**Socrates had the reputation of being a great sage.**

**S**ocrates had the reputation of being a great sage. **O**ne day someone came to visit him and said **"D**o you know what I just heard from your friend**?"** **" W**ait a moment**", S**ocrates replied. **"B**efore you tell me, I would like to make you a test. **T**he one with the three sieves, the three sieves. **B**efore telling something about others, it is good to take the time to filter what you want to say. **T**he first sieve is that of truth. **H**ave you verified that what you are going to tell me is true**?" "No**, I just found out very well**". "So** you don't know if it's true. **Let's** continue with the second sieve that of goodness. **Is** that something good you want to tell me about my friend**? Oh no!"** On the contrary**, "So** you want to tell me bad things about him and you **don't** even know if **they're** true. **Pe**rhaps you can still pass the test. The third sieve remains the utility one. **D**oes it help me to know what this friend would have done**? N**ot really so**". S**ocrates concluded **"W**hat you wanted to tell me is not true nor good nor useful. **So** why did you want to tell me**?"**

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**Lions never bother about the flies.**

**F**lies are flies. They **don't** spare anyone. Not even the **K**ing of the jungle. **A**nd these flies bother the **K**ing especially when he is just sitting and doing nothing. **B**ut lions are just not bothered about them. **T**hey will simply lift their tail once in a while**,** swing it this way or that way to make the flies fly away and then just forget about them. **J**ust imagine what will happen if a lion decides to teach a lesson to these troublesome flies by trying to catch them and then kill them obviously**. F**irstly, he will have to forget that he is a **K**ing. **I**nstead, he would need to act like a monkey and then just run after these flies to catch them and kill them. **W**ill he ever be able to do so**?** Of course not. **W**hy because most of the flies are near its tail and hence if the lion has to catch these flies he will need to reach his head closer to his tail which obviously he cannot. And even if he could do that he would still not be able to catch the flies because of the unique shape of its head and mouth. **S**o in case a lion decides to kill the flies, he will keep running in circles going round and round**,** reach nowhere start looking funny and finally collapse out of frustration sometimes. **T**his is what exactly happens in our lives too. There are so many small small things (flies) happening in our life and bothering us**. A**nd what do we do**?** We forget what our life goal is. Instead**,** we start wasting our time and energy on them. **I**n the end, we miss our goal. **R**each nowhere and finally collapse out of frustration. Because it is just not possible to catch those flies and remember. These flies bother the lion only when he is lying dormant. **But** when the lion is in action up and running, these flies do not come anywhere close to the lion and they **can't**. Also, **"S**o what to do**?"** **J**ust be aware of the fact that flies do bother a lion but only when he is sitting idle dormant and in an inactive state. **B**ut when he is active up and running the flies never come any close to him. Therefore remain fully active focused on your goal and these small small problems (flies) will stop troubling you. And you will be able to realise your main goal and always remember lions never bother about the flies.

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E𝒗𝒆𝒓𝒚𝒐𝒏𝒆 𝒕𝒉𝒓𝒐𝒖𝒈𝒉𝒐𝒖𝒕 𝒕𝒉𝒆 𝒘𝒐𝒓𝒍𝒅 𝒉𝒂𝒔 𝒌𝒆𝒑𝒕 𝒈𝒊𝒗𝒊𝒏𝒈 𝒕𝒉𝒆 𝒆𝒙𝒂𝒎𝒑𝒍𝒆 𝒐𝒇 𝑻𝒐𝒓𝒕𝒐𝒊𝒔𝒆…𝑺𝒂𝒚𝒊𝒏𝒈 𝒕𝒉𝒂𝒕 𝒔𝒍𝒐𝒘 𝒂𝒏𝒅 𝒔𝒕𝒆𝒂𝒅𝒚 𝒘𝒊𝒏𝒔 𝒕𝒉𝒆 𝒓𝒂𝒄𝒆, 𝒂𝒏𝒅 𝒆𝒎𝒑𝒉𝒂𝒔𝒊𝒛𝒊𝒏𝒈 𝒕𝒉𝒆 𝒗𝒂𝒍𝒖𝒆 𝒐𝒇 𝒑𝒆𝒓𝒔𝒊𝒔𝒕𝒆𝒏𝒄𝒆 𝒂𝒏𝒅 𝒅𝒆𝒅𝒊𝒄𝒂𝒕𝒊𝒐𝒏.

**W**ell, no one has ever bothered to ask the hare his side of the story. **S**o let me tell you the story from a different point of view. I met the hare and sat down with him for a heart to heart talk. **B**elieve me it was a wonderful experience. He said, **"Y**es I am the hare who lost. **N**o I did not get lazy or complacent. **L**et me explain" said the hare. **"I** was hopping over the meadows near the hills and looked back to realize that the tortoise was nowhere to be seen. Assured of my healthy lead, I decided to take a short nap under the large banyan tree near the pond. **T**he anticipation of the race had kept me up all night for days. **T**hat old silly tortoise had boasted about his ability to plod for hundreds of miles without stopping. **L**ife is a maratho**n"** he said. **"N**ot a sprint**,** I wanted to show him that I could run both far and fast. The shade of the tree was like an umbrella. I found an almost oval rock covered it with grass and turned it into a makeshift pillow. **I** could hear the leaves rustling and the bees buzzing. **It** felt they were collaborating and even conspiring to put me to sleep. **A**nd it **didn't** take them long to succeed. I saw myself drifting on a log in a beautiful stream of water**. As** I came near the shore, I found an old man with a flowing beard sitting on a rock in a meditative pose. He opened his eyes, gave me an all knowing smile and asked "Who are you**?"** I am a hare. I am running a race why to prove to all the creatures in the jungle that I am the fastest. **"W**hy do you want to prove that**?** You are the fastest**." S**o that I get a medal which will give me status, which will give me money, which will get me food**. "T**here is already so much food around**",** he pointed to the forest in the distance. **"L**ook at all those trees laden with fruits and nuts, all those leafy branches**". I** also want respect, I want to be remembered as the fastest hare who ever lived**. "D**o you know the name of the fastest deer or the largest elephant or the strongest lion who lived a thousand years before**?** **Y**ou know today you have been challenged by a tortoise**. T**omorrow it will be a snake then it will be a zebra**. W**ill you keep racing all your life to prove that you are the fastest**?" H**mm.. I **didn’t** think about it I don’t want to race all my life. **"W**hat do you want to do**?" I** want to sleep under a banyan tree on a makeshift pillow while the leaves rustle and the bees buzz. I want to hop over the meadows near the hills and swim in the pond**. "Y**ou can do all these things. This very moment forget the race. You are here today. **B**ut you will be gone tomorrow**." I** woke up from my sleep the ducks in the pond looked happy. **I** jumped into the pond startling them for a moment. They looked at me quizzically**". W**eren't you supposed to be racing with the tortoise**? "T**oday it's pointless an exercise in futility**. A**ll I want is to be here**. H**opefully someday someone will tell the world my story that I lost the race but got back my life. **L**ive your life according to your standards and not to those of your loved ones, family members, relatives friends, colleagues, competitors or the world.