

The Creative Act of Being an Ordinary Human Being

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There is a common misconception that leads us to believe that genuine creativity lives through the lives of famous writers and imaginative painters. That only personalities such as Rembrandt or Hemingway are worthy of praise and admiration for their impeccable talent, whilst the rest of humanity—who do not belong to the artistic world— must feel content with being regarded as ordinary humans living a humdrum existence. Nonetheless, as epiphanies or sudden flows of creativity, everyday situations give place to inventiveness that causes nonentities to come up with extraordinary ideas and wonder how nobody had thought of them before.

Hardly will society ever discover what the famous artists were doing while they were creating their finest works. However, what is certain, is that they surely experienced pressure. Feeling condemned to a total state of concentration in order to achieve anything worthy of acclaim, and probably desperate to foster creativity—regardless of its worthlessness. Nevertheless, how mesmerising and satisfying it is, when an idea finally dawns on us and the creative fluids find their way through the mind to materialise into masterpieces. Fortunately, this is not something exclusive. All humans experience it at least once in their lifetime. In the end, as somebody once said: “Creativity doesn’t wait for that perfect moment. It fashions its own perfect moments out of ordinary ones.”

Bountiful are the examples of daily events that force ordinary people to experience sudden flows of inventiveness. In the twenty four hours that each day has to offer, a person may be faced with innumerable problems that require fast solutions. Thanks to this, a mother may have more tricks up her sleeve and more creative resources than any magician can have in a lifetime. Otherwise, what could be said about a mom that may fashion an appetising dish out of a tasteless broccoli? Or she who figured out how to prepare breakfast, shower and take the kids to school in only two very brief hours?

Generally going unnoticed, these events are the ones which entirely deserve honour and praise. After all, they are the truly innate ones. From the moment a child is able to create a spacecraft out of a box, life is filled with this sixth sense that enables people to suddenly know how to think out of the box, and therefore manage to deal with problems quickly and effectively. Undoubtedly, the human experience is filled with constant stimuli that trigger our imagination. That is why, as if by magic, we become aware that we possess more than one professional skill that may turn us into engineers, medical practitioners, gardeners, or mechanics.

Perhaps no one sits and wonders how mesmerising the human mind can be. Perhaps the purpose of life is to go through it by facing ordinary problems and being able to sort them out. Perhaps the chaos of everyday life may force people to feel absorbed in monotonous or repetitive actions that do not awaken or demand any original thoughts. However, we all have the talent of creativity which allows us to fix broken objects, solve household issues, or even invent new games and so on. If we give out every day the possibility to be as extraordinary as any work of art, life may become a playroom of inventions.

It is commonly believed that creativity is only found in the fathomless corners of a museum, or written in odd pages of a best-seller. Little do we realise that creativity is latent in every one of us, hidden behind mundane scenarios. Not only do artistic personalities experience the uplifting – and surreptitious– flow of inspiration in the form

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of inventiveness and originality. While doing the dishes, while taking the dog for a walk or while having to face the household chores that require instant solutions, the hotchpotch of knowledge filed in each individual's memory lane manifests itself in the form of useful epiphanies. This is nourishing and it allows us to feel, at least for a brief moment, the necessary inspiration to suddenly become a professional engineer or a skilled scientist. Yet, in the end, artistic people are expected to be creative. Perhaps, finding a way to be imaginative in an ordinary world results in being more worthy of praise and admiration. Life is a blank canvas and the final purpose is to find a macgyveristic spirit to turn it into a work of art.