

FACTS. 57 YEARS APART. A BOY AND A MAN TALK ABOUT LIFE. TRANSCRIPT

Des: Okay, may I ask you a question, the first one? Right. What is the worst thing about being young?

Shawn: Well, you get lots of homework. It's also pretty... it's like in the middle. Like, it's all like in the middle of bad and good.

Des: Oh.

Shawn: What is the worst thing about being old?

Des: Not being able to do things that you could do when you were young.

Shawn: Like, uh, you can't bend down and get stuff on the floor?

Des: Well, I can still do that, but the problem is, your body gets a bit stiff.

Shawn: Oh, I know, it hurts a lot when you try to bend down.

Des: Yeah. That's right, yes. You might get sick more often. Hopefully, I don't, but that's the problem.

Shawn: That's pretty bad.

Des: It is pretty bad.

Shawn: The only time I went to the hospital was when my mom didn't like getting me born.

Des: Ah, yeah.

Des: Do you wish you were older?

Shawn: Maybe... Like, so if I were old, I could buy stuff for myself and be married, but... That would be ew. Do you wish you were young? Why?

Des: Well, the problem about... uh, the great thing about being young is you have more time. You have more time to do things. I could play games, which I did. I used to play Cowboys and Indians.

Shawn: Yeah, that's what I play!

Des: Do you?

Shawn: Yeah!

Des: That's what I like about being young. I could use my imagination more.

Shawn: That's a sad story. You can't do that anymore.

Des: Well... I could be an older cowboy. I might do it, yes.

Des: Will you fall in love? And what will it be like?

Shawn: I don't know. Like, we'll have babies, and it will be like fun. Oh, I'd have to change. Even though I'll have to change his diaper. It'll be fun!

Des: Oh.

Shawn: But what if he cries?

Des: Ahh, well.

Shawn: I'll just sing like Ed Sheeran to him.

Des: And, who do you love now?

Shawn: Um... My mom.

Des: Your mom? Your dad?

Shawn: I like my dad. I like my family.

Shawn: Did you fall in love? What was it like?

Des: Yes, uh... It was different for me. I fell in love late.

Shawn: And did you get married?

Des: No, unfortunately, my partner, she passed away. She died. That was a sad thing. Yeah. She got sick.

Shawn: I'm gonna cry.

Des: No, no, don't. No, no, no. No. No, ah, no, no. You see, these things happen, Shawn. That's life, but, we, we have... I have very good memories. Very good memories and you live, a lot of the time, you live in your head with those memories. You can remember all the good things, and that's the important thing.

Des: Well, the advice I would give to you, Shawn, is you don't have to be rich to be happy. Do the things you like to, and that make you feel good, because when you're happy yourself, everybody else is happy.

Presenter: Shawn, do you have any advice for Des?

Shawn: To like, act normal. Don't be silly. Don't bully lots of people. The people I know in school, like my friend Alex in school, whenever he gets hurt, I hug him. It might not be able to work, but...

Des: No, that's good advice and, be yourself. Don't let other people tell you what you should be. Just be as you are, isn't that true?

Shawn: Yeah.

Des: And, I'm sure your life is going to be very successful. You have all the right things. You have all the right things to do. All your good friends and keep those friends going. And keep life going... oh! There you go.

VOCABULARY

bend down (verb) - To lower your body so that your head and shoulders move towards the ground.

born (verb) - The moment when a baby comes into the world.

bully (noun) - A person who hurts or picks on others on purpose.

Cowboys and Indians (noun) - A game where children pretend to be cowboys or Native Americans, usually in the Wild West.

diaper (noun) - A soft, absorbent piece of cloth or material worn by babies or toddlers to keep them clean and dry.

partner (noun) - A person you work or play with, like a friend or teammate.

stiff (adjective) - When something or someone is hard to move or not flexible.