Toyama University of International Studies High School 11th Speech Contest for Junior High school Students Recitation Assignment

## Maybe One Day...

*I love meat.* Imagine a juicy steak sizzling on the grill. Or crispy chicken nuggets, dripping in a thick honey mustard sauce. Imagine slow-cooked pork so tender that it melts in your mouth. Oh, how I do love meat, like hamburgers and hot dogs on a lightly toasted bun with ketchup... Mmmm...

But I love animals, too. I have always loved animals since I was little. I have dreamed of keeping a dog, and that my father would buy me a cute little puppy. At the zoo, I would make sure to see the lions, elephants and giraffes. Oh! And don't forget the penguins! They waddle about so awkwardly, but once they dive into the water, they glide through the water so gracefully. Cats and hamsters and dolphins! Oh, how beautiful all of the world's creatures are.

Then - why do we eat them? Do we need to eat them? Do we not have enough rice and pasta and fruits and vegetables in today's modern society? And since we eat the meat, the animals can't be killed with drugs. They are killed quite violently. I like to eat meat, but I can't stand the fact that animals are killed for me every day. Maybe I should stop eating meat...

What?! And be a vegetarian? I'm not sure if I can survive without meat! And that word, "vegetarian", it sounds a little strange. It sounds like someone telling me how I should live my life - how I should never eat meat again. It sounds like a crowd pressuring me into changing my life. It sounds like someone taking away my freedoms!

But... is it that hard? Maybe today, I will not eat meat for lunch. Maybe tomorrow, I will not eat meat for a whole day. Who knows, maybe one day, I will not need an animal to die for me...

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