

JESS MADISON'S SPEECH



"Ignorance, idleness, greed, and power- the factors that have subsequently led the human race into a state of subconscious turmoil. We are now in the depths of an emergency, the sixth mass extinction and the greatest existential crisis mankind has ever faced.

We witness our mother suffocate, we watch her lungs burn, we observe her drowning and allow her to perish. This is a systemic failure at the highest level. This is hellish, this is criminal. This is a case to be taken to the highest of powers and that power is the people.

While flames tear through the homes of countless sentients,
They rip through the hearts of a globe.
Where sirens of change should have sounded,
Bells for what seems as if the end of time instead toll.
Ashes of a paradise that once was,
Fall upon the lands of the living,
Remnants of the misery that swept our planet
Are a reminder of what is to come.
'Tis a searing mnemonic that money burns and pennies melt,
Dollars and cents and pounds and pence
Do not guarantee immortality.

While water engulfs whole cities,
The hope for a future is cloaked.
While those in the global south are in the brink of famine,
The path of oppression that led to this is concealed
Behind a gate of superficial compassion
Hazed with the smog of meaningless words.

While we stand here today and talk of the time we all still have left, let us not forget those who sadly do not have that privilege. Let us not forget the 200 plus species per day that are becoming extinct. Let us not forget that the oceans are rising, the ice caps are melting, the corals are bleaching, the marine life is perishing and our planet is dying. The forests are burning, biodiversity is declining, carbon emissions are rising, weather conditions are intensifying and our planet is dying.

The hearts of our kind and others are etched and engraved with the disgusted signatures of greedy leaders who so avidly strike deadly deals. The shaking of two hands in a not so distant money-driven land causes the cries of

vulnerable, the death of the less fortunate and the injustice of minorities. But may I assure you, the injustice of a minority is the injustice of man and the injustice of man is a problem for us all...because in the end there is no them and us, there is only us. Because climate change knows no borders, CO2 does not distinguish between races, the methane in the atmosphere has no preferred gender, the pollution in the air does not discriminate specific sexualities and this ecological crisis will show no mercy. There truly is no time for hate because we are all members of one planet, one body and one race and that race is the human race.

At current, we are a parasite that is devouring life at a rapid rate. yet, we have the capability and capacity to be so much more. We have the capability to liberate whole nations, the capability to act and the capability to adapt. First, however, we must sever our ties and put an imminent stop to our unhealthy relationship with ignorance, idleness, greed, and power. you see, an avalanche is coming and our defenses are crumbling. The walls we build will not protect us and those golden-green paper havens we so rapidly exchange will not save us.

We must abandon our egos or the oceans will rise and drown them out. We must detach from apathy all the trees will burn and it will suffocate with us. We must act now or our ability to do so will be sharply executed. Because with every passing second, every approaching minute, every advancing day and every lapse of time, Mother Earth, our home, grows evermore close the breaking. The day is sharply advancing whereby she can no longer play host to such toxicity.

Listen to the children, listen to the young, can you not hear the pain in our voices, can you not discern the anger, can you not hear the sorrow in our words, can you not feel our fear. Our ears bleed with the meaningless words of self-righteous leaders because we know deep down that we must adopt a culture of regeneration, of shared responsibility and mutual accountability, a universal culture free from deceit and corruption. when I look upon our world leaders, I am seeing humans yet no humanity. It is their system of miseducation and over-ambition that has paved the way for our demise.

We, the people, hereby demand the surrendering of all industry that is used as a weapon towards our mother. Perceptions must shift because this new Green Revolution we so desperately crave is not just a series of actions, it is a state of mind. We must work quickly to shift the orientation of man to reconcile and re-align with nature so that never again with a scandal on this scale arise. We can no longer put a numerical price upon this crisis, the price must be seen as all life that is to be lost if our actions remain unchanged.

The mechanisation of mankind no longer be hailed as a victory, it must be ripped apart and exposed for the sinister scheme that it is. At current rates, this drastic fate appears to be mapped out, structured and written. Yet to change the course of one's future, one merely has to change the actions within one's present. I know it is true what they say, children and young people really will change the world: we must change the world because while children and young people may only be a small proportion of the present, we are 100% of this world's future. We are the children of the Revolution, the generations of an uprising in the voices of a globe.

We are here, to take on, to challenge, to deplete the power of the criminals who sell the world. Because those criminals who sell the world they are the leaders that flog away our health, the companies that play Russian roulette with our lives, the Demons that factory-farm broken robots that are hardwired to dismiss change and the devils that Starve us of a future. Their apathy has an ever-growing body count.

To the United Nations I say, the next '25 years' starts within the next 25 seconds and the next 25 seconds starts now. Because we are plagued with a debt to our mother, our only choice is to let her live healed, unscathed and protected. And that is why if we choose to act, it must be now. If we choose to change then it must be drastic and if we choose to live then it must be in harmony."