

Nonsense
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EXT: COUNTRY ROAD - DAY

TINA (25), blonde and wearing a jacket is walking with her blonde BOYFRIEND, IAN (25) also wearing a jacket. They are strolling along a puddle-filled country road with fields by their sides. The sky is grey. The occasional car drives past.

IAN
Hey... I've just realised something...
Remember that 'stop' sign we passed?

TINA
Yes?

IAN
Think about it...

TINA
What?

IAN
Backwards, it says 'pots'...

TINA rubs her chin, jokingly.

TINA
How about that.

IAN looks concerned.

IAN
Silly, I know. But it's not just that.
..

TINA looks equally concerned.

TINA
What do you mean?

IAN
Ever think what 'give way' backwards
spells?

TINA
No...

IAN looks thoughtful.

IAN
Yaw evig...

TINA
So what?

IAN
So?? And what do you think 'Road
Closed' spells, backwards?

TINA scratches her head.

TINA
Err... 'Des... olc... da... or?'

IAN nods with confidence.

IAN
Right!

TINA
Ian, you're scaring me...

IAN
Don't you see what it means? Desolc
daor yaw evig pots!

A van drives past the two. IAN focuses on it, hard.

IAN
You see that number plate??

TINA
Um...

IAN
FMJ! In other words, 'fumja'!

TINA shrugs her shoulders and pulls herself together.

TINA
I can see why you're concerned, but
there's really nothing to worry about.
..

IAN
Come on!

TINA
Actually, no. I don't understand.

IAN
Let me explain... How would you feel
if I shouted 'hhgopkopfdfd!!!!' at
you? Or any kind of gibberish?

TINA
Scared?

IAN
Right! That's how I feel! All the
gibberish is freaking me out!

TINA nods as if partly understanding.

TINA
You're over-analysing. If anything you should be happy right now if you're worried.

IAN sighs with relief.

IAN
How so?

TINA
What's the opposite of fear?

IAN
Happiness.

TINA
There you go. If things backwards are freaking you out so much, remember to be happy in backwards land. Personally I prefer this world, though.

IAN stamps his foot in frustration.

IAN
You're talking about opposites. I'm talking about things spelt backwards. Fear spelt backwards is 'raef'. That's scary gibberish, again.

TINA
(calmly)
You want all words to be palindromes, so they have clear meanings for you. Is that what you're saying?

IAN
That would cause me a lot less stress.

TINA
Do you have any idea how long and confusing that would make conversations?

IAN
Rather that than stress.

TINA furrows her brow in thought.

TINA
Ratherehtar... thataht... thanaht... stresserts... Is that how you want people to talk?

IAN nods dramatically.

IAN

Yes!

TINA

That would be awful. Those four words alone hurt my brain.

IAN

Sentences need to mean the same backwards, too.

TINA shakes her head with confidence.

TINA

You don't mean?... Do you have any idea how hard it would be to speak sentences that mean the same forwards as the other way round?... It would be impossible!

IAN

Again, less stressful.

TINA stamps her foot.

TINA

It's not stressful!

IAN

Why are you shouting then?

TINA

YOU'RE making me stressed! Not words backwards! Just enjoy the views!

IAN nods.

IAN

Ok, ok...

TINA

Good!

IAN points to the distance.

IAN

Hey... What does that sign say, backwards?