



POLILLOTA



Stopping by woods

(A man appears on the stage, holding his phone trying to catch Wi-Fi signal)

Whose woods these are I think I know.
His house is in the village though;
He will not see me stopping here
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake.
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.



Horse:

Amidst the trees, near frozen lake,
To stop and stare, must be mistake.
Harness-frozen, it hurts my skin
My belly's empty, nothing in.
This makes me sick to my core
I cannot take it anymore!
My hoofs get frozen every night,
If I had fists I'd surely fight.
But I am only a humble horse
Capable, though, to feel remorse.
I couldn't harm him, silly fool
Just 'cause he's stubborn as a mule.
There, there.. come share a carrot frozen,
Your effort's worth a dime a dozen.
Time to face the reality-
There is no wireless fidelity!

Man:

Dear god! You're talking! That is queer!
Or maybe I had too much beer?
I may have died and gone to heaven?
I didn't drink more than seven..

Maybe I'm dreaming, this can't be true,
I never thought I'd talk to you!

Horse:

Well, it isn't easy I must say,
When all you've heard from me is neigh.
It's understandable you're in shock,
But there's no need to run amok!
I tell you, you 're not insane!
It's me your horsey, horsey Jane!
Aren't you glad that we can talk?
Exchange opinions, even joke?

Man:

It isn't funny! Stay away!
I'll give you apples, I'll give you hay!

Horse:

Ok. We'll talk when you are ready,
Just so you know...my name is Eddie.
I'll make a fire to warm my bones,
Might as well help me, bring those stones.
I cannot do it without hands,
I still have hoofs, as it stands.
Sit down I need to explain
How come I ain't your horsey Jane..
You see, once, I was a man
Doing what every human can
I surfed, I clicked, downloaded much..
Until I lost my precious touch..
My fingers used to be so quick
Click click click click click click click
click
How I miss my lovely digits!
I miss spinning Chinese fidgets!

Man:

I'm really sorry, how can it be?
That once you were just like me?

Horse:

Oh, I was very much like you
That there were witches, I never knew.

Man:

It was a witch who caused all this?
How did she turn you? With a kiss?
Did she make you drink the potion?
Did she rub you with a lotion?
Did she take your strand of hair?
Did the cauldron she prepare?
With the raven's darkest feathers,
And the stinky rotten bladders?
Did she squeeze the slimy boils
With the serpent's deadly coils?



Horse:

No such thing- those days are gone.
Modern witches use their phone.
Follow every move you make
Like all the pictures that you take
Add all the people that you meet
And read your every little tweet
They steal the passwords you create
Then take your form and seal your fate!

Man:

It is a very nasty story
Hope to hear the details gory
How they put you in a cage
And how futile was your rage.
How they cast the nasty spell
Sentenced you to living hell
How they turned you into this
I know it's hard to reminisce..

Horse:

You see I'm not that innocent,
I haven't told you, I like to bet.
I love to play risky games
But I played with evil dames
I wasn't at all suspicious,
Cause they didn't look so vicious.
They seemed like some good old ladies
As corrupt as little babies.
On the bench in park they sat,
Offered me a tempting bet.
Said, if I could use my phone
To catch all the Pokémon
In less time that they would need,
Or if I could match their speed,
They would give me life of plenty..
Latest model, I phone twenty!
I simply couldn't lose that game,
And I quickly signed my name.
They didn't give me any hint,
That I should read the small print!

Man:

And only when you lost the bet
You asked the witches what they would get?

Horse:

Yes, when they said it's a horse they needed
I said my budget was exceeded
Said I was poverty stricken
I could afford to buy a chicken,
But horse was too much, I said
Then they told me I should've read



The entire contract before I agreed
And that they'd get what they need.
They tied my arms and my legs
And cast the spell with rotten eggs.
The smell of sulphur made me dazed
When I came to, I was amazed
At how I ended up in a shed
With these four hoofs and a giant head!
I quickly broke the door and ran.
I can run faster than any man.
The feeling's good, my body's strong
But lacking hands is really wrong.
I fell into a muddy ditch,
My legs were stuck, it was no glitch!
A farmer found me the next day
He pulled me out and fed me hay.
Before I knew it, I was sold
That's how I ended in this cold.
You bought me 'cause you needed ride
You know that really hurt my pride..
It hurt my back, you know, as well
Man you are heavy, heavy as hell

Man:

But how was I supposed to know?
I wondered why you walked so slow..
I thought it was because of snow
I am so sorry.. I feel so low..

Horse:

No hurt feelings, I'm not mad
I couldn't tell you, it's my bad.
I feel I'm turning into a man
I couldn't talk, and now I can.
Their magic's weaker, I don't know why
Maybe because there's no Wi Fi?
They cannot reach me, I'm not in range
That must be why I'm starting to change!

Man:

You look like human, you sure do
Although with four legs and not two..
I feel so sorry for you man
I want to help you, I know I can.
They could've asked for diamond rings
Fur coats, pearls, that kind of things.
They're simply evil- that is that
They deserve to get tit for tat!
Let's make a plan- cunning and bold
Revenge is always best served cold!
Where do the nasty witches reside?
Show me the place where bastards hide!



Horse:

Hold your horses! – please, be steady!
 We shall go when we are ready.
 Risk assessment should come first
 You can end up being cursed.
 Before we reach their ghastly den
 We have to make a perfect plan!

Witch 1:

Oh shut up! You're always nagging!
 And hurry up I can't stand dragging!
 >My feet are killing me, I can't walk!< (mockingly)
 How come you aren't too tired to talk?
 It's not my fault he ran away
 And that we had to walk all day!

Witch2:

You are so bossy! I hate your guts!
 Everyone knows that you are nuts!

Witch 1:

Say that again, if you dare!
 You're an ungrateful whiny mare!
 I'll make you swallow that phone
 If you don't leave me alone!

Witch 3:

Be quiet! No more talking!
 We are all tired of walking.
 The night was long and very cold
 The horse is gone – probably sold.

Witch 2:

But what are we gonna do now?
 I can't go on foot! I dunno how!
 My shoes are lovely dark and steep
 But I have balance yet to keep

Witch 1:

If your legs weren't so fat
 You could wear shoes which are flat!
 You would not walk like a goat,
 Dragging and pulling on my coat!

Witch 2:

There's nothing wrong with my legs!
 And you are always wearing rags!
 Don't see why, just 'cause I'm a witch
 I cannot look classy and rich!
 You never know when you might meet
 A handsome warlock, wicked and sweet

Witch 3:

I'm sure he'd be thrilled as well,
 Especially cause you look like hell!



Witch 2:

Everyone says that I look great
My Facebook friends, allover state!
Soon I'll be living in a mansion
I will forget you and all this tension!
My wardrobe will be full of shoes
I will not know which pair to choose!
And I shall eat the finest bits
Of chickens, lambs and little kids.

Witch 3:

I regret to inform you dear,
Today's menu is nowhere near
The juicy lamb and children fat
I only managed to find this rat.
Now will your highness be so kind
As to tell us what she will find?
So that we wouldn't starve to death

Witch1:

I've found this kitten! And a bat!
Oh this will be quite a feast
We could make pie if we had yeast.

Witch 2:

This rat smells off, the bat is rotten
Kitten's still fresh- better than nottin..
(they're eating and spitting)

Witch 1:

Yuck! Disgusting! I will be sick!
We should've roasted it on a stick!

Witch 3:

Bear Grylls would eat it in a flash
It is our fault we have no cash..
We should've tied that horse with chains
We wouldn't be going through these pains.
To look for him was not so clever
Finding him here could take forever.

Witch1: Especially cause the Internet's gone
I cannot even use my phone!

There is no signal, battery's low
It must be 'cause of this bloody snow!
I don't feel safe, we should give up
And find another man to kidnap.

Witch 2:

Oh that is music to my ears!
I feel like I've been here for years!
Let us go back now! I can't wait!
And we can use me as bait!

Witch 3:

Don't overestimate your look..
No one would ever bite that hook..



Witch 1:

Shush.. be quiet, someone's coming

(man singing Amore – when the moon hits your eye... it is the man pretending to be a pizza delivery guy)

Quick! Let's pretend that we are running!

Witch 2:

Jogging in high heels? Are you mad?

Witch 1:

No time to hide, do as I said!

(they take towels from their bags, stretch, warm up for running...)

Man:

Oh hello ladies! Getting fit?

Never too late to start with it!

Haven't you run a bit too far?

Where did you park? You came by car?

Witch 2:

Actually, we don't use modern means

Like cars buses and other machines..

Witch 3:

Yes, we are ...Amish! We don't use fuel,

Pollution, gases.. not very cool

Man:

Wow! That explains the pointy hats!

I didn't know you guys ate cats! (sees the half eaten kitten on the ground)

Witch 3:

That is not ours! We don't eat that!

I can't imagine eating a cat!

Where are you going if I may ask?

You are not jogging...you have a task?

Man:

Yes, I'm a pizza delivery guy

It seemed rude to just pass you by

I thought that maybe you got lost

I'm going down there, to Mr. Frost..

Witch 2:

Are you taking him those pizza pies?

Aren't they big? Is that king's size?

We're a bit peckish.. hungry you know

Because of running in this snow..

Man:

I can't imagine running in heels

You must tell me how it feels!

Think I could spare one of these

Help yourselves darlings please! (gives the one pizza pie)

Witch 3:

Yes, we are starving, give us some pie

We were so hungry, we thought we'd die!

Man:

I'm always happy to lend a hand



Poliglota

You know I'm a singer in a band

Witch 2:

Aha.. how interesting tell us more (eating greedily, not listening to him)

Man:

But I take pizza from door to door

Witch 1:

That is so neat! Your job is great

Man:

I thought I'd have a different fate

I thought I'd be a superstar

Travel the world..have a huge car..

Witch 3: Car's overrated.. this pizza's good

Witch 1: I must admit I like this food!

Witch 2: I'm so full I need a rest

Witch 3: Let's just relax now... that 's the best (yawn)

Man:

Sit here, don't fight it..close your eyes

I'm great at singing lullabies

my voice is lovely dark and deep

you don't have to count the sheep

Witch 1:

Sheep.. where are they, oh.. I see

Come back sheep sheepy.. do not flee

Man:

They are here, I've counted ten

just close your eyes and try again..

Rock-a-bye, baby...(sings Rockabye baby- by Clean Bandit)

(the witches fall asleep)

Horse: Wow you're a genius! That was quick!

The lullaby did the trick!

Man:

What can I say.. I am so gifted

Horse:

The thing you did was so wicked!

Let's tie them up with this rope

They will not wake up I hope?

Man:

Don't worry, I used tranquilizer

Entire bottle- I'm not a miser.

I laced the pies with so much drug

They'll sleep for hours, my dear lug.

Horse:

Oh , I can't wait to get their phone!

But I cannot do it alone,

You'll have to search them, you have hands

(Man looking for their phone)

Oh good, you found it! Go to their apps!

Man:



Angry birds, Twitter, Mozart bet , Facebook!

Horse:

Delete them all! I'm such a crook!

Man:

I've done it! They're all gone! (goes backstage to lose the hoofs and tail)

Eddie? Where are you? What's going on?

Horse:

Here I am Friend! As good as new!

I'm back! My fingers are back too!

Look at me! Look! I am a man!

Thank you, oh thank you! Let's have a drink!

It'll warm you up and help you think..

Man:

(sniffs) whiskey! You can't go wrong with that,

It tastes a bit funny..smells like a rat..

Horse:

Don't worry it's a special kind,

The one that's veery hard to find..

Man:

It's really not my cup of tea

You drink it, please, don't mind me..

Horse:

You've had enough, how do you feel?

It is so strong that it can kill..

I couldn't kill you..you're a good chap

You've only had a strong nightcap..

Man:

(dazed) what do you mean? What do you say?

I feel so tired..I could sleep all day

What did you give me? What's going on?

What are you doing? Gimme my phone! (horse steals his things puts them in his bag)

Horse:

'fraid I can't do that my dear friend

Our friendship's over this is the end..

I told you my masters are my vices

I'll have to take all your devices...

I am a gambler, I have debts

I have to go now, to place some bets.

Once again, thank you, you stupid fool

These things they don't teach you at school.

As a parting gift- a word of advice!

Don't trust a man who has a vice!



Written by Anita Novosel

Foreign Language Drama Festival 2018, award for the best script -teacher- Anita Novosel and the best leading actor –Veljko Uskoković III -3.

Three children are sitting on a log near a stream

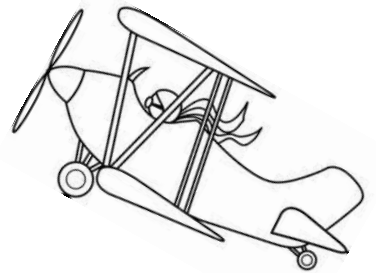


One of them looks up at the sky
And says: "Oh, if only I could fly!"
When the other two heard,
They laughed: "You are not a bird!"

"If I can't be a bird", he said,
"Then I'll become a pilot instead!"
"A pilot?", they laughed out loud,
"Boy, you'll never leave the ground!"

Poor boy sat in the van and said:
"I'll show you I can!"
He drove himself to his dad,
Who realised his son was very sad.

"Dad I want to fly a plane"
"OK, I'll introduce you to my friend Jane,
She's a professional acrobat."
"Yes, great, let's start!"



After a year, to be fair,
He was already in the air.
Then came the competition
Where he could fulfill his ambition.

He remembered his friends.
"I'll invite them, that makes sense."
They ended their annoyance
When they saw his performance.



He was drawing in the sky
Stars, squares and a bowtie.
At the end there were words:
"Told you I could fly like birds!"

The moral: when you're having hard times,
just read again these rhymes!

Dorđe Trifunović III-1

It is better to have loved and lost then never to have love at all

When you speak of love... what type of love do you actually think of? Because hearing this word, depending on a person, someone would think of love you have for your family, friends, pets and even things but also that "love-love", the one you have for the opposite sex (or the same... not judging). There are so many.

Personally I think it's hard to write about something you don't necessarily agree with, especially when you have never experienced it. I mean, I never have, when it comes to "love-love" and I'm glad, I guess.

Although, if we're talking about other kinds of love then I must say I hate that feeling of losing someone close to me. It's never pleasant. Of course no one likes it, but it makes me feel even sadder, even angrier and just furious and I become this ball of negativity.


It's hard for me to look at the world and life in a good light when things like this happen. But there are millions and millions of different perspectives cause each human has its own.

You see, I realise both good and bad coming out of anything that life sort of throws at us... like this topic. I see it this way: People need to feel pain to know what love is. The only thing that I find good about this is the fact that you can grow as a person, become stronger and smarter and you'll know how to bear with it next time...

Maybe I agree with this quote after all and maybe I'm aware of it, but the truth is I just don't want to accept it. Talking about it in a positive way, without even knowing the feeling, would just be wrong. For sure there are movies, TV shows, books we read, hearing other people telling us their stories.... all in all it just won't be the same as when it happens to us.

Nina Vasić IV-4

Un jour parfait



Un jour parfait
C'est quoi ?
Un jour parfait
C'est toi et moi.
Quand le soleil est grand
Aucun nuage
Ce jour je me demande
Pourquoi on n'est pas à la plage ?
Pourquoi ?
On n'a pas besoin de plage.
Tous ce que je veux est d'être libre.
Dommage !
Le monde dit que je ne peux pas
Être moi
Dis-moi, s'il te plaît,
Je dois attendre
Mais, combien d'années ?
Pour être heureuse...
Comme un oiseau pendant la tempête
Je reste en cachette.
Et un jour parfait
Je vole là-bas
Chanter en français.

Đurđija Marjanović III-5

I wish you to know that you have been the last dream of my soul



I'll live my maidenish life just a few more months. Everything that is happening to me at the moment seems unreal. When I met my boyfriend, current fiancé and future husband, I thought he was the one and that I'll love him forever. Years passed, we were happy and in love. No matter how pathetic this sounds, I was happy to share a morning breath with him, just as I enjoyed describing him my day at work during dinner while watching him smile at my silly jokes. The wedding is scheduled, there's nothing more to add. The 25th of May was the day we said "I do", little did I know that would be one of the last moments he gave me butterflies.

For almost ten years, we have been moving towards creating a family. We've reached our goals. I never dreamed of finding someone else, but I did. I was driving my kids to school and stopped to buy them breakfast. As I was leaving the bakery with my hands full of croissants and donuts, I ran into deep green eyes. I looked at him for a couple of moments and realized I was blocking him the entrance when my oldest daughter called me, saying that she and her little twin brothers will be late for school. While I was driving to a well-known place, I turned my head off and tried not to think about the guy from the bakery. I didn't even tell my kids to shut up knowing they were fighting over the radio.

The next couple of days I found myself not talking to my husband and going to the same place at the same time. I felt guilty because I didn't care for what my partner was thinking about when I'd turn my back to him in bed, avoiding his looks.

The next mistake I made, I went out for a cup of coffee with the green eyed man. Then I did it again, again and again. He knew that I was married; he knew the exact look my husband would give me when I'd lie to him, the feeling in his bones and heart watching me "leave to a reading club meeting". And then I realized I had found my mister right at the wrong time. He made me happy, read me like an open book. I had a feeling I'd known him my whole life. For some time, I have been living a parallel life with two men. But I can't do it anymore. I love my kids more than anything, I don't want my two boys to look at me in a couple of years and hate me because I left their father for another man, and I don't want my daughter to be afraid of falling in love. So I made a decision to finish everything with the green eyed man before it became worse.

The thing is, I will never forget the love my husband has given me, I'll never forget the day I proudly put my wedding dress on thinking 'this is it'. The way we looked at our firstborn child thinking: "This is what we've made; she is a part of us". I am well aware of the fact that I will never forget the lovely and passionate days with my lover, not just because they were amazing and alluring, but because of the look my husband still gives me, knowing he'll always love me more than I'll ever love him.

If I ever catch my falling star,...



Almost a month ago, new year started, a lot of people say “New year, new me”, but not me. I am not that kind of a person, I don’t need a new year, or a new month, or a new year to start changing myself, I just needed one moment in which I decided that I was going to choose me and I haven’t looked back since.

My whole life people around me keep telling me what to do, but they didn’t know that all was in vain. I am not a follower, I don’t follow rules, I don’t live in a mould. Maybe because all of that I am not even a good person, maybe things I did in my life made me a bad person. I am aware of that. In spite of that I try really hard to be a better one, not tomorrow, not next month, or a next year, but in every present moment I live, because at some point of life I realized how much I was going to miss moments.

Sometimes I catch myself crying without a reason, then I remember a million reasons to cry and not even one to smile, but I smile, not a fake smile, a real one. I laugh so hard it hurts. My family fell apart, my friends are trying to understand me and my situation, but they simply can’t, so they are leaving. I don’t blame them. Of course, that is not my fault, either, that is why I don’t care about someone leaving.

Oh, but that is a big lie. The truth is I still care and I always will. I am not type of a girl to let people walk out my life and pretend that they don’t matter anymore. I may not like the person or talk to him or her, but I still care. I hope they are all right. I am a type of a girl who will always care, but not trying to stop anyone who wants to leave.

Sometimes you are all you have, I know that. I must fight alone all my fights in life, so if I ever catch my falling star I won’t wish a better life, just better me. Only I can save myself and that is the hardest part.

Jovana Mijailović IV-6

Skyler

While there's hope, there's survival. These words were buried deep in my mind, and most importantly, those words were what kept me alive. But alas, let's start from the beginning, shall we?

Heat. Everywhere around me. It was the year 5057. As I woke up, I started grumbling and complaining to myself because I had a full day of responsibilities ahead of me. But I knew I couldn't just sit around and mope all day, so I quickly grabbed my notepad and went through all of my tasks again. First off ballet, then art class and then mastering my piano skills with Miss Fletcher. Sounds boring? Extremely! Sometimes I am so jealous of the women from 2018, because they could do almost anything a man could. How did this happen then? Why were we for the second time in history less valuable than men? I'm afraid I don't have an answer, but what I do know is that my parents arranged a marriage for me. I needed to stop thinking about that and hurry up. As I opened the window, a wave of heat and blinding light hit me. I immediately closed it, and then I remembered- sun flares. When the sun flares first appeared, I was crushed. You see, my name is Skyler, Sky for some people. My love for sky was the only thing that helped me stay sane. In dark times like these, I was really saddened that I could only look at the night sky. I honestly despised my life. All those lessons on how to be a housewife and all of those formalities; they were a nightmare for me. I thought I was losing my sanity, because often I would hear someone calling my name. Here it was again! My head was hurting badly and the room was spinning, and as I was slowly opening my eyes, I could hear the machines and feel the heat from that blinding light.

Many silhouettes stood next to me, and through fog I could hear the doctor saying "Hello Sky and welcome from your coma."

Andela Srećković II-5



Geburtstag

Ich kann nur denken,
was wirst du mir schenken.
Werden wir ins Kino gehen
und einen Film sehen,
wirst du mir eine Party machen,
oder werden wir zusammen lachen.
Aber ich habe nur ein Lust
und das ist dein Kuß.

Brief für Weinachtsmann

Ich hatte einen Traum
wo du unter meine Weihnachtsbaum
schenkst mir eine Gabe,
dass ich gewünscht habe,
aber nicht einen kleinen Pack
sondern einen großen Sack
voll Gesundheit und ohne Leide
und das ist der Grund, dass ich dir schreibe.
Ich wünsche viel Glück und Freude
für alle Menschen und ihre Freunde.

Nenad Milošević II-6



-Phantom-

Lurking from the shadows I can feel you closing in
Can't seem to escape from the darkness within
Every step you take is numbing me slowly
I made an oath to be your one and only

The flames from your touch engulf me
You'll never set me free
Those marks from you I bear
Could only prove that you'd never share

Lull me to slumber, my silent ghost
If I shut my eyes I'd miss you the most
I'd walk through fire just to find you
No soul could justify what I yearn to do

Your cruelest intentions won't scare me away
I'll stay with you come what may
Don't ever disappear
Please, just stay, dear

Losing grip on reality
Take your time haunting me
Should your heart ache I'll ease the pain
Your delightful poison is seeping into my brain

Promise me that the world won't drift us apart
As I give you my already feeble heart
Pull me into the shadows
Accompany me by the gallows

No longer by myself
No more tears to shed while I melt
I can't go on another day
If only this agony would go away

The lover to my psyche
United we will be
Time could never sever this bond
We are above and beyond

I will take your hand

By your side I will stand
Remnants of my being and my past break apart
Carry me to a whole new start

I dread that your presence will eventually fade
I'd do anything for you here to remain
Unleash the beauty of death upon me
Maybe then I'll see

My captivating nightmare
Your scent still lingers in the air
Show me that you're still here
Say something to pull me near

Just an apparition
Just my vivid imagination
How you've hurt me you haven't got a clue
Know that I'd still give up the world for you

As I draw my last breath
I'm heading towards my happy end
As I say goodbye
Everything will be alright



Written and illustrated by Ana Branković III-4

Masha and the bear

Three children are sitting on a log near a stream. One of them looks up at the sky and says: "I'll tell you a story. You probably think you know it but..."

Once upon a time there were an old man and a woman who had a granddaughter named Masha. One day Masha decided to go to the forest with some friends. They wanted to collect mushrooms and berries. Her grandparents told her to keep close to others because she might get lost. She promised them that she would be a good girl and then they left.

Masha went from bush to bush, from tree to tree. Before she knew it she had strayed away from her friends. At last she saw that she was all alone and it was getting darker. Masha walked all over the forest but she could not find her way back home. Suddenly she saw a little hut. She knocked on the door but there was no answer, so she went in. None was at home. Masha sat down and waited. At quarter to midnight a big bear went through the door and when he saw Masha he was surprised but happy. The bear said: "I'll never let you go, you'll cook for me, you'll clean for me and you'll be my wife." But then the clock struck twelve and Masha smiled. Her fangs were long, sharp and beautiful. She jumped and planted them in the bear's neck. He roared but soon he was dead. "I love bear meat" she said and walked away."

The other two kids screamed but it was too late. Masha showed them her fangs and a few seconds later she bit them.

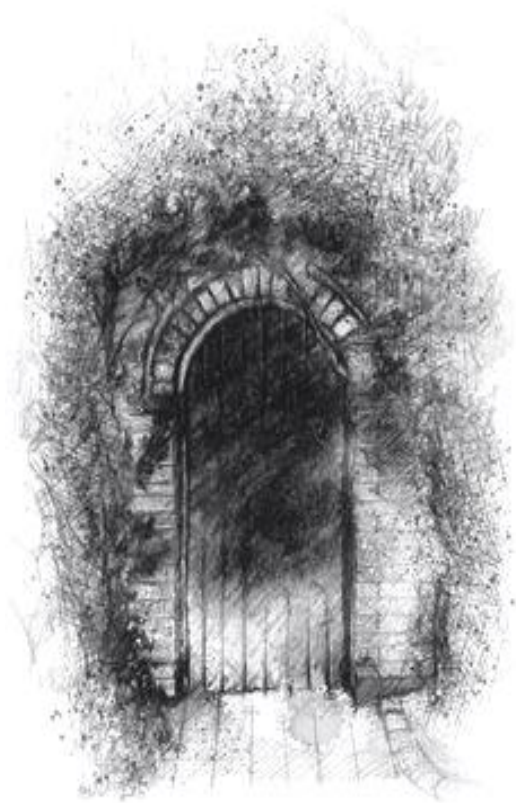
Now, in the little hut near the stream, three little vampires live.



Written and illustrated by Maša Živković III-1

The hidden door

A large wooden door
In the corner of the room
Leads to a place
Where your memories are.
Where they wait for you
To remember them
To look them in the eye,
Straight through their soul
And remember them,
And let everything
Take over your mind
Just like it did before.



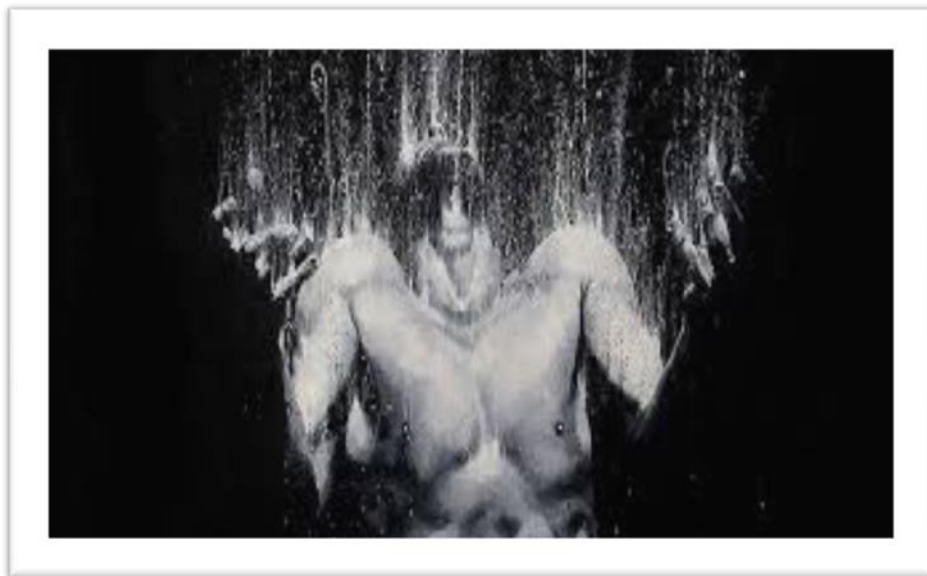
Teodora Marković II-5

“A dream I had..”**He**

It's dark. My forehead hurts so much, I have a feeling I was hit in the head with a shovel. As I slowly start opening my eyes, I recoil in fear. A terrifying big bright smile leaning against my face. A mild mint scent spreads all over the room. At this point, I am mute and my whole body is shivering while the freak is calmly grinning. “Such a lovely day it is Nathaniel. It's a shame you have overslept our brunch, you sleepy head” he suddenly says through clenched teeth. I want to respond, but my mouth is shut. As if someone stitched my lips. I feel like a chicken with its head cut off. “Let me show you around the property” The maniac adds as he is picking me up like a baby. I want to dodge his touch, but I am so weak. He has all the power over my body. He carries me out of the room through a big circular door, which remind me of old metal doors on military bunkers from the 1940's. We enter a sickly yellow painted room, with fungi growing out of the walls. In the center of the room an old woman with time ravaged and creased skin is sitting on a dusty orange sofa. Her knotty inflamed fingers are resting on her lap. Her blood flecked eyes are gazing directly toward me, yet her look is somewhere far away. As if she were looking for something on the inside of my skull. “Clarice, say hello to our guest” my torturer says. Clarice maintains still, with only the crow's feet on her temples becoming more visible as she slyly smiles. “She is such a doll. Don't you think?” He adds while tightening his grip on my body. We proceed into the next room. “You must be starving. Luckily I saved some of the leftovers. I am not a braggy person, but I must emphasize that all of my dear friends especially praised the meal I cooked today.” He says as he places me onto a metal, self-assembly chair. He starts taking out the utensils and heating up the food while my contracting muscles create squeaky noises on the rickety chair. “Will you be silent for once?!” He abruptly turns around. “You little pig! You don't appreciate anything!” he screams and starts pounding his fists on the table. I freeze. He scared the living daylights out of me. The piercing sound of his fists stops. “That is better my little boy. Don't you ever interrupt me again.” He calmly says while he brings me food on a rugged wooden tray. The plate is filled with slimy and oily substance that looks like overly expired and moldy pasta. He twists the pasta around the fork and shoves it into my mouth. A rancid taste fills my mouth. I want to barf. “Oh Nathaniel, I am so sad you missed our little

gathering. Richard and Amelia were so stoked about meeting you. You naughty little boy.” He proceeds putting the caustic food in my mouth. “But gladly they are coming over again tomorrow. Tonight I will bathe you so you can be as neat as a button when you meet them!” He says with childlike playfulness. All of a sudden, he stops feeding me and aggressively pushes the plate off the table. The wooden trail starts making ear-splitting noises in contact with the concrete flooring. “Now we return to sleep. It is too late! All of this is your fault!” he loudly says with a wheezing, nasal voice. He picks me up and starts panically running while muttering to himself “they will come. It is already too late. That little bastard is ruining everything.” We pass by Clarice, still sitting in the same position with eyes still riveted to my skull. He places me onto the floor as he anxiously tries to open the metal door. “Why won’t this freaking door open?!” He shouts banging the door. “My sweet little plans are ruined!” shrieks collapsing onto my body and I faint. Everything is white. A mild scent of mint is in the air.

Živanović Lenka II-5



Being of age - a blessing or a curse?

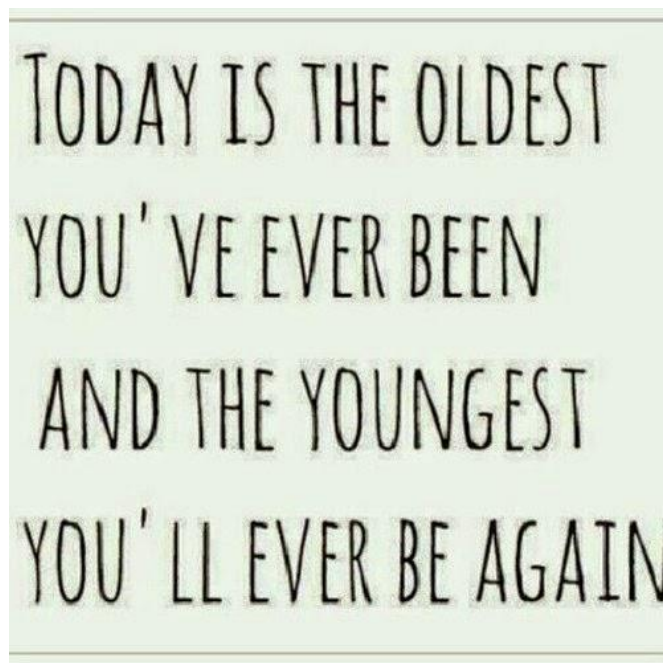
Despite the fact that every human being would prefer it to stay young forever, it is unfortunately impossible. Aging is a natural process that none of us can escape. And although it may seem that there is nothing good in it, being of age does have some advantages as well.

To begin with, no one can dispute the fact that becoming of age brings us more freedom and maturity in various fields of life. Firstly, we no longer have to ask for permission to do things of our interest, whether our parents like it or not. We are not breaking the law anymore if we stay out late or have a drink. Secondly, one becomes able to work and make a living on their own. What is more, as slight as a one year difference might seem, it is indisputable that we become more mature by increasing our self-consciousness.

On the other hand, being your own person does have some disadvantages as well. Being a child, one has incomparably less worries. For instance, you are not fully responsible for your own behaviour, as parents are there to stand up for their children. Being mischievous no longer seems like a good idea when you are of age, as you can be arrested. Furthermore, obligations such as paying the bills, worrying whether you will have something to eat or roof over your head are unknown when you are under age.

To sum up, although no one is delighted with the fact that they are getting older year by year, it is an inevitable process, and that being said, we should learn not to be bothered about it but to enjoy it and take the best of it instead.

Sonja Lazić IV-3



No one is useless in this world who lightens the burden of it for everyone else

It's true that no one is useless in this world, but I guess some people may disagree.

Sadly there are people who feel useless, but those people are mostly the ones that were mocked every day of their life. So as you can see, people around us are the ones to blame. They make you feel useless, but trust me that is not true. We are human beings, so as such we definitely have a purpose in this world. You might not feel that way if you were bullied or mocked every day of your life. You probably feel like an object or someone's plaything, and you think that that is your purpose. Or you maybe think that you don't have a purpose at all. But trust me you do. There are so many great things in life and so many people that care about you or at least they are trying to, but you keep ignoring them because you are preoccupied with bad people and the thoughts about how miserable your life is.

Well, stop thinking about them, easier said than done you'd say, and I understand that it isn't easy. But stop for a second and think. You have family; they are the people who love you the most. You see, there are people who care after all. Once you stop obsessing with bad people you'll realise that there are so many good people who would like to be your friends. And you are basically throwing that away because....? Yap just as I thought, you don't know either, do you?

So here's what you should do: think about yourself and your life in a good way. Then you start letting people in, and once you do, you'll find your purpose. So I guess you've figured by now that people around you make you feel useless or they make you feel useful. So you should concentrate on those good people. Then your life will get better, wonderful even because it's always better and easier with friends. They make you feel special, useful and so much more.

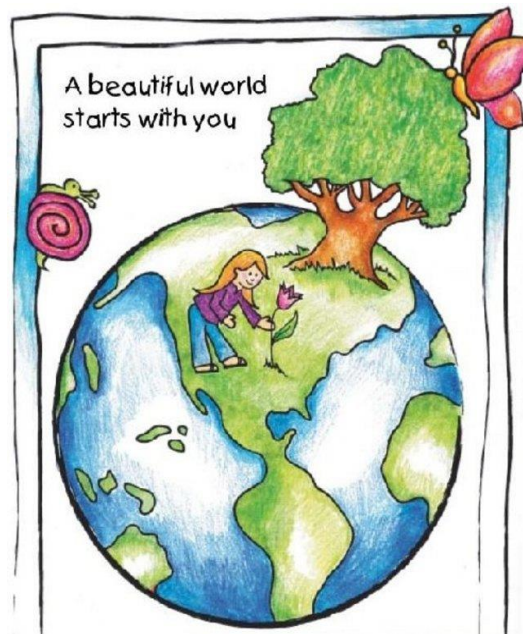
So if you ask me, that is what you should live for. Friendships and family, because they are the ones who make you feel loved. So I hope that I have made you realise how useful you are in this world. It is possible, I showed you how, now believe. Believe and all your dreams will come true, and your life will be great again. All it takes is one good person, just let her in and she'll destroy everything that is bad. You'll find your purpose and that person will too. She/he will make all your problems go away. So go, believe and see how right I am. And no need to thank me, I am no one. I'm just a person who told you where to look for purpose and you found it. See, you did, I didn't do anything, you have succeeded on your own.

So go, and live your great life, and cherish every moment of it, because we live only once, so don't waste it, use it in every way possible and you'll be happy, just wait and see.

Marija Jokanović III-4



What can we do to make the world a better place?



“What a wonderful world...” a song of Louis Armstrong, one of the most beautiful and most famous songs ever. Decades after this song was written, can we say that this world is- wonderful?

Human society has changed a lot in past few years. Today we can say that people have more liberty than ever. Also, the technology is faster than ever and it created a new problem- mobile phone overuse. There are many reasons to make us think: “Oh, we are living in a perfect world!” but, is that really true? In my opinion, we are far away from a perfect society and a perfect world. In fact, many researches proved that we are more intolerant and estranged than ever. The question is: What can I do to make this world a better place?

I think that the key is in small things. For example, it does not cost anything to say: “Thank you”, “I am sorry”, “You’re welcome” but it can change a lot. How? When we reflect a good energy- a nice word or a smile- in most cases we are going to receive that kind of energy too. Maybe it will be difficult at the start, but I truly believe that this law of physics works on people too. In our country there is a simple but crucial proverb: “A nice word can open the iron doors.” We can and must also change our perspective. We must be more tolerant and patient, and the best thing is that is not unattainable, actually, if we first change ourselves, that will be a big step for our society and our world. A mobile phone is just a piece of metal! Leave it! Instead, talk to others- face to face. We must not forget that we are living creatures with a soul, eyes and a mouth! We are not robots. If we forget this, it is just going to be worse and the apocalypse is just a few years far from us!

Maybe we can’t stop wars all around our planet and we can’t find a cure for cancer but we can change the world (step by step) by changing ourselves. It is not a cliché: United and changed we can make the world a better place, and hopefully sing: “What a wonderful world!”

Jelena Lončar IV-4

What can we do to make the world a better place?

The world has seen some great improvement since the 1990s. Even though people complain about how it used to be better, by now I figured out that people are the problem. In fact, most people don't like change no matter if it's good or not.

Since I was a child many things have happened for the better; people are being less and less obsessed with the past and "how it used to be". When I was growing up almost everyone you would ask hated the Croatians and just yesterday I saw a blog post on the internet where many Balkan people sent loving messages to each other which took me by surprise really, when you are used to the swearing words and nationally oriented sayings, some mutual love and respect is the last thing you would think of. I have given much thought into this question time and time again and never really came up with a perfect answer except that the only thing that seems bad and dumb in this world is the focus shifting when some problems are brought up, but what can we do, that is simply politics. I like to believe in people, in our ability to change and become better at keeping this tiny world of ours alive. Now in the 21st century people give much thought to what happens if they do something, thinking about the consequences for the planet and us as a species. My honest opinion is that we've grown intellectually and that the world is on a good road to be a place not just for our generation but for those to come, and may they also live up to their fullest potential and even surpass us. The only other problem in my opinion that we can actually do something about is for people to start realizing how important mother nature is and how important it is to have a park with trees as near as possible to you, so making more parks and planting trees where there is concrete is bound to be a good idea. Also people's awareness about animals has significantly risen in the technology era. There is less and less poaching, and there is a great effort to save all those animals, especially the endangered ones. Since 2006 tiger population has increased thanks to hard-working people who are tracking them and doing the necessary work. The tiger became almost extinct in the early 1990s by which point around 195.000 had been killed or held imprisoned for their beautiful fur and ferocious nature. We will see most tiger species never again because the population of wild tigers is 5% of what it originally used to be. As you can see, people are mostly just now seeing things as they are and putting more thought into things instead of acting repulsively and aggressively.

Hopefully one day I will become someone who can change more things for the better, but until then I TRUST in humanity to do the RIGHT thing.

Bogdan Marić IV-4

It takes a great deal of courage to see the world in its tainted glory, and still to love it



I think that the childhood period is the most beautiful and the happiest period of anyone's life. Children are always joyful, they have no worries, no problems, they only see the good side of everything as if they were looking through the rose-colored glasses. They say that the moment you start worrying about what's going on in the world, your bills, or your future, you become an adult. But, is there a way for adults to still enjoy their life on this planet even though they are aware of all those bad things happening around them?

I believe there is. I think that it is possible to love life and this world regardless of the state in which it currently is. It seems that humans have always had some kind of violence, anger, hatred and resentment in them. There have always been wars, and unfortunately, there still are. It is true that poverty, sickness, hunger, racism, discrimination still exist, but look at the history of humanity. Look at how much we've improved through time. It's true there are still a lot of dark and truly upsetting things going around right now, but the matter of fact is that this age is the best time to be alive.

Yes, there are still some serious problems which need to be solved, but pay attention to all the good things we have in the 21st century: the freedom of speech, the freedom to dress the way you want to dress, the freedom to believe in what you want to believe, living in peace, etc. Look at the beautiful nature around you, the mountains, the midnight sky above you. Dance to the music playing on the radio. Smile at someone today, try to help others because we can make this world a better place for all of us, but we have to work together.

It might take a great deal of courage to see the world in all its tainted glory and still to love it, but it is possible. At the end of the day, life truly is beautiful if you open your heart to it.

Jana Marković III-4

This is the way the world ends

I believe that the world will be completely destroyed by robots or similar machines. It's believed that robots will reach at least 10^{11} neurons by 2025, although some experts claim that robots will reach intelligence levels comparable to ours by 2045. The date doesn't really matter, since the result will always be the same, no matter the time they evolve far above our capacities. There is almost no chance of us surviving, and we can only presume that our planet and other animals will be changed in some way.

Neural networks are quickly evolving; it's been calculated that neural networks can grow as smart as humans, if not even smarter. We cannot stop the evolution of technology, since those networks are self-sufficient and they can learn and improve by themselves, they have the ability to fix errors and find many solutions. For example, one of Facebook's algorithms was able to create a whole new language, which is both impressive and terrifying. Many reputable and experienced businesses have a large number of computers and IT experts. Their aim is to create programs that help with advertising and doing tedious tasks. These programs are hard to control, they perform many calculations without problems. Our jobs require these programs to become more sophisticated and refined. These machines and programs are built to resemble human brains. These "Neural networks" do indeed replicate human neurons and synapses in a very profound way. It's something truly unbelievable, but it's happening right now, with assistance from the most genius programmers and computer part makers. Once our computers have the necessary components (mainly the central processor) and when we perfect the required software (artificial intelligences, neural networks and so on), there's nothing to stop them from thinking

for themselves and becoming as aware as humans in the 21st century. It's quite simple - when your creation goes beyond 10^{11} neurons, it can acquire surreal abilities - thinking in more than 3-4 dimension, another level of consciousness and the list goes on. The fate of us humans does not seem very bright - we will most likely be destroyed, be made slaves or, possibly, be manipulated by robots, with us doing things for them or trying to entertain them. To be simple, it's not a question of if, but when. The possibilities are so numerous we cannot even think about them all. They might not even reach our intelligence by 2070, if we stop using these devices and lock away all technology. The best thing to do is to prepare for the attack, but I believe that our defenses are will prove to be



"Sometimes the machines here do try to take over the world. Last week the coffee maker even had a go."

ineffective. Once they remove our defense mechanisms, they will simply obliterate us or find a brand new use for us, whatever they think is best at the moment (just to clarify - they are so intelligent that a moment is enough for them to try out every possible outcome and to place their decisions in 4+ dimensions).

It's somewhat of a sad end for us. We have no one to help us or to empathize with us, and we will lose our free will completely. We will live our lives either as mindless slaves or without any physical matter, that was destroyed by the robots. The end is near, so we need to try our best to prepare, and think about our future.

Matija Mijailović II-3

It is natural for humans to use animals for food and clothing

Many activists say that killing animals for food, clothing or entertainment is evil. Many of them think that we should leave animals alone. Most of the scientists agree that humans are animals too. So, now everything seems to me like a fight for survival. Every animal must find a way how to survive – what to eat, drink, where to live and how to defend itself.

As I have already said, many scientists agree that humans are animals. And if we go backwards, thousands of years before today, and look at the prehistoric man, what would we see? A man – an animal – trying to live. Trying to find a shelter and food. There is a saying „Eat or be eaten“, which perfectly describes life of the animals (even humans). If you ask nutritionists, they will say that meat is very healthy, as well as fat, milk, eggs, etc. When we try to find an answer from the religious point of view, we will firstly look at the Bible. Christians believe that God said to first humans that he had created the world and all its creatures, and humans to command. He gave the whole world to humans to use. As well as animals.

Some people, however, think that any usage of animals is cruel. They say nobody should ever kill an animal for any reason. Their opinion is that people nowadays do not need to use animals for making clothes, when we have so many materials. They are offering a solution to this problem – we should eat plants! But I would ask them: isn't killing and using plants cruel and evil? Aren't plants living beings too? There is so much contradiction in their theories.

In conclusion, it seems that people who are supporting the idea of eating animals are right. In my opinion, humans should not kill animals for entertainment or clothes, but we must eat something healthy. I agree with the most of the arguments that support the essay title, because I think that humans, just like every other living being, must find a way how to survive and continue life.

Pavle Ignjatović II-7

If cows were the dominant species, they would eat us

Although human race dominates the world, many things can happen and change the current situation. Many people don't believe that something will 'steal' the Earth from us, especially animals. Everything is possible if we are playing with nature, so I think, if cows dominate the world, they'll definitely eat us.

First of all, we're using cows for milk and meat, so why wouldn't they use us? If they're dominant, the Earth will be full of cows and there won't be enough grass and leaves for everyone, so they will become carnivores. Furthermore, they'll probably manage a human farm and produce healthy men for feast and women for milk.

Some people think that cows won't eat humans because they have been herbivores for thousands of years and that's something that they can't change in a few years. However, the only way cows can occupy the world is to be very aggressive, and that is as bad for people as eating them. Also, opponents say that the world full of animals will finally become a natural place to live. I believe that we are vulnerable without technology and medicine, so we would all die because of diseases and the way of living.

In conclusion, although cows are very kind, I think that we can easily predict their behavior when they realize that they have all the power in their hoofs.

Above all, I believe that they aren't vengeful and that they will be nice to us, even if we weren't to them.

Julija Božanić II-4



La vie en colocation, les avantages et les inconvénients

Aujourd'hui la colocation est très populaire, spécialement entre les jeunes ou les étudiants mais elle est aussi pratiquée par les adultes.

Je pense que la vie en colocation a beaucoup d'avantages mais de l'autre côté il y a des inconvénients aussi. D'abord, pour les étudiants et leurs parents, vivre en colocation est mieux parce que les appartements sont très chers pour les étudiants et quelquefois les parents ne peuvent pas payer toutes les factures si leurs enfants vivent seuls dans un appartement spacieux. Aussi, les prix des logements dans les grandes villes, comme Belgrade, Novi Sad ou Nis (quand on parle de Serbie) sont trop élevés. Puis, quand nous vivons avec quelqu'un nous pouvons partager toutes les dépenses. Mais la meilleure chose, à mon avis, est que nous ne sommes pas seuls. On peut vivre avec un ou plusieurs amis qu'on connaisse depuis toujours et c'est plus intéressant. Pourtant, j'aime être seule et j'aime avoir l'intimité. Ensuite, je n'aime pas les personnes qui ne rangent pas leurs chambres. Ce sont des inconvénients. Je peux partager l'appart seulement avec quelqu'un qui est propre, responsable et qui nettoie régulièrement. Un des inconvénients pourrait être l'argent. Par exemple, je sais le cas où un colocataire donne de l'argent pour le logement et les frais à l'heure mais l'autre est toujours en retard. Enfin, je déteste partager la salle de bain avec quelqu'un. Mais vivre en colocation avec mon petit ami semble très intéressant. Je voudrais vivre avec mon petit ami à l'avenir.

Pour conclure, comme pour chaque chose dans la vie il y a des points positifs et des points négatifs.

Jana Marković III-4



Money makes the world go round



People all over the world believe that money is the main and the most important thing in life. Also, there is a huge number of people who are aware that there are many more things which can bring us happiness and fulfillment. Therefore, I will discuss both points of view.

First of all, I would like to say that money presents a necessary thing in the world in which we live now. For example, you wouldn't be able to visit some magnificent countries unless you haven't got money. Moreover, something which is more important, you must find a way to earn money if you want to approach some basic things, such as cure.

It would be ideal if we could really appreciate what we have and be satisfied with that. Apart from people who take money on the first place in life, there is a vast majority of people who realise that family or friends are the only one who make us happy. You can have a million dollars and be extremely sad. It is widely believed that money isn't actually crucial and it isn't something which can separate you from other human beings.

In conclusion, I am in favour of the opinion that money is important, especially when we talk about the time when you need help for some illnesses but in my opinion, the world is not a place where you are alive to survive, because it is a place where you have a huge number of opportunities to enjoy, be yourself and don't let anyone or anything tumble you down. For instance, you can try to be content with small and little things, such as hugs.

Marija Čulić IV₂

We live in a society founded on the ideas of capitalism and consumerism. We, as a civilization, created currency and money to control the distribution and transaction of the goods needed for modern life.

In my opinion, the existence of money is necessary if society wants order and an organized social ladder. I think that humans were bound to invent money at some point in their development. Money exists to give some value, determined by convention, to products that people desire and need for survival. Imagine if at the end of the month your boss gave you a goat as payout. Goats are great but you probably don't need a goat. You need something like money to pay for rent, food, clothes and other important things that a goat can't give you. That's why money is handy, at least in theory.

As with any other man-made system, the concept of money often fails. Examples of that are inflation, unstable currencies, economic crisis, corruption etc. People often lose their house because of a poorly thought-through loan or become poor overnight because the value of their country's currency crashed. Some can argue that the whole capitalist system is flawed. The difference between the rich and the poor is quite substantial although in theory it shouldn't be. That's because the rich elite controls the whole system and dictates the value of almost everything. The poor cannot climb out of poverty, and the middle class makes either too little or too much.

I think that humans, as materialistic creatures, definitely need some kind of currency to insure order, and that money does make the world go round. However, as there is no perfect system, there's always room for improvement.

Sava Gavrić IV-2

I remember that I have once read a meme "Money cannot buy happiness, but can buy tickets for Tomorrowland. Have you ever seen a sad person at Tomorrowland?"

Money is surely used to buy many things you like, which makes you happy. Money is also used for things you need to survive.

Many times I have wanted to have much money so I can buy all the things I like. It is almost impossible to find any item you want to buy that doesn't need to be paid with money.

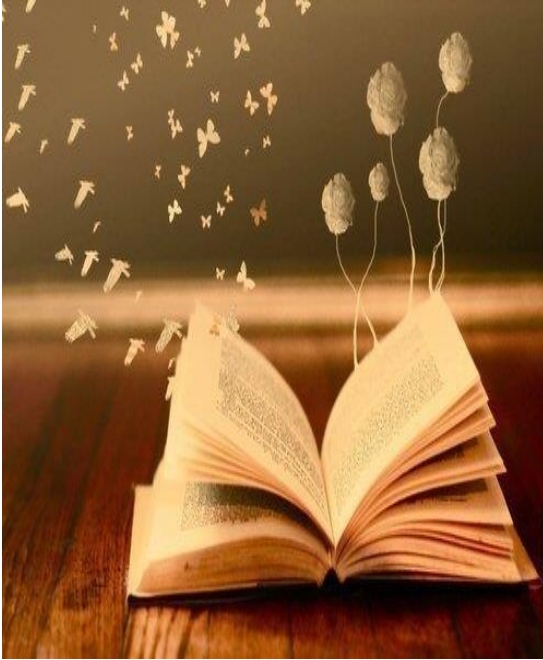
On the other hand, if you just recklessly blew your money on things you like, you would find yourself broke soon enough. Take an example of many people who have won the lottery. A huge percent of them lives a life of poor people soon after. Why? Because they just kept blowing money on many things, even on drugs. Okay, drugs make people happy, but only during that "flash" period. Plus, drugs are ridiculously expensive and extremely dangerous for our brain cells.

To sum up, my personal opinion about money is that it is the thing that "makes the world go round" and makes people happy. However, if you want your money to be a permanent source of happiness, spend it wisely and try to increase its value.

If you are a person that doesn't handle money very well, then consult a professional financial advisor. And, don't play lottery, it is just wasting money. By the time you win it, you will spend double money for lottery tickets.

Uroš Radojević IV-2

Si vous pouvez bénéficier d'une année sabbatique, que feriez-vous?



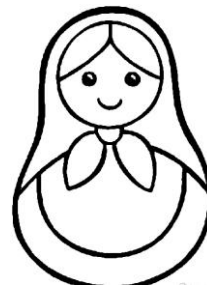
Moi, je ne travaille pas maintenant. Je suis étudiante et après le lycée, je dois finir la faculté. Donc, quand je finis toutes mes études, je travaillerai.

J'assume que mon travail va être intéressant au cours de quelques premières années. Je vais m'en occuper tout à fait. Peut-être, je serai architecte. Mais aussi je veux écrire un livre un jour. Je lis beaucoup et mes livres préférés sont ceux de fantaisie. C'est pourquoi je voudrais inventer le monde unique qui se consistera des légendes, des rois, des fées. Je trouve mon inspiration dans des œuvres de Tolkien, Patrick Rothfuss, David Gemell et Aleksandar Tesic.

Donc, si je peux bénéficier d'une année sabbatique, j'écirai un livre. Et, peut-être, je pourrais passer ce temps à la campagne. Là-bas, il est plus calme et il y a de la nature.

Đurđija Marjanović III-5

Ростом разные подружки,
Не похожи друг на дружку,
Все они сидят друг в дружке,
В этой молодежи
Прячутся сестрицы.
Каждая сестрица –
Для меньшей – темница.
(Матрёшка)



10 ВОПРОСОВ ДЛЯ НАШЕГО ЧЕМПИОНА

Наш гость Марко Шаренац, молодой баскетболист и ученик нашей школы

1 - Когда ты начал заниматься баскетболом и как долго ты занимаешься спортом?

Я начал играть в баскетбол когда мне было 11 лет, а стал серьёзно заниматься с 14 лет.

2 - Сколько времени ты проводишь на тренировках и как тебе успеваешь все сделать вовремя?

Обычно тренируюсь два раза в день, но всё-таки школа для меня всегда на первом месте. Я успеваю все с большими усилиями.

3 - Твоё первое выступление для сборной команды?

Первое выступление для сборной команды было в 2016 году на Европейском юношеском Олимпийском фестивале (*European Youth Olympic Festival, EYOF*) в городе Тбилиси, а второе в 2017 году на Европейском первенстве в Братиславе, на котором мы заняли первое место и стали чемпионами.

4 - У тебя есть свободное время и как проводишь его?

Его очень мало, но оно есть. По большей части я стараюсь использовать своё



время разумно. Обычно отдыхаю или свободное время провожу со своими друзьями.

5

- Какое чувство быть чемпионом Европы и скажи что-нибудь о сборной и о последнем турнире?

Самое невероятное, прекрасное и неопишемое чувство. Необъяснимая мысль, что вы стали первыми в Европе. Мне дана возможность почувствовать это со сборной. Конечно, я много старался достичь цели, и не только я, но и целая команда. С самого начала в Словакии у нас была цель, мы верили друг в друга. У нас была хорошая атмосфера, мы сыграли отлично и на этом турнире были лучшими.

6

- Когда ты приехал в Валево? Почему выбрал именно гимназию?

Когда приехал в Валево было несколько возможностей. Мы с родителями поговорили и я поступил в гимназию ради будущих планов и думаю, что не ошибся. Я вписался в жизнь гимназии очень быстро.

7

- У тебя ещё какие-нибудь интересы и увлечения кроме баскетбола?

Конечно, я очень люблю искусство, путешествия и футбол.



8

- Какие твои планы на будущее? Ты намерен играть в баскетбол за границей?

У меня большие планы на будущее. Самая большая мечта -согласовать время для школы и баскетбола, но всё-таки увидим...

9

- Кто поддерживает тебя?

Самая большая ценность и поддержка в моей жизни – это семья. Родные всегда окажут поддержку в трудную минуту, помогут словом и делом.

10

- Какой совет ты мог бы дать молодым спортсменам, начинающим карьеру?

Им надо верить в себя и в то что делают. Никогда не тратьте силы на то, что этого не стоит. И конечно, никогда не отступайте от своих целей.

Матия, Марко и Никола П-7, взяли интервью у Марка



This crossroads in life will be never again

Our youth is the time in our lives when we are most energetic, most carefree, we are living in the moment, not thinking about the future, even though youth represents the crossroads in our life. The one that will be never again.

It is the time when we chose what will the rest of our life be like. Will we be successful, happy, fulfilled or maybe sad and pitiful? It all depends on the path we take before we become adult.

The decisions we make then will stay with us forever. When we are young we can change, but when we grow old, the change becomes difficult. If we don't work hard we will never be free, we'll have to depend on someone else. If we chose to be selfish we will always be alone. Everyone knows what the right path is, but not everyone is ready to take it.

We must not forget the past, we have to get ready for the future, but we live in the present. Even though youth carries the heavy burden of important decisions, we mustn't be afraid. Some sacrifices have to be made for the better tomorrow, but we have to live our youths and our lives to the fullest. That is also important for our future. Because in that way we stay young forever.

Aleksandar Krstić IV-2



"...and I took the less trodden path..."

It's really important to always take the right path in life, which isn't the most used one all the time. We must learn on time that the right decisions, which don't necessarily seem easy at the time of making them, do in fact pay off in life.

Many people think that school is only about grades and they do all kinds of things to get good grades, for example cheat on tests, copy someone's homework et cetera. But grades are not the most important thing in school, nor are the subjects we learn. The most important thing that we learn in school is how to be righteous, respectable and noble people when we grow up. Lack of knowledge or specialization can be compensated by righteousness, but not being a good man can't.

Some may be tempted to take the wrong path, just because it's easier or because everyone is taking it. But the thing they don't know or ignore is that cheating and lying your way to success cannot lead you far. It's just a temporary success that soon turns out to become a complete disaster.

Only hard work and righteousness pay off in the end, not cheating and exploiting someone else and their time and effort.

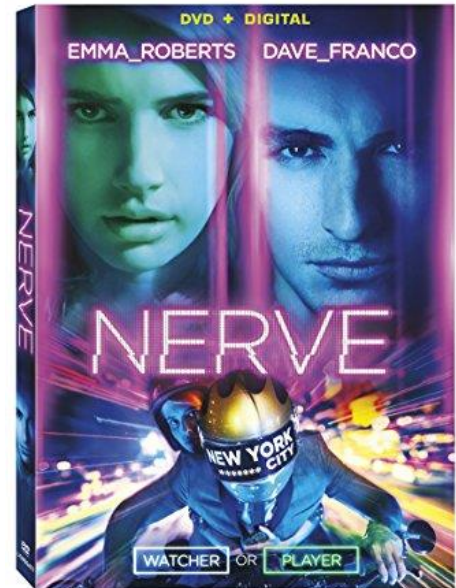
Aleksa Petrović IV-6



A review of a film “Nerve“

Henry Joost and Ariel Schulman brought an adrenaline-filled book-inspired movie to the big screen. To develop a story, they mixed everything up in a way that will intrigue the audience. The main reason I liked this movie is that characters are high school students like me. At this point of life, we all seek fun, don't we?

A teenager (Emma Roberts) finds herself immersed in an online game of truth or dare, where her every move starts to be manipulated by an anonymous community of „watchers“. One of the most surprising moments in the film occurs when she joined the network that will change her life. After you are in, there is no out. She meets a newcomer (Dave Franco) while finishing one of her tasks. Those challenges are given by a group of admins, and by doing and recording them, it goes viral and she gains both followers and money.



They succeed in arousing our curiosity and providing us with the sense of tense and panic. Since the tasks are always dangerous, will they stay alive? The music is the main culprit for this-like atmosphere. It is so convincing and heightens the impressions. I would find this movie even much better only if it lasted longer.

At some point, she is standing on the ladder which connects two buildings, while the crowd is unable to even look at her. Yes, the pressure is high, but by fulfilling the task, and getting into another building, she would get a considerable amount of money.

When the love happens, and main characters become teammates, everything is more powerful, provocative and unpredictable. The plot is full of breathtaking scenes and won't leave you indifferent.

The goal is achieved. That deadly and manipulative network was shut down, and love won. I definitely recommend this movie to everybody. It will change the way you think about the internet and raise awareness of cyber bullying.

Aleksa Stojanović



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