

My Water-Breaker Speech

Fellow toastmasters, honoured guests - today I have the unique opportunity to in a sense, reintroduce myself to everyone. As I was part of another Toastmaster club when I first joined, I did not do my first ice-breaker speech when joining this Walter Gage club. Now that I've finished my 10 speeches and have my CTM, I believe that I have a fresh start on speeches and thought this would be a great opportunity to perform a water-breaker. You might wonder why I call it the water-breaker. Well, its a water breaker because I haven't done my ice breaker and by the time I do the ice breaker, well the ice has melted. I decided that it would be kind of fun to play a game that some people play when they first meet others. The game is called "Two truths and a lie". In a moment, I will tell you about 3 experiences I've had over my lifetime. In the end, you will try to discern which of the three experiences was not my own.

The three experiences span my life and will hopefully give you a good cross-section of my life. The three experiences are:

1. My first job
2. My first year in university
3. My first coop job

My first job was at Playland. Who knew that my first job was working at Playland. Play-land. I've always wondered how anybody could work at Playland? I remember one time I was working the Wild Mouse at Playland and two little girls came up to the ride to be seated in the mini-rollercoaster. As they were seated, they asked me if anybody had died on this ride before. I told them that nobody had died since I had started working and that people dying on this ride were rumours. Then they asked me, as many people do, if I had ever been on the ride before. I said No. They then asked why not. I said "I'm too afraid of dying" and at that very moment, I sent them off on the rollercoaster. They had panicked looks in their eyes and I had an evil grin on my face.

Playland was my first job and it was in the summer before university. I remember going into the Vanier cafeteria and thinking "wow, I can eat anything I want" After trying a little bit of everything though, I fell in love with the omelettes at Vanier. Made fresh and with the ingredients that you chose, they make a perfect meal any time of day. Thats why I ate an omelette 3 times a day, every day for 2 weeks. Going onto my third week, my good friend came by to eat lunch with me and as I sat down with my omelette, he said "wow that looks really good" and I said "yeah, I've been having an omelette every day for 2 weeks now". My friend then asked me "But don't they make those omelettes out of concentrated egg yolks, you're only supposed to have 2-3 eggs a week". "Oh". He started laughing. I started exercising.

I believe that coop is a great experience that everybody should come out with after graduating university. It relates to your course work, you get money, and you get a ton of experience - it's really the reasons why I decided to join coop. My first coop job was at a company called Real Programming 4 Kids or RP4K for short. I went to a high school and in a summer camp setting, taught students how to program games that they could play. Some of the games we programmed were Donkey Kong, Super Mario (the old school version) and even Frogger. One day, I was teaching a student who thought that he was pretty awesome at math. Every time I put up a math equation on the board, he raised his hand. Finally, one day, he boasted that he could solve any mathematical equation. Here is the conversation that ensued:

"I can solve any mathematical equation"

"Oh really?"

"Yeah"

"Okay, try this equation"

That's when I hit him with a triple integral equation with exponential functions and three different variables - in short, an impossible math equation to solve for an elementary school student. Of course, he never boasted about his mathematical abilities again.

Let's recap about what you have learned about me today. First, I worked at Playland over the summer. Second, my university residence experience was quite unhealthy for me. Thirdly, I worked coop during my years at university. Most of you probably won't remember those things, so let me summarize in terms you can actually understand. Firstly, I am an evil person that sends kids off to their doom. Second, I eat way too many eggs and will probably die of a heart attack soon. Third, I deflate other student's egos in order to boost my own ego. And fourth, my pants are on fire. So which story am I lying about?

I hope that these stories have given you a good idea of what it's like to live in the life of Wang. Thank you.