# AISTHESIS

## Honors Student Journal

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# CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

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Authors/creators must be current honors students or students enrolling in honors classes. Written work should not exceed 5000 words. For visual submissions, black and white is preferred. Text files in Word or plain-text format are preferred. Please do not include graphics files that might create formatting problems. Submissions will be reviewed by a student and faculty editorial committee.

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# CONTENTS

# Beyond the Folly:
# Architecture in *Northanger Abbey*

*Catherine Barnett, Taylor University*

The significance of architecture in Jane Austen's *Northanger Abbey* goes beyond its value as part of the setting. The main events of the story revolve around buildings and edifices, and Austen uses these architectural elements to reinforce some of the dominant themes in the novel. Three landmarks especially relevant to this study are Blaize Castle, Northanger Abbey, and the Woodston parsonage. The first represents the affectation of Bath society and specifically that of the Thorpes, which Catherine is tempted to emulate. The second presents within itself an intriguing juxtaposition of the old and the new. Unlike Blaize Castle, Northanger is genuinely old; but, contrary to Catherine's imaginings, the real mystery lies in its new wing rather than in its dusty passages. Henry Tilney's parsonage, Woodston, also plays an important role in Catherine's evolving sensibility. In light of these settings, the transfer of Catherine's interest from the architecturally artificial to the genuine, and from the genuine to the truth about the genuine, reflects her developing maturity.

Contrary to John Thorpe's claim to its being "the oldest in the kingdom" (81), Blaize Castle is not really an old castle at all but a modern folly – a new building made to look old. Folly construction was very popular during the 17th and 18th centuries (*Britain*), and was connected to the Romantic Movement in England and the revival of gothic architecture (Newlin 124). Rich noblemen would often have "romantic ruins" constructed in order to add a picturesque air of history and mystery to their gardens and landscapes. Many buildings in and around Bath itself are follies of one sort or another.

Folly architecture reflects its contemporary popular literature. Blaize Castle, at least the way John Thorpe paints it, is an embodiment of the world portrayed in the gothic novels with which Catherine is infatuated: a world of mysterious castles, echoing passageways, and creaking doors. Indeed, Catherine's "interest in the unfortunate excursion to Blaize Castle with John Thorpe largely derives from anticipation that it is 'like what one reads of' [81]" (Fleishman 655). But, like their architectural cousins, the follies, these novels provide her with an inaccurate view of reality. Both the buildings and the books present a picture to the observing world that is potentially deceptive if the observer does not understand them for what they really are – romanticized, exotic, exaggerated, and idealized projections of the past. Catherine's problem is that, at least upon her initial arrival in Bath, she is too naïve to distinguish between the affected and the genuine, the folly and the authentic.

In that architectural follies are not what they appear to be, they reflect the affectation of the Thorpes, especially Isabella, who can be seen as anthropic versions of follies like Blaize Castle, and indeed they are closely associated within the novel.

One of the significant plot threads running through Volume I involves the events surrounding the Thorpes' proposed excursion to Bristol and Catherine's conflicts about the walk planned with the Tilneys. When she thinks she has been slighted by the Tilneys, Catherine's only comfort in accompanying the Thorpes is the prospect of visiting Blaize Castle, which she imagines will be a scene right out of her novels, and she anticipates "the happiness of a progress through a long suite of lofty rooms, exhibiting the remains of magnificent furniture, ...being stopped in their way along narrow, winding vaults, by a low, grated door; or even of having their lamp...extinguished by a sudden gust of wind, and of being left in total darkness" (Austen 84). However, Catherine's melodramatic anticipation is not satisfied because it gets too late, and the Thorpes decide to return to Bath without having reached their destination.

In a way, this turn of events reflects Catherine's own relationship with the Thorpes. Initially, she sees Isabella as one almost to be worshipped. Like the gothic novels and their architectural counterparts, the pretentiousness of the Thorpes and Bath society in general threaten to influence Catherine to adopt a mask of affectation. However, like Blaize Castle, the Thorpes are not what they seem and fail to fulfill Catherine's initial estimation of them. Eventually Catherine realizes that they are like unimpressive buildings with alluring façades, but before she can do this, she must learn to distinguish the genuine from the affected. This segment of her education continues at Northanger Abbey.

After the disappointment of never actually going to Blaize Castle, Catherine allows its place in her imagination to be taken by the more substantial prospect of a visit to Northanger Abbey. Avron Fleishman notes that Catherine's "fullest image of what a medieval building *should* be is...her conception of Northanger Abbey" (655). Her initial romantic notions of the abbey, like those of Blaize Castle, are not based on fact, but again spring from her reading, thus setting her up for another disenchantment. She inquires about Northanger in nearly the exact words she had used earlier when talking with John about Blaize Castle, asking Henry, "Is it not a fine old place, just like what one reads about?" (149).

Catherine's disenchantment begins at the moment of her first rather anticlimactic glimpse of Northanger Abbey. "In general," Fleishman writes, "Catherine's expectation is of the obscurity associated with antiquity and barbarism, and she takes this association literally enough to be disappointed when the Abbey proves not obscure but open to the light of day" (656). Because she was expecting "massy walls of grey stone...with the last beams of the sun playing in beautiful splendour on its high Gothic windows" (152), she almost does not notice when they do drive through the gates, so different is the real Abbey from what she had hoped it would be. Nevertheless, throughout the first part of her stay, she continues to cling to every hint of mystery she can find in the attempt to keep her fantasy alive – with some rather embarrassing results.

The most significant of her gothic novelesque speculations about Northanger concerns the late Mrs. Tilney, and the object of her concentrated imaginings becomes the bedroom where Mrs. Tilney died. During the initial tour of the house, General Tilney sharply calls Eleanor back from opening a certain door, saying that they had seen all of the house that was worthwhile to see. When Eleanor discloses to Catherine that she had wanted to show her the room where her mother had passed away, Catherine's imagination runs wild. Before General Tilney called Eleanor away, Catherine

had glimpsed an old passageway and a flight of stairs – a perfect setting for a dark secret – and decided right then and there that "something was certainly to be concealed" (175). She comes to suspect the General of murdering his wife and imagines the bedroom to be "a room in all probability never entered by [General Tilney] since the dreadful scene had passed, which released his suffering wife, and left him to the stings of conscience" (176). Catherine even goes so far as to speculate about the possibility of Mrs. Tilney being alive but imprisoned in the forbidden part of the house.

If Mrs. Tilney's room was the object of Catherine's most vivid imaginings in connection with Northanger, the new wing of the abbey, built by General Tilney's father to replace the dilapidated original, is the object of her greatest indignation. In Catherine's opinion, "all that was venerable ceased here. The new building was not only new, but declared itself to be so;…no uniformity of architecture had been thought necessary. Catherine could have raved at the hand which had swept away what must have been beyond the value of all the rest, for the purposes of mere domestic economy" (174). The new wing is the height of her disappointments concerning the abbey.

In Catherine's mind, Mrs. Tilney's room and the new wing could not be more opposite. It is ironic, then, that they are intimately connected, as Catherine discovers when she attempts to look at Mrs. Tilney's room on her own. Expecting cobwebs, mystery, and gloom, she discovers, to her dismay, not only a neat and sunny room, but also that "this apartment, to which she had given a date so ancient, a position so awful, *proved to be one end of what the General's father had built*" (182, italics mine). In one respect, Catherine's expectations proved correct: she "had expected to have her feelings worked, and worked they were" (182). She is forced to realize, with a little help from Henry, that her ghost stories do not hold up in the real world of Christian England, even in a genuinely old abbey with gothic windows and stone passages. From that moment, "The visions of romance were over" (187).

Even so, Catherine does end up being closer to the mark on her evaluation of Mr. Tilney than either Henry or she realizes at first. This idea of the disenchantment of the gothic is therefore tempered, because the abbey, though not used to conceal an imprisoned wife, is yet the abode of a twisted and greedy man. Fleishman writes that the "process of [Catherine's] social… enlightenment…culminates in the revelation of the General's avarice and tyrannical manners" and "she learns at the same time that a light and airy modern mansion may be the preferred domain of a man who can be crudely inhospitable to a suddenly unwanted guest" (657). In that something so unthinkable does occur at Northanger Abbey, Austen seems to validate the gothic novel, to an extent. Johnson asserts that "by showing that the gothic is in fact the inside out of the ordinary, that the abbey does indeed present a disconcerting double image,…*Northanger Abbey* does not refute, but rather clarifies and reclaims, gothic conventions" (34). Dark and unexpected things can still happen, but here they happen in a very concrete way and in a modern, non-exotic setting.

Catherine has learned to prefer the genuine over the façade – the real Northanger Abbey over the speculated-about folly, Blaize Castle; the truth about Mrs. Tilney over the foolish imaginings about murder of which she was so ashamed. Now she learns to draw truthful conclusions about the genuine. Interestingly, the conclusions she reaches are her reversed opinions regarding Northanger Abbey and Henry's parsonage in Woodston.

The third piece of architecture that figures into the topic of this paper is the Woodston parsonage. Catherine's initial reaction when Henry told her that he did not live

permanently at Northanger was one of pity: "After being used to such a home as the abbey, an ordinary parsonage-house must be very disagreeable" (149). However, by the time she is looking forward to visiting Henry there, Catherine's view of the abbey has changed quite a bit, and "the Abbey in itself was no more to her now than any other house" (198). She herself notes the dramatic difference in her perspective: "What a revolution in her ideas! she, who had so longed to be in an abbey! Now, there was nothing so charming to her imagination as the unpretending comfort of a well-connected Parsonage" (199). That the comfort of Woodston is described as "unpretending" is significant, as it sets up a contrast to the inherently pretending nature of Blaize Castle and the two-sidedness of General Tilney – mirrored in the abbey's combination of antique and modern architecture – as master of Northanger.

As with the folly and the abbey, Catherine once again begins idealizing this new edifice – "Fullerton had its faults, but Woodston probably had none" (199). This time, however, she is considerably more subdued and her motive is different. No longer is she yearning for the exotic drama of the gothic novel, but she values the unaffectedness and friendship that Woodston embodies. It is notably the only significant building in the book that lives up to her idealized expectations. That Catherine so honestly and enthusiastically admires the simple beauty and unpretentiousness of Woodston demonstrates that her tastes have matured. She has moved from the realm of naïve infatuation with richly fabricated drama to that of wiser enjoyment of honest joy and love. This is ultimately realized in her marriage with Henry, when she is able to take up her abode with him there.

The architectural settings of *Northanger Abbey* serve to parallel Catherine's maturation. She learns to prefer the genuine over the affected as she chooses Northanger over Blaize Castle, to draw truthful conclusions about what she finds to be genuine in realizing the foolishness of her imaginings regarding Mrs. Tilney and the nature of Mr. Tilney, and to choose from among the genuine that which she values most – the parsonage over the castle and the abbey, charitable authenticity over haughty affectation and greedy pretension.

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# Self-Portrait, Cortona

*Shannon Molter, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee*

# CRISIS IN INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

*Justine G. Fisch, University of Florida*

Humans have been fishing the Earth's oceans throughout recorded history. The Baltic Sea has been fished for over ten thousand years, and served as the main source of provisions for its original inhabitants. However, fisheries have never been regulated or controlled, and humans are paying the price for it now. With the development of advanced technologies in fishing and mechanized fleets capable of traversing the globe in search of fish stocks, humans have left a more devastating impact on the world's oceans in a twenty year time span than was ever left before. Simply put, there are now "too many people chasing too few fish" (McGoodwin 1). The proper management of the oceans requires a working international accord with legislative and judicial authorities over regulating the world's fisheries.

## Impact of Overfishing

Covering two-thirds of the planet's surface, the oceans are often taken for granted by developed and developing countries alike, causing a carelessness and lack of responsibility in the world order as to the governing body responsible for supervising the health of the planet's fish stocks. Regional regulatory agencies have been established to deal with this problem; however, they have many flaws in their executive authority. Consequently, fish stocks have continued to decrease at astonishing rates, causing countless environmental and ecological problems. "Ecological extinction caused by overfishing precedes all other pervasive human disturbance to coastal ecosystems, including pollution, degradation of water quality, and anthropogenic climate change" (Jackson). Considering the amounts of damage humans have caused the world's oceans over the course of the last century, this is a very disturbing fact. As with many other environmental consequences of human's actions on the planet, overfishing can take "decades or centuries" to have an ecological effect in a region, rendering it very difficult to fix once the problem has been caused. Severe overfishing may also drive other marine species to extinction due to the lack of significant interactions between the species in the community (Jackson). All of the above must be taken into consideration when studying the effect overfishing has on the global environment and understanding the need for a stronger global legal order on fisheries management.

## Lack of Public Attention

In truth, the worldwide fisheries management initiative has failed in garnering enough attention to be successful due to the fact that fish stocks comprise only

thirteen percent of the total food harvest from animals on the planet (McGoodwin 3). This is not helped by the public perception that fish stocks are "never-ending" and may be fished forever. Hence, environmental groups have been describing fishing as "marine hunting", which has proven to be a potent campaigning tool in their efforts to control fisheries. The public tends to view fishing as a "right rather than a privilege" (Dayton), amounting to indescribable levels of abuse of this "right". Whereas on land concrete data regarding the environmental impacts of a certain human activity are gathered and often well presented to the public, in marine environments monitoring is often sparse and short on funding. This again being a direct result of the disconnect between oceanic advocates and the general populace.

## Fish Farming

With fish harvesting on the decline, and due to its economic viability, many countries have turned their attention to fish farming, which currently comprises one-third of the total fish consumption on the planet (Monastersky). In fact, experts predict that aquaculture will "outstrip fish harvests within 5 to 15 years" (Monastersky). However, fish farming comes at a great price, and one must understand the consequences associated with human reliance on oceanographic agriculture.

To begin with, fish farming is ecologically unsustainable in many ways. Carnivorous fish, such as salmon, consume as much as three pounds of smaller species per one pound of product (Monastersky). Breeding fish at unnaturally high levels depletes the lower end of the food chain and destroys the diet of natural fish stocks that now fall short of food. The effort by fish farmers to convert carnivorous fish into vegetarians has been futile having been said to harm the population of salmon being fed a diet similar to that of carp and tilapia (Powell). In addition, farmed fish often escape from their pens and compete with the native fish for resources (Monastersky). Oftentimes, the bred fish are exotic to the environment and cause ecological collapse of the bionetwork in which they are intruders. For example, the vast majority of salmon bred in Western Canada and the Pacific Northwestern United States are Atlantic salmon. Historically, one in every one thousand fish escapes from its pen, equaling a worldwide total of two million fish annually (Monastersky).

Furthermore, potential damage to the fish stock may occur within the pens. Disease becomes rampant in enclosures where more than one million fish are bred at once. These enclosures are also a haven for such parasites as sea lice, where Canadian researchers have discovered populations seventy times the natural occurrence (Monastersky). Since these farms often lie in inlets and bays at the mouths of valuable salmon spawning rivers, natural stocks of salmon are exposed to 30,000 times the amount of parasites that they would be upon exiting a natural river. Fish farms not only cause innumerable harm to the bred fish as well as the natural environment in which they are located, but they are also extremely limited in the types of fish that they may breed. Out of approximately 28,000 species of fish worldwide, only 200 may be produced through aquaculture (Powell). Unless something is done to safeguard natural fish stocks, the variety of fish available for consumption will greatly decrease in the coming years.

## History of Fishery Management

A common commodity throughout the world's diets, fish is no longer known affectionately as the "poor man's protein". In fact, to date fish has become more of the wealthy man's cuisine due to the declining profitability of the fishing industry and thus, its rising costs. In fact, marginal returns in the industry reached their maximum in the very early 1970's, and have been declining ever since (Miles 256). This same decade saw the plateau of what economists have described as the "max sustainable yields" within coastal areas. The latter part of the decade saw a decrease in fisheries up till the 1980's, when more advanced technologies allowed fishermen to fish deeper and further out at sea (McGoodwin 2). The 1980s appalled environmentalists in that fishing vessels were out to get smaller and smaller fish to bring in the max yields, hence, moving down the food chain. The impact on ecosystems was atrocious, and the industry began to suffer as a result. In turn, states began to take individual roles in diminishing the impact of overfishing on the fish stocks they could control.

Fisheries management often is most successful when governed by federal laws, given they are proficient enough to deal with the situation at hand. Countries have held control over adjacent water access throughout the history of the state-centric system. However, it was not until 1930 that these spatial extensions were pushed very far beyond the ten-mile coastal range (Miles xvi). The recent trend of extension to 200 miles from a country's coastline began in 1974 with the Caracas Session of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, also known as UNCLOS III. These negotiations proceeded onward until 1976, when the Magnuson Fisheries Conservation and Management Act passed, allowing for the establishment of these Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ). In 1982, the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea decreed a set of agreements among the signees as to the extended areas of jurisdiction that states would now control (Miles xvi).

As much as scientists like to use the example of federal fisheries management in implementing international holistic goals, the task is extremely tough considering the difficulties experienced by state agencies in beginning their systematic programs. In a 1981 survey, it was concluded that within the new national legislation a surprisingly large number of acts contain no statement of objectives whatsoever; the formulation is so broad as to offer little specific guidance, the major emphasis has been on the socioeconomic rather than the biological dimension, and the objectives are often numerous, varied, and conflicting (Miles xvii). The only consideration adopted by the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea for fishing effects on the high seas was include in Article 118, which stated "'States shall cooperate with each other in the conservation and management of living marine resources in the areas of the high seas" (Sydnes 121). These early experiments and lack of concrete objectives with relation to new fishery law would soon encounter the disastrous effects of deep sea fishing later in the 1980s as ships became to sail further and further away from shore, and into the even weaker international jurisdiction.

As fisheries continued on without much hindrance into the 1990s, the introduction of EEZs turned out to be a huge benefit for regional and coastal ecologists, as they saw stock after stock of fish become protected due to their slipping numbers. The EEZs led to increased bi- and multi-lateral cooperation to manage fish stocks, something the world had not seen much of prior (Sydnes 121). In fact, with the management now falling under the jurisdiction of the newly created Regional Fisheries

Management Organizations (RFMOs), new laws and restrictions were put into place to restrict the harvest of fish in the United States, Atlantic Canada, Zimbabwe, Norway, the Philippines, Japan, and the Netherlands, among others (Berkes 471-474). These regional organizations used various methods of restriction on fishermen, and through deconcentration, devolution, and privatization, they were able to manage their fish stocks better than had ever before. However, the cooperation between the regional organizations still lacked, and as a result of migratory and trans-boundary fish species, a new international order was called upon and put into place (Nelson).

Early on in the 1990s, the world experienced a true fisheries crisis, with more stocks being shut down by the new regional organizations than ever before. However, a sustainable international agreement had yet to be implemented within the regional regimes. Therefore, the UN Fish Stocks conference was convened in 1995 and began a series of debates and negotiations as to the nature of the new international legal order. The issues of highly migratory species and straddling fish stocks became two of the centerpieces of the discussion in relation to the effectiveness of the current global regimes (Sydnes 123). In Articles 9 and 10 of the agreement, the states whose governance fell under a certain RFMO, set up working groups and drew out objectives for their scope and function as a regional unit, and what they wished to accomplish. The 1995 conference, being heavily based in science, has had significant results in gathering data and monitoring the status of exploited species. However, despite the adoption of the FAO Code of Conduct, many states still fail to comply with international fishery management (Sydnes 124). The inability of the global community to allow for the formation of an international fishery management regime can be explained in the weaknesses of agreements and cooperative coalitions resulting from such factors as the nature of fish stocks, as well as the disposition of land-locked nations, to name a few.

## Impediments to Successful International Fisheries Management

"Numerous international agreements and action plans now exist and the main requirement is how to put them into operation" (Cunningham 233). While there is no single recipe for success, many worldwide agencies have done studies to attempt to convince the regional organizations to work better and act more in sync with each other. However, fisheries managed at international level will always have their weaknesses, their efficacy will essentially depend on how these variables are handled as a whole.

One of the most severe drawbacks to the regulatory fishing industry is the intervention of distant water fishing nations, or DWFNs. As the toughest regulatory area worldwide, the high seas fisheries are extremely vulnerable to abuse by nations who are not signees of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). Essentially, any inland state may fish outside of the 200 mile coastal range at their own will, and the United Nations has no power to control their actions (Sydnes 120). These states may traverse the ocean at ease without issues of sovereignty due to a lack of compromise in UNCLOS. Essentially, coastal states may harvest as much from the high seas area as can landlocked countries, leaving the inland states with a smaller and less fruitful harvest (high seas fisheries are not deemed as productive as coastal areas). DWFNs' activities outside of limited access zones have also caused tremendous eco-

logical impacts which much also be addressed in order to create a stable universal treaty (Sydnes 120).

In order for fisheries to continue being profitable, fish must be able to live out their lifecycles as they would naturally. This is happening less and less as a result of the abuse of highly migratory and straddling fish stocks. Highly migratory stocks are species whose migrations occur over the course of wide geographic distributions. Straddling fish stocks are only somewhat different, with their migrations occurring through two or three different EEZs (Sydnes 121). As one could imagine, the movement of these bands of fish cause enormous international controversy, especially in the high seas. Article 63 of UNCLOS states that "in the management of straddling fish stocks, coastal states and DWFNs shall seek, either directly or through established organizations, to agree upon management measures on the high seas" (Sydnes 121). However, many of the DWFNs to which UNCLOS is referring have not signed or simply refuse to abide by the treaty.        The United States is one of the major players in this controversy due to the fact that it has ratified, yet not signed the conventions that the agreement proposes. Although a majority of lawmakers are in support of signing (Sydnes 125), a two-thirds required majority has not yet been achieved. Environmental groups have been pressuring the US Senate to take action on this issue, due to the ecological impact it poses for the fish stock worldwide. As DWFNs and other fishing vessels take in excess harvest outside of the coastal zones, many fish fail to arrive at their spawning locations, the vast majority of them being within 200 miles of the shore (Jackson).

Finally, one of the most common impediments to a successful fishery managing agreement internationally also exists in all 34 EEZs. The "trouble of economics" exists in that every restriction and constraint applied to local populations will have extraordinary societal repercussions. "The major problems in the fisheries today are not the biological depletion of the fish stocks, economic marginality, overcapitalization, and so forth. Rather, they are the deleterious consequences of these conditions for the human participants in a fishery" (McGoodwin 74). Human needs, culture, and behavior must be taken into account when proposing legislation and change in international management. Arbitrarily chosen variables such as the efficient used of technology and manpower, as well as the proficient season in which fisheries should conduct their operations have been a part of agreements in the past, but have constantly failed due to their lack of abstract considerations (McGoodwin 75).

## Analysis and Proposal

All in all, the frameworks for the proper course of policy have been set in the almost four decades since fishery management first became an issue. However, these frameworks have been left for regional bodies to interpret and implement at their convenience. The need for a macro-management body has arisen, and should be implemented by the United Nations, with special considerations being taken to establish districts by which the legislation may be enforced. The calls for action by the Pew Fellows Fisheries Statement request "engaging institutions and stakeholders in policy-making and fisheries management, managing and evaluating fisheries to promote sustainable fishing, protecting and sustaining ecosystems in which fish live, and preventing further ecological harm by careful use of technology" (Cunningham 233).

The first pillar should be addressed by dispatching the effort to states and their citizens. Fishery experts should pay attention to fishermen; they understand the biological and economical principles of their industry (McGoodwin 1). In allowing skeptical actors such as the United States to enter the playing field, the international management cooperative is recruiting the help of hundreds of NGOs and an institution with the capacity and resources to act in executive and judicial matters (Cunningham 234).

The second pillar of the Pew Fellows' proposal emphasizes the sustainability of the industry as a whole. In doing so, the scientific agencies responsible for researching the complexity of fishing implications on an ecosystem should be open to change, and grant incentives to fish harvest to catch their stock elsewhere (Cunningham 235). Protecting these ecosystems, the third pillar of the research, will require policies that are viable in enforcing. Without the capacity to regulate trespassers and violators in the international arena, the new international system will result in the same disconnected regionally fragmented organization that exists today.

Last but not least, the fourth pillar of the research involves the careful use of technology in the industry. As previously discussed, the evolution of technology was one of the main results of the tremendous overfishing that occurred in the 1980s and cost the industry countless jobs as the business as a whole became less labor intensive. The concept of resource rent helps to limit the use of such technology "because if resource rent is being collected then there is a chance that the fishery is being managed effectively from an economic perspective in which case it is also likely that exploitation levels are biologically sustainable (Cunningham 236). Small-scale fishers, who comprise the majority of fishers worldwide, can be kept in business through this limit on technological usage (McGoodwin 2).

## Conclusion

Ultimately, successful management of the ocean's fisheries is possible through a powerful, goal-oriented, international administrative unit. Due to its initial tough impact on the economy of the global fisheries, it is essential for the unit to have executive and judicial authorities allowing it to address problems that may arise as a result of its policies. The regionally united organization will ensure it enforces, monitors, and surveys compliance through multi-dimensional analysis by fishermen and research experts under its authority. No longer can state agencies report data and action to their regional bodies, this approach has proven far too fragmented and interest driven to be effective at the global level. In closing, for efficient cooperation, the "national net benefit" (Miles 308) of this action must show the industry a clear profit margin in the long run for today's actions.

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# Hanging by a Hook

*Christine Hart, University of Florida*

I delicately touched the cold metal armrest before slowly meeting my Dad's eyes. He was sitting across from the bed; his back was against the wall and his eyes pleaded for an explanation. He had asked the question like I had wrecked the car: stern, demanding but awashed in concern. Only, this question was also haunted by deep disturbance and pain. I could neither soothe my Dad's need for a tangible problem nor offer solutions. I knew it was not easy to find a way to ask what my letter meant. Even if my Dad were a deeply sensitive person who could better tailor the question and ask it in a more soothing way, neither the moment nor the answer would have come easier. His child- his dear, sweet child- did not want to live.

My mom calls my Dad her "Brawny" man referencing the paper towel's cartoon. "Brawny" is a strong, but soft sided, flannel-clad backwoods man who knows just how to woo the ladies. Setting aside my mother's bias toward his romantic aspect, you have a caricature of who I know my Dad to be. He is the grandchild of Nebraskan Farmers, the engineering graduate student who floated down the Yukon, and the explorer of Pacific waters, which he sailed while living in Anchorage for a decade. I am the daughter of an independent, self-reliant, and stubborn hands-on "pioneer"- things I believe myself, or hope to be, too. Only, I don't think my Dad sees me that way. Despite graduating fifth in my high school class, performing well in prestigious art programs, and working summer jobs, I am still the survivor of one suicide attempt and a sufferer of clinical depression. In this way of the emotions and my ability to control them, I am weak. My Dad has never openly stated this, but I fear the words and their potential truth.

When I am depressed, I am a small slippery fish awash in a black sea. I am tumbled and pulled until I am expelled onto a deserted rock. While I gasp to breathe, I smack the cold rock with my back again and again until I settle for a moment and see the entire ocean and the world beyond. I see all of it- the ocean's foam, the silt, the caves, every fish, the sky, and the stretching horizon- naked. The immensity of it all splinters me to the core. I only want home and the water's warmth, but I can't slip back in. For the world, I want to die. This is the best way that I can describe how I experience depression- a metaphor years in the making. Only, I did not have words for it in the hospital when my Dad asked why I wanted to die and years of struggle were reduced to a slow shrug of my shoulders. I was an impossible answer for my Dad to accept.

A few months after my hospitalization, my Dad and I drove back to the house I had stayed in to collect a few things I had left before I had returned to my hometown. My Dad and I have never easily exchanged casual conversation, but there we were- confined to a car with eight hours of travel stretching before us talking about the weather and roadside fruit stands. After a long gap in conversation, my

Dad shifted in his seat and cleared his throat. My Dad glanced over and then began his questions. He was not gripped by either adrenaline or panic like he was in the hospital, and his line of questioning about therapy and what it was and how the medications helped didn't bother me. He asked what was wrong and when I could stand alone and handle it on my own. I didn't take offense to his exact and calculating prodding of something so personal. After all, I have come to learn by trial and error and a very difficult adolescence that this is just who my dad is. As an engineer and the son of a lawyer, my Dad can be logical to a fault. Every problem can be addressed directly. We should be able dissect it, lay out its pieces, examine them, and find the trouble spot; fix the problem, reassemble, and with enough elbow grease and ingenuity everything should have a solution- *guaranteed.* Sometimes trying to fix things too quickly or in the wrong way or fixing things that can't be fixed gets the best of my Dad. Sometimes believing too singularly in self-reliance can, too. Things of emotion neither work like mechanics- they do not rotate, pull, push, hinge and lock, nor do they obey strict self-reliance- emotions are never contained, isolated in our selves. Emotions can audibly creek in our bones, stretch us across time and space, snap us back, and Velcro us to others in ways that couldn't be predicted and in ways that can't be fixed. Emotions- and life- can crumble to dust that can not be reassembled. I tried to explain to my Dad that I treat my emotions very differently than how he treats his own. Though I desperately searched, at the time I lacked the right words and a clear metaphor to best explain my Dad's emotions are his own and my emotions are their own selves. The car ride eased to silence as my Dad let the matter go, though I knew he ached for answers while I ached from the exhaustion of having to explain the lack of them.

Despite our differences in our need for answers and how we find them, I am his baby- the tiny pink curl who writhed in his arms. I am one of his children whom he has laughed with, cried with, and sacrificed for. I toddled, clinging to his fingers, screamed at him threats spurned by adolescence, and watched him look back at me sitting in front of my dorm. I am apart of him and he is just as much a part of me- truly and tenderly.

I don't wish this sentiment to change, but depression changes the way I relate to the world, including my Dad. Depression acts as a pair of glasses that change what the world looks like. If I am aware that I am looking through the glasses, I might be able to take them off. Sometimes, however, they are glued to my head and even if I am aware of them, I have no choice but to act upon the world based upon what I see. This effect can penetrate and crack even my most dearly held feelings about a person. While I might *know* Dad loves me, how that connection should feel is drained of its touch and comfort: any perceived slight, real or not, is amplified ten-fold, suggestion stings of criticism, and my ability to forgive goes bust. Over a year before I was hospitalized, I first told my parents of my suicidal thoughts. It did not go well. I felt desperate and entirely exposed. I recoiled from touch, when all I wanted was to be held; I acted guarded, when they needed understanding. I think my Dad perceived hostility and this led to an explosive fight. He told me I was a "guest" in their house and I should not act as if they were putting themselves upon me. His use of "guest" rattled me and only worked as tender for the fire that spewed after. The argument cut my relationship with my Dad to a quick, and while my head told me to forgive my Dad for his hasty use of the term, my glasses would not allow me to see him as a fellow victim who could be just as confused and mistaken as myself.

While Depression may define how I relate to the world that includes my Dad, it does not define how he relates to me. To me, depression is an active force in my life that I must banish to my outer edges and whose glasses I must whack away; but to my Dad, depression is a dark figure in the room who does not dare touch him and who has yet to force upon him the set of glasses that grays my world to gray his. My Dad can still see me as he always has, as his daughter, but who, under the rages of depression, needs help. He may be uncertain about how to act or what to say. But when depression does creep back and my inner turmoil furies and depression glues itself down and does not allow me to choose the waters, he can stretch from the sea as a hook to pull me back in. My Dad is my saviour.

I did not always let my parents save me, because I diligently worked to protect my parents. I saw myself as an emotional liability and did not want to share my feelings of despair lest they hop ship and began to torture my parents, too. This began to change when a therapist once described how her patients were not a burden to her psyche and, instead, how she felt thankful and humbled that they opened themselves to her. I had to believe in the strength of my parents and their appreciation of my openness. I also knew that while I might be an "emotional liability" to my parents, I am one they would never deny. So here I am- the risk they assumed with love. Knowing they stand by this risk helps me breathe, live, and slip back into the calming sea when I am stranded.

How my Dad and I both personally deal with my depression helps define who we are by highlighting our differences and shows how we relate to each other by defining our roles. We are not more or less ourselves in this context; we are the same we have ever been. Only, we now swim new waves using the ways we best know how.

# Azide-Terminated Self-Assembled Monolayers on Silicon Wafers

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## Abstract

A novel nanopatterning technique, using quantum dots (Qdots) and self-assembled monolayers (SAMs), is being investigated to form nanopatterns one order of magnitude smaller then nanopatterns formed by conventional techniques. The current SAM synthesis and derivatization is lengthy, however, requiring multiple steps and 8 days time. This study is aimed at reducing the time required for SAM preparation, which will ultimately increase the efficiency and likely improve the quality of the SAM. The modified azide-terminated SAM derivatization is a two step process, which first functionalizes the SAM with 11-chloro-1-undecene and then derivatizes the SAM to an azide-termination using $N,N$-dimethylformide and sodium azide at 60 °C for 4 days. The modified azide-terminated SAM derivatization was performed and was compared to the already established synthesis method via Fourier Transformed Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR) to measure azide-peak intensity (2100 cm$^{-1}$) and Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) to visualize SAM homogeneity. FTIR data indicated the modified preparation exhibited increased azide-peak intensity over the currently used SAM synthesis route, suggesting a better yield. The SAMs were then subjected to gold nanoparticle derivatization to observe SAM homogeneity under the SEM. The homogeneity of the SAMs appeared similar. Thus, together; the data suggest the modified method is comparable while requiring fewer steps than the previous SAM methodology.

## Introduction and Purpose

Making smaller transistors for faster computers to keep up with Moore's Law has become increasingly difficult. Nanotechnology is a promising route to solve these issues as it produces smaller structures than ever before, allowing for greater power density in computers. Furthermore, many physical, chemical, and biological properties not seen at the macroscale emerge in materials at the nanoscale. For example, the onset of absorption in quantum dots (Qdots) shifts to shorter wavelengths (indicating increased band gap) as Qdot diameter decreases. This allows semiconductor Qdots to be adaptable photocatalysts, as their electron-hole potentials can be tuned

through manipulation of particle size. By also ensuring a high surface area to volume ratio, the photoexcited electrons and holes can be made readily accessible at the Qdot surface for oxidation or reduction of adsorbed species, respectively (Radhakrishnan *et al.*, 2006). The ability to tailor devices to exploit the emerging phenomena in the nanoscale range is a key component in the development of smaller and more advanced technologies.

Nanopatterning has been a hot topic in the creation of nanometer-scale features on solid surfaces. Many industrial applications can utilize nanopatterning including high-resolution lithography for the manufacture of high-density recording media (Adams *et al.*, 2008) and microfluidic devices for medical diagnostics. Currently, the best commercial technologies such as Electron beam lithography and X-ray lithography produce chips with features in the 40-99 nm range. Electron beam lithography, one of several top-down nanopatterning techniques, is performed by scanning a beam of electrons in a patterned fashion over a surface covered with a resist film and selectively removing areas of the resist. This technique is characterized by excellent feature size control but low sample throughput and high sample cost. In contrast, X-ray lithography is commonly performed by exposing a polycrystalline silicon mask with a parallel beam of X-rays and subsequently removing the exposed portion of the substrate. This technique is characterized at the outset by high sample throughput but high investment costs (Sieval *et al.*, 1999). Thus, it is imperative to the field to develop a nanopatterning technique that is reliable, low cost, and high throughput.

To help build up a library of nanopatterning techniques and tools, a novel bottom-up nanopatterning technique using Qdots and self-assembled monolayers (SAMs) is being investigated. The goal is to form nanopatterns smaller than ever before. This nanopatterning technique uses photocatalytically active cadmium selenide (CdSe) Qdots to obtain chemically tailored patterns on a functionalized self-assembled monolayer. An azide-terminated SAM can be reduced to an amine-termination (Figure 1) by adsorbing CdSe Qdot photocatalysts followed by photocatalytic reduction. Since the surface reaction is Qdot-initiated, the pattern feature dimensions could potentially be reduced to the size of the 2 nm Qdot, providing a route to manufacture surface patterns down to sizes one order of magnitude smaller than nanopatterns formed by conventional lithographic techniques.

In recent years, a few wet-chemical methods for the preparation of these SAMs have become available. The process currently used in the synthesis of azide-terminated SAMs is based on the reaction between a hydrogen-terminated silicon surface and a 1-alkene that is comparable to typical organic hydrosilylation reactions (Sieval *el al.*, 1999). This current SAM synthesis and derivatization is lengthy, however, requiring multiple steps and 8 days time (Figure 2). This study is aimed at reducing the time required for SAM preparation, which will ultimately increase the efficiency and likely improve the quality of the SAM. Importantly, from an engineering standpoint, this would make the process of SAM preparation more appealing, as fewer steps could decrease costs while increasing efficiency.

## Materials and Methods

*Chemicals.* Isopropanol 99.9% (Fisher), acetone 99.7% (Fisher), methanol 99.9% (Fisher), carbon tetrabromide 99% (Aldrich), triphenyl phosphate 99% (Acros), ethanol 99.8% (Pharmco), $N,N$-dimethylformide 99.8% (Acros), mesitylene 99% (Fluka), 11-chloro-1-

undecene 99% (Acros), dichloromethane 99.5% (EMD), sodium azide 99% (Aldrich), sodium iodide 99.5% (Aldrich), dichloromethane 99.8% (Across), tributylphospine 99.7% (Aldrich), N-ethyl-N'-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)carbodiimide 97% (Aldrich), all were used fresh and without further purification. Tetrahydrofuran (THF) was freshly distilled from benzophenone and sodium.

*Chlorine-terminated SAM Preparation.* 1 cm$^2$ silicon wafers were degreased via soni- cation for 2 minute periods in acetone, methanol, and isopropanol, respectively. The wafers were subsequently sonicated in water (3 x 10 min). Then, wafers were im- mersed in a 100 °C mixture of HCl:H$_2$O$_2$:H$_2$O (1:2:7) for 5 minutes and then washed extensively in millipore water.

A 10% solution of 11-chloro-1-undecene in mesitylene and a 5% HF solution were both spurged with argon (Ar) for at least 45 minute. In an argon environment, the wafers were put in 5% HF (5 min, RT) solution and subsequently dried and placed into the 11-chloro-1-undecene solution. The flask was outfitted with a condenser and placed into an oil bath set to 160 °C for 13 hours under argon, followed by removal of wafers and subsequent rinsing with dichloromethane. The wafers were then soni- cated for 3 minutes each in ethanol, water:ethanol (1:1), and water.

*Original Azide-terminated SAM Derivatization.* The prepared chloro-terminated SAMs were placed in a vial containing a 100 mM sodium iodide in 4 M HCl for 36 h (Step A, Figure 2). The resulting iodo-terminated SAMs were cleaned by sonica- tion for 3 min each in ethanol, water:ethanol (1:1), and water. The SAMs were dried with a stream of argon and placed under vacuum (1 h, RT) in a vial containing 35 mg of carbon tetrabromide. Under argon, a solution of 100 mM triphenylphosphine in THF was injected into the vial containing the SAMs and allowed to react under slight agitation for 48 hours at room temperature (Step B, Figure 2). The resulting bromo-terminated SAMs were removed and sonicated for 3 minutes each in ethanol and THF. The SAMs were placed into a vial containing 50 mg of sodium azide and put under vacuum for 1 hours. Afterwards, 10 mL of *N,N*-dimethylformide (DMF) was injected into the vial before being placed in an oil bath for 48 h at 60 °C (Step C, Figure 3). The chips were then removed from the vial and sonicated in ethanol, water, and THF respectively.

*Modified Azide-terminated SAM Derivatization.* Refer to the overall scheme of the SAM derivatization shown in Figure 3. The chloro-terminated SAMs were placed into a vial containing 50 mg sodium azide and put under vacuum for 1 hours. After- wards, 10 mL X (X = DMF, DMSO, THF) was injected into the vial before being placed in an oil bath (4 day, 60 °C). The chips were then removed from the vial and sonicated in ethanol, water, and THF respectively.

*Reduction of Terminal Azides to Amines.* Two methods, chemical and photocatalytic reduction, were used to completely reduce or partially reduce an azide-terminated SAM to an amine-termination, respectively. *Chemical Reduction:* This method com- pletely reduced the azide-terminated SAMs to an amine-termination. The chips were put in a 5% tributylphospine, 5% H$_2$O, and 90% THF solution for 48 hours in an Ar en- vironment. The chips were removed and soaked in water for 24 hours. *Photocatalytic Reduction:* This technique partially reduced an azide-terminated SAM to an amine- termination via a light source and CdSe Qdots. The azide-terminated SAM was first incubated in a freshly prepared CdSe Qdot solution, (prepared as in Radhakrishnan *et al.*, 2006 except for substituting Na$_2$S with Na$_2$Se), and kept in dark overnight in an Ar environment. In a dark room, the SAM was dipped in a pH 5.0 MES buffer

containing 1 mM sodium formate and 2 mM diethylaminoethanethiol followed by exposure to a 407 nm laser radiation for 15 minutes.

*Gold Nanoparticle Derivatization.* The azide-terminated SAMs were incubated in a triethylamine:dichlormethane solution (1:10) for 2 h, followed by washing in dichloromethane and placing in 9 mg N-Ethyl-N'-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)carbodiimide per 1 mL DMF for 40 h at 40 °C. Afterwards, 10 nm gold nanoparticles (AuNP), purchased from Ted Pella, were concentrated by centrifugation (18,000 rcf). The SAMs were washed (5 min) in an aqueous solution of 10 mM NaCl and 0.1 mM sodium citrate. The AuNP were diluted with 6 volumes of the NaCl solution and subsequently an equal volume of the AuNP was added to the SAM (incubated for 7 hrs). The SAMs were then removed and washed gently with 0.1 mM sodium citrate, water and methanol.

*Fourier Transformed Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR).* Reflection IR absorption spectra of the SAMs were obtained with a Digilab FTS 175C single beam spectrometer fitted with an MCT detector and custom optics optimized for grazing angle incidence reflection (68°). The sample compartment of the spectrometer was purged constantly with nitrogen to prevent water vapor interference. Freshly cleaned silicon blanks were used to obtain background spectra. All reflectance spectra were recorded at 4 cm$^{-1}$ resolution and averaged over 1024 scans.

## Results

Three solvents (DMF, THF, DMSO) were investigated for the SAM preparation. Using the modified azide-terminated SAM derivatization with THF as a solvent did not form azide-terminated SAMs as shown by the FTIR data (Figure 4). Using DMF as the solvent with modified azide-terminated SAM derivatization, however, formed an azide-stretch according to FTIR data (Figure 5). Lastly, FTIR data of SAMs prepared by the modified method using DMSO indicated a possible conversion to an azide-termination but with impurities around the 2100 cm$^{-1}$ stretch (Figure 6). Ultimately, DMF was chosen over DMSO because its FTIR data indicated a cleaner conversion to an azide-termination. Attempts were made to optimize the modified azide-terminated SAM derivatization with DMF as the solvent of choice. Sodium iodide and 18-crown-6 were used in catalytic amounts in attempts to increase the reaction kinetics (Figure 7 and 8). These attempts were unsuccessful in improving the reaction.

The modified azide-terminated SAM derivatization was performed (Figure 3) and was compared to the already established synthesis method (Figure 2) via Fourier Transformed Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR) to measure azide-peak intensity (2100 cm$^{-1}$) and Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) to visualize SAM homogeneity. FTIR data indicated the modified preparation (using DMF as a solvent) exhibited increased azide-peak intensity over the currently used SAM synthesis route, suggesting a better yield (Figure 9). Chemically reduced SAMs, amine-terminated, were then subjected to gold nanoparticle derivatization to observe the SAM homogeneity under the SEM. The homogeneity of the SAMs appeared similar (Figure 10). Thus, together, the data suggest the modified method is comparable while requiring fewer steps than the previous SAM methodology.

A set of experiments was performed to determine whether the azide-terminated SAMs produced by the new synthesis method could be reduced to the amine via photocatalytic reduction. An azide-terminated SAM was reduced photocatalytically

as described in the methods section while other azide-terminated SAM samples, as controls, were exposed to only the laser source or the CdSe Qdots. The SAMs then underwent gold nanoparticle derivitization and were assessed with an SEM. When subjected to gold nanoparticles, only amine-terminated SAMs demonstrate physisorption. SEM analysis demonstrated a reduction to an amine-termination in the experimental sample but not the control samples (Figure 11), thus suggesting that photocatalytic reduction requires CdSe Qdot photocatalysts in addition to the 407 nm laser source.

## Discussion

A tightly packed, ordered azide-terminated SAM was formed on a silicon surface from an 11-chloro-1-undecene precursor using DMF and sodium azide. Three solvents (DMF, THF, DMSO) were investigated for the modified SAM preparation. FTIR data of SAMs prepared by the modified method using DMSO exhibited additional peaks, leading us to believe it produced side reactions (H.R. Bentley *et al.*, 1951). THF was shown to not produce azide-terminated SAMs, so DMF was found to be the solvent of choice based on the FTIR data. The success using DMF could be attributed to its high polarity, allowing for the sodium azide to be more nucleophilic while still producing a clean conversion. In conclusion, a modified method of SAM preparation was demonstrated, which shortened the number of steps in the procedure and decreased the overall preparation time. FTIR data of the SAM prepared by the modified synthesis method indicated increased azide-peak intensity over the already established method. This may be explained by the fact that the already established method involved multiple reactions each with their own reaction yield. The modified method bypasses the multiple steps and consequently increases the reaction yield while decreasing the overall preparation time. Importantly, this indicated that the modified method was successful in producing a high conversion to an azide-terminated SAM.

Partial reduction of the azide-terminated monolayer to the corresponding amine-termination was accomplished using 2-nm-diameter CdSe Qdots as photocatalysts with an irradiation time of 15 min. The partially-reduced monolayer was derivatized by tagging the amine monolayer with gold nanoparticles. SEM images were obtained, showing that gold nanoparticles associated significantly with such surface but not to the controls, where no reduction of azide to amine was expected. The next step is to control the movement of the CdSe Qdots over the SAM surface to provide a route to manufacture surface patterns down to sizes one order of magnitude smaller than nanopatterns formed by conventional lithographic techniques.

Azide-terminated SAMs prepared by the already established method and modified method were completely reduced using TBP and subsequently underwent gold nanoparticle derivatization to observe their homogeneity under the SEM. The homogeneity of the SAMs was comparable between the already established and modified synthesis methods. Continuing work is being performed to minimize experimental variations stemming from SAM preparation, chip handling, and silicon substrates defects. Since the modified method prepares azide-terminated SAMs in less steps and shorter time while exhibiting increased azide-peak intensity over the current synthesis route and similar homogeneity, it is likely that this synthesis route can be implemented over the established synthesis method.
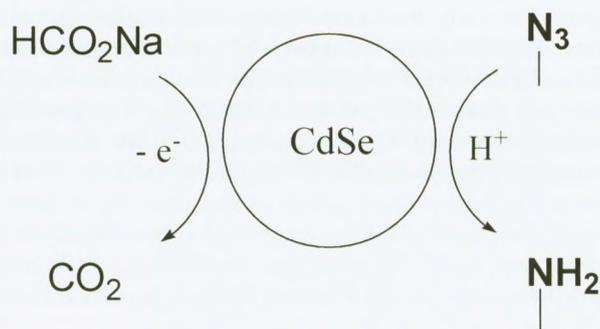
Figure 1. CdSe quantum dot photocatalysts reducing an azide to an amine on a self-assembled monolayer.



| A | B | C |
|---|---|---|
| 4 M hydrochloric acid | 10 mM of carbon tetrabromide | 15 mM sodium azide |
| 100 mM sodium iodide | 100 mM triphenyl phosphine | dimethylformide |
| 36 h at room temperature | tetrahydrofuran | 48 h day at 60°C |
| | 48 h at room temperature | |
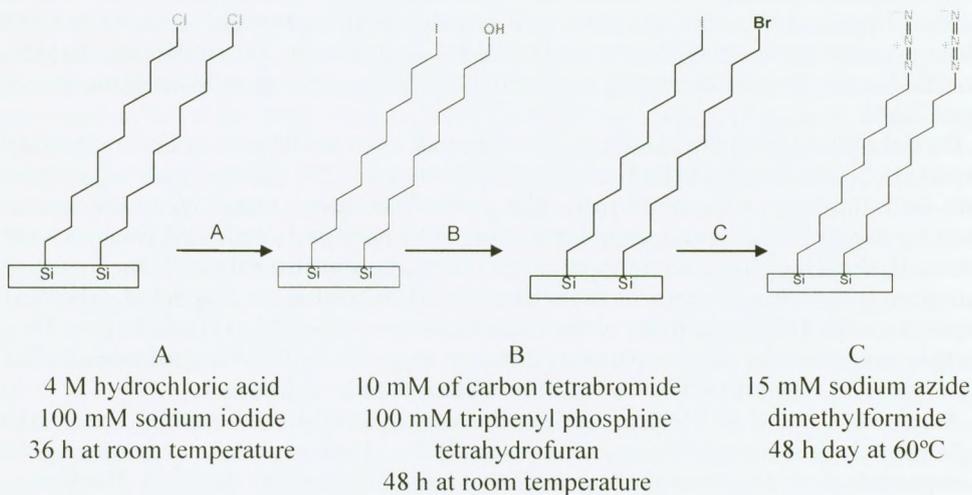
Figure 2. Schematic of established azide-terminated SAM derivatization.
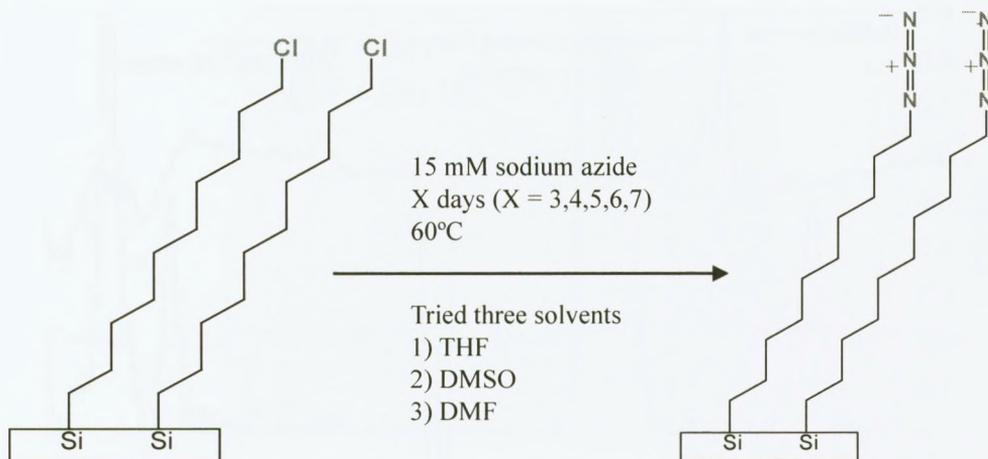
Figure 3. Schematic of modified azide-terminated SAM derivatization.
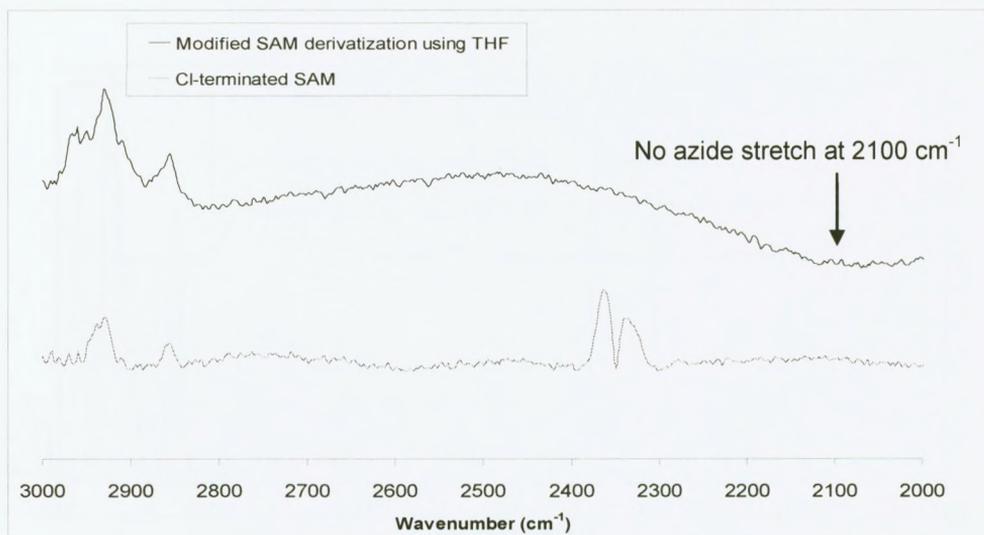


Figure 4. Bottom: FTIR measurements of a chloro-terminated SAM surface. Top: FTIR of the same surface after modified azide-terminated SAM derivatization with THF as a solvent for 7 days. There is no distinct azide-peak at 2100 cm$^{-1}$ indicating the desired reaction did not occur. The peaks seen within 2300-2400 cm$^{-1}$ are due to $CO_2$ in the FTIR chamber.
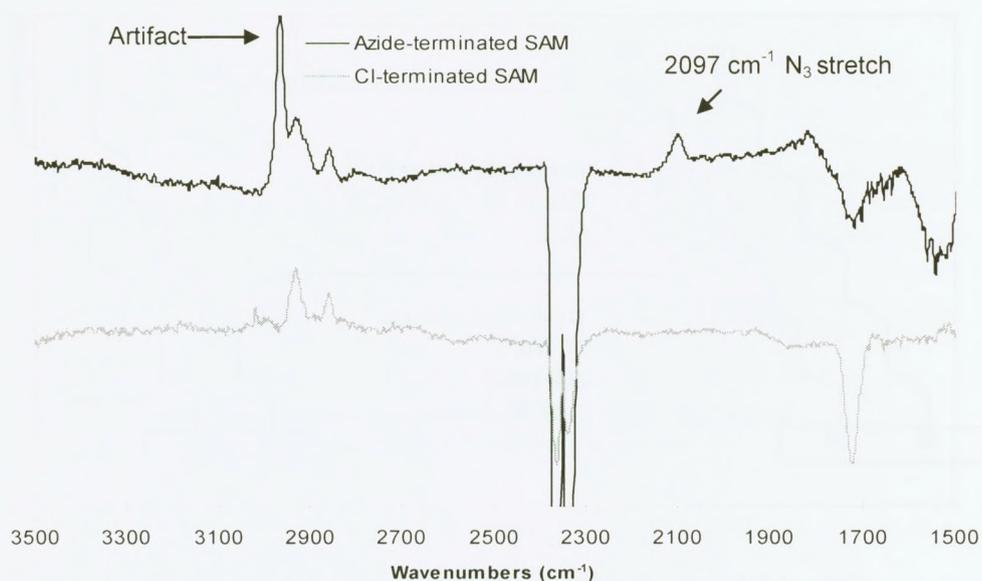
Figure 5. Bottom: FTIR measurements of a chloro-terminated SAM surface. Top: FTIR of the same surface after modified azide-terminated SAM derivatization with DMF as a solvent for 7 days. There is a distinct azide-peak at 2100 cm$^{-1}$ indicating the desired reaction occurred.
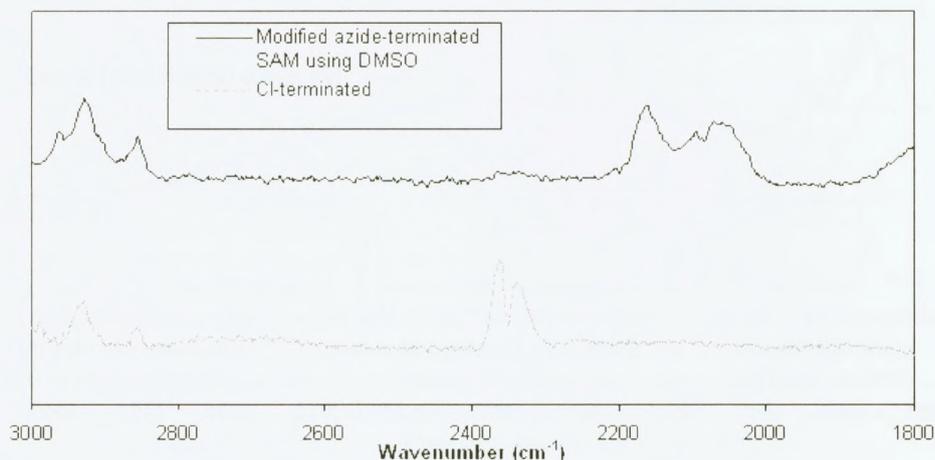


Figure 6. Bottom: FTIR measurements of a chloro-terminated SAM surface. Top: FTIR of the same surface after modified azide-terminated SAM derivatization with DMF as a solvent for 7 days. There are multiple stretches around 2100 cm$^{-1}$ indicating a possible conversion to an azide-termination, however, with possible side-reactions.
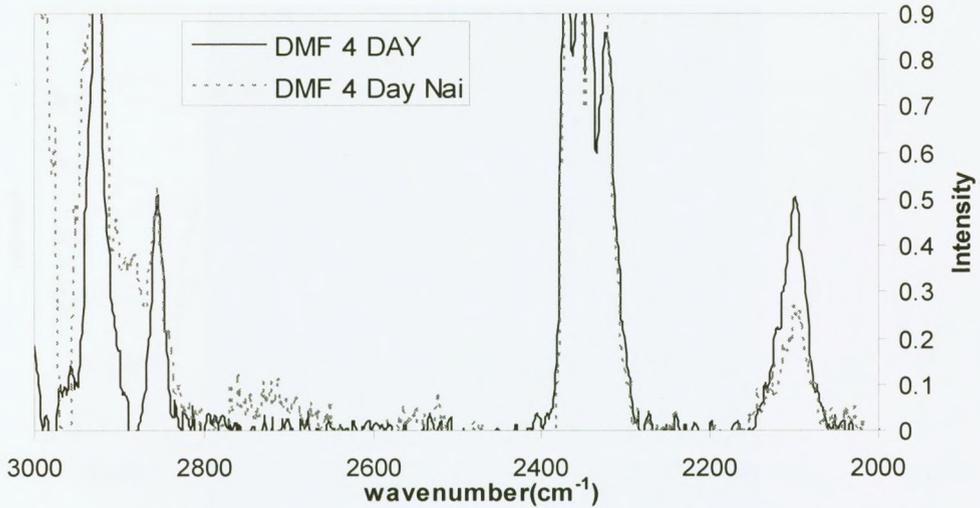
Figure 7. FTIR data of azide-terminated SAMs prepared by modified azide-terminated SAM derivatization with DMF as a solvent for 4 days. Dotted Line: Attempts to optimize the reaction using NaI made no improvement.
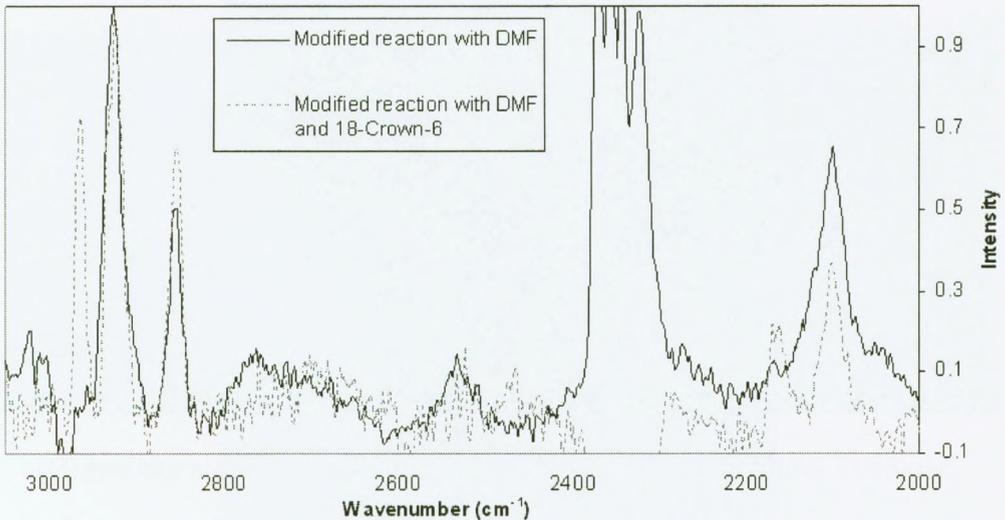


Figure 8. FTIR data of azide-terminated SAMs prepared by modified azide-terminated SAM derivatization with DMF as a solvent for 4 days. Dotted line: Attempts to optimize the reaction using 18-Crown-6 were ineffective.
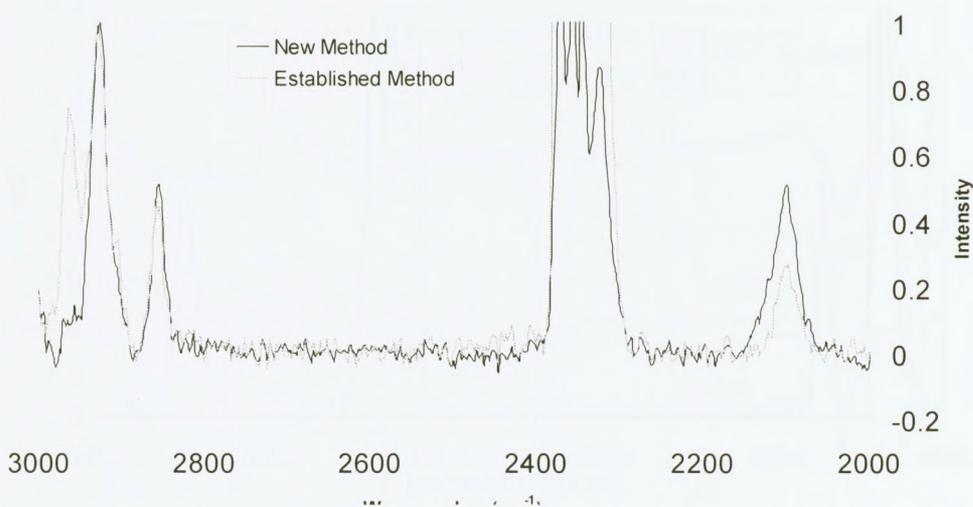
Figure 9. FTIR measurements of azide-terminated silicon surfaces prepared by the established and new (modified) method. The modified method exhibited larger azide-peak intensity.
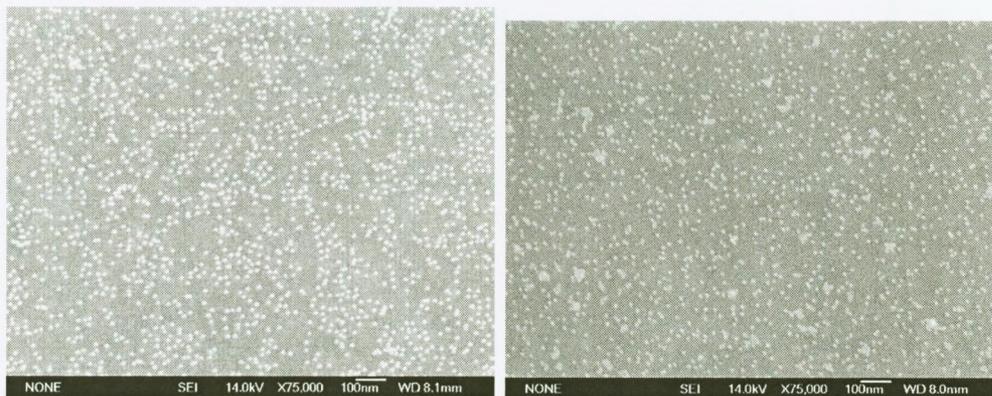


Modified synthesis method (A)        Established synthesis method (B)

Figure 10. SEM images of gold coupled amine SAMs prepared by modified synthesis method and established synthesis method. EDC + 10 nm Au (10 mM NaCl).
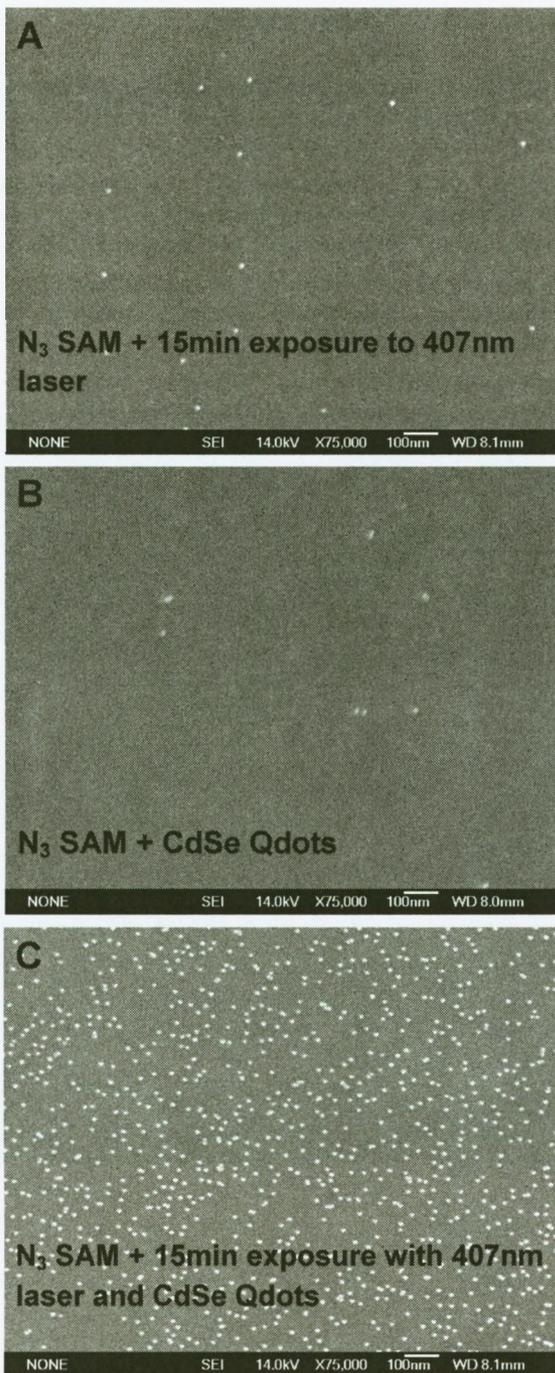
Figure 11. SEM images of azide-terminated SAMs prepared by modified method after undergoing photocatalytic reduction and gold coupling. Figures A and B are controls while Figure C is the experiment.

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# 1946-48 PLYMOUTH COUPE

*Brian Cole, University of Wyoming*
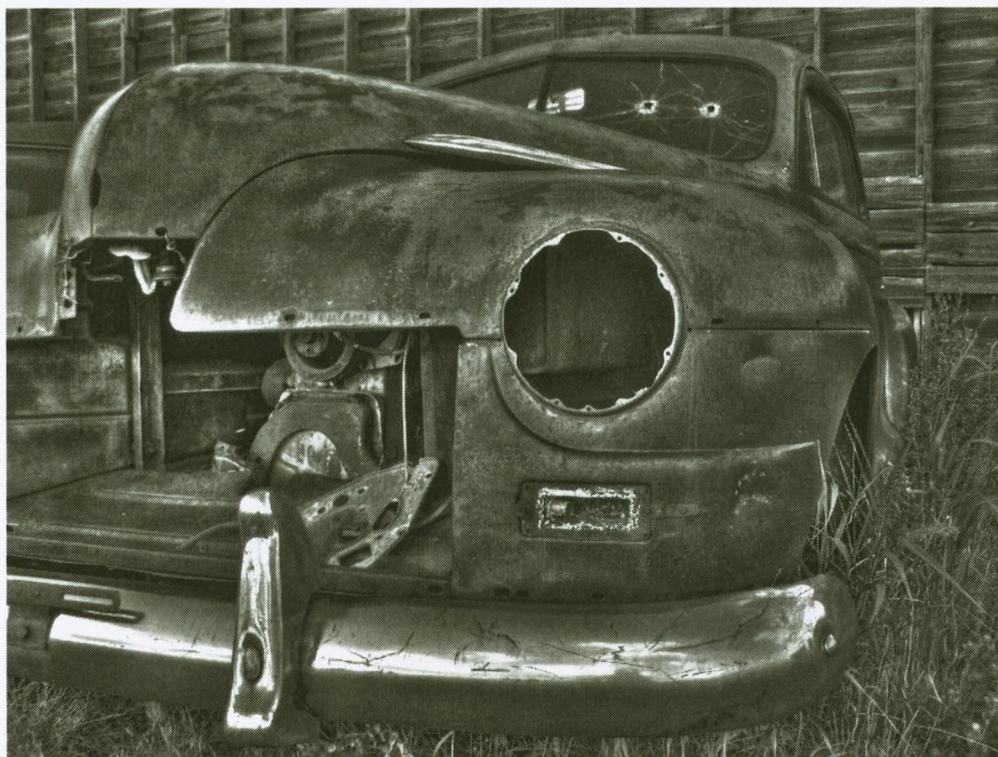
# EMOTIONAL LABOR IN PHYSICIANS IN MINNESOTA

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## Abstract

A physician's career undoubtedly involves emotional challenges. Family physicians have a high degree of patient contact and could therefore experience a great deal of pressure to display situation-appropriate emotions. When these emotions are not the emotions felt by the physician, emotional labor is practiced. This research explores the antecedents and consequences of suppressing negative and positive emotions. Hypotheses were tested using a sample of family physicians from Minnesota (N = 216). As predicted, results showed suppressing negative emotions was significantly related to emotional exhaustion whereas suppressing positive emotions was not related to emotional exhaustion. Although expected, suppressing negative or positive emotions was not related to job satisfaction or occupational commitment. With respect to the relations between dispositional empathy and suppressing emotions, the perspective-taking component of dispositional empathy was positively related to suppressing negative emotions. Empathic concern and perspective taking combined to marginally relate to suppressing positive emotions. Interpretation of the results, strengths and limitations of the research, and implications are discussed. By better understanding the influence of dispositional empathy on emotional labor and subsequent work-related outcomes, healthcare organizations can be more aware of the emotional strains of physicians' work and provide effective coping tools for them to counteract potential negative effects.

## Emotional Labor in Physicians in Minnesota

The growing shortage of healthcare workers comes as no shock to anyone. Nurses and primary care physicians are the most demanded medical professionals as of late. The American Academy of Family Physicians predicted that nearly all states will run short of family physicians in the next decade (*Medical News*, 2006). The growing population, the increasing number of elderly needing medical care, and the high number of baby boomers retiring from the medical profession have been cited as the reasons for this severe shortage. Primary care physicians are in the greatest demand (Colie, 2003). In 2006, 79 percent of primary care physicians reported receiving 26 or more job offers (Champlin, 2006). This provides an illustration of the need for these physicians. As the shortage continues to grow, it is increasingly important to keep those physicians already practicing in the profession.

In interactions with patients, physicians may have to hide felt emotions in order to convey appropriate empathy-related emotions for the situations. Such empathic responses are essential to generating high levels of patient satisfaction (Kim, Kaplowitz & Johnston, 2004). However, repeated demands to control certain emotions and display others mean that physicians are engaged in emotional labor (Hochschild, 1983). Emotional labor has been found to lead to emotional exhaustion, job dissatisfaction, and even poor health (Grandey, 2000). Among physicians, emotional exhaustion has been negatively linked to performance specific to the quality of care a patient receives (Shirom, Nirel & Vinokur, 2006).

Thus, if high numbers of physicians experience emotional labor and become emotionally exhausted as a result, many could experience low job-related attitudes that can negatively affect performance behaviors. Ultimately, those who become emotionally exhausted and leave the profession would compound the shortage of physicians. This research explores how emotional labor in the form of emotional suppression demands can impact emotional exhaustion, job satisfaction, and occupational commitment. I also investigate the influence of dispositional empathy on the extent to which emotions are suppressed. In the next section, I present a literature review on emotional labor and dispositional empathy to develop the research hypotheses.

## Emotional Labor

Emotional labor is defined as managing emotions, usually following organizational display rules, as part of one's job (Hochschild, 1983). Being able to control the emotions one actually feels to display the emotions that are appropriate for the situation is a common practice used nearly everyday. For emotional labor to be an issue, there have to be certain organizational or social display rules. When an individual's emotions are out of line with these display rules, a discrepancy exists and the individual is likely to practice emotional labor to correct the discrepancy (Grandey, 2000). This can involve two types of control.

First, in a situation in which a felt emotion is inappropriate, an individual would work to suppress what is felt (Diefendorff & Gosserand, 2003, Grandey, 2000). Second, one may need to fake or display an unfelt emotion that is in accordance with organizational display rules. Often, physicians are required to hide negative emotions and to display positive emotions to maintain a productive environment (Persaud, 2004). For example, when a physician gives a cancer diagnosis, he/she might feel like crying with the patient. However, this reaction could be inappropriate if the display rule is that the physician should be a stable, composed foundation for the patient. Thus, the physician suppresses the negative emotion and acts empathically toward the patient. In this research, I focus on the degree to which physicians suppress emotions as a component of emotional labor.

Engaging in emotional labor repeatedly is likely to have a negative impact on the physician. Research has shown that upon experiencing emotions and the subsequent regulation of those emotions, individuals experience stress. This may include psychological effects as well as physical effects such as increased respiration and heart rate that may lead to more serious problems like heart disease (Grandey, 2000).

If a physician is repeatedly required to manage emotions felt, emotional exhaustion can result (Brotheridge & Grandey, 2002; Grandey, 2000). Emotional exhaustion is defined as the depletion of one's resources, specifically emotional resources (Maslach,

Schaufeli & Leiter, 2001). This is characterized by feeling as though nothing more can be given to work because of a lack of energy. Emotional exhaustion is related to stress and prompts an emotional and cognitive distance from an individual's work (Maslach, et al, 2001). It has been linked to low job performance and voluntary turnover in order to escape the emotionally depleting situation (Brotheridge & Grandey, 2002). Suppressing negative emotions has been found more taxing on these physiological systems than suppressing positive emotions (Grandey, 2000). Thus, I expect that as the level of suppressing negative emotions increases, emotional exhaustion will increase as well.

Similarly, if one is constantly feeling strained and becoming physically ill from suppressing negative emotions at work, the individual is also likely to be dissatisfied and less committed to the field (Brotheridge & Grandey, 2002). Understanding job dissatisfaction among physicians is important because their satisfaction has been linked to patient satisfaction and other positive patient and health system outcomes (Williams, 1999). Additionally, occupational commitment is important to understand in this context because it represents "the motivation to work in a chosen vocation" (Goulet & Singh, 2002, p. 75). As occupational commitment decreases, this may indicate that a physician is less likely to remain in the profession. I expect that as suppressing negative emotions increases, these two job-related attitudes will decrease. The following hypothesis will be tested:

> *Hypothesis 1: Suppressing negative emotions will be positively related to emotional exhaustion, and negatively related to job satisfaction and occupational commitment.*

Although much of the research on emotional labor focuses on negative outcomes, the performance of emotional labor has recently been linked to positive outcomes. In the case of physicians, they might experience positive emotions from making an accurate diagnosis. Or, when successfully forcing the appropriate emotions, a physician can feel satisfied or pleased with one's self by having been able to display the appropriate emotion (Grandey, 2000, Persaud, 2004). In either case, these positive emotions may need to be suppressed when communicating with patients, especially when giving patients bad news. As mentioned above, suppressing positive emotions does not have same negative impact that suppression of negative emotions does (Grandey, 2000). Therefore, I expect that suppressing positive emotions will be positively related to job satisfaction and occupational commitment. That act will not be related to emotional exhaustion. The following hypothesis is offered:

> *Hypothesis 2: Suppressing positive emotions will be positively related to job satisfaction and occupational commitment.*

When considering these two perspectives on emotional labor, suppressing emotions may not always carry negative consequences as was once thought about emotional labor in general. However, little research has been conducted to understand why. I propose that the difference in whether an individual has negative outcomes from practicing emotional labor may be a result of the level of dispositional empathy that individual possesses. The construct of dispositional empathy and the relations to suppressing emotions are described next.

## Dispositional Empathy

Dispositional empathy involves reactions to observations that an individual makes of others (Davis, 1983). The reactions are a result of the individual's ability to perceive the feelings of another individual and to relate to those feelings in a variety of situations (Hojat, Mangione, Nasca, Gonnella & Magee, 2005). It encompasses both affective and cognitive dimensions that are present at varying levels in each individual (Davis, 1983; Hall, Davis & Connelly, 2000). Affective *empathic concern* refers to the tendency to experience feelings of sympathy and compassion for others in need (Davis, 1983). Someone with a high degree of empathic concern would be more likely to feel sympathy and emotions with the individual in distress. Cognitive *perspective taking* refers to taking the point of view of other people; walking a mile in another's shoes (Davis, 1983). Although conceptually distinct, the two types of empathy have been found to be significantly correlated (e.g., Davis, 1983)

One study found that physicians high in empathy experience emotional exhaustion and tend to leave clinical positions or retire earlier than physicians lower in empathy (Carmel & Glick, 1996). One possible explanation is that physicians who possess high levels of dispositional empathy are likely to experience emotions similar to what a patient experiences, but they may be required by organizational display rules to suppress those emotions. Thus, when giving bad news to patients, I expect that these physicians will engage in emotional labor to suppress the negative emotions they feel that are consistent with what patients experience. This should be especially true when physicians are high in empathic concern and perspective taking because they are best able to understand the patients' emotions and are more likely to feel them as well. On the contrary, a physician who is low in empathic concern and perspective taking would not experience the same emotions as patients and thus do not suppress negative emotions. Therefore, as empathic concern and perspective taking increase, suppressing negative emotions will increase.

Dispositional empathy will also impact the degree to which positive emotions are suppressed. Physicians who are low in perspective taking are more likely to focus on their work – i.e., the diagnosis and treatment – rather than the patients (Hojat, Gonnella, Nasca, Mangione, Vergare &Magee, 2002). For these individuals, they may be inclined to experience positive emotions because of their correct diagnoses even if the diagnosis will cause negative emotions for the patients. However, these individuals who possess empathic concern may also feel bad for the patients in general. Therefore, they won't be experiencing the positive emotions to the same extent as those who are low in perspective taking and empathic concern. As a result, the physicians who are low in perspective taking and high in empathic concern will not have to suppress positive emotions as much as physicians who are low in perspective taking and low in empathic concern. When perspective taking is high, the individuals who will engage in the most effort to suppress any emotion other than what the patient is feeling are those with high levels of empathic concern. I expect these individuals suppress the greatest amount of positive emotions. These relationships are the basis for the following hypothesis:

*Hypothesis 3: Empathic concern and perspective taking will relate to suppressing negative and positive emotions:*

• *Empathic concern and perspective taking will be positively related to suppressing negative emotions.*

• *Empathic concern will interact with perspective taking to influence suppressing positive emotions.*

## Method

### Participants and Procedures

A random sample of 750 members of the Minnesota Academy of Family Physicians (MAFP) member database was mailed a packet in accordance with the research protocol approved by the University of Minnesota Institutional Review Board. The packet contained the research solicitation letter, the informed consent sheet, the survey comprised of the questions of interest for the research, and a business-reply envelope in which the survey could be returned. Responses were received from 216 physicians (29% response rate).

The final sample was comprised of 121 males (56% of the sample). The mean age of respondents was 46.9 years, and the average time respondents had been practicing medicine was 16.6 years. Respondents worked on average 47.2 hours per week, and 87 of the participants (40%) reported working in rural settings.

### Measures

The final items for each of the scales described below, except emotional exhaustion[1], are listed in the Appendix. Some scales were shortened in order to ensure the briefest survey possible for the physicians. The items with the highest factor loadings as reported in previous research were selected for these modified scales. All items were measured using a 5-point Likert-type response scale unless otherwise noted.

*Emotional Labor: Suppressing Emotions.* Ten items were developed as adaptations from existing emotional labor scales (Brotheridge & Taylor, 2006) to better frame physician specific scenarios (five items for 'suppress negative emotions' and five items for 'suppress positive emotions'). Principal components factor analysis using varimax rotation and specifying two factors was conducted on the ten items. One of the suppress positive emotion items did not load on either factor above the .40 minimum criteria; thus it was dropped from the subsequent analysis. In the following factor analysis of the nine remaining items, all items loaded on the appropriate factors. These two factors explained 46.72 percent of the total variance. Reliabilities for each scale were somewhat low, but still sufficient given that the items were created for this research. The Cronbach alpha for the suppress negative emotion scale was $\alpha = .62$, and for the suppress positive emotion scale it was $\alpha = .67$.

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1. The emotional burnout items are from the Maslach Burnout Inventory (MBI), which may not be reprinted without permission.

*Dispositional Empathy.* Measures for perspective-taking and for empathic concern were adapted from the Interpersonal Reactivity Index (IRI, Davis, 1980). In this original instrument that assesses dispositional empathy, seven items are used to measure each facet. For the current research, only the six items for each factor with the highest loadings were used. Reliabilities for each subscale were consistent with the previous research: perspective taking, $\alpha = .78$, and empathic concern, $\alpha = .72$.

*Emotional exhaustion.* Seven items from the emotional exhaustion subscale of the Maslach Burnout Inventory (MBI) were used to measure the frequency of feeling emotionally exhausted from work (Maslach, Jackson, & Leiter, 1996). Although the original scale is comprised of nine items, the seven-item scale showed consistent reliability with the longer measure based on previous research, $\alpha = .85$.

*Job Satisfaction.* The five "global job satisfaction" items from the Physician Worklife Survey (Williams, et al., 1999) were used to measure job satisfaction. The reliability of the scale was $\alpha = .82$.

*Occupational Commitment.* Blau's (1985) seven-item measure of career commitment was used to measure occupational commitment. Reliability of the scale was $\alpha = .82$.

## Results

The means, standard deviations and correlations for the items can be seen in Table 1. Gender, age, number of years practicing, and average hours worked per week were correlated with the variables of interest. Age and number of years practicing medicine were almost perfectly correlated and thus years practicing medicine was used as the control variable of the two. Gender and average hours worked per week were also used as control variables.

Similar to dispositional empathy research using the IRI, perspective taking and empathic concern were significantly correlated with one another. However, these variables were distinctly correlated with the other variables in the study, which suggests that examining separate and combined effects of the two types of dispositional empathy is appropriate.

With respect to the outcome variables, job satisfaction was significantly highly correlated with occupational commitment indicating that those who are satisfied are also committed to the profession. Both job satisfaction and occupational commitment were significantly negatively correlated with emotional exhaustion. This reinforces the idea that when one is experiencing emotional exhaustion, that individual is not likely to be satisfied with the job nor committed to staying in the profession.

Hypothesis 1 stated that suppressing negative emotions would be positively related to emotional exhaustion and negatively related to job satisfaction and occupational commitment. This was tested using hierarchical regression. After controlling for gender, years practicing medicine, and hours worked per week, results showed a statistically significant effect of suppressing negative emotions on emotional exhaustion, $R^2\Delta = .03$, $F\Delta(1, 205) = 7.49$, $p < .01$. Suppressing negative emotions was not related to job satisfaction or to occupational commitment (see Table 2 for complete statistics). These findings partially support Hypothesis 1.

Hypothesis 2 stated that suppressing positive emotions would be positively related to job satisfaction and occupational commitment (suppressing positive emotions was not expected to be related to emotional exhaustion). None of these relationships were statistically significant (see Table 3), and thus Hypothesis 2 was not supported.

Hypothesis 3 was that the types of dispositional empathy would influence the suppression of negative and positive emotions. To test an interaction effect, the hierarchical regression models followed the steps outlined by Baron and Kenny (1986). The control variables were entered in Step 1 of the model, the centered independent variables (perspective taking and empathic concern) were entered in Step 2, and the product of the centered independent variables was entered in Step 3. Results showed no significant interaction effect of dispositional empathy on suppressing negative emotions. However, perspective-taking had a statistically significant, negative independent effect on suppressing negative emotions in Step 2 of the model, $\beta = -.19$, $t = -2.46$, $p = .02$, that remained significant when the interaction term was entered in the model (see Table 4). The dispositional empathy interaction effect on suppressing positive emotions was marginally significant, $R^2\Delta = .02$, $F\Delta (1,200) = 3.11$, $p = .08$. The interpretations of the results are presented in the Discussion section below.

## Discussion

In the medical field, patients are more satisfied with their care if they perceive physicians and medical staff to be empathetic toward their needs (Carmel & Glick, 1996, Shirom et al, 2006). The patient's perception is important to their care such that this creates a set of emotional display rules for physicians. Yet, the organization creates another set of emotional display rules. Throughout medical school and their careers, physicians are socialized to focus on the medicine while displaying a detached concern for the patient (Shanafelt, West, Zhao, Novotony, Kolars & Habermann, 2005). Grades and paychecks are not based on how physicians relate to their patients, but rather on their ability to diagnose and treat patients. In an Israeli study of 214 physicians at a general hospital in an urban area, the physicians ranked qualities for a good doctor and the same qualities for receiving a promotion. The quality reported most important to being a good doctor was empathy. However, empathy was rated last in the rank for receiving a promotion (Carmel & Glick, 1996). In this particular hospital, though the physicians know empathy is part of being good to the patients, they also know they are not rewarded for that empathy. The two sets of emotional display rules can require immense emotional labor for physicians to suppress negative and positive emotions during patient interactions.

To date, much of the research has looked at emotional labor and dispositional empathy separately but has not examined the relationship between them, nor how the two together relate to physicians. In addition, very little research has been done on either topic regarding physicians. I addressed these gaps in the literature to better understand how they can influence job-related attitudes that can impact physicians' decisions to leave the occupation.

First, the findings from tests of Hypothesis 1 suggest the more that physicians suppress the negative emotions they feel, the more emotionally exhausted they become. It is possible that those physicians feel negative emotions such as sad or angry during patient interactions but work to hide those feelings to display supportive empathic expressions. This causes increased emotional exhaustion. In this study, suppressing negative emotions did not influence physician job satisfaction or occupational satisfaction. Although the direct relations were not present, the statistically significant correlations between emotional exhaustion and these two attitudinal variables indi-

cate that emotional exhaustion mediates the relation between suppressing negative emotions and the outcomes.

Results specific to Hypothesis 2 showed that suppressing positive emotions was not related to any dependent variables tested. With respect to emotional exhaustion, this non-significant finding was consistent with my expectation; suppressing positive emotions is not emotionally taxing for physicians. That suppressing positive emotions does not positively relate to job satisfaction or occupational commitment may be explained by the notion that there are other job-specific factors that are the primary reasons individuals enter the profession and therefore are more important in influencing these variables. Still, these findings provide additional information regarding the importance of understanding the act of suppressing negative emotions and the emotional exhaustion that can occur as a result.

Finally, Hypothesis 3 involved the effects of dispositional empathy on suppressing emotions. The two dimensions of dispositional empathy (empathic concern and perspective taking) had no interaction effect on suppressing negative emotions. However, the direct relation between perspective taking and suppressing negative emotions was statistically significant – in a *negative* direction. This means that as perspective taking ability increases, physicians are *less* likely to suppress negative emotions, which was not what I expected. Perhaps this is because felt negative emotions are indeed the empathic reaction that patients desire. For example, a patient receiving bad news wants their physician to appear somewhat sad. In this case, though, it is surprising that empathic concern was not significantly related to suppressing negative emotions as well. Exploring this is a potential area for future research.

Hypothesis 3 also specified that empathic concern and perspective taking would interact to influence suppressing positive emotions. Although this was not statistically significant at the traditional significance level of $p = .05$, this interaction effect was marginally significant. The relation, which is consistent with my expectation, is illustrated in Figure 1. This shows that the physicians most likely to suppress positive emotions are high in both perspective taking and empathic concern. When perspective taking is low, the physicians who reported suppressing the greater amount of positive emotions also had low empathic concern. Still these differences are small, considering that this was measured on a 5-point scale. And because suppressing positive emotions does not have an impact on job-related variables, this difference may not be as important as understanding the impact of dispositional empathy on suppressing negative emotions. Next, I briefly describe the strengths and limitations of the research and discuss implications for management and future research.

### Strengths & Limitations

The current research has several strengths associated with the methods and measures used. First, the response rate of nearly 30% created a good sample of the 750 family physicians surveyed. Second, the survey used valid and reliable measures developed and tested thoroughly such as the IRI to measure dispositional empathy, MBI items to measure emotional exhaustion, and the items used to measure job satisfaction and occupational commitment.

Ensuring the anonymity of the participants' responses minimized a potential concern of physicians providing inaccurate information; this information was provided to each respondent in the Informed Consent Sheet sent with the survey. Because of physicians' workloads the questionnaire was designed to be concise and to

only take about 10 minutes of their time. This helped to obtain the good response rate. However, a limitation of this method was using self-report data collected at one point in time – mono-method bias. Regardless, the correlations and regression analyses are useful in understanding the relations among the variables of interest in this research.

Another limitation was that the research focused only on suppressing emotions. By not also examining forcing the appropriate emotions as well, this may not provide a holistic view of emotional labor. However, this approach was appropriate for such exploratory research and to help maintain simplicity of the proposed relations.

## Implications

Physicians may need to employ specific coping mechanisms to help control the emotional exhaustion experienced from suppressing negative emotions. In addition, health care organizations may provide Employee Assistance Programs or encourage participation in group therapy. In order to better prepare individuals entering the field, courses on managing emotions – including how to act during patient interactions and coping with the stress of emotional labor – in medical schools could be considered. These activities may be beneficial in helping to control the number of physicians currently practicing medicine that may be nearing emotional exhaustion and considering leaving the occupation.

From a research perspective, I suggest several directions for future research. First, more work should be done to examine the emotional labor component, including forcing the display of emotions that are required of organizational rules. Second, there should be further work done to understand the relationship between dispositional empathy scores and the kind of emotional labor employed; forcing or suppressing, surface or deep acting. Finally, work should be done to understand which mechanisms are most effective in diminishing the effect of emotional labor on physician's emotional exhaustion so that programs may be developed to train physicians to better deal with their working environment and perhaps help to slow the shortage of physicians we face.

Physicians are asked to empathize with patients on a daily basis and if they are unable to portray a genuine care for those patients, the patient may become dissatisfied. It is important for physicians to be empathetic to contribute to better quality of care and patient satisfaction. Some individuals become physicians because of their caring nature and they are best suited to provide this empathy. Are these individuals also likely to engage in more emotional labor to control other felt emotions? Healthcare organizations should be working to keep these empathetic physicians from becoming emotionally exhausted and therefore more likely to leave the occupation. The concept of emotional labor is intricate and fascinating. This research has been especially interesting to me because I hope to enter the medical profession as a family physician. My biggest concern in doing so was dealing with the emotions I would no doubt feel with my patients and how the emotional labor I would employ might affect me in the long term.

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## Appendix

### SURVEY ITEMS

#### Perspective Taking

1. Before criticizing somebody, I try to imagine how I would feel if I were in their place.
2. I sometimes try to understand my friends better by imagining how things look from their perspective.
3. I believe that there are two sides to every question and try to look at them both.
4. I sometimes find it difficult to see things from the "other guy's" point of view.*
5. I try to look at everybody's side of a disagreement before I make a decision.
6. When I'm upset at someone, I usually try to "put myself in his shoes" for a while.

#### Empathic Concern

7. When I see someone being treated unfairly, I sometimes don't feel very much pity for them.*
8. I often have tender, concerned feelings for people less fortunate than me.
9. I would describe myself as a pretty soft-hearted person.
10. Sometimes I don't feel sorry for other people when they are having problems.*
11. Other people's misfortunes do not usually disturb me a great deal.*
12. I am often quite touched by things that I see happen.

#### Job Satisfaction

13. I find my present clinical work personally rewarding.
14. Overall, I am pleased with my work.
15. Overall, I am satisfied with my current practice.
16. My current work situation is a major source of frustration.*
17. My work in this practice has not met my expectations.

#### Occupational Commitment

18. If I could get another job different from this one and paying the same amount, I would probably take it.*
19. I definitely want a career for myself in my current area.
20. If I could do it all over again, I would not choose to work in this profession.*
21. If I had all the money I need without working, I would probably still continue in this profession.*
22. I like this vocation too well to give it up.
23. This is the ideal vocation for a work life.
24. I am disappointed that I ever entered this profession.*

## Suppressing Negative Emotions

25. When dealing with patients, I suppress negative emotions I feel (e.g., sadness, anger, grief).
26. I often feel negative emotions when interacting with patients that I do not show them.
27. I have to contain the negative emotions I feel when giving patients bad news.
28. I generally control negative emotions I feel when interacting with patients and force myself to display empathy.
29. I often appear hopeful to my patients but have to suppress negative emotions at the same time that may be inappropriate.

## Suppressing Positive Emotions

30. I often feel positive emotions when interacting with patients that I do not show them.
31. I have to contain the positive emotions I feel when giving patients bad news.
32. I generally control positive emotions I feel when interacting with patients and force myself to display empathy.
33. I often appear hopeful to patients but have to suppress positive emotions at the same time that may be inappropriate.

*Item reversed coded.

# Table 1

## Means, Standard Deviations, and Correlations

| | Variable | Mean | S.D. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Age | 46.91 | 1.00 | – | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | Number of Years Practicing | 16.57 | 10.47 | .93** | – | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | Gender | | | -.37** | -.39** | – | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | Avg. Hours Worked/Week | 47.25 | 13.89 | .04 | .02 | -.22** | – | | | | | | | |
| 5 | Perspective Taking | 3.82 | .61 | .08 | .04 | .05 | .02 | – | | | | | | |
| 6 | Empathic Concern | 4.00 | .60 | -.04 | -.10 | .22** | -.12 | .40** | – | | | | | |
| 7 | Suppress Negative Emotions | 2.82 | .51 | -.06** | -.03 | .04 | -.02 | -.18** | -.05 | – | | | | |
| 8 | Suppress Positive Emotions | 2.17 | .59 | .05 | .03 | -.15* | .11 | -.01 | -.06 | .33** | – | | | |
| 9 | Emotional Exhaustion | 2.55 | .60 | -.32** | -.28** | .15* | .03 | -.14* | -.03 | -.08 | -.04 | – | | |
| 10 | Job Satisfaction | 3.90 | .66 | .22** | .21** | -.04 | -.01 | .25** | .11 | -.05 | -.06 | -.63** | – | |
| 11 | Occupational Commitment | 3.74 | .77 | .28** | .24** | -.01 | .04 | .28** | .21** | -.08 | -.04 | -.55** | .63** | – |

Note: * $p < .05$; ** $p < .01$.

## Table 2

**Hierarchical Regression Results of Suppressing Negative Emotions on the Outcomes***

| Variable | Model $R^2$ | $R^2\Delta$ | $F\Delta(df)$ | $\beta$ | t | p |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| DV: Emotional Exhaustion | .12 | .03 | 7.49(1, 205) | | | |
| Control: Gender | | | | .05 | .73 | .47 |
| Control: Years Practicing Medicine | | | | -.26 | -3.60 | .00 |
| Control: Hours per Week Worked | | | | .05 | -.72 | .47 |
| IV: Suppress Neg Emotions | | | | .18 | 2.74 | .01 |
| DV: Job Satisfaction | .06 | .01 | 2.42(1, 205) | | | |
| Control: Gender | | | | .05 | .62 | .56 |
| Control: Years Practicing Medicine | | | | .22 | 3.0 | .00 |
| Control: Hours per Week Worked | | | | .00 | -.02 | .98 |
| IV: Suppress Neg Emotions | | | | -.11 | -1.56 | .12 |
| DV: Occupational Commitment | .07 | .01 | 1.21(1, 205) | | | |
| Control: Gender | | | | .11 | 1.45 | .15 |
| Control: Years Practicing Medicine | | | | .27 | 3.74 | .00 |
| Control: Hours per Week Worked | | | | .05 | .78 | .44 |
| IV: Suppress Neg Emotions | | | | -.07 | -1.10 | .27 |

*Step 2 statistics with all variables in the model after controlling for gender, years practicing medicine, and hours per week worked entered in Step 1.

**Table 3**

**Hierarchical Regression Results of Suppressing Positive Emotions on the Outcomes***

| Variable | Model $R^2$ | $R^2\Delta$ | $F\Delta(df)$ | $\beta$ | t | p |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| DV: Emotional Exhaustion | .09 | .01 | 1.50(1, 204) | | | |
| Control: Gender | | | | .07 | .95 | .35 |
| Control: Years Practicing Medicine | | | | -.26 | -3.55 | .00 |
| Control: Hours per Week Worked | | | | .04 | .57 | .57 |
| IV: Suppress Pos Emotions | | | | .08 | 1.23 | .22 |
| DV: Job Satisfaction | .04 | .00 | .28(1, 202) | | | |
| Control: Gender | | | | .05 | .65 | .52 |
| Control: Years Practicing Medicine | | | | .21 | 2.73 | .01 |
| Control: Hours per Week Worked | | | | .00 | .01 | .99 |
| IV: Suppress Pos Emotions | | | | -.04 | -.53 | .59 |
| DV: Occupational Commitment | .06 | .00 | .25(1, 202) | | | |
| Control: Gender | | | | .11 | 1.48 | .14 |
| Control: Years Practicing Medicine | | | | .27 | 3.61 | .00 |
| Control: Hours per Week Worked | | | | .07 | .93 | .36 |
| IV: Suppress Pos Emotions | | | | -.03 | -.50 | .62 |

*Step 2 statistics with all variables in the model after controlling for gender, years practicing medicine, and hours per week worked entered in Step 1.

## Table 4

**Hierarchical Regression Results of Dispositional Empathy and Suppressing Emotions***

| Variable | Model $R^2$ | $R^2\Delta$ | $F\Delta(df)$ | $\beta$ | t | p |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| DV: Suppressing Negative Emotions | .05 | .01 | 2.20(1, 201) | | | |
| Control: Gender | | | | .04 | .45 | .65 |
| Control: Years Practicing Medicine | | | | -.02 | -.23 | .82 |
| Control: Hours per Week Worked | | | | .01 | .07 | .94 |
| Control: Perspective Taking | | | | -.17 | -2.21 | .03 |
| Control: Empathic Concern | | | | .02 | .23 | .82 |
| Interaction: PT x EC | | | | .10 | 1.48 | .14 |
| DV: Suppressing Positive Emotions | .05 | .02 | 3.11(1, 200) | | | |
| Control: Gender | | | | -.13 | -1.60 | .11 |
| Control: Years Practicing Medicine | | | | .00 | .01 | .99 |
| Control: Hours per Week Worked | | | | .10 | 1.33 | .19 |
| Control: Perspective Taking | | | | .05 | .65 | .52 |
| Control: Empathic Concern | | | | -.02 | -.23 | .82 |
| Interaction: PT x EC | | | | .12 | 1.76 | .08 |

*Step 3 (interaction term entered into model) statistics with all variables in the model after controlling for gender, years practicing medicine, and hours per week worked entered in Step 1 and the centered IV's entered in Step 2.

**Figure 1**

**The Effect of Perspective Taking and Empathic Concern on Suppressing Positive Emotions**
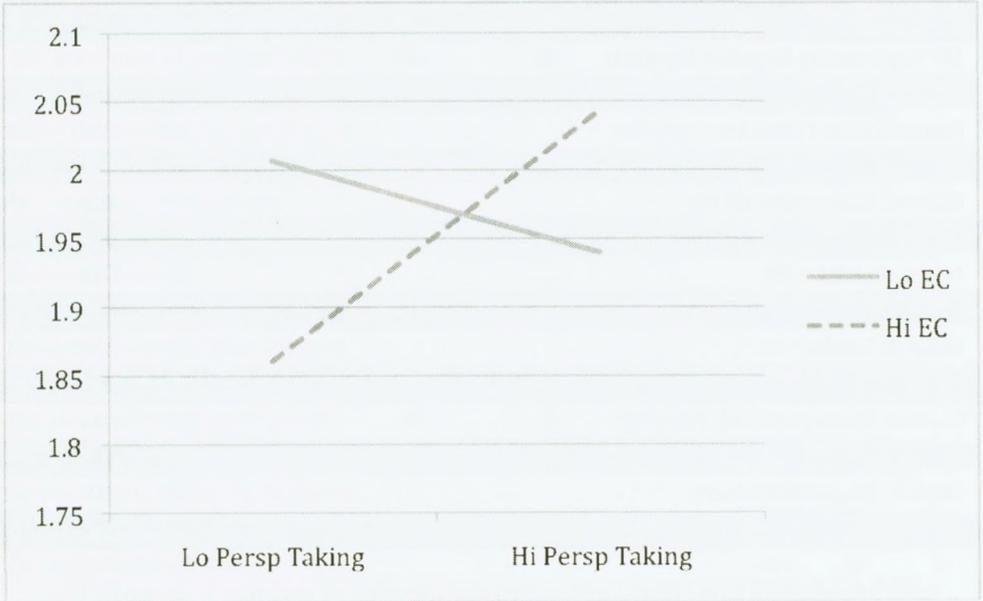
# THE ARTISTRY OF MELINDA ARCHER

*Corey Clawson, Utah State University*

I.

Smothered in the shadows
of sweet, sunset-red
roses, hawthorn elegance, the
aroma of camellia, she
crumbled.

Such beauty comes costly
to the bearer only
to fall
away with the
swapping
of the seasons.

II.

In the studio,
she was the only one
able to tell a story
with so few strokes
to create a tapestry
with the threads of fire and ice
upon her palette.

I insisted, but
she chose to paint
"otherwise"—with dust,
and death, and dirt.

"These stories are not lies,"
she said before
she left, before
I turned around to find the doorway
so hollow—taut
with silence.

III.

Blooming, an autumn
blossom in a landscape
of wilted weeds; somber
hemlock hills of desolation
and rough cocklebur ridges
with subtle strokes of sagebrush.

She ascends up and above,
out and over
her watercolor wasteland.  But
even now,
those suffocating shadows
call her away.

# Chivalry and Romanticism in the Antebellum South

*Erica Whalen, University of Minnesota Duluth*

"The centrality of slavery to the South became increasingly pronounced during the half century preceding the Civil War."[1] As the sectional divide over slavery increased, the question of slavery became increasingly tied to southern culture itself. To defend slavery, it became necessary to defend Southern society itself through its hierarchical structure, chivalry and Romanticism.

Slavery's supporters associated the defense of the peculiar institution to the defense of the South itself. "Because slavery was by now confined to the Southern states and the attack on slavery came almost entirely from without, the defense of slavery became...tantamount to the defense of the South."[2] The Missouri Compromise of 1820 restricted the growth of slavery and the increasing strength of abolitionism in the North created pressure on the Southern states to defend slavery. Slavery's development to a purely Southern institution made it associated it with a society unique to the South.

The national growth of the 19th century led to increasing differences between the North and the South. As the North industrialized, the South became increasingly dependent on cotton as the base of its economy. Cotton was too profitable a crop to justify industrialization in the South. The Nullification Crisis over tariffs during Jackson's administration reflects the difference of economic interests in the North and South. Slavery, as the basis of the South's labor system, was the basis of its economy. To slaveholders, slavery "represented not just an economic interest but also a way of life; abolition threatened not just the loss of money but also the loss of a world."[3] Therefore, it became necessary to defend slavery in terms of defending the Southern way of life as a whole.

The resident mentality of slave owners became more entrenched in the 19th century. As slave owners were more present in the daily operations of their plantations, they increasingly saw themselves as benevolent protectors of their slaves, caring for them as they felt they could not on their own. To them, slaves were an inferior, extended part of the household. Paternalism is tied to the ideas of chivalry, romanticism, and the rigid social hierarchy of the South. Like feudal landowners, slave owners saw themselves as the rightful leaders of society, bound to exercise control over their slaves. By giving their slaves access to Christianity, slave owners saw themselves as part of a mission to civilize the heathen slaves who should therefore be

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1. Peter Kolchin, *American Slavery, 1619-1877* (New York: Hill and Wang, revised edition, 2003), 169.
2. Ibid., 198.
3. Ibid.

grateful for their condition of servitude. Unlike colonial slavery, antebellum slavery did not deny Christianity to slaves and punishments were not as archaic. Nineteenth century slave owners considered themselves enlightened, civilized masters, bound to protect their slave property. This paternalistic ideology of slaveholders helped to justify slavery.

The ownership of slaves was the basis for the Southern aristocracy. To protect a society which was dependent on slave labor, it was necessary to prove that the social hierarchy was justified. Slave owners saw themselves as part of a new aristocracy based on the labor of their slaves. "This class of planters owned over half of all slaves, and their economic power fostered dominance of their states' social, economic, and political life."[4] Because southern slaveholders considered themselves as part of an elite class they felt they were protecting the south's social structure through defending the institution of slavery.

According to an 1860 article published in De Bow's Review, "the dispute between North and South was not merely political and economic in nature. It also reflected a deep cultural and racial division that had originated over two hundred years ago in England in the antagonism between Puritan and Cavalier."[5] The English Civil War lasted from 1642 to 1651 and was made up of a struggle between the supporters of the monarchy: the Cavaliers, who were aristocratic in nature and the Puritans, who supported the forces of Oliver Cromwell and the Parliamentarians. Many of the defeated Cavaliers immigrated to Virginia, and Southerners often saw themselves as carrying on the noble qualities of the original Cavalier settlers. The Romantic idea of Southerners as heirs to the English aristocracy protected the idea of an established aristocracy in America. The author of the De Bow's Review article believed the North, which he believed to be descended from Puritans, would be perpetually jealous, and, therefore, always opposed to the South's aristocracy. Consequently, this jealousy was the cause of the Northern attack on slavery and Southern society.

Confederate cavalry officer J.E.B. Stuart demonstrated the extent to which he identified himself as part of the Cavalier tradition by his costume. "Dressed in knee-high cavalry boots, elbow-length gauntlets, red-lined cape with a yellow sash, and a felt hat with pinned-up brim and ostrich-feather plume, Stuart looked the dashing cavalier he aspired to be."[6] Stuart's vision of himself carrying on the marshal tradition of the Cavaliers is evidence of the Southern belief that they were defending an aristocratic, superior culture. Southerners, such as the author of the De Bow's Review article, saw Southern culture and its social hierarchy as inherently superior to the North.

Romanticism influenced the way many of the members of the antebellum South's plantation class viewed Southern society and defended it. The Romantic Movement in literature and art, which first appeared in England and Germany in the 18th century, was an important force in the literature of the American South. Romanticism was a reaction to the classicism and reliance on reason of the Enlightenment. It championed individual liberty, imagination, emotion, the natural world, and reverenced

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4.   Allan Gallay, "The Origins of Slaveholders' Paternalism: George Whitefield, the Bryan Family, and the Great Awakening in the South." The Journal of Southern History, vol. 53, no. 3 (August, 1987): 371. JSTOR www.jstor.org (Accessed 26 April, 2008)

5.   Ritchie Watson, "The Difference of Race: Antebellum Race Mythology and the Development of Southern Nationalism," the Southern Literary Journal 35.1 (2002) 1-13. Accessed through http://find.galegroup.com (Accessed 7 March, 2008), 1.

6.   James McPherson, *Battle Cry of Freedom: the Civil War Era* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1988), 463.

the medieval. Romanticism developed in the American South in the 1830s although it was also present in the North.

Although both Northerners and Southerners read Romantic novels, they had a different effect upon the Southern population.

> *Southerners considered themselves not unlike the chivalrous knights and their ladies of old, as is evidenced by their enjoyment of ring tournaments and their characterization of themselves as descended from Normans and Cavaliers, while Yankees, with their plebeian lineages, could only find Saxon or Roundhead ancestry.*[7]

Romantic novels reinforced the traditional view of Southerners as descended from a noble class of settlers. The celebration of emotion and the past also supported the Southern mythology. Despite the presence of Romantic literature in both the North and the South, Romanticism had a greater influence on Southern society.

The work of the English Romanticist, Sir Walter Scott, especially through his novel *Ivanhoe*, stimulated the development of Romanticism and the culture of the antebellum South. Written in 1819, *Ivanhoe* was set in 12th century England and concerned the adventures of Ivanhoe, a knight returned from the Crusades and the secret arrival of King Richard the Lionheart. Ivanhoe is the embodiment of the chivalric ideal as he is intensely loyal to King Richard, devout, and ruled by a sense of honor and duty. *Ivanhoe* is a romantic adventure story, which champions chivalry and honor. The Chivalric ideal promoted in *Ivanhoe* was highly valued in the South, especially among the plantation class. Mary Chesnut's Civil War diary, one of the best sources on the war, often makes reference to Scott. "Between February of 1861 and June of 1865, she cites Scott about two dozen times."[8] Chesnut's diary shows the extent to which Scott permeated Southern thought. His writing reinforced the idea of an aristocratic society because it paralleled the society of the medieval England of *Ivanhoe*. Southern authors wrote romantic novels in imitation of Scott's work, which helped to disseminate romantic values and the value of chivalry.

The idea of chivalry was used as a justification of slavery by the slaveholding class. As in Scott's *Ivanhoe*, chivalric ideals in the south supported social stratification. Charles W. Chesnutt, in his famous 1900 novel, *The House Behind the Cedars*, describes the antebellum South; "the South before the war was essentially feudal, and Scott's novels of chivalry appealed forcefully to the feudal heart."[9] The novel includes a tournament based on one described in *Ivanhoe*. John Warwick, one of the novel's main characters, reflects on the tournament staged in imitation of *Ivahoe*:

> *"I'm sure our chivalry has proved its valor on many a hard-fought field. The spirit of a thing, after all, is what counts; and what is lacking here? We have the lists, the knights, the prancing steeds, the trial of strength and skill. If our knights do not run the physical risks of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, they have all the mental stimulus. Wounded vanity will take the place of wounded limbs, and there*

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7.  R. Don Higgenbotham, "The Martial Spirit in the Antebellum South: Some Further Speculations in a National Context, "*The Journal of Southern History, Vol. 58, No. 1* (February, 1992). 4. JSTOR. http:www.jstor.org (Accessed 3 May, 2008).

8.  Franklin Burroughs, "Lost Causes and Gallantry: Johnny Reb and the Shadow of Sir Walter." *American Scholar 72:4* (Fall 2003). 86. MLA International Bibliography. http://collections.chadwyck.com (Accessed 7 May, 2008).

9.  Charles W. Chesnutt, *The House Behind the Cedars* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2000), 45.

*will be broken hopes in lieu of broken heads. How many hearts in yonder group of gallant horsemen beat high with hope! How many possible Queens of Love and Beauty are in this group of fair faces that surround us!"*[10]

Warwick's speech reveals the extent to which *Ivanhoe* was internalized by Southerners. They identified the ideals of Scott's novel so deeply with their culture that they attempted to recreate one of the iconic events of the chivalric era: the joust.

Rena, the protagonist of *The House Behind the Cedars*, changes her name from Rena to Rowena, after the heroine of *Ivanhoe*, in an effort to fit into the aristocratic culture of South Carolina. Chesnutt's novel, although set after Reconstruction, shows that chivalry was still an important force in the South. In the antebellum time, supporters of slavery saw Southern society as a bastion of chivalry that needed to be protected through preserving slavery.

Mark Twain, in his *Life on the Mississippi*, went so far as to say, "Sir Walter had so large a hand in making Southern character, as it existed before the war, that he is in great measure responsible for the war."[11] Although this argument is overstated, Sir Walter Scott and his writing in the Romantic style deeply impacted the Southern character. Twain saw the South as governed by Romantic ideas, as evidenced by the popularity of Mardi Gras, which he believed "could hardly exist in the practical North."[12] Twain felt Sir Walter Scott and his Romanticism were responsible for reversing the progress accomplished by the ideas of the French Revolution and Napoleon. The conservatism associated with Southern Romanticism and chivalric ideals went against the liberalism and democratic ideas championed by the French Revolution. "While Romanticism in Europe and the North had many ideas that catered to change, the South could only assimilate the most static and reactionary aspects of the movement."[13] Twain saw that the French Revolution and the reign of Napoleon were part of the progress of Western society. In effect, the South was a place of backward conservatism due to its espousal of Romantic ideas. Twain continues with, "It was he [Scott] that created rank and caste down there, and also reverence for rank and caste, and pride and pleasure in them."[14] According to Twain, Scott's influence was also responsible for the rigid hierarchical structure of the South. Mark Twain emphasized the impact of Sir Walter Scott's Romanticism on the society of the antebellum South and the way that Romanticism contributed to the war.

The ideas of romanticism, chivalry, and defense of the Southern social hierarchy were significant in fueling the secessionist cause. "Because slavery issues were bound up with honor, many Alabamians saw the compromise [of 1850] as dishonorable and unchivalrous."[15] What Southerners felt was bending to Northern pressure violated the traditional sense of chivalry. The sectional struggle over slavery pitted Northern interests against Southern and the South did not want to see its interests subverted to those of the North.

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10. *The House Behind the Cedars*, 47-48.
11. Mark Twain, *Life on the Mississippi* (New York: Bantam Books, 1990), 220.
12. Ibid., 218.
13. Michael O'Brien, "The Lineaments of Antebellum Southern Romanticism," *Journal of American Studies vol. 20, no. 2* (1986). 166.
14. *Life on the Mississippi*, 219-20.
15. Wallace T Hettle, "Curing the 'Sir Walter Disease': the politics and fiction of Jeremiah Clemens" *Alabama Review* (July 1999) 1-14. Accessed through http://findarticles.com (Accessed 1 April, 2008), 3.

The caning of Senator Charles Sumner on the Senate floor by Congressman Preston Brooks on May 22nd, 1856 due to his extremely passionate speech against slavery and the Kansas-Nebraska act demonstrates the power of the Southern sense of honor. Brooks felt the need to defend the honor of the South, whose slavery Sumner had compared to a harlot, and the honor of his cousin Andrew Butler, who was one of the authors of the Kansas-Nebraska Act. Presumably, Brooks felt "dueling was for social equals; someone as low as this Yankee blackguard deserved a horsewhipping-or a caning."[16] The use of caning against Sumner is evidence of the stringent sense of Southern honor and social hierarchy. The South rallied around Brook's "heroic" actions against Yankee abolitionism. The romantic and chivalric sense of honor valued by the South contributed to Brooks' actions and the Southern approval of them.

The election of Abraham Lincoln to the presidency in 1860 was seen as the greatest affront to the Southern way of life. "When the challenge to that system [slavery] appeared too great, Southern political leaders demonstrated the extent to which they identified slavery as central to their world by taking their states out of the Union and into war."[17] Secessionists saw themselves as defending their way of life, which was defined in terms of romantic and chivalric ideas and a hierarchical social structure, from Northern interference. Confederates considered themselves defending what they felt was a superior culture threatened by the North.

16. *Battle Cry of Freedom: the Civil War Era,* 150.
17. *American Slavery, 1619-1877,* 170.

# LONDON GRAFFITI

*Catherine Barnett, Taylor University*

# OXFORD BUILDING

*Catherine Barnett, Taylor University*

# BUILDING BLOCKS FOR AN ENERGY EFFICIENT FUTURE

*Kiley Wilfong and Justin Cullen, Fairmont State University*

*OVERVIEW:* In today's world, society is focused on saving money by conserving energy. This is primarily caused by rising energy costs, which have jumped tremendously in recent years. Fairmont State University is no exception, as the university seeks to increase enrollment while keeping utilities costs down. We have exploited humble materials and means to accomplish energy savings in situations of solar heat gain and water conservation that otherwise might require a high initial cost. Though some of these solutions are not intended for long-term use, we were able to prove that it does not always take complicated technology to conserve energy.

Fairmont State University has been presented with a unique opportunity to become the first sustainable and environmentally-friendly university in the state of West Virginia. The campus is quite unique because it combines older historic dormitories and academic buildings with newly-constructed or recently renovated buildings. These buildings provide the Fairmont State students, faculty and administration with a place to study, work, learn, play or relax, but this environment can be improved. With money procured through the College of Science and Technology's NASA Program for the Summer Undergraduate Research Experience Grant, our research sought to explore how energy can be conserved and the impact it has on the Fairmont State University campus. Our project employed the help of several fairly inexpensive, and in some cases humble, means to reduce energy consumption while maintaining a level of unobtrusiveness and comfort.

The conservation of water is something that can easily be encouraged and implemented campus-wide. According to the High-Efficiency Lavatory Faucet Specification released on October 1, 2007 by the Environmental Protection Agency's WaterSense program:

> *Public restroom faucets, for example, are used almost exclusively for hand washing or simple rinsing, compared to lavatory faucets in homes and in other private bathrooms that face a myriad of uses. As a consequence, the maximum flow rate for these public restroom and metering fixtures can be set significantly lower than the flow rate for private lavatory faucets without negatively impacting user satisfaction (WaterSense).*

Many lavatories on campus maintain older aerators, which are typically more wasteful than newer models. By simply updating older faucets with newer and relatively inexpensive aerators, many gallons of water can be conserved.

Solar heat gain is a major problem on Fairmont State's campus; there are many south-facing windows that accumulate heat build-up, in turn causing air conditioners to run year-round. With West Virginia's climate it is not necessary to run the air conditioners year-round, especially during the winter. When this occurs many employees bring in space-heaters, using even more energy. Our goal with the sunshade was to prove that there are alternatives that are highly effective and unobtrusive, unlike traditional blinds.

## Water Consumption Study

Academic building restroom lavatories are used primarily for hand washing, with most faucets across campus operating at a flow rate of 2.2 gallons per minute (gpm); this flow rate is more than adequate for simply washing hands. Aerators with a flow rate of 0.5 gpm provide enough water for hand washing while not wasting the water that a 2.2 gpm aerator does. We monitored the water usage of the 2.2 gpm aerator with water meters that we installed on the sink; we then switched the 2.2 gpm aerator with a 0.5 gpm aerator to see how much water could be conserved.

We bought inexpensive lavatory aerators for approximately $1.85 each; these can be found at any many hardware stores. Installing these aerators is extremely easy, as the old aerator, or faucet head, is removed and the new one screwed onto the faucet. We began our water consumption research in the Education Building in the women's restroom on the third floor; the third floor was where the majority of summer classes were held. After collecting data, we realized that the day-to-day activities were not consistent enough for our data to be completely reliable; classes were not held on Fridays, and the days classes were there exhibited sporadic water usage. We then moved our research to the second floor women's restroom of Hardway Hall, the administration building, where our data was much more consistent.

Table 1.1 and 1.2 show data collected over a week's time in the women's restroom in Hardway Hall. It provides data for both hot and cold water for the following: the average gallons per day, the average for a typical work week, the estimated weekly and yearly water usage, as well as the estimated yearly cost.

## Table 1.1 – Hardway Hall 2nd Floor Women's Restroom
### 2.2 GPM Aerator

|  | Cold Water (gallons) | Hot Water (gallons) |
|---|---|---|
| average over 7 day test period | 7.4 | 37.2 |
| average over typical work week | 7.3 | 37.2 |
| estimated weekly water usage | 36.6 | 186.0 |
| estimated yearly water usage | 1793.4 | 9114.0 |
| estimated yearly cost | $12.91 | $65.62 |

cost of water per 1000 gallons = $7.20 (Slaubaugh)

## Table 1.2 – Hardway Hall 2nd Floor Women's Restroom
### 0.5 GPM Aerator

|  | Cold Water (gallons) | Hot Water (gallons) |
|---|---|---|
| average over 7 day test period | 3.8 | 13.4 |
| average over typical work week | 3.5 | 13.7 |
| estimated weekly water usage | 17.3 | 68.3 |
| estimated yearly water usage | 847.7 | 3346.7 |
| estimated yearly cost | $6.10 | $24.10 |
| percent reduction | 52.7% | 63.3% |

cost of water per 1000 gallons = $7.20 (Slaubaugh)
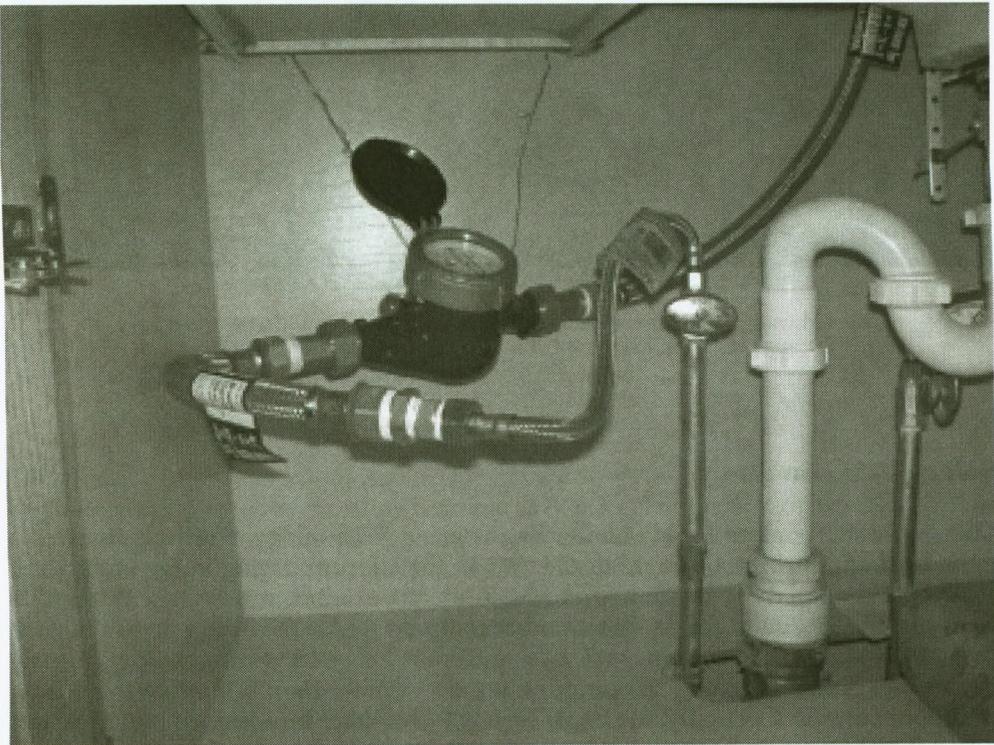


The hot water meter that was installed had to be horizontal.
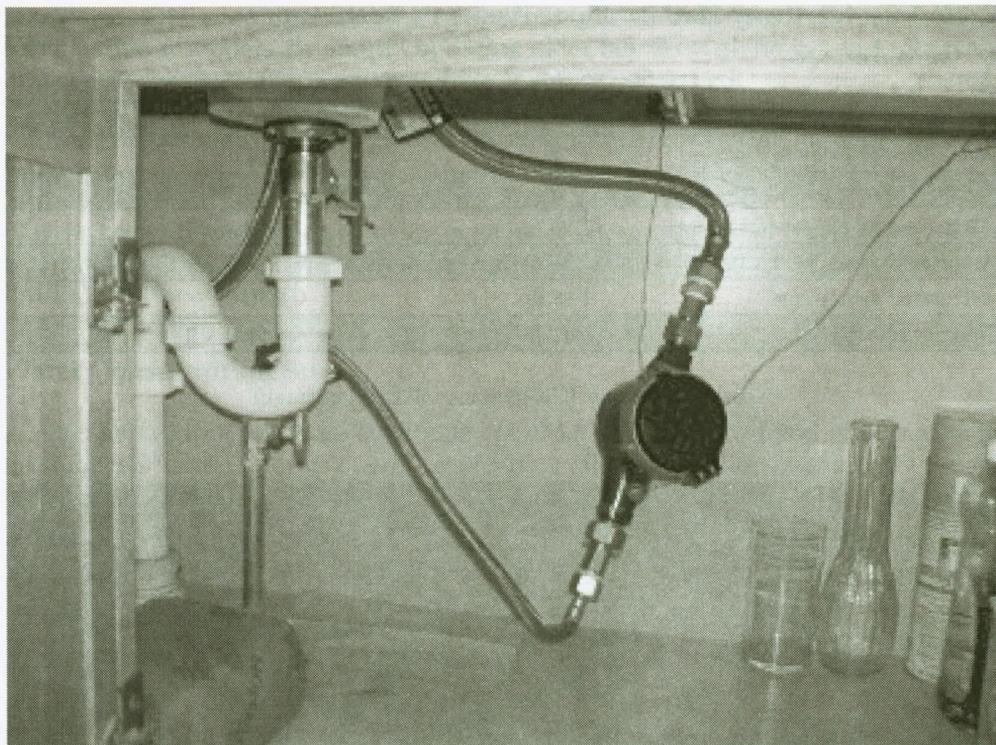
The cold water meter, however, could be installed any way that worked best.

## Solar Heat Gain Study

The south-facing glass facade of the Engineering Technology building receives a great deal of sunshine throughout the day, in turn accumulating large amounts of solar heat that increase the temperatures in the classrooms and offices. When this happens, the air conditioning system must compensate for the heat gain at the window. A simple awning system, such as a sunshade, keeps the sunlight from directly hitting the glass, ultimately keeping the window cooler than a window with only traditional blinds. Currently, the Engineering Technology building employs the traditional blind system. Our research was to determine if a sunshade system is more efficient than traditional blinds.

The sunshade was constructed with both expanded and extruded polystyrene foam insulation, PVC pipe, duct tape and a cotton-blend rope. It was first built with expanded polystyrene foam insulation only, but we found that it needed to be stabilized somehow to keep it from bowing too much and breaking while hanging. By recycling previously used extruded polystyrene foam that was to be discarded by the Fairmont State Civil Engineering program, we were able to create a more rigid structural support system beneath the shade, making it more structurally sound.

Kiley drives the PVC pipe into the louvers of the rigid foam
insulation for extra support.

The offices we chose to utilize for this part of the study were rooms 413 and 414 in the Engineering Technology building because they were similar in size; we chose 413 as our control room. For this office, we left the blinds down and closed for seven days. This time span was used to collect as much data as possible, in this short time that we had, to gather more accurate figures. We chose to leave the blinds as they were to study how effective traditional blinds are when completely closed. For the next seven days we left the blinds down but open, a more practical application for how the blinds would actually be used. We lowered the sunshade into place above room 414 to compare the temperature results from room 413.
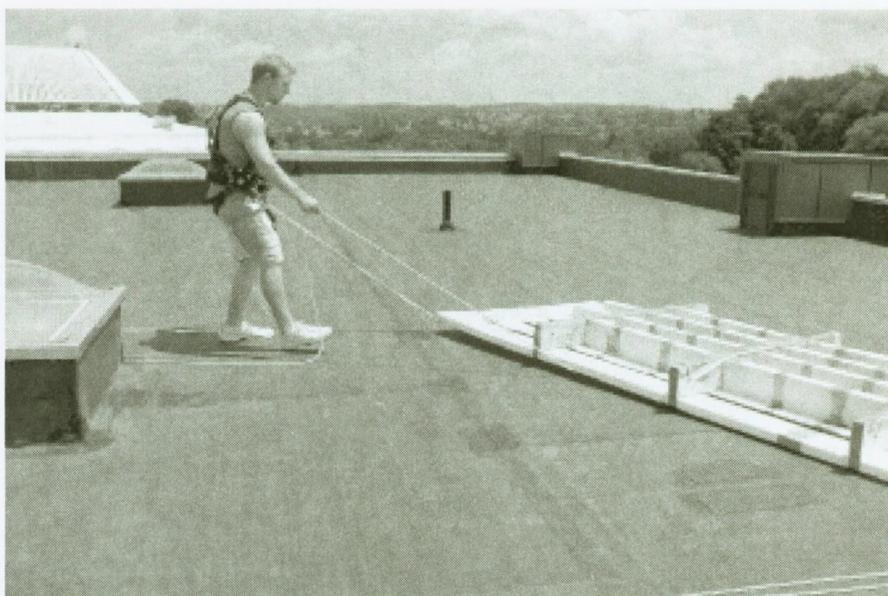
Justin, harnessed and tied back with a lifeline, pulls the sunshade back from the edge to store it until the next day.
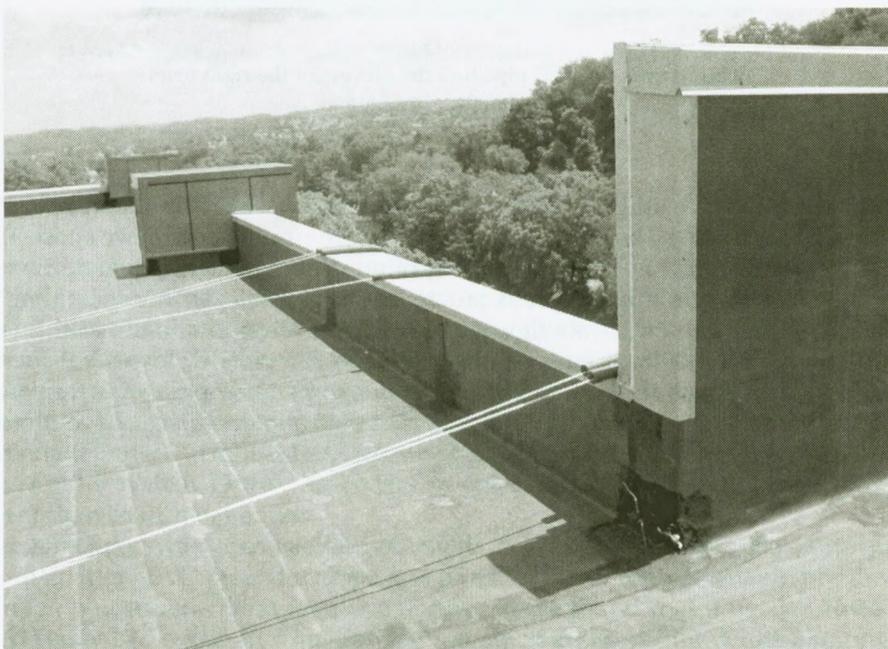


The ropes were protected by pipe insulation as they hung over the parapet wall to ensure they were not cut by the wall's edge.

View of the sunshade from the roof.



View of the sunshade from the ground.

The following tables provide the results of our research on solar heat gain. Table 2.1 compares the outside high and low temperatures with the blinds down and closed, the blinds down and open and the sunshade itself. Table 2.2 provides the percent reduction in temperatures.

## Table 2.1 – Average Temperatures In Solar Heat Gain Research

|  | Outside Temperature | Blinds Down and Closed (413) | Blinds Down and Open (413) | Sunshade (414) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Average Temperature | 83.6 | 82.4 | 86.9 | 81.3 |
| High/Low | 92.6/69.9 | 86/73.4 | 89.6/82.4 | 84.2/80.6 |

## Table 2.2 – Percent Reduction of Temperature

| % Reduction Sunshade-Outside | % Reduction Sunshade-Blinds Closed | % Reduction Sunshade-Blinds Open |
|---|---|---|
| 2.9% | 1.4% | 6.9% |



View out the sunshade test office window. Notice only the ropes are visible and not the sunshade.
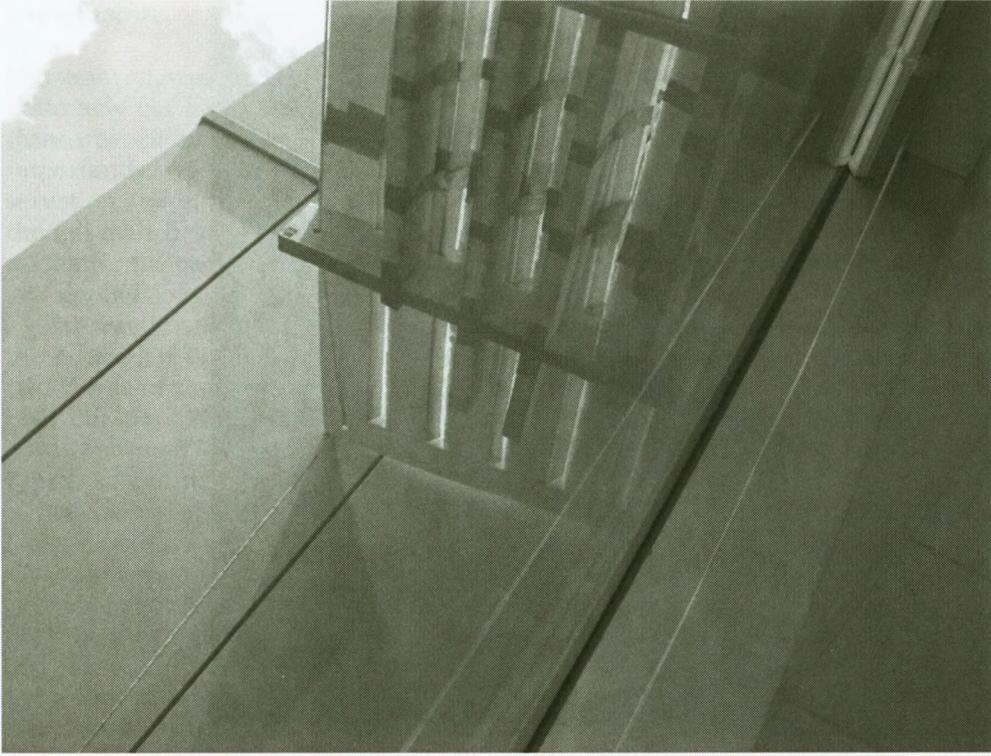
View of the sunshade hanging above the office window.

We also took temperature readings in Hardway Hall and Hunt Haught Hall, both buildings on Fairmont State's campus; we used these buildings, which both have many south-facing windows with little to no shading techniques employed, as merely an example of how extensive this problem of solar heat gain is on campus. Comparing the temperature readings from the rooms in Hardway Hall and the atrium of Hunt Haught Hall, Table 2.3 provides the average temperatures, as well as the high and low, for each of the spaces on campus.

## Table 2.3 – Average Temperatures of Hardway and Hunt Haught Halls

| | Outside Temperature | Hardway (316) | Hardway (318) | Hunt Haught (2nd Floor) | Hunt Haught (3rd Floor) | Hunt Haught (4th Floor) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Average Temperature | 85.1 | 92.0 | 81.5 | 86.0 | 89.9 | 96.5 |
| High/Low | 92.6/76.5 | 96.8/82.4 | 84.2/80.6 | 89.6/82.4 | 96.8/86 | 100.4/87.8 |

Hardway 316 has no covering, while 318 is covered by the front porch roof. All Hunt Haught temperatures were collected in the atrium, where no shading techniques are employed.

Hunt Haught Hall atrium



Hardway Hall

## Conclusion

Our research was very successful in showing that small steps and humble means can noticeably cut back on energy consumption on a college campus. The inexpensive measures we took would bring back a sizable yearly return on utilities bills. Most importantly, we were able to educate the campus and community on energy conservation and efficiency. Many people came forward to support our research, even though their field of discipline was vastly different from ours. This showed us that no matter the backgrounds of the community, an interest in energy efficient design and applications could unite the people for a common cause.

The water consumption portion of our research yielded impressive data. In both the Education Building and Hardway Hall, the low-flow aerators cut back nearly two-thirds of the water used. We took a survey while collecting data in Hardway Hall; out of the 24 surveys that were completed, 20 were positive, 3 were negative and 1 was neutral. We would also like to research this year-round to see results from the typical school year.

For the solar heat gain research portion, we found that the sunshade lowered the temperature an average of nearly six degrees compared to when the blinds were down and open. The sunshade helped maintain a more constant temperature. It also provided an unobstructed view out the window, while for blinds to be effective they must be down and closed, providing no view. The natural daylight that was made possible by the sunshade was sufficient for the office, allowing no artificial lighting to be used during the day; this saves more energy and money. We would like to collect data year-round to determine whether or not the up-front cost of a sunshade system is justified by the energy saved.

We have already completed six interviews and had seven stories published as a result of our research through both local and national media, which include: an article done by Fairmont State (written by Amy Pellegrin and graphic arts done by Bob Heffner, Shane Jordan and Kevin Funk); an article in the Times West Virginian (written by Katie Wilson and photographed by Danny Snyder); an interview with Karen Kiley from WBOY Channel 12 News; an interview with Kristin Keeling from WDTV Channel 5 News; an interview with Ben Adducchio from West Virginia Public Radio; an interview with WTCS Fantasia Radio AM 1490; and a mention on the American Association of State College and Universities' website. We presented our research at the Celebration of Student Scholarship in April 2010. We would like to present to the Fairmont City Council to further extend our research to the community. Our work has been accepted for publication in *Tracts*, a Fairmont State University research journal and *Aisthesis*, a University of Minnesota-Duluth honors student journal. Our final goals are to be published in an architectural journal, as well as present at an architectural conference, perhaps at a West Virginia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects conference.

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# SEASCAPES

*Christine Hart, University of Florida*

# THE NICARAGUAN STRUGGLE FOR DEMOCRATIC CONSOLIDATION

*Justin G. Fisch, University of Florida*

El Lago de Nicaragua and the Rio San Juan have always been magnificent assets to the Nicaraguan landscape. They bring tourists to Central America, allow commerce to flow throughout the country, and support Nicaraguan infrastructure through fisheries. However, these two natural beauties have not always been great assets to Nicaragua. On the contrary, the lake and the river both were once a hindrance upon the international capacity of Nicaragua to manage its own affairs. As a possible location for an inter-oceanic canal, the development-oriented president of the early 1900's Benjamin Zelaya "sought foreign suitors to build a canal in Nicaragua to compete with the U.S.-owned Panama Canal" (Booth 31). This proved to be a costly mistake as Nicaragua received unwanted attention and interference in its sovereign affairs from the United States in the form of the overthrow of Zelaya's government. These and many other factors have contributed to the Nicaraguan struggle to establish democratic rule within its borders.

American involvement in Nicaragua is paramount to the fight for democracy within the Central American nation. From the US Marines' occupation in 1912, to the establishment of the National Guard, to the implementation of the Somoza family as rulers of Nicaragua, the United States has arguably never had the best interests of the Nicaraguan people at heart. The repercussions of forty years of Somoza family rule in Nicaragua have instilled harmful norms into Nicaraguan society. The abuse, corruption, and exploitation carried out by Anastasio Somoza and his sons can still be evidenced today in the streets of Managua, where high poverty numbers have persisted since the revolution of two decades ago. Forty-five percent of all Nicaraguans live on less than one American dollar per day as of the year 2005 (UNICEF). The struggling political scene, as well as contemporary socioeconomic concerns in Nicaragua, have often been attributed to the four decades of Somoza rule that have instituted such norms into the daily lives of Nicaraguans. "There [is] a belief that [Nicaraguans will] not get any attention from the government, that there [is] no use in complaining because public officials [will] not respond to their petitions" (Solaún 57). Such apathy towards government yields a country in which its citizens are merely subjects of the polity and not active participants in society, a process that became institutionalized over the course of the Somoza dictatorship.

Following closely along the lines of the Somoza dictatorship throughout history, we see heavy US involvement in Nicaraguan sovereignty throughout. Furthermore, upon the exile of the Somoza family from the country, the United States continued to be heavily involved with attempting to overthrow the Sandinista administration. As democracy was just beginning to take its roots in Nicaragua with the completion

of the 1984 elections, the US aided a Contra war against the FSLN while the rest of the world watched in general disgust. "In October 1985, President Daniel Ortega announced a new state of emergency, [suspending] all civil liberties for a year" and closed the limited political space that had been opened for the 1984 election campaign out of fear that the Contra exiles would return and run for office (Goodman 192). All this took place within months of the U.S. Congress voting to resume aid to the contras in the summer of 1985. The International Court of Justice proceeded to rule against the United States' bombing of Nicaraguan harbors for the sole purpose of disrupting trade and economically destroying the new Sandinista government. The ICJ claimed compulsory jurisdiction and ordered a $17 billion payment to the Nicaraguan government, which the US never made (Smith). Having the American armed forces on their side, the Contras were able to wage a much more effective civil war and disrupt the establishment of a democratic state within Nicaragua. Eventually the hostility declined, and in 1988 reconciliation talks began between the two factions. In spite of this, the Reagan Administration was not willing to give up just yet. Just one month after democratic talks began on a peace truce between the Sandinistas and the Contras, Washington imposed an embargo on all Nicaraguan goods as well as trade beginning in the year 1988 and for a four year period thereafter (New York Times). In doing this, the United States of America unilaterally imposed harsh economic sanctions on a country whose major trading partners included the United States. Following the embargo, the Nicaraguan inflation rate reached fourteen thousand percent in 1988 (Country Studies).

As heroic as they were to many Nicaraguans, Sandinistas cannot be viewed solely as liberators and promoters of democracy. At the onset of the new regime, it can be assumed that the FSLN handily won the 1984 election, with sixty-seven percent of the vote, due to their extremely strong following due to their success in the revolutionary war (Establishing the Ground Rules 3). However, in the years that followed, the FSLN was reluctant to allow other parties to form. It has been stated that the new party that was the FSLN, under its leader Daniel Ortega, wanted to monopolize political power in Nicaragua akin to how the PRI had done so in Mexico for almost one hundred years (Houtart). Yet the FSLN had not even been able to hold onto a decade worth of the presidency when the opposition united in the late eighties to form the National Opposition Union, or UNO, and win the 1990 election under the leadership of Violeta de Chamorro. Nevertheless, the FSLN continues to be a force in Nicaraguan politics to this day, having been accused of some very unethical uses of power along the way that hinder Nicaragua's path to democracy. Lies to the Nicaraguan public were common during the early years of the FSLN administration, such as the use of the "Sandinista Defense Committees (CDS) for 'defend[ing] the revolution' and report[ing] on dissenters and 'traitors'" (Kendrick) rather than holding government officials accountable to their daily duties, which had been the established cause of the committees.

In discussing the inability of the FSLN or their successors to establish a secure democratic state, many of the problems can be traced back to two core troubles during the Sandinista administration: the mismanagement of Sandinista economic policies, as well as disrespect of the law by the new government. To begin with, the Sandinistas were revolutionaries, many from the urban working class. Starting a government with little experience is not an easy task, especially when faced with a hovering giant, such as the US, attempting to topple the new regime. Shortly after

the FSLN began its regionalization effort for the public sector, it was thrust into the Contra war, "which grew to occupy nearly 40 percent of the nation's budget" (Conroy 41). Moreover, the country was subsequently moved to a "survival economy" mode in 1986 as it experienced dramatic food shortages throughout the countryside (Conroy 218). According the Democratic Peace Theory, when a country is in "survival mode," the last concern on the minds of its citizens is a democratic state (Brown). At that point in time, Nicaraguans were thinking about what would be for dinner that evening, and how to stay safe amidst all the violence.

Throughout these tribulations, the new FSLN government was very successful in their quest for agrarian land redistribution (which had been a focal point of the revolution). By 1981, the FSLN agrarian reform program had already affected more than fifty thousand families (Conroy 60). The rearrangement of land was relatively easy, as the vast majority of it had been owned by the Somoza family, now exiles of Nicaragua. Much of it was also land owned by other relatively wealthy Nicaraguan families who had fled to the United States following the revolution. Yet, upon the election of the UNO government in the 1990s, many of them returned, attempting to claim the land their family had owned six years prior (Williams). Needless to say, this lead to great disparities within the new government, which in itself was very young and attempting to stabilize itself enough to create a democratic state.

Upon the conclusion of the revolution, a new state was essentially created from scratch. When the FSLN and their government worked to create a new constitution, they wrote with the interests of their country and their people in mind. On the other hand, many of the policies and government dealings they carried out were less than constitutional and bordered on corruption. For example, following the jailing of former president Alemán in the early 2000's, the FSLN government of Daniel Ortega used his jail sentence as a bargaining point for many political powers with the opposition (Williams). Seeing this taking place in any other Western democracy would be challenged with citizen unrest. However, in Nicaragua the people became used to their government doing this type of thing, and responded rather apathetically. "The worries of the very poor are on a completely different level: the unavailability of credits for individual peasants and cooperatives to buy seeds, the dearth of medicines in the health centers, the multiple fees involved in sending children to school, the growing family violence sparked by degrading living conditions, the increasingly generalized unemployment, … in some regions, the greatest worry is constant hunger; many children are forced to eat roots" (Houtart). Such atrocious living conditions have the political world very low on the ordinary Nicaraguan's list of priorities, and have allowed the democratic state to border on corruption without much internal pressure.

As has been previously mentioned, the lack of societal stability within Nicaragua has had similar effects on its government. As the state continues to find itself and figure out what the people want, factions may often break off with different interests and varying goals. At times these factions become completely autonomous regions, as have "Atlántico Norte" and "Atlántico Sur" along the Atlantic coast. These "Special Zones", as designated by the FSLN government, constitute forty-four percent of Nicaraguan landmass (Conroy 66), yet contain fewer than five percent of the Nicaraguan population. Having achieved autonomy from the central government relatively easily in 1986 (in part due to their highly indigenous population), these regions have become examples of options now available to any department that ever comes

into disagreement with the national government. Although the Nicaraguan region-alization efforts have made great strides since the decentralization program began in 1982, there now lies a weakness in that any one of the 15 departments has the power and capacity to break away from the central government in Managua. After all, "the concentration of ministerial investment in Managua still gives the capital region the highest per capita public investment ratio in [the] country" (Conroy 55).

Election after election has come and gone, and Nicaraguan political parties have become infamous for their inability to work together except to overthrow one an-other. In spite of this, the recent election of Daniel Ortega to a second presidential term, his first being in the eighties, has been welcomed with open arms. This time around, Ortega brings a "new phase" of the revolution to Nicaraguan politics. "The most important program associated with this 'new phase' appears to be restructur-ing the government to institute a kind of 'direct democracy'" (Kendrick). This direct democracy has optimistic prospects for Nicaragua, stating that the people are to be "the director, the President, the Governor, and the Mayor" (Kendrick). However, the opposition has pressured the power of President Ortega, threatening to cut such social programs as "Zero Hungry" and "Zero Usury" should they fail to reach a com-promise on passing legislation without negotiation (Kendrick). But after all, democ-racy is all about give and take, and the new Ortega government is doing just that.

Moreover, "the new Daniel Ortega is a uniter, not a divider" (Blumenthal). This raises high prospects for Nicaraguan democracy in the future, as the people will re-ally begin to know their new president and his prospects for the country. Although he has been involved in such scandals as "el Pacto" with Aleman, the PLC/FSLN judge bloating, and possibly even the recent Nicaraguan municipal elections fraud, these can for the most part be written off as minor corrupt impediments to democ-racy that have pervaded Nicaraguan politics since the Somoza dictatorship. What is most important is that Ortega boasts an impressive resume of working across party lines to get things done, and was able to fight the opposition, as well as demonizing by US Ambassador Paul Trivelli, to get elected to a rare second chance term as presi-dent (Blumenthal).

Ultimately, Nicaraguan democracy is on a relatively bright path towards the fu-ture. Having dealt with two revolutions within two decades, the Nicaraguan people have seen enough bloodshed and massacre to be convinced that, at last, peace is the solution. The challenge may lie in ensuring that a democratically elected authority, not a new reigning family, brings about this peace and stability. After all, the op-position is now strong, and any move made towards authoritarian rule has a little likelihood of success.

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# PILGRIMS AT THE RIVER GANGES

*Geeta Aneja, University of Florida*

# REFLECTIONS

*Catherine Barnett, Taylor University*

I sat on the swing on the porch of my grandparents' log house in North Carolina. It was January, and the flowers were not in bloom, but it was a pleasant morning. The porch looks over a large grassy lawn with azalea bushes surrounding several group-ings of pillar-like trees. The yard ends at the edge of Lake Orange, and the wooden dock my grandfather built sticks out a short way into the water. It isn't a huge lake; you can see the houses on the other side, and one summer I swam most of the way across.

Sitting on the porch swing, I looked at the lake. It was incredibly calm that morn-ing, reflecting perfectly the trees and houses on the opposite shore. I allowed my gaze to rest on this reflection, almost believing that those mirrored trees and houses existed placidly, independently from their land-bound counterparts, there in the still water. The sky was there and the birds and the morning light behind the brown and wintry woods. Only the windows of the houses looked into water. In that moment, I, too, was living in the reflection, and I was a reflection, though I was real.

Then the wind blew, disturbing the surface of the lake. A gentle wind. But the mirror melted under its whispering breath – shattered under its light touch; and the world disappeared. The trees were gone, and the houses, and I, and it was all gray and ruffled bewilderment. It was like an Etch-a-Sketch drawing that had been bumped or shaken, the picture lost into a gray background.

Then I raised my eyes and remembered that the world was still there. It was still, there on the opposite shore, where the trees stood, brownish-gray and wintry; and the houses were there with their windows, which, if I was close enough to see, would look into a room, not the cold water of the lake. The shoreline was solid, and the world was sound.

But how sound? The pillar-like trees in the yard, the azalea bushes, the swing, the porch – all real and good. Even the lake and the sky, though they change from time to time due to wind or the earth's rotation, are what they ought to be. They are. Beautiful and orderly and good. And yet, they too are reflections of a higher goodness, and however perfect the reflection, being, in a way, two-dimensional, it cannot capture the fullness of the real landscape, nor can it offer the stability of the unchanging shoreline.

It can be frightening to live in an Etch-a-Sketch. The world is scratched around you and reminds you of something good, but you never know when someone might come along and trip over it, shaking it into oblivion. Then you find yourself in a deep, gray lake with a disturbed surface, and you founder. But then, there is the fact that you are; that you are not just a speck of aluminum powder, and you don't disap-pear with the rest of the scene when, hissing, it sifts away. You are a swimmer in a gray lake, but not a water molecule.

The swimmer remembers to look up and sees the Shoreline, solid and real. Things can happen to the world, the lake, the houses and trees. But the Shoreline is always there, and its Trees and its Houses, whose windows look out onto the reflection of a world. And that is where the People are too – the swimmers who are not swallowed up when the reflection they momentarily took for reality is distorted by an unexpected wind, but who glimpse and swim for the solid Land that cannot be blown away by the breeze.

# HAY BALES IN WISCONSIN

*Madiha Mirza, University of Minnesota Duluth*

# LEARNING THE LIMITS OF "BOUNDLESS" "IN BETWEENNESS"

*Corey Clawson, Utah State University*

Throughout his career, the poet Seamus Heaney has examined the concept of "in betweenness" in his poetry and prose. Over time, Heaney's understanding of this idea and its consequences has evolved taking into account not only the added understanding provided by such a position. In his essays "Something to Write Home About" and "Dante and the Modern Poet" as well as his poems "Terminus," "Punishment" and "Weighing In," the poet sheds light on the associated costs of "in betweenness" such as loneliness. These works also show the nature of this concept in Heaney's work as he realizes the cost of complicity and a resulting sense of vulnerability.

In his essay "Something to Write Home About," Heaney presents "in betweenness" to readers as a recurring theme in his poetry and in his life. Heaney links this sense of "in betweenness" to Terminus, "the [Roman] god of boundaries" (*Keepers* 51). According to Heaney, Terminus, like the human mind, is "earthbound and present in the here and now yet open also to…the everlasting self, the boundlessness of inner and outer space" (56). To Heaney, Terminus serves as an example of the positive attributes of "in betweenness;" due to his boundless perception Terminus is able to gain a greater understanding of his surroundings than those who are limited in their perceptions.

In Heaney's poem titled "Terminus," the poet likens this figure of boundlessness to the simple task of carrying water from a river:

> *Two buckets were easier to carry than one.*
>
> *I grew up in between.*
>
> *My left hand placed the standard iron weight.*
>
> *My right tilted a last grain in the balance. (Opened 272)*

This simple realization that it was easier to carry two buckets implies the virtue of balance. Invoking the imagery of a balanced scale, Heaney recreates this boyhood epiphany. The image of a balance evokes a sense of justice and exactness. When a "standard iron weight" is placed on one side, a corresponding weight must counterbalance it. In order to support the weight of one position, the boy in the poem finds that he must support it with a weight equal to the "last grain" in order to gain balance. As a result, the scale finds a state of stability and equilibrium and the boy is able to carry both weights.

Stan Smith suggests that this sense of balance is key to understanding the significance of the line "I grew up in between" to Heaney's personal beliefs. According to

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Smith, the poem "recall[s] his variously divided childhood" offering insights into Heaney's commitment to a "balanced position" between the binaries of "rural and urban, agrarian and industrial, [and] active and passive" (226). Paradoxically, the weight of these positions and the sense of "in betweenness" brought by the balance associated with them provide Heaney with a sense of boundlessness. Like Terminus, Heaney is able to gain a greater understanding of nature and the human condition, or, as Heaney put it, "the boundlessness of inner and outer space" (*Finders* 56). This position of boundlessness also provides Heaney with insights into the consequences of such a position.

Later in his essay "Something to Write Home About," the poet complicates this idea with the very cost of maintaining a position between the sides of an argument. Heaney introduces readers to Hugh O'Neill, the Earl of Tyrone and the last Irish nobleman "to hold out against the Tudor armies of Elizabeth I" (*Finders* 58). According to Heaney, O'Neill found himself in a unique position; he "suffer[ed] within himself the claims of...two different political allegiances" (58). These are in fact the same allegiances that Heaney himself finds difficult to reconcile as a native of Northern Ireland. O'Neill found himself in between sides because, although he had received an English title of nobility, he was an Irishman by birth (58). Despite living centuries apart from one another, O'Neill and Heaney had a great understanding of the two sides of the Irish/English conflict because both sides of the conflict made up part of his heritage. O'Neill used this knowledge to his benefit, and as a result, he was "a master negotiator and a great one for putting off the moment of confrontation" (59). O'Neill, however, was unable to escape the consequences of his position. As a result of his commitment to "in betweenness," he was persecuted, "alone and exposed to the consequences of [his] actions" (59). Heaney shared these feelings as a result of similar positions he took in his own life. He has been persecuted for not being more outspoken against violence and terrorism in Northern Ireland. These feelings of loneliness and exposure as a consequence of "in betweenness" are also evident in Heaney's poetry and prose. The poet complicates the benefits of possessing an added sense of understanding and balance by exposing readers to these consequences in his poems "Punishment" and "Weighing In."

"Punishment," one of Heaney's poems inspired by the excavated human remains of the bogs near Glob in Denmark, examines the costs associated with the poet's sense of "in betweenness." The speaker associates the death of a girl preserved in the bog, a fourteen year-old adulteress killed for her alleged crime, with a sense of responsibility for his own inaction despite playing no role in the corpse's death. In his book *Seamus Heaney: The Crisis of Identity*, Floyd Collins asserts that from the first stanza of the poem, this sense of empathy for the girl's fate is evident (96). The speaker empathizes with the girl's sense of vulnerability, with her pain and her powerlessness as he recreates and experiences the girl's punishment:

> *I can feel the tug*
> *of the halter at the nape*
> *of her neck, the wind*
> *on her naked front. (112).*

Although the speaker of the poem is not directly involved in the punishment of this girl, he takes on her punishment as he describes it, connecting his own inaction to

the situation of the supposed adulteress. As the poem unfolds, it becomes clear to the reader that the advantages of "in betweenness" described in "Something to Write Home About" and "Terminus" come at a cost.

The first half of the poem is comprised almost entirely of a recreation of the girl's punishment and the speaker's reaction to these events. As the girl is led with a halter like a lamb to the slaughter and drowned in the bog, the speaker reacts tenderly to the brutality of her punishment. Enumerating every detail of the punishment, the speaker describes her "shaved head / like a stubble of black corn" and "her noose a ring / to store / the memories of love" (112). The tenderness and empathy expressed in these stanzas takes on new meaning as the speaker's simple and open description to the reader turns into a confession to the dead adulteress of his complicity stemming from a sense of "in betweenness."

This change is sudden and apparent in stanza six when the speaker addresses the girl as "[l]ittle adulteress" (112). As Verdonk suggests, "little adulteress" much like "[m]y poor scapegoat" serves as an ironic term of endearment (123). This sense of empathy and endearment approaches a sense of love hindered only by the speaker's sense of complicity. These feelings render the speaker vulnerable as he states in stanza eight: "I almost loved you / but would have cast, I know, / the first stone of silence" (113). Despite this love, the speaker's overpowering devotion to "in betweenness," much like Heaney's, prevents him from standing up to injustice. In his "in betweenness" the speaker suffers the consequences of complicity. Despite being from a different time and place than this victim, the speaker rebukes himself for the role that he surely would have played in the killing had he been there.

One can infer then that the speaker's sense of complicity is rooted in something much more complex and contemporary than the sight of the girl excavated from the bog. As Westlake suggests, "Punishment," originally titled "Shame," is likely Heaney's way of expressing his "ambivalent attitude towards the I.R.A." (51). According to Westlake's interpretation, the death of this girl comes to represent the violence and death caused by the I.R.A.'s struggle for the independence of Northern Ireland making Heaney, in his "in betweenness" a silent supporter of this violence.

The imagery of the poem tends to support this claim. In referring to the girl as "my scapegoat" Heaney links the girl to the Old Testament belief in blood sacrifice and sacrificial lambs (112). As Heaney alludes to the bible, he draws a connection to the modern, religious aspects of the struggle in Northern Ireland. The conflict, largely perceived as being between Catholics and Protestants, was by nature charged with a sense of religious conflict underpinning the divisions between those seeking independence from the United Kingdom and those seeking to maintain the status quo. To similar effect, the speaker of the poem alludes to the Old Testament punishment for adultery by referring to the girl as "[l]ittle adulteress" and admitting that he "would have cast... / the stones of silence" (112-3). This imagery reflects Heaney's own perception of his role in the conflict of Northern Ireland. Paradoxically, through his admitted sense of complicity, the idea of "in betweenness," is complicated by the fact that this stance has caused the speaker of the poem to become the victim of this punishment as well as its cause.

This irony suggests a sense of frustration for the consequences of "in betweenness" which is also apparent in Heaney's poem "Weighing In." In it, Heaney uses imagery similar to that he uses in "Terminus" and "Punishment" to express frustration with the cost of his "in betweenness." The poem begins with the image of a

"solid iron / unit of negation" which, like the weight of the bucket on the boy's arm in "Terminus" must be counterbalanced with the exact same weight on the other side of a scale in order to find balance and strength (381). This recurring image of balance indicates the fragile, important nature which is indicated later in the second section of "Weighing In":

> ...
>
> *Peace on earth, men of good will, all that*
>
> *Holds good only as long as the balance holds,*
> *The scales ride steady and the angels' strain*
> *Prolongs itself at an unearthly pitch. (382)*

The balance found in these lines is tenuous. It possesses an ethereal, "unearthly" quality reflecting Heaney's own frustration with his pursuit of balance and "in betweenness." To Heaney, the balance of these scales is a fragile ideal which is linked to man's desire for peace as well as a sense of spirituality. As a result, the poem becomes an examination of the importance of justice. Heaney employs, much as he does in "Punishment," typically Christian imagery in the third section of the poem in order to consider the consequences of complicity.

Again, Heaney uses the imagery of casting stones to invoke the violent sense of justice found in the Old Testament as well as to tie his work to the volatile word of his present (383). The poet, however, complicates these images by supplementing them with contradictions from the New Testament. A passive, "blindfolded Jesus" serves as a counter to the active sense of justice symbolized by the casting stones (383). Heaney's final words in this section attempt to achieve a balance between these two sets of images as the "powerless" speaker begs a favor of the passive Jesus, "Prophesy, give scandal, cast the stone" (383). In doing so, Jesus would be drawn into Heaney's realm of "in betweenness" allowing the poet to escape loneliness and have justice on his side. The consequences of the speaker's state of "in betweenness" become more evident in the last section of the poem.

As the speaker reflects on the nature of weighing in the "two sides to every question" he comes to the realization that by consciously taking such a position, he denies himself exculpation and pity (383). The speaker's position indicates the depth of his frustration, regret, and loss for standing in between sides:

> ...
>
> *I held back when I should have drawn blood*
>
> *And that way (mea culpa) lost an edge.*
> *A deep mistaken chivalry, old friend.*
> *At this stage only foul play cleans the slate. (383).*

At this point, the speaker realizes the futility of inaction admitting that his situation is "*mea culpa*" or his own fault. Though his position allows him to understand both sides, the active and the passive, the speaker regrets his "deep mistaken chivalry"

and holding back because it does not bring about the justice and self-exculpation represented by the clean slate in the last line of the poem (383). Just as in "Punishment," the speaker finds himself vulnerable as he learns that only by taking a stance, and "draw[ing] blood" would he, as well as Heaney, have to be able to escape these consequences of his position.

Heaney's appreciation for those who do so is evident in his essay "Dante and the Modern Poet." In the essay, Heaney praises the Hungarian poet Osip Mandelstam for the courage to take a stance against Soviet political pressure. Following years of "connivance, compromise [and] acceptance" Mandelstam wrote "an uncharacteristically explicit and publicly directed poem" (194-5). Heaney draws his appreciation for the poet from the fact that he abandoned the safe ground of compliance and "in betweenness" in order to say what he truly believed despite the consequences unlike the speakers of Heaney's "Punishment" and "Weighing In."

These poems, as well as "Terminus" and Heaney's essay "Something to Write Home About" provide readers with a greater understanding of the role of "in betweenness" in his poetry. Despite the enhanced vision and understanding such a position provides, it is clear in these works that the boundlessness brought by "in betweenness" comes at a cost. Consequentially, the middle ground inhabited by Heaney is also linked to the suffering caused by complicity, injustice and inaction.

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# A BLOOMING INSIGHT

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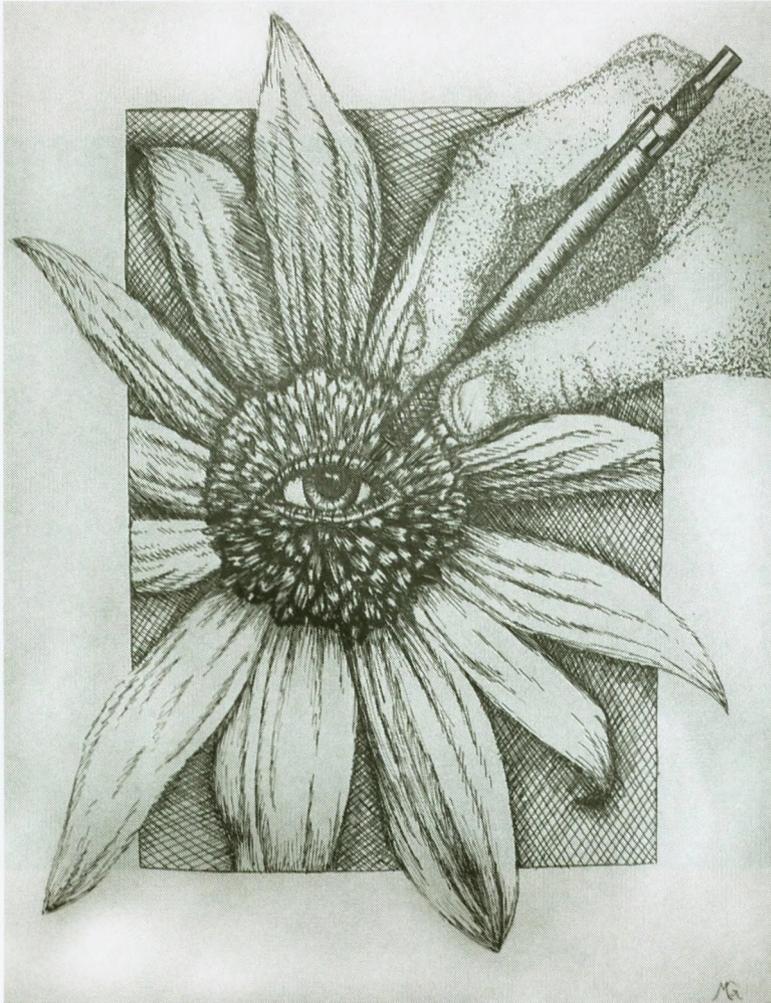
# SANDMAN

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# MATELDA AND BEATRICE IN *PURGATORY*

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Perhaps one of the most mysterious characters in Dante's *Purgatory* is Matelda, who appears in the Garden of Eden. Many scholars have debated over who she is, because almost all of Dante's characters in his work were real people in his life. I believe that by closely comparing Matelda to the character Beatrice, who also appears in the Garden of Eden, the reader can see that Matelda and Beatrice have many parallel and similar characteristics. In addition, the correlation between the two characters is so strong that it is possible they are two sides to one being.

First of all, it is widely accepted by such scholars as Mr. J.C. Carroll that Matelda is a representation of active life (qtd in Phelps 145). Dante describes her constantly in motion, such as "singing as she gathered flowers" (*Purg.* XXVIII 41) and, after Dante beckons her, turns toward him in a motion that Dante describes as how "a lady in dance will turn" (XXVIII 52). Even as she stands still, she is in motion, as Dante writes: "Smiling, she stood there on the other bank, / arranging in her hands the many colors" (67-8). Furthermore, it is Matelda, rather than Beatrice, who physically takes Dante through both the streams of earthly paradise, as Dante writes: "drawing me along she glided light, / and with shuttle's ease, across the stream (XXXI 91-6). Looking at all these examples, the reader can see how Matelda is constantly in motion and action, and therefore represents active life. It is also interesting to note that in addition to being constantly in motion, Matelda is the person who describes the "constant, moving air" (XXVIII 10) and the "spring of constant flow" (XVIII 124) in the Garden of Eden. Matelda's description of the movement and motion of the garden creates an association that further illustrates her representation of active life.

Matelda is also associated with active life through her connection with the girl Leah. Indeed, many scholars agree that Matelda is clearly depicted in Leah (Boyd 138), who the Pilgrim dreams of in the previous Canto:

> *I dreamed I saw a young and lovely girl*
>
> *walking within a meadow picking flowers*
>
> *and as she moved along, she sang... (Purg. XXVII 97-9)*

The reader can see a clear and obvious similarity when comparing the above passage to another that refers to Matelda: "a solitary lady wandering there, / and she was singing as she gathered flowers" (XXVIII 40-1). In this example, we have two lovely young women, each gathering flowers as they sing. If that striking similarity were not enough, it is also evident that Leah is characterized by action, just as Matelda. For example, when Leah speaks to the Pilgrim in his dream, she says "...I spend all my time / weaving garlands of flowers" (XVII 101-2) and "I love to use my hands..."

(XVII 107). Furthermore, while making a contrast with her sister Rachel, Leah explicitly states that her happiness comes from action: "her joy is in reflection, mine in act" (XVII 108). Looking at these passages, the reader can see how similar Leah and Matelda are through their joy in physical action.

At the other end of the spectrum we have Beatrice's contemplative nature. Dante rarely describes Beatrice in motion; in fact, she is often associated with stillness. For example, as Beatrice is reprimanding the Pilgrim for his sins, Dante makes a point to mention that she is motionless: "Still on the same side of the chariot / she stood immobile" (XXX 100-1). Additionally, Dante describes Beatrice as "... an admiral, / [who] watches his men at work" (XXX 58-9), suggesting immobile and watchful behavior. Moreover, it is also worth noting that Beatrice remains in her cart for almost her entire time in the garden. For example, instead of simply approaching one another, a big ordeal is made over the Pilgrim being led to Beatrice's eyes, which for some reason requires seven nymphs, as the "four lovely ones" (XXXI 104) speak to the Pilgrim:

> ...It is for us
>
> to lead you to her eyes. The other three,
>
> who see more deeply, they will instruct your sight     (XXXI 108-10)

It seems odd that Dante wouldn't just have the Pilgrim or Beatrice approach each other. Instead, they have to be directed together by seven handmaidens. Why would Dante present this peculiarity? It seems unlikely that it would be for no reason at all. To me, it seems logical that he is further trying to illustrate Beatrice's immobile nature by not only having someone else do the action for her, but seven other people. This degree of servitude creates an intense motionless image of Beatrice; with something as simple as eye contact, she has several maidens who will assist her.

Furthermore, Dante illustrates Beatrice's stillness by how others act in her presence. For example, the Pilgrim cannot move as he stands in front of her, as Dante writes: "I stood before her paralyzed..." (XXXI 8). Here, not only is Beatrice stationary, but so is the Pilgrim. The Pilgrim's immobility subtly implies an aura of stillness surrounding Beatrice. Looking at these examples, the reader can see how Dante describes Beatrice as immobile and inactive. All these examples contrast with Matelda's active nature, thereby revealing Beatrice's contemplative nature.

Also revealing the contemplative nature of Beatrice are the interactions between Beatrice and the Pilgrim. Unlike Matelda, who gives the Pilgrim physical commands like: "Hold on to me, hold tight" (XXXI 93), Beatrice gives emotional commands such as: "master your feeling, listen to my words" (XXXI 46). Here, Beatrice is guiding the Pilgrim to confront his sin emotionally. This example shows how Beatrice is associated more with the mind, unlike Matelda, who is more associated with the body. Just as Matelda earlier takes the Pilgrim along a physical journey to confront his love Beatrice, Beatrice now takes him along an emotional journey to confront his sin. But, interestingly, both characters seem to be striving toward the same goal: the salvation of the Pilgrim. This shows how the relationship between Matelda and Beatrice is an opposite, yet parallel.

Beatrice is also associated with contemplative life through her connection with the girl Rachel, who is the sister of Leah. In fact, according to Thomas Bergin, Ra-

chel is a foreshadowing of Beatrice and her role of contemplation (Bergin 502). This foreshadowing is visible when Leah speaks to the Pilgrim in his dream:

> *my sister Rachel sits all the day long*
>
> *before her own [mirror] and never moves away*
>
> *She loves to contemplate her lovely eyes (Purg. XXVII 104-6)*

We see from this example that Rachel contemplates her eyes in the mirror all day. In addition to mentioning that Rachel sits all day long, and never moves, just as Beatrice sits in the chariot and hardly moves, Dante also mentions how Rachel's eyes are lovely. Beatrice's eyes are mentioned by Dante as well; in fact, much emphasis is placed on them. As mentioned earlier, Dante makes a big deal over having Dante look into Beatrice's "sacred eyes" (XXXI 133). When he finally does, Dante describes them as quite intense: "A thousand yearning flames of my desire / held my eyes fixed up those brilliant eyes" (XXXI 118-9). After looking away, he is temporarily blinded, as Dante writes:

> *I was like one who had just strained his eyes*
>
> *by looking straight into the sun too long;*
>
> *indeed, I was left blinded for a while. (XXXII 10-2)*

This emphasis placed on Beatrice's eyes provides a strong connection between her and Rachel, in addition to their connection of stillness. The reader can therefore see how the immobile, contemplative character of Rachel is analogous to the character of Beatrice.

The connections between Matelda and Leah, and between Beatrice and Rachel, are further validated and confirmed by something Dante mentions just before he slips into his dream of the girls: "sleep overcame me—sleep, which often brings / the knowledge of events before the fact" (XXVII 92-3). With this statement, Dante suggests that dreams can show events in the future, which gives further credibility to the connection between Leah and Matelda, and the connection between Rachel and Beatrice. It is in this way that we can see that Matelda, Leah and active life are all analogous, just as Beatrice, Rachel and contemplative life are. And because the sisters Leah and Rachel are associated with active and contemplative life just as Matelda and Beatrice are, it suggests the possibility that Matelda and Beatrice may be more closely related than one might realize.

It can also be seen that Matelda and Beatrice are both represented by the streams of the earthly paradise. Firstly, Matelda can be associated with the stream Lethe, because both Matelda and Lethe can be considered active. For example, when the Pilgrim first notices Lethe, he describes it as: "a stream whose little waves kept pushing back, / leftwards, the grass that grew along its bank" (XXVIII 25-6). This description shows how the stream is constantly pushing the nearby grass, almost personifying it as physically active. Moreover, Matelda says that the stream "flows with power" (XXVIII 127), further illustrating its active nature. Furthermore, Matelda goes on to say, it has "…power / to erase sin's memory" (XXVIII 127-8). This example shows the stream's might in erasing the memory of sin. Logically, one way to erase the memory of sin would be the actions of good deeds. It is in this way that Lethe can be associated with active life and therefore with Matelda.

In addition to the stream's active nature, Lethe can also be associated with Matelda through her interactions with it. For example, it is Matelda who dunks the Pilgrim in the stream, as Dante illustrates:

> *...that lady I first saw*
>
> *...was now bent over me,*
>
> *...She had*
>
> *led me into the stream up to my neck. (XXXI 91-4)*

By leading Dante into Lethe, she can thus be associated with it. Likewise, Beatrice can also be associated with Eunoe in a similar way. Though she does not physically lead Dante into the stream (because she is inactive) it is by her command that the Pilgrim becomes immersed in its water, as Dante illustrates: "... here before us is the stream Eunoe: / now, lead him there..." (XXXIII 127-8). This example again reminds us of the immobile nature of Beatrice. In addition to showing that Beatrice's wishes are carried out by Matelda, it also creates a correlation between her and the stream Eunoe.

The stream Eunoe can further be associated with Beatrice through its restoration qualities. Because Eunoe can restore "the memory of good deeds" (XXVIII 129) it is associated with contemplative life; the best way to restore the memory of something would not be by taking action, but rather through reflection and contemplation. It is in this way that Eunoe can further be connected with the character Beatrice.

Interestingly, Dante points out that the streams Lethe and Eunoe are perfectly parallel, just as I believe that Matelda and Beatrice are. Dante writes: "...the two river banks curved perfectly / parallel..." (XXIX 11-2). Since the streams Lethe and Eunoe are physically parallel, just as Leah and Rachel are parallel as sisters, it is sensible that Matelda and Beatrice, who are related to both the streams and the sisters, are also just as parallel to each other.

In addition, Beatrice and Matelda are related not only through parallel relationships, but direct ones as well. For example, both are commonly associated with flowers and singing. When the Pilgrim first comes across Matelda, she is collecting flowers and singing, as Dante writes: "a solitary lady... / ...singing as she gathered flowers" (XXVIII 40-1). Likewise, when Dante meets Beatrice, there is also singing: "then, one of them, as sent from Heaven, sang" (XXX 10) as well as flowers: "...within a nebula of flowers / ... / appeared a lady..." (XXX 28, 31). These examples show not one but two things (flowers and singing) consistent with Dante's meeting of both of the women, creating a solid and direct relationship.

Furthermore, Matelda and Beatrice are directly related through their word usage. The best example of this relationship is the use of the word "brother" when speaking to the Pilgrim. It is peculiar that either one of them would call him that in the first place, even more so that both do. When directing the Pilgrims attention to the heavenly pageant, Matelda says to him: "My brother, look and listen" (XXIX 15). The Pilgrim is rarely, if ever, called this before, and therefore it stands out when Matelda says it. It stands even more when it is repeated by Beatrice, as she asks him about his hesitancy: "Why, brother, do you hesitate / to question me...?" (XXXIII 24). In my opinion, these two examples are too odd to be unrelated; to me, the fact that both

Matelda and Beatrice address the Pilgrim so strangely shows that they are somehow more closely related than the reader might realize.

Even the streams, which Matelda and Beatrice correspond to, are in fact connected physically; they are the same stream. Matelda mentions this first, but it is best illustrated when the Pilgrim sees it for himself:

> *...I saw spring from one source*
>
> *what might have been the Tigris and Euphrates!*
>
> *Then, like close friends, they slowly drew apart (XXXIII 112-4).*

Here, Dante creates physical representations of Matelda and Beatrice that are joined together. This tangible connection between the streams is analogous to the intangible connection between Matelda and Beatrice. Looking at these examples, the reader can see how Lethe and Eunoe are connected as one, just as Matelda and Beatrice are.

Lastly, we see that Dante also makes a specific reference to Matelda eyes, just as he does with Beatrice numerous times.

> *she graciously did raise her eyes to mine*
>
> *The eyes of Venus surely were not lit*
>
> *so radiantly that day her loving son*
>
> *quite innocently pierced her with his dart. (XXVIII 63-6)*

In this example, Dante describes Matelda eyes as radiant. Interestingly, Beatrice's eyes are described in a similar manner, as "brilliant" (XXXI 118) and "Like sunlight in a mirror, shining back" (XXXI 121). Furthermore, when the Pilgrim looks away for a moment, he is left temporarily blinded from the radiance, as Dante illustrates: "I was like one who had just strained his eyes / by looking in the sun too long" (XXXII 10-11). Looking at these examples, it is evident to the reader that both Beatrice and Matelda have bright, radiant eyes. This similarity between eyes in the two women shown by Dante again creates a direct relationship between Matelda and Beatrice.

The numerous amount of parallels, in addition to the direct connections between Matelda and Beatrice, show that there is indeed some deeper relationship between the two characters than is noticeable on the surface. Matelda shows many active, physical traits of the body, while Beatrice shows more emotional and contemplative qualities of the mind and soul. Why Dante would create such opposite yet related characters is indeed puzzling. Because Matelda is often active and in motion, like a body, yet rarely stationary, unlike Beatrice, who is usually motionless and more contemplative like the mind, I must therefore conclude that Matelda and Beatrice perhaps reflect the same being; Matelda represents the body; Beatrice represents the mind. This idea becomes more apparent when we consider the overall role of each character. Matelda takes the Pilgrim along a physical journey to confront his love Beatrice, while Beatrice takes him along an emotional journey to confront his sin. Matelda role is wholly physical, and therefore represents the body, while Beatrice's role is entirely emotional, and therefore represents the mind. The fact that Matelda and Beatrice both seem to be striving toward the same goal further proves this idea of two separate yet unified beings: the mind's wishes are carried out by the body; the two are separate yet one, just as Matelda and Beatrice are separate yet united.

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# ICE LINGERS

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# "Thou Man of Clay": Humanity in Hawthorne's "The Birth-mark"

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In his story, "The Birth-mark," Hawthorne explores the disastrous results of some misconceptions of a scientist philosopher regarding the nature of man and the attainability of earthly perfection, including the idea that man is self-perfectible and the denial of the universality of spiritual and physical depravity. Because "The Birthmark" has much to do with the nature of humanity, it is fitting to begin by looking at how the origins of their names reflect the natures of the three characters, Aylmer, Georgiana, and Aminadab, and prove to be significant with regards to their bearers' roles in the story.

The name Aylmer comes from the Old English Æðelmær, which combines *æðel*, meaning "noble", and *mær*, meaning "famous" (Bosworth; *Behind the Name*). Throughout the story, Georgiana describes Aylmer to herself in noble terms, stressing, despite its inadequacy to achieve its ends, the heroic nature of his quest for perfection. Among her last words is the assertion that he has "done nobly" (987). Nobility can also refer to status of birth, and Aylmer is constantly striving for loftier status, trying to lay claim to a rank that lies above the position of mankind to attain. Furthermore, the text reveals that he was indeed "famous," as "he had made discoveries...that had roused the admiration of all the learned societies in Europe" (980). Thus, his name sets up Aylmer's character as one who strives for divine nobility and perfection and desires fame and recognition.

Georgiana derives from the Greek *georgos*, "farmer, earthworker," which in turn comes from the elements *geo*, "earth", and *ergon*, "work" (*Behind the Name*). This etymology unmistakably links her character with the concept of mortality and mankind's close connection to the earth, as depicted in the Bible, in being both fashioned by God from earth and cursed to work the land by the sweat of the brow after the Fall in the Garden of Eden. The birth-mark on her cheek, as Aylmer sees it, is the sign of this Fall: "the visible mark of earthly imperfection" (977). This proposition is further supported by the comparison made between the birth-mark and "one of those small blue stains, which sometimes occur in the purest statuary marble" (978), as in the Powers's statue, *Eve Tempted*. This recalls the origin of the sinful part of human nature that has lodged itself inextricably in the souls of all the decedents of Eve. As perfect as Georgiana appears otherwise, this mark links her tangibly with the rest of humanity in the fellowship of the fallen.

Aylmer's laboratory assistant is named Aminadab, a Hebrew name meaning "one of the prince's people," "my kinsman is noble," or "kindred of the prince" (*Blue Letter Bible*). This name implies a kinship between its bearer and a nobleman or prince. Aminadab's close relationship with the "noble" Aylmer is intriguing, then, as the

former is the embodiment of the natural man, while the latter largely represents man's spiritual side: "With his vast strength, his shaggy hair, his smoky aspect, and the indescribable earthiness that incrusted him, he seemed to represent man's physical nature; while Aylmer's slender figure, and pale, intellectual face, were no less apt a type of the spiritual element" (981). Aylmer, though his aim is to free the spirit from the bonds of the physical nature, relies on Aminadab to help him with his scientific work and recognizes – on a practical, if not philosophical, level – a vital connection between "Matter and Spirit—Earth and Heaven" (987).[1]

Using these characters, Hawthorne delves into an examination of the nature of and relationship between the physical and spiritual aspects of human nature. He demonstrates the inherent fallen-ness of humanity and man's inability to restore himself to the godlike perfection from which he fell. While Aylmer's frustration with the flaws of humanity is portrayed almost heroically, it is clear that his aspirations are flawed. He wants to separate the soul from the body, and he is too far-reaching in his desire to attain the creative power of God and the worship that such power would bring.

The first mistake Aylmer makes is to view the human as a being divisible into its component parts: the spiritual and the physical. Aylmer is obsessed with the idea that "earthly imperfection" (977) is bound up in the physical body and, in Georgiana, is visibly manifested in her birth-mark, and he claims that she possesses spiritual perfection: "There is no taint of imperfection on thy spirit. Thy sensible frame, too, shall soon be all perfect!" (986). He does not recognize or admit that the imperfect, physical parts of a person are inherent to their humanity, and even those nearest perfection, such as Georgiana, are yet mortal and cannot evade this aspect of being human:

> It was the fatal flaw of humanity, which Nature, in one shape or another, stamps ineffaceably on all her productions, either to imply that they are temporary and finite or that their perfection must be wrought by toil and pain. The Crimson Hand expressed the ineludible gripe, in which mortality clutches the highest and purest of earthly mould, degrading them into kindred with the lowest, and even with the very brutes, like whom their visible frames return to dust. (978)

Aylmer is horrified to see this symbol of mortality on Georgiana, on whom, because of her near-perfect beauty, the flaw stands out in greater contrast.

Aylmer's view on the relationship between spirit and body is apparently of a self-contradictory nature. As noted above, Aylmer depends on the assistance of Aminadab, his earthy counterpart, even though he constantly addresses him in condescending, almost scornful terms: "thou human machine", "thou man of clay", "clod", "earthly mass", "thing of senses" (985; 987). Another curious paradox in Aylmer's view appears in his scientific methods. The goals of his experiments usually have to do with purifying, creating, grasping the secrets of immortality – all of which deal with the spiritual, metaphysical realm associated with his character. However, the means he employs in his attempts to achieve these goals are grounded in the despised physical realm, and he never achieves his ultimate aims. He follows in the footsteps of those who "believed, and perhaps imagined themselves, to have acquired from

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1. Though it might be a stretch, it could be noted here that "Aminadab" spelled backwards is "bad anima." This serves to strengthen the predominately physical characterization of Aminadab, depicting him almost like a beast lacking a soul, or "anima."

the investigation of nature a power above nature, and from physics a sway over the spiritual world" (984), but he is frustrated because, being human, he is confined to the natural power that is allotted to mortals and confounded by "the short-comings of the composite man—the spirit burthened with clay and working in matter—and of the despair that assails the higher nature, at finding itself so miserably thwarted by the earthly part" (984). Here it is clear that he sees the physical body of man as a prison or an impediment to true greatness and freedom of discovery and creation, in spite of how much he relies on the physical in the conducting of his experiments. Aylmer attempts unsuccessfully to "redeem...himself from materialism, by his strong and eager aspiration towards the infinite" (984) and seeks to grant a soul to "the veriest clod of earth" (984). He is constantly mixing empirical and metaphysical elements in his experimentation; "he was confident in his *science*, and felt that he could draw a *magic* circle around her, within which no evil might intrude" (981, italics mine). He hopes, through scientific means, to achieve the godlike power to give, take, and create life; he believes in the self-perfection of humanity.

Georgiana's birth-mark is not only indicative of physical imperfection, but also of spiritual fallen-ness, and Aylmer identifies it "as a symbol of his wife's liability to sin, sorrow, decay, and death" (978). Although he initially seems to view the birth-mark merely as a superficial blemish, by identifying it not only with the natural forces of "decay" and "death", but also with the metaphysical notions of "sin" and "sorrow," Aylmer reveals that he does, even early on, recognize a connection between the physical and spiritual. In a dream, he attempts to surgically remove the birth-mark, only to discover that it is lodged in her heart – "deep as life itself" (979). The birth-mark becomes, for him, a symbol of the imperfection of mankind, an embodiment of all that had frustrated his previous endeavors, a hand that writes mortality on the heart and withholds the power that Aylmer desires. Therefore, his quest to rid his wife of the mark becomes his own quest to overcome flawed human nature and release the spirit from the bonds of the corrupted body. But he does not realize or allow himself to believe that a flaw thus situated in the heart – or the soul – cannot be removed by physical means.

Aylmer had, in the past, explored the possibility of creating Man, and when he seeks to remove Georgiana's birth-mark, he "resume[s] these half-forgotten investigations" (980), recognizing that some kind of a re-creation is needed to correct "what Nature left imperfect, in her fairest work" (980). He is confident that his scientific methods will provide him with what he needs to render his wife perfect in every way, and exults in his abilities to create. And yet his "natural philosophy" is not enough to create life or purify it from the mark of sin (977). A creative act is indeed necessary to free humanity from sin but cannot be achieved by human beings to whom Nature "permits...on no account to make" (980). Aylmer desires to have not only the creative power of God but also the redemptive power of Christ, as it is only by the latter that humanity is finally able to overcome its fallen state. This is implied in the initial description of the birth-mark. Usually the mark, though evident, is not starkly obvious, but is "deeply interwoven...with the texture and substance of her face", as sinful nature is woven inextricably into the fabric of humanity (977). However, when Georgiana blushes, the mark fades, "and finally vanished amid the triumphant rush of blood" (978). Only blood can cover the flaw while it remains, and only after death can people be completely free from the effects of sin.

The text identifies the hand as "the bond by which an angelic spirit kept itself in union with a mortal frame" (987). When Aylmer finally succeeds in causing the birth-mark to disappear, the spirit of Georgiana, "the now perfect woman" (987), leaves her body, and her husband is left with the eerie chuckle of Aminadab, punctuating the "invariable triumph [of the Fatality of Earth] over the immortal essence, which, in this dim sphere of half-development, demands the completeness of a higher state" (988). Aylmer had sought to create the perfection of heaven within the confines of corrupted earth, and earth could not hold it. His pursuits, though noble in a way and demonstrative of the fact that humanity was made to ultimately enjoy "the completeness of a higher state", were misguided because he did not acknowledge the impossibility of such perfection in a fallen world, especially its achievement by mortal hands:

> Yet, had Aylmer reached a profounder wisdom, he need not thus have flung away the happiness, which would have woven his mortal life of the self-same texture with the celestial. The momentary circumstance was too strong for him; he failed to look beyond the shadowy scope of Time, and living once for all in Eternity, to find the perfect Future in the present. (988)

"[P]rofounder wisdom" on Aylmer's part would have been to realize that the mortal life, even in its imperfection, is woven together with immortality. This seems to be the "deeply impressive moral" (977) that Hawthorne not-too-subtly mentions at the beginning of the story, that imperfections are inevitable and are, in part, what make us human, but our souls are bound up with them. We must be reconciled to this fact and enjoy what present beauty we have, while hoping for the perfection to come, rather than destroying something good in the effort to gain prematurely an unattainable flawlessness.

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# FLAMING KEYS

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# REFORMING THE CANADIAN SENATE

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In Washingtonian politics, a strong system of checks and balances with a bicameralistic legislature is key to the success of the government. As Canada begins to tear itself away from its Westminster roots and its ersatz bicameral legislature, researchers must study the change being undergone in Ottawa's Parliament. "The high tide of unicameralism has ebbed...bicameralism is on the rise," stated David Smith of the University of Saskatchewan. With only three developed democracies throughout the world, New Zealand, Denmark, and Sweden, functioning on unicameral legislatures to this day, one could argue that a bicameral form of government has been proven superior in dealing with twenty-first century politics. Why is it then that Canada, a relatively advanced democracy, still relies on a pseudo-unicameralistic system to get by? With a Senate whose functions today are more a matter of procedure than policy-making, Canadian government functions with only one elected branch of Parliament, the House of Commons. In a system where the Prime Minister must constantly uphold the tenet of "responsible government", there should not exist a legislative house that costs taxpayers sixty million dollars a year and is not accountable to any constituency. A modernized, elected Senate in Ottawa would drastically improve the effectiveness of the Canadian government as a whole and increase its accountability to its constituents.

Without a doubt, Canada needs an amended Parliament, and more effective legislators in Ottawa. Plain and simple, Canadians want reform, and have been fighting for it for almost a century. According to an Angus Reid poll from 2007, sixty one percent of Canadians are in favor of electing Senators, whereas only eighteen percent are opposed. The long-standing Senate is antiquated and modeled around the wrong example, that being the British House of Lords. As argued by Sir George Ross in 1914, "the Canadian constitution is 'more in harmony with the British constitution than that of any dependency beyond the sea'" (Smith 8). In spite of that, Canada was formed as a federation, yet the UK was not. Besides being molded to conform to a system that does not fit the country's federal system of government, Canadian Parliament has been unable to change very much since 1867 due to Canadians' fear with amending the Constitution. Despite the repeated calls to action, the only two changes made to the Senate since Confederation occurred in 1965 when the lifetime appointments were reduced to a mandatory retirement at age seventy-five, and in 1982, when the Constitution Act limited the Senate to a suspensive or delaying veto. Ottawa needs more alteration than has been presented, hence, the issue of Senate reform remains a hot topic in Canadian politics.

In progressing through this research, it is important to give a brief outline of the subject at hand and how we wish to approach its study. We will begin by discussing the history of the Senate and the "need" for an upper house demanded by the Fathers

of Confederation. To follow, we will take a look at the work of the current day Senate and the inefficacies that lie in its operation. Next, we will consider the various motions that have been made for Senate reform, their strengths, and ultimately, the weaknesses that caused them to fail. Most importantly, we will study the two most potent attempts at reform, the famous Triple-E plan and Charlottetown Accords, and take a look at the hesitancies to reform surrounding the wariness of a potent and powerful Senate. After that, we will have a brief overview of the party politics involved in Senate reform, and the hindrances they have caused in achieving any notable change on Parliament Hill. In contemplation, we will note what a new Senate would do for Canada and its people, and why a change really is necessary. Last but not least, we will conclude with an analysis of the study and a proposal for the next set of reforms that would make a promising change in Ottawa.

## History of the Senate

Vestiges of imperialistic ties between Canada and Great Britain exist to this day, however the vast majority of political power was handed over to Canadians in 1867 with the passing of the British North America Act and the drafting of the Canadian Constitution. Section 17 of the Constitution Act of 1867 "vests legislative powers in the Parliament of Canada which consists of 'the Queen, …the Senate, and the House of Commons'" (Bickerton 268-269). The Senate's role in the legislative process, according to the Fathers of Confederation, was "to represent the regions". As a result "the Senate incorporates the principle of regional representation, with Ontario, Quebec, the four western provinces, and the three Maritime provinces all being assigned the same number of seats" (Brooks 105). The present day Senate holds one hundred and five senators, with six coming from Newfoundland and one from each territory.

## The "Need" for a Senate and Bicameralism

"The appointed Senate has been the subject of much criticism throughout Canadian history, with proposals for reform that range from electing Senators to abolishing the upper House altogether" (Pilon 116). From day one, the Canadian Senate was meant to be an equal legislative body alongside the House of Commons, where bills would pass through both sessions before going into effect. However, a lack of legitimacy arose in the Senate due to the fact that its members were appointed to lifetime service, as opposed to being elected to terms, as in the House of Commons. The Fathers of Confederation deemed it necessary to have one body on Parliament Hill comprised of economic and social elites to act as a check on the decision making of "regular citizens" or "commoners", akin to the United States' Electoral College. Hence, the Senate became affectionately known as the chamber of "sober second thought" (Makarenko). Starting with the very first assignments in 1867, those appointed to the Senate "were largely prominent politicians from the new provinces" (Brooks 146). In a relatively short time frame, the Senate lost legitimacy in comparison to the House of Commons due to such patronage appointments, strong provincial governments which took the place of the Senate in representing regional interests, and changing ideas about democracy. By the early 1900s, books were already being published de-

scribing the Canadian Senate as "unmodernized" and calling for measures of reform for the ailing branch of Parliament.

## Current-day Senatorial Work and its Inefficacies

The role of Senate and the actions it has taken as a legislative body also have caused a lack of authenticity and repeated calls for Senatorial reform in Ottawa. In current day government, the Senate takes on mostly an advising role in government, at times being coined a "labour of committees" (Smith 52). Senators do investigative work in the realm of "poverty, aging, unemployment, the mass media, science policy, land use, national defense, Canadian-American relations, constitutional affairs, the decriminalization of marijuana, and the health care system" (Makarenko) and report back to the House of Commons on their considerations for legislation.

In addition, the Canadian Senate reviews bills from the House of Commons and makes amendments or effects vetoes when change is necessary. However, this function of the chamber has greatly deteriorated over time. In the period prior to 1963, Senators amended 25% and vetoed 8% of bills presented to them. In the ten-year span between 1963 and 1974, Senators only amended 3.5% and vetoed 1.2% of the bills they received (Campbell 6). With the passing of the Constitution Act of 1982, prohibiting the Senate from taking action on any amendment to the Constitution, these numbers dropped considerably further, with the Senate vetoing only four bills in the entire 1990s decade. The Senate and House of Commons are said to have a "cordial and constructive relationship" (Campbell), making it difficult for checks and balances to work in a system where no chamber wishes to debate the other.

Furthermore, Campbell argues that the Senate failed to even exercise its veto and amending power correctly. Six times, the Senate has gone against the will of the provinces, and approved legislation that proved detrimental to regional interests. The conscription crisis, parochial interests, railroad regulation, school separation, and the extension of the franchise are only a few of the many issues to which the Senate has failed the regions, due in large part to the complete lack of accountability (Campbell 3). For this reason, the Senate has been called an "intermediary" between business and government.

Moreover, the Senate serves as an "emergency" actor on Parliament Hill that can enact legislation in a short time frame. The Senate is much more flexible in terms of its ability to meet, whereas the House of Commons has a relatively strict schedule that it must adhere to. However, the Senate cannot originate any bills that involve the raising or spending of dollars, severely limiting its ability to act on such matters (Campbell 6). Without proper reform in this regard, the Senate's role as a savior to the Canadian people in times of need is severely compromised.

## Attempts at Reform and their Flaws

Undoubtedly, the need for reform is there, and Canadians have been pushing for a change ever since 1874, when there a motion was proposed in Ottawa to make the Senate provincially selected (Smith 47). After all, in 1867 the smaller provinces, such as Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island, only consented to Confederation on the "understanding that there would be a regional upper house"

(Smith 20). As obvious as it may be that this house exists up on Parliament Hill, there has been a sense of disconnect between the provinces and "their" chamber for many years now. Since 1900, there have been thirteen different attempts at reforming the Canadian Senate – all failures (Geddes).

Inevitably, in the mid-1970s came a proposal from then-Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau for a Constitutional Amendment Bill (C-60). This bill was originated in the House of Commons where Trudeau himself was a Member of Parliament (MP). The measure suggested that in place of the Senate, a House of the Federation be implemented. However, the Senators brought the case to the Supreme Court of Canada, who ruled "no" and nullified the bill. The justification being that one chamber of Congress could not change the other unilaterally (Smith 54). However, since that time, the Senate has lost many of its amending and vetoing powers in the British Canada Act of 1982, making it vulnerable to reform should the House of Commons ever agree on a proper method of change.

Not surprisingly, the resounding attitude towards the Senate in the Canadian media is overwhelmingly negative. The chamber that costs taxpayers over $60 million a year to keep running gets a lot of criticism from such papers as the Globe and Mail, the National Post, and L'Actualité, among others (Smith 48). However, this denigration is one of short attention span from the Canadian public, and special interest groups have fought a tough battle in attempting to make Canadians aware of the change that is necessary in Ottawa. According to Campbell, every one of the provinces currently operates under a unicameral legislative house, making it a tough sell to convince the public that a second, reformed house is necessary. Such attempts at reform, such as the Task Force on Canadian Unity of 1979, the Constitutional Committee of the Quebec Liberal Party of 1980, and the Special Joint Committee of the Senate and House of Commons on Senate Reform of 1983 have brought about many propositions for change, but very few have been taken seriously by the Canadian public (Smith 49). Two of the more prominent attempts at Senatorial reform came from the Triple E plan of 1981 and the Charlottetown Accords of 1992.

## Triple-E Proposal

In short, the Triple-E plan called for an elected, equal, and effective Senate (Smith 54). The many supporters of this proposal argues that to begin with, the question of legitimacy in the Senate would be answered by democratically electing its representatives, and ridding the government of its archaic appointment system. Secondly, they argued that the Senate must be equal in power to the House, and not subordinate to the Commons (Smith 54). In doing so, the Senate would be given powers very similar to those of the House of Commons. However, this plan's critics argue that with equal powers, the Senate would become too powerful and eclipse the Commons, due to Senators representing a larger share of the population. Clearly, this plan for the Senate would never be passed, since the MP's in the Commons would surely never put anyone in a higher position of power than themselves. The third pillar of the amending law would have made the Senate effective at the mercy of party politics. Many argue that this would be one of the disadvantages of such reform, with Senators now having to respond to party interests whereas in the current form they are more or less "free-agents". The major weakness in getting support for the Triple-E proposal say in the representatives of Quebec, whose politicians would never agree to a Senate

where they would receive "less than 10 percent of the vote in a country where they number 25 percent" (Bickerton 338).

## Charlottetown Accords

Following the failure of the Meech Lake Accords to bring about change in the Senate with non-partisan nomination being atop the agenda (Smith 137), the Charlottetown Accords of 1992 moved to limit the new Senate to only a suspensive veto, as opposed to its original totalitarian veto. The referendum also allocated for equal provincial membership in the Senate and the election of Senators with the means of which would remain at the discretion of the province. Last but not least, the Charlottetown plan allowed for elections to be simultaneous with those of the House of Commons (Smith 47). To the surprise of many legislators, Canadians voted a resounding "No" in response to this referendum. Many scholars have debated the reasoning for such a response by the voting public. The main problem lay in the dissatisfaction that the West and Quebec held with the plan (Johnston 56). Under the settlement, any province losing representation due to the new layout of the Senate would be compensated with additional seats in the House of Commons. Alberta and British Columbia fell under this category; however, "the boosts actually given were small and still left [them] less well represented in the new House than in the old" (Johnston 56). Quebec faced a similar situation as it had with the Triple-E proposal, where its share of seats in the House of Commons would remain the same, yet its Senatorial representation would fall, hence, it as well rejected the Accord. The will of Canadians to shift from "Westminster to Washington" government was seriously questioned following their showing at the polls in 1992.

Yet another weakness of the Charlottetown Accords and other proposals for reform lay in the inability of the parties to decide on a method of election for the "new" Senate. The ideas being laid out included a single transferable vote proportional representation, as in Australia; a list system proportional representation, as in Germany; plurality; at-large constituency, with each province making up its own electorate; and individual constituencies within the provinces, making the Senate a more community-based mode of representation (Smith ii). Additionally, the question was posed as to whether the elections ought to be coordinated with those of the House of Commons or whether the voting times ought to be separate. With the inability of parties to agree on such essential details to a constitutional amendment, the Senatorial reform issue remains indeterminate in Canada.

## An Ever-Too-Powerful Senate

Critics of senatorial reform attempts have voices their opinions and concerns about the likelihood of a new Senate to be a detriment to Canadian politics. One of the major disadvantages to a senatorial election without a change in the role of the Senate is that the "temptation to use the Senate veto for partisanship or regional benefit would grow" (Smith 58). Although Senators currently do possess party affiliation due to the relationship with their prime minister appointments, they have far less of a tendency to vote along party lines than do MP's. For example, "in the one senatorial 'election' to date…in Alberta in 1989, there were six candidates…and the party

issue bulked large in the campaign" (Smith 103). Additionally, the Senate as simply an elected body would be far too powerful due to "electoral legitimacy" and must be subordinated. Lastly, the opponents of a Senate reform are reluctant to encourage such action because they are reluctant to say that a new Senate would change anything in Ottawa. After all, they argue that dissatisfaction in Canada is not with the Senate, but rather, with Parliament as a whole (Smith 58). Then again, the Senate is known as the "upper" chamber for a reason. Its members represent a larger portion of the population and fewer seats allow for more power within a vote. Yet this element of reform will be the toughest of all to overcome, due to the current voting power of MP's on this issue. After all, it is they who decide what will happen of the Canadian Senate as a body.

## Party Politics in Reform

Previously, it had been mentioned that 100 percent of the legislatures in the provinces are unicameral; hence, the inevitable idea of a unicameral Parliament arises as well. The modern-day New Democratic Party and Bloc Quebecois are strong proponents of this "socialist" attempt (Smith 57). Jack Layton, leader of the New Democratic Party, has called the Senate "outdated and obsolete" and thinks "It's a 19th-century institution that has no place in a modern democracy in the 21st century" (Canadian Press). The Bloc Quebecois also calls for abolition instead of reform due to the large representation Quebec would lose as a result of the latter. However, the Liberal Party of Quebec, currently the party holding the premiership, opposes this idea due to the Liberal Party being the controlling entity in the Senate to this day (Canadian Press). No substantial attempt at abolition has ever been made, however, there have been various attempts by the NDP and Conservatives since 2007 to get a referendum on the federal election ballot to gauge Canadians' support of the idea (Geddes).

## Advantages of a Reformed Senate

Retrospectively, returning to the idea of a more Washingtonian style of government in Canada, it is essential to ask the question: does Canadian government require a more rigorous system of checks and balances? Those on the right of the political spectrum, such as the Conservative Party, are strong proponents of the idea that "modern-day democracies must be bicameral" (Pilon 116). The parliamentary system of Canada allows for more power in government through a relatively unicameral legislature. The prime minister himself is a member of parliament, allowing a direct linkage between the executive and legislative, leaving only one check in the entire system being that of the Supreme Court (Pilon 117). In addition to the lack of a legitimate upper House, Canada's House of Commons has historically been vulnerable to control by minority parties due to the lack of a proportional representation in the chamber (Pilon 117). The PR solution to a new Senate or reformed house would help create broader coalitions by bettering political diversity. New Zealand, one of the only remaining democracies relying on a unicameral system, has sustained itself with proportional representation, creating a system of checks and balances within the one House, something Canada's plurality elected Commons lacks (Milburn 80). In closing, Canada's bogus bicameral government needs reform in order to work for

the wellbeing of its citizens, with the most effective reform coming in reassessing the Senate.

## Analysis and Proposal

All in all, the change the general Canadian public wishes to see within the Senate will not occur anytime soon for three distinct reason. First, reform will not occur in the near future due to a Conservative minority government. Being the strongest proponents of an elected Senate, the Conservative party is a powerful force for the future of Canadian politics over the next few years; however, they cannot do so without a majority government. To acquire support, they must compromise with the abolitionist Bloc Quebecois and NDP, who favor the demolition of the chamber due to their lack of seats (neither had ever had a prime minister from the party), as well as the static Liberal party, who are quite content to keep the overwhelming majority they currently hold in the upper chamber.

Second, reform will not occur due to the 308 members of the House of Commons not wanting to lose their power to a new institution they would be creating. As great as Senate reform appeals to constituents as a platform issue, it never has been proven practical for MP's to return to Ottawa and realize that in voting for an elected Senate, they would be subordinating themselves below another legislative body. A new Senate would also allow for more scrutiny and accountability of votes in a system where the MP's could be called out for their actions and hurt their own chances at re-election.

Third, reform will not occur soon in the Senate due to procedural difficulties in amending the Constitution. "Constitutional amendment is never easy in federal systems" (Smith 151) and Canada is no exception to that rule. For the Senate's makeup to be changed in the Constitution, it would require approval from both houses of Parliament and all ten legislatures, implying that the Senate must vote itself dissolved. The only loophole in the system would see the suspensive veto process take place, a case in which the House of Commons could pass such a legislation given it holds off for one hundred and eighty days on a veto enacted by the Senate. However, this process would still require approval from all ten provinces, a highly unlikely scenario in the regional scheme of Canadian politics.

## Conclusion

All in all, the "Great [Canadian] Compromise" will not happen anytime soon. However, a modernized Senate can still improve the effectiveness of the Canadian government and provide needed services to the Canadian people. Through an increase in its excellent committee work, the Senate of Canada can move "closer to the people" (Smith 173) and provide a forum for lay Canadians to voice their opinions about government. Through Senatorial process reforms, such as composition laws, the Senate can better represent the people. It is already the most diverse and representative chamber of any legislative body in Canada, contained more First Nations, Black, Women and minority members than any other government entity (Smith 167). Through reassignment of appointment from the prime ministerial office to the

province's premier offices, the Senate may better represent those it is supposed to be serving. After all, it is a "House of Provinces".

In synthesis, the various proposals for change need to be brought together in a legitimate, powerful system that has the ability to act on important national matters of concern. This proposal would satisfy all four parties' demands and create a more accountable system with a bicameral parliament composed of more diverse checks and balances. Australia has implemented such a system through constitutional revisions from the archaic British system of Houses of Commons and Lords. Canada can and will do this once the popular support for such a movement comes face to face with Ottawa politicians. After all, one of the most legitimate positions in the Canadian government, that of Governor General (the Queen's representative) is an appointed, yet unchallenged office, hence, in spite of everything, we must focus on "what Senators do, not how they got there" (Smith 58).

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# THE WEIGHT OF KNOWLEDGE

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## Thursday, 6:15 pm

Henry laid himself out in a desperate dive behind the couch to evade the hail of gun-fire raining on all sides. He tried to suck back the wind that the dive had knocked out of him while he hastily reloaded his revolver from a bulging pocketful of ammunition. The revolver was a weak weapon, barely adequate at best, clumsy to handle and cock with a troublesome penchant for misfiring. Not nearly the ideal weapon for this brisk confrontation. But, in war, as in life, one must play the hand one is dealt. He sucked more wind and braced himself to renew the assault.

He had thought he had his opponents fooled. Sheltered behind the couch, which he had overturned in the direction of his foes to provide himself a secure rampart, he had remained out of sight. The other two lasered in on each other so intently, the first firing from cover behind the kitchen island and the second behind the rotten old brown armchair in the corner by the door, that neither of them seemed to remember he was there. Perhaps they thought he'd taken a hit. He let them go on thinking that, wasting ammo on each other while he reloaded. At the ripe moment he had taken his shot. But he missed, bare millimeters above his target's head. He actually saw it ruffle the enemy's hair. Now the ruse was up. He could only keep his head down as the bullets poured in on him. "Hey!" Henry shouted between bombardments, "Why don't you guys go back to shooting at each other for a while?" No answer came except more fire.

The situation was growing desperate. He had to find a way to turn it back in his favor. *Think, Henry, think! Gotta outsmart 'em!* And at that desperate moment a scrap of an idea came to him. A bleak plan, to be sure, but it was the only one he had, and it was better than lying here waiting to be shot. He scanned about him for something to pick up, any sort of object. He dragged his hand back and forth across the unsightly vomit-brown carpet until it landed on the DVD remote. That would have to do. He gripped it and slunk to the edge of his shelter. He took one deep breath and threw the remote over his shoulder in the direction of his feet, making damn sure it landed beyond the other end of the couch.

He didn't watch the remote fly, but he heard it clatter messily across the faux-brick tile floor, not one solid noise but many random ones, like a knife drawer being over-turned. The battery compartment popped open, the cover flying one way while the batteries bounced the other. In such a supremely chaotic scene, so rife with sound and fury, that single unexpected disturbance stopped everything cold. And that was exactly what Henry was banking on. In the millisecond after the remote crashed on

one side of the couch, he flung himself into the breach on the other. He saw immediately that his second enemy, taking refuge behind the armchair, had completely fallen for his diversion; his eyes and his gun pointed exactly the wrong way, rounds popping off furiously at the target he hadn't yet realized wasn't there. It was all the time Henry needed. He took aim and put two in the shooter's chest.

Adrenaline-soaked triumph flooded Henry, but it would not last. His tactic had not fooled the nearer shooter; before Henry could swing his gun from the other opponent to this one, he felt an abrupt blow in his left side. Slowly he raised his head and saw his closest foe, calmly standing his full height, the barrel of his gun still staring coldly at Henry. The room, a buzzing hive of noise and confusion not three seconds ago, had gone deadly silent. He looked down at his body, bewildered. He had been shot in the left midsection, just below the ribcage.

♦

## Thursday, 4:30 pm

My head bounced off my chest, neck cracking painfully as I jerked out of the involuntary doze I had fallen into. The combination of the jarring moment of whiplash and the residual sleep it hadn't completely driven away left a translucent haze in my brain that I was unable to fully penetrate for a few moments. As the fog gradually dissipated, my field of awareness widened and my surroundings came into focus. A great cinder-block of a book lay open in front of me. Its pages bore the marks of countless underlines, commentaries had been scribbled at strange angles in the margins, and the corners were dog-eared from a thousand turns. On the desk around it sat more books, pencils, notebooks, study guides – all within easy and organized reach. How long had I been asleep? It could not have been that long, or the pain in my neck would be more insistent. I checked my watch.

"Shit!" Clapping a hand to my mouth, I glanced around to make sure none of the other library patrons had heard my outburst. Somehow I had slept away more than half an hour. Not good. I needed every second I had. The whole reason I came to the library was to avoid problems like this. By employing a strict strategy, I could maximize my study time and space. Each item had its rank and file, and when all were lined up in formation the academic campaign could be waged. The first half hour had gone smoothly and efficiently. I knocked off my history reading with no problem. But then I turned my attention to Modern Literature, and that must have been when the troops started getting shelled. Reading Joseph Conrad is like trying to walk through hip-deep mud with your ankles tied together. I could only vaguely recall the last line I had read, something about the sea being as unfathomable as a man's soul, and the next thing I knew was the white hot jolt that woke me up. I scanned the book in front of me to find that line, hoping to make up the lost time.

The University library had a certain feeling that was at once inviting and alienating. I could never quite put my finger on where that feeling came from. Perhaps it was the smell, that incongruous mixture of furniture polish and carpet shampoo intertwined with the dust of brittle, yellowed books at least twice as old as I was. It's a scent that says, *Come in! All of this knowledge awaits you. Open a book, sample the treasures it contains, and make yourself a wiser person.* But if you stand very still and wait, it will

also say, *These books have been read by people far smarter than you can ever hope to be. If you presume to enter here, if you dare to read, you cannot win. All you will be is crushed under the weight. Run while you can.* But school is school, and so in I went day after day, silently wondering whether today it would all finally come tumbling down on top of me.

Shelves reached from floor to ceiling, so high that you needed a stepladder or a basketball player to get something from the top. They stretched so far that my eyes hurt, only able to see them converge, and in my mind they marched on in inescapably precise formation to infinity. Sometimes I felt like I lived there, and other times like I could not escape. Tables, chairs, and benches filled whatever space wasn't crammed to the rafters with books. You could enter a reading room at any time of the day and see students, books out, heads down, reading furiously, entrenched in little fortresses of paper. Often I could sit there hemmed in by homework for hours that felt like days without coming up for air, just working, working, working, unaware even of the others around me putting up their own book walls. Why today my usual stamina had abandoned me, I didn't have time to theorize, but two exams and a paper in the last week likely had something to do with it.

I found the spot where I had left off and continued reading. But I didn't make it more than three lines before I felt my eyes begging to close again. "C'mon, Henry, gotta focus." I shook my head until my cheeks giggled, trying to permanently dislodge the haze. "Focus, damnit!" I wrestled my eyes back to the page and took in a few more lines of Conrad, but then they fluttered shut. I forced them back open for another few, and again they grew heavy. Finally I reached the point where I couldn't complete a line without feeling myself start to fade, having to read it two, three, four times and still having no idea what it said. Besieged with frustration and exhaustion, I slammed the book shut. "To Hell with it," I muttered. This just wasn't working. I had to move, get my blood circulating again, breathe a little fresh air to clear my mind, or I'd never get to the end of this page, much less the entire assignment. I gathered up my copious arsenal of study materials and packed them into my book bag, straining to get the zipper shut. It taunted me with the threat that it would split open at the seams from top to bottom at any moment. Then I hoisted the unreasonably heavy, absurdly overstuffed pack onto my back and marched out of the library into the open air.

Very quickly the old, familiar ache returned to my shoulders. I had to hunch forward to keep my balance against the weight of my backpack. I dug my thumbs under the straps and tugged downward, forcing the bulging mass to ride higher on my back so I could stand up straight while walking. It helped, but not a lot. Convincing myself that this minuscule adjustment made my load lighter, I took a deep breath and trudged. In the warm October afternoon sunlight, my shadow fell long and distinct on the blah-gray sidewalk and freshly manicured grass at my side. I observed the silhouette in my peripheral vision; my back appeared to have sprouted a horrible cancerous growth, a ridiculous, overhanging blob the size and shape of the apronlike gut extremely fat people develop. With every step I was less and less inclined to care. I longed to drop the pack and walk away, leave Joseph Conrad in a heap for someone who gave a damn. But no. I gave a damn. I could never have made it this far, fourth-year senior, if I didn't. I resisted the urge, and instead cinched the book bag in tighter. *The weight of knowledge*, I told myself, and soldiered on. Knowing nowhere else to go, I turned my steps home. Maybe there I'd be able to get back to work.

Vague, rumbling shouts wafted toward me as I passed by the football field. The team had struck up a raucous chant to encourage one another in their practice. Whatever the exact words were, I couldn't make them out; it just sounded like *hoom hoom, boom boom*. But it seemed to work for them. They dove after one another with mounting energy, fervor of a strength that felt alien to me, punctuated by the piercing stab of the coach's whistle and coalescing in a writhing vortex of bodies on the field – the core of which was, presumably, the ball, but I couldn't make that out for certain either. *Hoom hoom, boom boom*. Time to press on. Slowly the field receded, and the sounds of the players' zeal grew more muffled.

Sidewalks turned into parking lots, parking lots gave way to fields, fields blended into lightly wooded paths. In the opening above me the softly coloring sky was visible, cloudless, absorbing hints of its tones from the autumn trees. Past the tree line to my right, jaggedly framing the sky, stood the freshman dormitories. The strange, asymmetrical chain of low brick buildings lolled across the landscape like a giant caterpillar sunning itself. It had been a lifetime since I'd been over that way, and two since I'd actually lived there. It felt like another world. My steps halted, and my feet turned me to face that way. I raised my hand to shield my eyes from the sun, now making its downward course which would eventually pass behind those buildings. The rooftop looked like it was alive with fire. As my eyes and my mind lingered on my former home, unsure why my feet hadn't started me back on my way, I noticed movement. A tiny orb, brilliantly crystal white in the light, broke the surface of the rooftops. It climbed in a lazy arc and then fell out of sight. A second later, it reappeared and cut another parabola back the way it had come. The freshmen were out behind the dorms playing sand volleyball –

(Henry charged out onto the grass. He gleefully dropped his book bag, sagging with the weight of his freshman biology textbook. He removed his shoes and socks and left them in the haphazard pile along with everyone else's. The sand felt cool and soft, almost ticklish between his toes. Jason stood on the other side of the net, knees flexed, ball in hand, spirited grin displaying his readiness to serve. Henry swayed from side to side, his hands out front to receive the ball. With one hand he motioned for Jason to come on. *Bring it*. Jason reached back and served a rocket. Maggie, perched at the baseline behind Henry, bumped the ball. Henry saw it float forward over his shoulder. He set it, feeling Maggie charge. She leapt and spiked the ball. It landed to Jason's left, sending up a puff of sand and spinning a comfortable little crater for itself. Henry whooped and high-fived Maggie. Jason grinned and tossed him the ball for the next serve.)

– like I had done so many times back then. I hadn't seen either Jason or Maggie in months, and it had been over a year since we had spent any time together. For all I knew, they had both transferred and were living new lives in different states. With a heart for that moment as dark and heavy as the load on my back, I forced my feet to resume their previous course.

I plodded my way through the woods toward my apartment, idly kicking up tufts of fallen leaves that flitted across my path. A pleasant breeze blew, tickling the back of my neck and carrying with it the dry, crackling scent of autumn. Around a bend in the path, an especially inviting tree presented itself, the perfect shape to cradle a sore back with a carpet of soft green grass at its foot. I inhaled deeply, savoring the quiet world and wishing I could just be in it. Barely realizing I had moved, I found my hand creeping up to cast off my pack. It was unfair, downright cruel to tell me that

on a day like this, a blessed day made to enjoy being alive, I had to do what I always did, sit inside and read until my eyes bled. Not today. Today I would kick back and let the groove of this tree take my weight, and I would gaze up at the –

(Henry reached into the low-hanging branches above his head and plucked a leaf. He held it by its stem and playfully tickled Gwen's cheek with it. She squealed with laughter in that way that always made his heart melt. She snatched the leaf away with mock scolding sounds, set it in her lap, and then leaned against him until her amber curls rested comfortably in the crook of his shoulder. Gwen sighed with contentment. He kissed the top of her head, and they both turned their eyes up to the – )

– cerulean evening sky, singed orange at the corners of my vision. I wondered whether Gwen could even see this sky right now. She had moved on, gone to graduate school, and the only constant companion I had left was this spiteful, inescapable book bag. Unpleasant company to say the least. I started to slide the straps down.

But something stopped me. The fat black weight pulled back, refusing to be cast aside. *You've already wasted most of the afternoon,* it chided. *If you waste the rest, you'll never finish in time for class, and then you'll fall behind. Your grades might slip, and then everything you've worked for will be put in jeopardy. Is that what you want?* No, that wasn't what I wanted. But did it have to be so damn exhausting? There had to be a better way. *What, you think you've got it rough? You're going to graduate from college. You've got a future. Suck it up and quit complaining.* I let out a hard sigh, reshouldered that exasperating ton of bricks, and continued on. "Just keep walking," I coached myself. *Hoom hoom, boom boom.*

The apartment door was open when I reached the landing, and I could see the shifting blue-green illumination of the television spilling out onto the hall floor. And sure enough, there was Mitch on the couch, right where I'd left him.

It wasn't that Mitch never left the apartment; I just witnessed it so rarely that sometimes it felt like it. I'd be the first one up in the morning. I'd wash my face, fix my breakfast, carefully and methodically pack my book bag; and then he'd wander out of his room in his comfy sweats and fuzzy slippers and head straight for the couch. It took an hour or two of videogames – which worked for him in the morning like coffee did for most people – for him to shake off his stupor and be fit to join the world. He had to be going to class, because we'd been living together for two years and the University hadn't kicked him out yet, but I certainly couldn't prove it to you. I could prove, though, that he had at the very least gotten up off the couch and gone as far as the television set since I left, because when I went to class that morning he was contemplating the mysteries of *The Legend of Zelda* on the Nintendo Wii and now it was *Fallout 3* on the Xbox 360.

"Giving those radioactive bastards what's coming to them?" I asked.

"You know it," he replied tranquilly without taking his eyes off the screen. "Where you been? Wait, don't tell me – the library, right?" He chuckled lightly.

On second glance I realized he must've also gone as far as his room at some point, because he'd fixed his hair. That was the one part of Mitch I could never get my head around. To look at him, you'd swear he just rolled out of bed, except that every day he painstakingly laid in half a can of hairspray to sculpt his shaggy brown mop into a fine coiffure. I had to hand it to him, he cleaned up pretty well.

I kicked off my shoes and stood beside the couch. Sometimes I liked to just watch Mitch play. He played complex, deep-thinking games, the kind with multiple ongoing

plots and subplots that required more commitment and concentration than I had time for. It made it kind of admirable, like he was taking on a real challenge. His eyes were wide, his gaze sharp as he became more and more engrossed in his battles, mind whirring fantastically to meet each new threat. "Something good must've happened," I observed. "The world looks a little brighter today." The game, which had been a persistently depressing brown palette for days, now showed signs of sunshine.

"Not really," Mitch answered, still without looking up. "It's just this location."

I nodded and turned toward my bedroom, leaving his digital serenity undisturbed. If I went into seclusion, became "the Homework Hermit," as Mitch sometimes called me, I could probably finish making up the ground I had lost. But it would take time. It would be a war of attrition, requiring strength and focus. *Hoom hoom, boom boom.* I stopped and looked back at him, master of a world I didn't have time to understand. "Don't you have any homework to do?" I asked, strains of annoyance edging into my voice, trying to imagine how that must feel.

"No, nothing urgent," he answered placidly, eyes fixed unshakably on his screen.

I shook my head in amazement. "Seriously, how long have you been playing today?" No reaction. "When do you study?" Still no reaction. Absolutely unflappable. I slapped a palm against my forehead and walked away.

As I passed, I dragged my hand absent-mindedly across the dining room table. It connected with something cool and smooth. I glanced down, and there sat a Nerf gun – the apartment was littered with them, all Mitch's. It was a revolver, twice the size of a real one and cartoonishly exaggerated, with a blue barrel, orange trigger, and yellow cylinders. A mesh bag lay nearby, stuffed with enough spare ammunition to wage a small war. Flipping the gun open, I saw that its chambers were fully stocked. I rotated it casually, counting the rounds, and then snapped it closed with a flick of my wrist.

A heavy tug on my shoulders interrupted. *You're losing time. Drop the stupid toy and go study.* Groaning in resignation, I set the gun down. Before I left the room, I glanced one more time at Mitch, sitting there slaying radioactive monsters without a care in the world. How could he get away with it? Where the hell was HIS giant, oppressive bag of homework? I grit my teeth, swallowed an expletive, and clenched my fists until my palms threatened to bleed. It just didn't compute. How could he throw that much of himself into something *other* than schoolwork and survive? It gave him something, something he fed off of; I could see it in his eyes, ignited by the challenge. It was the same thing the football players had, crashing into each other and hollering at the top of their lungs. It was something I hadn't felt in a long time. Had I ever had that kind of passion? Maybe, but not lately. Without it, everything was dead weight. Mitch hadn't abandoned his book bag. He just knew when to put it aside, how to make it lighter.

My eyes drifted from the back of Mitch's head, his hair precisely spiked and still shining with spray, to the toy weapon on the table. The corners of my mouth started to twitch. That hair looked entirely too undisturbed. Mitch, I decided, could do with a little shaking up. *No, wait! You have to…-* The book bag fell silent as it slid off my shoulders and hit the floor with a reverberating thud. "Hoom hoom, boom boom."

"Did you say something, Henry?" Mitch enquired without looking back at me. –

(Henry grabbed the revolver, cocked, and fired a shot. The orange foam dart grazed the top of Mitch's head and stopped dead, caught in his hair. Henry laughed out loud; with a hundred tries, he couldn't have planned for a better shot.)
– Mitch yelped in surprise, his hands snapping up to discover what had hit him. He found the dart. And then he paused his game, stood up, and turned to face me. His laser-guided expression, usually reserved for toxic beasts and rogue warriors, now zeroed in on me. That look said simply, *Do you really want to start this?* I tried to respond with a straight, no – (Grinning devilishly, Henry blew imaginary smoke from the barrel and twirled the pistol on his trigger finger. Crouching and shifting from side to side like a man awaiting a duel, he motioned with one hand to Mitch. *Bring it.*) – nonsense face, but I couldn't quite manage it.

At that moment Alex, our third roommate, emerged from his room to discover what the hubbub was about. One look at me, revolver in hand, and then at Mitch, holding the dart and looking at me like I was his next mission, told the story. In a triangle, we all met each other's eyes, knowing without speaking what was about to happen. Next to Mitch on the end table sat the long-barrel sniper rifle. The gatling gun waited on the kitchen counter within Alex's easy reach. Silently they each calculated the time required to grab, cock, and shoot. In the last moment of stillness, I asked with mock disbelief, "Really?" Then everyone dove and started firing.

◆

## Thursday, 6:20 pm

Henry plucked the velcro-tipped dart from the folds of his shirt. He examined it nonchalantly, rolling it between his fingers. A dozen more just like it lay strewn around his feet. Mitch held his rifle above his head in one hand, the other hand raised in a fist of victory. He slowly lowered the fist, extending a forefinger to point at Henry. "That's for messing up my hair," he declared, his face showing less resentment than amusement.

(Henry bowed low, along with Alex, conceding defeat. "Well played. My apologies, sir." Before rising, Henry scooped up a handful of rounds from the floor and began restocking his chambers. "Go again?" he asked his worthy adversaries.)
– "Nah, gotta get back to work." Mitch stood the couch upright and seated himself, directing his concentration on the television once more. Realizing the fireworks were over, Alex too wandered away to take up whatever activity we had lured him away from.

Head hanging low, I tossed the revolver aside. My book bag waited intently where I had left it, impatient to be taken up again. Wearily but willingly, I hoisted the weight of knowledge back onto my back and went to my room, shutting the door on what would prove to be a very long night with only Joseph Conrad to keep me company.

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Jeffrey Dezelske is a fourth year senior completing his degree in English with a literature, language, and culture concentration. After graduation he hopes to find work as a writer or editor and is considering attending graduate school in publishing or library science. He enjoys reading and writing; listening to, playing, and writing music; movies, photography, cooking, and traveling.

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