3. What would you say is your greatest talent of skill? How have you developed and demonstrated that talent over time?

Grasped in between my tremulous fingers, the hook moved from right to left as it pulled the string through the silver loop. One loop. Two loops. Repeat. That is the beginning of every individual’s crochet experience. The first step through the eye of the needle is always the toughest hurdle.

My discovery of crochet had begun when I was gifted with a crochet pouch: an incredibly adorable whale one! Though I had previously held little interest in sewing as my brain perceived it as a task most suited for grandmothers, the stitches found in crochet items had intrigued me.

Therefore, when little 10-year-old me heard my mom talk about a crochet class, I enthusiastically requested to participate. Though most kids eventually dropped out due to a lack of patience and persistence, I remained and endured all the moments I had to restart a stitch because I was determined to finish that first basic crochet pattern.

Upon hearing that my family was travelling to Australia for break, little me decided to make my own scarves even though I was still at the early stages of my crochet journey. The great thing about crochet is that it poses no limits to the designs one’s imagination can create. After hours of watching video tutorials and crocheting, the scarves were completed. The joy I felt propelled me into jumping the highest leap I’ve ever done. The pictures of that trip still serve as a reminder of that first creation. Ever since, I’ve started creating basic crochet gifts for friends and family.

Crochet was not a task with a set of instructions to follow. It was a journey filled with endless possibilities from basic stitches and numerous pathways to find your inner self: hidden creativity and imagination. To me, it was also a mental therapy of relaxation during periods of hectic schedules. Crochet provided the balance between work and creativity, between the big pictures and the smallest details. It’s a task requiring immense patience and dedication, but the end result was worth the strenuous hours, a symbol of the rewards of patience, determination, and great thoroughness.