

The Naïve Child's World

When I was little I would go outside,
I would look around,
I'd be mesmerised by the little things,
A curious bee collecting nectar,
A colourful butterfly hovering above a tree,
A flock of birds flying home,
I used to love watching the clouds move past,
I'd wonder what it would be like up there,
Flying in the sky.

I would smell the clear air,
Scents of nature would fill my nostrils,
Healthy grass,
Fresh pollen,
Wooden twigs,
I could even smell a barbecue cooking in the distance.

I used to be very creative,
I'd make daisy chains,
Plait grass,
Draw pictures with chalk,
I used to collect leaves and rocks and flowers,
I'd create pictures with them on the patio,
I'd make rainbows,
Animals,
Flowers,
Patterns,
Whatever my imagination came up with.

I loved the texture of nature too,
Soft petals,
Smooth leaves,
Rough rocks,
Fluffy dandelions,
Even the spontaneous scratch from a twig.

The air was fresh,
The cool breeze would make all the plants tremble ever so slightly,
I would usually sit in the springy grass,
But on some occasions I would lie down,
I'd look up at the fluffy clouds,
But I didn't see clouds,
I saw heroic pirates fighting with swords,
Ferocious tigers and lions,
Dinosaurs roaring in the mountains,
A couple dancing in the sunset,
I love just lying there,
Basking in the warm sunshine.

At the end of my visit,
I'd pick up a dandelion,
Close my eyes,
And blow away the fluffy petals,
Wishing to always live in this world.

But wishes don't always come true,
Now the world is dull,
People stay inside,
They never explore the outside world,
Though if anyone did,
They'd be very disappointed.

Litter would be scattered everywhere,
Dead weeds would surround them,
It would be too cold,
Or too hot.

The news is just filled with sadness,
Climate change,
Politics,
Conflicts,
Wars,
Death.

What happened to the beautiful world we had?
Why is it like this now?
Is the world ever going to be like that again?
Was I just naïve?
Was it even real?

No one ever answers these questions,
Well they do,
But it's always complicated answers,
So complicated.

It shouldn't be so hard to live in this world,
If only we still had that naïve child in us that was always happy,
Never sad,
Never lonely,
Never confused,
We were just always smiling,
No matter the circumstances.

I still make the same wish today,
I always wish for that world back,
The world that I always believed was perfect...