

Owen Fink on ***What Do You Want to be When You Grow Up (shortened)***

Just this May I graduated from college, so I've frequently asked myself what I wanted to be. The more I thought about it, the more any anxieties I might have felt faded. They faded because I began to realize that I know the answer to the question. It's not the kind of answer that parents or even friends are looking for when they ask it, but it's an answer that I know deep down in my heart. I want to be a good friend. I want to be honest with myself and with others. I want to be someone who loves looking at clouds. I want to smile more than I frown. What do you want to be when you grow up? There are two types of answers to this question: one type changes with the situation, but the other stays the same no matter where you are. I know which type is more important to me. That's why it doesn't bother me that I don't know whether I want to be a Banker, a Baker, an Astronaut, or an Artist. Because I know what I want to be...when I grow up. I want to be someone who people turn to when they need help. I want to be someone who stops on a clear night to look at the stars. I want to be someone who appreciates good music. I want to be someone who listens to the wind. What do you want to be?