A conversation with Tyler Dobrowsky

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This past weekend I sat down with journalist and free thinker, Tyler Dobrowsky, along with deceased classical composer, Hector Berlioz. Each man has exerted a tremendous influence on his respective time period: Dobrowsky’s being our current age, Berlioz’s being the mid-nineteenth century. What follows are highlights from this interview.

Note: The interviewer died prior to the completion of the interview. Many thanks to the makers of Dude Where’s my Car for fulfilling this task.

PD: In your acceptance speech for the last Pulitzer you won, you call for a new outlook on modernity. Please elaborate.

TD: Certainly. The problem dates back to the onset of the mentality that modernity espouses. This mentality, as I’m sure Mr. Berlioz can attest to, started back in the mid 1800’s and, in a nutshell, can be described as being modern. What we need to do today is leave modernity behind.

PD: How is it possible to leave behind the modern age when it’s the time period we are living in?

TD: Patrick — you don’t mind if I call you Patrick, do you?

PD: Not at all. Just please don’t call me Dwod — my last name spelled backwards.

TD: Patrick, I’m glad you asked that question. The answer is simple: sugar.

PD: I’m afraid I’m not following you.

TD: Sugar will allow us to move beyond modernity, beyond post-modernity.

PD: Fascinating, but before I ask you to explain, I’m anxious to know what you have to say about all this, Mr. Berlioz.

HB: What the hell is going on? Aren’t I supposed to be dead?

(TD: General laughter from Mr. Dowd and Mr. Dobrowsky.)

PD: Yes, you are.

HB: Am I speaking English? Why do I know English?

PD: Most of the people at Holy Cross don’t speak French.

HB: Holy Cross? What the hell is that?

PD: Getting back to this hyper-age, Mr. Dobrowsky, tell us what exactly it entails.

TD: Very simply it calls for the widespread use of sugar by all members of the human population.

PD: And how will this usher in the hyper-age.

TD: Sugar scares us; that’s why we give it to children. Sugar use needs to be incorporated into the daily life of everyone, adults included if we are to move into the hyper-age.

PD: So you’re saying that everyone on the planet will engage in mass consumption of sugar?

TD: Correct.

PD: Why sugar?

TD: It’s the logical choice. It has the effects of a mild drug but its far safer, more readily available, and completely legal. My only real obstacle is the soccer mom lobby, but I think I’ll be able to convince them once I have the mini-van manufacturers addicted.

PD: And how can you be sure the hyper-age will be the final and ultimate stage of existence?

TD: You see, its really a matter of evolution. In a nutshell it’s as follows: we were apes, we are humans presently, and in the future we will be hyper-agers.

PD: What will this hyper-age be like?

TD: One of the central notions of post-modernity is that it has no goal, in effect, no end. The hyper-age takes this idea one step further. It not only has no end, it also has no beginning.

PD: No end and no beginning sounds like the perfect circle theory of civilization.

TD: Basically that’s what it is. The hyper-age has no end and no beginning, thus it must necessarily constitute the ultimate and eternal. Another way of looking at it is that we say we become gods.

PD: And from this notion of the reified human existence you call for the abolishment of all religions?

TD: Yes. I call it the “ransacking of Heaven.” We really have no more need of religions of any kind except for those that worship humanity.

PD: In effect we would be worshiping ourselves.

TD: We must do this if the hyper-age is to be complete. And unlike all the major religions of the world, belief in the power of the hyper-age requires no faith; everything can be proven empirically. Just take Mr. Berlioz for example: a great mind cut down at a relatively young age, he has been dead for 132 years and here he is, alive and well thanks to the power of sugar.

HB: I smell great. You must have bathed me. You know we only basted once a month in my day.

PD: You mean it was sugar that brought Mr. Berlioz back to life?

HB: Yes, it was sugar that brought Mr. Berlioz back to life.

TD: Precisely. We exhumed his corpse, infused it with sugar and presto — he was resurrected. So, what do you say, Mr. Dowd, how about a sugar shocker pill?

PD: You can’t ask me questions — I’m the interviewer.

TD: Its time you joined. What do you say?

HB: What’s his problem?

TD: He’s being fed a sugar buzz.

HB: What’s his problem? Could you write a sequel to the Symphonie Fantastique? I’ll call it the Hyper-Symphonie Fantastique and it’ll be the theme song for the coming epoch.

TD: Great idea. Just make sure you have a good sugar-buzz going when you write it.

HB: This is going to be great!

TD: Correction: this is going to be sweet.

HB: Dude!

PD: Sweet!!

HB: Dude!!

TD: SWEET!!!!