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Journal Entry #3

After the security situation in Egypt got a little better, Jasmen, Lily, Hassan, and I made a visit to the Oasis for a second time. It had only been a couple of months since we had last visited, but I was amazed at how fast they were working and how much they had achieved. Every single unit was ready to be lived in, the grass was green and fresh, and the murals on the walls were all freshly painted. It was an indescribable scene, and it made me so happy and delighted that I had been a part of it, I had been a part of creating this lovely place where sick children could come and have fun, I couldn’t explain the emotion and joy that flowed through me. But the greatest part of it all was that the Health and Hope Oasis was receiving its first batch of kids from Cairo and I was there to witness is, I was there to play with the kids and see the huge smiles forming on their faces, and I was there to hear the sounds of laughter that burst out of their mouths as they ran around freely. And to think that I was involved in putting the smiles on their faces overwhelmed me, I felt so happy. We played with the children, got to know them and taught them how to color. These families were extremely poor and they couldn’t afford any toys for their kids but as soon as the children arrived, they saw the huge pile of new and gleaming toys that were waiting to be played with. They rushed to them as if they were a pot of gold and couldn’t keep their hands off them. They were fascinated with the slightest things and even the silliest jokes made them laugh. This really made me realize that I’d taken my childhood for granted, and that when I was small, I had all the toys and games that I ever wanted and thought that every child had that. But most of all, I took happiness for granted and I took my parents care for me for granted because I thought that every child was happy no matter what, and I thought that every child had a set of loving parents. But I was wrong, there are children out there in

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the world who are severely sick, and there are children out there whose parents abuse them and it’s my job to do everything in my power to help these children no matter what because every child on this planet deserves a happy childhood.