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Rendezvous with nostalgia

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On a chance encounter with an old friend that revived joyful memories

A classmate of mine who I have not met for over 40 years, someone who is now well-placed in life, sent me a greeting. He is nowadays a well-recognised industry captain.

When we knew each other, as we did, several decades ago, both he and I were students, sharing in each other's joy and sadness as two friends of equal standing.



In the intervening years between then and now, each of us has moved into unrelated terrain. Yet, his greeting, received even after four decades, evokes in me the same feeling and sense of fondness I felt for him when we knew each other as students.

Another friend of mine sent me a quote of the famous Lebanese writer Kahlil Gibran — the words and import cannot be better said: 'A friend who is far away is sometimes much nearer than the one who is at hand. Is not the mountain far more awe-inspiring and more clearly visible to one passing through the valley than to those who inhabit the mountains?'

Jasper, my friend who sent me the quote, completed his message with 'strong memories connect me with you'. Gratitude for the gift of friendship is an immensely uplifting feeling.

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