

## LOST GENERATION

Jonathan Reed is a 20-something native of Atlanta and a student at Columbia College in Chicago, and he wrote the palindrome (more about this word later) below entitled “Lost Generation” about himself and his peers. It finished in second place out of fifty submissions to AARP. Follow it closely to see what is going to happen.

I realize this may be a shock but  
“Happiness comes from within”

Is a lie, and

“Money will make me happy”

So in 30 years I will tell my children

They are not the most important thing in my life.

My employer will know that

I have my priorities straight because  
work

is more important than  
family

I tell you this

Once upon a time

Families stayed together

But this will not be true in my era

This is a quick fix society

Experts tell me

30 years from now I will be celebrating the 10th anniversary of my divorce

I do not concede that

I will live in a country of my own making in the future

Environmental destruction will be the norm

No longer can it be said that

My peers and I care about this earth

It will be evident that

My generation is apathetic and lethargic

It is foolish to presume that

There is hope.

A palindrome means  
one thing when you  
read it and something  
different when you read  
it in reverse. Go to the  
next page to see a new  
meaning.

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Is a lie, and  
“Money will make me happy”  
So in 30 years I will tell my children  
They are not the most important thing in my life.  
My employer will know that  
I have my priorities straight because  
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I tell you this  
Once upon a time  
Families stayed together  
But this will not be true in my era  
This is a quick fix society  
Experts tell me  
30 years from now I will be celebrating the 10th anniversary of my divorce  
I do not concede that  
I will live in a country of my own making in the future  
Environmental destruction will be the norm  
No longer can it be said that  
My peers and I care about this earth  
It will be evident that  
My generation is apathetic and lethargic  
It is foolish to presume that  
There is hope.

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