

Monday Thoughts

By Ian Ortega

What is the point in life?

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If you asked me the point in life, I would tell you it is to eat the forbidden fruit. To open doors you found locked so that you learn why they got locked in the first place. To break rules so that you learn why they existed in the first place.

You never appreciate a rule until you break it. You will never believe evil exists in the world until you encounter it. That is why they always say, life is always there at the edge. At that point where a simple mistake could tilt you to the other side.

In the movie *Margin Call* (probably the best financial movie), there is a line when they are standing on the roof of the skyscraper: *"The feeling on the edge is not fear of falling, but fear of jumping."*

It is not that people do not know they can succeed, but they fear. Of what if you actually

succeed? What if you actually approach that girl of your dreams and she accepts? We all deal with the Jonah complex.

There was once a girl I loved, the most beautiful in this country. But I feared her. And the more she loved me, the more I freaked out. From word go, I thought she was a spy. And that in a way also excited me.

But sometimes you are playing a game, and it gets real. And one day, we are all in love. And at that point, my mind went in overdrive. I thought, this is the point when she goes for me. And the more I pushed her away, the more she bent. And then I would freak out more.

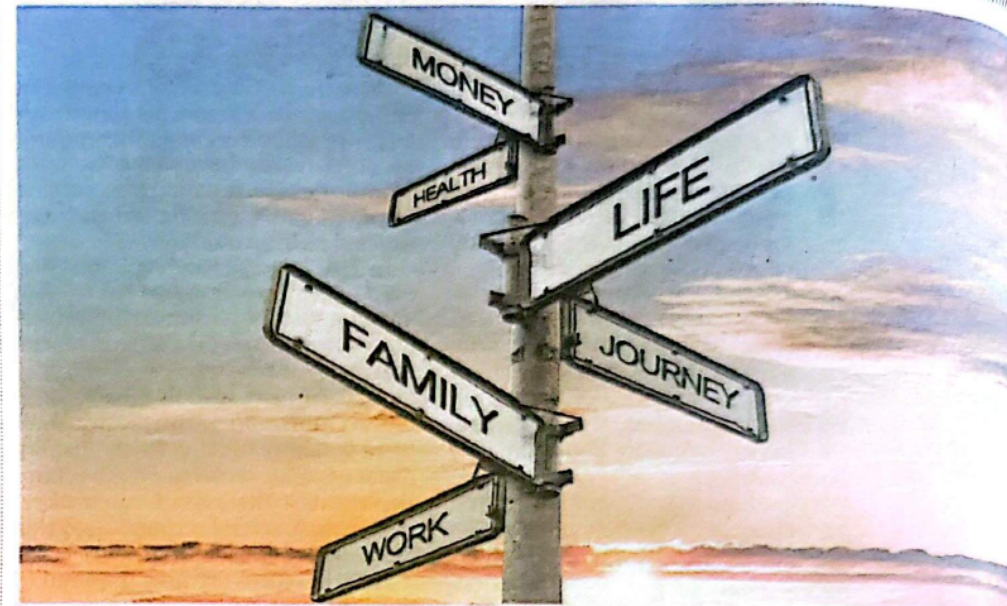
One day, she asked me: "If you think I am a spy, then why do you keep coming back?" My only answer was that I wanted to know how the script ends, where was the catch? There was never a catch, except the one I had invented.

Again, what is the point of life? It is all these things. It is letting the bird get away. It is knowing you once held gold in your hand and still gave it away.

One of my friends says – "you are as rich as the amount of money you rejected." That old man who refuses to sell to his rich neighbour and puts no price to his land. That man is rich.

Richness is the weight of the soul. And some men and women shall never be rich. They can have all the money in the bank, but the soul is light.

You have seen those men who come out of their posh cars to flex with the boda guy who has scratched the car. Can you call that man rich? The goal in life is to redeem the soul. And you only redeem the soul by not fearing the descent into darkness, by not escaping the contact with the world.



Only a man who has drunk alcohol, been a mess, can preach to you about alcohol. Only a man who has loved and lost can tell you about love. Why? Because his soul descended, and resurrected. Jesus is great because of the descent. The vaccine is always embedded in the poison. That which wants to kill you is the same thing that will save you. That which you fear is the thing

you must touch.

We are empty these days because we escape from life. We fear the messy, the ambiguous, the undefined, the chaos. We fear to descend there. But give me a man who has been soiled in a fight with a pig. That man has more to tell you about life than one who has led a life of caution, with no scars, nothing.

You are here to do life... there is a reason God created both

Angels and Men. Men must descend so we can rise. Those who built skyscrapers must take on the labour of excavating. A tree that will grow many inches must have deep roots. Touch the earth, touch the dirt.

Go date that man everyone's warning you against. Go try that business that you are sure will fail. This is why we are here, to contact reality. And every time we do it, we are alive.