

## Chorpaga Udomvanich

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### 1. How and why was Phil trapped?

Phil was a weather reporter. He was assigned to report the Groundhog Day event in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. After he finished his work, he wanted to go back to Pittsburg right away but he could not because of the snowy storm which forced him to stay in Punxsutawney another night. Unluckily, Phil woke up the next morning and found himself repeating the same day which is Groundhog Day. He was trapped in the loop of time. I think the reason he was trapped is because God wanted him to be a better person and take time to actualize himself.

### 2. Is Groundhog Day a religious movie? Explain your answer.

Personally I think Groundhog Day is partly religious. One thing I found out is that during the time Phil was trapped, his phase was related to one of Buddhist's principle which is the Four Noble Truths. At first phase when he woke up and realized he was trapped in the loop of time, he seemed to suffer from it. Second phase, he tried to figure out the cause of his suffering loop of time. Thirdly, he accepted it and tried to live with it. Lastly, he found the way to live without suffering from the loop of time; he used it to learn more about himself, other people and to be a better person.

### 3. How would you characterize the phases that Phil goes through? What does he learn as a result of his experience?

I would characterize his phases into four phases according to Buddhist's principle called the Four Noble Truth. First phase is when he woke up and realized that he was trapped in the loop of time. I would call this phase as suffering phase.

Second phase is when he tried to figure out why he was trapped and I would call this phase as the origin of suffering phase. Third phase is when he accepted his situation and had fun with his life. I would call this phase as cessation of suffering phase. The last phase is when he learned how to live with the loop of time and tried to learn more about himself and others to be a better person. I would call this phase as path that leads to cessation of suffering phase. The result of his experience made him to be better person; he cares more about other people, he learned to love and to be nice with other people.

#### 4. How is Phil's journey related to Existentialism?

Existentialism is a philosophy about the individual's action that responsible for its consequences. The main philosophy that widely uses in existentialism is a person realized his/her own problem and figured it out with his/her own way. This philosophy can be related to Phil's journey, Phil was not a nice person; he was selfish and egocentric person. The way he acted and treated people lead him to the problem which is trapping in the loop of time. After the long journey he figured the way out to entrap himself from the loop of time by experiencing the world and learned to be better person. He also learned how to love. All of these combinations pulled him out from the loop of time.

#### 5. What would you do if you were trapped in a "Groundhog Day"?

I would have fun and do everything I had never done but I do not want to stuck in the same day forever so I would try to find the way out but before I do that I would figured out who I am and answered the question what I have born for. I also wanted to learn about other people; how would they react to my behavior both good and bad behavior.

6. What does your answer to the previous question say about your beliefs about the meaning of life?

For me to answer about the meaning of life is quite difficult because I have not lived long enough to figure out what is the meaning of life but as far as I can see, I would say that life is about living to do anything that one person possibly can to make others happy, not only others but also myself. Whether it is good or bad, I would like to try everything because I was born only once so the meaning of life to me is to make use of life, experience all existences in the world as much as I can and be happy with everything that God created for us.