前言 /Overview

"There will be no one like us when we are gone, but then there is no one like anyone else, ever. When people die, they cannot be replaced. They leave holes that cannot be filled, for it is the fate - the genetic and neural fate - of every human being to be a unique individual, to find his own path, to live his own life, to die his own death." - Oliver Sacks (was a British neurologist, naturalist and author)



The beauty is, I am perfectly imperfect! (Rochester, Kent, England)

大約年多前,我出版了我的第一本書1。

¹既然只能活一次 Run your own race (第一卷: 上册 A- M) By 愛沙班倫 (倫敦站),網址www.runyourownracebyelsabrennan.wordpress.com

Yep, 像我一個表面看是 'Nobody' 的小人物,竟然寫上書來? Huh!

從起初抱著 "Wish-us-all-live-life-to the fullest!" 的理念,到後來還掙扎着去活出自己在「上冊 A – M」喚起的精神

我經驗到,在某程度上來說,原來要寫一本書,並非是我想像中的那麼難,反而最難、及最具挑戰性的 ~ 卻是叫自己去實踐「言行一致」 Live what you preach'。

"Do we practice what we preach? If not, we are then hypocrites and should not expect others to behave in our favour. Don't have a right to hold somebody accountable for standard you refuse to apply to yourself! "~ Author unknown

在過去的一年多中,當我在沿路觸礁之際,更體會着「對於理想的執行」,實是一條漫漫長路!亦尤其在起步之初,會是場多麼孤單的一戰。



感孤軍作戰?還是寧願選擇~

Embrace every season of my life! (Southend on Sea, Essex, England)

就加上旁人都示意我最好把時間花於一些「實際」的事情上:

"Be real! Life isn't all Unicorns and Magic, Firework and Rainbow. It-definitely-not-like-a-movie ..."

那刻鬥志薄弱、心情盪到谷底的我,頓時質疑自己……應否乾脆離開這遍別人眼裡所為之的'La-la land²'?



Grrrr... 放棄看來虛而不實的城堡?

幸而,當差一點萌生起豎起白旗的念頭來同時,不甘心的聽到自己的內心 吶喊:

"All I want is just to experience more in life and become MORE OF WHO I AM! Yet, does it necessary means I have to listen the world in the way we have been told to?" \circ

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² La-la land ~ fanciful state or dream world

I want to live life my way \sim



And I'd rather try to impress myself than the world! (Canterbury, Kent, England)

到最後 "It all starts with a little faith ...",讓我起來再寫下去。

Well! 不然的話,你手中就不會拿著這本書呢!

Hello? Anyone? Still reading?

而我仍會繼續趁這個機會,將自己在英倫的一些生活片段與足跡³,以下 册 N-Z的形式去跟你分享。同時,亦延續反映我對人生的觀察與學習,並今天「中年、單身、Childfree/Childless」的女性身上所面對之笑與淚。

以及當然不可不提my Imaginary friend ~ 書中上冊另一主人翁Clotilde (書中一位虛構人物),至於這位女大俠,究竟她的續集發展如何?到底是否有驚無險,這樣就要留待她來跟你說。

Hello "下册 Ch. N-Z"~glad you finally here!



容我打開一扇窗,與你空中結緣。 (Hampstead Heath, London)

Let start together ~ search for more!

³在本書中所述的某些人和事,大部分都是基於作者生命中的真實事件。然而,由於避免侵犯與保護他 人私隱權利的關係,故此,部分故事內容、情節、及對話須加以作出適量調整和更改。

⁴ Clotilde 發音為 (clo-til-de),是一個法國女性名字,源自日耳曼。意思是著名的戰鬥士,亦帶有「響亮而戰」的含義。最知名的有Saint Clotilde (475 - 545AD),是一位生於六世紀的慈心仁愛女王。