

## Chuck Palahniuk : The Soul of Imagination and Creativity

Every generation has a philosopher, author or intellect that changes modern society or spawns creative and intelligent thought. Authors like Jules Verne believed that one day, man would travel to the stars by means of rocket power, and that space would be explored freely. Verne offered his readers a look into a subject matter not discussed before; ideas only fathomed by the smartest (or naïve?) of people. Readers were flabbergasted by Verne's writings, and became followers of his beliefs.

Society has changed since Verne's days, however. What he professed may one day have been has become; and now, he is insignificant. Society is no longer interested in space shuttles, rockets, the stars : they've seen it on TV, heard it on the radio, and read it in the news. Modern society developed a new interest during our era in the unspeakable, shadowy "underground", as it is called. Society is more interested in the dark, the horrifying, the occult, or the unknown; the reality that another society exists within our own, living by their own rules, laws, regulations, mores and folkways, completely independent from us. Chuck Palahniuk is the apostle of all of this.

Chuck Palahniuk is a lot like Russian food: it's underrated despite how exquisite it is, and it comes in small portions, usually. Mr. Palahniuk is one of an infinite amount of authors who can provide our society with a detailed look into the true underground through fiction. He astonished me with his nihilistic perspectives emanated from *Fight Club*, which suggested living as a hunter-gatherer. His work with *Fight Club* was thought provoking. I found myself questioning myself daily. What makes me so special? Why should I have to go to work and make a living? Work makes me money, which buys me possessions. Why do I need possessions? For security. Why do I need possessions to create security?

Chuck's writings create a different world for readers, allowing them to dive into the lives of characters living differently than the norms; allowing the reader to experience different cultures, religions, and political believers to more understand the underground. His visuals are vivid, and his style of writing is incredibly unique.

What is it that makes Chuck Palahniuk the greatest author of this current generation? What makes his writing so incredible? Chuck Palahniuk is a true man. He lives, eats, sleeps, and has problems - just like any normal person. Unlike the rich and "powerful", snotty Danielle Steel - who sits in front of a typewriter writing out her fantasies that nobody good give a damn about, Chuck writes novels that you cannot put down: the stories are intense, the plots are insanely unique, the characters are catchy, and the books never have a dull moment.

Chuck attacks social issues with an iron fist, and commentates on every issue through the voice of his characters. Rarely does he linger in the story, or add tiring filler - he's right to the point. Each novel is narrated by the narrator and main character: always in first person.

If there were an Ernest Hemmingway of this generation, his name would be Chuck Palahniuk. A smart, satiric, amusing, real author with real qualities and traits of a normal person. He does not try to be famous and he does not try to gather media attention. He writes pleasing novels (none of which have ever let me down), and satisfies my craving for the awkward subject matters I so dearly love. His style of writing has influenced my own writing, and I have even written a screen-adaptation to his novel "Survivor."

Chuck is the soul of imagination and creativity...

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