

**IN MY LIFE: MORE OBSTACLES**  
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**No one born human, whether high or low, is free from sorrow and distress. Yet, troubles vary according to the time and differ according to the person. In this respect, sorrow is like illness: No matter what malady one may suffer from, as it worsens, he will think that no illness could be more dreadful than his. (“Letter to Konichi-bo,” *The Major Writings of Nichiren Daishonin*, vol. 4, p. 162)**

This letter was written to the woman Konichi-bo, a widow who had just lost her son Yashiro. While exiled on Sado Island, she sent Nichiren Daishonin gifts as offerings to him. He encouraged her to keep faith despite her son’s death, sympathizing with her sorrow but at the same time saying that what mattered was how she faced it. He told her that her son would be saved from evil in his next life by her strong faith.

When I read this quote from the Daishonin to one of his followers, it made me reflect upon my life. I thought to myself, how can I really do human revolution and change myself?

This past year and a half has been the most trying test of my faith ever. A long relationship ended with someone I really cared about, and I have had problems with my friends continuously.

I became really angry and thought to myself, I must have really made some bad causes in the past!

I am also moving to the town where I go to school, so I won’t have to commute anymore; I have had some anxieties about this. Will I make new friends, do well in school, and be able to handle living totally on my own financially?

I know, reading this quote, that whatever happens, I will always have obstacles, sorrows and distresses. I also know that I can always chant about them and overcome them just like Konichi-bo did after receiving this encouragement from Nichiren Daishonin.

**WT**

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