

Breakfast with Yoko Ono

One person in history I would like to have breakfast with is Yoko Ono. Most people know Ono as the Japanese artist who may have broken up the Beatles, however, they ignore the fact that Yoko Ono was a feminist icon and an activist for world peace in the nineteen sixties. Over breakfast, I would ask her about some of her favorite art pieces that she has created and what they stand for. Specifically, I would ask her how she came up with her *Cut Piece*, an art performance where she sat in a suit with a pair of scissors and let people cut her suit until there was nothing left. I want to know how she decided that *Cut Piece* would be the best representation of what people are willing to both give and take because it relies on the audience participating. I also would ask her advice on how to be a calm and collected individual, because she received harsh criticism for her role in the Beatles breaking up, but remained an advocate for world peace in spite of the negative comments directed at her. I feel like Yoko Ono could help me combat negativity that is bound to come with life, such as rejection and difficult people.

I would also ask her about her time at Gakushuin University, where she was the first woman to study philosophy. I am going into engineering, a predominantly male field, and I would ask her advice on how to best handle being surrounded by men and how to use that to succeed. I would ask her about how dropping out of Sarah Lawrence affected her, and ask if she made the right decision. In addition, I would ask her about her decision to move to the United States and how that impacted her, and I would ask about important lessons she learned from it. Towards the end of our meal, I would ask Ono if she really had a part to play in the Beatles breaking up because there was only speculation and nothing was confirmed. I want to know if she is the sole reason or if she was just an easy person to blame. I feel as though there is so much to learn from

Yoko Ono that I would need more than one meal to fully understand her, but I would start with these at breakfast.