

## The Collective

He starts by saying, "Always listen to the words of your elders."

"Even when they don't listen to mine?" I retort.

"Listen," he demands. "Patience is a virtue."

"Please don't make excuses to waste my time," I snort.

### **More pointless resistance.**

"Everything happens for a reason."

"That reason may be because life sucks."

"Hard work will foster success."

"Even though it's really just a matter of luck."

### **You are only making this hurt more.**

"All beings are created equal."

"Really? But not all beings are born free."

"Even a single person can change the world."

\*But it's the collective that changes me.\*

### **Rebellion will only make this hurt more.**

"Always save."

"I watched the Grinch-"

"Never frown."

"What if I-"

"Always study."

"Studying...is..."

### **Hurts, doesn't it? Can't bear the pain?**

"Ignorance is a choice."

"No..."

"Give your all."

"My...all..."

"Everyone is special in their own way."

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