

### **“Unplugged” by Spencer Reed**

The world is plugged  
Into the deceit and the lies  
Prejudice, Hate  
The Human's Disguise  
But it's all just a Mask  
To hide the Truth  
We are not different  
It's just that in Youth  
We learn to stereotype  
and believe the lies  
That fantasize  
Where the real truth lies  
In our hearts  
Where we're not biased  
And We're not Drugged  
The world needs to stop and think  
The world needs to be unplugged  
From this madness  
And discrimination  
Overtaking our nation  
Accepting others  
Despite their differences  
Friends with colors  
and different races  
That's right we're racist  
But we can't help it  
We were raised this way  
We oppose we get belted  
So let's all change this world  
For the better  
I'm making the start  
With each letter  
I type, I write  
I fight my fights  
I write  
My rights  
But I don't like  
The strikes  
The beatings  
For variation  
I want Clarification  
We're supposed to be different but the same  
We're supposed to have structure but remain  
Anonymous, Open, Dignified  
We all are racist  
We all take sides  
It's the highs  
That stops the whys  
That stops from wise  
Decisions, Provisions  
It like we're in prisons  
Of our own mind  
It takes time  
To unwind  
From this rhyme  
That we find  
Inside ourselves  
So let's not blow this off  
And let our shoulders be shrugged  
We need to make a difference  
We need to be unplugged

### **“Diversity” by Spencer Reed & John Johnson**

I came here from El Do  
I'm not gonna lie  
I was scared when I saw  
People other than whites  
I know it's a freakin' stereotype  
But I can't help what I feel  
I'm just tellin' the truth  
Tryin' to keep it all real

I came here reppin' G-Town  
Only fights on my mind I  
was ready to throw down  
I got off the bus to look about  
I see younger kids smiling  
Ready to shout about this opportunity  
The smile moved away from those kids  
and found me.

Soon I met this kid named John  
He was hecka cool and all  
There was just one problem  
He was black and I was white  
I was scared out of my mind  
But then he started speakin'  
Throwin' down those rhymes

We started to learn about each other's backgrounds  
This boy Spencer was spitting some real cool sounds  
Every single word that he said made sense to me  
He was speakin' some serious wisdom and I was listening  
We started to hang out and become friends  
Different races of people aren't so bad in the end

Different style,  
Different speech  
It didn't matter to me  
African-Americans or whatever  
They're people, you see  
Segregation fillin' our beautiful world  
Physical toxification is all that unfurls  
But forget it  
We're one world  
One family  
I just wish everyone could see like we see  
Like Malcolm X and Martin Luther King  
Not just black people  
We all have a dream

#### **Note:**

This poetry was inspired by experiences at Grizzly Creek Youth Development Camp sponsored by Sierra Health Foundation's REACH Program and the Vision Coalition of El Dorado Hills.

If you would like more information on this camp or the Diversity Project, please contact the Vision Coalition at 916-643-4393 or inquire online at [www.edhvisioncoalition.org](http://www.edhvisioncoalition.org)