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Writing

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~~The~~ A Summary of “Men and Women in Search of Common Ground”

Wendell Berry discusses the human relationship and begins with the sexual matters. He thinks that the common ground between men and women can only be defined by community authority, but not individually. He assumes that we are unhappy of the relationships between men and women ~~is~~ because we would like them to be permanent, but they are now too often extremely tentative and temporary. In this circumstance, the word “forever” is not to be trusted, and the word “love” cannot be trusted either. But people still continue to use them because they cannot bear for sex to be “just sex”, they continue to express their feelings for a transferable value and try to mean them.(meaning not clear. “to mean them”? To give some meaning to them?)

After that, Berry criticizes the concept of “self-fulfillment” from division thinking, and using a Maximilian sunflower to give an example.(confusing) The Maximilian sunflower grow~~ing~~s alone, apart from the others. It ha~~d~~s grown very tall, but its long branches have been heavily laden with blossoms and ha~~d~~ve broken off. The plant ha~~d~~s indeed realized its full potential as an individual, but it fail~~ed~~s as a Maximilian sunflower~~. B~~, because a part of its properly realizable potential lays in its community, not in itself. And so does human beings. Marriage, kinship, friendship, and neighborhood surrounding us are all relationships that help us live in harmony with the world. That is why Berry ~~means~~ claims that smallest possible "survival unit," indeed, appears to be the universe. We are all a part of our community. If we separate ourselves from the relationships, there is nobody to be known, said and feel.

Moreover, Berry refers to the relationship problem between human beings and machine. We want everything ~~would~~ be done by pushing buttons, but we do nothing useful for each other. We save our minds by forsaking our bodies, we make our minds alone. But in fact, human mind and machines are different. When someone needs help, we offer ourselves, body and mind, but not sending a machine. The common ground is, that we are both members, we are indispensable to one another, as in fact we are.

1. Not many mistakes. Sometimes not clear enough.
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