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I want to express my gratitude to my dear mama and to all the mothers of the world.

My teacher asked me to write a letter to an influential person to draw attention to the climate crisis. I think that mothers are the most influential people in the world. A mother shapes the world, raises generations, changes societies. I would like to start by expressing my affection and my respect for all the mothers of the world.

Dear mama, I am a child, the Earth is large and I am small. For our ancient and immense Earth to protect us children and leave us a sustainable legacy, you mothers must protect our second mother, the Earth. You must shine a light on our future before the climates change and deteriorate, you must be the first to say "stop" in response to the climate crisis.

When I think back to my childhood, I want to remember flower-filled gardens, white clouds adorning a blue sky, the waves of the sea, busy bees and friendly penguins. To those who are thoughtlessly polluting the environment, I say, stop haunting my nightmares, please. The climate crisis is a universal downfall, a terrible problem triggered by damage caused by mankind to the environment, a deterioration of the balance of gases in the atmosphere, an increase in the greenhouse effect, the consumption of natural resources, an astounding increase in the quantity of waste that is smothering the planet, the use of fossil fuels, for which mankind is responsible. It is causing the extinction of hundreds of plants and animals, and an increase in the quantity of acid in water, our source of life, rendering it unusable.

It breaks my heart to be writing of such things as a child. I feel as though our house has been

bombed, my toys broken, my sweets fallen in the dirt. I want to breathe freely, to run in verdant fields, to race against the wind, to dance with the snowflakes, to be soaked by the rain, to blossom like the pollen of flowers the world over. I imagine that our ancient Earth is not a battlefield but a field of celebration.

My dear mama, you know that I have frightening dreams. Well, they are all about the climate crisis. I am afraid, please, mama, help me to overcome this crisis together! The world that children are to inherit is disappearing with the climate crisis, our future is slipping from our grasp, our hopes are fading, our dreams are polluted and our laughter is replaced by tears. I am afraid, mama, I am afraid! Help me, mama, help me!

Dearest mothers, before the climate crisis opens up irreparable wounds in our lives, you must say "stop" to this destruction that could cause irreversible damage. You are mothers, and mothers reproduce, give birth, raise, teach, educate. Mothers bring us into the world, give life...

According to the rules of ecology and divine balance, the Sun's rays upon the Earth should bounce back and disseminate towards the sky, towards space. The greenhouse gases generated by the fossil fuels used without thought surround the atmosphere and create a hazardous layer. This hazardous layer traps the Sun's rays on our Earth, disrupting the balance and causing dramatic global warming. When the natural balance is disturbed, climates change, habitats and laws of nature are perturbed, people are obliged to migrate, animals and plants face a terrible end, species are snuffed out, the world is shattered by global extinctions. We do not want to perish, we want to spread the universal values and feelings in our hearts beyond our time, such as love for

mankind and animals, respect for nature, we do not want to die. We want to fill our lungs with oxygen, transport the love we feel for the creatures under the watch of the Creator across the continents and the ages. We want to live our big, pure and childish loves, of peace, friendship and fraternity. Throughout the world, every living being who has suffered as a result of unexpected natural phenomena such as fires, hurricanes, freezes, floods, whirlwinds, extreme temperatures, makes our hearts bleed. We do not want animals that have committed no crime or sin to die because of climate change.

Dear mothers, to prevent this crisis and the suffering that it causes, it is in your power to say "stop". You can start by reducing our consumption of meat and products of animal origin in our meals. You can take a step forward by ceasing to buy useless items and by avoiding the waste caused by the frenzy for buying that has taken over the world. Without polluting natural spaces, you can tend to the wounds of our ancient Earth by restoring our habitats to their natural state.

Our heroic and devoted mothers, who have so much love, compassion and mercy in their hearts, the day-to-day affairs of this world progress with every step you make. For this reason, every action that you undertake has the power to slow the climate crisis. But how? Feed us naturally, make sure that we eat fruit and vegetables that are in season. Stop the unrestrained consumption of water and save water. The children that you raise can learn habits to save water when they wash, brush their teeth, wash their hands and take a shower. You can avoid plastic. Plastic is an insidious enemy and it exhausts our ancient Earth. You can opt for fabric bags instead of plastic bags, and paper or glass plates instead of disposable plastic plates, cups and straws. You can use flasks instead of plastic water bottles that will not break down in our beautiful natural world for hundreds of years. And you, mothers, you want us children

to be happy. Believe me, paper and glass are less harmful than plastic. We children prefer to use things made from these materials, rather than plastic that cannot be broken down in nature.

Dearest mothers, do not forget that a mother guides and influences a child, and that a child changes and strengthens society. The way of life of mothers determines the way of life of their children. Mothers guide us towards the future. For example, if a mother dries the laundry on a line rather than in a dryer, her children will follow her example and turn off the tap to avoid wasting water and switch off unnecessary lights. And so, small precautions prevent major catastrophes. Mother are guides, with generations following in their footsteps...

Dear mothers, you are the vanguard in an army of nature-lovers fighting against the climate crisis. We children, with you, are there to the end to say "stop" to the global crisis, the climate crisis. We are young, we are ecologists, we are happy, we are free. We love our world very much. We want to leave a clean and undamaged legacy for our children. Therefore, we listen to and support our ecologist mothers to the end, and we follow in your ecological footsteps. We are growing up with hope, love and a happy world.

I salute all mothers who are fighting the climate crisis and who respect the environment.

I send you all my love and best wishes.

Kind regards,

Esra Sümeyye Öz

