

There was a man who had four sons.

He wanted his sons to learn  
to not judge things too quickly.

So he sent them each on a quest,  
in turn,

to go and look at a pear tree  
that was a great distance away.

The first son went in the winter,  
the second in the spring,  
the third in summer,  
and the youngest son in the fall.

When they had all gone and come back,  
he called them together  
to describe what they had seen.

The first son said  
that the tree was ugly, bent, and twisted.

The second son said  
no – it was covered with green buds  
and full of promise.

The third son disagreed ,  
he said  
it was laden with blossoms  
that smelled so sweet  
and looked so beautiful,  
it was the most graceful thing he had ever seen.

The last son disagreed with all of them;  
he said it was ripe  
and drooping with fruit,  
full of life and fulfilment.

The man then explained to his sons  
that they were all right,  
because  
they had each seen but one season in the tree's life.

He told them

that you cannot judge a tree,  
or a person,  
by only one season,  
and that the essence of who they are  
– and the pleasure, joy, and love  
that come from that life  
can only be measured at the end,  
when all the seasons are up.  
If you give up when it's winter,  
you will miss the promise of your spring,  
the beauty of your summer,  
fulfilment of your fall.  
Don't judge a life by one difficult season.  
Don't let the pain of one season  
destroy the joy of all the rest.

有一个男人，他有四个儿子  
他想要教自己的儿子一件事  
即，对事物不要太快下结论  
于是，他给每个儿子都分配了一项任务  
让他们轮流  
去照看一棵梨树  
这棵树长在很远的地方  
第一个儿子是冬天去的  
第二个儿子春天  
三儿子夏天  
最小的儿子是秋天去的  
当他们四人都去过并完成任务后  
他将他们叫到一起  
请他们描述一下自己见到的东西  
第一个儿子说  
那棵树十分丑陋，佝偻，扭曲  
第二个儿子说  
不，那棵树长满了绿芽

生机盎然

第三个儿子也不同意

他说

树上开满了花朵

那些花闻起来十分香甜

看上去也非常美丽

这是他见过的最美好的事物

第四个儿子说的与前三人都不同

他说这棵树丰收了

果实累累

充满了生命力，十分充盈

男人这时对儿子们解释道

他们说得都对

因为

他们每人都只看到了树的一生中一个季节的模样

他告诉他们

你们不要对一棵树

一个人

一个季节里的模样评价他

他们内在的本质

他们内心的欢乐，欣喜和爱

都是源自于完整的生活

只能到最后才能丈量出来

当你历经四季的时候

如果你在冬天就放弃了

你就会错过春天见给予你的希望

夏天将见证的美丽

秋天的收获

不要仅凭一个困难时节里的处境去评价一个人

不要让一个季节里的苦痛

毁了所有其他季节里的欢乐