

Faculti Summary

<https://staging.faculti.net/sucking-stones/>

The speaker discusses their academic journey, particularly their collaboration with Professor Rob Campbell, a philosopher and expert on Samuel Beckett. They express a long-standing interest in Beckett's work, specifically the novel "Molloy," which they found to resonate with their critique of cross-cultural management methodologies.

The speaker's PhD focused on cross-cultural management in Central and Eastern Europe, where they criticized existing paradigms. They draw connections between the absurdity depicted in "Molloy" and the futility of relying on quantitative methods in cross-cultural studies, which they argue yield trivial results despite considerable effort in data collection and analysis.

The speaker critiques the foundational work of Gert Hofstede in cross-cultural management, suggesting that his methodology is based on the flawed assumption that culture is immutable, ignoring the significant changes cultures undergo over time. They conclude that while statistical analysis can be thorough, the outputs often reinforce stereotypes rather than providing meaningful insights.

The speaker also reflects on their future research interests, including the portrayal of work in science fiction and how it engages with societal fears about technology and the future. They believe that these fears are often exaggerated and aim to explore these themes further.