

2021 International Essay Contest for Young People

[Children's Category – 3rd Prize]

Fire of life

(Original)

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“In the world there is a greater hunger for love and respect than for bread”

- Mother Teresa

Life is a journey from which there is no return. I know because my grandparents did not return. Some will travel longer and some will travel shorter, like my unborn twin. But they live now as I write about them in this essay. On this journey we will visit beautiful places, but sometimes we will see ruins. On this trip we will meet bad people but also good ones, like me who met the homeless man with a big heart.

One afternoon when I was returning from school in our small park I saw a homeless man. He was sitting in the grass and with his old fingers he was crushing his last hard piece of bread. He threw the crumbs around and immediately a few pigeons land on the grass. His face was smiling, he was happy that his friends came, at that moment he was no longer alone. I took my snack out of my bag and handed it to the homeless man. But he did not take it, he pointed his finger at the old woman who was selling flowers. From that day I gave my snack to the old woman.

People who have a lot of food can be unhappy if there is no one around them. If you share something with someone you will never be sad and alone. Happiness is not only when it is given to us.

I wish he could write what life really is, share when you do not have it, warm up when you do not have a home, be loved when you do not have a family, be needed when you do not have money.

This month, the pigeons came to the park every day and waited for their friend to feed them. But he did not come. I found out that he got sick of COVID-19 and the doctors were fighting for his life. He had no money to buy a mask to protect himself from COVID-19.

If life is a priceless gift, then it is equally important for the rich and the poor. Therefore, every creature on the planet should have a dignified life with respect. The sick to be healed, the hungry to be fed, the refugees to be accepted. I hope that our good doctors will save the man with a big heart, because his friends needs him. We all need each other.

In front of our building we have a young mulberry tree that makes a big shadow. Here on the bench my old neighbors are resting. That's great, the tree was taller than me. When I was 3 years old we were the same height. My family and I gave it life, we planted it and take care for it.

We are not a rich family but we participate in an auction with framed fishing flies and donate it to children with cancer in hospital at Munich and Paris.

My friend and I were moving the small trouts from the lower to the upper reaches of the river because they can not jump enough high, there is a big cascade. I give my clothes to my friend from the village. My boots keep running on the meadow, and my coat will keep Mila warm in the winter. What is unnecessary for us for someone else may be very useful.

Feed a bird it will give you a song, help the old people they will give you wisdom. Take care of our unique mother Earth, she will give us eternal life to all creatures of the planet.

Life is an unfinished book, an untold story. And when my mother's loving voice is gone, I will take the book of life and continue to write and tell it. I will dream with my eyes open for a planet in which the life of all creatures will never go out. Life is fire. Our goal on this journey is to help life on our unique planet Earth continue. Do not let the fire of life go out.