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ON GROUNDHOG DAY?**

An Awakening!

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Welcome to an Awakening!

This spring, the students in English Literature 102 at Oikos University studied how the stories of literature, both modern and ancient, reveal basic truths about human character. They saw how our interior character is usually the source of our actions and how character can change - for better or worse - under the pressure of actions and events.

In *A Star is Born*, we saw how a fearful amateur singer, Ally, became able to step onto a public stage and sing before thousands for the first time out through her faith and love for her future husband - in a similar way that Peter overcame his fear through faith and love for Jesus and walked on the sea in the Gospel of Matthew.

In *Little Miss Sunshine*, we saw how an unhappy family discovered real joy when they lost their self-centered aspirations, became spiritually free of self and joined together as a family in community - a discovery similar to the Prodigal Son's conversion in the Gospel of Luke.

These stories posed the question: What is human character? How do our interior attitudes influence our lives? The students reflected on the concepts of character: fear vs. faith, pride and arrogance vs. humility, self-centeredness vs. self-sacrifice, love vs. lust.

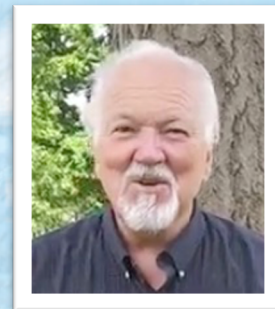
Few modern stories reveal the transformation of character more clearly than the classic *Groundhog Day*, a portrayal of the cold, arrogant, emotionally abusive Phil Connors who learned that he could not escape his paralysis in life until he learned to love and be loved.

For their final project, the students analyzed, discussed and wrote about their perspectives of *Groundhog Day*. What really happened on Groundhog Day? Their answer: An Awakening!

This semester, the students overcame many challenges, not the least being the shift to online classes to protect against spreading the Covid-19 virus. Thankfully, none became sick. And they concluded the semester with the remarkable insights and beautiful writing in these essays.

I hope you enjoy them as much as I have! It has been a pleasure and privilege for me to work with everyone in this class.

- David A. Sylvester,
Oikos University instructor and
class magazine faculty advisor



Was It Fair or Unfair?

While Phil is drinking in the bowling alley with Ralph and Gus, Phil wonders why he got stuck repeating a day that he didn't want: going to Punxsutawney and reporting on Groundhog Day for the fourth year in a row. He remembers an enjoyable day that he once had in Hawaii. (29: 55) "Why couldn't I get that day over and over and over..." he wonders. (30:10)

Question a) Was it fair or unfair that Phil had to repeat the day he didn't want instead of the kind of day he considered enjoyable? Was there some life lesson that Phil needed to learn? What were Phil's

character traits that made him enjoy his day in Hawaii and what were the character traits he developed during his long "Groundhog Day?" Suggested prompt: *"Dear Phil, I know how you feel because I think...."*

Question b) Can you think of a time when you - or someone else you know - felt life was one bad day after another and life felt stuck like Phil's? Describe the situation giving specific examples and how you - or someone else - solved the difficulty. Looking back, was it a character trait that kept blocking you, or the person you describe.



Phil, You Never Loved Anyone but Yourself. This Is Unacceptable!

By Som (Bussayapat Panapapada)

Dear Phil, I know how you feel when you said “Why couldn’t I get that day over and over and over...” (30:10) because I think that it would be very painful if I had to live in a loop of a repeating day that I didn’t want. Instead, you wanted to have a pleasant day like the one you previously had in Hawaii.



<http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-aeiMovDWDx8/TopIDTe5Eil/AAAAAAAAA68/NbgPy6VY2s/s400/Groundhog-Day.jpg>, <https://www.bing.com/>

Was it fair or unfair for you to repeat the day that you didn’t want instead of the kind of day you considered enjoyable? According to your bad behaviors, I think it was fair because you needed to learn some lessons to become a better person. I could see that you were a sarcastic person. For example, you said about Groundhog Day: “They pull the little rat out. They talk to him. The rat talks back to them. They tell us what’s going to happen.” (13:48)

In speaking like this, you showed that you thought they were some country people who believed in nonsense. You didn’t respect their culture and beliefs.

Moreover, you were lustful, and you never loved anyone but yourself. This is unacceptable. Your only thought was about having sex with women. For example, you used the knowledge about Nancy Taylor that you gained from your loop days to trick her. In order to convince Nancy to sleep with you, you said “I love you, I always love you” (40:37) and “Nancy, will you be my wife?” (40:45) to assure her that you really loved her. Actually, you lied to her just because of your lustfulness. This situation showed clearly how dirty you were.



https://i2.wp.com/www.tor.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/Groundhog_Day_8.jpg?fit=475%2C%209999&crop=0%2C0%2C100%2C260px, <https://www.bing.com/>

Was there some life lesson that you needed to learn? Yes, I think you should learn to love the others from the deepest part of your heart. I know that you had fun when you could seduce other women. It was entertaining when you won the challenge and could get some women to sleep with you. Nevertheless, I want to tell you that lustfulness can't bring you real happiness and if you never truly love others, you will fail at love at the end. You should learn how to love others.

In my experience, I had a friend, Wut, who never loved any woman for real. He deceived many women. His bad reputation was well known. Seven years ago, Wut turned 28. He thought about setting down. He met Fang, his long-lost friend, again at school's alumni party. He fell in love with her and tried to show that he loved her. However, Fang had heard a lot of bad rumors that he was a playboy and he always hooked up with women for fun. She kept denying and staying away from him, no matter how hard he tried to show her his love, because she was afraid that he would deceive her. She didn't believe him. She told him that she didn't like him because of his behaviors that she had heard about were so disgusting and intolerable. It was the first time that he was heartbroken. He knew already how painful it was to be heartbroken. Ever since Fang, he never succeeded in love with anyone because no one trusted him.

Phil, as in your own experiences, you tried many times to convince Rita that you loved her in order to make her sleep with you. You repeated the same routines with her to get as much as knowledge as you could about her. You tried to kiss her and have sex with

her in the house. She rejected you many times, but you never listened to her. You tried to tell her that you knew her and loved her.

"You love me?" she said, surprised and shocked. "You didn't even know me." (54:40)

Finally, she realized that you did not appear to be the kind of man that she was looking for. As she said, you never won her heart because you didn't show the real you and the real love.



<http://www.ryusei-karate.com/english/newsletters/2009%20pix/Groundhog/slap.jpg>

What were your character traits that made you enjoy your day in Hawaii? You enjoyed your day in Hawaii because you were licentious and a hedonist. You satisfied and enjoyed the pleasure of drinking, eating and sleeping around with different women. As you told Ralph and Gus, you met the girl in Hawaii, and you were eating lobster and drinking and after that you made love with her. (29:53) In Hawaii, you met many different people and visited various bars and restaurants. You could enjoy and do whatever you liked to do. But in Groundhog Day, you were forced to live in the same day, to meet the same group of people and to go to

the same places every day. You could not do anything you wanted to do freely. According to your character of licentiousness and hedonism, they made you appreciate the day in Hawaii.

Look at the different the character traits you developed during your long Groundhog Day loop. By the last part of the story, you had changed a lot. You had gradually lost the character trait of lustfulness and developed love. You tried to be a better person. For example, after many unsuccessful attempts to sleep with Rita and repeating your bad behavior, you were tired. You thought that life was meaningless. You tried to kill yourself various times, but you kept waking up in the same day. Then, you decided to be honest with Rita. You told her everything about repeating Groundhog Day. You started to open your heart and mind to

her. After hanging out with Rita, you were so happy. You wanted to keep the good moment forever. You had learned that your life needed a true relationship. You had learned how to truly love another person. Finally, you had the real happiness and you were free from repeating Groundhog Day.

In conclusion, I insist that you deserved to be trapped in Groundhog Day because you were lustful, licentious and hedonistic at the beginning. However, after learning some life lessons, you gradually changed and finally you became able to truly love other people around you. You learned that only loving yourself was not the key to a happy life but loving the others was one of the most important things that fulfilled your life.

~ • ~



<https://muscofodin.files.wordpress.com/2012/11/groundhogday3.jpeg?w=300&h=225>, <https://www.bing.com/>

The Rainbows after the Rain

By Mos (Polpornsuang Ruangrijaroenrung)

Is it fair for someone to be stuck in a situation that he or she doesn't like? I bet you can't answer this question right away. It depends on the situation that he or she has faced. But after you read all that I have written below, I think you might have answer for it.

~ Groundhog Day ~

In the movie *Groundhog Day*, Phil is a weather forecaster in television. In the beginning of the movie, he is a professional in his career. One day he had to report on Groundhog Day, the assignment that he didn't like. When he arrived with his TV crew in the small-town Punxsutawney, he told Rita he couldn't stay at the hotel.

"I stayed here two years ago," he said. "I was miserable. It's a fleabag." (6:30)

But Rita said she booked a very nice hotel for him.

"Great, you know, I think this is one of the treats to keep the talent happy," he said. This shows that he is arrogant, and self-centered.



<https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fbrettfish.co.za%2F2018%2F01%2F26%2Fcape-town-water-crisis-longer-game%2F&psig=AOvVaw3Gpj127c4VTqeetyOp0G8&ust=1587429796250000&source=images&cd=vfc&ved=0CAMQjB1qFwoTCPiDpZjj9egCFQAAAAAdAAAAABAA>

The next day, he reported on Groundhog Day like normal. After he finished his job, he went out of the city immediately, but a heavy snow made him stay at his hotel again. When he woke up the next day, it turned out that it was yesterday that had already passed, and he had to repeat this same day again and again. Phil felt bored and exhausted by this same day, so he tried to escape by doing many things, but he couldn't.

One day, he flirted Rita because he just wanted to have sex with her. (43:20) He tried hard to remember all she likes and told her "he loved her", but it didn't work. (54:42) Rita knew that were his set-up and it wasn't a true love, so he gave up. These situations show that he is dishonest, selfish, and licentious.

Then, he killed himself in many ways, but he survived. (1:05:13) After that he told Rita that he is God because he killed himself, but he was still alive. (1:06:14) So, Rita wanted to help him by staying with him all night to see what would happen to him. All night long, they talked in the bed. (1:10:15) That night, Phil was scared that tomorrow Rita would forget everything. But Rita said, "Maybe it's not a curse. It just depends on how you look at it." This was a point when he realized he needed to change himself and learn special skills like playing piano, ice carving and helping people around the town. He became the guy that Rita likes but he did by his heart. (44:49) This shows that he became humble, self-sacrificing, and kind.



https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.zimbio.com%2FBeyond%2Bthe%2BBox%2BOffice%2Farticles%2Ft2sls8QvPV%2F20%2BThings%2BDidn%2Bt%2BKnow%2BGroundhog%2BDay&psig=AOvVaw1Xhe4WaVKCtrlQMjiiI5_&ust=1587430494361000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=0CAM

Finally, he could escape from Groundhog Day, and both of them could love each other.

From the story, it made me think back to when I was in high school. One of my classmates, Nick, was a very smart person in class. He got good scores in every subject, but no one in class liked him because he was unfriendly, selfish, and miserly. For example, when we were in grade 9, my friends and I asked him to teach us how to do math homework since he always got the best score in class. Instead, he ignored us. Another time, when someone who sat next to him forgot a pen, Nick never let them use his pen. He said his pen was expensive.



https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.zimbio.com%2FBeyond%2Bthe%2BBox%2BOffice%2Farticles%2Ft2sls8QvPV%2F20%2BThings%2BDidn%2Bt%2BKnow%2BGroundhog%2BDay&psig=AOvVaw1Xhe4WaVKCtrlQMjiiI5_&ust=1587430494361000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=0CAM

As a result, he had no friends. He felt uncomfortable, so he didn't want to go to school. Then, he asked me "Why don't I get along with anyone in class?" I told him everything about his habits that no one liked. He just stayed still and didn't say anything to me on that day.

Later on, he changed himself in many ways as I told him. He was more considerate, kinder, and gentler than before. He cared for people around him. When we had a test, he taught us, and he shared a pen when we asked for it. Finally, he was beloved of everyone as Phil. After that, we invited him to join us when we had a party which we hadn't asked him before.

Both stories have taught me in many ways. First, they make me think about how I act with friends, family, and people around me. Am I good enough? Maybe I need to be more careful in the future. Second, when I was in school, teachers always taught me about the Bible, and I always remembered and never forget this phrase: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." It is true that if we would like someone to treat us well, then we should do the same as well. So, from stories, I will change my point of view and treat everyone in the same way that I want them to treat me.

In conclusion, I think it was fair for Phil and Nick to become stuck in the bad day. They both learned and improved themselves to be nice with others, and they got love back from others too. There were like rainbows after the rain.

What do you think?

~ • ~

It was Worth it to Repeat Groundhog Day

By Ploy (Nattaya Pongubol)

Dear Phil, I know how you feel because if I were you, I would have felt the same way, that the universe wasn't nice to me. Why didn't the universe give me an enjoyable day over and over and over instead of a bad hair day? That was unfair. However, think about what Gus said in the bowling alley that day: "Some guys would look at this glass and they would say, 'You know, that glass is half empty.' Other guys would say, 'That glass is half full'". Then you focus at the half full, you may appreciate what you've got. It was the lesson of life. This is what I would tell Phil if I could get in the movie.



<https://www.heyguys.com/groundhog-day-retrospective/>

In the movie, there were a lot of life lessons that Phil needed to learn. He needed to learn how happier he would become when he was nice to people around him. He needed to learn how to help others in need. The first time that Phil passes the old homeless man on the street and pats his pockets pretending not

to have any money. But over the course of the movie, Phil becomes more and more empathetic to the old man's tragic situation. Phil buys him meals and tries to save the guy's life when he's stuck out in the cold. Phil also repeatedly catches a young boy who falls out of a tree and helps some women with a flat tire. Everything he had done doesn't only made them feel good, but it also made Phil feel great too.



<https://www.latimes.com/entertainment/movies/la-et-mn-bill-murray-groundhog-day-review-20160202-story.html>

Finally, Phil got to learn a lot from the Groundhog Day. He learned to be nice to people even if he didn't like them, such as Ned, an insurance agent who has been bothering him every day. Phil always rejected Ned and walked away with a bad attitude, but by the end Phil bought every insurance plan



Captured from Groundhog Day Movie

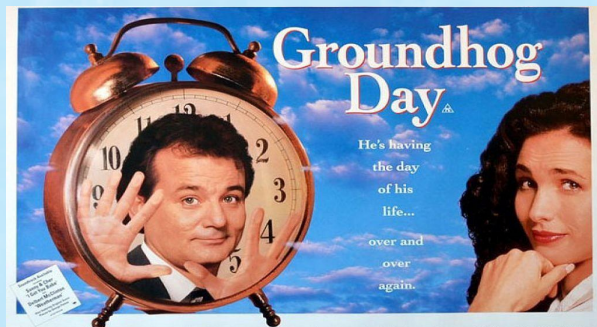
to help Ned make his target. Phil was changing his character a lot from arrogant to humble, self-centered to self-sacrificing, cruel to kind, and dishonest to honest.

Above all, regarding Phil's speech about what made him enjoy the day in Hawaii when he met a girl, ate a lobster, drank some cocktails, made love with a girl he just met, things that made a pretty good day for him. Considering everything he mentioned all about things that made himself happy, I would say that Phil's main character trait is lust.

But when Phil got stuck and repeated the Groundhog Day over and over, he realized that he's into Rita. At first, he has been trying really hard to win her heart and have sex, but he doesn't succeed. During the loop of the Groundhog Day he was through, Phil did many good things just only to show Rita and wanted her to be proud of himself, but it still wasn't successful.

Phil gave up and wanted to escape from that loop. He tried to kill himself over and over, but he was still alive. After that Phil told Rita that he is a God, he asked Rita to

spend the whole day with him to prove that what he said was real. During the day, he did good things that came out of his heart to Rita and just only wanted to make her happy. Rita stayed overnight with Phil, but Phil didn't touch or tried to make love with her as he did before. His feelings changed from lust to love.



<https://www.magquiz.com/quiz/test-your-groundhog-day-movie-knowledge-on-groundhog-day/>

Again, dear Phil, since the first Groundhog Day until the last one, you have learned a lot and become such a wonderful person, Phil. Now you know how complete of a feeling and happy you are when you love everyone from your heart, and everyone loves you. I think it's totally fair for you to repeat the day you didn't like.

~ • ~

Living with No More Rules?

Phil is driving in the car with Ralph and Gus after drinking in the bowling alley, and he wonders: "What if there were no tomorrow?" (32:00)

"That means there'd be no hangover, no consequences." says Ralph. "We could do whatever we wanted."

"It's true! We could do whatever we wanted!" Phil shouts and runs over a mailbox with the car.

As they drive farther, Phil is thinking about all the rules that he has been told to follow. "It's the same thing your whole life," Phil says. "Clean up your room. Stand up straight. Pick up your feet. Take it like a man. Be nice to your sister. Don't mix beer and wine - ever. Oh, yeah: Don't drive on the railroad tracks." (32:40)

Then Phil decides: "I'm not going to live any rules anymore. You make your choices, and you will with them." (33:45)

Question a) Describe some Phil's behavior in the film when he does whatever he wants without consequences, giving specific examples. What character traits does he reveal in his actions? How do his actions affect him and how do they affect others? Do you think the benefits to him are worth the costs to others?

Question b) If there were no consequences to your actions, how would you live? Are there some rules you - or someone else - has broken, or would like to break? Describe your life - or someone else's life - in detail showing all your actions if you could do whatever you wanted without any consequences. What will be the benefits to you - or the person you describe - compared to the costs?



How Phil Escapes Imprisonment in Groundhog Day

By Kay (Kaymintra Chankla)

Phil Connors is a TV weatherman at a local Pittsburgh station. He never says anything nice to other people. One day, his bosses send him to the small town of Punxsutawney to cover the annual Groundhog Day



<https://photostockeditor.com/premium/106267394/the-orsay-museum-musee-dorsay-clock-in-black-white-paris-france>

festivities, Phil is not impressed. On his broadcast, he claims people who gather for Groundhog Day are worshipping a Rat!

After the first Groundhog Day, Phil realizes that he wakes up on the same Groundhog Day all over again, again and again. As Phil relives the same day over again, he uses his memories from past Groundhog Days for self-centeredness. He steals some bank money, tricks a woman names Nancy to sleep with him, drives a car away from the police with two men and drives the car on the railroad tracks. He lives his life without limits and does what he wants because he knows that when he wakes up the next day, he will not suffer from any consequences, as if nothing happened before. Moreover, by his lust, he tries to flirt his producer, Rita, but she does not care about him. She can read his selfish games.

After a while, Phil realizes that he will never escape Groundhog Day, so he decides to commit suicide. No matter how many times he tries, he keeps waking up on his bed at 6:00 a.m. on the same February 2, listening to the same song and the same conversation on the radio again and again.

For the character traits in his actions that I mentioned before, he was an egomaniac, unkind, inconsiderate, dishonest and selfish. In the end, he turns to be a kind person, honest and thoughtful. Phil has learned to leave his ego behind and accept the things he cannot change. For example, Phil tries to save the old homeless man life many times, but no matter what he does, this man is going to die on Groundhog Day.

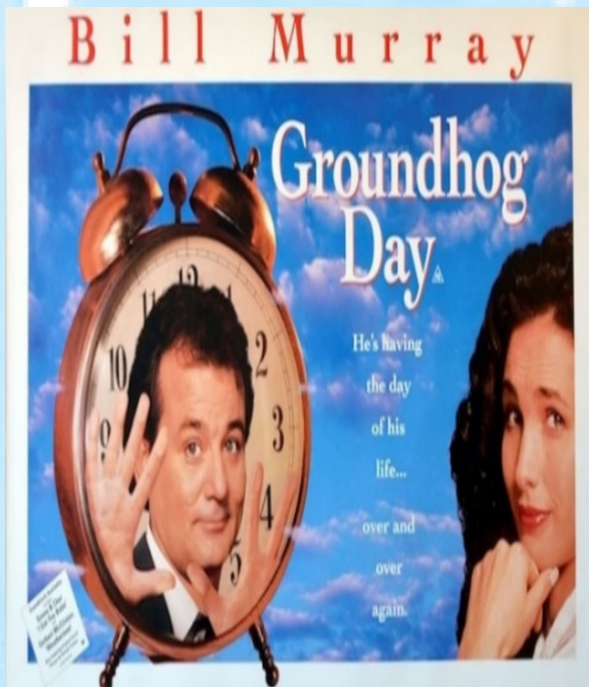
After that he starts to become a better person. He learns the lesson of death from the old homeless man, and Phil realizes that he should do something useful for himself and others. So, he learns to play piano, carving ice sculptures and speaking fluent French. He also helped people by using his memory, even he knows what is going to happen to them. He helps save a choking man and catches a boy who falls from a tree. Phil also hugs the insurance salesman who he does not like. After he has helped people, he becomes the beloved man of people as well as Rita.

I think Phil has many good experiences and learns a lot during his Groundhog Days, changing his attitude made him become generous, honest and sympathetic. This approach to life paid off. Everyone in town loves him and appreciates what he does. Finally, he wins the heart of Rita and escapes his imprisonment in Groundhog Day.

~ • ~

A Day Without Consequences Doesn't Make Phil Happy

By Fah (Supaporn Worpang)



https://www.google.com/search?q=groundhog+day&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiFsYqGx5bpAhVDXawKHZ2JAQ8Q_AUoAnoECCsQBA&biw=1366&bih=655

Phil Connors is a TV weatherman who thinks that his current job at a local Pittsburgh station is a waste of his talent. He is basically an egomaniac. So, he isn't impressed when his boss sends him to the small town of Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, to report the annual Groundhog Day Festival.

At the festival, he reported sarcastically how exciting it was. When Rita asked him to try it again more sincerely, he refused and walked away. After he finished his work and tried to head home with his TV crew, a blizzard kept him stuck in Punxsutawney, and Phil spent his night there.

The next day, he woke up at 6:00 a.m. to find out that he had to live the same day, February 2, again. It was Groundhog Day all over again. And again. And again.

At first, Phil reacted by doing whatever he wanted without worrying about the consequences. He drove through a mailbox even though a police car was chasing him because he decided he was up for a car chase. He pulled onto some railroad tracks and drove down them with the police in pursuit coming from the other direction which frightened the two other men in the car, but not Phil. Phil pulled off the tracks at the last second and laughed like a crazy person. He ran into two more police cars and eventually crashed in a parking lot.

In the next relived day, Phil sat down with Rita at the diner and gorged himself on milkshakes and baked goods. He also took up smoking and drinking tons of coffee. Rita asked if he worried about his health, but he replied that he didn't worry about anything anymore. The next day, he fooled Nancy Taylor by pretending he knew her just to sleep with her. In the next relived day, he used his knowledge of Groundhog Day to rob an armored truck of a bank.

On one day of these relived days, he kidnapped the groundhog and drove away with it in a red pickup truck. The police chased him, but he drove off a cliff and the

truck blew up in flames. In spite of all of this, he still found himself waking up again at 6:00 a.m. on the same Groundhog Day. He realized that his plan didn't work. Now he just wanted to die.

From the above situations, his actions revealed his character traits as a licentious, lustful, cruel, and both an honest and dishonest person.

He showed his licentiousness after he woke up and realized that he could do many weird and crazy things if he wanted. He was lustful when he persuaded Nancy to sleep with him, even though he didn't love her.

Later, Rita didn't fall for his plan. He was cruel in the scene when he kidnapped the groundhog. He was honest in the scene that he told Rita everything that happened to him in his relived life. But he was dishonest when

he tried to win Rita heart at first for his own purposes.

At first, Phil's actions made him feel overconfident because he used his knowledge of Groundhog Day to do bad things. While he was funny, others were involved in those events, and Phil made their lives hard. In the middle of the movie, however, he felt sad for his actions. He gave up living, yet he couldn't die, no matter how many times he tried to kill himself.

I think the benefits to him from his previous actions weren't worth the cost to others because his actions didn't make anything good. He just did all those bad things just to satisfy himself, but in the end, he realized, it wasn't worth anything.

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https://www.google.com/search?q=groundhog+day&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiFsYqGx5bpAhVDXawKHZ2JAQ8Q_AUoAnoECCsQBA&biw=1366&bih=655

Phil's Day on Repeat

**Phil finds happiness when he opens his heart
and listens to Rita's advice.**

By May (Suthatip Viangsima)

In *Groundhog Day*, when Phil realized that everything on Groundhog Day happens over and over again, he goes through a myriad of highs and lows. Phil takes advantage of learning the day's events and the information he is able to gather about the town's inhabitants and finds that his actions have no long-term consequences for himself.

He revels in this situation for a time. He seduces a beautiful woman named Nancy Taylor, by telling her that he used to study at the same school when they were in high school, he steals money from a bank's truck, and even drives drunk and experiencing a police chase, he drives a stolen truck into a quarry, causing both man and the groundhog to die in a fiery explosion.

But the loop does not stop. He still wakes up at the same place and on the Groundhog Day over and over again. Then I think Phil realized that he has many lives and he can do whatever he wants because he will wake up and cannot die anyway. He tries to commit suicide several more times. He electrocutes himself, lets a truck hit him on the road, and jumps from a tall building (other attempts are alluded to), but mere death cannot stop the day from repeating. After he dies, he simply wakes up listening to Sonny & Cher in the same bed, on the same day, over and over again.

For the character traits in his actions as I mentioned above, he is inconsiderate and callous, egocentric, arrogant, dishonest and always think of himself all the time but finally he changed his character into a thoughtful, honest, kindhearted philanthropist, refining his understanding of human decency, which, in return, makes him an appreciated and beloved man in the town.



<https://images.app.goo.gl/zLCgHX1LRrtvC79X7>

For example, about when he is dishonest; when he tried to win Rita's heart by getting back to Rita all the times after he woke up as the same day over and over again and he learns what she likes (rocky road ice cream, sweet vermouth, French poetry) and what she doesn't like (white chocolate) and pretends to share her tastes. But he didn't love her truly. He just wanted spent the night with her that made she feels like he was selfish and dishonest. It's lust that drives him,



<https://images.app.goo.gl/GkWKMLQ6NwFSZ7f6>

not pure love. He feigns interest in Rita and gets close to fulfilling his desires, but she always ends up slapping his face and running away from him. Even though Phil has tried many times, he still cannot win her heart.

Phil's actions have affected him and others after he opened his heart to Rita and listened her advice helps him to gradually find a goal for his trapped life. Phil's goal is happiness that he never knows that it will make him happy, feel free when he helps people and his trapped life are the way he acted/did to others example that he was dishonest to other people.

He can achieve self-improvement by educating himself on a daily basis such as how to play piano, speak French, sculpt ice, and memorize the life story of almost everyone in town. After seeing an elderly homeless man die, he said that no one will die

on Groundhog Day and performs many heroic services each and every repeating day, including performing the Heimlich maneuver on a choking man and saving a little boy who falls from a tree.



<https://images.app.goo.gl/pM6gqI8QmWuVus7>

I think there are a lot of benefits to him after he changed and was honest to himself. He won Rita's heart; he helped many people that made him a beloved man in the town. Almost everybody in the town loved him and then he wanted to live in Punxsutawney with Rita. I think after everything happened over and over again, Phil realized that he spent his life by loving and caring for other people. It's the best lesson for him and he will not forget and regret it.



What if Today's Your Last Day?

Phil asks Rita: "If you had only one day to live, what would you do with it? The whole world is about to explode. What do you do?" (43:30) For much of the rest of the movie, Rita talks about the kinds of things she enjoys doing.

Question a) Review the movie and pick out some of the things that Rita says make her happy. Then pretend you are Rita and write a journal entry as if you are Rita describing how she feels and plans to live for this very last day. Give examples from the movie of why she would like to do these things.

Question b) Describe how you - or someone else you know or imagine - would live this one last day from the morning through the day to the evening giving specific details of your activities and people. How would you - or someone else - spend your time and money? Who would you see - or stop seeing? Are there any important phone calls that you would make? What would you say? *Suggested prompt - Wow, I have only one more day to live, and I feel.... and I plan to*

6 00

How Will I Live My Last Day? Forgive and Give Thanks

By Noon (Papatsara Chaipong)

Wow, I have only one more day to live, and I feel.... sad, and scared a little bit, but I have to control myself and I accept that. I would do many things that I should have done before I left the world.

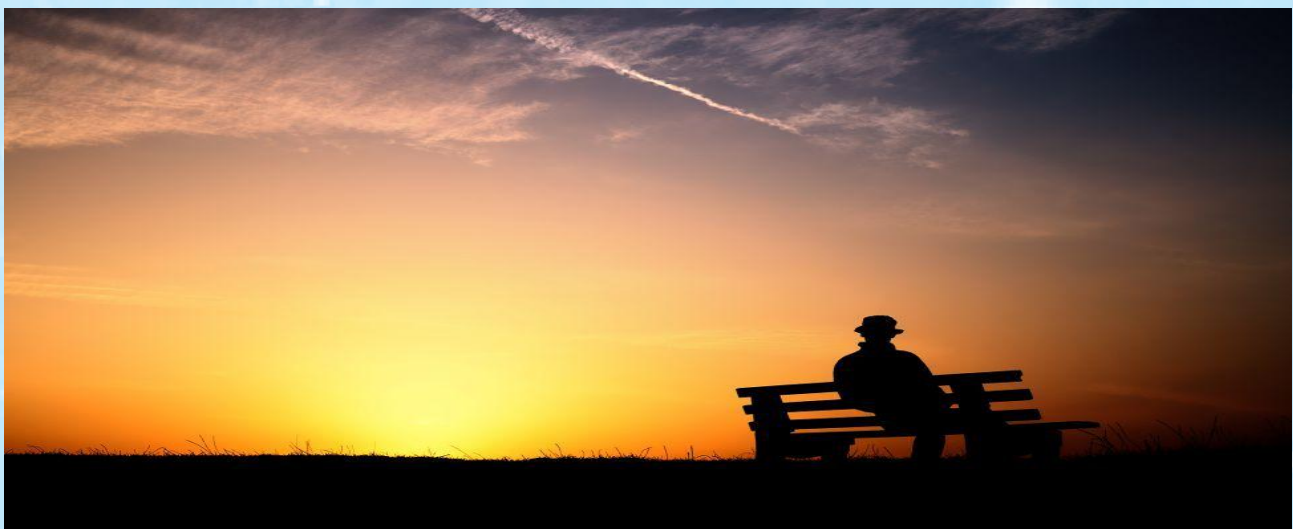
When I wake up in the morning, I will take a shower and wash my body very carefully and very clearly. I will choose my favorite clothes that I love to wear very much on my last day. I have five things to do, one for each period of the day.

The first thing: I will go to the market in the morning to buy Thai ingredients to make a Thai food that I love, like fried snapper with mango salad. I will buy a Thai dessert and flowers and give them to the monk at the Berkeley temple because it is near my house in El Cerrito. In Buddhism we call this merit. I think it is the last time

to make the merit that I can do. I will donate around \$500 to the temple, and I will divide the amount of money around \$3,000 to donate to a hospital in Thailand.

Second, I will pick up the phone and tell my mom and my family that “I love them very much, and I am a lucky person that I was born in our family.” And I will tell them to take care of their health and themselves. I will not tell them that this is my last day because I really care about their feelings, and I do not want them to be sad.

Third, I will write a note about my bank account, my credit, debit card, and passwords for my cards to withdraw money. I will write a note to my mom to get the money from three banks where I opened accounts. I will also write about directions to get the cash that I have hidden.



<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/790804015788184269/>

“If Today is Your Last Day....”

Fourth, around the middle of the day, I will meet my friend at my friend Keng's house in Berkeley, say thank you to them and say goodbye to them.

I will play the question game, a psychology game, with them. I will ask them that if today were their last day, what would you guys be doing in one day? I will not tell them this is my last day, but I will say that it seems like my last day because I will not let them be sad in front of me.

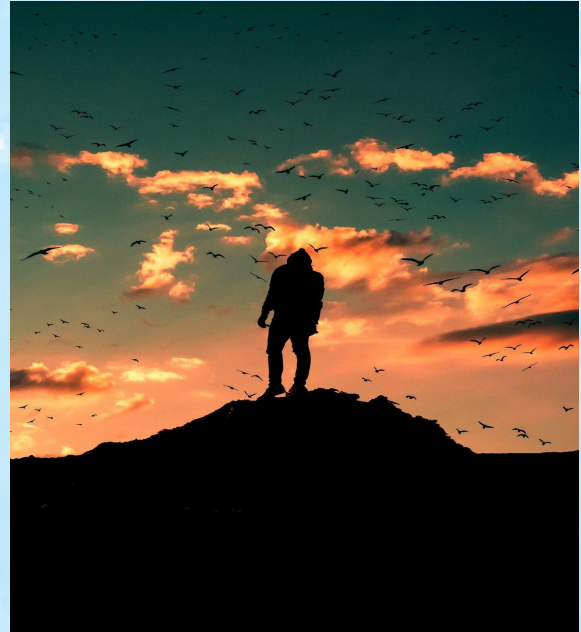
Fifth, around evening, I will drive the car to Grizzly Peak in Berkeley where there is a beautiful view from the top of the mountain. I will feel the fresh air, listen to the birds chirping, watch how they talk, look at the pink sky, and watch the sunset.

I will write a postcard to my parents and my friend about me: “Don’t be sad if I am not here,” I will write. “I am just going somewhere, and it's a little long. But don't worry. I'm still in your heart.”



<https://medium.com/@shoilejarin/if-you-lived-like-its-the-last-day-of-your-life-e1c35a2a8ad1>

After sunset I will close my eyes, listen to the sound of nature, the tweet of birds, the wind blowing the tree, and leaves falling down from the tree. I will feel how the wind will touch my cheek, my hair, and my face. And then I will pray for myself and my family.



<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/610378555726717830/>

After that I will do meditation and focus on it until I do not feel anything, or I die. I will recall the good and bad things that I made in my life and forgive the person who hurt me, thank you for myself, thank you for my family, and thank you for you for my friend. And I tell myself, “It's normal life, it happens all the time, everyone has to die someday.”

The words "born" and "dead" are paired. Nobody lives forever. Everybody dies. It's natural.

~ • ~

Advice for a Memorable Last Day: Go make things right as much as you are able.

By Pak (Duangnapa Prasertpong)

Wow, I have only one more day to live, it seems like a simple topic, but it's hard to answer. For me I feel a little bit sad for sure, because there are many things I want to do. But luckily, I can do what I want to do before I would die. There is no doubt. So far, everyone who was born has died. I would do all the possible things that I have always wanted to do. And I feel like everyone would do something different than their usual schedule.



We are all unable to know if we are going to be alive next day or even next minute. A lot of people argue asking: Does it mean we will die next instant? We might not be able to take on each day like it truly was our last, but if I'm going die, I would remember all the good as well as bad things that have happened to me until now. I would try my best to be happy and make others happy too, especially my parents.



The first thing I'd do is meditation, like Buddhist meditation, then listen to my favorite songs, especially the Thai songs that I can sing along to and remind myself of those good times when I was listening to the song for the first time. I would also eat my favorite foods like Thai food, enjoy the little things that bring me happiness, like thinking about the high school life which has been the most precious time in my life.

The most important thing I'd do after I'm done my little things is spend my day with my family and some few friends. And I would say thank you to them because they are the reason that I've lived a productive life. I have many friends, but not everyone knows what I think and what I want to do. Some high school friends, like Suchada, Mint and June, are close to me, and we treat each other like siblings.

I will also call people whom I hurt, or I wanted to ask for forgiveness, and say sorry to them. I think it is the perfect time to forgive and receive forgiveness. Go make things right as much as you are able. Choose to live in peace with others. It is ok to disagree and still be friends. The perfect time will never come.



Then I will go for a dinner with my parents and will thank them in the best possible way I can for making me see this world and bringing me to this point of life. I'll definitely eat my favorite food. Spend a simple but memorable day. Maybe not for me, but for others at least.



I would give all my money to my parents and give all my stuff to my family, and I shall tell them that I wish I could see them or possibly be born to them again in the next life.

And I'll help someone I care about, someone who needs my advice, give some help to my neighborhood as much as I can.

Then I would like to spend some quality time alone at some of my favorite places in my city and feel nostalgia. I don't want to go somewhere else, except to the place where I grew up, and I don't want my family to see me die. I would say goodbye to them and walk away from them forever.

However, if you believe that you only live once, and you will never come back, I think you would learn to appreciate every day a little bit more. Even though I'm Buddhist and some Buddhists believe in reincarnation, I don't know what is going to happen. You might have a next life, or you might not, so right now, I try to live a productive life in my way, just doing what makes me happy.

~ • ~

What Makes a Good Relationship?

Much of Phil and Rita's conversation during the movie is about character traits.

One morning, after filming the groundhog, Phil starts to ask Rita questions about what she wants out of life. They walk into the Tip Top café, and he asks: "What are you looking for? Who is your perfect guy?" (44:50)

Rita describes her ideal man by giving him a list of 15-character traits. Phil claims he has all of these. (44:50-45:45)

Question a) List some of the character traits that Rita wants in a partner. Of all these, name the three or

four which you think are really most important to Rita.

Evaluate her choices: Do you think Rita has realistic expectations? Will the traits that Rita is seeking provide the foundation for a lasting relationship?

Question b) List some of the character traits that you want in a partner. Give some examples from your own experience - or someone else who you know - of the best and worst character traits in a partner. What kind of character traits will bring you closer to a partner and what will drive you apart? Compare with Rita's experience with Phil.



Who Is Your Perfect Guy, Rita?

By Fay (Jarinya Jaroenmueang)

In the movie *Groundhog Day*, Rita wants a perfect guy who is too humble to know that he is perfect. And he has to be intelligent, supportive, funny, romantic, courageous, with a good body, kind, sensitive, gentle, not afraid to cry in front of her. He has to like animals and children. He will take care of children. He plays instruments. He loves his mother. Of all these character traits, I think being kind, funny, romantic and humble are the most important to Rita.



<https://www.tor.com/2012/02/02/groundhog-day-is-worth-revisiting-wouldnt-you-say/>

In my opinion, Rita is a woman with high spirits who is lively and optimistic. From the first time we see Rita in the movie, she is playing around with Phil's computerized weather screen at the television station where he works as the weatherman who in his own mind, is bigger than the temperatures he reports. Phil thinks she is dumb, but everyone else seems to think she is really nice. Phil doesn't really respect niceness in people because he finds it stupid

and naive. But Rita never gives in to his sarcasm and contempt for normal people. When he criticizes the Groundhog Day festival, Rita simply answers, "It's nice. People like it." Then Phil says, "You are new, aren't you?" For Phil, life is about getting ahead no matter how many bridges you have to burn along the way. Rita thinks people should just be nice. So, she deserves someone who is also kind and nice like her.

I used to work in a small coffee shop, and I worked with a person who liked to gossip and to speak sarcastically about others. When I first met Tanya, I thought she was mean, and I finally found that she was. She liked to criticize people and that made me feel uncomfortable, even though she didn't say anything bad to me. But I felt bad to listen and to talk with her. So, I decided to quit because even though she was only 32, she was my boss. I couldn't change her to be who I want her to be, and definitely I couldn't fire her.

Let's talk about romantic and funny. When Rita sits down for dinner with Phil, she lets him know that, "Believe it or not, I studied 19th Century French poetry." Phil's first reaction is to think poetry is a total waste of time. After he realizes this response won't win Rita over, he goes out and learns how to speak French just to impress her.

When we hear something about French, I'm pretty sure that some of you will probably think of something romantic because for a long time, France has been known as one of the most romantic countries

in the world. And people who choose to study French poetry will definitely be fanciful and romantic.



<https://www.zimbio.com/Beyond+the+Box+Office/articles/lt2sLS8QvPV/20+Things+Didn+t+Know+Groundhog+Day>

Also, Rita seems to like funny guys. When Rita refuses to get in his room, Phil tempts her with humor: “That’s why I’m going to show you this one thing and kick you right out. It’ll be one minute.” So, she ends up saying yes.

Anyway, I don’t think she will always be nice to everyone. She is her own person and is totally willing to slap someone in the face when she feels insulted. Rita is not a fool. She eventually sees through Phil’s attempts to get her into bed with him. Even after he has learned nearly everything about her, Rita still snaps out of her trance and says, “This whole day has been one long setup.” She knows that, deep down, Phil is just lustful and trying to use her. Phil is still a selfish person. He’s just changed his behavior to make Rita like him. As Rita aptly puts it at one point: “I could never love someone like you. You only love yourself.”

At the end of the day, it’ll take more than just a change in Phil’s behavior to make Rita love him. She does see that Phil lacks respect and humility. When they are kissing, Rita says, “It’s too fast for me” and also resists staying over by saying, “Phil, I’m

tired. We can see each other tomorrow.” But Phil doesn’t respect her needs.

I think Rita’s values and expectations about relationships are unrealistic in real life. That’s why we have the saying that “Nobody is perfect”. Not every romantic guy can play an instrument and have good body. Intelligent guys probably can’t cry in front of his women. Not every guy who loves his mother will always be gentle to children, animals or women. But who knows? Maybe one person in a thousand could be as perfect as Rita’s list of character traits. I think she states all these traits in order to make Phil give up on her, since she isn’t interested in him and doesn’t think he is charming and attractive. She may think Phil is too proud of himself.



<https://www.zimbio.com/Beyond+the+Box+Office/articles/lt2sLS8QvPV/20+Things+Didn+t+Know+Groundhog+Day>

Moreover, who would expect that a guy who never cares about co-workers and is selfish would suddenly change in a night? When Phil keeps repeating, “That’s me” after every trait that Rita names, she keeps adding more and more.

However, I do think the traits that Rita is seeking will provide the foundation for a lasting relationship. I mean her traits are unrealistic, but we don’t need all of that. A lasting relationship is one in which each

person gives to the other and prioritizes their wants and needs and what makes a long-lasting relationship is the four Cs, communication, compromise, connection and commitment.¹

For me, I only need trust, kindness and support for the foundation of a lasting relationship. In Rita's case, she has more than 10-character traits which can lead to the four Cs. I mean, we don't need every one of Rita's traits but just some of them. For example, when we disagree about something, we will come to the middle point of compromise if we are kind and gentle. Also, humor is important, and having the same sense of humor can provide strength to a long-term relationship. We have to be able to make

each other laugh. We can live without a lot of things in life, but laughter is not one of them. If we can't, then a relationship will become boring. Furthermore, in our everyday life, we have to face problems, from work, family issues or finances. We need someone who can support us in both physical and mental ways.

You can't love someone for who you want them to be. Rather, we need to accept them for who they are. Phil tries so hard to change himself into the person whom Rita will accept but he keeps failing until he becomes a genuinely good person. And sure, he looks at Rita as a someone to learn from. What I want to say, is live and learn.

~ • ~



<http://adelaidescreenwriter.blogspot.com/2011/09/slap-between-friends.html>

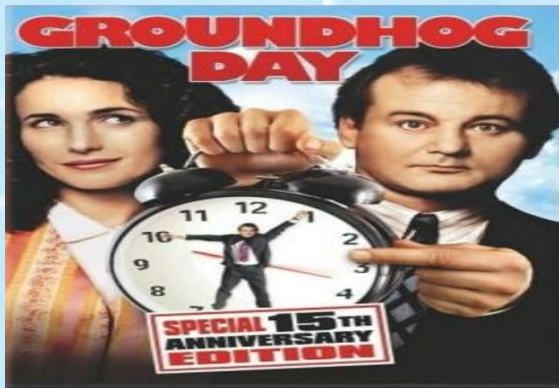
¹ One source of theory of a long lasting relationship :
<https://www.hearthsideseniorliving.com/secrets-to-a-long-lasting-relationship/>

Real Love or Pretend Love?

Rita Teaches Phil the Difference

By Yunha (Yunha Jeong)

Today I want to talk about the movie *Groundhog Day*. Actually, I don't like movies very much these days. When I was very young, I really liked movies and books, so I watched them a lot. However, when my child was born, I focused on parenting, and I naturally got away from my hobbies. For me, *Groundhog Day* was just a movie for homework, but after watching it, the movie suddenly came to my mind and made me an emotional person again.



<https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=http%3A%2F%2Fprod.danawa.com%2Finfo%2F%3Fpcode%3D845219&psig=AOvVaw2Q4VAC9oUHb8NLY2elvGBh&ust=1588035818257000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=0CAIQjRxqFwoTCLj-x-i2h-kCFQAAAAAdAAAAABAD>

In the movie *Groundhog Day*, a self-centered and cynical reporter Phil goes to the small town of Punxsutawney with his producer Rita and cameraman Larry for the Groundhog Day Festival on February 2. Phil thinks he is a famous journalist, acts rude to people and spoils the event. At one point, he is trying to make a telephone call at a gas station but can't get through. He complains to the operator: "Come on, all the long-distance limes are down? What about the satellite?"

Is it snowing in space? Don't you have some kind of a line that you keep open for emergencies or for celebrities? I'm both. I'm a celebrity in an emergency." (16:44)

You can see that Phil was a selfish man who knew nothing but himself. However, when he is stuck in the town, he finds that he goes through a time loop: the same events happen every day, and Phil must change his character.

Early in the movie, he asks Rita: "Who's your perfect guy?"

Rita responds: "First of all, he's too humble to know he's perfect."

Phil: "That's me!"

Rita: He's intelligent, supportive, funny..."

Phil: "Intelligent, supportive, funny... me, me, me."

Rita: "He's romantic and courageous."

Phil: "Me also. Rita: He's got a good body, but he doesn't have to look in the mirror every two minutes." Phil: "I have a great body and sometimes I go months without looking..."



(44:45~45:25)

I thought a lot about this scene. It's a shame, but in my case, like Phil, I used to wrap myself up in good words to show to others.

To be friendly, smart, cool, and humble are very important character traits in a person's relationship. Many people help each other, learn, love, build relationships and live every day.

If you are only pretending to love and be kind, and are not sincere, then such a relationship cannot be the basis for a lasting relationship. This happened in the movie when Rita realized Phil only wanted Rita to spend the night with him.

Rita: "You know I can't stay with you."

Phil: "Why not? I love you."

Rita: "You love me?"

Phil: "I love you"

Rita: "You don't even know me."

Phil: "Oh, I know you. I know you."

Rita: "Oh, no. I can't believe I fell for this! This whole day has just been one long setup."

Phil: "No, it hasn't"

Rita then is angry with Phil and says, "You'll never love anyone but yourself."

Phil: "No, this is real. This is love."

She becomes angry and tells him: "Stop saying that. You must be crazy. I could never love someone like you, Phil," (54:30~55:30)

And yes, of course, he got a slap his face.

I think Rita had realistic expectations, and Phil showed truly loved Rita because he changed himself for her.

Later in the movie, he helped a child, gave money to a homeless man and bought some coffee for his coworkers. He learned to

play the piano and made ice sculptures for himself. He realized what it is to be a good person and have good life. Phil finally got Rita's real love and broke the cycle of repeating time.

Our life can also be a day that we live repeatedly like Phil's in the movie. When the sun rises, I go to work, eat and work, and every day is the same, but meaningful things exist every day. I know and everyone knows that.



Let's have a worthwhile day. Let's live a meaningful day of being kind, humble, loving children, fun, play an instrument, help others and provide lasting relationships with people.

~ • ~



Could it be a Transformative Experience?

When the old man called Pops gets sick and dies, (1:20:00 - 1:21:00) Phil becomes devoted to other people (1:22:00 - 1:30:00).

Question a) Before this, Phil didn't seem to notice Pops much. So why was Phil so desperate to keep Pops alive? Did Phil feel guilty for Pops' death? Why didn't Phil accept what the nurse said, that sometimes people die? Then review that section of the movie (1:20:00 - 1:30:00) and give the examples of Phil's new behavior during the rest of the film and name the character traits that his new actions reveal. How do these character traits reflect what happened when Pops died?

Do you think Pops' death was the turning point for Phil? (You can argue yes or no.)

Question b) Tell the story of a time when you - or someone you know - had a major experience that changed your - or their - behavior afterwards. *Suggested prompt: "I'll never forget the experience that changed my/his/her life forever. It began when..."*

Make sure you give examples how you - or someone else - behaved before the change, then describe the experience that changed you - or the person you describe - and finally, describe with examples how your - or their - behavior changed afterward.

6 00

How I Cope with the Daily Repetition of Life

By Abel (Jung Hwan You)

I sometimes wonder, why on earth do we live? Who I am now, where I go and what I do when I live my life? I am curious about everything. My life doesn't last long, but it's often very confusing to think of things that come suddenly in completely unexpected situations. I seem to be doing well in my daily life, but there is a moment when you suddenly start to wonder why I am doing these things and living my daily routine. For example, I wake up at the same time every day, eat breakfast, go to work, and repeat it every day.



I was asked to prepare for the college entrance exam by repeating a day that looks similar every day in school or to go to work and concentrate on a job similar to yesterday. I ask myself, "I can't finish my work today. I can do it again tomorrow, right?" I live roughly every day because the sun is going to rise tomorrow, and I live a repetitive life anyway. I'm getting tired of my repetitive routine, and I wonder why I live in my repetitive daily routine. My life feels more like things that are very similar to yesterday are repeated like squirrels running in a cage, rather than full of colorful everyday life. What makes me even more lethargic are the horrors of tomorrow, and perhaps the day after, having to repeat a meaningless day similar to today.

Through the movie *Groundhog Day*, I look back on my repeated life. Every day you complain and feel sick, but you will find happiness and feel rewarded in your repeated life. It's as if Phil's life has changed at the sight of suicide attempts and attitudes toward the old man on several occasions

In *Groundhog Day*, Phil also has a hard time in the midst of repeated meaningless days. One of the reasons why Phil feels the importance of the day is the death of a homeless old man, who takes care of an old man who is cold and hungry. He somehow tries his best to save the old man, but he finds it is too late to recover his health.

When he tried to die every single day, he realized that someone's life is very precious. Even though he is resurrected in the bed, someone never is resurrected day by day. Phil also has a hard time in the



midst of repeated meaningless days. He had several suicide attempts, stole money, seduced women easily, and brought complaints to repeated lives, but the old man realized that he was fighting the cold and the hunger to live a single day.

This 'today' was a terrible recurring day for Phil himself, but for someone else it's the last day of life. Groundhog Day was the day when Phil was so bored that he tried to avoid it, but an old man tried to live his life every day. Phil, who is already awakened and becoming the right person, feels the importance of a day again. The old man's death completely changed Phil's life.

My personal opinion is that people want to live well. everyone wants to live a good life, but it's not just physical. To be good to my family and to people around me is living well. Because there is nothing beyond death.



Most people act like life will last forever, to the dismay of others. Each day spent is gathering and time is passing, and we don't feel like it's dying. As the nurse said, people die. Phil doesn't think only people with a deadly disease are dying. Phil would have felt that if we spend all our time, everyone would eventually die. Helping people in need is to think about the pain of others. With repeated attempts to understand and soothe other people's pain over and over

again, he may have felt that it gradually turns into a warm space inside.

Also, Phil was with Rita for a day, then Rita pushes Phil away because Phil said that he loves her without meaning to that night. Rita gets angry about Phil and asks if it's love. If only one person is interested in another, it is not loving. Rita is a burden. Phil wanting to know all about Rita is not true love, but the feeling and the pressure of monitoring and controlling. After that, Phil realizes true love.



Love is not about achieving one's purpose, but about delivering it to one's heart and showing sincerity. After that day, Phil changes little by little. He no longer spends a day trying to satisfy his selfish desires, but instead practices piano every day, learns to carve ice sculptures, and lives a life to help villagers in times of hardship. It's only then that Phil doesn't just waste his repeated days. Phil can't easily achieve what he wants when he only focuses on himself and thinks about himself, but he looks around and shows that the more he is devoted to small things, the more the world changes and eventually gets what he wants.

~ • ~

My Sprint towards My Dream

By Luke (Kyungkun Lee)

"I'll never forget the experience that changed my/his/her life forever. It began when..."

I was 13 years old, an elementary school student. At that time, I met the first love in my life. Her name was Naeun. She was skinny but also muscular. We were classmates and on the track team for the athletics club. We weren't close until we met on the track team. I was a captain in the male group, and she was a captain in the female group. It means that we were the fastest male and female in all the grades. At that time, my 50-meter record was 7.9 sec.



We had fitness exercises every morning, free exercises during the lunch time and technical training after school. It was especially hard for me to get up early for the morning exercise, but she constantly encouraged me through a morning telephone call. With frequent training, we became close and we won the Seoul City Championship. Even though it sounds like a good time, I had many moments when I wanted to give up because of the violent teacher. The teacher hit us if we pranked during training and was very picky. Whenever I was in trouble, Naeun was

with me and empathized with me. For example, on the day I was scolded by the teacher, she gave me my favorite chocolate, Ferrero Rocher. Originally, I liked sports, but thanks to her, I was able to have good energy



<https://sports.news.naver.com/news.nhn?oid=410&aid=0000684690>

and dreams.

It was a pity that we couldn't enter middle school together, but we grew up dreaming by supporting each other's dreams from a distance. She entered the middle school specializing in handball, because she was talented and liked it. In middle school, I tried to achieve the dream of being a sprinter. So, I participated in the track team as a school representative.

And I was also elected to the school soccer department. In high school I tried to get a dream of kickboxing player. I spent all my passion at the gym kickboxing and participated in national competitions. Even when I got punched and fell down, I was

really happy. Like this, I spent my childhood with the steady dream of being an athlete.

I never regretted the time and effort I devoted to dreams in my childhood. Rather, I am proud and value that time and effort. I have been able to differentiate between what I do well and what I like and have the confidence that I can achieve my dreams. If I hadn't met Naeun, I wouldn't have continued to go for dream. She provided me with the driving force, and sometimes she provided a shelter. Since we went to different middle schools, we contacted each other but over time, the number of our meetings decreased. She has continued to develop her dream as a handball player and now became a player on the pro team (Seoul city team). When she

entered on the pro team, I was really happy and excited.

Even though I ended up far from my dream because of injuries and health concerns, I still have a sorrow for dream. So, I got a new dream after realistic distress. It is a physical therapist who treats athletes. As I was being treated, I had a hope to cheer and support the athletes out of sight. I will keep trying to achieve my dream. Since I have been an athlete, I think I can empathize better in treating athletes. After entering the track team, my life changed completely and made me now who grew up in many experiences like Phil Connors in *Groundhog Day*, who took a lot of time to change.

~ • ~



What Will You Do for the Rest of Your Life?

By Jurny (Yonghyeon Pyeon)

Phil Connors, a self-centered and cynical weatherman, goes to a town in Pennsylvania with Rita and cameraman Larry as a reporter to report on, the Groundhog Day Festival, which is held on February 2 every year.

The next day, Phil opens his eyes in an old hotel, and he falls under the spell of repeating time only to himself and messes up the festival. By the end of the movie, feeling loved by the charming Rita, Phil takes the situation in a humble manner and decides to become a human being who helps everyone.

As I reflected on how people change, I remembered someone who changed my behavior when I was a college student after graduating from high school in Korea. This person was the professor who taught me my major in college.

I graduated from high school and entered school in 2014. My professor's name was Kim, and he taught airline maintenance and seemed to have had a lot of experience. My major was aviation maintenance, but I didn't really know what kind of field I was in after high school.

So, my parents and my high school teachers asked for advice from many people and everyone recommended studying to have a stable job in the future. But it was not as easy as I thought to listen to lectures and homework at college, and I gradually lost

interest in studying. A few days later my aviation mechanics professor finished the lecture half an hour early and showed me a video of Steve Jobs' Stanford speech.



https://www.ted.com/talks/steve_jobs_how_to_live_before_you_die

In this speech, Steve Jobs talked about the most important things by telling three stories. These stories were about connecting the dots, about love and loss and about death.

- Time is limited so don't waste it living someone else's life.
- Don't be trapped by dogma and end up living with the results of other people's thinking.
- Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown out your own inner voice.
- And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. Everything else is secondary.

I learned from this some very important life lessons. Eventually, my professor said. Live the life you love; love the life you live. He told me not to compare my life with others' lives.

There were many good teachers in high school, but not many people gave me advice about life like this. Before I heard this speech, I had no plans for how I would live my life. I remember thinking a lot and seriously thinking about my future on the bus home after the lecture. A few days later, the semester ended, and the vacation started. I ate breakfast and went to a café near my house.

It's like in the movie when Phil is thinking about how to live his life. But I still didn't know what I was good at or liked to do. I felt that I needed some new experiences.

During the vacation, I worked hard to reduce my sleep and decided to go on a trip to Europe with the money I saved.

Without my professor's words, Steve Jobs' speech, and parents and friends, I might still be lost and not have found my way into the future. My life changed at that time.

~ ● ~



Photo by Jumy



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Oikos University



English 102



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