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Pain is inevitable, suffering is optional.

Haruki Murakami



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I was 18 when I heard that I have a chronic form of Rheuma. At first it was really hard. I was in a lot of pain. At a certain point I even got chemo. It also meant that I couldn't do some things, like going on a language course to Spain. It was really hard and I had to go through a process of accepting.

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Then I decided to focus on the things that I can do and not on the things that I can't do.

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Culture



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I love music, but not (only) mainstream music. I love soul music from the seventies and also Amy Winehouse. Watching movies is something that I like a lot too. I love a lot of different kind of movies, as you can see above.

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Toodooloo motherfuckerr!!



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I love to laugh!! I have a friend that calls me 'Mrs. Chao'.

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Food adventures

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I'm a person that thinks a lot about life and it's misteries, but I also really enjoy life. Part of that is enjoying a nice meal. I am a good cooker myself, but I also like to go to a nice restaurant. I especially love asian food (sushi!) and I adore sweet things, like ice cream, candy, cookies and everything that makes you fat!

European Studies



I chose to study European Studies because it's so "actual".

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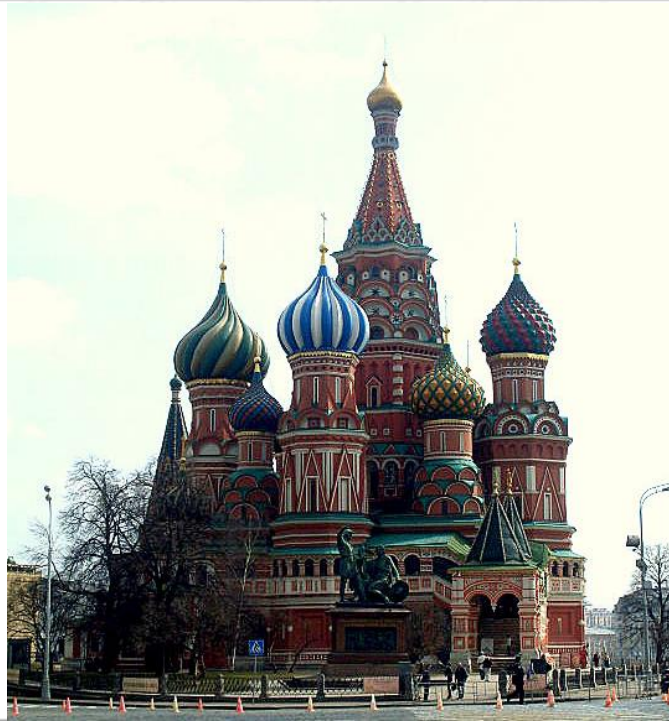


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I visited a lot of places already, most of them in Europe and Asia. Travelling to me means getting to know different cultures, different places, different people...

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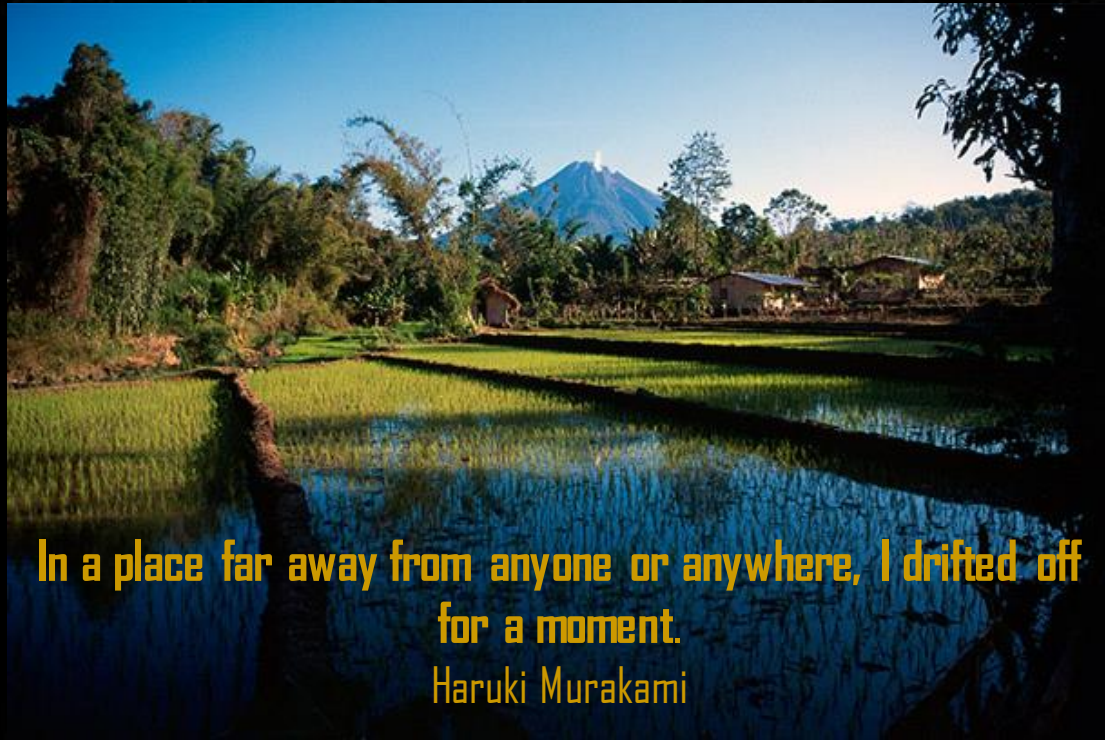


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Istanbul is one of the most beautiful cities that I have ever seen!

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**In a place far away from anyone or anywhere, I drifted off
for a moment.**

Haruki Murakami

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I really like Asia. It has a special meaning for me since my grandmum is a Chinese woman that used to live in Indonesia. Indonesia is my favourit Asian country...

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Family



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My family means a lot to me, but sometimes I need some distance.

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My little, big sister in her home to be. After 27 years she can live on her own for the first time, with a little help now and then. Although it is very scary and exciting, for her and for us, sometimes you have to learn to let go. I am very proud of her, doing this! ❤️

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Ambition



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Ambition is my middle name. I still want to have my master, study abroad, do voluntary work, travel a lot before settling down...

erasmus



I went on Erasmus since I am very international minded and I like to get to know other cultures.

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Going on Erasmus means a lot for me. I have very different and important reasons to go on Erasmus.

First of all, I wanted to become more independent and I wanted to take some distance from everything that is known and familiar.

Second, I see Erasmus as a learning process for myself as a person. It's good for your confidence to do something like this on your own.

Third I wanted to do this because I knew it was going to be a lot of fun to get to know new people, learn Catalan...

Also, the warm climate and the low stress lifestyle are really good for my Reuma.

Finally I wanted to prove that I could do this, after everything that happened. Being here is an important victory to me!

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Aventures Catalanes



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Barcelona is a wonderful city. My flat is near Parc Guëll and I share it with two more people, a Spanish boy and a South American girl. It is not always easy to share a flat with two people you don't know so well, but you have to make the best of it. Further, I try to follow classes in Catalan too, because I think it's important to adapt to the culture and the language of the place where you live. Therefore I also like to have Spanish friends.

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A bridge is being formed between the Netherlands and Spain.

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I am more and more adapting myself to the Spanish life style. If someone would ask me right now where I want to live and settle down, I would answer "Spain". Even though I will always have Dutch blood running through my veins. For instance, I still have a hard time with people coming late or missing appointments.

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I don't know what I want for the future or what the future has to offer me. Erasmus opened new doors for me, because now I'm thinking in taking my master degree abroad or even living in Spain. But at this point I am still very undecided on what road to take.

"Everybody's born with some different thing at the core of their existence. And that thing, whatever it is, becomes like a heat source that runs each person from the inside. I have one too, of course. Like everybody else. But sometimes it gets out of hand. It swells or shrinks inside me, and it shakes me up.

What I'd really like to do is find a way to communicate that feeling to another person. But I can't seem to do it. They just don't get it. Of course, the problem could be that I'm not explaining it very well, but I think it's because they're not listening very well. They pretend to be listening, but they're not, really. So I get worked up sometimes, and I do some crazy things."

Haruki Murakami