

The colour of love? White !

14th March in Japan, South Korea and China is White Day. On this day men give presents to women who gave gifts to them on Valentine's Day. Interestingly 14th February is the day in Japan when only females give presents, especially chocolates, to men.



White Day

responsibletechnology.org

They give them not only to the "love of their life" but also friends, colleagues and bosses. That's the reason why we distinguish two kinds of chocolates: "giri choco" and "honmei choco". "Giri choco" means obligatory chocolates while "honmei choco" are chocolates of true love, that are usually given to a person we love or to a person we are attracted to.

On the White Day men have to guess whom they got chocolates from and what kind of chocolate it was. They have to reply to women's confessions. Their answers are contained in a kind of chocolate too:

- white chocolates say "let's be friends"
- chocolate candies "I like you"
- chocolate biscuits - "I love you"

But chocolates aren't the only things men give to women. There are also flowers, candles, teddy bears, jewellery or clothes. There's only one requirement. Presents have to be packed in a white bag or wrapped in white paper.

White Day is as popular in Japan as Valentine's Day in Europe. It was first celebrated in Japan in 1978.

Initially this holiday was called Marshmallow Day because the idea of celebrating it comes from Ishimuramanseido company, which produces white marshmallows. Soon White Day spread to South Korea and China.

When it comes to South Korea the day is similar to Japanese version. However, Koreans have gone further with this idea as they celebrate a day related to love in almost every month: 14th January is Candle Day, 14th February-Valentine's, 14th March-White Day, 14th April-Black Day, 14th June-Rose Day and 14th July-Kiss Day. All of these holidays are celebrated by people who are in love, apart from Black Day which is dedicated exclusively to singles. On this day people who are not in a relationship meet with their friends in restaurants, where they eat jajangmeyon – a traditional dish consisting of black pasta, soya sauce, bacon, vegetables and sometimes seafood.

The tradition of White Day came to China too but the Chinese celebrate it in a different way. On Valentine's Day men give presents to women and on White Day women repay the gift. Besides the Chinese have their own Valentine's called Qixi Festival which is celebrated 7th July. Qixi is connected to the old legend about a goddess and her lover.

Personally I think that White Day is an adorable and fantastic event. It's also better than traditional Valentine's as it gives the opportunity to express our love not only to people we are in a relationship with, but also friends and relatives. In the end there are so many shades of love!

The mysteries of the Universe

"The Universe... The incredible difference in scale between the tiny world we live in every day and the vastness of all time and space begs the question of whether we will ever be able to grasp the fullness of the cosmos. But that doesn't stop us from trying. In fact, contemplating the great unknowns must be one of the oldest hobbies in human experience. The pursuit has given rise first to religion, then to philosophy, then to people who make fun of religion and philosophy." - Glen Taylor

Well, it is said that the Universe is everything that constitutionally exists: whole space, time, all the forms of the energy and matter, every physics law and physical constant describing it. According to common theories, the age of the Universe is 13.82 billion years. The diameter of the observable Universe is 93 billion light years, which equals 8.8×10^{26} metres. Its mass reaches 10^{53} kg and the volume counts 4×10^{83} litres. There are probably over 100 billion galaxies in the Universe. Besides physicists believe that the Universe still contains so-called dark matter, a mysterious form that the scientists have not identified yet.

What is outer space?

It is the void that exists beyond the Earth's atmosphere. The boundary between the atmosphere and the outer space is about 100 km above sea level. Yet, the boundary isn't firm. It is difficult to mark the altitude at which the Earth's atmosphere ends and outer space begins. Some scientists believe that it is about 80-100 km above sea level. The scientists say that living organisms cannot survive at such high altitude mainly because of lack of oxygen and extremely low temperatures. Yet, the death is not so spectacular as it is shown in some science fiction films. Human beings exposed to the vacuum do not freeze suddenly, their blood does not boil and their bodies do not explode. In the SP-3006 publication NASA experts guessed that human beings exposed to the vacuum would lose their consciousness in about 9-11 seconds. Then their brain would die 2 minutes later.

The space exploration

The first human spaceflight was launched by the Soviet Union on 12 April 1961. The US spacecraft called **Apollo 11** was the first manned mission to land on the Moon. It happened on 20 July 1969. Six US manned spacecrafts landed on the surface of the Moon successfully. The last of them was the mission of Apollo 17. Its lunar lander lifted off from Earth's only natural satellite on 14 December 1972. All the moon expeditions were marked by numerous remains. Circa 180 tons of crashed lunar modules and scientific instruments were left by the landings. There is also an artwork lying on the Moon surface. It is a little board commemorating 14 names of astronauts who lost their lives while conquering Space due to different circumstances. Next to the board there is a statue of a fallen astronaut symbolizing their sacrifice.



Targets of exploration

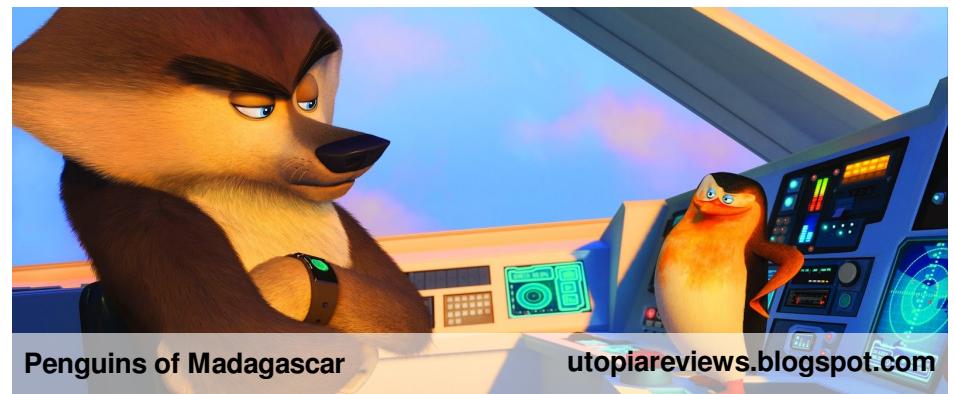
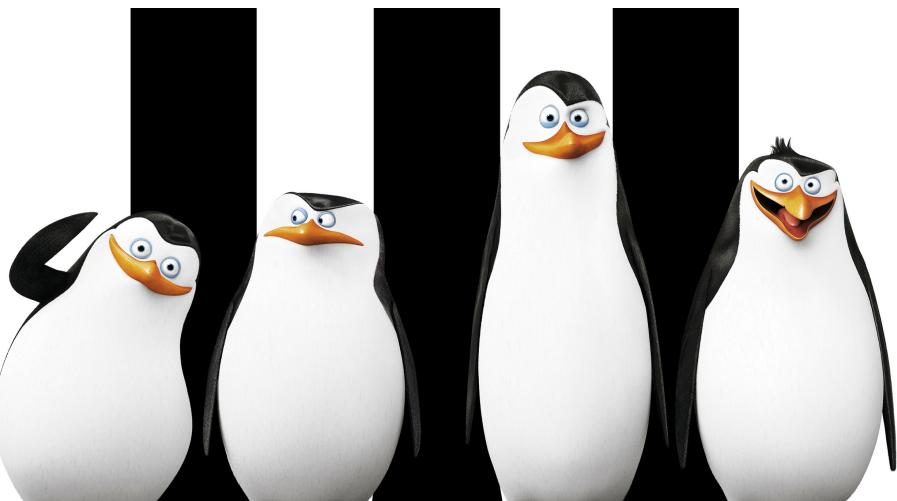
What should make us think a little bit about our existence is the fact that the only way to gain resistance to the destruction of Earth's humanity is conquering and colonizing other planets. Pandemic, nuclear weapon or even an interstellar battle are threats to all mankind, so there appear organisations that deal with space colonization. One of them is Mars One. It is a not-for-profit organization based in the Netherlands. It has put forward plans to establish a permanent human colony on Mars by 2025.

Penguins? You mean these sweet, cute and silly creatures, living in Antarctica? Well, yes, but these ones are completely different. Let's meet the Penguins of Madagascar!

When the *Madagascar* movie appeared in cinemas in 2005, they were just small characters to make the film more funny. But the audience fell in love with them. The group of four penguin commandos got their own TV series and now they are starring in a whole feature-length movie. The members of the team are well-known to the majority of young audience. Skipper is the boss of the squad. He is perfectly trained, fast in his decisions and willing to do anything for his crew. Kowalski is a mastermind of the band. He's a penguin genius who loves using the words that are only understood by himself. Rico... well, Rico is a sort of a technology guy.

He can belch out a tool or a piece of equipment whenever his comrades asked him for. And Private is a cute penguin. He is undoubtedly the group's mascot, without any special meaning to the band's way of working. The first few scenes tell us about the penguins' first moments as a team. At first they were small, soft, cute birds. But the main character is an octopus called Dave. He is the movie's villain, who once lived in a zoo where penguins also had their own aquarium. But everyone loved the lovely black and white creatures and forgot about the octopus. It happened in every zoo Dave was in. So his jealousy has turned

into anger and now he's planning to destroy all the penguins' cuteness and turn them into monsters. The Skipper's group is trying to stop him, which turns out very difficult. Soon it turns out that there appears another squad that begins competing with Skipper's group. It is called "North Wind" and it consists of a polar bear called Corpolar, seal - Short Fuse, owl Eva and wolf Classified who is their boss.



Penguins of Madagascar

utopiareviews.blogspot.com

The *Penguins of Madagascar*, directed by Simon J. Smith and Eric Darnell, came to world's cinemas on November 8th 2014. In Poland it has been on screen since January 30th 2015. Long awaited by the young audience, it surely entertains both kids and their parents. The amount of language jokes is unbelievable and adults also laugh out loud. But do not worry. There is nothing inappropriate for children. They may not understand all the jokes, but they are extremely excited with all the chases, blows and penguin's team work. Every character from both penguin groups and North Wind is unique and special, so confrontations between these two squads are really amusing. What is more, the dubbing is amazing, not just the English one. In Polish version the characters use the voices from TV series. That's a big advantage for all the people used to these vocals. Grzegorz Pawlak (Skipper), Jacek Lenartowicz (Kowalski), Tomasz Steciuk (Private) and Janusz Zadura (Rico) perfectly suit their characters. Also Krzysztof Dracz (Dave) played his role well, almost as perfectly as original John Malkovich. I surely can't complain about Classified, who has the voice of Waldemar Barwiński. But the consciousness that in original version it was Benedict Cumberbatch, who in my opinion shouldn't ever be dubbed, makes me compare these two voices – and, of course, Benedict wins every time. Music also is great, suited to the plot and catchy. Although I expected the penguins to be more trouble-making, there's always hope there will be a continuation. And who knows what commando penguins can do... Summing up, I think the movie is a great entertainment for both young and a bit older ones. You will love this team. So go and watch *Penguins of Madagascar*, because... who doesn't love penguins?



Penguins of Madagascar

www.full3d.pl

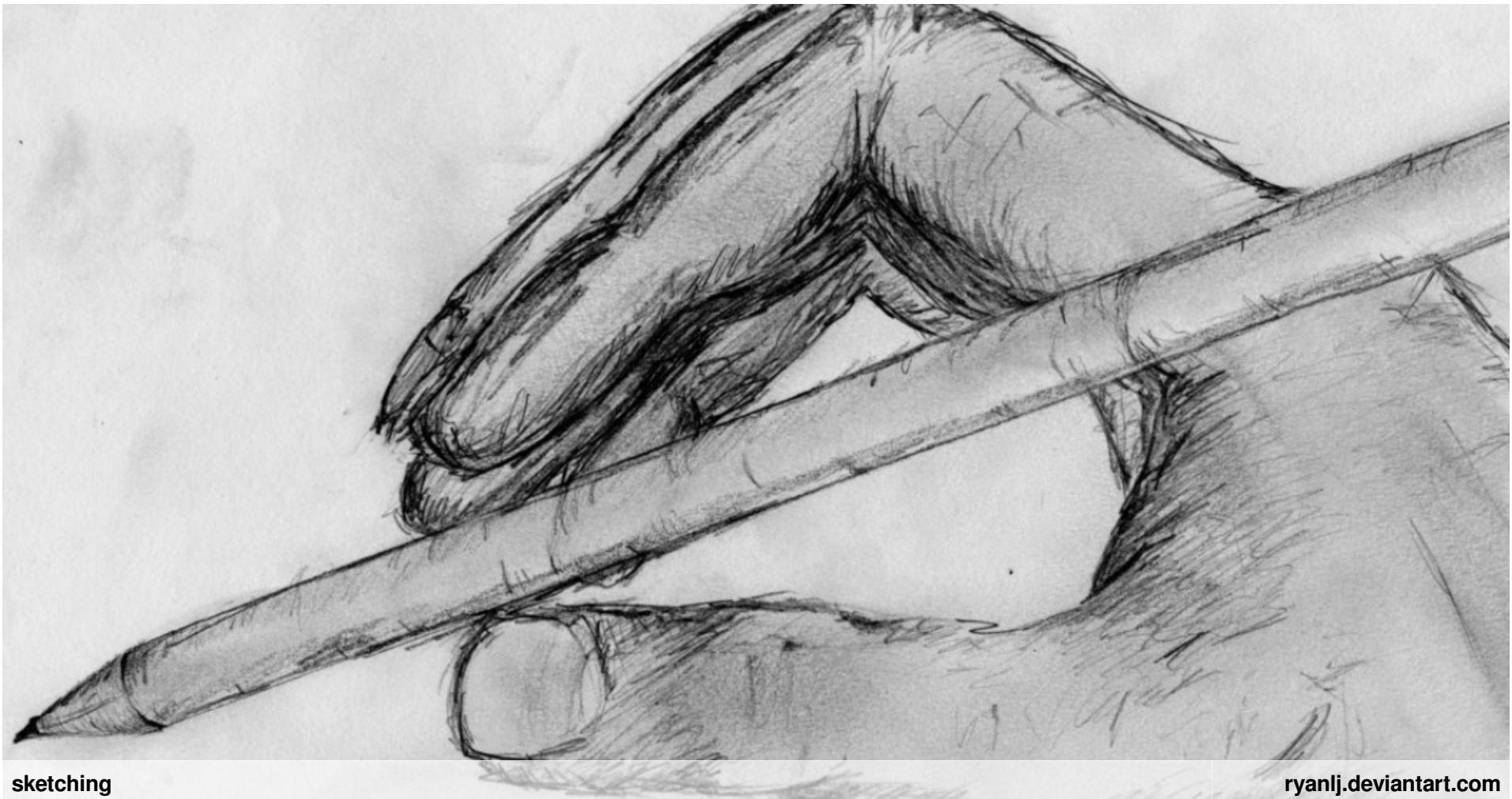
OUR HOBBIES AND INTERESTS

Sketching

My name's Patrycja. I would like to tell you something about my hobby. I am interested in drawing. I started my adventure with drawing about 8 years ago when I was in primary school. Drawing, just like any other form of art, has its own rules which help us create a new sketch. If you follow the rules it'll make the drawing look better. Depending on the standards your work can look

more realistic, surreal or abstract.

Before we start drawing we should know the basic rules of how to use shadows. Greater amount of light should be at convex and protruding places. Also things positioned further away should be darker. However, the rules are not everything. You have to work hard and practise regularly. Perseverance in what we do may bring us great results. I encourage you to get interested in sketching as it is a beautiful, artistic form of expressing yourself.



sketching

ryanlj.deviantart.com

SPRING QUOTES AND PROVERBS

No matter how long the winter, spring is sure to follow. Proverb

"The first day of spring is one thing, and the first spring day is another. The difference between them is sometimes as great as a month." Henry Van Dyke, *Fisherman's Luck*

"You can cut all the flowers but you cannot keep Spring from coming." Pablo Neruda

"It's spring fever. That is what the name of it is. And when you've got it, you want—oh, you don't quite know what it is you do want, but it just fairly makes your heart ache, you want it so!"
Mark Twain

"It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade." Charles Dickens