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Quiet Evolution

Born in the scenic town of Pokhara, and raised in Kusma, Nepal, my life has been a series of trials, triumphs, and self-discovery. From a child with quick anger on the tip of my nose to an introverted, contemplative young adult, my journey reflects the complex intersection of societal pressures, academic pursuits, and personal transformation. What started as a search for validation and achievement has evolved into a quiet but determined quest to understand myself and navigate an uncertain future. In the process, I've learned not only about the world around me but about the resilience of the human spirit.

Growing up in a middle-class family with parents who did not complete high school, I felt the weight of their aspirations for me. I excelled in my studies, but my early school years were marked by incidents that shaped my character. In fourth grade, I learned a harsh lesson about authority and discipline when I talked back to a teacher and received a painful beating. This experience only deepened my habit of internalizing emotions, always thinking many times before I spoke. The result was a disconnect between my true feelings and my outward expression, a challenge that would follow me throughout my schooling.

The final years of my school were a rollercoaster, marked by personal struggles and significant growth. I became addicted to PUBG (a mobile game), which led me to skip school and fail an exam for the first time, a blow to my self-esteem. Then, COVID-19 hit, changing everything. My addiction shifted to spending more time on my laptop, and I surprisingly embraced the new reality of limited social interactions. During this time, I discovered programming through platforms like [freecodecamp.org](https://www.freecodecamp.org)

(www.freecodecamp.org), Harvard's CS50(cs50.harvard.edu), and YouTube(www.youtube.com). I even participated in the Microsoft World Championship, reaching the national stage. I found happiness in solitude, but when the lockdown ended, I realized I had lost much of my social confidence. Conversations became difficult, even with close friends and family. After completing my 10th grade, I visited my grandfather, and he asked me, "What do you want to study—Science or Management?" (Two streams to choose high school studies) I replied, "Science." He then asked, "Doctor or Engineer?" It was at that moment I realized how much they expected of me. I often heard my parents and relatives say that I was the one who would make a better life for my family. This added a social pressure I had never experienced before.

Leaving home for Kathmandu (the Capital of Nepal) to continue my studies was a pivotal moment. It was the best choice for education in the country, which is why I moved. Living away from my family in a new environment was challenging, especially for someone who already struggled socially. It was for high school, and back then, I never imagined I would be studying in the US. I remember one of my high school teachers repeatedly emphasizing the importance of preparing for the entrance exam, especially for the top engineering institute in Nepal. Oddly enough, this constant reminder made me decide not to take the entrance exam and explore other paths. That exploration eventually led me to where I am now, studying at Marshall University. The quick-tempered child I once was has transformed into someone far more introspective, able to face challenges with calm and patience.

As I look back on my journey from the scenic hills of Kusma (my hometown) to the classrooms of Marshall University, I see a life shaped by challenges, choices, and continuous growth. Each stage of my evolution—from the quick-tempered child to the quiet, introspective young adult—has taught me invaluable lessons about resilience, responsibility, and self-discovery. The pressures of fulfilling family expectations and navigating academic paths may have weighed heavily on my shoulders, but they also forged a deeper understanding of who I am and who I strive to become. Though my future remains uncertain, I carry with me the lessons of perseverance, the courage to explore, and the belief that my story, like all meaningful journeys, is still unfolding.