



# International Voices

Monthly Student Newspaper of the International English Language Institute

SELECTED FEATURES:



**American Vintage Fashion,**  
by Anna Goldina  
p. 6



**The Sweetest Thing , a mouthwatering guide for dessert lovers,**  
by Young Gyun  
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**The Beautiful Upper West Side,**  
by Jun Choi  
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*Check inside for even more from our team!*

## Job Hunting In New York ?

**Interview:** Elizabeth Freedman reveals job search tips for non-native English speaker

By **Silke Nuetten**

Elizabeth Freedman is a leading expert in career and workplace issues and the author of *Work 101: Learning the Ropes of the Workplace without Hanging Yourself* and *The MBA Student's Job-Seeking Bible*. International Voices spoke recently with Elizabeth about challenges international students may face in the US job market and how to increase our chances of getting hired.

SN: Many foreign students worry about their English skills when they start looking for a job.

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## IELI Continuing Education Highlights

**Best Selling Author Series—Stuart Woods**

**Special Event-- Free!**

May 21, 2012 / 7:00 PM

Faculty Dining Room, 8th Floor, West Building



The IELI is just one part of the Continuing Education Department, which also offers classes, workshops, and talks that you can participate in. The Writing Center presents a series of important modern authors. This month you can come and hear Stuart Woods, a

best selling author of mystery novels. The Writing Center brochure gives the following information:

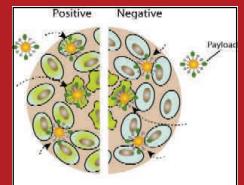
“**Stuart Woods** has produced 28 straight books that have made *The New York Times* Best Sellers List. He has

been awarded the Edgar Allan Poe prize from the Mystery Writers of America, as well as France’s *Prix de Literature Policiere*”

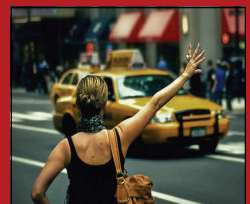
A question and answer session plus book-signing and reception will follow each lecture



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**A Dummy’s Guide to Preventing Cancer,**  
by Kay Rau  
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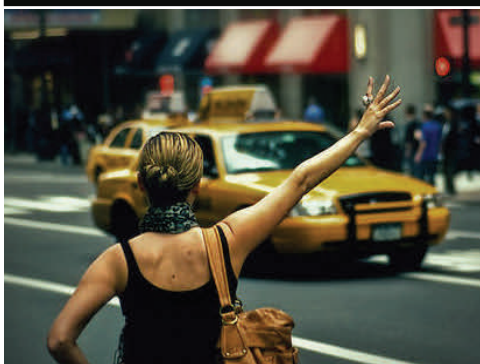


**New York’s Yellow Cabs,**  
by Ghyslaine Viollaz  
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**Ancient Iranian Man of Medicine,**  
by Sarah Khodayari  
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*Contribute to our next issue! We appreciate photos, essays, poems, letters, artwork, or comments from our readers! Write to bluesky212@gmail.com*



# THE 2013 TAXIS ARE HERE!

By Ghyslaine Violaz



In the streets where they run incessantly, their yellow color catches your eye and gives a cheerful note to the urban landscape. Over 13,000 yellow cabs (30% of which are hybrids because the city administration is interested in the environment) operate in the city. Called «medallion taxis», they are the only vehicles permitted to pick up passengers that hail them.

At the recent New York Auto Show, visitors could view the Taxi of Tomorrow. It's a far cry from the first twelve cabs introduced in 1897 and running on electricity. The Nissan NV200 minivan won the competition. The city will start replacing the old cabs in 2013 and have replaced all of them by 2018. It has sliding doors, a panoramic glass roof, a cellphone charger and some will be handicap accessible. Nissan is even considering developing an electric version.



A medallion is a taxi license, a New York (NY) monopoly created in 1937 to better regulate taxis and raise their standards. These medallions are very expensive. As of 2011, the price of a

New York taxi medaillon had reached \$1 million. During the 1930s, it could be bought for \$10. These medallions can be acquired at auction or from current medallion owners.

Did you see *Taxi Driver* (1976) directed by Martin Scorsese, starring Robert de Niro and his classic checker cab? That movie showed the New York of the 1960s, dark and unsafe, full of social unrest. In response to this unrest, 4,000 cops were licensed in 1967 as taxi drivers during their off hours. All taxis were also equipped with a robbery preventing partition in 1968.



In the last decade, taxi driving became a job for new immigrants. Today 82% of drivers are foreign born (23% are from the Caribbean and 30% from South Asia). As a cab is the first contact we have with a country, it's interesting that NY taxis are an excellent example of the city's «melting pot» culture.



Who knows, maybe this new generation of cabs may become as famous as the Checker cab of the 1920s, one of the most popular symbols of NY. The last of these was retired in July 1999 after 20 years of service and nearly one million miles on its odometer. Today's taxis have to be retired after six years of service regardless of condition.

Modern taxi models come with all sorts of «bells and whistles». The PIM or « Passenger Information Monitor » is a screen in the backseat that provides entertainment, a live GPS map of location and can be used to pay by credit card. The DIM or « Driver Information Monitor » informs drivers about traffic conditions and lost items. In France, taxis are not equipped with this kind of equipment, they are just regular cars. Perhaps the 2013 Nissan taxi will inspire France to revamp its taxis to rival those of New York City!



# LET'S EXPLORE ARCHITECTURE ON THE UPPER WEST SIDE !



My name is Jun. I am always fascinated by architecture in New York City. Especially, I love buildings on the Upper West Side because there are a lot of historically magnificent buildings. Although they are super expensive, I can't live there right now but who cares! This is New York!

## The San Remo



This exquisite apartment building is located between 74th and 75th Street, Central Park West. This landmark was built in 1982 and is called one of the most beautiful of its kind in the world. These luxurious twin towers are prestigious. Numerous celebrities have lived there, such as Steven Spielberg, Dustin Hoffman, Tiger Woods, and Donna Karan. There are some anecdotal stories of this building. For example, Steve Jobs bought a penthouse but never lived in it. Interestingly, Robert Stigwood, an Australian impresario, tried to sell his penthouse to Calvin Klein, a fashion designer, but residents at that time rejected Klein, so Demi Moore and Bruce Willis got the fantastic place. Moore still lives there after she divorced Willis and Ashton Kutcher. Personally, the San Remo is my most favorite building in the city because it looks like a magical castle to me.

## The Eldorado



The appearance of the Eldorado is extremely similar with the San Remo because it also has sharp pointed twin towers, and the color of the exterior is almost the same. The interesting thing is that even some New Yorkers confuse the Eldorado with the San Remo. Not surprisingly, both buildings were designed by the same person, Emery Roth. There are minor differences between the two monuments atop the twin towers.

This prestigious Art Deco building was built in 1929, and is located between West 90th and 91st Street. Just as with the San Remo, many prominent people have lived in the Eldorado, such as Alec Baldwin, Michael J. Fox. The sight of the Eldorado from the East side of the Reservoir, Central Park, is absolutely spectacular. Even though personally, the San Remo has the upper hand of the Eldorado, these towers also must be one of the most significant buildings in Manhattan.

## The Majestic



The double-towered Majestic is one of the most noteworthy buildings on Central Park West. This landmark was constructed in 1930 and is located at Central Park West between 71st and 72nd Street. Even though the Majestic does not have spires on their top of its towers, these have steel framed geometric shapes in the quintessential Art Deco style. In the beginning, this unique architecture was designed as a hotel; the plan, however, was changed because of the Depression in 1929. Of well-known residents, Marc Jacobs, an American fashion designer, lived in this apartment building with his grandmother when he was a teenager in the 1980s. Like other twin towers on Central Park West, such as the San Remo and The Eldorado, The Majestic is part of the magnificent skyline of the Upper West Side.

Across the street from this building, there is another architectural marvel that cannot be ignored — the Dakota.

## The Dakota



The Dakota, a historic Renaissance style apartment building was constructed in 1884 and is located at 1 West 72nd Street. There are some stories about the original name of this building. The most well-known one is that when it was built, nothing existed around it. It was as spacious as the state of Dakota, and thus the name.

This building is also internationally prominent as the place of the murder of musician John Lennon. Yoko Ono, Lennon's wife still lives in the apartment and she made the Strawberry Fields memorial for John Lennon in Central Park, directly across from the Dakota.

When I visited this place alone, I had most unforgettable experience ever. I asked the doormen to take a photo of me, but they refused my request politely because they are not allowed to take their eyes off other stuff. How professional they are!



## Job Hunting In New York?

### Interview: Elizabeth Freedman reveals job search tips for non-native English speaker

By Silke Nuetten

*Continued from page 1.*

**SN: Many foreign students worry about their English skills when they start looking for a job. Does our English really need to be perfect?**

EF: It depends on the position you are looking for. But in general, if you can demonstrate that your English communications skills are adequate enough to make you a valuable employee and will not interfere with your ability to do the work, you shouldn't worry about your English. Americans love to see confidence. If you worry too much about your English, you risk to lose confidence and this could be a bigger issue for your potential employer than your English skills.

**What's the best way to demonstrate that our English is adequate enough?**

My advice would be, first of all, to focus on your resume and cover letter to demonstrate language quality and skills. Make sure that it is free of spelling and grammatical errors and ask a native speaker to review it. In the first place, a resume is supposed to tell your potential employer what you have done, what results you have achieved, and what added value you can offer to his company. Furthermore, you should include all types of experiences that indicate you communicate all the time in English. Use examples that showcase your bi-lingual and bi-cultural skills. With the same accuracy with which you write your resume, you should also maintain your LinkedIn profile. Recruiters use LinkedIn far more than any other tool. Therefore, your profile must be 100% complete and well written.

Furthermore, you should take advantage of the LinkedIn WordPress blog. This is another platform to demonstrate your writing skills. Finally, don't forget to demonstrate your comfort with

speaking English in your voice mail. Practice and rehearse it, until it sounds like a native speaker. Your future employer might call at any time.

**You have just mentioned LinkedIn. How important is it to be on LinkedIn?**

It's very important. If you are looking for a job, you have to be on LinkedIn. You absolutely have to be. In addition to your profile and the WordPress blog, there are a lot of useful tools on LinkedIn, sections like recommendations, invitations or jobs you may be interested in, but I do not want to go too much into detail. The point is that it is worth spending time on LinkedIn.

**Do I need LinkedIn recommendations from English speakers?**

References or LinkedIn recommendations are very good. When you would have an English reference or recommendation on your behalf, it's a credible and great proof someone was satisfied with your work.



**“If you are looking for a job, you have to be on LinkedIn.”**

**Is it recommended to highlight English skills in a reference?**

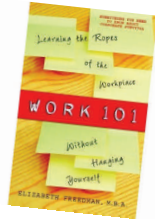
You may ask your referee to let your future employer know that you have exclusively worked in English. But, I think you do not want to raise an issue that might not be an issue in the employer's mind. I wouldn't draw attention to the fact that you are a non-native speaker. What a reference or a LinkedIn recommendation should emphasize is that you are great, you work well with a team, you are a fantastic communicator. That's what you would say about anybody whether you are a native or non-native speaker.

**What type of employer is more likely to hire non-native speakers?**

Look for companies that are hiring people with a similar profile to yours. In particular, seek out employers who have hired other people from your country of origin so there is already a process in place.

## Elizabeth Freedman

Elizabeth is an expert in career and workplace issues. She is the author of *Work 101: Learning the Ropes of the Workplace without Hanging Yourself* and *The MBA Student's Job-Seeking Bible*, and was a 2005 finalist for College Speaker of the Year, awarded by the Association for the Promotion of Campus Activities. Elizabeth is the National Workplace Issues Blogger for *The Examiner*, and has appeared in dozens of publications, including *The New York Times*, *Boston Business Journal*, *U.S. News & World Report*, and *CNN.com*. She has written over 100 articles on a wide range of workplace and career issues for professionals, and she frequently speaks on the topics of brand-building and visibility for leaders. For nearly eight years, Elizabeth ran a Boston-based career-development and coaching firm. In 2011 she joined Bates Communications, a national consulting firm that specializes in leadership communication skills and strategy. If you want to learn more about Elizabeth, see <http://www.elizabethfreedman.com>.



Likewise, you may have more success with U.S. companies that have a global reach and an international presence. Specifically, when you are from an emerging country, you have an advantage. China, for example, is obviously a big market for US companies. In any case, you can approach US companies doing business in your home country, especially if you can demonstrate bi-cultural skills. However, keep in mind that they may rather hire a local person than someone based in the US. Also, do not waste time with companies that for any reasons never hire non-US citizens.

### How can I find out whether companies hire people with my profile or from my home country?

We are back to LinkedIn. Just follow companies you are interested in to work for. You will get considerable amount of recent

company information, and you can see everybody who work there. For example, if you are from Venezuela, search for fellow countrymen who have been hired. If you see there are 30 employees from Venezuela, that's valuable information.

Beyond that, while your reading their profiles, you can get a good sense of what a company is looking for. Finally, watch out for recently hired people. You can contact them and gently ask for a quick chat about the company. Write something like *I am interested in your organization and I know you just joined the company, would you mind ...* New hires are a little bit more open to help job seekers. But LinkedIn is only one option.

### Who else can help students to find suitable employers?

You should visit a career center, which is a good place to start your research. Tell them *This is me, these are my skills, and that's where I come from*. They will narrow your job search to

companies that are really looking for people with your background. Usually, universities have a career counselor, who may help you, too.

### Is it useful to work with a headhunter?

It's not necessary. It is one channel you could pursue, but I would not put all your eggs in one basket. From my experience recruitment firms are much more likely to fill a specific job position, for example an accountant, than to place 20 people from India. Any job seeker, who is primarily looking for recruiters to help, should broaden his approach.

### Finally, let's talk about what people fear most. What are your 3 top tips to gain confidence for an interview?

My experience is people tend to underestimate the amount of time and practice that it requires. You need to build time into your calendar to practice. Especially as a non-native speaker, you really want to get comfortable answering questions and have the language right. First, identify what the questions are and what your answers would be. Next, write your answers down. Most people do not write a script, which is a big mistake. Afterwards, practice and get yourself videotaped. Without doubt, this is the best way. You should wear the outfit you will choose on the day of the interview. Next, show the videotape to a professional and get feedback on what's working well, and what's not. Keep practicing until you feel confident. In addition, non-native speakers should practice things that might be easier for their US counterparts, such as small talk or following up with someone. The more practice you have, the more prepared and confident you will be.

### In your article "Job-Search Advice to Non-Native English speakers" you advise international students how to best prepare for the question "Are you authorized to work in the United States?". Can you summarize the main idea?

Many employers are unfamiliar with the process of hiring an international student and therefore believe it to be complicated and expensive. This is really tragic, because it is one of the

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**"The more practice you have, the more confident you will be."**

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primary reasons why companies won't even consider interviewing international students, and consequently, you will get overlooked for jobs that you'd otherwise be qualified for. The truth is that it is far less difficult and less expensive to hire an international student than they think. The very large, global employers are educated about this process - but many of the medium-sized or smaller companies may not understand what is involved in hiring a non-U.S. citizen. By becoming an expert in everything H1-B, you you'll answer this question confidently knowing that you've got plenty of information and solutions to help any potential employer deal with the paperwork and perceive obstacle of hiring you. [from Ms. Freedman's website] For more details, see <http://EzineArticles.com/4318327>



## VINTAGE FASHION IN THE US

BY ANNA GOLDINA

The meaning of word the “vintage” comes from winemaking, and means a good grape harvest. Nowadays this concept is used in fashion. Clothing made a long time ago cannot only emphasize your individuality, but also will add an image of some sentimentality and romanticism, should display fashionable tendencies, spirit, and the mood of past times. Clothing which was produced from the 1920s to 1970s is considered to be vintage. Vintage clothing has been making a huge comeback in fashion forward cities around the world, especial at major fashion centers like New York.

### 1920s

The 1920s in America was an era of big changes, including fashion. Women got rid of old corsets. The trend is about bows, beads, and flowers. The long pipes, jewelry with pearls, hats (*klos*) short haircuts "*a la garçonne*" are the points of the season. The long straight style had a great many variations, one extremely popular fashion was the *Basque dress* or *Robe de Style*. This dress style is best known from the beautiful creations of Jeanne Lanvin.



My name is Anna. I adore fashion, and my motto is “fashion is my passion.” That is why I chose this topic. Enjoy my article !

### 1930s

This was the era of sparkling Hollywood. The fashion in the late 30s shines: Platinum hair, red nails, essential accessories gloves, sunglasses, zipper, trench coats and sideways dresses. Shorts with ankle socks and puffy sleeve shirt, are the hot styles of the season. Squares jackets highlight the waist and bring the silhouette to the foreground.



### 1940s

The time of World War II dictated the flow and trends of fashion. Dresses were shorter in length than in the thirties, but not so short as the twenties. Skirt, jacket, and blouse combinations, everything acquired a more military flow. Padding in jackets and dresses, accented the waist, big hats with lace to hide the face. An effect of the war was to popularize trousers and casual wear for women as never before.



## 1950s

After World War II, there were some major fashion changes. The 1940s silhouette had wide shoulders and a short skirt, but the 1950s styles were hourglass in shape (fitted body with small shoulder, small waistline, full skirt and higher heels, polka dot, geometric hats ). Near the end of the decade, a newer fashion look was becoming popular, later made popular by Jackie Kennedy.



## 1960s

The 60s was an epoch of varieties of style. This was the age when the mini skirt was discovered. Also, colored tights, and wet look vinyl fashions. There were mini shorts and mini dresses. "Sex, drugs & rock 'n roll," and pop culture spread into fashion. Psychedelic clothing is now a hit. Ethnic fashion begins to spread. Colorful makeup with huge fake eyelashes, huge sunglasses, jewelry, plastic boots up to the breeches, space age clothing.



## 1970s

The season had it all. Punk. Hippies. Love and peace. Disco. Lycra. Vinyl. Leatherette. Nails. Pins ... Yes, and bell trousers and overalls and belts with large buckles. There were also huge silver rings in the ears as a registered trademark, as is the bandana.



## Shopping for Vintage in NY

If you are a big fan of vintage fashion, and want to buy something for yourself, or just want to immerse yourself into the history of fashion, you should visit one of the famous vintage boutique, New York Vintage. There you can find a great variety of any pieces that you want. Include dresses, jewelry, shoes, hats, lingerie .



### **New York Vintage**

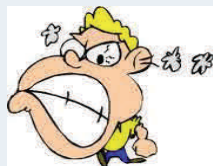
117 W 25th St

(between Avenue Of The Americas & 7th Ave)

New York, NY 10001

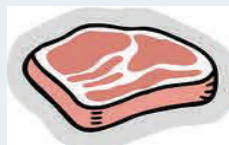
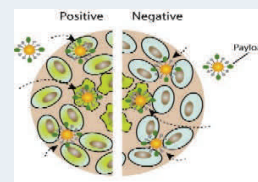
Neighborhood: Chelsea

Kay Law



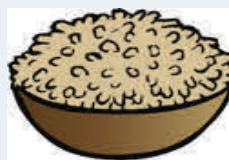
You may have heard of various carcinogens, but perhaps a major danger comes from recurring negative emotions. Anger is a good example. When one gets angry, certain abnormal stress hormones or toxins will be produced. Do not underestimate this mechanism. It means that the healthy cells in our body are beginning to change to bad cells which could be the origin of cancer cells.

You might or might not know that everyone has cancer cells in the body. Cancer cells can be detected when they have multiplied to a few million. One of the common treatments for cancer is chemotherapy. However, not only will cancer cells be eliminated, but the healthy cells will also be sacrificed. Is there any way to kill cancer cells without harming our body?



An effective way to kill cancer cells is to starve them. So what does cancer feed on? It heavily depends on (red) meat. A study including more than a hundred thousand people carried out over twenty-eight years shows a distinct correlation between consuming red meat and suffering from cancer as well as the proliferation and spread of cancer cells and death caused by cancer. Meat contains a protein which is difficult to digest. The undigested meat leads to further toxic build up. Also, meat has few antioxidants to fight the growth of cancer cells.

The opposite opinion argues that meat products provide us with essential nutrients, such as Vitamin B and D. Indeed, between 200 and 600 IUs of vitamin B is daily required for the body. Harvard School of Public Health also recommends between 400 and 800 IUs of vitamin D for the human body per day. However, taking adequate vitamin pills would be an ideal replacement for the meat consumption in order to nourish the body without producing toxic originating from meat.



It is a fact that cancer cells have a covering made primarily of protein. Raw vegetables and fruits contain live enzymes and can dissolve the protein wall of cancer cells. When the wall disappears, the body's killer cells can attack the cancer cells. Also, vegetable consumption enhances the growth of healthy cells to defend the invasion of cancer cells. Remarkably, consuming alternative grain products such as brown rice (instead of rice), which contains selenium, can also damage cancer cells. Meanwhile, brown rice provides the body with fifteen essential nutrients and reduces the risk of colon cancer.

To fight against cancer cells, one should firstly avoid too much meat consumption in order to starve them. Secondly, taking appropriate vitamin pills might be an alternative to meat consumption. Thirdly, consuming appropriate grain products enhances our immune system to fight against cancer. And the most important part is to be happy. Go for movies, go meet friends and do not let yourself get angry easily. They all help prevent our bodies from producing cancer cells.





## Ibn Sina(Avicenna), the Father of Iranian Scientists, Mathematicians and Physicians

Even though I have spent most of my life in Norway, I would like to present a figure from my native culture. Ebn Sina, an early pioneer in the field of medicine, is a big figure in Persian (Iranian) history as well as world culture. In c.980 there was born a boy in old Iran. He was called Ebn Sina, which means the son (Ebn) of treasure( Sina), but his Latinized name is "Avicenna".

Over time, he made huge contributions to philosophy, mathematics, chemistry, astronomy and medicine. His most enduring legacy, was within medicine. For instance, he earned royal favor for treating Iran's king, due to ailments that no other physician could diagnose or cure.

One of his well-known books is *Al-Qanun* (The Canon of Medicine) was translated into Latin in the 12th century, and became the predominant medical book used throughout many European medical universities for 600 years. In this book, he described Tuberculosis or TB, as a contagious, epidemic and deadly disease.

He was the first physician who described meningitis (infection of a thin membrane protecting our brain and a misdiagnosis costs the patient's life within a few hours). He also described other parts of the human anatomy, including heart valves, sensory part of nervous system and different parts of the eye.

Ibn Sina's portrait hangs in the main hall of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Paris, shown below.

He dedicated his life to healing, feeding the poor and other humanitarian contributions. During the last years of his life, he was told to take it slowly, but he answered, "I prefer a short life with width to a narrow one with length". He died at age 58, in the month of Ramadan when everyone fasts. He was buried in Hamadan, Iran.

I hope you enjoyed the reading and my general impression of one of the world's well-known physicians.

*By: Sara Khodayari*



# Special vehicles in New York

BY: WENJIE HUANG

## 1.WATER FERRIES

## 2.STATEN ISLAND FERRY

## 3.RICKSHAW

## 4.HORSE AND CARRIAGE



New York water Taxi



Horse and carriage / WH



STATEN ISLAND FERRY/WH



Rickshaw



HELLO! My name is WENJIE HUANG. I come from China. I have 4 different special vehicles to introduce in New York City. Since New York has become a famous international destination, it is helpful to know about the different kinds of interesting transportation, which helps you to have fun and save time.

First of all, there is the New York Water Taxi. It is a little expensive, but it can give us a wonderful view of the city. It can take us to see the historical places, including a cruise by the Statue of Liberty and the 9/11 Memorial.

Second, there is the Staten Island Ferry. I took it about half a year ago, but I can remember it so clearly. If you take this ferry, you can enjoy a wonderful view. You can see the Statue of Liberty, as well as breathing fresh air. It is free, because the city subsidizes it for commuters to Staten Island. If you don't want to get off at Liberty Island, I think the Staten Island Ferry is better than the water taxi.

Third, horses and carriages are very popular in England, and in New York as well. There are a lot of horses and carriages on 59th Street and Fifth Avenue near Central Park, and at 42nd Street, Times Square. If you have time to take them, it will be a great experience. The horse will take you around the Central Park, but it may cost you a lot. I have never tried it, but I want to try it in the future.

Finally, I introduce the Rickshaw in New York City. Long time ago, the rickshaw was very popular in my country, but only very rich people could afford to ride it. Nowadays, in New York City it has become more and more popular. If you want to satisfy your feeling of nostalgia, it is the best vehicle to try. But in my opinion, it's dangerous to ride rickshaws in the busy streets of New York City, therefore the government should observe new rules to protect the riders.

# The Sacrifice of Truth in

**W**e can never imagine how hard it can be to be loyal to our everyday beliefs. We easily forget about our moral principles when we have to choose between self-interest and honesty. These are the themes of the Oscar-winning film, *A Separation*, by Asghar Farhadi.



Simin, an English teacher, lives with her husband, Nader, her eleven-year-old daughter, Termeh, and his father-in-law, who is suffering from Alzheimer's. She decides to leave the country in order to make a better future for her daughter. Nader refuses to accompany her, because he cannot leave his father. Simin files for divorce, which is, at this point, refused by the court, and she goes to live with her father.

Nader, working in the bank, decides to hire a nurse to take care of his father, when he is away. Razieh, who is a devout person, gets the job. Very soon, conflicts arise, which leads to the eventual divorce of Simin and Nader.

## A SEPARATION



### Selfishness

Everyone must deal with the issue of selfishness. Nader is a socially decent person, but he always puts himself first. He desperately needs his wife, but he can never articulate that he wants her to stay with him. In another court scene, when he realizes that if he tells the truth, he will be imprisoned, he chooses to tell a lie, no matter how he may harm others. Simin insists on going abroad, without thinking about what Nader's problems are.

### Telling Lies

The characters in the film tell lies for different reasons. Razieh, although a very religious woman, tells lies because she has worked for Nader without her husband's knowledge, and now she is afraid of telling the truth. Termeh who is critical of his father's untruthfulness finds no other ways except telling lies to help her father. Even when Razieh chooses to come clean, she has to pay a high price for it, which is ruining her conjugal life. It



seems that the film implies that it has been gotten so hard for the modern human being to tell the truth.

### Tradition vs. Modernity

The next theme highlights the distinction between tradition and modernity, referring to the middle and working classes. Nader and Simin belong to the middle class. When Nader and Simin first consider getting divorced, they seem to have no more conjugal problems than any married couple, yet they seem to rely on divorce as an easy way to avoid the usual pressures of marriage. This family is moving from a traditional life toward modernity; Nader thinks about his father who is the symbol of tradition, although he cannot communicate with him. It seems that, although he is trying to stick to tradition, he is sometimes confused and lingering between a traditional life and modernity.

Simin, on the other hand, thinks about her daughter who is the symbol of the future generation and modernity. And that's why Nader and Simin cannot get along with each other. Another interesting point is the way different classes of society think of each other. In the film, the middle class characters seem to be indifferent to the emotions of the working class. Without any evidence, they think that Razieh's husband is tough with his wife and hits her. And, also, when they speak about Razieh's dead child, they consider it trivial. On the other hand, the people from the lower class of the society condemn the other class for being less religious, less moral and unjust.

It can be concluded that the film is a critique of human self-interest, and self-absorptions, which is the cause of most of mankind's mistakes.

- Roya S. Pargou

## SWEET THINGS IN NEW YORK CITY

By Young Gyun Woo

**B**ecause New York City is one of the biggest cities in the world, many kinds of food are sold here, especially a lot of desserts from different countries. Furthermore, most of the places have good desserts, so it's impossible to try all of them. I'm going to show you two of my favorite dessert places, and I'm fairly sure you will love them.

### La Maison du Macaron :

**Location :**

132 W 23rd St (between 7th Ave & Avenue Of The Americas)  
New York, NY 10011

**Hours :** Mon-Fri 7 am - 8 pm Sat-Sun 8 am - 8 pm

Macaron is a traditional French dessert, which is crispy outside and creamy inside. Between two cookies, there is a filling of ganache, buttercream, or jam. Literally *macaron* means "melt in your mouth," and it makes you happy.

This place is not the best macaron store, but I really like it. It has good desserts, and it is always quiet and relaxing. Also they just use organic ingredients, so if you are worried about chemically treated ingredients, you can feel at ease here.

They have about twenty flavors, such as lemon, mango, chocolate, and blueberry. However, my favorites are cassi and lychee



macaron. In addition, they have madeleines, tarts, and breakfast, which really taste good.

Every piece of macaron is \$2.50

### Eileen's Special Cheesecakes



**Store Location :** 17 Cleveland Place New York, NY 10012

**Hours :** Mon-Fri 9am-9pm Sat-Sun 10am-7pm

This store, located in Nolita, has the most delicious cheesecakes in NYC. The store opened in December, 1975. After these cheesecakes became popular, this store was listed in "Best Bites" in New York "Magazine." These are New York style cheesecakes, but unlike the classic Junior's cheesecake, they are fluffy and light and not too sweet.

I strongly recommend "Oreo," "Blueberry," and "Strawberry" to people who want to try cheesecakes. These are common types in every cheesecake store, but their ingredients are different, so the people who do not like cheesecakes, will like these kinds!

Also they sell different sizes of cheesecakes (from 6" to 10"), mousses, and pies.

Small Cheesecakes start from \$2.75.

### Other sweets in NYC

Laduree , Macaron from France

**Location :** 864 Madison Ave (between 72nd St & 71st St)  
New York, NY 10021

**Hours :** Mon-Sat 9 am - 7 pm Sun 12 pm - 6 pm

Max Brenner, a Chocolate place

**Location :** 841 Broadway New York, NY, 10003

**Hours :** Mon-Thu 9-12am, Fri-Sat 9-2am, Sun 9am-11pm