

3 月度木曜例会 (2012/03/01)

本日のゲストスピーカーは Mathew Allen Sawyer Long さん。3 年前の 4 月になんと東西の妖怪について話をしてくれました。久々の再登場です。

CA で生まれ幼少時アリゾナに、そこで育ち再度サンフランシスコへ、高校時代交換留学生として 1 年間新潟の新井高校に、雪を楽しんだ後アメリカの San Francisco Art Institute で Philosophy and Audio Arts を専攻、2005 年再度来日、現在に至る。自称茨木では 1 ~ 2 を争う優秀な英語教師、趣味は多彩で、文学、音楽、合気道なんでもござれです。タイトルは No More Heroes Anymore? さてどんなヒーローが飛び出してくるのやら。乞う、ご期待!



### 1) このタイトルに至る背景

Bonnie Tyler の歌う I Need A Hero をまず聞いてからスタート。

子供心にいつもヒーローを持っていた。父母であり、また消防士、スポーツ選手、ポリス等であり。でも 5 歳の時警察に行った事がある、その折太っちょの警察官が腰のベルトに怖いものをガチャガチャ着け、すごく不親切でいっぺんに嫌いに。また Mark McGuire, Jose Canseco がホームランを良く打ちかつこ良かったのに実は飲兵衛、暴力行為や薬物使用で最悪だった。Pablo Picasso も弱点を知ってからはヒーローで無くなってしまった。Meaning of Hero has changed and our needs for what a hero has also changed.

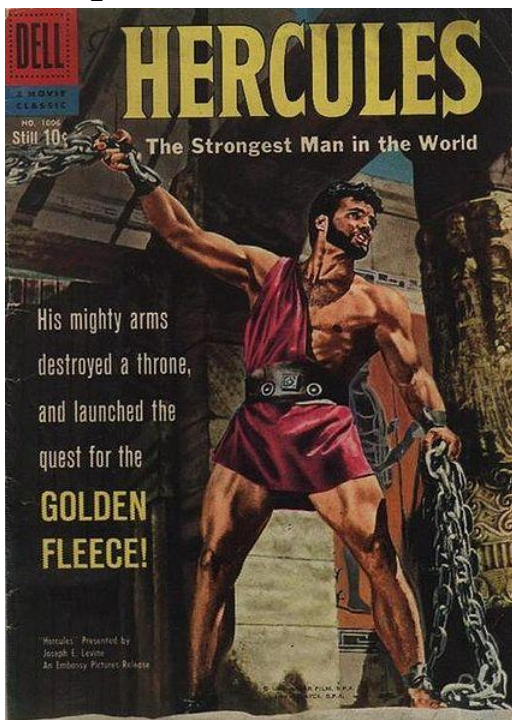
### 2) Who are the Heroes?

Heroes have changed over time as our needs and definition of hero have also changed.

Heroes can be assigned in to broad categories.

There is overlap between all Categories.

### 2-1) Epic Hero



More than human ( part god) old style hero.

Merits: Strong, good fighter, always wins

Flaws: One sided personalities, usually one fatal weakness

Job: Goes on quest or does deed, or other things no other person could do.

代表的なヒーローとしてヘラクレス Hercules,( Heracles) **To kill the lion.**The lion was a ferocious monster with a hide that could not be pierced by any weapon. This made it near impossible to kill, but Hercules managed to strangle the monster with his bare hands, using his unusual strength. 彼は常に 20~30 の quest を持っていた。彼は 2000 年にも亘りなぜこうもポピュラーなのか?

2-2) **Super Hero**: more than human or desire to be better, physiological heroes, alter ego, need motivation to fill a roll.

### **Superman (Defender) or Batman (Avenger)**

Merits: Have many and varied merits and talents, never die.

Flaws: Few, mainly everyday problems.

ところで両者は何歳？そして決して死ぬことはない、なぜ？1938,1939年にDC comics Incから誕生。ここでAmerican Comicsに関するトリビア。日本のコミックの場合は個人が著作権を持つことが多いが、米国の場合出版社が著作権を持つことも多いので異なるヒーローが同じマンガに登場することもある。

アメリカでは media も巻き込んだ完全なビジネス、パブリッシャーの世界。DC Comics Inc. is one of the largest and most successful companies operating in the market for American comic books and related media. 彼は子供の頃からヒーローが目白押しのアメリカンコミックが大好きだった。



### 2-3) **Anti Hero**



- Criminal, bad boy, gentleman thief, reluctant hero.
- Can't or won't fit into society
- Manages to do the right thing, but is not primary goal
- Many adventures

山あり谷ありの人生、私は私の道を歩みます。Anti hero の大元はモーリス・ルブラン著、紳士的な振る舞いの泥棒にして探偵アルセーヌ・ルパンの孫に当たる我がルパン三世が代表。他には？との問いに会場から Elvis Presley, Babe Ruth, Dirty Harry, 朝青龍、等が挙げられた。

### 2-4) **Folk Hero**

- May have been actual people, but whose stories are now too big and too exaggerated.
- Usually made for children.
- Robin Hood, Paul Bunyan, John Henry
- Usually only used for entertainment or to teach a lesson.

**Paul Bunyan** is a lumberjack figure in North American folklore and tradition. One of the most famous and popular North American folklore heroes, he is usually described as a



giant as well as a lumberjack of unusual skill, and is often accompanied in stories by his animal companion, **Babe the Blue Ox**. Paul and Babe the Blue Ox, his companion, dug the Grand Canyon when he dragged his axe behind him.

ここで彼の家での **Family Legend** の紹介が。・・・家族が集まると語り草として語られる逸話。おばあちゃんとゴム製の蜘蛛のおもちゃ物語。はえたたきのような物で叩きまくっても飛び跳ねてなかなか死なず、手足がもげてもまだ飛び跳ねる蜘蛛でした。父が毎回少しずつ内容を変えてもその都度大笑いの Folk story.

続いては彼の本日最大の熱演、ジェスチャーたっぷりの **John Henry** 物語、彼はアフリカンアメリカンの庶民の英雄だった。(Mathew さんのお薦めです。全文を載せます)



### **Story of John Henry vs. the Machine: The Steel Driving Man**

A West Virginia Legend retold by S.E.Schlosser.



Now John Henry was a mighty man, yes sir. He was born a slave in the 1840's but was freed after the war. He went to work as a steel-driver for the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad, don't ya know. And John Henry was the strongest, the most powerful man working the rails.

John Henry, he would spend his day's drilling holes by hitting thick steel spikes into rocks with his faithful shaker crouching close to the hole, turning the drill after each mighty blow. There was no one who could match him,

though many tried.

Well, the new railroad was moving along right quick, thanks in no little part to the mighty John Henry. But looming right smack in its path was a mighty enemy- the Big Bend Mountain. Now the big bosses at the C&O Railroad decided that they couldn't go around the mile and a quarter thick mountain. No sir, the men of the C&O were going to go through it- drilling right into the heart of the mountain.

A thousand men would lose their lives before the great enemy was conquered. It took three long years, and before it was done the ground outside the mountain was filled with makeshift, sandy graves. The new tunnels were filled with smoke and dust.

Ya couldn't see no-how and could hardly breathe. But John Henry, he worked tirelessly, drilling with a 14-pound hammer, and going 10 to 12 feet in one workday. No one else could match him.

Then one day a salesman came along to the camp. He had a steam-powered drill and claimed it could out-drill any man. Well they set up a contest then and there between





John Henry and that their drill. The foreman ran that newfangled steam-drill. John Henry, he just pulled out two 20 pound hammers, one in each hand. They drilled and drilled, dust rising everywhere. The men were howling and cheering. At the end of 35 minutes, John Henry had drilled two seven foot holes-a total of fourteen feet, while the steam drill had only drilled one nine-foot hole.

John Henry held up his hammers in triumph. The men shouted and cheered. The noise was so loud. It took a moment for the men to realize that John Henry was tottering. Exhausted, the mighty man crashed to the ground, the hammer's rolling from his grasp. The crowd went silent



as the foreman rushed to his side. But it was too late. A blood vessel had burst in his brain. The greatest driller in the C&O Railroad was dead.

Some folks say that John Henry's likeness is carved right into the rock inside the Big Bend Tunnel. And if you walk to the edge of the blackness of the tunnel, sometimes you can hear the sounds of two 20-pound hammers drilling their way to victory over the machine.

## 2-5) Japanese heroes, others, Q & A

石川五右衛門、桃太郎、金太郎、義経、緒方貞子、遠山の金さん、吉宗、スサノオノミコト、清水の次郎長、坂本竜馬、西郷隆盛、てんでに名前が出された。三年寝太郎はアイリッシュ民話にも同じようなものがあるとのこと。白波五人男は近年の5人組キャラクター、5レンジャー、等のルーツであることを発見したそう。

**Manga**, アニメは世界的な日本の誇れる文化である。アメリカではドラえもんはそうでもないが、ポケモン等次々と新しいヒーローが登場している。

石川五右衛門に関する歌舞伎狂言「金門五山の桐」を見て感動した。

妖怪、ヒーローに続き、次はどんなテーマでしょう。次回を乞う、ご期待！！