

Theresa - Blindness

Written by:

David Ripoll and Ysabel Berger

INT. CINEMA. MOVIE THEATER. DAY

You "wake up" in a movie theater with only the chair you are sitting on and some kind of box next to you. The lights fade off and a projection starts. A person appears on screen. THERESA, 19, her face points towards the camera with joy. Behind her lies the main hall of The University of Applied Sciences of Sankt Pölten.

THERESA

Hi, I'm Theresa, nice to see you!

She is not really looking at the camera. Her eyes wonder with a lost look, though her confident expression remains.

THERESA

Well, to be honest, there's not much I can see, I'm actually blind.

She lifts her arm and shows a walking cane.

THERESA

I've been losing sight since I was 16. As of now I can only see a big blur and some vague shadows. However, I believe that, out of pure sympathy people tend to over-victimize disabled persons.

She stops for a moment.

THERESA

Yes, I may not be able to experience the world as other people. I'm legally blind, and that can sadly be a very big challenge on my daily life. Still, besides that I'm just like any other person. I don't expect nobody to come and save me.

She laughs.

THERESA

Imagine you are just getting through your day and some stranger just grabs you unprompted. That would be weird, right? Well, something like that happens to me every week when I'm trying to cross the street.

Theresa exhales and shrugs.

(CONTINUES)

THERESA

There are many more situations that people may not really realize how weird they actually are for blind people.

INTERCUT

INT. FH. CANTEEN. DAY

Theresa is talking with a friend at the university's canteen.

THERESA (V.O)

What about when I'm talking with someone and they suddenly leave without saying anything?

Theresa's friend leaves. Theresa keeps talking for a moment. She stops, puzzled, and calls her friend. No answer.

INT. FH. CANTEEN. DAY

Theresa is having breakfast sitting at a table of the canteen.

THERESA (V.O)

Or how about when I'm doing stuff on my own and someone sneaks on me?

Theresa's friend enters the kitchen and greets her. She gets startled and spills her coffee. Her friend shrugs it off.

INTERCUT

INT. CINEMA. MOVIE THEATER. DAY

Theresa exhales with a slight smile.

THERESA

Then there's all the problems about accesibility that not many people realize. Like traffic lights, even many apps on different devices or how many braille markers have you seen on the supermarket?

She exhales once again but with a bit of resignation.

(CONTINUES)

THERESA

Still, I don't let all that to ruin
my life, I trust my instincts.
Neither I let my fears to define
who I am. I have hobbies and
passions. For example, music is my
love, that's why I ended up here at
the Fachhochschule.

She stops for a moment.

THERESA

What about you? How do you think
you could handle the lack of
vision? Do you want to see the
world through my eyes? Then put on
those glasses in front of you and
let's see how you do it!