

Anne's list

So... treats... I have been thinking about them. A few days after I posted my last comment, I went for a walk with the husband of a friend of mine who died in February. And I told him about the treats because I think they are brilliant. Small flickering lights that can make a difference to the now because they bring hope.

There are times in life when everything seems fragile, when, really, all we have is ourselves. Thinking about the treats enables us to redefine the person we come face to face with in the mirror every morning, the soul who owns that lone body under the duvet, the mind that controls the hands holding the wheel and chopping the vegetables.

Last weekend, I went to the Ashmolean museum and later had lunch by myself, a treat I had been thinking of for a while. Time to play with, time to think and just be, somewhere inspiring and peaceful.

Here are some future treats I have put on paper and want to share with you, fellow Branch Line Riders.

I would like to, actually, let me rephrase: I want to...

- Visit Parliament.
- Walk The Way with my friend Anna. (Treat planned three years ago).
- Spend a busy day in London: visit The National Gallery in the morning, have lunch in Covent Garden, listen to an afternoon concert and see a play in the evening, with dinner in the interval.
- Rent somewhere quiet or go on a retreat to write for a week or so.
- Go shopping for a pair of black slightly high heel shoes.
- Do a yoga retreat.
- Go and work in India for a few months when my youngest son flies the nest.

- Do an internship, however brief, as a journalist, somewhere, somehow...
- Walk up Snowdon and camp somewhere nearby.
- Visit Sevilla.
- Spend a month living in Paris.
- Visit the Outer Hebrides and live on a remote island for a week.

It's fun, a virtual world for now, but one to work on and make reality, that is the pledge I understand. Namaste

