

## A Beautiful Life

Many people go about life grumbling and complaining about difficulties or problems. There are also many people that don't like going through the challenges and obstacles in life. There are other people, the more optimistic type, that are thankful that there are obstacles and challenges in life. These people have found that without these obstacles, they wouldn't be where they are today. The perfect quote to fit this is "Some people grumble because roses have thorns; I am thankful that the thorns have roses." — Jean Baptiste Alphonse Karr.

This quote made me reflect on how many times I grumbled about life. I realized that I did grumble in life but two events changed that. One event that really made me change and stop grumbling about life is when my mom was diagnosed for a brain tumor. When I found out that my mom might have a brain tumor I got really scared and depressed. I started to appreciate and take my mom more into consideration. I thought of all the times that I had made my mom mad and realized I needed to change. I also realized that without my mom I was nothing, my mom was the one that ran the house and did everything around the house. When my mom finally got checked again for the tumor and the results showed that she was ok. On that day I cried and was really grateful that my mom was better. To this day I am grateful that this happened. If my mom wouldn't have been diagnosed I would have never learned to really value my mom and treat her right.

The second event that really made me reflect upon this quote is when I broke my right wrist my eighth grade year. I was really disappointed at the occurring, especially because it was my right wrist. My right hand was essential to me because I did almost everything with my right hand especially write with my right. I started stressing over school trying to figure out how I was going to do my school work. I thought to myself, "Ok it's only for a few months, so in the mean time I'll give my left hand a shot." From that day to the day I got my cast off I wrote with my left. Writing with my left hand was a huge challenge, but I worked on my writing everyday trying to improve it. My teachers were amazed by my self determination and perseverance. They were astounded at how I didn't just complain, but actually tried to do my very best. The greatest thing happened to me after I got my cast off. My algebra teacher, Mr. Pederson, told me that I had been chosen to receive a Character Counts award. I got my picture in the newspaper, received certificates, and a dinner where all the Character Counts students were announced. I was so proud of myself, because I never imagined myself getting an award like that. Thanks to myself striving to overcome the challenge, I got a great award and recognition. From that day on I promised myself I would never grumble about life and be thankful for the problems and challenges that made me stronger.

I am not the only person that has lived by this quote. There are even famous people, that through their lives have showed an example of this quote. There are many people like; Michael Jordan not making his high school basketball team yet becoming a professional NBA player, there is Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks who all though

they got treated poorly, still fought for their civil rights and the rights of other people, George Lucas although his first movies got denied he produced the biggest movie series of all times "Star Wars". These people although going through tough challenges still found the courage and valor to continue down the rough road. If everyone would live by this quote humans would learn to value life more and succeed in what they dream of becoming in life.

In the end people shouldn't grumble and complain about life, but instead enjoy life and be thankful for the things in life both good and bad. People should push themselves to overcome obstacles and challenges. In the quote "Some people grumble because roses have thorns; I am thankful that the thorns have roses." by Jean Baptiste, the thorns are problems and the rose is life, joy and great reward. Humans should know and realize that at the end of all challenges comes great reward. Famous people, other people, and I myself have proved this quote. So everyone should try to apply this quote to their lives and find the great joys that come with it.

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