

## THE LOGIC OF YOO

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He read, "Peace Through Law? The Failure of a Nobel Experiment," which on its face seemed to argue for lawlessness & he thought not about Peace or Law but about Beauty & its contours, whether it was made or just was, whether it was a consequence or a Prime Mover, a struggle & if so then against what, if it indicted Truth & if so then what was the First Truth, which he imagined was Aloneness.

"They attacked the idea of freedom," Yoo wrote,<sup>9</sup>

though he didn't think about Freedom but that a Pluralism is not a  
Relativism,

which cut both ways, toward Yoo as True & toward Yoo as False,  
since the man standing up in the snowstorm couldn't simply lie down  
because the snowplow was coming, but that he also should lie down  
lest everyone stand in the road, no plowing done,

the snow piling up like a wet cloth, suffocating, which might though  
give Beauty some permission, since everyone in their houses would feel  
quite alone, which would be True, & might go mad to struggle  
outside, scraping, clawing with spoons & kitchen ladles toward whatever  
wasn't wherever they found themselves. And here, Beauty would be  
both Cause & Effect.

<sup>9</sup> John Yoo, speech at the Institute for Corean-American [sic] Studies Liberty Award Dinner, Lai Lai Garden, Blue Bell, PA, 22 January 2002.