





I really appreciate what you both have been sharing with me,



SURE!

It's been helpful to say it out.

All your thoughts, your VERY private experiences,



everything you've entrusted me with, I will keep them private.



I will only draw my side of the STORY.



Thank you for trusting me with your stories.

Lots to think about for me too.

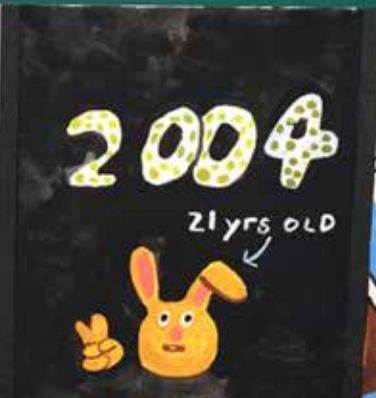
Great to know I wasn't the only one feeling what I felt, about that particular time.



TIME.

THAT is just WHAT I needed
to process and make SENSE
OF WHAT I'm about to-







THE NEXT week's class

Which is basically individual critique with TL. He talks to us about our ART, which we'd been working on for a whole year.

I'm interested in... the process.



He gave each of us tons of attention as compared to other art college lecturers.

Thank you TL! That was helpful.



I really appreciate the questions and notes you've pointed out.

No prob, dude!

A lot of us felt very relieved to finally be heard or seen by an art lecturer.

Hmm. Very intriguing.



That our efforts and art were given due attention & enquiring, in order for us to think & work better as we near the end of our year in art college.

I've got about THIS much time to complete the work.



Good. A thought for the future would be-

In a society that prides itself in 'saving face' OR of not being open about one's humanity & flaws, TL's non-judgmental vibe gave us permission to be vulnerable.

I'm doing this because my parents fuckin' Hate ME.



Cry it out buddy. It's okay. I hear you.

I suppose this carried on for a semester.



I'm interested in the relationship between...

US art students having these very educational individual critiques with TL.



It wasn't uncommon to see a peer tear up during these critiques, as many OF OUR art held unconscious impulses & intentions.



TL would encourage that. He saw it as a young artist creating something genuine and authentic.



That our art be made from "a place of TRUTH". NONE of that "POSEUR ART". FOR a young adult's ears, his message was perfect.

NO to "POSEUR ART" FOR SURE!



Wait, let me rephrase that.
TL was not encouraging us
to CRY OR experience some
strong emotional response while
discussing our art.

No, not like
that.

SHOW ME
YOUR
tears!

TL encouraged us to USE our real, lived
experiences as a resource for our art.

You want to make meaningful art?
You gotta look inwards. Dive deep
into the depths of your soul...
where the Truth of your Voice
resides.

That's where your ART should
spring from! Not from fear.
Not from insecurity.

Never from a place of
weakness. Confront
them. Confront your
fears!

still reeling from personal tragedies
& trauma while navigating my family
as well as Society's tendencies to
HIDE, MASK, repress or WORSE,
SHAME OUR individualities,

TL's message become some
personal challenge for the young
& idealistic me. I WANT to
overcome my FEARS. I WANT
to overcome my insecurities. I
WANT to do better.

I believe TL could see that desire in me to want to do better, as an artist and as a person.



She makes these beautiful paintings. Full of Heart & SOUL.



She reminds me of you, in that sense.



Okay. This is NOT an accurate depiction of her. It shows more of how I feel about her now.

spoiler alert.



Hey TL! Hey You! I've heard a lot about you from TL!



It was my first time inside the Master's Students' art studio spaces. I remember being floored in seeing the volume of works produced by each student (although in my young brain, each student was totally an Artist already). I was in awe. Inspired. Intimidated. Curious.



Inspired by Mophead's art, I started to get back into painting for a bit as I had been cutting papers for my art project (for almost an entire year).



I remember holding the brush in my hand and making the most uncoordinated marks.



I'm guessing TL must have seen some of my attempts.



Next thing I knew, TL texted.



The implication felt... discouraging & devastating.



*silly, I know.