Teenage Drama

*Occasional Paper 1*

   Valentine's Day was just yesterday. A large portion of students had so-called 'Valentines.' I've had one of these valentines before, and I'm realizing how much drama us teenagers are setting ourselves up for. We insist on feigning these intimate relationships when at this age, it's rare to have a deep connection like that! We set ourselves up for teenage heartbreak. It seems as if teens cannot keep secrets whatsoever. We absolutely have to tell our crush to our best friend, acquaintances, and the actual person! We're getting closer to those ages, but we aren't there yet. Are things like having a 'valentine' mostly for public image and high school social status?

  Most of my friends are in the same grade as I am. We're mostly freshmen, meaning that many of my close friends are fifteen, or turning fifteen soon. Some will even be turning sixteen this year. A few of my best friends began driving recently. Driving?! It seems unreal! In a few months, we'll be starting our tenth grade year. The difference between high school and middle school? Date dances. Yep, we're going to start dating. It seems so odd to me how fast it's come on and how odd it is to be this old.

   However, I have a very late birthday. I was born at the very end of October, and was an only child for ten years. This gave me a lot of one-on-one time with my mom for several years before I began Kindergarten. I had some pretty advanced comprehensive reading skills so I started school early. I'm one of the few young ones in ninth grade. I'll be the last to date and drive among my friends, I've still got about two years. So this is why I'm wondering if some of my opinions are biased. Is my perspective on the teenage years 13-15 varied because of my age difference?