

An Unplanned Expedition

That was a long vacation. We had been really tired of short-distanced excursions. I was determined that we would break the trend this time. We all would be around sixteen in number from different universities and of different shoe sizes. Unfortunately, only four of my friends consented to go on an unplanned trip to an unfamiliar place. What was more exciting was that we were planning to spend a few days on our journey. As we were all from Eastern Province, we weren't familiar with the bus routes to outstation areas. But we were really excited about the novel plan. So, four fellows with some money, but without much language proficiency other than that of the mother tongue, left their homes on a beautiful morning. We did not even have any idea where we would spend the night. The only thing we had was an ardent desire to gain an exciting and novel travel experience.

One of us was a student of Uwa Wellassa University of Sri Lanka. He recommended to us Badulla route for curvy roads. We took a bus to Badulla from Ampara. When we entered the region we could see beautiful estates on our both sides. We reached Badulla by evening and at that time the area was very foggy. We were almost shivering with cold. In that cold evening we visited Uva Wellassa university. Our crew member from the Uwa Wellassa university, took us to some of its notable places. We could soothe our souls watching some of the most enthralling natural scenes we had ever seen. We took some pictures

there and left the town to find a place to stay. We found a house close to the town and we were able to enjoy a revitalizing sleep for a reasonable price. It was so peaceful to lie in beds after a tired walk. We were musing together about the adventures of the day till we fell asleep.

Next day, early morning we took the train to Ella. That was such a beautiful train journey. We donated our seats and chose door area floor to sit. And we were screaming like children while we were passing through the tea estates. Of course we were juvenile to that environment and that experience.

The train journey to Ella was such an exciting part of the whole episode of that unplanned expedition, that it marked yet another beautiful milestone down the



memory lane. However, we had no plans for the next step. But, we kept walking to the road. And accidentally we saw a board by the road side that had some names of places of interest for tourists in Ella. So we decided to follow it.