



CULTURE SHOCK

by : David Ostrom

Hans Christian Anderson once said, "To travel is to live." I was given this nativity this past summer by my best friend Kibum. We planned for me to fly over to South Korea and spend the summer with him and his family, do some traveling around the country, and experience what life is like in Korea. Living in South Korea for two months from June to August has had a very significant impact on my life and will continue to influence it in the future. Not only was I able to experience another culture, completely different from Canadian culture, but I also had the pleasure of eating the most delicious food I have ever had in my entire life, as well as meeting some of the most interesting people from all around the world.

While in Korea, I met a wide variety of people that I would never have if I stayed in Canada. I had the pleasure of meeting an art teacher and her students. She ran a private school for high school students trying to get an edge on their peers in some basic subjects, such as Math, English and Art. Not only did she teach me how to read Korean faster, but she also gave me a book of her most famous paintings that are displayed in Seoul's national airport. I also met a lot of soldiers and English teachers from the United States who helped influence my decision on whether or not to become an English teacher in Korea. Another really interesting person that I met while in Korea was a basketball player who used to play for the South Korean National team. I met most of these people while doing one of Korea's most popular activities, eating out!