

# PROJECT::: WHY AM I HERE???

**What:::** a 5 minute, digital video

**Who:::** Who is your main character? Is it you? Is it someone you made up? Write about them.

[3-10 sentences would be good here]

**Where:::** Where in a "world" is your character? Do locations matter?

**When:::** Is this happening at a time that matters? How do we know "when" we are looking?

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**Why:::**

## **To frame the ancestral lines:**

"Ancestral lines cannot be broken. Without them there is no childhood. Without them there can be no right dreams. The river flows, it is continually changing, continually moving, yet it is always a river. Now, before, after. As such, so is the line from you to your ancestors, for outside the physical there is an unbroken thread. It cannot be seen, yet can be felt. You may call it déjà vu, an unconscious sense of familiarity about a certain place or circumstance. You may call it a certain yearning for certain foods, for certain experiences, for a certain type of person. You may call it your "nature". For what is nature but the execution of some master plan? The embodiment of some intelligence too broad or whole to be conceived of as one. And just as science discovers more about the apparent existence of a purpose of consciousness of all things, so too will they realize that what you call your likes and dislikes, attractions or repulsions, your personality expressed in your like things, is nothing more than the expression of this same thread of intelligence. And this intelligence is the wisdom of your

ancestors, the wisdom of age beyond the limits of the corporeal, accumulating down through the generations. They are not so far off the track, those scientist people, when they probe into the tiny world of the unseen for this thread, yet their insistence on the use of the metaphors of the physical world will prevent them from ever really touching it." - Bill Viola -

-Write about the links that drive your character -> what motivates them, what shared vocabulary of events, styles, foods, or products are vital to understanding them? Who raised this person to make them into them?

### **On your visual hopes:**

-Comment on your character's sense of the world.

-What are the most important things, globally, in their world?

-What is the greatest cause of pain in the "world"?

-Is anyone working on that?

-What is the purpose of your character doing what they do?

-Is it important for the above purpose to happen to engage the world's needs?

### **Title:**

-Write 3 possible titles

Titles are hints

Titles stimulate the imagination

Titles have suggestive power

Titles offer a handhold on a work

Titles are provocative

Titles are part of the fiction of a work

Titles are bait

Titles put an object into a new context

Titles can corral

Titles complete the sensibility of a work

Titles hold secrets

Titles anchor meaning

Titles are punchlines

Titles can be entire works

**Keywords:**

-Assemble a list of keywords, using your writing about your character and their world as a starting point.

Make the number of items on the list divisible by two.

**WORK FOR HOME:::**

**Mapping:**

-Plot your keywords on to a series of 8 boxes and order the keywords as though you were explaining the story to a caveperson. What if you ordered them alphabetically? What if your order was chronological? What if the order doesn't matter? What happens when you make the last, first? [Try using the randomization options on random.org for potentially surreal, poetic, or funny pairings]

-Locate the boxes. List the locations that will be used to show the word groups.

-Build a sketch of the video by drawing key moments or scenarios from your film.  
[storyboard]

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Prepare an elevator  
pitch for your film\* to  
discuss with me next  
week.

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\*project to be created  
with digital video