

## Solitary Rain Washes Pain

By Jennifer Nguyen



The sweet smell of rain surrounds those busying their lives, never stopping a moment to watch it fall. Some may catch glimpses, but few could appreciate the disguise it suggests. Is it because time passes by too quiet and too quickly for them to care? The glistening of the rain is a gentle reminder of the silence of the things we ignore.

It was a cloudy day when I got the news. I had just gotten off the bus coming home from school. Rain poured as I stepped off the bus, and carefully pulled out my umbrella. It burst open like a flower in full bloom and I grasped it tightly making my way home. Silently walking with drips of wet my cell phone vibrated and I balanced to reach

my pocket. "Hello?" I said in typical response. "It's mom, I have bad news." When the words "bad news" flowed into my ear, the moment became tense. The soft delicate rain became annoying droplets, pounding against the thin roof protecting me. "Dad has been diagnosed with an illness, a very serious one..." Her voice trailed in to a heaviness that made the rain feel light and so many questions ran through my mind, "How is that possible?! WHY?! What am I suppose to do now?!?!"

After I hung up, the only thing that kept me sane was the rain... And I thought wearily how unappreciated it was --it concealed my tears and kept them invisible. Rain washes everything away and starts a new day.

Walking home I remember the quote,

“Everyone wants happiness  
no one wants pain  
but you can't have a rainbow  
without a little rain” (Heini)

The sweet aroma, the things we ignore, the fake smile we hide under only take us so far. After every tragic moment the rainbow appears. This was the day I understood how lonely things can be, especially in times when everyone in your family feels the same pain. But I also told myself that although things look bad, there always has to be good after.

My father is doing well and is doing his best to keep our family together. But as we struggle forward, I still can't forget the rain, the usually ignored blanket of gray that sheltered me that day...

Heini, H. "People." *Care2*. 2009. 10 Aug 2009

<<http://www.care2.com/c2c/people/profile.html?pid=351103235>>.

*Solitary Rain Washes Pain*. Photograph taken and edited by Jennifer Nguyen, 2009