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John Lennon in His Own Words by Michael Healey
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は し が き

本書の出版に至った第一の目的は、科学技術が人間を凌駕する勢いの昨今、改めて人間の叡智の偉大さを、まさに第三次産業革命と称される時代を生き抜こうとする若い学生諸君に再認識して頂きたかったからである。世界の異なる文化を背景に様々な分野で、多くの人達が素晴らしい知恵や思想を残している。その中から理・文系を問わず読みやすい題材を集めた。

たとえば、音楽だけでなくその思想や生き方も多くの若者に影響を与えたジョン・レノンの言葉、分かりやすく解説した哲学入門書とも言えるファンタジー、戦後の日本に一つの方向を示した白洲次郎氏の手紙、宗教を超えて人間愛を訴えるダライ・ラマ14世のインタビュー、その他どの章も叡智の輝きで満ちている。

各題材はすべて、原典からの全文、または抜粋である。そして上記のとおり種々のジャンルにわたっている。従って、文体は様々であるが、基本方針として、スペリング、句読法、引用符等は、原典のままとした。各章には、内容の理解を確認する問題の他に、英文作成問題としても、またリスニング問題としても活用できる、各題材に関連したコラム的な記事を掲載した。本文と併せて、さらに知的興味を持って頂ければと思う。

ただボタンを押したり、マウスをクリックしたりするだけの生活に陥りそうな今、本書を通じて人類の叡智に触れ、教養を高め、自己を磨かれることを編著者一同願ってやまない。

最後に細部に渡って英文校閲して頂いた Mary Tadokoro 氏、そして本書出版にご尽力下さった、日比野忠氏に感謝の意を表します。

編著者一同

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● Chapter 1 ●

Message from John Lennon

■ ジョン・レノン、“Imagine” に込めたメッセージ ■

1960年代にイギリスのリバプールから世界に進出し、ロック史上、いや、音楽史上に名を残したバンド、ビートルズ。メンバーのジョン・レノンは、音楽だけでなく、社会や既存の体制に対する言動においても若者に大きな影響を与えた。ジョンはアイドル的存在であったビートルズ時代に何を考えていたのだろうか、また、今では不朽の名曲となった“Imagine”にどんなメッセージを込めたのだろうか。本文はジョン自身の言葉を編集した *John Lennon in His Own Words* からの抜粋である。



May 1971: The political views of John Lennon: I've always been politically minded, you know, and against the status quo. It's pretty basic when you're brought up, like I was, to hate and fear the police as a natural

enemy and to despise the army as something that takes everybody away and leaves them dead somewhere, I mean, it's just a basic working class thing, though it begins to wear off when you get older, get a family and get swallowed up in the system. In my case I've never not been political, though religion tended to overshadow it in my acid days; that would be around '65 and '66. And that religion was directly the result of all that superstar shit—religion was an outlet for my repression. I thought, “Well, there's something else to life, isn't there? This isn't it, surely?”



At that time it was thought that the workers had broken through, but I realize in retrospect that it's the same phony deal they give to ^(注1) blacks, it was just like

~minded : ~気質を持つ

wear off : 次第に消えていく

never not: 非文法的な表現、否定の否定、つまり肯定

acid days : とげとげしい、ぴりぴりしていた頃

shit : (俗語) いまいましいこと

phony deal : うさんくさい取引

they allowed blacks to be runners or boxers or entertainers. That's the choice they allow you—now the outlet is being a pop star, which is really what I'm saying in “Working Class Hero.” As I told *Rolling Stone*, it's the same people who have power, the class system didn't change one little bit. Of course there are a lot of people walking around with long hair now and some trendy middle class kids in pretty clothes. But nothing changed except that we all dressed up a bit, leaving the same bastards running everything.



Even during the Beatle heyday I tried to go against it, so did George. We went to America a few times and Epstein always tried to waffle on at us about saying nothing about Vietnam. So there came a time when George and I said “Listen, when they ask next time, we're going to say that we don't like that war and we think they should get right out.” That's what we did.

At that time this was a pretty radical thing to do, especially for “Fab Four.” It was the first opportunity I personally took to wave the flag a bit. But you've got to remember that I'd always felt repressed. We were all so



Rolling Stone : 1967年にサンフランシスコで初めて発刊されたポピュラー音楽雑誌。今も健在

bastard : 《俗語》(不快を示して)あの野郎

George: George Harrison、ビートルズのメンバー

Epstein : Brian Epstein、当時のビートルズのプロデューサー

waffle on at~ : ~にたわごとを並べる

Fab Four: (fab = fabulous)すばらしい4人、つまりビートルズの4人のこと

wave the flag : 政治的思想(など)をあらわにする

pressurized that there was hardly any chance of expressing ourselves, especially working at that rate, touring continually and always kept in a cocoon of myths and dreams. It's pretty hard when you are
 5 Caesar and everyone is saying how wonderful you are and they are giving you all the goodies and the girls, it's pretty hard to break out of that to say, "Well, I don't want to be king, I want to be real."

Caesar: Julius Caesarのこと、紀元前100年頃から紀元前44年まで生存したローマの武将



IMAGINE
 John Lennon



October 7, 1971: "Imagine" released: "Imagine" was a sincere statement. It was "Working Class Hero" with chocolate on. I was trying to think of it in terms of children.

15 "Imagine", both the song itself and the album, is the same thing as "Working Class Hero" and "Mother" and "God" on the first disc. But the first record was too real for people, so nobody bought it. It was banned on the radio. But the song 'Imagine', which says: "Imagine
 20 that there was no more religion, no more country, no more politics" is virtually the communist manifesto, even though I am not particularly a communist and I do not belong to any movement. You see, 'Imagine' was exactly the same message, but sugar-coated. Now
 25 "Imagine" is a big hit almost everywhere—anti-religious, anti-nationalistic, anti-conventional, anti-capitalistic song, but because it is sugar-coated it is accepted.



30 Now I understand what you have to do. Put your political message across with a little honey. This is what we do above all, Jerry, Yoko and others, it is to try to

put across: 伝える

Jerry: Imagineのアルバム制作に参

change the apathy of young people, the apathy which exists in America but which is infiltrating everywhere because everyone follows the American pattern, above all because of music. The life style of this century has
 5 been fashioned by America.

加したメンバー?
 Yoko: ジョンの妻、オノ・ヨーコ
 infiltrate: 浸透する



6 Young people are apathetic. They think there is nothing worthwhile to do and everything is finished. They want to take refuge in drugs to destroy themselves. Our work is to tell them there is still hope
 10 and still a lot to do. We have to change their minds; we have to tell them that it is OK. Things can change, and just because (注2) flower-power did not work, it doesn't mean that everything is finished. It is only the beginning. The revolution has only just begun. It is just
 15 the beginning of big changes.

【注】

- (1) **black**: アフリカ系アメリカ人のこと。当時はまだこの言葉が普通に使われていたが、現在ではAfrican-Americanを用いるのが望ましい。[P. 2, L. 21]
- (2) **flower-power**: 1960年代後半に、サンフランシスコを中心に集まった、愛と平和を唱える若者のことを、花を身につけていたことからflower childrenと呼んだ(ヒッピーと同義語)。その若者のパワーのこと。[P. 5, L. 12]

Exercises

- A** 次のそれぞれの英文が本文の内容と合っていればT, 合っていなければFを()に記入しなさい。
- () 1. It was after John Lennon became famous as a member of the Beatles that he started to have interest in politics.
 - () 2. Working class people like Lennon began to have as much power as middle class people in everything after finding success as a pop star.

() 3. John Lennon was against the Vietnam War and spoke out against it.

() 4. John Lennon couldn't stand to not say anything about what he really thought.

() 5. The message John Lennon wanted to tell people in "Working Class Hero" and that in "Imagine" were completely different.

B 本文の内容について次の質問に答えなさい。

1. P. 2. LL. 10-12 の though it begins to wear off when you get older, get a family and get swallowed up in the system の it の指す内容を説明しなさい。

2. ジョン・レノンが労働者階級がポップスターになることを、黒人の例を挙げてどのように説明しているか述べなさい。

3. 最盛期のビートルズをシーザーに例えることによって、ジョン・レノンが言いたかったことは何ですか。

4. ジョン・レノンの言う、“Working Class Hero”と“Imagine”の違いは何ですか。

5. “Imagine”を通してジョン・レノンが若者に伝えたかったことは何ですか。



C ジョン・レノンについて述べた以下の英文の空所に入る英単語を、日本語訳を参考にし て記入しなさい。その後、CDを聴いて確認しなさい。



John Lennon was born in Liverpool (1) _____ October 9, 1940. His father left the family (2) _____. John was five and his mother handed him over to her sister Mimi Smith. Mimi and her husband, George, who had no children of their own, raised John (3) _____ (4) _____ he were their own son and had a great influence (5) _____ him. His own mother was killed (6) _____ a car accident when he was seventeen. John was accepted into Liverpool College of Art, but he dropped out of it as he hated the conformity of the art school and devoted himself (7) _____ music. He started a band (8) _____ Quarry Men with Paul McCartney and George Harrison. Ringo Starr joined (9) _____. The band changed its name (10) _____ the Beatles and released their first record in 1962.

ジョン・レノンは1940年10月9日、リバプールで生まれた。父はジョンが5才の時、家族の元を去り、母は妹のミミ・スミスに彼を預けた。ミミと彼女の夫ジョージは子供がなく、彼を自分たちの息子のように育て、多大な影響を与えた。彼の母は彼が17才の時に自動車事故で亡くなった。ジョンはリバプール美術学校に入学したがその画一性が嫌になり、退学し、音楽に専念した。彼はポール・マッカートニーとジョージ・ハリソンとともにクォリーマンというバンドを始めた。リンゴ・スターは後に参加した。そのバンドはビートルズと名前を変え、最初のレコードを1962年に発表した。

D 次の語(句)の意味を書きなさい。

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. status quo () | 2. overshadow () |
| 3. religion () | 4. retrospect(n) () |
| 5. heyday () | 6. radical () |
| 7. repress () | 8. ban(v) () |
| 9. approve () | 10. apathy () |
| 11. refuge () | 12. revolution () |