

Hunt for the Lost Prompts & Participants' Responses

Lost Future

A future has been lost.

It's uncertain whether it can be found.

That's not because it isn't available.

The future is vibrant with life but elusive.

The location of the future is never where you last recalled it.

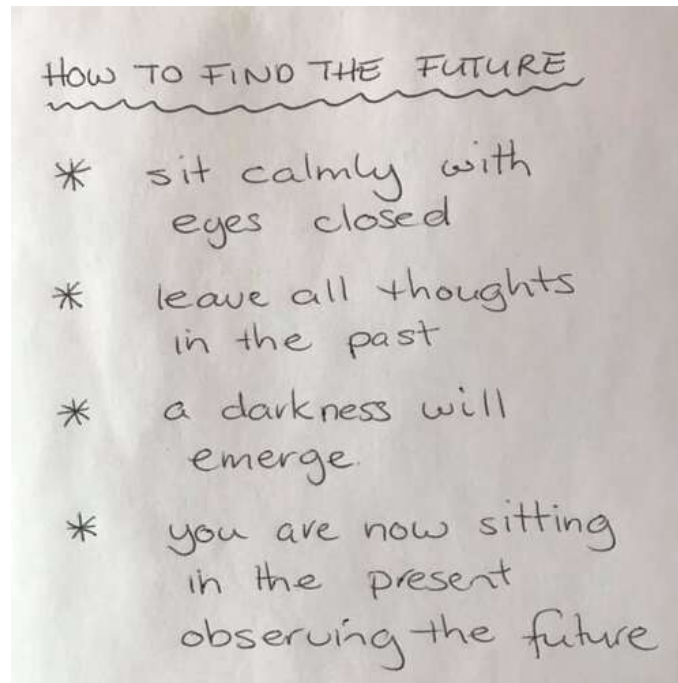
Nonetheless, your first task is to find the future.

You must not hoard the future, your second task is to publicize its location.

Publicizing the future is a risky proposition.



Ayaka Fujii



Deborah White



Anthony Ramos - One of the assumed actions in French culture is the “embrace” when you meet. A kiss on the cheek and depending on where you live in France the more kisses. Here in the South of France one kisses three times. With the advent of the corona virus 19 fear of death and everyone is a potential death sentence attitude, the majority of the French no longer kiss, now they clench thier fist and punch the others fist as a greeting. This seems to me to be a great loss and the harbinger of a more aggressive future.

Lost Wings

Wings are gone.

The wings once flew to the moon.

The moon is an uncertain destination.

The moon lives inside every human.

Wings carry dreams to the moon.

Without the flight of wings, the moon will die.

We can find wings inside our own minds.

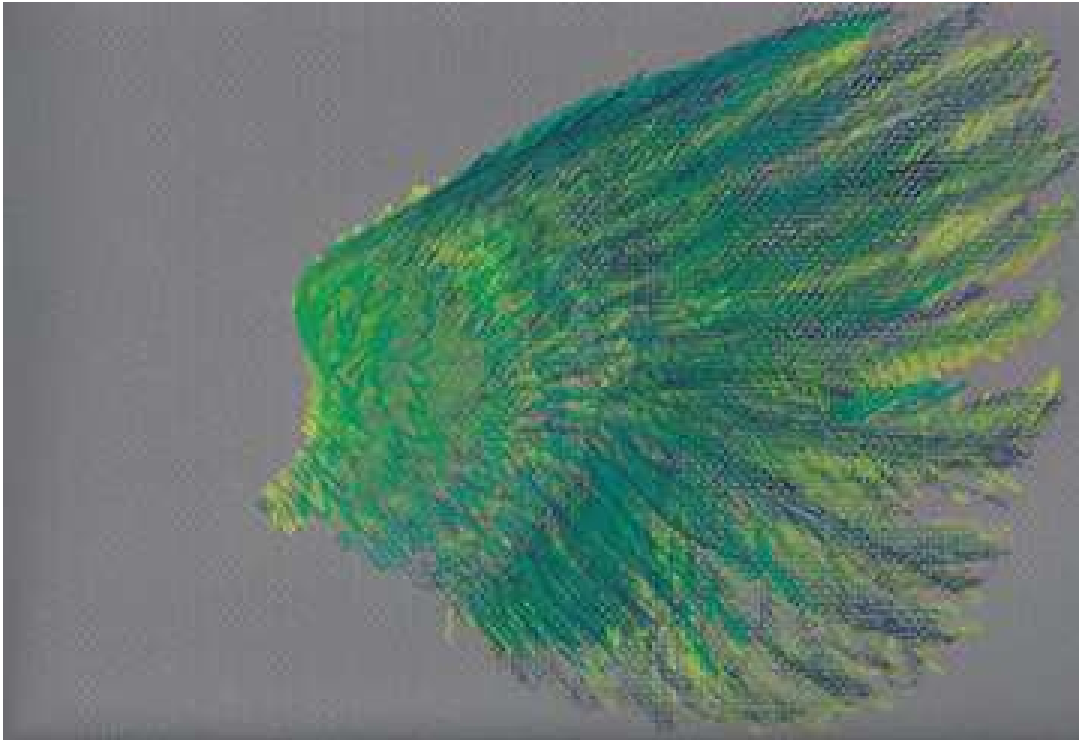
Without the flight of dream carried by wings, we will die too.

The moon will die in our mind first.

We cannot save the moon without the wings of dreams.

If you find at least one wing of a dream, you might save the moon.

[View fullsize](#)



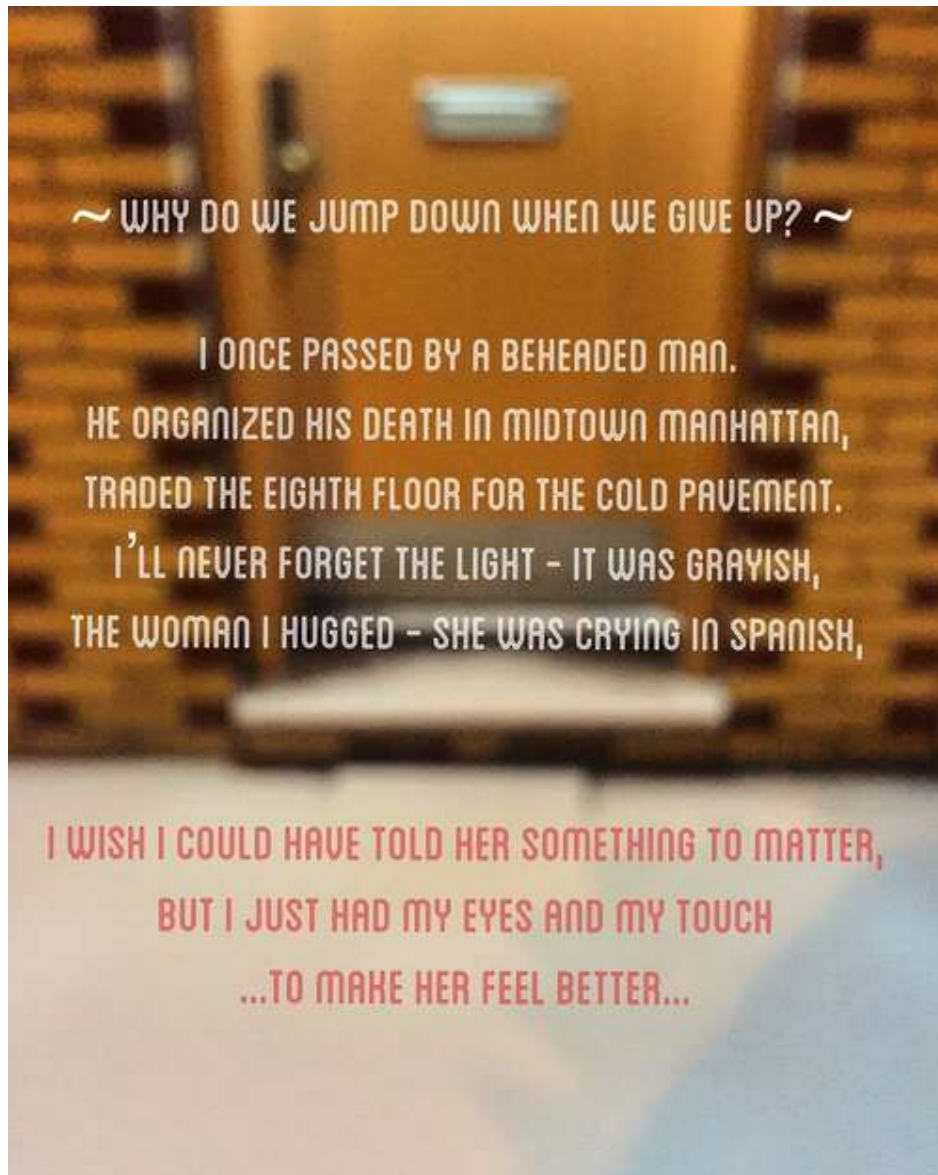
Aviva Rahmani



Judith Mayer

**It is an amazing time of all these readings of ideas.
It is long words going to great thinking timed.
It is good days for the moon counsel of heart and the heart.
It is not able to handle some of the things gone and keep them.
It is having wings carry dreams.
I love your works and would hold the ideas.**

Ruth Hardinger



~ WHY DO WE JUMP DOWN WHEN WE GIVE UP? ~

I ONCE PASSED BY A BEHEADED MAN.
HE ORGANIZED HIS DEATH IN MIDTOWN MANHATTAN,
TRADED THE EIGHTH FLOOR FOR THE COLD PAVEMENT.
I'LL NEVER FORGET THE LIGHT - IT WAS GRAYISH,
THE WOMAN I HUGGED - SHE WAS CRYING IN SPANISH,

I WISH I COULD HAVE TOLD HER SOMETHING TO MATTER,
BUT I JUST HAD MY EYES AND MY TOUCH
...TO MAKE HER FEEL BETTER...

This is a very simple poem I wrote after I passed by the uncovered body of a suicidal man in Midtown Manhattan. The light and the silence on the block were striking. Very few people were present at the scene. An older lady and a man were holding hands, frozen like statues, staring at the corpse. The head was missing. Half an hour later I walked back on the same route. The authorities were finally there, and the woman was now crying hysterically next to the corner, all by herself. I hugged her, and I held her tight. I then wrote a very simple poem about a very heavy moment; so heavy that his wings broke, so heavy that her trust in hope was shattered. So heavy that I will never take anyone's life for granted.

Nora Nostrand
April 7th, 2014
Manhattan NYC



Judith Mayer



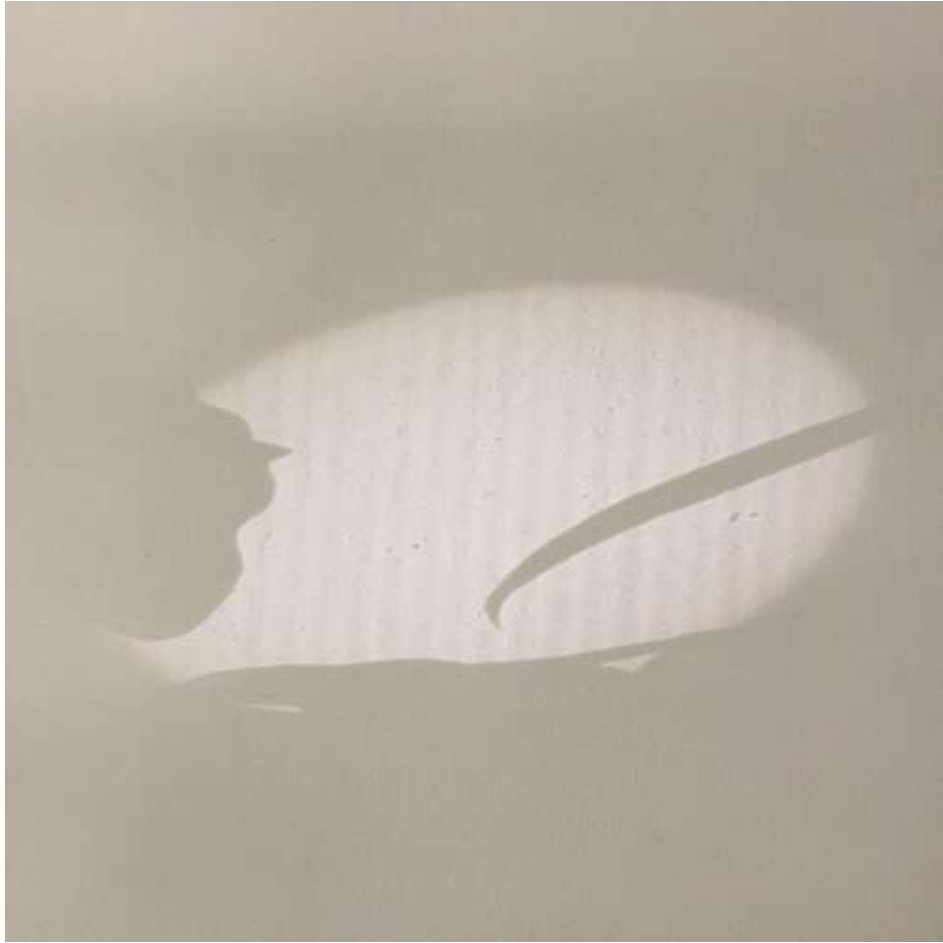
Anthony Ramos



Michael Markham, Flag, Nylon, 3x3 ft.



Taina Litwak



Ayaka Fujii



Leonard Yannielli



Sue Spaid and Marie Ekedahl
Lake Nässja sjön in Sweden
Lost: birds inhabiting Swedish farmlands

Lost Morals

It may be difficult to find lost morals.

They are rarely where you would expect.

When you ask others to help you find lost morals, they often lie or misdirect you.

Morals are rarely found in religion or politics.

It is easy to confuse morals with something else.

It is important to persist in a moral search.

Found morals are called morality.

If you find morality, it won't make you rich or famous.

Often morality ends in lost morals.

You can't share morality, but you can teach it.

Teaching morality is often a lost cause.

Morality can easily be sold for a fortune but that isn't the same as getting rich off your morals.

Selling morality is often a bad bargain.

Moralizing doesn't serve morality.

Morals are aspirational.

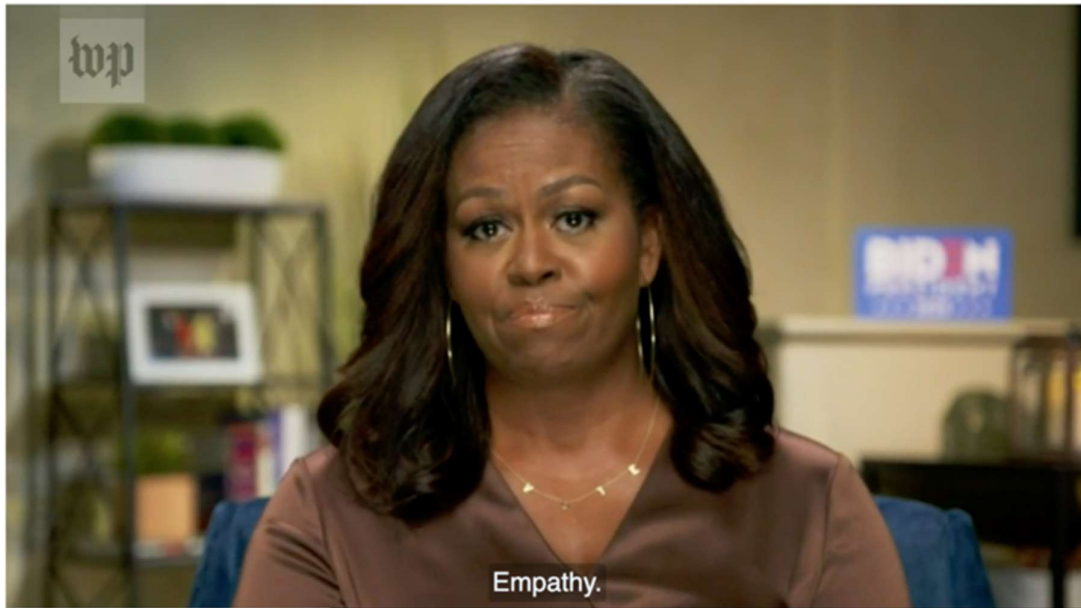
People who consider themselves moral are often deluded.

Life without morals is common.

It is wise, under any circumstances, to cling to the morals you have found.

If you hoard morals, they disappear.

If you find true morality it is more precious than gold.



Aviva Rahmani



Mary Hooper



For all those lost through cruelty
Sculpture by **Mary Hooper**

Lost Decency

Decency has been lost.

The last time anyone saw decency, it was seen cavorting with indecency, in an unseemly manner.

Decency and indecency are kissing cousins.

Gossips reported ribald and lewd behavior.

Observers reported nonconformism and bad taste.

It's possible that decency became bipolar or even anti-social.

In the end, decency and indecency became interchangeable.

There is a suspicion of foul play.

Those close to indecency protested what they called bad reporting.

If you should encounter decency,

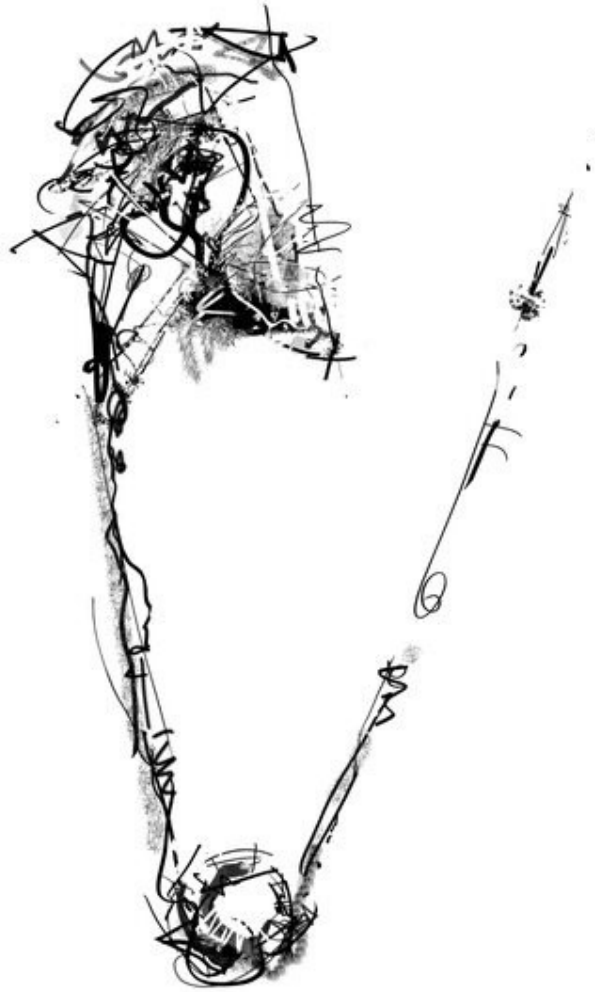
Ask for an honest answer to the question,

“What do you know of indecency?”

The decency you find might be indecent.



Judith Mayer

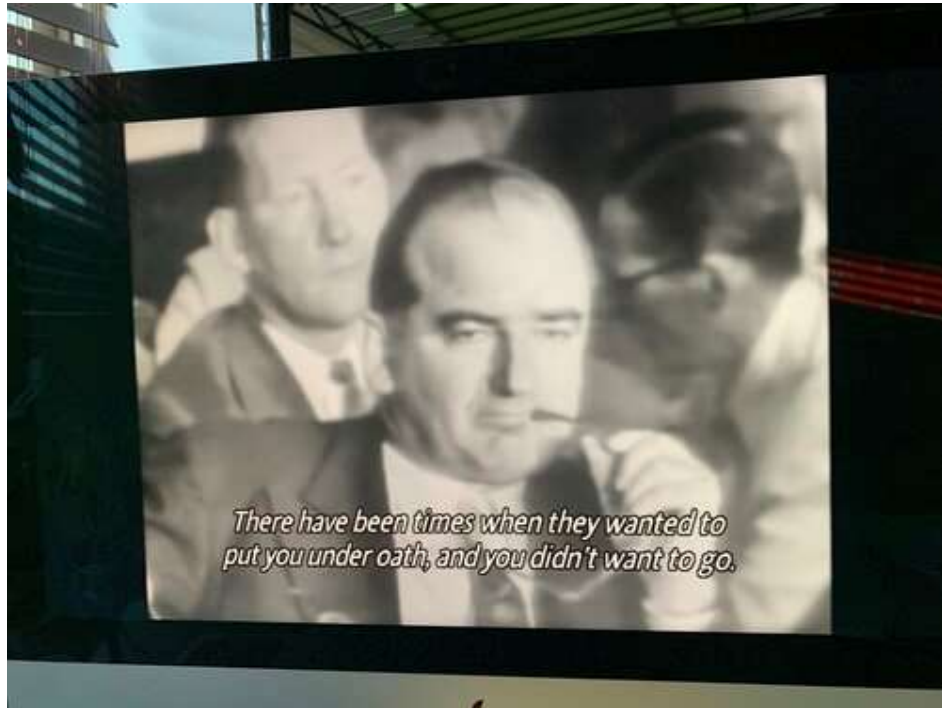


“It does feel these days that the ground has dropped out . . . that SAFETY /GOODNESS has been lost. With a return to civility, decency, justice and respect for one another perhaps SAFETY will be found, and humanity’s inventiveness may again become cause for celebration, rather than terror. A man-made artifact as small as a safety pin can be a loving tool for the good (like darning or mending) or conversely, an unleashed weapon of evil and destruction.”

Roz Dimon

“SAFETY LOST” digital drawing, 10500x6000 px at 300ppi

©2014



[Joseph McCarthy Congressional Hearings](#)
Aviva Rahmani, Eve Beglarian



Judith Mayer

Lost Freedom

Freedom is never where you think it's supposed to be.
Beware if anyone tells you they know where freedom is.
True freedom leaves one astonished, even humbled.
Your task is to discover freedom.
Freedom may leave you bruised and bloody.
If you hurt anyone else in your hunt for freedom, that is the wrong answer.
When you find freedom, you must not try to imprison it.
Deliver the freedom you find to someone who seems bound.
If they refuse the delivery,
Then continue to ask until you find someone who will cherish your gift.

"I'll be in a group show titled *Good Trouble* opening at the White Box in east Harlem 213 E. 121 Street, NYC 10035. Always a good place to see old friends and meet young radical artists. The opening is Nov. 3, election day.

I've taken 2000 photos this year starting with the new World Trade Center building based on the theme of the American Oil Empire. Then when the pandemic hit, I started taking portraits of people wearing masks. Then I slowly worked my way into BLM protests being very careful because of health issues. I'm a member of the Democratic Socialist of America so I'm also documenting DSA actions on housing justice etc.



I am editing the photos into slideshows that are exported as movies. At this point I have 3 segments. One is based on the WTO building in Manhattan and scenes of the WTO from Brooklyn mixed with portraits of people with masks. The second is BLM protests. The third is NYC as one of Trump's anarchist cities. This shows peaceful gatherings of multi-racial, multi-ethnic, multi-everything mixing that makes NYC great.



These gatherings brought me out of the pandemic depression. I was walking in McCarren Park and it was full of all kinds of people bbqing and just hanging out as Trump was trying to start another civil war. Please remember that Timothy McVeigh, Dylan Roof, the Proud Boys and all of Trump's 'good people' in the kkk & neo-nazis are trying to ignite a race war."



Jim Constanza



Lost freedom
Governors Island, NYC



Aviva Rahmani

Exchange with Seth Callender & Aviva Rahmini on Facebook
original post in February 2020

**I am the child of 3
generations of fighting
and fleeing oppression
and here it is again.
I had to say that before I
get back to work.**



Like



Comment



Share



Seth Callender

By contrast, my ancestors fought in the Revolution and for the Union side in the Civil War to rid us of just this sort of thing.

6m **Sad** Reply

Additional comments from Seth, August 24, 2020

"...we all have for centuries been working to overcome oppression and welcoming those who wish to join us here. Peace," Seth

Aviva Rahmani

Lost Forest

An entire forest has gone missing.
More things than we can list are missing with the missing forests.
The missing list of things is very important to know.
The forest went missing because we forgot the list.
Hard work and time will help us find the missing forests.
If you find a missing forest,
You must hide it from other people and keep it secret.
You can celebrate finding the missing forest.



Aviva Rahmani



Anthony Ramos



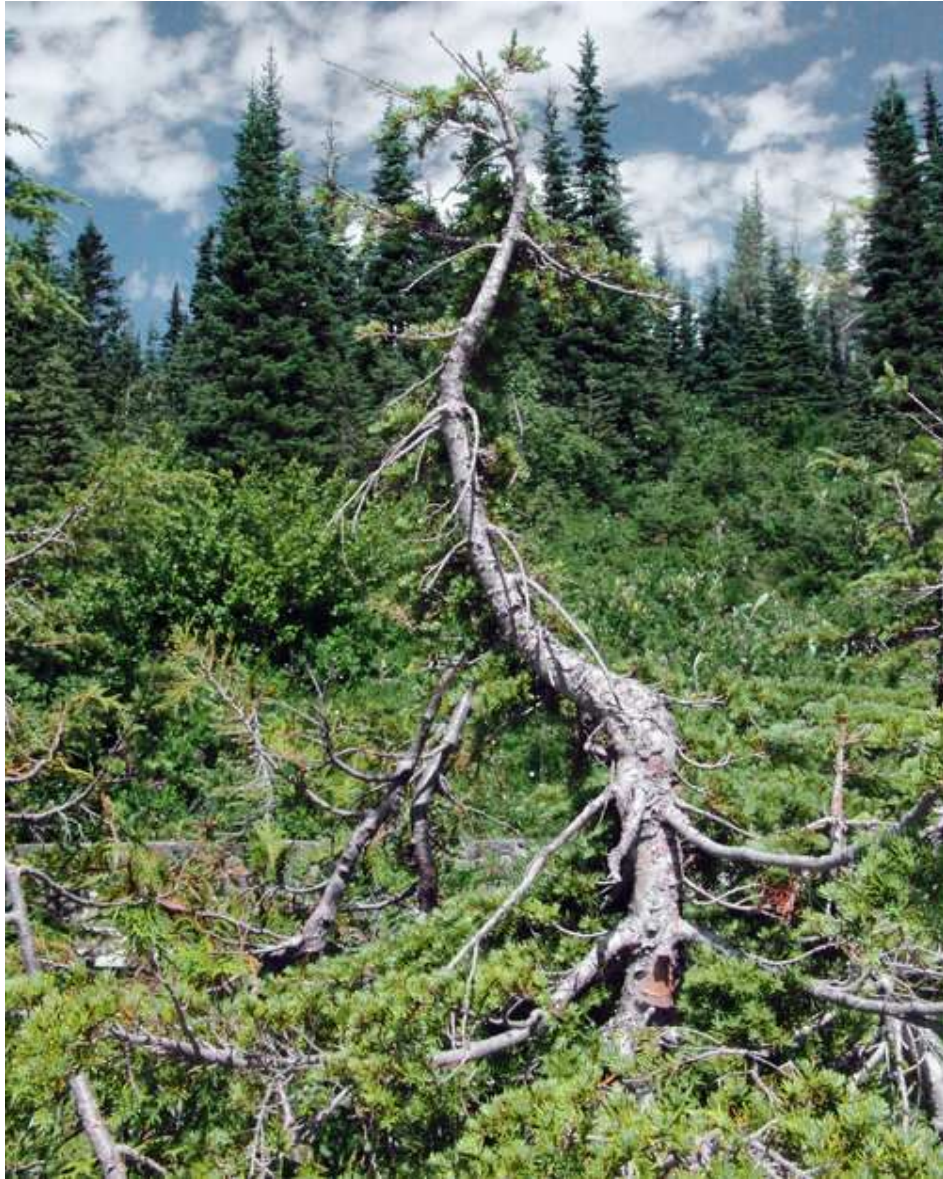
Ayaka Fujii



Nora Nostrand



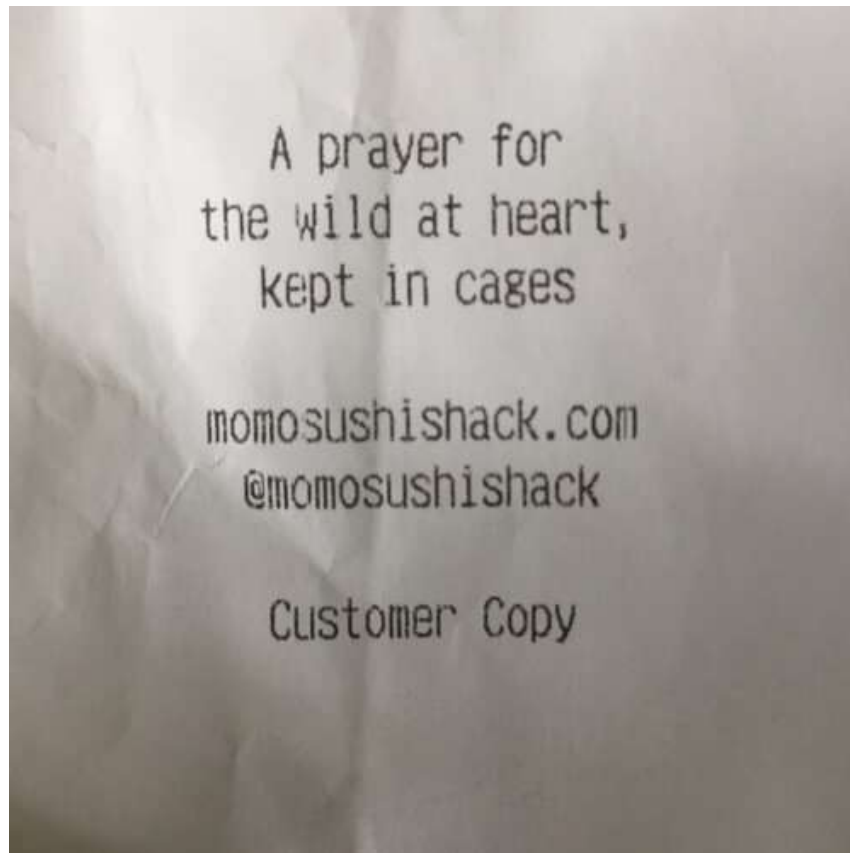
Michael Markham
Photograph (untitled)



Fredericka Foster

Lost Heart

Someone has lost their heart.
They feel heartless.
You must find the heartless one.
If you find the heartless one,
Try to help them reunite with their heart.
If after a sincere effort, you fail to find or reunite the heartless one with their original heart,
You are not obliged to find them a new heart.
If you find the heart but it's broken,
Bury it in fertile ground.
If you make a sincere effort to find the heartless one and fail but do find the lost heart and
It isn't broken,
You can advertise on twitter that you have a heart.



Ayaka Fujii
Receipt from Momo Sushi Shack, 2020
Bushwick, New York



I've started running again, to allow heartbeat to find its rhythm and receive radio signals.
Ayaka Fujii



Michael Markham
Maze, 1996
acrylic on plywood
4x4 ft.



The heartbeat of Blue Hill, Maine (pop. 2,500) is the Blue Hill Memorial Library. Not just a stunning and venerable building, but a source of learning, education, delight and imaginative programming. They have books too! The pandemic slowed its heartbeat but it is ticking nicely again. Not all is LOST and this photo depicts a clever adaptation to restricted access and observation of Covid 19 protocols.

Veronica L. Young

Lost Courage

Courage isn't for the faint-hearted

It doesn't count unless you're afraid. It counts more if you're terrified.

There is an inverse relationship between courage and certainty.

The more certain you feel, the more likely you are to be misled.

It's easy to squander courage.

Under certain circumstances kindness requires the greatest courage of all.

- No responses

Lost Time

Time has been lost or stolen.
 Everyone says it is irreplaceable.
 No one can be held accountable, not even you.
 Your task is to investigate where the missing time went.
 If you find time, bank on it.

Everyone talking back on some ground re Jim → RE →

Spencer's how to get off stage of West of Memphis

of community

Dana Bobby
 Jacques Bob
 Jim Barbara
 Jerry Carol (Kenya)

Whole thing too fast - build-up careless → roughshod

Jim - more understated, simpler, cut out excess movement, sound, noise - less violent movements
 no yells, unless no other choice never more than once in a piece, learn to stand still, listen to the mood of the audience w/out defensiveness

- sustain moments of intensity → do not build up in loudness, but complexity + intensity & simpler, simpler in externals

Jacques - less self-conscious - dead-serious - theatrical ("drummer boy complex"), forget about the performance; discover the unique inner structure of the piece
 Instruments or not, if so, use them.
 (Claus Von Kochen)

- Dana, more natural, relaxed, less cuteness + coyness, rely on the simple movement, appropriate to state of mind (+talking, cigarette)

- Barbara - rather sit than dance, preferably relate to other people rather than perform w/ them

do not make

Thalton

Jane

Please forget my criticism in specifics, remember the general sense

not concerned

with highlights

→

Newton Harrison - Foam, lights - keep in sight what we're concerned w/

The Mays (animal cliché) *anything done at Jeff's must be absurd, chaotic*

Reciting Parlor

Aviva Rahmani

Notes for a performance in 1969.



Mary Arnolds
November 30, 2019

Time
Nora Nostrand

Sometimes I want it to never go away,
to freeze over my fingers,
in his hairs...
But no, time wouldn't stay,
Time always flies in different manners,
different ways,
while following its pace
and weight.

Time crushes
all the things you love or hate,
it only lets you take -
a memory, a scent,
a heartbreak, a regret -

it is so heavy,
it won't allow you any bag.

You "enter" naked,
the same you'll end.

Lost Opportunities

Countless opportunities have been lost.
Many opportunities are secret.
Often, opportunities only appear in the rear window of a trip.
Lost opportunity often partners with regrets.
Often, regrets for lost opportunities can be very sad.
Your task is to save one opportunity from loss,
For yourself or someone else.
Only one is required.
Completing your task depends on your choice.
If it is for someone else, you can keep a secret.
They don't need to know of your intervention.



Aviva Rahmani



Michael Markham

Lost Kindness

A measure of kindness has been lost.

You must find the lost measure.

It will not be where you first look.

Persist.

Deliver the found kindness to an enemy.

- No responses.

Lost Species

Many species have been lost.

We lost the species while hunting for something else.

Some species have been missing so long we have forgotten their names.

Our hunt for things will always end in more loss.

The hunt for something else won't pay off as much as lost species used to pay.

Finding the lost species requires retracing our paths.

The path backwards is not where we want to go.

The reason we don't want to take the path backwards is because it is overgrown with grief.

If we retrace the path anyway, we won't find the lost species.

At the end of the path backwards we will find future lost species.

If we find future lost species, what we find will pay off better for us than the things we hunt.



Michael Markham

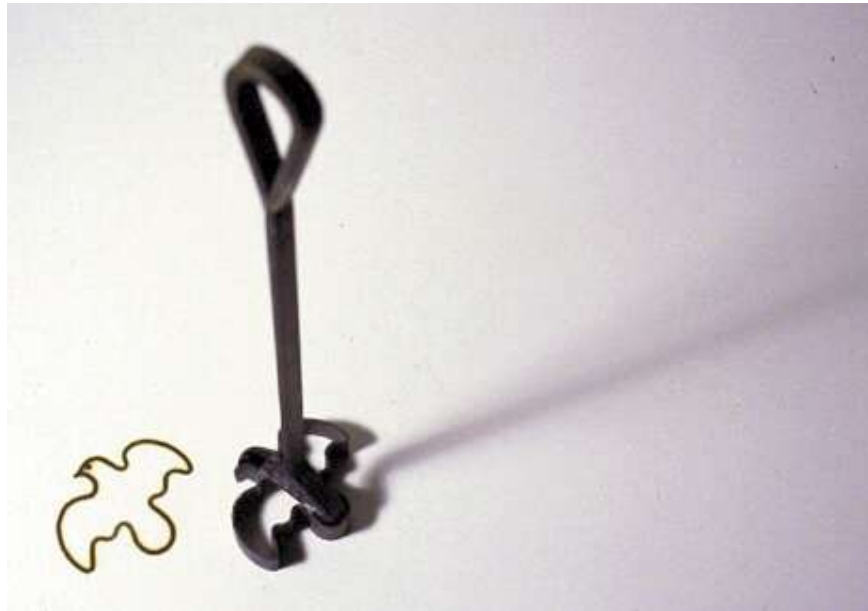
Fragment of a long scroll of headlines assembled by the artist



Mary Hooper

Lost Birds

Birds are lost.
Birdsong is silent where it was once noisy.
Many of us miss the noise.
Rachel Carson warned us it would come to this.
Carson was wrong about the cause.
Carson thought there was just one cause: pesticides.
She was wrong about the cause.
Pesticides are just a simple symptom.
The cause of lost birds is more complex.
We can't find lost birds without first finding complexity.
No one wants to find complexity.



Michael Markham

Fire Bird

Branding Iron, 18.5 inches in length

Image, 4 inches (wing tips)



Nora Nostrand
Lost Birds
Brooklyn, NYC



Nora Nostrand
Lost Birds, 2016
Harlem, NYC

Lost Memory of Love

Love has been lost in a memory.

It is unclear whether the love was a memory or a desire.

No one will help you sort out the difference.

You can't begin the hunt until you know which is memory and which is desire.

- No responses.

Lost Joy

Joy has been lost.

There are rumors it was stolen.

There are other indications that it was only misplaced.

The rumors and indications are clues to find joy.

It won't help to interrogate gossip.

Follow the clues when you can find them.

When you find joy give it away to someone joyless.

There are many who will need it more than you.

Your task is to choose who gets joy.

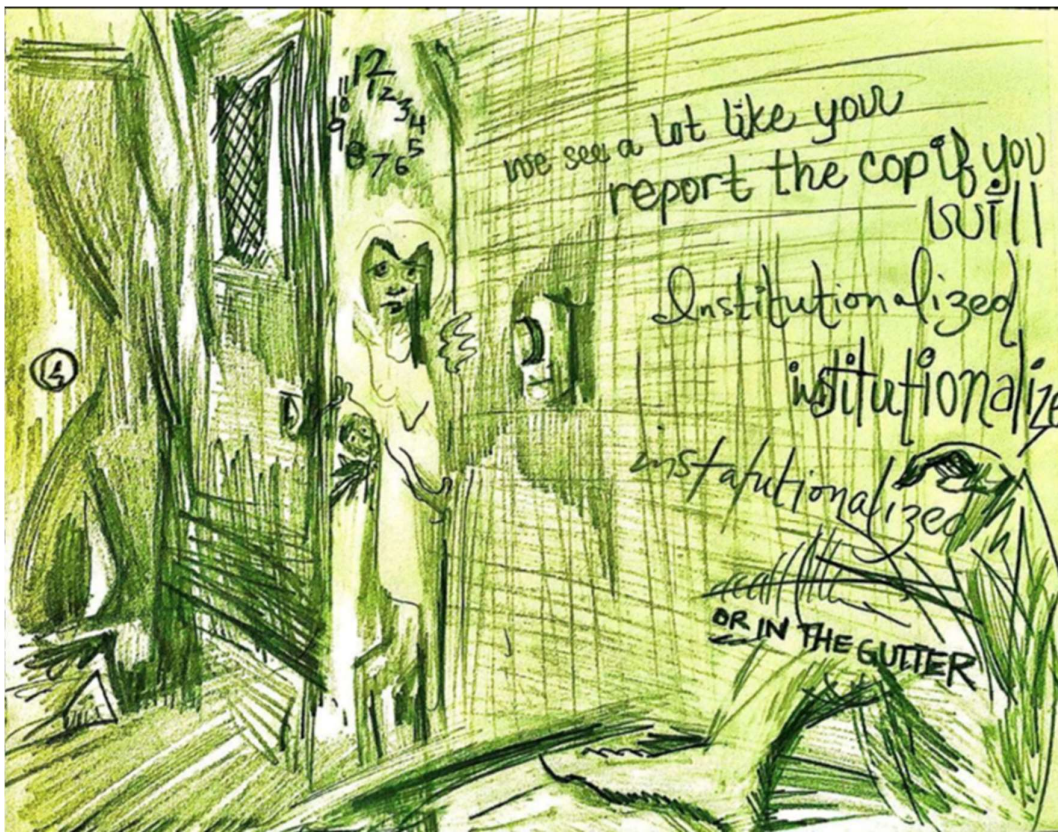
You can invent your own standards for who deserves joy

Or distribute it anonymously.

- No responses.

Lost Justice

Many of us were tasked with holding justice close.
But justice was lost.
We all thought justice was safe.
It seems impossible that justice was lost.
But you can't lock justice in a safe.
You can't take out an insurance policy on lost justice.
We always kept justice in our back pocket.
Justice might have slipped out of our back pocket.
We think it may have been lost when we sat down.
We sat down many times, in many places.
We sat down for hope.
We sat down for our neighbors.
We sat down for ourselves.
When we stood for justice,
Could someone have picked justice from our pocket?
Is there a justice thief?
Is it too late to search every place we sat down?
If you find justice it might be in the nick of time.



Jacqueline Brockel

Lost Cry

A Good Cry Has Been Lost.

At times, a good cry is a required staple of life.

A good cry is nicest in company.

Often, a good cry alone will suffice.

Sometimes some people want to hide a good cry.

And then they lose it.

They forget where they put their tears.

Spilled tears are often the price of a lost cry.

Forgotten tears of a good cry often return in someone else's tears.

More than one person can lose and forget they need a good cry.

When people lose it, a good cry might not be enough.

A lost cry is a cry in the dark.

Your task is to search for and find the lost cry before someone else spills tears.

Your search may require communication skills.

~The rain behind closed doors~

As a child I used the water at the sink to
help me pee.
As a grown up
I go under the shower
Just to cry,
To push out
The toxins I allowed in;
I scream in silence
“Let me be!”
never loud,
With a fist in my mouth -
And I dilute the tears
In hot steam.

Now you know why
I wash myself
So many times:
To drip the salt
and the sins,
from inside my body
On the bathroom tiles,
Then to the sewage,
through the pipes,
to mix with everybody's pain

who weeps
in *this* city.

Nora Nostrand

Lost Trust

Trust has been lost.

Trust was the key to a future.

Losing trust is a disaster.

The consequences of lost trust are catastrophic and endless.

When trust is lost, the pieces of trust are widely scattered.

Recovering lost trust is an unforgiving process.

True trust sometimes refuses to conform to expectations.

Finding lost trust is always unpredictable.

If you find lost trust,

Care for it as you would care for a sickly infant.

If you care for trust that has been found, trust may still perish.

The future will not be lost if trust perishes.

- No responses.

Lost Perspective

A perspective has been lost.

The lost perspective once parsed distance with rules.

Without rules for perspective, perception can't be adequately organized.

Sometimes rules can obscure perspective.

The best rules for perspective will determine wise choices.

When rules overcome wisdom, perspective is lost.

Choices can be made without perspective.

If perspective is found,

It will be a useful tool to determine choice.

If you find perspective, it is important to remember the rules.

- No responses.

Lost Communication

Communication is missing

It may simply have been mislaid.

Life can't move forward until the missing communication is found.

This may be a frustrating search.

Don't give up.

If you find communication, then deliver it immediately.

- No responses.

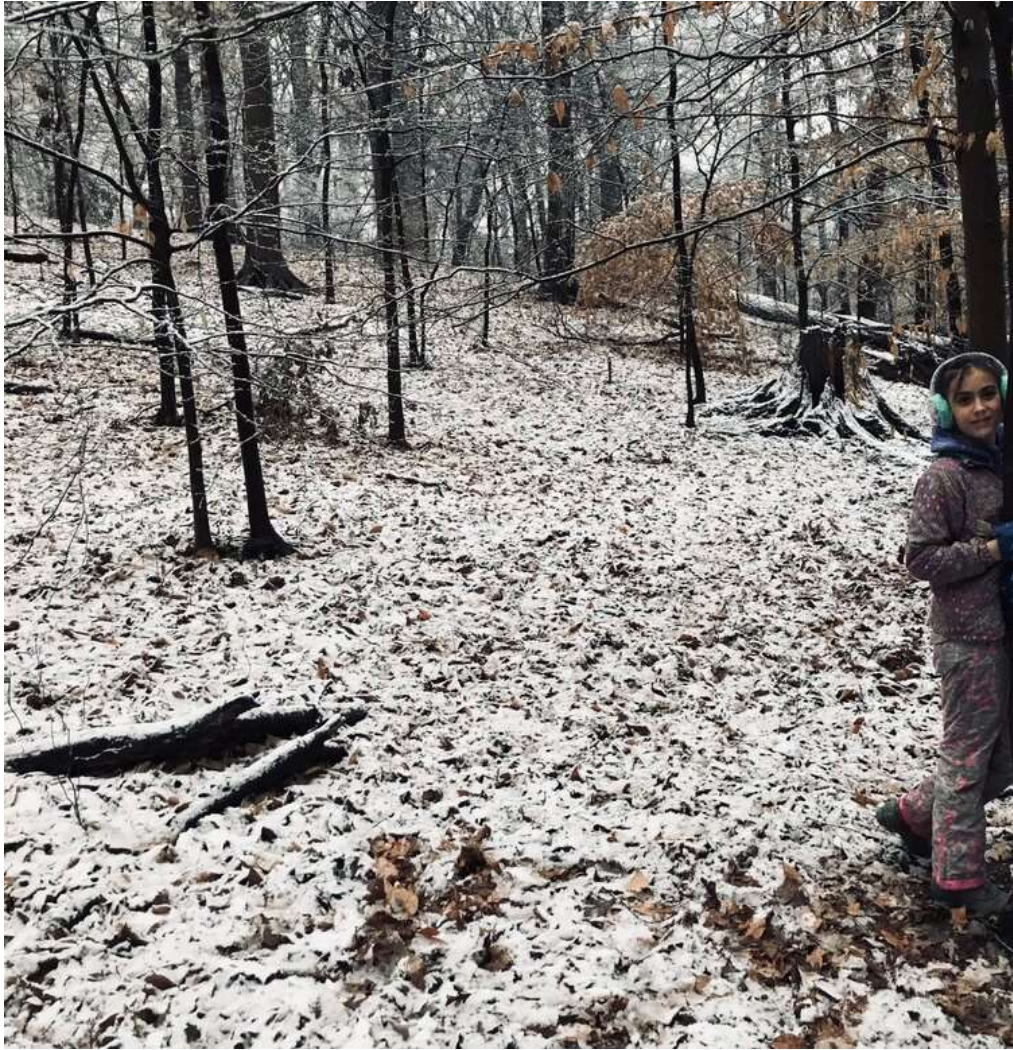
Lost Snow

Snow has been lost from familiar places.
Before it was lost, the presence of snow was announced by a tickle in the nose.
The smell of snow is elusive but like nothing else.
My nose longs for the evanescent smell of snow.
My face longs for the touch of snowflakes.
My tongue remembers the taste of melting flakes.
I miss seeing the white shroud of a blanket of snow across the world.
Where snow remains, it isn't the same.
Penguins long for the old, familiar snow in the Antarctic.
Snow in familiar places may never be found again.
Old snow may have passed away.
I long for snow.
It may be that only the memory of snow can be saved from eternal loss.
I can't tell you where to find familiar snow.
If you find snow, dance in it.



Gale Eston

The [disappearing snow monsters](https://www.nytimes.com/2019/03/14/world/asia/japan-juhyo-snow-monsters-climate-change.html) of Northern Japan
(www.nytimes.com/2019/03/14/world/asia/japan-juhyo-snow-monsters-climate-change.html)



Sarah Ingersoll



Fredericka Foster



Taina Litwak



Taina Litwak



Nora Nostrand



I was driving past the vineyard this morning and saw what my brain processed as snow. “ Did it snow last night? I thought “ maybe it’s just an early frost. I got out of the car for a closer look and realized the snow was actually small white flowers. Pleasantly surprised by nature once again.

Anthony Ramos

Lost Hope

Hope has been lost.
It is a chronic problem.
Your task is to ask a stranger for hope.
If you are given hope,
Be sure to thank your benefactor.



<https://youtu.be/owb1uWDg3QM>

¿Te unes al movimiento? www.musicaparadespertar.org Primera Bailarina de Ballet en Nueva York en los años 60. De los momentos más impresionantes que hemos vi...

Lost End

A story is unfinished.
The whole world wants to know how it will end.
People are anxious for the answer.
You must find the ending as soon as possible.
But remember - haste makes waste.



Michael Markham
Photograph
Dakota Badlands

Lost Song

You must find a missing song,
The trees are singing the chorus,
The soloist is unknown.
Listen for the refrain.
When you hear the refrain,
Then capture it
It will be the heart of the song you need to capture
Bring back the captured song.



彼は見たことのないせまくて古い階段を見つけた。彼はその丘の中の階段をのぼっていった。わたしは小さい頃のわたしを見ているようだった。わたしは丘の下から、彼女を見守った

He found old half-broken stairs on a hill. He climbed the stairs with his backpack on. I remembered myself when I was a small girl. Under the hill, I waited and looked at her back.

Aine Nakamura



<https://youtu.be/IPmD9C2uab4>

Hoy es cumpleaños de Paul McCartney 🎂 Y en homenaje al gran artista de todos los tiempos, integrante de The Beatles compartimos parte del concierto sorpresa ...

Lost Thoughts

Lost thoughts could be anywhere.

Sometimes you need to find lost thoughts to complete a thought.

Lost thoughts are like lost keys: retrace your last actions to the point of loss.

Sometimes thoughts are lost in confusion.

Thoughts can be stolen or lost in a crisis.

It's impossible to put a value on lost thoughts.

Sometimes lost thoughts are not worth finding.

But sometimes your life will depend on a lost thought.

- No responses.

Lost Empathy

Lost empathy is often found in broken places.

Empathy is useful in unexpected ways.

Sustaining empathy sometimes requires other qualities.

If you find empathy, give it away immediately.

- No responses.

Lost Prayer

A prayer has been lost.

The prayer had gone in search of hope

And hasn't been seen since.

The trail of the prayer has gone cold.

It is still important to find the prayer.

It is important to find the prayer even if hope is also lost.

If you can find the prayer,

Ask it what it learned from the journey to hope.

- No responses.

Lost Spirit

There is bread for the spirit.
The ingredients are rare and hidden in plain sight,
Without the bread
A spirit will die.
You must find the ingredients and guess the recipe.
If you find the ingredients and the recipe,
Then pass them along to a stranger.
Ask the stranger to feed a needy spirit.

- No responses.

Lost Butterfly

A butterfly was lost.
The butterfly's colors were iridescent.
It was so brilliant that no one could focus on it,
If they tried to focus, it flickered and vanished.
No one has claimed to see the butterfly in a long time.
It may have become a firefly.
Almost no one has seen fireflies for a long time.
Three nights ago I saw a cloud of fireflies.
I held my breathe and watched them glow.
Someone said the butterfly was never real.
It was only hope.
If you find a butterfly,
Try to focus on what you see,
Even if you only see fireflies,
The memory of light will warm your heart forever.



Found Butterfly for Hunt for the Lost
colored pencil on 9" x 12" paper
Aviva Rahmani, 2020



Even during the election we can reflect on the butterfly.

Anthony Ramos

Lost Marriage

in four parts

Note: Brides are counseled to have something old, something new, something borrowed, and something blue on their person for the wedding day, "The old item provided protection for the baby to come. The item borrowed from another happy bride provided good luck. The colour blue was a sign of fidelity. The sixpence—a silver British coin—was a symbol of prosperity or acted as a ward against evil done by frustrated suitors." (From Wikipedia 7-17-20)

Part I

Hunt for Something Old (and Small)

Find something old and small.
Consider your choice carefully.
It should be small enough to hold easily in one hand.
Carry it on you for one week.
Do not show anyone what it is.
Name it.
At the end of one week, give it away.

Part II

Hunt for Something New

Ask someone for something you need but don't want anyone to know that you need it.
It must be something real, not a joke, something your life depends upon getting; something that would make your life new.
If they say, "no," ask someone else.
Never ask the same person twice.
Continue to ask until you get what you need.
Ask at least once a day until you get a positive response.
If, at the end of a week, you have failed to solicit what you need, stop asking.

Part III

Hunt for Something Borrowed

Identify something you need that someone else owns.
Ask to borrow it for a specified amount of time.
It can be anything: fame, fortune, a partner, happiness, health, a car, a dog or a book so long as you really believe you need it and temporary ownership might enhance your life.
Specify how you will negotiate borrowing the item.
At the end of the agreed upon time, return the item.

Part IV

Hunt for Something Blue

Look for a fallen twig from a deciduous tree.

Choose a twig that is at least 6" long.
Do not substitute a twig you have broken off.
Bring the twig home.
Acquire non-toxic ultramarine blue paint.
Paint the twig blue with the paint.
Find a place in your home where you can consider the blue twig.



Aviva Rahmani



Nora Nostrand

“Of a certain love death may arise”

Lost Feathers

Quetzalcoatl and Phoenix feathers have been lost.
If the feathers are found, we can rebuild the birds, one feather at a time.
Quetzalcoatl and Phoenixes are always invisible.
The feathers of invisible birds will rebuild an entire world.
Your task is to see the invisible.

- No responses.

Lost Scruple

It is easy to miss a scruple.
Scruples are often very small.
Scruples are often mistaken for something else.
A scruple can be mistaken for cowardice.
Sometimes a jaundiced eye is cast on a scruple.
Scruples however can be very useful.
A scruple can build a reputation or a life.
A lost scruple can lose a reputation or a life.
Precious relationships have been shattered for lack of a scruple.
If you find a scruple, it can be attached to an ideal.
Ideals are useful tools to organize scruples.

- No responses.

Lost Purpose

There was a purpose.
But it has been lost.
No one knows when or where it was discarded.
It is possible it doesn't want to be found.
It may be the occasion for a struggle if the purpose is found.
If you find a purpose,
Try to resist the temptation to struggle.
If you engage in a struggle
The purpose may win.
If you win, you might lose the purpose.

- No responses.