

Editorial

Don't be a fool

Do you respect yourself? What about your race in general? Do you respect the elderly members of your community?

If you answered yes to any one of the above questions and you can still go out and act a fool, then you might want to think about changing your answers. How can you go out in the community and act like complete fools bringing a bad name to your race and living up to the stereotypes of typical teens?

You go out to the typical teen hang outs and knowing full well that people are looking at you with visions of gang members and drug users in their eyes, you act like you don't know any better than to act like little heathens.

You may not have been raised in the upper class areas, dining at the fine restaurants and living the high life, but don't act like you were raised in a dumpster with some wolves. Act like you got a little respect for yourself, those around you and your community and show a little love for 'em.

So the next time you go out, whether you are on Tri-Met or at Lloyd Center, lower your voices, sit up straight, take off your hats in respect, pull up your pants and do what's right.

So, like Salt-n-Pepa say "Respect yourself. You gotta be you as only you can." Be a leader, not a follower. Do your own thing. Be your own person. Respect every living thing and try breaking down the stereotypes, because you're not typical.

—Shalon Irving

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By Erica Bryant

Poetry from the heart

Glimpse of the Moon

'Tonight there will be, no sun, no rainbow just a glimpse of the moon.

Nothing but passion as you watch the stars sail by.

As the stars abate, you will feel bigger.

No sun or rainbow has appeared, just you and I.

— Lari Lewis

Did You Lock The Gate?

When bad things happen
You have to let go
And sometime locking a gate
Is like closing the door
So, I ask you, did you lock the gate?
I mean death's an epidemic
And your beloved may fall sick
And after we have said good bye
We have lot's of time to think
So, I ask you, did you lock the gate?
The flower of love will wither
When a relationship gets too hot
And when you have to let go
Your heart may start to rot
So, I ask you, did you lock the gate?
Sometimes the pain just gets too much
And all your feelings surface
And you feel like you just want to scream
But wouldn't that defeat the purpose?
So, I ask you, did you lock the gate?
When it's only you to love
And your thoughts float to up above
It seems like time's just flying by
It's then you realize you're living lies

I ask you, did you lock the gate?
But then it just might be too late
The lock might rust and fade away
So, I ask you, did you lock the gate?
Because if you leave it open
Your feelings will come out
And your emotional barrier will shatter
Most definitely without a doubt
And so I ask you, did you lock the gate?
— Shalon Irving

Lost In The Darkness

Who turned out the lights?
The dark is so complete
Solid and enveloping
Like the bed in my sleep
Who turned out the lights?
Made me lose my direction
Ended relationships
Steered me from Heaven
Who turned out the lights?
Uncommitted my commitments
Rearranged my priorities
And left me relentless
Who turned out the lights?
Removed all the sunshine
And the happiness it brought
The sight of my eyes shining
Is now merely a thought
Who turned out the lights?
Took the bounce from my step
The determination from my walk
And the pride from my talk
Whoever it was needs to turn them back on
Because without my light as guidance
All hope of survival is gone

Who turned out the lights?
Lord, you are my light
The direction which I travel
Lord you've returned my light
And all that comes back with it
Lord you're my spare flashlight
Made from everlasting friendship
Lord, you are my light

— Shalon Irving

A Story Told By Time

The feelings were moving too fast
And I didn't understand
I should've stopped to ask questions
Like I'd done in the past
The truth was so apparent
But it seemed to pass me by
I just believed what I wanted
I'm now living a lie
When the truth finally came out
I was hurt
Without a doubt
But now I understand
It's all a part of a master plan
They say it takes two to tango
But what about the waltz or 'bug
The time you need that second someone
Is when you're falling deep in love
I mean, a buddy is cool
And a friend is fine
But you need something more
When it's your heart on the line
You need an everlasting commitment
Two hearts that never fail
To love each other faithfully
A story only time can tell.

— Shalon Irving

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