PhD a short journey so long. By Ijeoma Ukeni

CAS Letter in view; was interviewed; proposal had been approved Cash in hand, room not viewed, visa is alright, flights all booked To alight in Manchester; next route to Huddersfield PhD; I thought: what a height; attain it and be fulfilled. Such was the start of a short journey so long

The journey my friends, even with scholarships, hasn't been so smooth With PG cert; philosophy and big words kinda cute, The library, the weary nights and soon the progression report. Oh how I thought of the crown but did I count the cost? Such was the first stage of a short journey so long

Is this right for me? That feeling when unsure in the first year! Thanks to pgrskills, friends and events that made me forget my fears Reviewing the literature, slowly, but surely time rolled by True, the increasing intensity of anxiety was no lullaby Such was the next stage of a short journey so long

The feedback arrived; oh I too shed some tears! Truly, some words are no music to the ears. Since bumps and resilience are friends, I rode on Soon arrived at the second year progression review; well done! Such was the mid stage of a short journey so long

The time is almost near to meet statistics; what do I do? Thanks to SPSS and the best supervisors in the business school Glad I collected quantitative data, but I analysed and analysed Till I sat late one evening and analysed the prize Such are the surprises of a short journey so long

Dear colleagues as you ponder on this journey from home, Take heart for you may feel lonely but you are not alone Read your mails, join the SU, international or PG societies, or the gym Pursue journal publications, do some peer reviews, or watch a film Such are the events along this short journey so long

Many have come this way and most started with uncertainties I too was unsure but now making impact is a must and success my priority I have crossed the third bridge and writing up now As I write up my thesis I envision my graduation gown Such are the prices you pay on the short journey so long Scrolling through the monthly records on skillsforge, I am amazed How far I have come from Unilearn to Brightspace, I smile for Huddersfield's qualification is beyond the paper; it's a reward Added to knowledge are great memories and friends; such amazing awards Now such are the echoes of joy on this short journey so long

Did I mention the seminars, TAPP, NARTI events and conferences? PG Cert, pgrskills workshops, such as abstract writing and referencing? When the chapters culminate and that model I do formulate When all is said and done, then I won't forget to jubilate Such are the processes and heart cry on this short journey so long

In sacrifice, knowledge can be pursued & should be shared when found In the end, we shall look back and say; what a journey so profound Remember to thank your supervisors, peers and members of staff Please return the library books, join alumni groups then mind the gap Such will be the end of this short journey; no longer long.

What kept me from quitting is what brought me here Like a recent Dr once said; it is worth it; o yea! So will I carryon to the end and wear that gown Till then..., for now, the journey continues... and without a frown Such is my PhD, a short journey so long... yet has been fun!