

**The Things I'm Thankful For**  
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There are many things I am thankful for, but the one thing that makes me feel the most safe is the ability to be born in a time when there is peace and no child endangerment. I used to take this for granted a lot when I was younger, but in grade 5, I started to realize the horrors children went through in the 1800's and 1900's.

When you are little, you tend to take things for granted a lot, but as you mature, you start to realize how bad people had it back then. The amount of slavery in the 1800s and child endangerment in the Cultural Revolution in China in the 1960s are insane to me.

The horrors Ji-li went through in the memoir *Red Scarf Girl* and just the knowledge that things like that actually happened makes me believe my life would sound like a dream to her. This mindset helps me stay humble even in situations when I think the world is over, and my life is over. This mindset makes me feel more grateful, and it keeps me humble as a growing person

I am excited to live my life to the fullest with the remembrance of the life I could have had and the excitement to have opportunities no one else got back then and even know.



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