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12/11/19

Period 4 & 6, English

Societies Effects

I’m reading the Book Counting by 7s by Holly Goldberg Sloan. This book is about a girl named Willow(protagonist). Willow was adopted by her parents and lives in a loving household. She overall seems to be a happy child. As the books start to progress, The author makes light of the fact that Willow is not an ordinary six years old. Willow had just started Kindergarten and the other kids were calling her weird and making fun of her. When her parents found her crying in the bushes they decide to get her tested. The results from the test say that Willow is Highly gifted. “I read it. It said I was “highly gifted.” Are people “lowly gifted”? Or “medium gifted”? Or just “gifted”? It’s possible that all labels are curses…..Because in my opinion, it’s not a great idea to see people as one thing. Every person has lots of ingredients to make them into what is a one-of-a-kind creation.”(Pg. 18)

I think that this quote relates to our society because we tend to place people into groups and define them. When Willow is but into a category she started things that makes these categories and how are any of them different. She also realizes that it’s unfair to put people into groups and each person can have many different parts of themselves and can not be put into a group. I think that these thoughts have also occurred to people all over the world in all kinds of different societies. Throughout our history and especially today more people are standing up and saying “This is wrong” “Why are we different from everyone else”? One example could be Malala. The last book I read was about a young girl who was treated differently because she was a girl in Pakistan. Therefore she was underestimated because the people around her placed her in a group but she believed that was wrong, so she stood for herself. I think that this happens throughout the world, people are always breaking out of social constructs.

I feel this passage is really powerful because it was written very well. In this passage, the author expresses Willow’s confusion and curiosity by listing questions. I also liked the metaphor she used, comparing people to a cake and different aspects of their personalities to the ingredients that make up the cake. I feel in the book so far the author has made the character Willow relatable. Instead of having and very different genus little girl, the author decided to bring aspects of normality in her personality. For example, she questions things that are going on around her. I feel that this book is also very interesting because the author wrote it more factually. Willow also thinks very factually, she consistently makes lists and writes numbers. Overall I think the book is very interesting and I’m looking forward to seeing how Willow progresses.

**Cage the elephant- cigarettes daydream**

**This song talks about being different and not feeling like you belong**



I chose this image because Willow and people all over the world feel that they are different and don’t belong