Summer August, 2014

One Man's Journey With Time

Rodney E Langley
Robert L Langley

Available at: https://works.bepress.com/robert_langley/7/
One Man’s Journey With Time

His earliest memories were of green, and his mother singing. When she wasn’t singing he heard the sweet songs of millions of birds, and their wings as they flew by on their way to unknowable destinations. He was an only child and so did not know the interactions that a child had with another child. All he knew was the sounds of the forest and the singing of his mother and the rough stubble of his father’s face after a long day in the world away from the house. He learned these sounds and feelings and made them a part of him, almost indistinguishable from the beating of his heart.

He began his learning at the age of five, sitting in front of the view screen that projected images of others into his room. This allowed him to interact with others his own age and to learn in an environment that was familiar to him without putting undue stress on him. He was given two hours of instruction a day and a 30 minute break to play games with the other children. They usually played games that involved counting; as that was one of the first things they were taught, later they would add colors and the alphabet to their repertoire. After the class was finished for the day he would eat lunch with his mother and tell her what he had learned for the day. He would then be given a temporary combracelet and allowed to play by himself outside; the combracelet would allow him to call for help if he became lost or if he strayed into any trouble that he couldn’t handle himself. It monitored him at all times, sending the information back to the house, it also had a bright red button hidden by a flap that he could depress in case he was in danger that he didn’t feel that he could handle on his own.
The next year he began to learn the history of his land; he learned that his people had found this land before any peoples from Europe had even thought there might be another land. They had landed on these shores in the faded memories of history, before it began to be written, when it was still oral in tradition. They had made friends with the natives of the land and were allowed to build homes and to grow their crops, including the woad that they used to dye their skins before they went into battle. The Europeans had largely been killed off by pandemics that had spread like wildfire and destroyed most of their populations, this had allowed the Celts and the natives the time needed to build their populations up to throw back any assaults that the Europeans might send their way once their rulers decided to see what was on the other side of the ocean. The Celts spread throughout the Americas warning all the tribes that they met about the filthy Europeans and their greed; they married and interbred with the natives so that they would not be distinguishable from the natives while still keeping their native languages and customs.

His people studied with the natives and found a huge store of knowledge of native plants and bugs that had natural healing properties. They introduced new plants and bugs to the native people in order to learn what would work and what would harm their new environment. His people excelled in the biological sciences and made great strides in wiping all illness away in their new home, they took baths every day and used natural bug repellants that killed or drove away all bugs that would harm them with disease.

When the Europeans finally came to claim land and massacre people they found a strong united country that threw back their men, the Celts killed all the men then fumigated the ships, afterwards sending the ships back to the Europeans filled with
warriors. The warriors learned how to use all the weaponry that the Europeans had sent to destroy them with and decimated the fleets of Britain, Spain, Portugal, and France. They would load all the dead on one vessel and send it back, with one live sailor, to whichever country had sent the fleet. This one sailor always came with the same message, “Stay in Europe and play your games, come to us again and you will have time to regret your decision.” The Europeans finally stopped sending fleets when they had harvested all their trees for a thousand miles in every direction from the ports and had no more lumber to build them.

Britain sent one vessel to America with an emissary asking for permission to establish a colony, the Celts in the area discussed this with the natives and it was decided that their would be a one time allowance made to establish a colony, but their would be strict rules that would have to be followed or the colony would be destroyed. The rules were that 1. The colony would only have a finite amount of land granted for it, no more would be granted no matter how many people were imported 2. No priests would be allowed to leave the colony. 3. All people leaving the colony would take a bath every day. 4. The people that wanted to live outside of the colony must learn how to live with nature, never taking unless they also gave. 5. Those living in the colony could live their whole lives there but were not allowed to leave unless they learned the ways of the natives. 6. Any person found outside of the colony that did not have an identifying mark tattooed into their skin, signifying that they had taken the lessons, would be taken into the deepest forest and left with a dull knife and the clothes on their backs. 7. If a person lived for one year in the wilderness by themselves than they were given citizenship, if they returned to the colony before that time was finished than they would be returned to Britain in chains. 8. Any person that was found to be harming the land or killing an
animal without giving thanks to the animal would be immediately killed with no repercussions to the natives.

Britain’s ruler agreed to the rules and sent ships to establish the colony. The colony was built on the agreed upon land and the settlers were sent, mostly unwanted people due to their religious beliefs. They immediately began to test the boundaries of the rules that had been placed upon them by the agreement, trying to leave the colony to find land that they could take, but once half of them were killed they learned not to push against their boundaries. A few priests tried to leave the colony, to minister to the poor bewildered natives, but they wore such distinctive clothing that they were immediately killed with no chance to spread their beliefs.

Britain did try to break the treaty one time, establishing another colony miles away from the granted land. When the ships returned to bring supplies a year later all they found was charcoal from the houses and a word carved into a piece of wood, Roanoke. There were no bodies found, and nothing to point out what had happened to the people. Chastened Britain adhered to the rules from then on.

Interestingly the Chinese had the least problems with following the rules laid down to them by the natives, they had sent a trade ship to the Americas to begin a relationship with this new power in the world. They had it explained to them that only trade ships would be allowed to come to America and they readily agreed to this. The Chinese not only traded spices and silk, they also traded their knowledge of the martial arts, which made an already deadly warrior even stronger.

With time, each of the studies grew more difficult, and past history became present, leading to an incorporation of
essential knowledge that would place the child within the ranks of leader potential, yes, one day, to be a leader of such potential, as to be the one to guide his people into a brighter future.