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A Rose of Jericho lies in the Rann of Kutch across the dry earth of Gujrat. It sits wilted, sprawled in a heap of sand. The blinding sky above hasn't borne rain in months. The plant seems despairing, yet it still survives. Suddenly, a drop of water plops down in front. The plop soon turns into a trickle, and the Rose of Jericho gradually unshrivels. The once tightly woven branches unfurl, revealing vibrant fronds. When October returns, the plant will face this same challenge. Even after the worst droughts, with just a sprinkle of water, the once barren rose always transforms into a healthy plant.

My great great paternal grandfather and his brother immigrated to Tanzania from Gujrat when the British took control. Our family built a successful delivering business, regardless of our lack of resources in Africa. They lived happily for decades, even earning the nickname of mzigo, or parcel in Swahili. Then, Africa's government began a mass expulsion of South Asians. So my family then immigrated to North America, Canada and America. With no resources, my grandfather went into the hotel business, and after a few years, he built a life for my dad and the rest of our family in Albuquerque. My family, akin to the Rose of Jericho, rebuilt themselves after every setback. "The last word in ignorance is the [person] who says of an animal or plant, 'What good is it?'" — Aldo Leopold, *A Sand County Almanac*. To make a successful life, they had to use every small opportunity they had. If you don't use any small opportunity you have to get better, you won't succeed no matter how many resources you have.

It's possible to understand the world from studying a leaf. You can comprehend the laws of aerodynamics, mathematics, poetry and biology through the complex beauty of such a perfect structure. It's also possible to travel the whole globe and learn nothing." — Joy Harjo, *The Woman Who Fell from The Sky: Poems*. Corresponding to what Joy Harjo states, you can do so much with just a small tool. However, if you don't look for any opportunity and stay ignorant to your surroundings, you won't learn anything.

The Rose of Jericho uses only a splash of water to rehydrate, but with that small resource, it can completely reconstruct itself into a healthier plant. Like the Rose of Jericho uses just a bit of water to become healthy, and my family used small opportunities to create a successful life, we should use every small opportunity we have to save the environment. Even though our earth has gone through many setbacks, and has been harmed very much, we can't just give up. Whether it is picking up some trash on the street, or joining a cleanup, every small action accounts. If we just do nothing, the earth will get worse. However, if we use every opportunity we have, we can build a healthy life, no matter how many setbacks the earth has already faced.