

Some People.

Some people are like birds, flying free and independent. Yet they're on the lookout for a cage to fly into, to make their home. Other people are like birds, too, flying free and independent; yet they're content with their life as it is.

The dichotomy is interesting because people learn behaviors early and continue to learn as their lives unfold. Learning must happen and does happen; even if you try not to learn, you will learn something. If you study ignorance, you will become ignorant, and if you study wisdom, your wisdom will grow. Ignorance and wisdom grow equally, depending on which is nurtured.

As we get older and experience gains a vote in our decisions, we can focus on what we want to learn. Often, learning is a two-sided lesson, and once we learn the side we don't like or want, we can choose not to experience that again. For instance, we can accept that we dislike change and accept that what we have is enough. Of course, we can also choose the exact opposite or somewhere in the middle.

There is a way to apply the wisdom you've gained to yourself and those close to you to improve outcomes without applying pressure. For instance, the sun encourages flowers to bloom and rain to fall by being close, but when the sun is distant, as it must do, the air becomes cold, flowers stop blooming, and rain turns to snow. The sun cycles the flowers and rains during its yearly journey. That, and so much more, happens naturally and positively, without the exertion of pressure or negativity.

Written by Peter Skeels © 2-21-2026