

## Want and Do

What we want is what we want – a thought. Much of human struggle emerges either because we don't know what we want or we know what we want but are not doing what we want. In other words, much of human struggle is oriented in the pursuit for the want and then doing it.

First, we must know what we *individually* want. If we don't, misery dominates. How to know what we want entirely depends on our individual experience. To know saves one from misery. So, if one were to do without knowing what he/she wants is simply miserable (but this is closest to life, and thus life is miserable). It is like a filmmaker who has no vision and ends up piecing out a collage of images (and yes, I do believe that collage is the most distasteful form of art). The worst is when the filmmaker is proud of his/her collage. Art making is great because it *requires* artist to have a clear *vision*, which he/she is not obligated to articulate and share through language. A vision provokes the possessor of it to do, and that who does becomes an artists. Filmmaking seems like an odd art because actors often times want the director to share his/her vision so they can "act". Aren't actors too artists who are creative beings with their own visions? Have I been mistaken? Like any artist an actor should individually know what he/she wants and just do. That want does not have to conform to the screenplay – screenplay is just a list of what the director wants and will do. Yes, that want should be inspired by the screenplay because that is "the world," but that want does not have to do anything with the screenplay. Three-act structure and all that dramaturgy shits are so old, they exist to fixate cinema as a language – as a mere visual convention. Aristotle is long dead; if he is not, kill him. Are we so impotent as to follow one man's theory of dramatic art until the end of humanity?

Secondly, we must do what we want. If we don't do what we want to do, then we are *just* theorizing – since what we want is a thought. Theory is absolutely important, for it allows one to critically approach everything. But if we *only* theorize, then we end up letting languages (conventions) take over as the language of three-act structure is eating cinema alive. And if we just do without theorizing, then again, we end up like that proud collage shooter. We must know what we want and then *do* what we want; we must theorize and then do. And in the process of doing, we grow and theorize more, which provokes us to do more. It's not the chick or the egg. Theorize first (critically approach everything). Think about why we go to school before we jump into doing. Unfortunately, many students don't take time critically approaching things but are filled with thoughts of "what to do?" I am not saying love school. School can be horrible, as for many, and it certainly was when I was little. What I am saying is this: theorize, critically approach everything, read and write (and you can ignore those who just talk a lot).

Finally, *be* where you can do. This is not "to be" in the theoretical sense. It simply means to be where you are left alone to do what you must do. Solitude is independence<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> From Hermann Hesse