CRVENI KRST RUMA-TEODORA MOMČILOVIĆ:VOLONTERSKA PRIČA 19

At one moment I'm in the classroom, talking with 10 year olds about tolerancy. They are talking about all the good things they've done. Week later, I'm at our local Red Cross meeting, but this time everybody were wearing masks, hand gloves and standing 3 feet apart from each other. State of emergency has been declared, and now we have police hour. Virus is present among us. It is up to us to help the people in need. At that moment nobody knew what was going to happen next. Now, all of us are responcible for them.

 We are obligated to protect them by protecting ourselves. My friends asked wheter I was scared. Yes, I am afraid, but for everybody around me, not myslef. Beeing a volunteer in the time of coronavirus has showed me one more time how many good people are there. Good people-whose deeds are maybe invisible to the rest of the world, but those who need them, they are absolutely visible. Just like our own.

Every time, when I phoned some granny or grandpa to ask if they need some grociers or medecine, they wouldn't just give me the information I required, they would always ask me about my health, and offer me a lot of gradidutes for remembering them. It was then when I realisad that they aren't in a need for some person who would buy them the requested items. They wanted someone to talk to, someone who would comfort them and offer support, someone who will show them that they are not alone. When I'm at their doorsteeps, handing them the grociers and medecines I bought, they would often keep me one minute longer just to talk about some random topics. They would talk to me about their loved ones, ones they used to love, their good neighbors and the good old days. Every smile, and sometimes a tear, they would share with me, showed me how much the things I would to for them are absolutely worth it. It showed me how much my little effort meant a world to someone.

In the previous month and a half, I’ve learnt a lot. I’ve learnt how much is important to be patient. I’ve learnt how important is choosing right words and never giving untruthful hope. I couldn’t tell anyone that this is going to pass quickly, but what I could do is give them advice how to get over these difficult days. I’ve learnt nothing is impossible. “How do you get to complete all your obligations for online school when you’re always in Red Cross?” I get to complete, because when desire is big enough, as I already said, nothing is impossible. Then, nothing is hard and any setback isn’t big enough to stop you. I’ve learnt that any weather isn’t bad enough to keep a volunteer from making a good deed and showing his humanity. It doesn’t matter if it’s snowing, raining, the wind is blowing or it’s shining. None of these will keep us from reaching doors of those whom our help means everything. Neither way is too long, neither house is too away. With our responsibility, adhering to all safety measures, we’ve acquired the most important thing. Trust.

What’s most beautiful, is when, at the end, we remember everything we’ve done that day, and when we realize how much valuable that is. And as it always is, the hardest times brings the most beautiful stories. We got the opportunity to show what Red Cross’s principles really means. We’re humanitarian as always. We’re impartial and neutral. We’re independent. Everything we do, we do it by our own free will. We’re unique and universal. We’re everywhere for everyone.