

Boyend Life

Wr/Sara Nasr Shawky

Sara Nasr: A Literary Talent Shaped Early and Refined by the COVID-19 Pandemic

Sara Nasr's talent emerged early, heralding the birth of a writer following in the footsteps of distinguished authors who have left their mark on Arab life. Sara Nasr Shawky, from Qalyubia Governorate, is a high school student who pursued her dream with encouragement from her father. She began her literary journey by publishing her writings on social media. Her first real literary experience came when she collaborated with several authors on a book titled "Here Lies the Soul." Alongside her studies, she continued her literary path, contributing to another book titled "One Day It Will Bloom." These experiences honed her skills, allowing her to make the most of the COVID-19 lockdown to write. This first solo book is a collection of various texts, and we hope, dear reader, that you will enjoy it.

Nothing in the world hurts a person more than their own thoughts. When alone, one's mind never stops thinking, leading to mental distraction. The worst part is that one cannot control their thoughts. However, one can save a person battling with their mind. A loving person never lets their loved ones be harmed by their thoughts. It's best not to succumb to loneliness, as it leads to endless thinking, like an ocean with no escape.

It's surprising how a person can feel so many emotions at once! Feeling alienated in a place you belong, losing passion for everything, even the things you love, having a cold body despite the fire inside, wanting only to sleep to escape everything—these feelings trap a person in a pit of despair, and it's unfortunate that everyone thinks it's just sadness.

The hardest part of being human is the heart, as you can't control it. You can start hating someone you once preferred above all others. This fickle organ sometimes makes me feel empty inside, and other times chaotic, feeling everything at once or nothing at all.

Despite a person's strength and ability to overcome crises and face everything alone, they sometimes need support to continue their journey. A person needs someone to lean on in defeat, not to feel lonely, and to be reassured occasionally to eliminate fear. Just as a bird seeks its nest to hide from a hunter, a person needs a shelter in the form of someone they can turn to in fear and share the burden of life.

Appearing okay in front of everyone is tough, as no one knows the battles inside you. No one knows the full story or what happens behind the scenes, except the story's owner.

It's hard to comfort yourself, but you deserve a reward for every step taken in fear. You don't deserve the turmoil in your mind and emotions. You deserve recognition for every strong recovery from a stumble. Comfort yourself, knowing that one day everything will be alright.

It's unfortunate that there's no escape from one's mind, which tires you with continuous struggles. It makes you wish you hadn't done certain things or said certain words, and it makes you regret past events. It reminds you of things you overcame alone and loved ones who have passed. How great it would be if there was a way to erase all the negative thoughts from the human mind.

Despite all this darkness, there's a white dot that wants to live, giving hope that one day the sadness will vanish.

Signs of maturity appear when a person realizes there's no time for depression and dwelling on ruins with every collapse. They must continue to persevere because life doesn't wait for anyone to be okay.

Life teaches that sadness doesn't last forever. Every time a person goes through a crisis, they remember that it will pass and turn into an experience that shapes and builds a stronger character.

Continuing to strive can bring success on the first try. If it doesn't, you learn for the future and realize that the effort wasn't wasted.

The truth is, you must find a way to stay alive despite walking a path not meant for you, your miserable youth, exhausting thoughts, loss of hope and loved ones, and even despite your lost dreams.

You try, and try, and try, but in the end, you remain extinguished inside despite all your efforts.

If the stars were a map to escape the world, I'd be the first to seek the stars to escape life entirely.

It doesn't matter if you don't join a medical or engineering college; what matters is winning paradise and living a healthy life. If you want success in life, remember that each of us has something unique that can lead to success.

Everything beautiful that you want requires time. Be patient to achieve the beautiful things that suit you.

A person escapes the painful reality, but sometimes the escape leads to harm. Even knowing the path is harmful, they continue to escape. If they were brave, they wouldn't flee from reality but face it.

Friends leave, loved ones depart, dreams are lost, and everything beautiful we own is lost. So don't dwell on what you've lost to avoid losing what you still have.

There's no sorrow like the sorrow of someone talking about something they had hope in but didn't complete. There's no sadness like the sadness in their eyes when they cry over the same thing with the same passion, saying with every defeat and disappointment that they didn't achieve what they wanted. It's like being defeated now, not years ago, and nothing is harder than defeat before reaching the battle.

Sometimes things aren't worth the struggle, draining our energy and wasting our time. Therefore, you must choose the things worth fighting for and give them your time and effort.

Sometimes we get used to someone in our lives, their laughter, their joy, and their anger. We get used to their presence, even if we argue. The place in the heart remains the same. We share everything until separation comes unexpectedly. One leaves, and the other remains alone, sad for losing their loved one. The one who left leaves their spirit in our hearts, never forgotten, even after a hundred years. Everyone leaves, but the memories stay with us. Everything leaves while the memories remain in our hearts. If only memories could leave us as people do.

A brave person is someone who always wants to start anew, as if nothing happened. They don't want to surrender to the past and its memories, nor make themselves pitiable or blame others. They stand, facing life with resistance in their unique way, wanting to challenge everything to live.

Despite the bad conditions, there's always a spirit of resistance and a white dot that gives hope for life despite the darkness.

It's not always easy; you'll try once, enemies will gloat over your failure, and you'll face things no one knows about except you. But you'll confront them, feel like a failure sometimes, but that's life. It needs a brave person to face it. Remember that all bitterness will pass.

Sadness changes a person's features from glowing to extinguished. It makes them lose passion for many things they love. Sadness gnaws at a person's heart, taking over until they remember that everything is temporary and causing all this pain. They also remember that no matter how dear people are, only they feel their pain. Sadness will only go away with your resistance and attempts in life.

I try not to stop trying to continue this arduous path. No lover, no friend supports me, and none of the simple things I wanted happened despite their simplicity. They become impossible when I want them. I wanted to stop many times, but every time I remember that I want to reach, I'm forced to continue despite my constant desire to stop.

I wish everyone knew how expensive things come to a person; everything comes after periods of sadness, patience, despair, loss of hope, and stumbling upon other things. People see the apparent ease of achievement but reaching it requires a lot of time and effort.

Sometimes a person wastes a lot of time and effort on a path not destined for good, feeling sad and forgetting that all the effort done is rewarded. One is rewarded for the effort, not the result. No matter how hard the path is and how painful the end, we must remember God's words: "And that man shall have nothing but what he strives for." Perhaps your good is destined on a simpler

path than you have taken. Do your best and don't belittle your small steps; they might have an impact on what you want to achieve. Continue your steps and trust in God.

I don't mind waiting for what I wish for and being patient to get it. It doesn't matter that I continue the struggle with hope in God to achieve what I hope for. But I don't want to feel wrong for wasting my life being patient for things not destined for me. I pray that all our wishes come true and we are not attached to anything not meant for our good.

Despite knowing that everything is temporary and every moment, no matter how bitter, will pass, I'm still stuck at the same point where I felt sorry for myself.

It's tight, as if the whole universe doesn't fit me, but my heart is a shelter, as if it holds all the sadness in the universe.

It's not naïve to believe that if you don't harm anyone, you won't be harmed. This shows mental maturity and not wasting your thoughts on others. It reflects how much you work on yourself for self-improvement. When bitten by a snake, you should treat the venom inside you, heal yourself, and not think of revenge on the snake. If you want to retaliate, do it with success.

Security: a word with many meanings. The 'A' stands for feeling God's unmatched blessings, bringing comfort when viewed. The 'M' stands for sharing everything with your loved one without fear. Security lies in watching the sunrise, announcing a new beginning. The 'N' stands for the moonlight that shines for us despite the night's darkness.

Conclusion

Life is fleeting, so don't waste much time on past sorrows. Know that no matter how bitter the stumbling moment is, it will pass. You are responsible for your story and what others see. Try to show that everything is alright and don't give enemies a chance to gloat over you.