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***Crossing a Small National Border***

I have many friends. They are not all the same. Some have a different hair or eye colour from me. Others speak a different language. There are many differences but, still, we are good friends. Being different is fun, and I like it.

All my friends are very nice to me, so I want to be nice to them too. We always speak in Japanese or English, but sometimes there are words I don't understand. When that happens, I try to understand my friends by looking at their eyes and faces as hard as I can. Usually I can figure it out somehow.

I cross a small border every morning when I go to school. Since my father is an American, we live in an area where there are lots of other Americans. The tall wire fence around our neighbourhood is like a national border. From there, I go to a Japanese elementary school. It feels a little strange when they open the gate for me every morning, but I feel happy at the same time. That's because all my friends and kind teachers are waiting for me at school. Then, we study, eat our lunch and play at school.

That's why I don't really feel that there are "national borders." When I am with my friends, I especially don't feel it. But, whenever I look at the globe at home, I can see that there are many countries and many national borders. The tall fence near my home is, after all, also like a national border.

Someday I want to cross many national borders and go to many different countries. I also want to learn a lot of languages and talk to people. Also, I want to show the people of the world what I like so much about Japan.

I want all the people of the world not to tease each other, fight with each other or kill each other. I think it would be great if the world would just become one big country.