Ignorance

by Junella

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Chapter 1 of 1

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A/N: I come from a country with an education system which is, in my opinion, quite utilitarian and uncaring. Students like myself spend more time in school than we do at home, and have precious little time for leisure with the load of homework and classes heaped upon us, and the general attitude of the system is "Keep up or fall behind, and that's too bad for you". My frustration with the system peaked during the preparations for my O levels, when my principal just had to keep preaching to us the importance of having excellent grades to give the school's reputation a boost and so on and so forth. I wrote this after completing my Higher Chinese O level paper, partly because I was bored and had about thirty minutes to kill, and partly because I got bitten quite painfully by my muse:

Ignorance

Do you remember the last time you could relax properly?

You don't, do you?

Can you recall the last time you laughed with utter carelessness?

You can't, can you?

Was there a time you didn't worry about academic pursuits?

There wasn't, was there?

Have you had any childhood at all?

Childhood? What's that?

P.S. In case I sounded too harsh, I've come across fantastic teachers who've tried their very best to help us, but sometimes, when you just don't have it in you, you really can't do it. And people in this group are always on the losing end, because the freedom to choose the subjects we actually want and can excel in is really quite limited. More often than not, some end up with the subjects which they consider the lesser of two evils.