Edwin Funez

Professor Grancher

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Analysis of ‘My Marathon Journey” by Stamatis N Astra

The story “My Marathon Journey” written by Stamatis N Astra details Astra’s way through a marathon he is running. The main idea of the story, from my point of view, is that the journey is just as important as the destination. He ends up finishing the marathon, but a different person from the things he had encountered and experienced throughout his journey. It changed my idea on realizing how important the journey I take to get there really is. It also should change any other reader of this story, or create some sort of significance towards them, because I believe that the point Astra is trying to give out into this story is true.

Astra uses a lot of metaphors to describe his realizations throughout the journey in his marathon as well as the things he encounters. For example, “At the starting line, I found the world. Runners from all races in countries, all ages and skills” (Astra 2). Astra says he finds something new in every paragraph or 5 kilometers in his marathon. When he says he finds something, he uses a metaphor to state what he really found. He then describes what he really saw, explaining how it means significance to him.

I infer that this marathon that Astra is running is also signifying something other than just a marathon. Every time that he says he found something in his journey, it is something relating to his mentality and himself in general. The things that Astra says he finds can also be seen as Astra finding his true self, or him learning as a person. For example, “At the thirtieth kilometer, I found my sense of humor” and “At the fortieth kilometer, I found my culture” (Astra 4). You can relate this to Astra finding out who he really is in his current life. Like, him growing as a person with the marathon serving as his life, and him running is a metaphor serving as him going through many stages in his life and discovering certain things about himself. Astra also talks about finding friendship. All of these terms you can also find in life, like him discovering his culture and its true meaning, his way of life, as well as friendship referring to him making connections in his social life. This gives readers questioning about how significant certain terms and aspects are to their own lives and how they can find meaning and I think Astra is trying to display that.