a painful memory. So, I'm staying here.

Q: That is really regrettable. Do you have a grudge against your wife?

A: No. I still love not only my two daughters but also my wife. I heard that she had remarried – to a government official – and they are happy now. I long for my family. I want to see my daughters badly. I have seen them in my dreams frequently. I fail to get some sleep most every night.

Q: Are you in pain?

A: No I'm not. I'm okay. To tell the truth, I have a headache once in a while. My head was out of order. You know? I'm a mental patient [half-jokingly]. After I came in here, I smoked more heavily. My doctor said, "You will die of lung cancer tomorrow" – kidding.

Q: How are you in here?

A: I really could not adapt myself to the new environment at first. However, I'm quite well now. This hospital feeds me, provides me with pills, lets me go to sleep, lets me exercise regularly, plays with me. In extreme cases, they give me some pocket money.

Q: How about your nurses?

A: They are gorgeous and kind. All of them are my girlfriends. I've had a date with them many times.

Q: What kinds of dates?

A: I go for a walk with them, I go to a movie with them, I play ping-pong with them, et cetera. I would marry them.

Q: You look so good. If you get out of here, what's your plan?

A: I don't want to get out of here. I like here. Although I will get out of here, I would never be a taxi driver. I want to be a bus driver – kidding. And I will meet my daughters.

Q: Thank you for the interview. Everything is going to be all right because you have a positive mind. Would you like to play ping-pong with me now?

A: Sure! I'll be back soon after I take some pill.

After I interviewed him, we played a game of ping-pong. I lost the game completely. His skill was like an Olympic player's. While we were playing, his expression was cheerful all the time. It appeared as if he were not a mental patient but a normal person.

The majority of mental patients could not receive their own neighborhood's love and interest. We have to be concerned about them. If we are interested in them, their pain will ease up and they may be able to return to being normal persons.

Now we lock them up in asylums. But, we ought to coexist with them the same way we can with one another.

Continuing Change

by Lee Jee-hyun⁹

Many people want to be broadcasters and they respect successful broadcasting professionals. Among those, Choi Il-goo is a famous anchor, because he's regarded as a rebel (*Pusan Il-bo* <<http://www.pusanilbo.co.kr/>>). Korean broadcasting is not an open system. In this article, I'll show the history of Korean broadcasting and I'll be interviewing Choi Il-goo. I'll ask him about his fans and his detractors. Clearly, he's an important presence in broadcasting today. He is in a position to change Korean TV news. Readers may wonder, "What's the next story?"

"I know I failed in the examination just now. This is my fifth attempt. But I'm not disappointed with that. I challenge, challenge, and challenge myself. I want to be a broadcaster." This was written by someone with the ID "dozen" in Daum Café, a website group that studies public opinion. This site's membership is forty thousand. On the evidence, many people want to be broadcasters, production directors, anchors, journalists, camerapersons, and so on.

Students who major in broadcasting want to be hired by broadcasting stations. Even people who are graduated as engineers want to be anchors (*Naver News* <<http://news.naver.com/>>). But there are only a few broadcasting stations in Korea. Most people want to enter only three major stations – MBC, KBS, and SBS. Also broadcasting stations can hire a few talents.

The rate of competition for entering a broadcasting station is very high, generally 200:1 (Cho Eun-ki, "Korean Cable TV Policies and Perspectives" <http://www.media-partners-asia.com/Cho_english.ppt>). Among the list of successful broadcasters, Choi Il-goo is especially famous among the masses. He always announces his opinion about news reports. Korean broadcasting is inclined toward conservatism, so his attempt is the exception to the rule.

⁹ Lee Jee-hyun is an incoming junior in journalism who wants to become a television reporter. She puts all her effort into achieving her goal and believes that everything in the universe will converge to help her realize what she wants.

In 1926, Korea founded the very first broadcasting station, Kung Sung Station. There was oppression then – Japan brought pressure to bear on opinion-making in Korea. The Japanese restrained newspapers, radio stations, and so on. Kung Sung Station could not broadcast in Korean. Afterward, although liberated from Japan, the Korean broadcasting situation was not so different from before.

Because authorities were in control of the country, broadcasting was the government's mouthpiece. The "9 News" program reported on the Blue House daily and then-President Jun Doo-hwan's affairs. Afterward, when Roh Tae-woo became President, he declared freedom of speech in 1988 (*Broadcasting Introduction*, Seoul: Communication Books, 2000, pp. 60-67).

But broadcasting and news journalism remained under the control of regulators who always oversaw the practice of broadcasting. For example, anchors could not express their opinion, they could only state facts. Broadcasting stations avoided innovations. That's why Choi Il-goo, who expresses his opinion without hesitation, became famous.

The following is the substance of an interview I conducted with Mr. Choi.

Q: What do you do nowadays?

A: You know that I hold "MBC news desk" during weekends. Although the news time is on weekend, I'm always busy on weekdays. I usually collect data for broadcasting. After that, I write my scripts.

Q: When did you enter MBC and take charge of the news desk?

A: I entered MBC in 1985. I'm a journalist and an anchor. Last year, in November, I was put in charge of the news desk.

Q: Do you know that many people like what you say?

A: Yes, I'm aware of that. I'm really shy. I just express what I want to say. I couldn't expect whether or not it would be popular.

Q: Why did you do your new attempt?

A: I'm still hungry for something fresh. I think the style of news broadcasting has always been the same. Innovation was needed so I changed my way of speaking. By the way, I'm happy, because many people like that.

Q: I heard you majored in Korean at Kyung Hee University – why did you choose that?

A: When I was a high school student, I wanted to be a writer. So I studied Korean. But after that, I hoped to be a journalist. In fact, I had dreamed of being a journalist since I was a middle-school student. At that time, I idolized a special correspondent and read all about him. Finally, I achieved my childhood dream.

Q: What's your hobby? But, of course you're very busy....

A: I like to sing very much. When I was 20 years old, I attended a singing contest and I won a prize. The song I sang at the contest was written by me. Its title is "Melt the Rocket." [Even today] I still want to be a singer.

Q: Do you remember the statements you made that many people like?

When Happiness Means Holding a Camera

by Lee Won-jeong¹⁰

For a long time, I've been interested in taking photographs. I feel very excited when I look at the world through a camera lens. And I like to meet photographers who really love what they do.

¹⁰ Lee Won-jeong is an incoming junior in broadcasting. She is a member of the Hallym webzine and enjoys mountain-climbing, window-shopping, and going to the movies. She plans to become a videographer.

At last I succeeded in doing what I loved in my school, and in meeting a famous photographer.

A: I don't remember all of what I spoke. But I read an article about my statements. Among those, I remember saying, "I'll eat *neang myun*" (buckwheat noodles). When I reported that, noodle stores were selling spoiled *neang myun*. I hoped to encourage the owners of those stores to produce better *neang myun*. Also I criticized Japan. You know that Korea has argued with Japan for a long time [because] the Japanese insist that Dok-do Island is theirs. Of course, it belongs to Korea. Recently, they insisted that it was theirs again. All Korean broadcasters reported on that. I was very angry, so I said, "Japanese, stop imposing on us!" I heard that many people sympathized with what I said.

Choi Il-goo is convinced that Korean TV news will allow him to be himself. But many people are afraid that his attempts are very dangerous. Also they think Koreans want to maintain the status quo and that TV news must proceed accordingly. Of course, it's likely that they hope for self-restraint because Korea was ruled by Japan and the Japanese had once insisted that Korea must not be open. But that's only the past, the Japanese style. Korean broadcast stations need whatever is new, new, and new. In short, broadcasters have to continue their attempts to change. Mr. Choi will lead the way. Don't you expect any change in TV news? When broadcasters attempt to change, the masses will learn from watching the change unfold. If so, Korean broadcasting will continue to develop. Let's count on it!

Before I interviewed him, I looked up the basic rules in taking a good photograph.

What matters, first of all, is composing "each picture so that its parts work together to create a work of beauty. Each item in a picture has an effect on the whole, so don't just point and shoot. Take a little time to compose each picture into the masterpiece it could be" (Kodak website <<http://www.kodak.com/>>).



The second issue is photographing people. According to Kodak, "Seeing great pictures of people is the first step toward taking them." Then in creating close-up pictures, "Close-ups are easy as long as you hold the camera at its specified close-up distance. If you don't watch the distance carefully or get too close, the picture will be blurry."

Next, in capturing the action, there are keys "to successful action pictures." Kodak also advises photographers to:

▲ Control your camera. When photographing action, it's easy to get caught up in the excitement and forget a few photography essentials. Because you must keep the camera steady, prefocus your camera, using the sports mode.

▲ Make sure the subject doesn't escape. You or the camera might not react fast enough with a moving subject. Use these tips to anticipate the action as follows. Take the picture a split second early, have the subject move directly toward you, then use the burst mode.

▲ Experiment with different techniques. Try different techniques to expand your photo skills such as getting in close with a telephoto lens, blurring to show movement, brightening with flash. (Kodak website)

This interview of Jung Si-geon was held on November 18, 2004. Mr. Jung is the team leader of the Public Information Section in Hallym University and the front chief of the Kang won-do Photographers Association.

Q: Since when were you interested in photography?

A: I was employed in a company, twenty years ago. There they held a photo education series for employees once a week. Since then I was charmed by photography. I bought the book of a famous photographer, then I studied photography.

Q: How often do you take a photograph?

A: These days, I'm very busy because I work in the university and am preparing for a concert. So, I take my camera in case an event occurs in the university

or when I go to a studio in Seoul. The studio was set up by people like me who love to take pictures. In there, I was able to take nude photos twice a week.

Q: What kind of photos do you like to take?

A: I like to take photographs in which my subjects are nude. So far, many people regard nudes as obscene. But I think nude modeling is an art that uses the bodyline of humans, which is the most beautiful on earth.

Q: How many prizes have you received?

A: I received more than ten prizes. Last year, I was awarded a gold statue in the Nude Photographic Contest. It is the highest among the prizes I have.

Q: What is your idea of photography?

A: I think photography is the art of drawing with light. Different styles of pictures come out depending on how light is used in each one, even though the photo may be taken in the same place. A photographer of great capacity is someone who makes photos using light well.

Q: What do you think of the digital camera (dica)?

A: The dica is very useful. And its advantage is that you can look at the picture before making a print. So I take a picture with the dica before I use a film camera. In this case, I can save on film and still make a good work.

Q: Could you explain to me about the Korea Photographers Association?

A: The Korea Photographers Association was founded twenty years ago. The office is located in Myung-dong in Chuncheon. Fifty members are active. We have a meeting once a month because most of our members are busy at work. We hold a photo exhibit two times a year.

Q: What do you plan for the future?

A: I'll take more nude photos in the future than at present. Afterward, I'll hold a personal nude photography exhibition that will be different from those of other photographers. I've attended various

nude photography exhibitions many times, but I never received any special impression each time.

Mr. Jung has another hope. It is to hold a photography lecture intended for students who are

Animation Is Our Friend

by Lee Young-jin¹¹

Do you want see another world? If you want to, then watch an animated film. It will give you your forgotten dream world. It is not for children, it is for all of us. Feel about a land of fantasy, see an illusory world. Animation is not the real world so you will get a world of imagination.

I want to teach you of another happy life. Do not be shy, animation is our friend. Now I will introduce animation for you.

The roots of animation started ten thousand years BC in the form of cave paintings. We can find traces of animation all over the world's ruins. It shows us that animation is very close to our history.

Fantasmagorie was the first animation ever produced. Its playing time was 1 minute and 18 seconds. It was made by Emil Cohl, who was French, and who was also the first to make animation in color.

Afterward, animation developed more rapidly. In the 1930s, Disney created the characters of Donald Duck and Mickey Mouse. And *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* was very popular all over the world. In the 1950s television supplied entertainment for many families and gave them various types of animation.

Korean animation started in a television advertisement of the CF company, but the first full-

¹¹ Lee Young-jin is an incoming junior in broadcasting and intermedia. He likes Japanese anime. length Korean movie animation was *Hong Gil-dong*. At that time, animation's social environment was very difficult, but *Hong Gil-dong* came as a surprise

interested in photography. He's the most passionate person I ever met about photography. So I hope that in the future he will not lose his passion for photography and that he will attain his wishes.

because it showed high quality. It proved that Korean animation had a huge potential.

However, at that time many people thought animation was not good and financiers did not want to invest in animation. So the growth of Korean animation was very slow.

But this situation changed in the 1990s. Nowadays the quality of Korean animation is very high and has good value in other countries. Ninety percent of other countries' animation projects are subcontracted to Korean companies.

Also Korean animators' skills are very high. So these days many people remain interested in Korean animation.

On the other hand, the first Japanese animation was *White Snake Tale*. This movie gave Japan a very big impact on animation observers. Since then Japanese animation has seen steady growth. Nowadays Japan is one of the most prolific producers of animation in the world.

In this way, we can see that Japanese and Korean animation are very similar to each other. One can expect that each country's animation has more in store for their respective practitioners. Also, recently many students have been studying animation, so Korean animators' skills are very high.

Now I will be introducing a would-be animator. Her name is Jung Eun-young and she is 21 years old. She is a Hanyang University student.

When I met her in her home I was very surprised. There were many animation CDs and

books in her room. I was able to feel her fantasy life right there. This interview took place in her room.

Q: Your name is cute – what do you think of your name?

A: Really? Thank you but I don't think so. I think my name is very beautiful! Isn't it? Our name is one of the most important things in our life. I love my name – and your name is beautiful too.

Q: How about your campus life?

A: Well...it's too boring. Everyday my campus life is routine. Korean university lessons are not interesting and I can't find any special event. I really want to graduate from school and have more time for myself.

Q: Do you like watching animation?

A: Of course I do! It is one of the happiest times in my life. Animation is alive, so I feel happy and alive when watching animation. If you dislike watching animation, try to watch once again. You can find another fantasy world.

Q: How often do you watch animation?

A: Every day. Animation is part of me so I can't take it out of my life. Many people say to me "I can't understand you." Yes, it is true that my consideration is not normal, but an animator needs a very wide and special imagination. I just try to be an animator.

Q: What for you is the best animation?

A: Well, many famous and popular samples of animation exist in the world. And I know some of the very best regarded animation titles. However those are not the best animation films for me. My best animation is *Hong Gil Dong*. Nowadays it can't be found anywhere in Korea. The *Hong Gil Dong* film has been destroyed so no one can see it anymore. It was the first animation I watched, and it gave me the inspiration to become an animator. I really want to see that movie once more.

Q: Why do you study animation?

A: I want to give a happy dream for people everywhere. It is not a real world, so it can give rest

and pleasure in our lives. I just want to see many people feel pleasure. Maybe my animation film can be people's friend.

Q: What do you think of Korean animation's social environment?

A: In fact it's not bad but then, many Koreans think that animation is not for adults, that it is just for children and people who think childishly. Such recognition is an obstacle to Korean animation's development. But recently many students like watching animation and then they study it. So such misrecognition disappears more and more. I believe when these student have been exposed to a wide range of experience in animation, then Korean animation will have its own great development.

Q: What do you think about making animation? Is it easy?

A: Are you kidding me? Animation is not just for TV shows. It is part of culture, not a TV program. Many people like movies and authors of culture. Making a movie is very hard and needs a lot of money – of course I know about that. But you know, making animation is very hard too. This operation is not simple. It passes through many processes and needs many people. It should be treated as more than just a program. It is culture.

Q: What kinds of animation do you want to make?

A: I want to make all kinds of animation for all kinds of people. Of course it is not easy, however it is my dream. If people watch my animation and feel joyful, then it will be the best happiness for me.

Animation's history is very long, which shows us that animation is very close to us. Nowadays animation is not just for children. It exists for people all over. World animation is developing more and more and Korean animation has great growth potential too.

Many students study animation and they hope to become great animators. Animation will be a great culture. Animation can give new pleasure and happiness. It is up to you, but I wish you can seriously consider animation. A new fantasy world is coming. Animation welcomes you.

The World of Online Games

by Park Kwang-hyun¹²

You are meeting your best friend today. The time is too early for drinking. And you have no idea what's the most interesting thing to do in this situation. Your friend says, "If you don't have an idea what do you think about going to the PC bang?"

You think it is not a bad suggestion for this time. You have heard of the MMORPG and are interested in it. And then, you and your friends decide to go to a PC bang, the online game world.

The initials MMORPG mean "Massively Multi-player Online Role Playing Game." MMORPG characters are born in the cyber world. The player – who controls the character – is born in the real world. MMORPG's world therefore has both dimensions.

The characters have a lot of exciting things in cyber world that cannot always be done in the real world. Examples of these activities include exotic cooking, hunting monsters, potion-making, manufacturing equipment, fishing – unique to communities that are difficult to meet in the real world.

MMORPG has grown up with networks and personal computer technology. When it first started, it was named MUD (Multi-User Dungeon). MUD was based on TRPG, which stands for Table Role Playing Game, the forefather of today's RPG. The TRPG used a rulebook, dice, and player's role acting. When someone played MUD games, the personal computer's performance was very poor. Also, the MUD was made up only of text.

¹² Park Kwang-hyun is an incoming junior in journalism and intermedia. He likes to play Korean online games like "Mapinogi" and listen to Japanese pop. He plans to become an online journalist.

The next generation of online RPGs was MUG or the Multi-User Game. Its name will look strange to you. But it emphasized graphics more than MUD did. MUG is so similar to MMORPGs that it

can be considered their prototype. When the online RPG's name was changed, most of its systems – quests, balance, equipment upgrades, PvP (Player vs. Player), levels, graphic engines – were significantly upgraded with computers and networks technology. Hence, MMORPGs emerged but are very different from TRPGs.

Nowadays MMORPGs are still developing with computers and networks technology. It's good for the technological and heavy gamer's side but not all MMORPG users are technologists or heavy gamers. For that reason, MMORPGs have become very popular forms of leisure among young people who can follow the computers' and networks' technology.

But there is an unusual exception: an old person who plays MMORPGs. More surprisingly, this person is not a man. Her name is Kim Soon-ok, a 54-year-old housewife. Her family consists of her husband and two sons. The older son has a job in a distribution company, while the other one is still a student.

This interview took place on a peaceful Sunday in her house. Mrs. Kim lives in the outside capital region. Her residence was a little small and was surrounded by many trees.

She offered a cup of coffee but we didn't have anything. She looked a little plump and wore a striped shirt. The interview started with her comfortable smile.

Q: What's your hobby?

A: I like singing songs and reading books, but recently, I'm becoming interested in Lineage. [Lineage is the most famous MMORPG in Korea.]

Q: What do you think about Lineage? Is it a good MMORPG?

A: Lineage is a great game! Not only was it made six years ago, but also its system and graphics feel good and simple. Also, everyone who wants to play Lineage can start very easily. It's a very strong point about Lineage for people like me.

Q: What happened with your family when you started Lineage?

A: They were surprised. My younger son was half in doubt when I told him, "I decided to play Lineage, can you teach me how to play it?" I learned Lineage very slowly, but I played steadily. And now, I'm better at hunting in Lineage than my son is.

Q: What problems do you feel about your age when you play the game?

A: I have no problem about dealing with other Lineage players. But my control speed is slower than ordinary young players. Because of that, I can't battle with other players (PvP) and hunt in a dangerous dungeon at the same time.

Q: What do you think about Korean MMORPG users' manners?

A: Most people have good manners but some users' habits are spoiling the Lineage world. For example, indiscreetly a PK (Player Kill) or a hunt will use an automatic program or fishing [jargon in Lineage]. Anyone who kills a normal player should take a penalty. Fishing induces the killing of oneself to become a random user intentionally.

Q: What do you think about the old MMORPG players? Do you think they cannot understand you?

A: I think so, but I don't mind that. I don't have to

persuade them about my participation in MMORPG.s. Those who take pleasure in it are not influenced by age. I'm simply one of many Lineage players. Other old MMORPG players are the same too.

Q: Can you tell me your most interesting episodes in Lineage?

A: Actually, my character Alchem had a level-up last Wednesday. Level 52 is a very significant point in Lineage because only upward of it can a character self-polymorph into Death Knight and Dark Elf. I told people the good news on a chat window, and many of them celebrated my accomplishment. Dark Elf and Death Knight have fast attack speeds! That amplifies the character's power. And most Lineage players envy it.

Q: Did you think about changing your current MMORPG?

A: I never thought about that. I feel my interest in Lineage is enough. I'll never change this game though.

Actually, MMORPG and online games are developing now and in the future both in the technical and game-system sides. And then, games are no longer only for young people. According to one research, the best TV viewers are people who are more than 50 years old. Similarly, people who have much spare time will be participating in online games.

The world of online games is always open. It is in this world but not exactly this world.

Do you think you can find another interesting thing in that world, the way many other people already have?

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