

Johannes Maquiling
jmaquiling@wvc.pshs.edu.ph
Philippine Science High School – WVC

When I was in Grade School, I had this Playstation game called Okami. In that game, you had a magic brush that you can use to paint whatever you wanted in order to complete missions in the game. How I wish real life provided us with a magic brush. I would brush all sorts of pollution away. I would paint green trees and all living creatures back in their habitat. I would happily swish my brush to restore the health of the Earth and everything in it. I would brush away sickness, poverty and pain from all of humanity.

However, this brush does not exist. And sadly, whatever actions we have done, we are not left off the hook for them. Everything has a consequence. And now we are all paying the price of our species' actions.

When I think about it, humans got to this point in civilization because of our intelligence. Many were curious. Most people actually wanted to do good and make everything easier for everyone else. BUT then how did we come to this? So much destruction in the wake of all human activities? I think the answer boils down to two things. Hate and greed.

If I were to change, fix or heal anything on earth and knew that I would succeed, I would eliminate hate and greed. These two make humans want more than what they need. These make us envious. These make us take those that are not ours. Commercialism, exploitation and all of these stem from hate and greed.

I do not know how we can get there. I wish there were such a way. If I let my imagination run free, I would invent a method that could genetically remove from our species the capacity to hate or to be greedy. Hate and greed will be incomprehensible, it will not be in our system. If I had the ability to do this and I cannot fail, I feel the world's people will be working together, finally, to heal the Earth.