

You can't have light without darkness. Our lives are an eternal oxymoron. Your perspective and outlook determines what you receive back in life. A juxtaposition of a colorless world when you feel on top of it and full of light. And moments where the world feels too loud, you become monotonous. Quiet. If you think positive you will start to notice positive currents move your way. I aspire to be a hazard bump in the road. Akin to a *traffic cone*. Something about the bright orange screaming, "watch out!" over lanes of dull and grey concrete. It stands out. People should want to stand out. Or else you become a part of the road. Something that's always gonna be there. But when you see a traffic cone or a hazard sign? Then you start to become more aware of your surroundings. Becoming more attentive. Not taking your moments for granted. Yeah, you probably aren't at a huge risk, but [it's] a gentle reminder to be more aware.

Every second on the boring road will let a traffic cone alert you when you think everything is normal. But what is "normal" to you? why do things have to be classified as just "normal"? when you assume, "Wait. my life is so normal... man, nothing interesting ever happens to me. My life f*cking sucks," What do *you* know what "normal" looks like? Everything I see is interesting to me. Why is it that only when you see something that sticks out on your road, you start to pay attention more? Then, I treat every action and decision in my life as a traffic cone. Moments that keep me aware of that specific moment. Because while I'm on my road keeping track of everything, appreciating instead of a forced perspective, nothing is retained. The flux of one's perspective determines how you feel that day. And, you know, how could you even know in the moment what that is? If you're so used to the boring road all day do you even acknowledge the traffic cone? The warning signs? The in-between?

You are only supposed to, and should be, focused on what's in front of you. Cars have rear view mirrors for a reason. You aren't supposed to be looking back all the time; if you keep looking back you forget what's in front of you. which, in that case, could be potential danger. [the hazards. the cones.] But at the same time, *your* life is what you make it. I always tell myself that bad days are a choice. But most people would disagree. People just don't understand that you can totally choose to have a bad day. For example, when you feel terrible you unintentionally look for more bad things that *may* happen. But why can't you do that for positive outlooks instead? If you make decisions in your life, what you get out of it is all because of *you* [everything in your life happens for a reason and that reason is *you*]. You and your fluctuating perspective. And as time goes on you get to your destination and all the time you spent focused on the road and journey. And in no time, you [end up where you wanted to be].

Life is built on contrast. Your perspective is the engine that decides what those contrasts mean to you. You can't control everything that happens, but you can control how much awareness, meaning, and direction you bring to each moment. Happiness and emptiness coexist. Awareness only exists because monotony exists. Looking back too much is a distraction. Looking too far ahead is anxiety. Be right where you need to be. You'll end up where you're meant to be.

Every decision is a traffic cone. I want to be a traffic cone on the road. I am my decisions.