



# If you woke up tomorrow and your life looked exactly like you wanted it to, what would it look like?



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We asked young people experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles: "If you woke up tomorrow and your life looked exactly like you wanted it to, what would it look like?"

"Like this. Like what I got going on. I don't regret anything. Every struggle I've been through, and I mean I've gone through some shit, but every trial and tribulation I've gone through I look at as a positive. What doesn't kill me is just going to make me stronger. All this pain and suffering going to teach me to help others in the long run."

**20 YEARS OLD  
AFRICAN-AMERICAN MALE  
FIRST HOMELESS IN CALIFORNIA**



"Everything. If I woke up and everything was perfect like I said I'd have a car, I would have definitely stable house, everything in the house as far as furniture, food, I don't even want anything fancy to be honest I just want a place and a car. I would love to have my own dance studio so I could practice whenever. But when that time comes it'll come."

**22 YEARS OLD  
MULTI-RACIAL MALE  
FIRST HOMELESS IN CALIFORNIA**



"I'd wake up and it'd be summer so I wouldn't have to worry about taking my son to school and we'd probably go outside for breakfast and then... I'd probably draw with him or something. My perfect life would be days like that and then half the week would be me working on some movie or show that I'm drawing because that's what I want to go to school for is animation."

**23 YEARS OLD  
AFRICAN-AMERICAN FEMALE  
FIRST HOMELESS IN LOS ANGELES, CA**



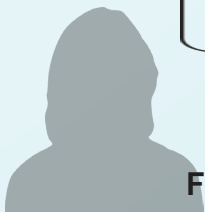
"Beauty, wisdom, intelligence, having a family, having my own house, being part of my favorite team that I've always dreamed to be a part of, being a nurse, and you know just being happy. I mean I don't see myself living a rich life but if I was to be rich I would say I would give back to my community and my family 'cause we grew up in the projects is I would give back a lot because I know it's not easy and also in this community it's not easy as well."

**19 YEARS OLD  
AFRICAN-AMERICAN FEMALE  
FIRST HOMELESS IN LOS ANGELES, CA**



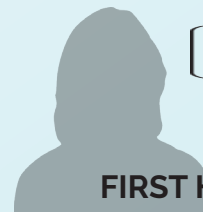
"I wouldn't ask for much more than my daughter."

**24 YEARS OLD  
WHITE FEMALE  
FIRST HOMELESS IN CALIFORNIA**



"Like Paradise."

**24 YEARS OLD  
AFRICAN AMERICAN FEMALE  
FIRST HOMELESS IN LOS ANGELES, CA**



“Unicorns, sunshine, and daisies (laughs). I don’t know. It just sunk in for a second (laughs) that would be the greatest thing ever. Let’s just have unicorns, daisies, rainbows, and sunshine coming out of our butts (laughs).”



**24 YEARS OLD  
WHITE FEMALE  
FIRST HOMELESS IN NEW JERSEY**

“Me in my own place with my son, my dog, have a care free world, working and everything, get my son out of day care, go back home clean up, do all that work...I do want a real chill life honestly.”



**23 YEARS OLD  
AFRICAN-AMERICAN MALE  
FIRST HOMELESS IN LOS ANGELES, CA**

“Dang. Ummm exactly as I would like it. I don’t know maybe somewhere where I feel like everything...oh shoot I don’t know I don’t know. Exactly as I would like it...there would be a lot of food, it would be warm, uh exactly as I would like it...I’d have a lot of money maybe a hot man...I don’t know. So just like... Comfortable.”



**21 YEARS OLD  
AMERICAN-INDIAN TRANSFEMALE  
FIRST HOMELESS IN LOS ANGELES, CA**

“(Laughs) It would look like an illusion like it’s not real. Because you can’t have everything you want in life. Well I don’t think you can have everything you want in life like you can’t have a life so perfect that you’re ultimately happy in the end. I don’t see that. Because you have everything you want, well I’m not going to explain that, but I don’t know that’s just my way of thinking.”



**19 YEARS OLD  
AFRICAN-AMERICAN MALE  
FIRST HOMELESS IN GEORGIA**

“I would wake up in a house that probably is nice in the L.A. area or the mountains up north or island I don’t know (laughs). But yeah I would have my own record company.”



**21 YEARS OLD  
WHITE FEMALE  
FIRST HOMELESS IN FLORIDA**

“(Laughs) I think I would like have a limo, a hot husband, three little cute dogs, maybe one kid, some successful business, be on Beyonce level.”



**21 YEARS OLD  
AFRICAN-AMERICAN MALE  
FIRST HOMELESS IN CALIFORNIA**

“I wouldn’t have any money issues and I mean I’d just be happy. Money doesn’t always pick you happiness but in this case it would probably be more soothe because I’m not on the streets no more and I got a roof over my head you know I got money in my pocket I can spend so.”



**21 YEARS OLD  
WHITE TRANSFEMALE  
FIRST HOMELESS IN MISSOURI**



**19 YEARS OLD  
WHITE MALE  
FIRST HOMELESS IN NEVADA**

“Helping out people. Just helping out people with the money I have and a decent woman by my side to help me celebrate and help me help others.”

"I would be in a queen size bed firm but soft, my bills would be paid off, my storage unit that I have would be paid off for like five years, I would have my associates degree and would be working on my masters no bachelors in law or criminal justice anything crime wise, um yeah that's pretty much it. And I would still be advocating for the underdogs somehow. But all that if I just woke up tomorrow and all that happened it would feel great but it would be hollow. 'Cause no effort was put into filling it up and making it solid. I wished it but the outer shell is there.

The process is that makes it sweeter. I want to fill it up that shell with the blood sweat and tears of me getting there. It would be lovely if that just happened and kind of I wished it did. I would get over the hollow feeling but pretty much yes. I have to work for it because I feel like it will be snatched away if I don't."



**21 YEARS OLD  
AFRICAN-AMERICAN FEMALE  
FIRST HOMELESS IN LOS ANGELES, CA**

"I'd wake up with a smile. Like I'd wake up smiling. I know I'd wake up in a nice ass house somewhere in the Hills. I'd look out my window and probably see the beach in the distance like the nice Catalina Ocean View. I'd be with my partner, I'd have a car, I'd probably be in school about to finish up my firefighting class getting ready to move. 'Cause I'm still deciding whether I want to be an EMT or a firefighter so I'd probably be an EMT within that time to have this house and stuff like that with a nice little porch."

**25 YEARS OLD  
AFRICAN-AMERICAN MALE  
FIRST HOMELESS IN LOS ANGELES, CA**



"I'd wake up on a super yacht for a start and it'd involve other people...involving people like myself now I supposed. Helping them get on track. Always on the yacht of course (laughs)."



**23 YEARS OLD  
WHITE MALE  
FIRST HOMELESS OUTSIDE OF THE U.S.**

"Waking up in Miami, with two little poochies, with a maid. I don't know that, the perfect life for me and having a million dollars (laughs)...with my partner who I'm with right now. We'll probably be married by then...just happy."



**MISSING DEMOGRAPHIC DATA**

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LGBT  
CENTER**

