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Fatalism can be defined in a few different ways. The way it is being used in this case is to mean that everything is predetermined by fate. Richard Taylor is an American philosopher who strongly believed in determinism which is very similar to the idea of fate. Along with being a respected philosopher and professor, he was also a well-known beekeeper. Unfortunately, Taylor died in 2003.

Taylor once said that, “All men are fatalists as they look back on things." I am assuming that this means he himself was also a fatalist when he looked back. Basically, what I believe he means by saying this is that people tend to think that everything that happened to them in their lives was meant to happen to them when they reflect back. I think this is accurate because it usually makes most people feel better to leave things up to destiny and say that their life was not entirely in their control.

Now, speaking from my own personal experience I am not so sure that I believe my life has been determined by fate. Maybe one day I will look back and think things turned out the way they did for a reason but right now I am skeptical. However, from talking to people who have lived a little longer than I have, they often say things like “I knew she came into my life for a reason.” or “I wasn’t meant to get that job anyway.” Sometimes these things sound like excuses but if you like to believe in fairytales then this probably makes more sense to you.

Works Cited

Rice, Hugh. "Fatalism". *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Summer 2015 Edition). Edward N. Zalta (ed.). <<http://plato.stanford.edu/archives/sum2015/entries/fatalism/>>.