Constructed Response – “Perspective” Poem

The tone of a piece of literature reveals the author’s purpose for writing. It is often subtle but sometimes it is direct and “in your face”. The tone of this particular poem changes based upon how it is read. When the poem is read from top to bottom, it reveals a negative tone. However, when the poem is read from bottom to top (one line at a time), it reveals the opposite – a positive tone. What do the changing tones of this poem reveal about the author’s purpose? Why did he or she write the poem?

Remember R.A.C.E. strategy: Restate the question, Answer the question, Cite evidence from the text (direct quotes or paraphrase), Explain your answer (without using personal comments such as “I think”).

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