

Life is a journey. This is a familiar metaphor. A vital part of this figurative presentation is the fact that few meaningful journeys consist of a straight line; each of us comes across many options, many roads during this life-sojourn. Sometimes the choice is easy and sometimes it is difficult. Robert Frost's "The Road Not Taken" is but the most famous poem in which someone is confronted with the ultimate choice – which path to follow?

Some take the easy way; others seek challenges. Life lived to its fullest will offer many pathways. Sometimes we humans are in charge of determining the roads we follow. At other times --- blame Fate or luck or the gods or your horoscope --- the option is taken out of our hands. A draftee who entered the army in the days of the Vietnam War left his path to Fate or luck. The man who volunteered took matters into his own hands . . . to a certain extent.

This poem offers a recognition of the various roads out there. It suggests which is the best . . . but that is really a personal decision, comprised of factors which include family, goals, situation, physical condition, and spirituality that no one person can conscientiously push another in a specific direction.

The road you follow is yours.