

A Short Story

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We are not from here. We are more like the people who are from here than they can imagine. But they find it difficult to see us as we are or to like us. We have chosen to live our lives among them. This is a dangerous choice. We made this choice because we love these people. They need us.

You must remember that it takes a long time for most of these people to see that you are alive and that you have a heart, and that you are trying to give something to them. Some of them will never see you as anything more than a puppet at best. You must find people who will see that you are alive. You must help them over and over again to keep on seeing that you are alive. If you do not help people to see that you are alive, you will fall asleep. The only life you will have is the life of a puppet filled with other people's stories. They may grow tired of playing with you; they may break you; they may throw you away; they may destroy you.

When you find people who can see you, you must learn to live among them. You must learn to believe most of what they believe, and to act in most of the same ways as they act. People who can see you will tell you how to do this. You must listen closely and watch carefully even when it is tiresome. If you do not strive to become like them, the others who can not see you will drive you away. Even those who can see you will not be able to hold on to you.

However, you must not strive to be completely like these people or you will break yourself.

While you are among these people, you must constantly search for ways to hang on to your true self and your true way of being while you are acting like others as much as possible. As the others get to know you better and better they can help you find your true self and your own way of being. Be courageous in asking them to help you find your true self. Be courageous in doing this even when it hurts you and when it hurts them.

It is your way to love the others. It is your way to heal them. It is your way to help them renew themselves. It is why we came to live among them.