

What Do Women Like Most In Men?

By EMETERIO C. CRUZ

I am glad Mr. Isidro Dagdag Dacquel happened to like my recent article on marriage as expressed in a letter of his to the Editor of the National Weekly, (Sept. 24 issue).

And now Mr. Dacquel likes me to answer the question, WHY DO WOMEN DO WHAT THEY DO? Frankly, I must confess that this is quite a big order and being so it is quite difficult to get a satisfactory answer for everyone. Frankly, too, I believe there are as many answers to this question as there are men and woman in this universe.

Perhaps, the answer to the question which is the title of this article is one and the same thing to that propounded by Mr. Dacquel.

I am happy, too, that I have been given this opportunity to crack the answer to this interesting question although I personally believe that psychologists are more in a position to answer it.

However, I am willing to try it believing that this is the only way I will know whether or not what I think about this question is right.

It seems to me that women act as they do because they have been eternally mistreated by men in general. Aren't men really cruel after all? Do you know why women belong to the so-called weaker sex, and that the only reason and flimsy excuse for it is that only very, very few of them had been at the head of governments since the world was created? We all know that mostly men have at one time or another in history ruled over their respective kingdoms to the exclusion almost of women. And

if you think women have never been bitter or jealous about it, you, I think, have another guess coming.

Women have since I can remember been accused of being a nuisance, a heavy and expensive load that a man must suffer and carry like a cross on his back to his grave. Yet, men cannot live without them. Why? Because a womanless life is no life at all. A woman, therefore, necessarily fills the other half of a man's existence. She is a "must" thing to complete his being. And aware of this important role they play in the lives of men but forever brought up to lead a life of submission not, unlike those of the slaves women have more or less found grounds to gripe every now and then.

So, I say women have always been mistreated for ages.

If women have not been treated by men as their equals it is only because the latter are not yet ready to give up their time honored

and time tested tradition that they and they alone can lead both the family and the nation as of old. If only women will be satisfied of being men's equals this old-age dilemma will have long been a thing of the past. But no! They are forever aiming to dislodge men from their kingly pedestal so much so that the fight between them has been going on endlessly since the beginning of time.

In this connection I like to recall myself in a class of male and female students in English Literature some fifteen years ago. We were under an effeminate professor who had a habit of blowing his nose before the start and during class hour, apparently from a cold malady with which he was afflicted. This one-time professor of mine got so mad one day he told us straight from his stoop shoulder how he sometimes wondered we ever came to college with our low-rate mentality that was much against the high quality



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Standard the University was trying to maintain as a matter of policy. He further said the whole class would be better off in the street shovelling snow or in the restaurant waiting on tables and washing dishes. He devoted fully half of the one hour period he was supposed to teach us something about literature and discoursed for the rest of the time about our incapacities to make up the grade that the University required. In the end, by way of punishing us he gave us the names of ten books to read, and threatened to flunk us all should we fail to answer the question, WHAT DO WOMEN LIKE MOST IN MEN?

When our class next met there were only a handful of us present either because they feared being chided by our bespectacled professor or they just did not feel like coming to class. My experience in the only American university in the United States I ever attended is that foreign students, more especially when they come from the Orient and they are seldom mistaken as such, their brown skin being what it is, are always last to be asked, if at all, unless of course you show up an exceptional desire to join in the class discussion. So, when finally I

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WHAT DO . . .

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was asked by the then furious professor whose face already had become flush lobstered, apparently disappointed for the failure of the other students to give a correct answer, all managed to say was: "Sorry, Professor, but I did not finish reading all the books you have assigned us to read." But after breathing deeply to regain my composure, I added: "All I know is that women had always wanted to be superior to men."

The sneezing professor standing against his desk quickly interposed: "There you are class. Superiority of women over men, the man from the Philippines says, is what the former likes most in the latter. It's correct." After a moment, the professor asked me, "Mr. Cruz, are you married?"

I said no.

"Why?" he asked again.

"I like to be in circulation for a while, I replied meekly." The class chuckled.

If you think the way my professor did at that time the riddle for you about men-women relationship is already solved. If you don't, then, all I can say is that women do what they do because they figure that because they are more or less responsible for bringing us up, men, in this world the right to guide our lives — even our destinies — is also theirs. So, the eternal conflict!

Which brings us now to that famous question again, which came first: the egg or the hen? Or this: who is higher the crowned king or the man who crowned him?

But the truth of the matter is that men still refuse to give up their superiority complex idea over women either because there will be more war than we can handle or the (wome) are not quite ripe — or maybe have not enough spare time — to handle the affairs of the nation.

YOU TOO . . .

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their college papers, receive A's.

Don't let your tenses worry you. Let it be just as you think it right. Damon Rymyon's tenses and style are quite unusual yet he makes millions and turns out best sellers. Who knows that you too might turn out a new literary style as DR did? Or you may be a part of that force who, by continually doing what is wrong, produces good.

Young man (the old's are not excluded), **YOU TOO CAN WRITE.** You can if you will, you can if you try. Anybody, who has patience and tries hard enough, can write. Anybody can learn how to write in a practical way, just as anybody can learn how to swim. Nor can anybody learn how to swim without trying how. Therefore, try. You may not be just "dashing things off" or your ideas may not come out "like a flash," so to say. You may not duplicate Rouget de L'Isle who composed "Marseilles" at one sitting with words and all, or Bret Harte with his marvellous story "Marvelous Blossom" at one single sitting too, or do what Beckford did. You may not be familiar with the Shakespearean classics, with the long rolling sentences of Gibbons and Macaulay that sweep along like the waves on the channel beaches, or the short sentences of Scripture that tick like the clock of time. Nevertheless, write down your thoughts and put aside that cloak of shyness. You cannot write if you do not and will not write. When you feel like it or you are in the mood (not for love or calypso this time).

For the present, however, men the world over are for allowing their womenfolk as their equals. But for women to be superior to men, that's different. It's no wonder, then, that women will forever nag and nag until the end of this world and long after we have crossed the Great Divide.

make a beeline for the nearest typewriter and keep the keys busy. Damn the literary rules! Just write in your usual way, in your natural style. Just write what you think as the ideas come up your head. You cannot copy somebody's style because yours is a part of your character. You cannot be what you are not. Who knows that what you have written which you think as trash would turn out later to be a masterpiece? Yes, who knows? Schubert never had the faintest idea that his "Moonlight Serenade" would be for eternity. He did not even attend the occasion for which he was supposed to personally play the original piece on the piano.

Go ahead, write. Even if it is not blood in your veins and air in your lungs. Write something about everything and about something. The world is strewn with all sorts of literary subjects from needle to anchor, from foot-wear to headgear, from new look to don't look, from bullet to atom bombs, from down-swept to up-swept hair-do's, from pin up to pin down girls, from pepsi-cola to apalachicola, from backpay to payback, and now that election is ensuing, from promises to compromises, etc. Never mind the rejection slips from the "hard-boiled" editors. That's a part of the game. A famous crime story writer had written more than enough crime stories to fill up the penitentiaries before he had a single story published. A Canadian writer had enough rejection slips to paper a room before he ever saw his by line. Just write down your thoughts minus the idea of being an author. At least, sooner or later, you will hit the mark, even you may call it luck or not. If it turns out that what you have written appears interesting, after enough practice, the selling comes as a matter of course. If you are a sentimentalist, perhaps, like Charles Dickens, your tears would roll down your cheeks the first moment in your

lifetime you can see your name in print. As Dickens wrote, "I walked down to Westminster Hall and turned into it for half an hour, because my eyes were so dimmed with joy and pride they could not bear the street." Don't give up your hopes. Joseph Conrad and RLS were sailors, Lincoln was not a college man, our Stevan Javelana did not specially study journalism. Yet, they were able to write of the immediate things around them.

Whatever your career is, you still can write. Go to it.

THE KUOMINTANG . . .

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ment from the Presidency early this year, Madame Chiang's departure for the United States nearly ten months ago and finally Dr. T. V. Soong's exit from the Chinese political scene.

The Soongs are regarded as one of the most remarkable families in China. The oldest of the three Soong Sisters, Ai-ling, married H. H. Kung, Ching-ling married Sun Yat-sen the youngest and the best known internationally, Mei-ling, became the wife of Chiang Kai-shek.

The key posts in the Chinese Government from then on, except for brief periods, were in the hands of Chiang, T. V. Soong and Kung. The struggle within the Kuomintang is still on — this time between the "Kwangsi Clique," represented by Acting President Li Tsung-jen and General Fai Chung-hsi, and the rightwing faction headed by Chiang.

Many Chinese predict that the struggle will end in the Kwangsi Clique seeking compromise with Mao Tse-tung and that Chiang and his associates will take political refuge abroad.

The leftwing faction within the Kuomintang, represented by Madame Sun Yat-sen, has already gone over to the Communist cause, according to Communist announcements from Peiping.