

I will change the world by: Connecting Us With My Writing

By Sara Kim

They say to act, not talk. But who is they? They are the people we see every day. They are those friends, smiling as you walk to school. They are your teachers, lecturing the class on civil rights. But here is a question for you. Are you one of *them*? Are *you* one of those who look at people who only think their opinion and say, "You should act, not talk"? But what is acting? What is talking? You might think I am a buffoon now, asking for the definition of words that even a young child would know. Think, and you could be asking the same questions as me. To me, talking is not telling other people what you are thinking. To me, the way people say "talk" makes me think about when people are only thinking what they feel. Why? Because even when you tell your close friend about what you prefer or feel on something, you can be still influencing them. You are still acting.

When people think of the word "acting", they think about peaceful marches, powerful speeches, and unique discoveries. They think of people who stood up to the world and changed it by doing something. But for some reason, people don't think of writing as a way of acting. Why is that so? I don't know. But potent writing can be just as powerful as everything else. Writing can be a powerful weapon when placed in the right hands. A weapon waiting to be directed and used. A weapon that can do all the things that people can only get started on.

Remember when I said that talking to somebody about your opinion is also what I consider acting? Well, writing a book on your beliefs is also talking to somebody. When you share that book with the world, people will read it. You are talking through the pages of the book. You are simply expanding your comfort zone a bit to teach the world what you believe is right.

My family's beliefs vary. Some of us voted for one president, and some voted for another. Some are from one place and some are from elsewhere. Some believe in monotheism, some believe polytheism, and some are agnostic. Why do we vary so much? Because my family is the world. I was made from the earth and so were they. I am related to them. But we are all scattered and apart. All the attempts to unite us only end in disaster. This is where my dream comes in. I want to help connect the world's views. I want people to realize why someone is the way they are. Why they are Christian. Why they are gay. Why they dislike a kind of food. Why they are sad all the

time. So basically, I want people to open their hearts up more. We already live in a world that is full of secrets. I see no reason for people to withdraw more than we've done. We have broken the harmony. So, let us see the thread connecting us. Let us hold out our hands and hold the thread together. Let us understand each other the best we can.

Just like a glass cup is easy to break, but hard to piece back. Just like once you get a scar, it won't just disappear. Nothing is easy to redo if it had a negative effect. But who are we if we don't try? We are the most intelligent creatures this world has seen by far. We have done wonderful things, and we have done catastrophic things too. We. Can. Try. No- we *will* try. And maybe, writing will bring us closer. Maybe it will.

I want to become an author when I grow up. That is why I am telling you all this. I want my writing to influence other people. I want people to understand what I believe, why I believe it, and what that belief came from. I want people to realize who I am, and why I wanted to write books. I want *them* to see that there are so many people acting, and it is only them who do not realize it. I want to change the world. Not drastically, but bit by bit. Along with other authors who have the same goal. To change the world with our writing.