Where We Were Standing

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Logline:

A poetic documentary where strangers stand in the same location and answer a question, revealing the quiet weight of the human experience.

Synopsis:

Where We Were Standing is a reflective, observational film that invites a series of individuals to occupy the same physical space and answer the same question about existence, purpose, memory, and empathy. As the people change, the space remains. The film captures these raw, unrehearsed responses in a consistent visual style, letting the audience meditate on what it means to be human. Through stillness and repetition, the documentary explores how personal truths echo across different lives, and how, even in our solitude, we're not alone.

Rationale:

By inviting viewers to simply listen, Where We Were Standing reminds us of the quiet depth in ordinary people. It doesn't require a dramatic plot twist or an intense story to follow - its power lies in everyday vulnerability. The question asked is universal, yet the answers are deeply personal. That contrast is what gives the film weight: it's both deeply intimate and broadly relatable.

To me, art needs to have meaning on an emotional level. This is why I struggled so much with my first film, *My Day in 60 Seconds*, and why I chose my second film, *Self Reflection*. While each film before this had a main character, this time, I just want things to be raw - to find truth in simplicity. This documentary aligns with how I view the world: as a place of constant searching, filled with moments of quiet connection if we're willing to stop and look. I believe this film can move people not by showing them something new, but by revealing something they've always felt, and never put into words.

Treatment:

Where We Were Standing is a poetic, observational documentary that explores the human condition through a single, quietly profound question. The specific question is still being finalized - it may be:

- 1. What do you think it means to be human?
- 2. Do you think you're where you're supposed to be?
- 3. What do you carry with you every day?

Each of these prompts invites vulnerability, reflection, and emotional honesty. Whichever question is ultimately chosen, it will guide the shape of the film and serve as the thread that ties together the voices of strangers, all standing in the same place.

The film takes place in a single, consistent location - a patch of earth, a stretch of sidewalk, a hallway in a building. Wherever it may be, it's a quiet space that anyone could pass through. One by one, people arrive and respond. Time passes. The faces change. The space stays the same.

This is not a character-driven documentary in the traditional sense. Instead, it's a collage of moments - a communal portrait composed of individual reflections. Each speaker becomes a character not through narrative arc, but through presence and truth. The transformation comes through the accumulation of voices, emotions, and perspectives.

Visually, the film will lean on natural lighting, shallow depth of field, and clean, intimate framing. The camera will mostly stay locked, with the occasional slow, intentional movement to add breath and texture. Transitions will be unhurried. Between speakers, we return to the empty space for a moment to pause, to breathe, to reflect, and to prepare for the next voice. At times, these transitions may also include subtle b-roll: a passerby walking in the distance, shifting light through trees, closeups of the space itself, the sidewalk, a crack in the pavement, wind moving through grass. These quiet details remind us that the world continues between conversations, that life exists around and beyond the people we hear from.

The audio will be crisp, raw, and honest, unrehearsed voices filled with uncertainty, laughter, pause, or emotion. Layered ambient sounds, like footsteps, wind, birds, and distant traffic, will root the film in a shared physical world.

At its core, Where We Were Standing is about presence: the small act of being still in a place long enough to be seen, to speak, and to listen. It is a quiet, cinematic reminder that we are not alone in our questions. That sometimes, all it takes is a moment of stillness to realize what we're carrying, and that others are carrying something, too.

(Potential) Interview Questions:

• What do you think it means to be human?

• Do you think you're where you're supposed to be?

• What do you carry with you every day?

Shooting Schedule:

Date: April 30th, 2025

Time: 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Location: On Campus, most likely Fireside

Director, Writer, Producer, Sound: Dominic Trevisani

Date	Time	Subject	Crew	Location	Notes
04/30/2025	12 PM Through 5 PM (at the latest)	INT: Random People	Dominic Trevisani	Fireside (Subject to change)	All info subject to change. Needs to be busy.