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### Optimism in a World Full of Uncertainties

When I was little I wanted to be a police officer like my father. Now I am going to college to study computer science. Perspectives change as one grows in experience and age. In elementary school P.E, being the fastest kid in the class was the most important thing in the world. As I travel through life, gathering experience, seeing people come and go, and feel the weight of some of the strongest emotions one could feel, I now see life through a wider lens. Being the fastest kid in my P.E. class has become insignificant now. The more life experience we gain the more we come to realize that what was important to us in the past may not be important to us in the future.

There is so much uncertainty in our lives. The looming dark and stormy clouds of the unknown can be overwhelming. However we can choose to bring an umbrella on our adventure through life or to hide away from the storm. We do not have all the answers, but what we do have are things that can keep us on track. The people in my life who truly care about me are what I look to when I feel lost. Uncertain about the paths my life may take in the continued developmental stages of becoming the person I wish to be, I can only hope to learn from my experiences and the experiences of others to move forward.

Part of navigating the uncertainties of life is understanding that troubling times will come. Everyone has peaks and valleys in their lives. It is important to remember

that in difficult, confusing, and challenging times that things will get better. When life feels euphoric, it is important to maintain your composure and be an influence or resource to lift others up. With the uncertainties, the unknowns, peaks and pits, happiness and sadness, lost and found, hope and despair what is important is perspective. Things change, life is not linear. Nothing is guaranteed, but that does not mean there is no hope. As our experience grows and our perspectives change, one thing remains constant; you will always have support from the ones closest to you. Lean on your loved ones, stick to what you believe, be confident, follow your moral compass, and most importantly always bet on yourself.