

Introduction

I am Agnes Nagy, and I'm sixteen. I live in a small village called Szárliget, which I adore. It lies between two beautiful mountains, and because of that, my friends and I usually go for a walk in the woods. At the moment I'm staying at the student's hostel of my school in Kőszeg, because I live about four hours away from that.

I have a younger sister, and an elder brother, but only my sister lives with us. My brother moved to Manchester four months ago. He has already found a nice and cheap flat, and now he's searching for a job. I want to visit him as soon as I can, maybe in the spring, or in the summer holiday. It would be great, if I could move to his house after graduation. I honestly hope that! I used to dance in a folk dance ensemble for more than five years - we were like a big family! We literally grew up together. I still love dancing but I have no time for it besides the school. So when I can - usually at the weekends -, I go with them to the performances. I love the feeling when I am on stage. Well, my other big love is writing. I gladly write almost everything, such as novels, short stories, articles and song lyrics. Two years ago some of my friends started to play together as a band, and they asked me to write some lyrics for them, and help in other stuff as well - of course I said yes. I don't get a penny for it, but I don't care, because I really enjoy this "job". In the future, I would love to be an author, but at least I hope to be something which is in connection with writing, for example a journalist.

Music is an important point in every teenager's life - it's true for me as well, I listen to music every day. It helps me when I feel depressed, or gives me energy when I am about to give up something. I have so many good experiences in connection with music! I got to know almost all of my friend at concerts and in similar ways.

When I am at home and have nothing else to do, I really like making necklaces and earrings from pearl. My mother usually goes to help to the local charity organisation, so she brings the pearl things that I made with her, sells it, and then gives the money to the people who need it. It is not too much, but still more than nothing.

At the moment I am in second year at a bilingual secondary school, so I learn English a lot - and of course, I like it quite much. I would be really happy if I could meet other people who don't speak Hungarian, so I'd have to speak English.



Isolation

Isolation. Just some letters... Or not? Try to look behind this simple word. It has such different meanings for a child at school, for a religious group, for an island, or for a whole country.

I would like to write about children and school – it doesn't matter if it is primary school, or high school, things happen. First, I have to tell you, I know a seventeen-year-old schoolboy who is an outcast in his class, because of his sexual orientation. He is depressed, hates school and hates life itself, because of his horrible classmates. He is trying to ignore them but they are much stronger and louder than him so all he can do is sitting in silence and not doing anything to the others. In this way he can avoid some of the fights but it is not the solution of his problem.

It is one of the worst meanings of the word Isolation. When you don't even know, whether you did something wrong or not, they just hate you for no reason, or for such a stupid, childish reason. In other cases these reasons can be anything – for example his/her hair or skin colour, weight, clothes, grades, or financial background.

Sometimes the children make it happen.

They are not especially the “troubled children” of the school, they are the “anti-social ones”, the hopeless children. They do not make any contacts, do not do anything when somebody else is around. It is a kind of malady for them.

These children do not go anywhere but stay at home, play with computer games or read books, so they have no social life. Nobody wants to be their friend and they do not want it either. Although their parents are often worried about them, they are not able to do anything. Some children have parents who do not care about them at all, they could do anything they want, their parents would not say a word, or they would not even notice it.

Their behavior is not bad for that meaning, they “just” avoid conversations with others, do not want to make friends, and like being alone. They think that all the people are the same, and hate them. But it is not true, of course, only a wrong and pessimist opinion of the world.

On the other hand there are those children who bullies the others: the weaker, smaller, or the somehow strange students in the school. They do not do it just for fun, but they have a serious reason. They are the affection-less children who are in a desperate need to show everybody that how big and considerable they are. They need a conversation with their parents or teachers of their behaviour - just as the bullied and anti-social children - because they do not really know what they are exactly doing. They are just living in their narrow-minded life and do not notice anything from the outside world.

It is a hard situation for the children and for the parents too, but if they really want it and do everything they can, they will solve it. It is easy to give up but if they are tough enough, it can work - it has to work.

It is important to remember: there is always a chance. They are in trouble now but they I am sure can handle it, even if they need the help of a teacher or a doctor to do it perfectly.

Well, I think I am in a lucky situation with my parents, they pay attention to me but they are not too strict. However I know so much children with some of these problems! In our class, in the school, in my primary school... Lots and lots of children have trouble with getting on with their mates, and we have to do something to stop it!