

#15 Our Moment in History

An angry young man ran breathless to the waterfall. "I cannot abide by the ways of YOUR generation!" he demanded, knowing he could find the Elder here, and also knowing that the Elder would listen to him. The young man continued, "Where is the respect for life? Do any of you seek wisdom? All I see is the headlong pursuit of selfish dreams! This cannot end well!" The old man listened calmly and replied with his eyes fixed, "Sit down and I will tell you a story." The young man sat. "I have lived long. I have seen a great change. When I was young, my generation JOURNEYED in the ways of the ancestors that go back as far as stories remember. We used hoof and foot. We also CORRESPONDED with the time honored, ancient ways - by mouth and messenger. In other words, we were constantly connected by customs and rituals to the ancestors. But change itself increased during my one life - so much so that many of your generation have been born into an entirely new world. Many of

you have never used the animal to travel or the messenger to communicate. Between your generation and all of the previous ones, there is a great divide. There is a disconnect." Suddenly, the young man rose with a mixture of fury and profound consternation. Gasping like a horse that is racing, he demanded, "Then all is lost! How can we build a future when there is no foundation!?" The Elder risked a smile, knowing full well that it could be taken as disrespect. Then he proceeded with quiet sincerity, "My good friend, don't you see? This is YOUR moment in history! By your disconnect, you have the eyes of the poet. You can see as the pioneer - with clear, unbiased vision. You CAN build a new world, unfettered by TRADITION! Now, go with the wind!"

DO NOT LAMENT THE PAST OR WORRY ABOUT THE FUTURE -SEIZE THE MOMENT