

20 nov. 2006

Dear James,

The question I ask my self is: ' If life was a wee bit more boring, wouldn't it be more interesting. The statement seems to be contradictory, but isn't. Let me explain. If we weren't all that much involved in social events, then I had more time to read books of great interest to me. This is a strictly personal view. I know for sure that Vera disagree with this standpoint. In the attachment you will find an interesting excerpt from a book of Fernand Braudel he has written in 1998. Would mr G.W. Bush and mr T. Blair have made their disastrous decision to invade Iraq in 2003, if they had read this comment from the accomplished historian Braudel. Let's change the subject. Do you also have the impression that the passing of time runs faster as we get older and that we become more gentler? Today it is Vera's birthday. She has reached the 62 year mark. 40 years ago it was unthinkable that I would share the bed with a 62 year old lady. As long as she accepts me, four years older than she is, age shall not be the stumbling block to continue our cohabitation. In May 2007 it will be ten years since we moved to Amsterdam. Things have changed since then. We have become grandparents of two grandchildren. Most citizens have a mobile telephone. 80% of Dutch households are connected with internet. All our banking activities are transacted thru internet. Tickets for airlines and theater can be bought through internet. The introduction of broadband/digital television and what amazes me is that we, humans, adapt so easy to all these new features. My mobile telephone contains amongst other an agenda, a photo- and video camera, a wireless radio, a calculator, all my telephone numbers, an alarm clock and a world clock. I have to attend to Vera who just came home. After lunch we together will visit an art fair in Amsterdam his afternoon, after all it is her birthday. Thanks for your tourist information on Denmark. Related to the trailer you send, is the difference between the female body and the body of a car as explained here below. Hope all is healthy, wealthy and wise at your end. Don't forget to pass on our love to Valerie! All the best, Adriaan

An engineer of the BMW Corporation died and went to heaven. At the gates St. Peter told him, "Since you've been such a good man and your vehicles have changed the world, your reward is, you can hang out with anyone you want in Heaven". The Engineer thought about it for a minute and then said, "I want to hang out with God." St. Peter took him to the Throne Room, and introduced him to God.

He then asked God, "Hey, aren't you the inventor of woman?" God said, "Ah, yes." "Well," said the engineer, "professional to professional, you have some major design flaws in your invention.

1. There's too much inconsistency in the front-end protrusion. 2. It chatters constantly at high speeds. 3. Most of the rear ends are too soft and wobble too much. 4. The intake is placed way too close to the exhaust. And finally, 5. The maintenance costs are outrageous."

"Hmmmm, you may have some good points there," replied God, "Hold on". God went to his Celestial supercomputer, typed in a few words and waited for the results. The computer printed out a slip of paper and God read "Well, it may be true that my invention is flawed," God said to the engineer, "but according to these numbers, More men are riding my invention than yours."

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