

## Magazine Draft

In the long run, Was it worth it?

You are birthed into a forest full of wild dreams. You are so full of energy that you want to reach out and smell every leaf of every tree. But then you are put into a path and thought how to walk but they call you too slow.

And you run

And you realize soon that this path is a racetrack and you can't stop. People on both sides cheer you and you don't want to let them down.

"Go,Go,Go" and so you go.

Not knowing where to and not knowing if it is something you desire.

You run fast. So fast that you forget to slow down and take a break. You run and the bees, the trees, the flowers, hide from your eyes, you forget that happiness is experiencing the walk in the forest and not running away from it.

You are running away from life in the name of making it.

You speed up again.

Then you realise, it's not a sprint, but a marathon.

Even when you see a less paved path that you are curious about, but you just can't.

You remember your obligation.

Another path could have been your life but you chose the path that held your idea of life.

Happiness doesn't just come from pursuing , it comes from exploring. Exploration comes with its share of failures and that's what you are scared of. And so your run continues because they say what if there are vultures and snakes. So you never meet the hummingbirds and butterflies.

You run and hit the finish line as if on the top of a summit. Taking the enormity of it, asking if the view was worth it and realizing you would rather be in a rainy forest full of wild dreams again. It's too late to smell the leaf of every tree. You regret the paths you didn't take , the flowers you never smelled , the dreams you didn't chase , the trees you never climbed on and the birds you didn't listen to.

You will be at the end of your life, with money but not happiness, With relationships but not trust

Because you've been busy running.-