Creativity under the gun

How threat features and personal characteristics motivate creative responding

Cheng, Y.

Citation for published version (APA):

General rights
It is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), other than for strictly personal, individual use, unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

Disclaimer/Complaints regulations
If you believe that digital publication of certain material infringes any of your rights or (privacy) interests, please let the Library know, stating your reasons. In case of a legitimate complaint, the Library will make the material inaccessible and/or remove it from the website. Please Ask the Library: https://uba.uva.nl/en/contact, or a letter to: Library of the University of Amsterdam, Secretariat, Singel 425, 1012 WP Amsterdam, The Netherlands. You will be contacted as soon as possible.
“There is no never-ending banquet under the sun”
— Chinese proverb

Although I accept this quote, it’s hard for me to say goodbye to the last four and half years and people I met during this PhD journey. From the East to the West, it has been more than four years of adapting, overcoming and growing. Reflecting back on my time spent on this journey, I am very pleased with what I’m taking away from this experience. This has been one of the most challenging time of my life, and I’m so fortunate to have met many kind and interesting people whose help and support have made this book possible. Thank you!

First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my supervisors, Carsten and Matthijs. Carsten, thank you for giving me the opportunity to work here, and for your perceptive suggestions on my research. I admire your outstanding writing skills and great scientific insight. Thanks for sharing your wisdom and wit with me. I especially appreciate your words of comfort and encouragement that helped me overcome those hard moments. Matthijs, thank you so much for your continued support, careful guidance, and endless patience. You are the best supervisor I could ever ask for. Your optimism and ability to see the possibilities in seemingly dead-end situations motivated me, and your perpetual enthusiasm in research is most inspiring. Thank you for always taking time to answer my questions, even with short notice. Without your constant feedback and encouragement this PhD work would not have been achievable.

I would also like to thank my colleagues at Work and Organizational Psychology at UvA. It has been a pleasure to work in an inspiring group with so many friendly colleagues who are always ready to help. Thank you to everyone who attended my pre-drink meetings, for your interests in my research as well as your questions and suggestions that inspired me to see my studies from different perspectives. A special thank you to Gosia, for always being so kind and supportive, and for your help in statistics, and for the wonderful road trip in California. A deep bow to Joke for your assistance from day one. Your help in dealing with the resident, financial, and technical issues have made my life here much easier.

A warm thanks to my roommates over those years: Jessie, Tim Theeboom, Katharina, Seval, Sarah, Tim de Wilde, Nathalie, Loes, and Florian (my almost roommate). Big hugs and
profound thanks to the members in “5 musketeers”, for all your support from time to time and the enjoyable time we have spent together. Nathalie and Tim, I cannot imagine what my life at UvA would be without you. You are my great roommates and friends in the past years. The time we whined about how hard PhD life is while making effort on motivating ourselves to work harder, the monthly dinner we’ve had together and the fun talks and board games after that, the secret borrels, the Chinese lessons, and yoga exercises...... I will always remember all those great memories that we created. Loes, thank you for sharing your laughs and tears with me. I’m so happy that you will sit beside me on my defense.

I’m grateful to my Chinese friends in the Netherlands who made me feel like home. 俊辉，从北京到荷兰，感谢你在最初的日子里和我一起面对各种问题，分担彼此的烦恼。你的经历让我看到了梦想的力量和坚持梦想所能到达的高度。美怡，你就像姐姐一样照顾我，带我体验荷兰的好吃好玩，更是在我合同结束的时候给我介绍教中文和翻译的工作，帮我度过难捱的时光。很庆幸在荷兰能认识你这样一个常相伴的朋友。倩倩，虽然我们合租的时间不长，但我搬离 Amsterdam 以后在你家混吃混喝的时间一点也不短。感谢你这么多年即“嫌弃”却从未拒绝过的任何一次留宿请求。还要特别感谢那一段时间每周四晚在火车站陪我回家的你，你的陪伴对当时的我是莫大的安慰和鼓励。在此还要感谢我在 Enschede 认识的朋友们：嘉慧、刘尧、瑾文、叶良、老孙、靳鹏、海棠、梦迪和佑文，周末与你们的聚会和节假日的结伴出游，让我在那个遥远城市的生活丰富有趣。还有我在荷兰认识的学习心理学的师姐妹们：李晓倩、方霞和文铭。在以荷兰人为主流的心理学领域，很高兴能偶尔与你们在课程上或走廊里聊聊近况，互相鼓励，并肩战斗。

I’m particularly indebted to my father and mother who cared about my happiness more than my achievement and gave me the best they could offer. 出国读博是我自私的决定，感谢你们支持我的决定，一如你们在我人生的很多事情上所持的尊重和鼓励的态度，尽管我知道你们有很多的不舍。这几年回国看你们的时间少之又少，错过了你们的生日，甚至近五年的春节都没能和你们团聚，对此我深感歉意。谢谢你们一直以来为我提供良好的生活环境，让我能安心追求自己的梦想。谢谢你们教会我善良、勤劳、宽容和知足，让我能以此行走于世。谢谢你们无微不至又不求回报的爱，让我无论走得多远，都能感受到家的温暖。我爱你们！望你们永健康，愿我们常相聚。

It is to my boyfriend, Xichen, that I owe my deepest gratitude, for everything he has done for me in those wonderful twelve years. 感谢你这十二年的爱和陪伴。你的鼓励让我迈出了
Lastly, I would like to thank myself for not giving up during those low and hard moments of struggle.

Thank you and 谢谢你们！