

LOOKING AT THE STARS
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Dear Dimitri,

How are you?

I want to thank you for putting such an amazing performance here at Bath Institution yesterday. You are very inspirational speaker and when you speak it's with such a passion and honesty. The way you express yourself I can feel your emotions, love, pain and anger..

I have to say I loved the story of your jacket it's a sad story what happened to you while in Italy as a refugee but I also believe it made you who you are today. You might not have much at the time when the merchant gave you that jacket but when you put it on, I am sure you felt as if you were on top of the world. You were someone in that jacket not just a poor refugee.

I have a similar story, I want to share with you. I left Serbia in 1990 as an 8 year old boy, my whole family was forced out of home and country I loved, only because my father was Hungarian. It didn't matter that my mother was Serbian Orthodox. I had to leave everything I ever knew and leave everything I ever had I only had memories of my childhood. I spent 7 years in Hungary as a refugee with my younger brother and parents.. The only thing I had was clothing on my back. In 2006 I went to visit my father in Serbia after he returned there from Canada, I spent about 4 months with him before he killed himself next to me. I never got to say goodbye to him. All these years I carried this anger, pain, guilt, shame with me, which in the end brought me here to Bath.. I went in a rage and ended up killing my old boss because of the comments he made to me about my 7 year old daughter. I am not proud of what I did, I wish I could go back in time. I can't change the past but I can change the future. My father always told me that there is always a light at the end of a tunnel.

Dimitri, when you speak it's like listening to my father speak always inspirational and true, the words you use are simple but powerful..

Thank you for everything you do, I wish there were more people like you in this world. It would be a better and safer place

My favorite song tonight was by Brahms Hungarian Dance no 5, I had goose bumps I felt sadness but also joy. It was my father's favorite song, every time my father was in the Cafe he would call the Gypsy with a violin over to play him that song.. when I heard the song I was returned back to my childhood. I had tears in my eyes but I was happy, it inspired me to do everything I can to get out and return to my homeland to pay respects to my father

Thank you again Dimitri,

Please give my thanks to Mark (violinist) Katarina and Igor and also Stan (Painter) and Lukas. I hope I got the names right.

Best wishes to you and your family,

Please come back soon

P.S. I am reading the Book your father wrote.

Sincerely,

