

Friendship

Friends. What does the word friends mean to you? Friendship is one of the most important things in life. Friendship is a divine relationship between two or more people. A friend is someone with whom you can share your joys and sorrows in life. But can we relate the word 'love' to friendship? Both words are built on affection and trust. A trust that lasts a lifetime, a bond which can be unbreakable, and yet with both, we still feel heartbreaks and anguishes, like breaking up or losing a beloved friend. So, are there some similarities after all? When thinking of friendships, many people bring up the word 'platonic'. 'I platonically love you.' Can't we feel the devotion and adoration that we feel for our partners, but for our friends? Yes, people have crushes and yes people think deeper into the feeling they feel about that one person, pondering whether they are the one they want to spend their life with. But, when did the word 'platonic' take over the real meaning of love? The feeling to care for someone, to protect them and respect their opinions.

Just like partners and relationships, friends should be chosen carefully because good friends lead us and guide us on a fascinating path in life, but friends who don't support your choices and make you feel worse about yourself, will lead you astray from the best path for you to choose. Our bad times in life make us realise who are the true friends and who are the fake friends. When around that special someone in a relationship, you should feel the rubatosis and the opia, because it is a sense that you care about one another, that all you want is the best for the other person. Any true relationship is reliant on loyalty. A good friend is one who will stand loud and proudly with you when times are tough, when the difficulties that you face in everyday life become too overwhelming.

You should never have to chase the right friends and true love, because people make time for who they want to make time for. People text, reply and have conversations with who they want to. When someone continuously tells you that their day is too full and too crowded to talk to you, or that they are too busy, you need to believe them. Don't try and convince them any differently, don't try and force them to make time for you because if they really want to talk to you and put effort into being your friend, then they will. Even if that horrendous feeling is consistently gnawing away at you, you cannot force someone to have certain feelings for you. In Aladdin, the one thing that the genie could not do, was that he couldn't make someone love you, make

someone put effort into caring for you. You should never have to beg someone to love you. You should never, ever have to beg someone to care for you, to talk to you, to just put effort in and try. For you. If they really cared, you should be first.

Friendship doesn't just mean understanding and helping, it also needs some patience, fun, and thrill. True friends are pillars of life. They are like a gift or a reward which the universe has given us. It is a way of saying how much you have achieved on your own and now is the time for you to share the stress, split the worries and have someone to laugh and cry with when life turns into more of a roller coaster than a walk in the park. "It is not a lack of love, but a lack of friendship that makes unhappy marriages." - Friedrich Nietzsche. This quote is the epitome of what my essay is about, as friendship is a strong bond and a powerful form of love which should be recognised more. It is the foundation on which this world and everyone's lives depend. A friend. It may take a while to find the right friends but that journey is full of experiences and lessons to be learned about who is just right for you. Find someone who is like you, who will listen when you would for them, who would support and show love when you would. Their feelings towards you should never be enigmatic.

In stories, the protagonist usually has a love interest, and a best friend but the story is never about the best friend and protagonist, it's usually about the love interest. Real friendships in life affect people's day-to-day choices and how they choose to spend their life. The visceral emotions that people feel so deeply with just the simplest of day outs or laughs shared describe the undisclosed feelings which friends feel around each other.

Moreover, friends make us stronger. They are one of the most important assets in our life. Friendship is another name to take care and support each other. Even from a very young age we make friendships, from bonding over the simplest of similarities. Whether they are younger or older, friends can be anyone, and all of them should be shown love. But the friends that stay are the ones who deserve it, the ones that stick with you are the ones that are loyal and will be with you through all the ups and downs in life. The ones that love you the most.

