

## A Metamorphosis

*By Morgan Sly*

What is the price of maturity? The events that have struck the world in the last year have affected children and teenagers dramatically. Sure, we all changed our hair, and probably discovered a new hobby, but what no one wants to talk about is the innocence we lost. Think about before this all happened: when the thought of a worldwide disease seemed absurd. Those times are long gone.

We've been forced to understand that our actions have deadly consequences. Go in public without a mask? You could put someone's grandma in the hospital. Or one of your family members, or even yourself.

We've been isolated from the rest of the world, stuck in our house, and in most cases, with our parent(s). Mental illness is a growing problem with teens, and not being allowed to leave your house makes everything so much worse. Especially for kids with parents who are abusive or don't accept them.

Sure, we went through a 'metamorphosis' of sorts, but did we turn out for the better?

Visual Poem Below:

we are told that change is a good thing. that we should learn from our problems.  
we should learn from our problems. innocence. childhood?  
how can we thrive in the future when this is our present?  
will we ever feel normal again?  
or will we be stuck in this reality forever?  
metamorphosis  
maturity comes with a price  
is this a  
stuck at home forever and ever and ever  
help  
we are trapped  
no socialization, no friends, no life  
no more childhood?  
what is that?