

## Pattarapon Piyarajnanukool

## 1. Who was David?

David or Jacques Louis David was a highly influential French painter in the Neoclassical style. He only looking for virtue, he is determined, and quite lonely. When he was, seven his father, which is an iron merchant, had been killed in the pistol duel. Therefore, this made his heart quite strong and depressed. Then he was looked after by friendly uncle who wanted him to be a lawyer or an architect but David only has interested on painting. Therefore, his uncle sent him to his mother's cousin, Fracois Boucher who was the most famous painter in France at that time. Since Bucher's art is mainly contain of a beauty and colorful painting, however when Bucher saw David's depressed and strong heart so he decide to send him to another master. David was wounded at his cheek in the sword fight. Moreover, this wounded really effect his life, his sword fight enemy called him "David with the swollen cheek". This accident make David could not talk properly he just mumble. He is the supporter of Jean-Paul Marat, which is the leader of France Revolution. When Marat died, he offered himself to draw his picture "*The Death of Marat*" which is really biased. After that, Robespierre become new dictator with the support of David but then when Robespierre was executed and David was imprison and ready to be executed. Nevertheless, he tried to prevent himself that he innocent but no one really understood him. Therefore, in the prison he painted his own image when he was young showing that he is innocent and what he has done is just his job, a painter, fascinatingly that painting worked. It made him looked innocent and he got out of the prison. After he was released from the prison he done some painting that signify that he

would not include in politics and just wanted a peaceful country. Then after he died France government refuse to gave him a funeral because of his crime in the painting "*The Death of Marat*"

## 2. Who was Marat?

Marat or Jean-Paul Marat was a radical journalist and politician from French Revolution. He is balloonist, failed inventor, newspaper editor, fanatic, he got itchy skin disease. He is a dictator after Luis xvi was assassinated. When he became dictator he never fell safe so he kills hundreds thousands of people.

## 3. Why did Corday kill Marat?

Corday saw that Marat kept killing hundreds of thousands people and this action might lead to France civil war so she thought that someone must stop him. She also wrote a speech why see kill Marat and sew in to her dress

## 4. Why does Simon Schama call *The Death of Marat* a "beautiful lie"? How is it beautiful? How is it a lie?

I think Simon Schama call *The Death of Marat* a "beautiful" because of its painting in it self not only it was painted in Neoclassic style. In addition, if you look to its detail, you will see that the Marat's skin in the painting has the color of cool stone, also the wounded is just look like the wound of Jesus on the cross and the white sheet seem like a religious shroud. The entire top of the picture is filled with just space the space of forever. In the other hand beautiful in his meaning can mean that the picture is so perfect, so tragic, so

poetic that you could easily believe it. However, it is a lie because the letter in the picture is not the same with in the reality. In the reality Corday gave a list of traitors, this will show that Marat is just a mad, cruel, and bad person. However, in the picture the letter say “Its enough that I am unhappy to have the right to your benevolence” and in the top of the box is another letter from widow of a soldier die in the battle with a donation Marat is going to send to her. Not only now Marat is now a good kindness and innocent person, it also made Corday look worst by compared with the widow. In addition, its detail that I mentioned above also convinced the people that see it to believe that Marat was just an innocent and pure person.

#### 5. Describe your own aesthetic of beauty

For me for something to be beautiful

1. Its color has to be matched
2. It should be complicate, keep me thinking why they paint? What the painter want to tell me?
3. It should not be too bloody, scary, or stupid
4. It should have its significant
5. I don't really care about it is a lie or not like for The Death of Marat I will just believe in David if I didn't know the fact

