



Peninsula Chinese Business Association

美國華聯商會

*Leading because we care*

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## Editor Message

June 1, 2024

Dear Members and Friends,

I'm incredibly excited for you, our valued Members and Friends, to dive into the Highlights issue this summer. This quarterly publication shares stories inspired by Gauranga Das that I trust will resonate deeply with each and every one of you.

Each story showcases the victory of the human spirit in the face of misfortune, resilience, courage, and the wisdom of diagnosis. From overcoming challenges to achieving accomplishments, these narratives witness the invincible strength in everyone's DNA.

These stories will inspire and unlock your boundless potential. As we navigate life's challenges, may these narratives kindle a flame of hope and possibility, guiding us toward a resilient, brighter future.

Thank you for investing your time in these inspirational stories. They will profoundly impact and serve as a heartwarming source for those who enjoy reading them.

With warm regards,

*Johnny Da Rosa*

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## **BE PATIENT; YOUR TIME WILL COME**

It was Saturday noon in a suburban city in Thailand. It was about time for the elementary school to close for the week. As the school bell rang, Edward, a nine-year-old, rushed out of the classroom. He saw his father on a motorcycle waiting at the front gate. He ran fast with a smile, put on a hard head, and jumped on the back seat, grasping his father's belly tight.

*- How was your day, Edward? Fabulous papa.*

*- So, what did you learn today? The teacher gave us an exciting assignment.*

*- I see. What is that? She told us to hug ten people and then tell each one,*

“Be patient; your time will come.; I love you.”

*- Wao! That is awesome. After you complete your homework, let's go to the park and hug some people.*

As they arrived home, the sky darkened, and heavy raindrops began to fall, creating a soothing rhythm on the roof.

*- I'm sorry, Edward. I don't think we can go to the park today. Papa, please, we can wear raincoats.*





Father's face cheered with a smile, and he knobbed his head. They went to a neighborhood park; Pedestrians were walking fast with umbrellas. Meanwhile, Edward talks about his pursuit of hugging people and says those kind words. Because of the rain, the crowd in the park was smaller than a typical Saturday afternoon.

Suddenly, the sky turned dark again; Father insisted on returning home immediately.

**- No papa! I need one more.**

**- Edward, you can do number ten tomorrow. Let's leave now before we get wet.**

Edward was disappointed. On the way home, Edward saw one house at the end of an alley and lit a couple of candles at the window. Edward pointed the house to his father.

**- There must be someone at home. Let me finish my assignment—just one more, Pap, OK?**

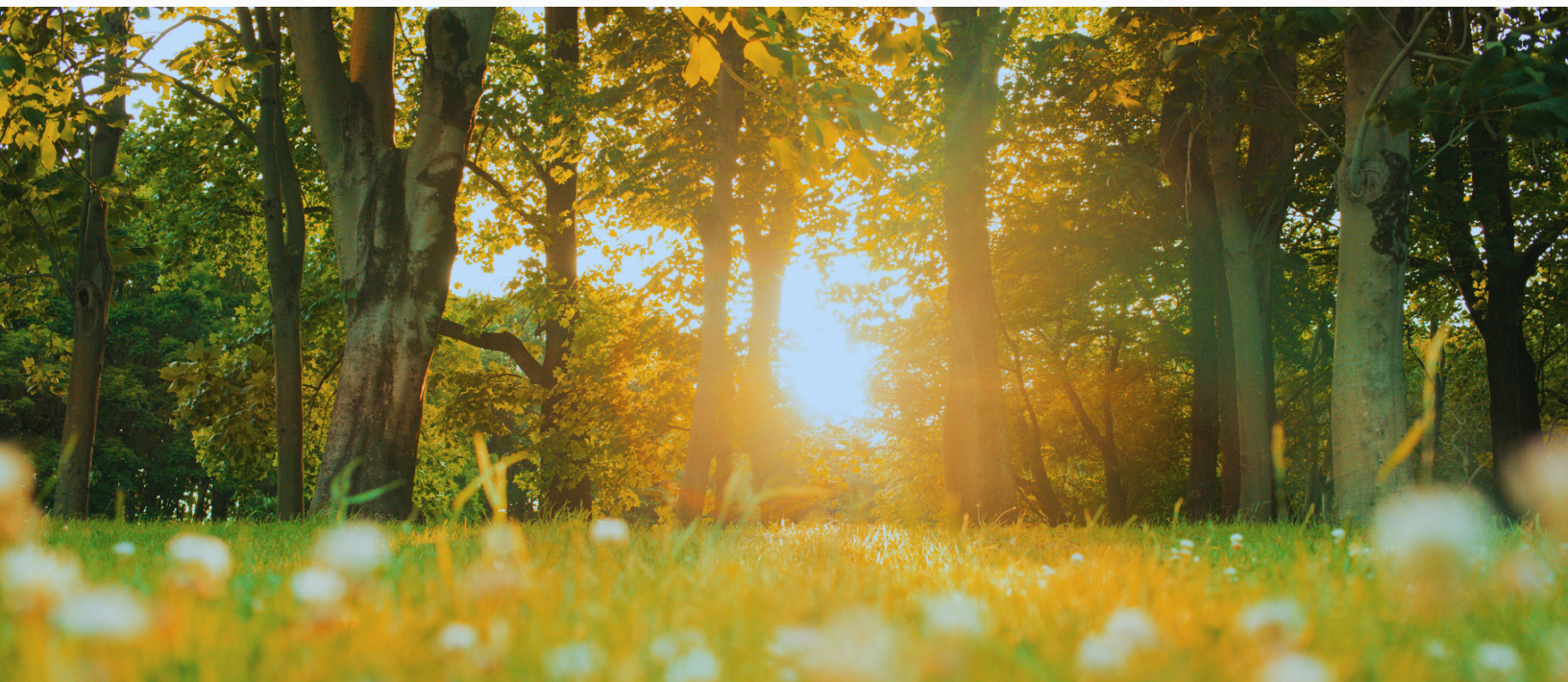
Father said OKAY, and he pulled the motorcycle to the side of the road.

Excited, Edward ran into the muddy, short alley and pressed the doorbell, but no one answered. After a couple more times ringing, the door was opened gently. A lady looked pale on a terrible day. Edward was a little bit skeptical.

**- How can I help you, young man?**

Edward, smiling, said.

**- May I hug you and share a few words with you?**





He hugged her tight, attached a warm heart-beating, and told her,

“Be patient; your time will come. I love you.”

The lady hugged Edward tighter and started to cry. Edward’s father was curious and approached closer to offer help. Reluctantly, he asked.

***- Lady, do you need help?***

She was trying to speak, but her voice choked. She offered them to go inside the house because it was sprinkling. After she had sipped the water, they sat in the living room, and then she started to speak.

***- My husband died two months ago, leaving me by myself. The family sees me as the reason for my husband’s death, and they hate me. I feel lonely, hopeless, and depressed. A few hours ago, my heart felt heavy, and the emotion took over me, thinking that this was the end of the road for me. Then, I took a chair and a rope to my bedroom and decided to end my life. Just then, I heard the doorbell.***

***I wondered who would come to see me. I couldn’t believe what my eyes saw; such a pleasant young man stood before me. His hug and the words moved me from nothing left to something coming back.***

We can play a vital role in bringing people’s lives to a new chapter. We may not realize it, but we act as an invisible hand flipping to a new page and should always strive to be one.

Johnny DaRosa



## Life is all about priorities.

A lady sat beside a man on a bench at Central Park in Uptown Manhattan. The lady pointed to a little boy playing with a dog:

- *That's my boy over there.*
- *He is a fine-looking boy,* the man said.
- Then he told the lady, *she is my girl in a yellow dress on a bike.*

A few minutes later, the man checked his watch and called his daughter,

- *Shall we go home, Denise?*
- *Just five more minutes, Daddy, please, just five minutes,* Denise repeated.

The man nodded, and Denise continued to ride. Five minutes passed, and the man called Denise again.

- *Let's go home.* Denise begged again. *Almost! Five more minutes, please,* Daddy. The man smiled and said, *Okay, sweetheart.* This went on a couple more times.
- The lady laughed and complimented; *you are such a patient father.*
- The man smiled and said, *I am trying; her brother was killed five years ago while he was riding his bike in front of the house.*
- *Oh my God! I am so sorry to hear that,* the lady replied.

The man sat down again and said, *I am a 24/7 investment banker. I have never spent much time with her brother, and now I can give anything for just five more minutes with him. I swear to avoid making the same mistake with Denise. She asked for another five minutes to play, and I gained five more minutes to watch her play."*

Time is scarred; we lose it daily; please invest your time in your loved ones.

Johnny DaRosa.

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# PRIORITIES

## ENVY BACKFIRES

Josh, a finance graduate, had been unemployed for one year. His father promised to support him with pocket money for three more months. He must make extra effort to look for a job or find additional money if he cannot land one.

One day, while cruising downtown to look for job propositions, he saw a doctor's office with a sign that said, **"Get treatment for \$50; if not cured, get back \$100."**

With only \$150 in his wallet, Josh had a choice. He believed in his abilities and was confident he could earn extra money. This belief and a hint of defiance led him to take on the doctor's challenge.

The nurse greeted Josh and asked how she could help. Josh said, **"I am sick and need to see the doctor."** She brought Josh to the exam room, and the doctor was waiting. **"How can I help you, young man?"** the doctor asked. **"I lost my sense of taste,"** Josh replied. The doctor examined the patient briefly and called the nurse to bring in the medicine (5); then, he placed three drops on Josh's tongue.

Josh cried out and started spitting out, **"Damn! this is alcohol."** **"Congratulations, your sense of taste has been restored,"** the doctor cheered and called the nurse, **"Please collect \$50 from the patient."**

Josh was mad, but he didn't want to give up. He decided to go back the next day. The next morning, Josh stood before the clinic, waiting for the doctor's return.

**"You again,"** the nurse asked. **"Yes, I want to see the doctor again,"** Josh replied. **"Good morning, young man. How can I help you this morning?"** the doctor greeted Josh. **"Doctor, I cannot remember anything; I guess this is a sign of dementia."** After the doctor examined Josh, he called the nurse to bring in medicine (8) and placed three drops on Josh's tongue. Immediately, Josh jumped off the chair and screamed. **"It's alcohol again; you did that to me yesterday, and dare you do it again?"**

**"Congratulations, you have got your memory back. You can go home, and please pay \$50."**

Josh realized his folly yet again. Feeling disgusted, he walked out of the clinic and heard his inner voice say, **"You have to win; you are smarter than him."** Envy and jealousy confused his mind, wanting to challenge himself to make his next visit successful. He only has \$50 left; he needs to plan well. He took two weeks to design a plan and said to himself not to open his mouth until the money landed in his hand.

He walked into the clinic with confidence. After the same greeting, the nurse brought Josh to the doctor. The doctor asked with a smile, **"How can I help you today? I am starting to lose my eyesight."** This time, the doctor took thirty minutes to examine his eyes, and Josh patiently kept his eyes half closed and quietly kept his mouth closed.

The doctor shook his head and spoke. **"Sorry, I won't be able to cure your eyes, and here is the \$100,"** placing it in Josh's hand. When Josh peeked at the note, he shouted low, **"This is a \$20 bill; don't try to fool me again."**

**"Congratulations, Josh,"** the doctor wished him for the third time, **"your eyesight had been restored. You owe me \$50, and please return the \$20 bill."**

The root cause of finding fault is envy and jealousy. Being satisfied with what we have is fundamental to addressing envy, greed, and anger.

Johnny DaRosa



## Are you a power chaser?

One day, a contractor named Jack was working in his workshop when he saw a wealthy businessman passing by his shop in his Mercedes. The rich man drew Jack's attention, and he said to himself, "I wish I were as rich!"

The following day, Jack found himself at a town hall meeting, where the mayor demonstrated his power and influence over the audience. Captivated by this display, Jack began to nurture a new ambition. 'Perhaps,' he thought, 'I should strive to become a government official. That way, I could wield even more power than the wealthy man.'

Soon, he saw the mayor walk out of the Town Hall and open his umbrella because the sun was blaring heat. Jack looked at the sun and thought, Oh! Looks like the sun is more powerful than the government official. I may become a sun.

In the evening, sunset begins, and thick clouds gradually cover the sunlight. Jack wonders how powerful the clouds are; I should become the clouds. Then I will be satisfied.

After sunset, a gusty wind started blowing the clouds and gradually disappeared. Once again, Jack shifted his mindset, thinking that maybe the wind was overpowering everything.

He noticed the large mountain before him just as he had thought. While he felt the wind blowing, he saw the hill standing still. Immediately, he thought the mountain was more potent than the wind.

On the way home, he met his friend Mat, who does stone carving. While chatting, Jack saw Mat chipping apart stones, breaking rocks from the gigantic mountain. Woo! Now I know that Mat is more powerful than the mountain.

Before the end of the chat, Mat asked Jack to build him a solid and powerful crane. Without a powerful crane, Mat couldn't mobilize the stone quickly. Ah! Jack thinks the contractor is the most powerful one.

*The most significant power is the power of satisfaction. The feeling of satisfaction makes people feel at peace within.*

*If you have met your basic needs, you are richer than 75 percent of the world's population because the rest are dying of hunger. If you have some savings, you belong to the top 10 percent who constitute a prosperous section of society. Moreover, if you have never known the danger of loneliness in a prison cell, take a moment to appreciate your luxury because you are safer than 500 million suffering in such circumstances.*

*Thus, whatever situation we are in, we should try to tolerate it and find ways to overcome it rather than complain or compare it with others.*

By: Gauranga Das

Johnny DaRosa