

That will pass

A student complains to his teacher that his meditation practice is so terribly difficult.

He is easily distracted, his legs hurt and he falls asleep constantly.

His teacher replies: "That will pass."

The student goes back to his cushion and continues to meditate.

A week later the student comes back to his teacher and says: "Meditating is great! I feel so good, so calm and completely pain free, it's just amazing!"

To which his teacher says: "That will pass!"

Questions about the story:

- 1. What does this story explain to you?
- 2. Why do you think the teacher does not tell the student straight away about change and impermanence?
- 3. Can you come up with an example from your own life in which your feelings about something changed?
- 4. How do you experience impermanence in your feelings?
- 5. What is the good thing about feelings coming and going? What is a bad thing about it?
- 6. How would you live your life differently if you always remembered that your experiences will change?