

Short Story: A Blessing in Disguise

Level B1-B2

The Beginning

The best creations are birthed through pain, Khama had gradually come to understand the nature of his journey as an artist.





It was a solitary trek with no immediate solace in sight but only the assurance that something good would always come out at the end of his quest.

There was nothing bad in trying, he knew. As long as he kept at his task, doing what he had to do no matter the hardship, always answering to the call of the universe, he would be all right.

Sometimes, he failed to comprehend the nature of the call. Why did he feel restless when he as much as deviated from his course for a single minute? For what reason did his heart beat so fast when he stopped believing in that calling?

Could he start to follow another path that would lead to another destination with different results? Was there something else he should do?

English Vocabulary: Synonyms

			
Beautiful Kind Tender Friendly Loving Lucky Pleasant Easy Positive Useful Important Urgent Caring	Pretty Benevolent Gentle Amiable Affectionate Fortunate Enjoyable Uncomplicated Optimistic Beneficial Significant Pressing Kind-hearted	Authentic ★ Inspirational Great Bold Talented ★ Compassionate Polite Productive Rewarding ★ Precious Happy Hard-working Calm	Real Motivational Significant Courageous Gifted Empathetic Courteous Fruitful Gratifying Valuable Content Diligent Serene

Adjectives and their Synonyms

The Walk

Deep down his heart, Khama knew that this walk would last him a lifetime. He had not chosen to take that walk. The walk had chosen him. Sometimes he wished he could shake off the burden and walk away. Yet, he knew that this was his calling. It entailed courage, boldness, perseverance and sacrifice for the common good.

He walked on, despite feeling the weight of the world bruising his shoulders. Often, he carried on, come rain or sunshine, despite the violent and silent opposition that aimed to crush his spirit so he could abandon his quest. Always, he braved the storms, wishing he couldn't, so he should experience peace at last and at least for a single second.

He thought about all the obstacles that had been and were still in his way. Some had been placed there voluntarily and these had tested his will the most. They continuously tried his patience and he had to muster up all the courage in the world in order to continue his journey. With time, he realised that these challenges were there for a reason.

As a matter of fact, each time he overcame an obstacle, he felt stronger and he could undertake his duties with resolute determination. His best work had come out of his worst moments and each difficult situation had always lead him to tremendous growth.

Yet, he did not want to experience mental and physical torture in order to grow and create. Why did it have to be so difficult? Why did it have to be so painful?

Dealing with Opposition

He dreaded those moments when he felt deafening earthly opposition in his midst. These were trying periods that repeatedly brought him to his knees. Often, he kept running unless he faltered. Others would sit down and accept defeat but he never did for he was sure that the worst would happen if he as much as stopped trying.

Each morning brought a new surprise, good or bad, and each evening birthed a novel idea, wonderful or awful. Yet, he always woke up with purpose because he had learnt that doing was demanding. You needed to be on your guard, right from the start, because you never knew what thorns lay in your path.

He spent many a sleepless night thinking about what would come next. Worrying was out of question though. Many a painful lesson had taught him that worries brought about misery. You needed to have a light, clean and an uncluttered spirit in order to carry out the job. You could not do what was right if your heart was heavy and laden with unproductive thoughts.

Whenever he felt a cloud of negativity hovering above his head, he summoned the winds of benevolence and blew that negativity away with a blast. Whenever he felt his legs weakening at the thought of yet another hard day, he recalled his past deeds and how they had been beneficial to others and to himself. Then, he became convinced that strength, and not weakness, was what needed to be infused into those legs so he could keep doing what was right.

English Vocabulary: Antonyms



Beautiful
Kind
Tender
Friendly
Loving
Lucky
Pleasant
Easy
Positive
Useful
Important
Urgent
Caring

Ugly
Unkind
Brutal
Unfriendly
Hateful
Unfortunate
Unpleasant
Difficult
Negative
Useless
Insignificant
Trivial
Uncaring

Authentic
★ Inspirational
Great
Bold
Talented ★
Compassionate
Polite
Productive
Rewarding
★ Precious
Happy
Hard-working
Calm

Fake
Uninspiring
Minor
Cowardly
Talentless
Heartless
Impolite
Unproductive
Rewardless
Worthless
Sad
Lazy
Agitated

Adjectives and their Antonyms

Finding Meaning

His creations were meaningful and it was meaningless to stop creating, even when he did not reap immediate rewards. There is meaning in doing a job that we perceive to be rewardless yet it is rewarding in many other unseen ways.

Miraculously, he did not earn much money but he never went to bed hungry. No huge sums of money graced his bank account, yet he did not walk barefoot. He was fully clothed, nicely housed and managed to do his creations, even though his hands never received any wad of cash from anyone.

There was a satisfying mystery in knowing that he was being taken care of despite the lack of care and support that he perceived. Certainly, there was light in the darkness and power in being powerless. Paradox was the nature of his job. He was doing something he chose to do every single day, yet he felt that he had not chosen to follow that path. Happiness lit his heart at each finished creation, forgetting the sadness that had led to its conception.

Pain jolted him into action, brought about the necessary urgency that pushed him to undertake what he would normally ignore in normal times. Pain forced him to stop and contemplate situations with a patient heart. Pain slowed him down and quickened his pace at the same time.

He had to accept the relentless pain so he could create outstanding beauty. Perfection was always carved out of a broken heart and the remedy to a sore spirit is to feed it with unspeakable beauty. Beauty heals the soul.

Magnificence is the medicine that cures a maimed mind and memory. Once the soul is healed, we can feel indescribable joy.

English Vocabulary: Synonyms



Understanding
Creation
Deed
Work
Thought
Journey
Peace
Path
Courage
Perseverance
Determination
Quest
Achievement

Comprehension
Conception
Act
Labour
Belief
Trek
Tranquillity
Route
Boldness
Persistence
Resoluteness
Pursuit
Realisation

Patience
★ Feeling
Feat
Satisfaction
Comfort ★
Food
Power
Perfection
Production
★ Splendour
Beauty
Grace
Happiness

Restraint
Perception
Exploit
Contentment
Solace
Nourishment
Strength
Excellence
Generation
Magnificence
Appeal
Elegance
Contentment

Nouns and their Synonyms

English Vocabulary: Antonyms



Understanding
Creation
Ease
Belief
Happiness
Silence
Peace
Pleasure
Courage
Perseverance
Determination
Advantage
Success

Misunderstanding
Destruction
Hardship
Disbelief
Sadness
Noise
Agitation
Pain
Cowardice
Irresolution
Indetermination
Obstacle
Failure

Patience
★ Positivity
Optimism
Satisfaction
Comfort ★
Reward
Power
Perfection
Production
★ Splendour
Beauty
Balance
Birth

Impatience
Negativity
Pessimism
Dissatisfaction
Discomfort
Punishment
Weakness
Imperfection
Destruction
Squalor
Ugliness
Imbalance
Death

Nouns and their Antonyms

English Vocabulary: Synonyms



Understand
Create
Do
Work
Think
Try
Solve
Remember
Accept
Follow
Choose
Succeed
Achieve

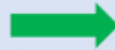
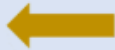
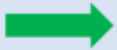
Comprehend
Make
Undertake
Toil
Believe
Attempt
Remedy
Recall
Acknowledge
Go after
Select
Triumph
Realise

Want
★ Feel
Experience
Heal
Fix ★
Feed
Advance
Develop
Persevere
★ Produce
Plan
See
Stop

Desire
Sense
Undergo
Cure
Mend
Nourish
Progress
Expand
Keep on
Generate
Design
Perceive
Cease

Verbs and their Synonyms

English Vocabulary: Antonyms



Understand
Create
Do
Work
Believe
Try
Solve
Remember
Accept
Follow
Choose
Succeed
Achieve

Misunderstand
Destroy
Undo
Rest
Disbelieve
Quit
Worsen
Forget
Refuse
Lead
Deselect
Fail
Abandon

Like
★ Give
Experience
Heal
Fix ★
Feed
Advance
Develop
Persevere
★ Produce
Plan
See
Start

Dislike
Take
Avoid
Degenerate
Damage
Starve
Regress
Decline
Renounce
Dismantle
Improvise
Disregard
Stop

Verbs and their Antonyms



Learn **English**
With Africa