The Significant Walk in My Life

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Abstract

Yen-Ju “Rick” Chen tells a story about how he learned not to quit when life gets tough.

KEYWORDS: Father, life, experience, ESL, journaling, English, creative writing, hiking, hike, walk, woods, nature, life experience
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The sun illuminated every corner of the land and the wind gently blew the emerald grasses. There was no doubt that it was the best weather to stretch my body. All of a sudden I decided to look for the information on the phone to find a place that was close to my house and I was determined to go hiking on this wonderful weekend.

First, I invited my father to walk with me. I enjoyed the wild world and absorbed the aroma from the nature with my father. It was a dense forest; the sunlight crossed the trees and shined: light became the road while the birds were singing on the trees. It seemed like we were treated by the nature. I walked step by step comfortably.

Suddenly the rough way became too precipitous to move. The road was so far that I couldn’t find the end of the road. The steep hill nearly caused me not to breathe and I wanted to give up.

My father stopped and leaned on his alpenstock. He drank a little water and then encouraged me, “Come on! You can do it! Just few more minutes! Keep on walking and you will get amazing gifts.” I still stood there and wanted to go back after my father told me. He was hiking the remaining distance when he turned round and said
“If I was your age, I wouldn’t quit!”

I was frozen by his saying with my mouth opened, and I stared in front of me. I was shamed because I didn’t want to go ahead. I breathed in a deep breath in order to let my emotion calm down. I learned a lesson that I should not quit but to go back to walk. If I had gone back, I would have regretted giving up the trip.

Eventually, I proceeded to hike the final distance. There was no path to lead us straight there so we cut through the woods following incoherent trails when possible. Finally, when I saw the view from the top of the mountain, I realized that if you give up fairly easily, you will not get the fruit of success. It was spectacular. There were jade-green trees under the hill and the end of the land was close by dark blue water plus the amber sun made the picture perfect.