

École Secondaire, Highwood High School, Alberta, Canada.

Dear Windermere Children

I would like to tell you that I think you are some of the most inspiring people I have ever heard of. Your stories are true examples of how tragedy can turn into success.

You tell me that there is always a silver lining.

You show me how to grow as a person and be resilient.

You remind me that forgiveness is possible.

I would like to tell you that we all admire your bravery and your stories are excellent teaching examples.

So during our next encounter I would like to shake your hand and tell you how amazing your stories are. **Schuyler G.**

I would like to tell you that you all inspire me to persevere with your stories and your resilience.

You tell me what your daily routine looked like. Not necessarily the big things, but small things you might have done with friends like what you might have done after schedule events.

You show me the keepsakes you saved from Windermere, like leaves or buttons or things like that. Things that helped you keep up the hope of being in a new place, after the events of the Holocaust.

You remind me of my own grandpa who had a difficult childhood but managed to have the same sort of successful life.

I would like to tell you that you are all amazing people who are shining examples of resilience.

So during our next encounter I hope to hear that you are doing well, and you are able to spend time with your families. **Annaleen**

I would like to tell you, your perseverance has encouraged so many people to keep going no matter how bad the situation gets. Influencing so many generations to push through the bad, and keep looking for the light at the end of the tunnel, specifically because you guys could.

You tell me that no matter how bad the world is to you there is never a good enough reason to give up hope.

You show me even though the world can discriminate and bash how you were born and raised there is no need to fall under the line of their command, your decisions are not based on what others wanted and for that your individualistic tendencies reflected more than the horrendous treatment you received.

You remind me that no matter the situation there is always a reason to stand with your opinions and maintain your values when presented with a life altering decision.

I would like to tell you that your ability to continue one with your life after your past, has made this world a better place. For that so many individuals are proud of you and appreciate you for it.

So during our next encounter I will sit and listen to your stories, to better inform myself. Specifically to provide correct knowledge to my peers and those from the younger generations, to prevent history repeating itself. **Jorga C.**

I would like to tell you I am a student at Highwood High School taking a course called Holocaust Studies. I'm very invested within the course and have heard many stories about Holocaust survivors such as yourselves.

You tell me within the course I have heard many stories from Holocaust survivors including the survivors in Windermere. These stories show that hopes can come true but also the terrible past you have lived through.

You show me how to strive for greatness in times of great darkness and to always keep your head up. Continue to push forward even in times of doubt.

You remind me of some of the most inspiring brave people within society today and then as well.

I would like to tell you I am truly inspired by the way you have striving for greatness and hoped for the best possible future to come. It was also inspiring to know how brave you were as I have previously mentioned. This encourages me to do the same.

So during our next encounter I hope to hear more about yourselves and hope to even maybe one day shake your hand and thank you for the amazing people you are.

Brody L.

I would like to tell you I admire your strength and bravery. It is truly inspiring to see how much you built for yourself and the life you established.

You tell me there is never a good reason to give up; that you should always strive to do better.

You show me even when it seems hard you should always keep pushing and live everyday like it's your last day.

You remind me of my papa. He always told me that I should always strive to do better no matter what. He told me something that I will always keep in mind, he would say "if they wanted to, they would".

I would like to tell you that your strength and compassion are truly admirable and it inspires me to better for myself and work harder.

So during our next encounter I would love to ask more questions about what empowers you to stay strong and keep going. **Joslyn Bailey**

I would like to tell you that you are very brave and you have been through so much and still came out on the flip side. You are so brave and a complete legend for being able to live through the war.

You tell me that many things happen in life but it's how you deal with the adversity that makes all the difference in the end.

You show me that anyone no matter age can accomplish anything that they put their minds to. You being brave enough to encounter the things you have and still persevere truly inspires me everyday.

You remind me that when something truly awful happens, it's okay to face it, nothing I will ever experience in my life will ever come close to what you have been through but your story will always show perseverance and continues to inspire me on a daily basis.

I would like to tell you that you are a true inspiration to many around you, be yourself and never let that go even when others tell you to be something you're not, you stayed you and that will always inspire me.

So during our next encounter I would love to thank you, thank you for being such an inspiration to many including myself. Lastly thank you for being you! **Jorja D.**

I would like to tell you how amazing I think it is that so many of you led successful lives after everything you went through. How much I commend you for taking time out of your lives to continue to teach people about your story, as well as other's stories.

You tell me a story that most people wouldn't have the strength to live through even the first time. A story of how people managed to survive in the worst conditions, and move past it to live "normal" lives.

You show me that no matter what, I have to continue to help others fight for their rights as human beings.

You remind me that even through the worst things, humans can survive and begin to truly thrive after time and hard work. You also remind me of how resilient humans really are at the very core of everything.

I would like to tell you how much you inspire me to be a better person, and help others who are facing any kinds of injustice and to not give up no matter what. I appreciate you telling me your story, even though it brings up horrible memories.

So during our next encounter I would like to ask you about how you managed to continue life after going through everything. **Miah V.**

I would like to tell you that I am a student at Highwood high school and am in the Holocaust studies level 35. I first took interest in the level 15/25 Holocaust studies class. You tell me the stories of things you have been through and what you had to experience. You have also told me that things that involved a lot of perseverance and patience and hope. From all the stories and things I have learned in class, the Windermere children were by far one of the most interesting and infatuating.

You show me the amount of intelligence that you guys had during such a difficult time.

You've shown me the amount of perseverance you have had and that shows me how every person should strive to be like you guys through a difficult time and that they should have patience and hope and perseverance in situations.

You remind me of very brave people who can still make a great life for yourselves after the hardships you guys have been through and had to deal with.

I would like to tell you how amazing you are and how I strive to have your intelligence.

So during our next encounter I would like to shake your hand and acknowledge everything that you have taught me and thank you for helping me to learn more about the Holocaust and know what people have gone through. **Wren L.**