



Tourism in Paradise





Can you see the same star that I see from here?



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Editorial

The dilemma of reality and fantasy

I have some deep memories of a few journeys I went on with my father and this one is special. My father accompanied me to go by train to somewhere down south to meet a monk who had some metaphysical powers may be to find relief for the issues he had gone through during that time. As a four to five year's kid, I just only remember the vibes of that journey, not the details. Later day, I saw a dream, a dream that has never been forgotten. I was in a sand dune closer to the beach somewhere down south again and an alien spaceship came. This alien ship took me and flew to the galaxies full of stars. After waking up from a short deep sleep, I started to roam around the alien ship. The passageways of the ship were filled with a soft good smelling smoke with white moderate light. There were racks full of different varieties of sweets and food. What I wished that I needed was there but I was all alone. I felt so protective and at the same time, I felt so alien. I wanted to go back home, then where is the home? Again, I loved to be on the alien ship too. In that dream, I think, I was in a dilemma: a dilemma between reality and fantasy!

As said, though I have come up with some details, I always believe in the vibe and instinct; it is there in our souls. After years passed, at the age of 32, when I was driving parallel to the beach on a secret Friday, I felt the same feeling again with much more complexities. When I was driving back home, I was thinking about the realities and fantasies of my life and people's lives. Then, I made a few phone calls to a few who connected to my life and I asked that one question; "what is the fantasy of your life?" I have got many responses and I purposefully pointed out three interesting answers I received below.

- A – To have a peaceful mind is my fantasy
- B – I was dreaming about having a baby and she/he is playing around me
- C – I only think about what I can get rather than thinking about fantasies

I was inspired to write this piece of writing for the editorial after listening to the answer given by respondent C.

Fantasies are apparently not possible or harder to achieve in the reality. Undoing the past is a perfect fantasy because changing the past is impossible unless traveling through time. But, it does not mean that we cannot fantasize about our future. I would say, the future is an elastic form of fantasy that can adjust according to our desires. See the fantasies imagined by the Wright brothers: the airplane; Arthur C. Clarke: the concept of the satellite; J. K. Rowling: Harry Potter; James Cameron: Avatar movies, and the 2013/14 Tourism batch who initiated to start the Tourism in Paradise (TiP) magazine in 2018.

The TiP was also a fantasy imagined in the minds of that batch and continued till today followed by four more batches midst of many challenges. Here we have volume five where I just have been playing the role of an escort so far. The life we dream of will not be served on a red carpet. It must be fantasised and we must work for it making the most heartbreaking sacrifices. The possible sufferings we have to go through may put us in a dilemma of reality and fantasy but if we are determined to realize the fantasy, we have to go for it. We must follow our heart's desires to end up with a happy and fair life on this short life's journey.

If somebody asks me about my fantasy, I do not hesitate to give the answer as Tourism in Paradise. In my five years of academic tenure, I loved, cared and fantasised for TiP. It has not been a single day that I did not think about her and I will keep thinking about her. What happened if the fantasy becomes a reality? See what happened to the world, and see how fragmented variations of tourism have formed in the world to please the unpleased. Let the fantasy come into your life. That's all I know.

Hiran Dinusha

*I have a dream, a song to sing
To help me cope, with anything
If you see the wonder, of a fairy tale
You can take the future, even if you fail*

*I believe in angels
Something good in everything I see*

*I believe in angels
When I know the time is right for me
I'll cross the stream, I have a dream*

*I have a dream, a fantasy
To help me through, reality
And my destination,
makes it worth the while
Pushin' through the darkness,
still another mile*

*I believe in angels
Something good in everything I see*

*I believe in angels
When I know the time is right for me
I'll cross the stream, I have a dream
I'll cross the stream, I have a dream...*

Album -Voulez-Vous
Released: 1979
Artist - ABBA
Lyricists - Björn Ulvaeus, Benny Andersson



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