

Unscripted - A Blog for Actors - Backstage

The Opening Wound and the Things that We are Made For...

One balmy night in Los Angeles (*ps. it's raining here right now!*), a girlfriend and I were sharing a cobb salad and *not* drinking in an Irish Pub that looked like it had been doused in green food coloring.

We started talking about coming to terms with one's history, the past, and the things that have been that create the things are.

What holds us back? And how do you come to terms with it?

But then it got me wondering; maybe all those horrible things that happen to us when we were young, in our childhood, our adolescence, etc, weren't meant to be horrible at all?

Maybe those 'horrible things' are just the experience that the Universe gives us, in order for us to understand or clue into our life's purpose from that point forward.

It's bigger than 'that which does not kill us, makes us stronger. It's more like an empowering, 'that which does not kill us, tells us what we are meant for.'

Maybe the hardships we experience in the earlier years aren't meant as wounds, but rather the *wound* itself is the *opening* to our greater life's purpose.

There is the stereotype that artists suffer in order to create. Comics are sad, actors are lonely, and writers are misunderstood...maybe and maybe not. And please don't take this defensively, I'm just waxing theoretical here. You've heard this joke before, yes?

God tells an optimist and a pessimist that underneath a roomfull of sh-t is the ultimate reward. They both start digging.

The pessimist gives up quickly, cynical and defeated. "There's probably just more sh-t down there. I quit!" But the optimist can't dig fast enough, "There's got to be one helluva prize underneath all this sh-t!"

I think I got that premise right. Do you get it?

I don't believe people have to suffer in order to create. But what if this theory expands beyond the professions in the arts?

Years ago I attended this seminar in New York, an elderly gentleman confessed that ever since he was five he was always trying to keep the peace within his family, having grown up with an alcoholic father and two much older brothers that left before he was ten to attend college.

When asked what he does for a living, the man responded, "I'm a Federal Court Judge." Coincidence?

Maybe we get our life's purpose in the first five years of our life? And that's what shapes us? Maybe our pain is not our pain, but the *opening wound* to connect us to our life's purpose.

No pain, no gain. But what if it's more like, no pain, no purpose...?

Maybe the great life tragedy that we experience in the first five years of our life isn't a tragedy at all, but rather the challenging experience that shows us our power and our purpose.

I never thought I would do stand-up. (It's SO HARD!) I never thought I'd be in the midst of producing my own



films.

I never even thought I'd primarily end up being an actress.

Actually, when I was twelve, I wanted to live at the bottom of the Paris Opera house away from the world, and sing Puccini all night long. I know...crazy.

I just knew on that playground in kindergarten, that if no one was going to play with the only Chinese kid in class, I was going to have to learn how to entertain myself with my own imagination, and create my own characters.

And maybe that *wound* was supposed to happen...to open me up to what I was made for.

It's just a way to turn the perspective around on all the 'sh-t' in life that maybe isn't really 'sh-t' at all.

Cause you know what? I'm still digging...

(photos courtesy of The Lone Tree at the top of Cahuenga Peak)

Yours Truly -- Ann Hu

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LOVE LOVE LOVE this Miss Hu!!!

Posted by: [LJ](#) | [May 17, 2011 at 12:25 PM](#)



I love your blog posts they are absolutely amazing! Very reflective about all the different events in our lives that we can overlook.

Posted by: Michael O. Hsu | [May 17, 2011 at 08:53 PM](#)



I just LOVE this article. So true! I almost nodded my head off. I can very much relate to this. Thanks for sharing it, Ann!

Posted by: [Lenka](#) | [May 18, 2011 at 05:03 AM](#)





Sure we weren't drinking? What Irish pub?? Lol. Love this btw...xoxo

Posted by: Rayne Marcus | [May 18, 2011 at 04:46 PM](#)



Thank you so much for this inspirational post. Really gave me a new perspective on life, and as an aspiring actor myself, the support and encouragement is priceless.

Thanks!

-Julian

Posted by: [Julian](#) | [June 19, 2011 at 07:13 PM](#)

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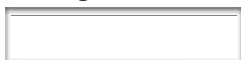
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