



# Norman's Whereabouts

by Norman Searah

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**H**ello! I would like to ask you a personal question. How are you feeling?

I feel like it's time to end all wars and put away all the things that can hurt this Earth that we call home. I feel like it's time we start talking to each other, even if this means learning another language. I feel like it's time to share and share openly and honestly. We need to teach each other things that can help ourselves and others without asking a price. We all live on this Earth/home. I call it a sand box, and no matter how old we are or how young we are; we're all still children; and we're in this sand box together. And, our Earth, our home, that gives us water, food, materials to build our homes and more, needs our help.

I don't believe that just a handful of politicians and scientists are going to save this world. But all of us, the poor as much as the rich, must change—even if we don't like it. We need to stop producing nuclear waste and passing it onto the next generation and the next and the next. It's too unfair, especially combined with the other problems we're already passing down.

If there is a God (and I hope there is), and it comes to for me to stand before him or her, I'm going to apologize for leaving behind such a mess for future generations. And, after this is combined with my other sins, I'll will accept and take my judgment. But, for now, I see God and the Devil as the landlords working within us toward how well we care for our Earth home.

We need to end all wars. We've seen what Hurricane Katrina did in the Gulf of Mexico and to the southern part of the U.S. I wonder what this year's hurricanes will be like.

People now sell their ocean-front homes along the East coast because there are so many hurricanes. I worry about the nuclear power plants that are near the ocean and whether or not we'll be Europe one day with a nuclear cloud over us.

The fear brings to mind another kind of cloud that recently hit Parkersburg, Iowa, a small town about 80 miles northwest of Des Moines. A tornado ran a path from Aplington to Dunkerton, and Parkersburg was in that path. It was really big, and so was the damage it did. It flattened most of the town. Of the many tornadoes that have hit Iowa this year, it was the deadliest.

I have to wonder about other parts of the country and world and if they too are experiencing strange and severe weather. I do know most of the glaciers are melting and some are gone. Some have receded into mountains and formed large lakes near them. Scientists say some glaciers, like the one in Patagonia, Argentina, are retreating at the rate of 180 feet per year.

I could go on, but war has contributed greatly to global warming for years. Both World Wars made had horrible impacts on this. We need to change, and we need to change now.

Thank you for your time.

