

# THE STORY OF ADAM

Hey, my name is Josh, I am 16 years old and I am from England. My father is a lawyer and my mother a nurse, so I live well. I like playing games, reading comics and sleeping.

I am not very social; I only have two best friends: Sam and Edward. They are very similar to me. We have the same hobbies but not the same ideas.

I thought poor people were because it had not bothered by this situation. They don't deserve my help or my attention. All people surrounding me don't have any problem like that, so while my loved ones are well, all is well.

One day I was preparing for go to school. It wasn't a special day, cloudy and cold, like a day in February. At half past seven, I met with Sam and Edward for talk of the new game that had gone out. When it was eight o'clock, we were sitting and waiting for the teacher.

I was sitting in the third column, next to the window, when suddenly the teacher opened the door. Everything was silent when the teacher entered with a guy. He was blond and short hair. He had brown and small eyes. Tall and thin. He attracted much attention.

- Good morning children, today a new student joined our class. Please introduce yourself.
- Okay. H-hello, m-my name i-is Adam. I am from Russia and I-I hope we get along well.

"He is a strange guy" I thought." His clothes are stained and appear to be old".

The class the class continued normal until the end. Sam and Edward had football class, so I was going home alone. Suddenly, I saw Adam walking in the other sidewalk.

"The new guy in the class. I think is good idea talk to him". So I crossed the street and:

- Hi! My name is Josh and I am in your class.
- Oh! Hello, I didn't see you.

We stayed a moment in silence

- So... What are your hobbies?
- What?
- You know, when you are bored in your house, what do you do?
- Mmm....I think I like take a walk and little else.
- So you don't like videogames?
- I've never played one.
- Ride a bike?
- I haven't got a bicycle
- Okay, you put me hard

- So as you've never played a video game, you want to come to my house to play a game with me?
- Not today, sorry. I have to help my mother.
- Tomorrow?
- Okay.
- Cool! Oh, I live here, see you tomorrow!
- Nice to meet you Josh!

That was our first conversation. He seemed friendly. Arriving at my house I bought the new game of Mario Bros and I didn't play. Because I wanted brand new with Adam.

The next day I met Edward as same as yesterday. Sam broke his leg yesterday playing football. Poor thing. That day we had a biology exam. That wasn't easy. I think I pass, but Adam was a little overwhelmed.

When the school ended, I said goodbye to Edward and I walked to home with Adam. We talk about many things, but I thought Adam didn't do a lot of things in his life.

We arrived home and my mom prepared a carrot cake for us. It was delicious!

We climbed the stairs and went into my room.

- Your house is so big!
- It could be bigger and tidier.
- I wish I had this house
- Ta daaa! Here is the game we are going to play. Do you like Mario Bros?
- I don't know it
- Whaaat? How you can't know Mario Bros?
- ...

"Definitely he is a strange guy" I thought. But he looked nervous, so I change the subject

- Let's play!
- Okay

We played for three hours and he didn't improve!

- I think we are going to stop
- Yeah, is a little bit late. My mother may be is angry.
- It's been very fun
- I think so.
- See you tomorrow!
- Bye!

The rest of the day I was thinking: "How can't he know Mario Bros?" "He lives in a cave?"

The next days we were becoming closer. All the afternoons he came to my house and we played a lot of games .It was very funny. But I had a question, and one day, I lost the match. He was very cheerful and I said:

- Adam
- Yes, loser?
- Can I- Wait, what did you call me?!
- I call you what are you, LOSER
- Okay, okay...
- What did you want to say before?
- Oh, that question...
- Come on, we don't have the all day
- Why did you come to England?
- It's complicated.
- If you don't want to tell me, it's okay.
- Thank you.
- Its half past nine. You must go home.
- Bye.

From that day I was thinking what secret was keeping Adam. I suspected it couldn't be good. Adam seemed not bad person. What could be?

Next day he wasn't in class. I was concerned. I wished he was well.

Finally, when he comeback to school, I asked him for date in my house again . Adam came to my house. After five matches, I talked:

- What happened to you?
- I was ill.
- Don't lie me
- We have bad news from my country
- What happen?
- We think they arrest my father's brother.
- Why?
- In Russia is very easy that you arrest.
- For anything?
- For anything that disturb the government
- And what did your uncle?
- He is a teacher
- What did he do?
- I think he said that the education system in Russia has to change
- And for that thing he is going to be arrested?
- In Russia is complicated to give your opinion
- I didn't have no idea
- In Russia the restrictions on the right to freedom of expression is more stronger every day
- And the other people don't do anything?
- Its dangerous protest. There are effects. They continued the prosecutions of those who had participated in protests against the Government in Bolotnaya square.
- And your uncle was there?

- No, but they are going to do the same as he was there.
- It is possible that these persons do not have a trial fair. Human rights defenders were liable to be punished with fines or prosecuted for their activities. Several people were charged for criticizing government policies. My uncle isn't the only person who is in this situation. Also there were allegations of torture and other ill-treatment in prisons and the lack of medical care in prisons put in danger the lives of detainees in them.
- In your country the situation is very bad.
- And that's not all, in Chechnya, who were critical of the authorities were liable to be prosecuted and suffer physical abuse at the hands of non-State actors. to the defenders of human rights who reporting from the region also were abused. Russia did not respect human rights.
- I am very surprised
- Now, you know why I am here.
- How long are you here?
- Like 6 months
- And your father?
- He is a writer. He wants write a book of the situation of Russia for people like you that don't know. But in Russia is forbidden. So he travel to England for write here and tell the world that in Russia did not respect human rights.
- Here anybody helps him?
- He found people who think like him but he hasn't any help.
- What a pity.
- Here there are a lot of people who have to come to this country in the same conditions like my father. Thank goodness that in England respected the rights of the asylum seekers and refugees.
- That is a think that I never know.
- Russia returns refugees, migrants and asylum-seekers to other countries, despite the real risk that suffered torture and other ill-treatment. In many cases it expelled them to remain in the country after overcoming the period of stay marked by your Visa or do not have the documents required by the administrative code. The circumstances of the person or the possible consequences that might have for her expulsion from the country.
- What happened to the expelled persons?
- Torture and other ill-treatment continued to be widespread. My neighbors were beaten and tortured for two hours in the kitchen of his home in Moscow by officers of the special unit of response of the Ministry of the Interior. Their cousins were handcuffed at the kitchen table while agents tortured them by tapping it with an electric baton and suffocating them with a plastic bag. Finally they were taken to the police station; at the end of the year, remained detained pending trial.
- But that is illegal
- In England is illegal. Not in Russia. The European Court of human rights concluded in 12 separate cases submitted to torture or other ill-treatment to prisoners in Russia. His attorneys could not talk to them or get basic information about his

whereabouts until several months after their arrest. Also prison endangered the lives of the people in prison. They do not provide adequate prison medical care. A report also stated that many diseases are not diagnosed until they became serious and that the medical personnel of the prison service does not have sufficient means

- That is inhuman! And there isn't any NGO that could help?
- Independent dozens of NGOs were sanctioned with administrative fines. Its very difficult help from inside. For this reason my father decided travel to England for help and inform. Also he wanted have a better live for us.

When Adam said goodbye I thought all the day. Really people were in that situation? But Adam wasn't a lazy or bothered. Why he was in like that and he hasn't any guilt? I was so confused.

From that day I opened my eyes. Adam was my friend and he wasn't happy. I had to help him. 10 years later; I am fighting for that situation. I finished my studies and I am working in a association with Adam for change the government of Russia. We have a magazine where we public all the information that we know. Also we work with other associations for help Russia's people from outside. People who need help for come to England have our help too.

Russia isn't the only country in this situation. There are a lot of countries that don't respect the rights humans. Here are some examples: Syria, Irak, Libya, Nigeria, Yemen, Somalia, Honduras, Mexico, Venezuela, Cuba, Egypt, North Korea, Colombia, Túnez, Turkey, Thailand, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Jordanian, Paquistán, China, Iran, Nicaragua, Congo, Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Vietnam, Bangladesh, Ukraine, South Sudan, Sri Lanka... etc. In some of these countries there are violations because of wars or armed conflicts. In other countries there are links between organized crime and the authorities.

United Nations highlighted restrictions of rights políticos, of Association, to freedom of expression and dissemination of thought, as well as the lack of elections, the lack of independence of the judiciary and restrictions on freedom of movement.

Also alleged that hate situations of discrimination and violence with respect to LGBTI people.

We are fighting for a fair judicial system, so that there are no more torture and recognize the rights of free association and expression as well as freedom of press and Assembly.

