



I love to go exploring; no matter if it is on an unfamiliar country road near home or on a busy street in Chinatown. I enjoy taking the road less traveled, just to see where it leads me. I get lost on purpose, which is not too difficult when you have my keen sense of direction coupled with my unwillingness to ask for directions. Anyway, you would be amazed at the fantastic "Stuff" you can find if you are unafraid to bravely go where few (smarter) men would not travel.

This photo is an example. I was walking down the street in Chinatown and saw this strange shop full of tacky nick knacks. As I travel through the aisles that were packed full of one mans treasure (Junk) I spot these figures all standing at attention and silently asking me to take their photograph. What impressed me was how uniform they were; they all dressed alike, talked alike, behaved alike, each a copy of the other; they were identical in every way. Row after row they each marched noiselessly toward the same future.

Have you ever felt like one of these rosters? A major proportion of our energy is expended in trying to be like everyone else, cringing in fear of our true personality; we go around wearing a mask and a costume trying to "fit in". We are afraid to be ourselves, we are so afraid of appearing different that we go about like Clark Kent hiding our true identity. Most people are other people. Their thoughts are someone else's opinions, their lives an impersonation, their passions a quotation.

Resolve to be yourself, not an imitation of someone else. Dare to be what you are and to believe in your own individuality. Put on a fresh pair of eyes and think your own thoughts. Why is it so many want to be what they're not while what they are is what others want to be? When

we spend our time constantly wishing we were like someone else we are wasting the person we are. Every human being is intended to be his own person; to be what no others are, and to do what no other can do. You are an original, so, be yourself and enjoy the blessing of being you.

**Something to think about:**

- Originality does not consist in saying what no one has ever said before, but in saying exactly what you think yourself.
- Every single person has one thing that he can do a little better than most people around him, and he has a sacred obligation to himself to find out what that thing is and to do it.
- God wills a rich harmony, not a colorless uniformity.
- It is our uniqueness that gives freshness and vitality to a relationship.
- Conformity is one of the most fundamental dishonesties of all. When we reject our specialness, water down our God-given individuality and uniqueness, we begin to lose our freedom. The conformist is in no way a free man. He has to follow the herd.
- Thank God for the way he made you. You are special, distinct and unique. You were not made from a common mold.

Just like everyone else, I'm different  
Rickey Moore

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