



Hidemi's Rambling No.161

I reconsidered the ending of our new song as my partner had suggested. To me, it was just right as it was no matter how many times I listened to it. Therefore, the ending wasn't changed. During the work, my partner noticed the volume of the bass drum was too low. I agreed on it and boosted it. Then, the bass guitar needed to be boosted accordingly. I thought the song was completed when the ending was settled, but now, I'm working for the mix down again. Could it be an endless loop or something?...

Hidemi's Rambling No.162

I record TV shows on a hard disk. TV shows consume large space of it and I have periodically added an external hard disk to my computer. The remaining space got close to 100 gigabytes, which meant that it was about time for me to add one more hard disk. I found one for 1.5 terabytes at the lowest price online, being sold as this particular weekend's special. I knew the ports of my computer were all occupied and the same store also carried a hub at half price of the regularly lowest price as their 10th opening anniversary special. I got them thinking how lucky I was. They arrived on the next day and I never thought they came this quickly. I set them up to my computer within the day, tried recording, and every process went extremely smoothly without a hitch. I felt so excited at this series of events concerning my new hard disk. On the other hand, I still don't have enough time to watch or edit the recorded shows. I can no longer remember the reason to keep recording...

Hidemi's Rambling No.163

I happened to see some episodes of 'Heroes' Season 1 again, and recognized for the first time that Claire's boyfriend was John Connor of 'Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles'. I've watched many episodes of both shows but hadn't noticed it until now. Also, I found Summer of 'The O.C.' in 'Heroes' Season 1. When I was watching 'Heroes', I never knew it was Summer because I hadn't seen 'The O.C.' yet then. In Japan, U.S. TV shows are selected to be broadcast too randomly that we can't follow the order of production. Besides, the final season of my most favorite show, 'LOST', hasn't even started here yet. Its premiere is at the end of May, so I still have to wait for a whole month although the story must be close to the finale in U.S. The time difference of TV shows between Japan and U.S. is staggering. I feel like I live the past as in episodes of 'Terminator'...

Hidemi's Rambling No.164

This spring has been the strangest one so far. It came after the coldest winter in 50 years and repeated a sudden surge and drop in temperature. One day it's hot like summer and the next day it returns to the bitter cold of winter. I've had my fair share of headaches thanks to that. I'm not the only one with a confused condition. A bug is, too. As I've mentioned here before, I have a strong phobia about bugs. My apartment is heavily armed by numerous bug repellents, such as electrical, herbal, you name it. The other day, it was very cold like winter, and yet, a bug appeared in my room, right next to an electrical bug repeller. Impossible. A couple of weeks earlier, a light switch of the bathroom got broken. Combined it with the inconceivable way of the bug's appearance, I took them as signs to move out this apartment. The last time I moved was also when I found a bug and a light switch of the bathroom got broken. It was the best decision as the move turned my luck. I've started packing my stuff even though I have no idea where to move. I've got a lot of cheap stuff as a result of sale-hunting and have little time to pack, so it will take a long time to move, anyway...

Hidemi's Rambling No.165

Next to my apartment is a parking lot. A large noise of a car engine without a muffler woke me up early in the morning today. Sick people who enjoy driving a car without an engine muffler and with a booming car stereo are increasing here. I was able to go back to sleep but then the neighbor kids' voice disturbed my sleep again. The window of my room looks out on the front yard of a neighbor's house. Kids and idle housewives were playing and talking loudly. Kids are my archenemies. They relentlessly attack me with their evil, high-pitched voices and shrieks. When I first moved in here, there were few houses around. But soon, more and more houses were built, more families were moving in, and I got surrounded by kids. Every time I move somewhere quiet, the area quickly gets booming and kids are running everywhere destroying my cozy living environment. Now that I've decided to move, the destination should be someplace quiet, kids-free, bugs-free, and hopefully, people-free...

Hidemi's Rambling No.166

Because I'm cheap, I'm always careful about money. So much so, it penetrates into my dreams. I had a dream about visiting NY the other night. I joined a bus tour for sightseeing. The bus stopped for a break and there was a drink vendor. It had freshly squeezed fruit juice along with soft drinks. Everyone from the tour enjoyed the juice. I was thirsty and tired, and the fresh juice seemed perfect. But it cost \$3 more than soft drinks. I really wanted the juice, knowing that would be full of vitamins and good for health, but I also needed to save money for my uncertain future. I was torn by a mere \$3. Eventually, I gave up the juice and ordered a soft drink, feeling envious of others who were having juice. I woke up and found that I had missed a golden opportunity to spend money extravagantly. Being in a dream is the only time that I can spend as much money as I want. One of the worst dreams for me is to save money in it. I pounded my bed from regret. I could have had delicious juice...

Hidemi's Rambling No.167

I finished the mix down of our new song today. That means the song at long last got completed. I had worked on this song for seven years. I put into this song everything I have, everything I want to say to this world, and everything I've felt in my life. So, I'm virtually done. I celebrated with a bottle of sparkling wine instead of champagne that is too expensive for me. When opening the bottle, the plastic cork rocketed to the ceiling and made a mark. Still, the project is far from being over. I need to burn it on CDs, save it as several different kinds of format, and archive the data. I can see a long way to go before I get a sense of achievement...

Hidemi's Rambling No.168

I was about to go to bed yesterday when I heard the ominous spattering sound in my room. Spring shifted to summer all of a sudden and I had turned on the air conditioner. The noise was a water leak from it. Beneath the air conditioner sits my PC with which I work for my music. I usually put plastic bags on the PC as a covering after each use and the water was dropping right down to it. It was a dreadful sight. I completely panicked and couldn't figure out what to do first. Then I tried to turn off the air conditioner with a stereo remote. And I tried to grab a floor cloth to wipe up the water but couldn't find my slippers. The PC holds our new song that had been finally completed yesterday after seven years. I thought the water was draining away the song and my seven years. Thankfully, the computer didn't get wet while the monitor got a few droplets from the edge of the plastic cover. What are the odds that a water leak aiming at a PC happens on the same day when a song gets finished on the very PC? Is this some sort of a sign? Sign for what? Not to tweak the song any further? Or, to wipe the slate clean and start all over again? I couldn't sleep well from thinking about it and from the heat without air conditioning...

Hidemi's Rambling No.169

I'm preparing for mastering of our new song and the question of the moment is where to store the master discs. After making a number of backup discs, where should I keep each one of them? I will put one at the doorway of my apartment so that I take it with me outside in case of an earthquake. But what if a fire broke out? Online data storage seems a safer solution. But what if its server crashed? For that case, do I need to use a depository box at a bank? What if Mt. Fuji erupted and burnt down Japan? I have a storage room in L.A. and I can store a disc there. But do I fly to L.A. just to bring one disc? I also have a storage space in Montreal but what if war broke out between U.S. and Canada? There seems no safe place to keep the master disc. It's such a valuable enough thing to me to think about possibilities although the value to the world is unknown...

Hidemi's Rambling No.170

When I got down to mastering our new song yesterday, new ideas for the mix down struck me. But I've already declared the completion of the song. Trying the ideas means to return to the mix down again. I hesitated to do so because it really might throw me into an endless loop. I should accept closure for this project at some point or I would go on for the rest of my life. But, what if the ideas made the song drastically better? Can I leave the possibility untouched? I'm a master of regret and wonder if it could be escaped from being one of the big regrets of my life. I've got too many regrets and can't afford any more. I decided to try them. My partner thought I had finished the mastering and brought him a master disc when I told him about going back to the mix down instead. He was planning a trip. The trip was postponed for an indefinite period...