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A Monster

Everyone has a monster to face each day. Some might have a new monster every day, while others have a single monster that has been with them for their entire life. My monster is like that; a single monster that has constantly haunted my life. My monster isn't anything grand and I'm pretty sure other people have it as well. It is the dreadful feeling of disappointment or failure.

When I was a young lad, right before I was old enough to go to elementary school, my parents would tell me stories of their life and the hardships they had to go through in order to thrive. They would tell me the labor work they had to do to support the family and that if I don't want that life, I have to succeed in life. Both of my parents had hardships when they were my age. However, my dad's story resided with me the most. My grandpa died when my dad was in his youth days. In order to earn enough money to support my grandma and his siblings, my dad dropped out of elementary school to sell ice cream and newspaper for some cash. He would stay home to cook and clean when my grandma was out working.

This little "pep talk" has been ringing within my noggin since then. I would always try to strive for success and never fail at anything I did. It was easy at first. I didn't have much work or responsibility that I had to worry about. However, as I got older, the work and responsibility started to pile on top of each other. The worst year was when I was in 5th grade. I just moved down to New York City from Rochester and after a year, I would go to a new school. Due to this fact, I didn't bother making any new friends. I mean, what's the point of making friends if you won't see them again? Since I just moved down here, I didn't have anyone to talk to when I felt stressed. I felt like I was a sinking ship with no way to stay afloat. It was a huge struggle, since both of my parent were working and I still had the heavy weight of not failing.

Of course when you get older, you will have more duties and responsibilities. Procrastination doesn't help with that either. Throughout high school, I have pulled so many all-nighters. This is because I tend to wait until the last possible moment to finish all of my work. I know that procrastination is the driving force behind my monster. It's the battery that make sure my monster stays alive. But despite the fact, I have a hard time shutting it down. Of course pulling all-nighters has negative physical affects on my body. I began to feel like a weak boosted animal with no energy to move, constantly being sleepy, and have the focus of a goldfish. But the stress and feeling of failure greatly outweighed the negative effects. However, I have been working on this issue for awhile. Some solutions I have been using to lessen this stress is getting to know people who are in the same boat as me.

During my time in high school, I have gotten to know people who have to face the same monster as well. So we decided to join together and fight the monster. We would stay up together and help each other finish and relieve some of the stress. I remember all the nights where we work on the same task and whenever we were stuck or about to give up, someone would always keep us afloat. It may not work for everyone but having people around you and working together can really give you the energy and power to overcome the monster.

In conclusion, everyone has a monster. We face it everyday in our life. We may not defeat it today or tomorrow, but someday, we will overcome it.

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