

Hi,

My name is Anonymous. I graduated from university last year. I'm a social-psychologist by profession. You ask me about my interests. I love reading books, watching movies, and doing research related to my profession.

I've read your letter where you mention that if I'm reading your letter, I've taken a step forward and I want the same as you. In fact, participating in this project is a step forward itself.

Given my background, I understand the psychological impact of war and the difficulties that come with it very well. Pain, tears, bitterness, death, separation, fear: this is War.

I know that neither you nor I are to blame for the hostility between our countries. Both of our countries have suffered many casualties and losses. Just as you do not want an Azeri soldier to shoot at an Armenian soldier one day, we do not want an Armenian soldier to kill a young Azeri soldier, either. How many relatives, friends we have, who serve on the front lines, and their families worry and fear for them every day. Peace unites us. We must unite around this motto because both you and we want people to live a fearless and tranquil life. I understand you in that regard.

I wasn't born during the war but I imagine the war in detail from the books I've read, films I've watched, the studies I've conducted, and the stories I've heard.

My grandfather lost his family in the war, and this had a great negative psychological impact on him. He became a cruel man because of a horrific incident during the war. Fear and hatred nested in him. He became an orphan and grew up surviving on bread. He used to tell his children and grandchildren the horrible stories about the war and the survivors, and he did it in such a way that you got goosebumps. The name of the one who hurts the souls of people depriving them of relatives is War.

I know that we were once friends. We shared bread together. It means we can be like that now, too. We've survived a lot throughout history. We've had both territorial and human losses. I know it may be difficult, but one cannot focus solely on hatred and war, and forget that people want peace. I visited one of the regions near the front line in the frames for a project. I met children there and listened to their thoughts on war, its consequences and bitterness. They were nervous and couldn't answer the questions fully. They were also well aware of what their relatives had gone through.

If you've only heard or read about war and it's hard for you to talk about it, then it's even harder for a survivor, for someone who has lost relatives and lived in worry and fear. I know that nothing can be achieved without establishing peace between us, and without spreading the idea in our communities. Those living on the front line live in constant fear. So many mothers live in the horror of war, worrying about their children. We can't change them anymore, but we can take steps to eliminate the horror.

We're strong together.

With love.