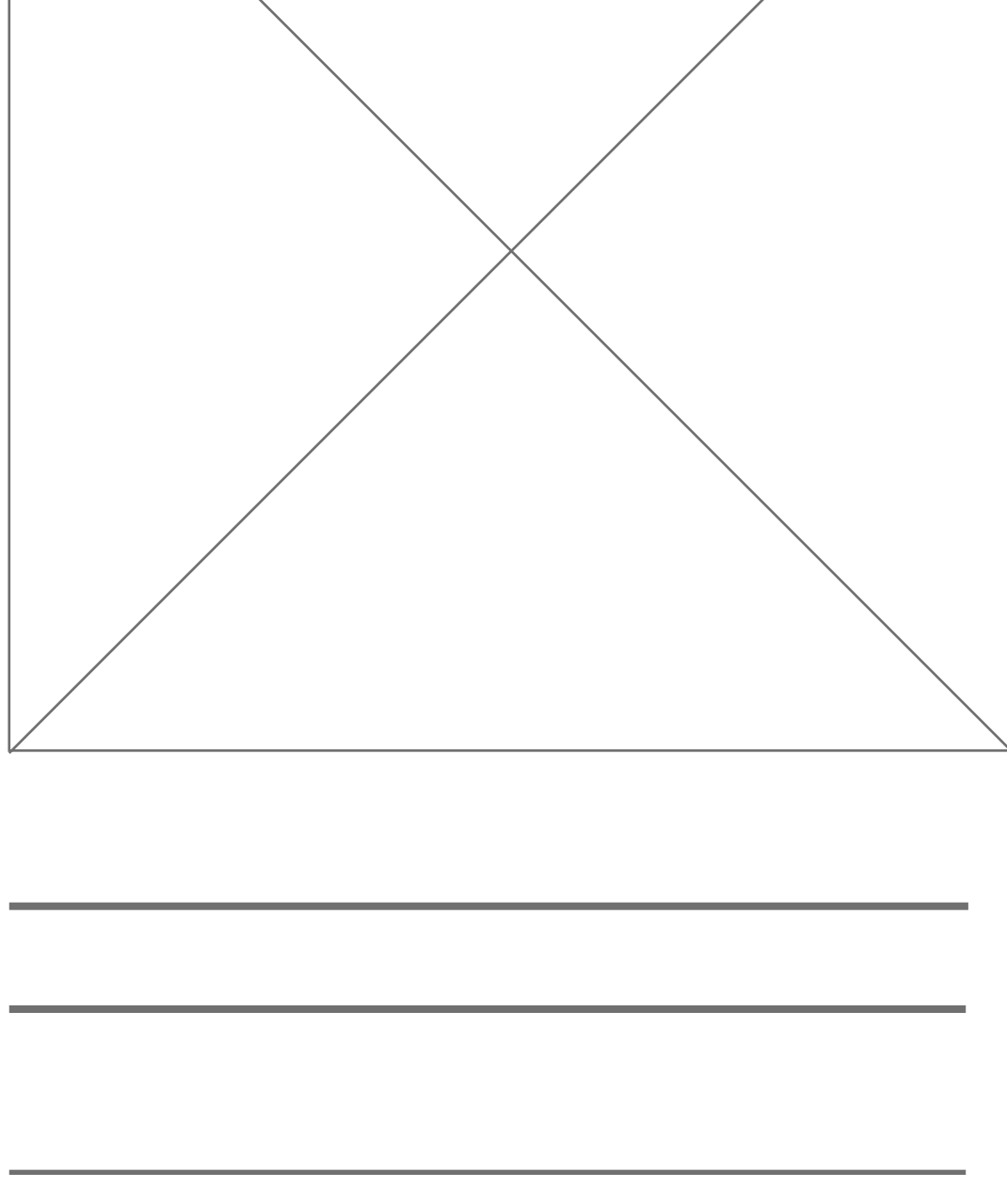
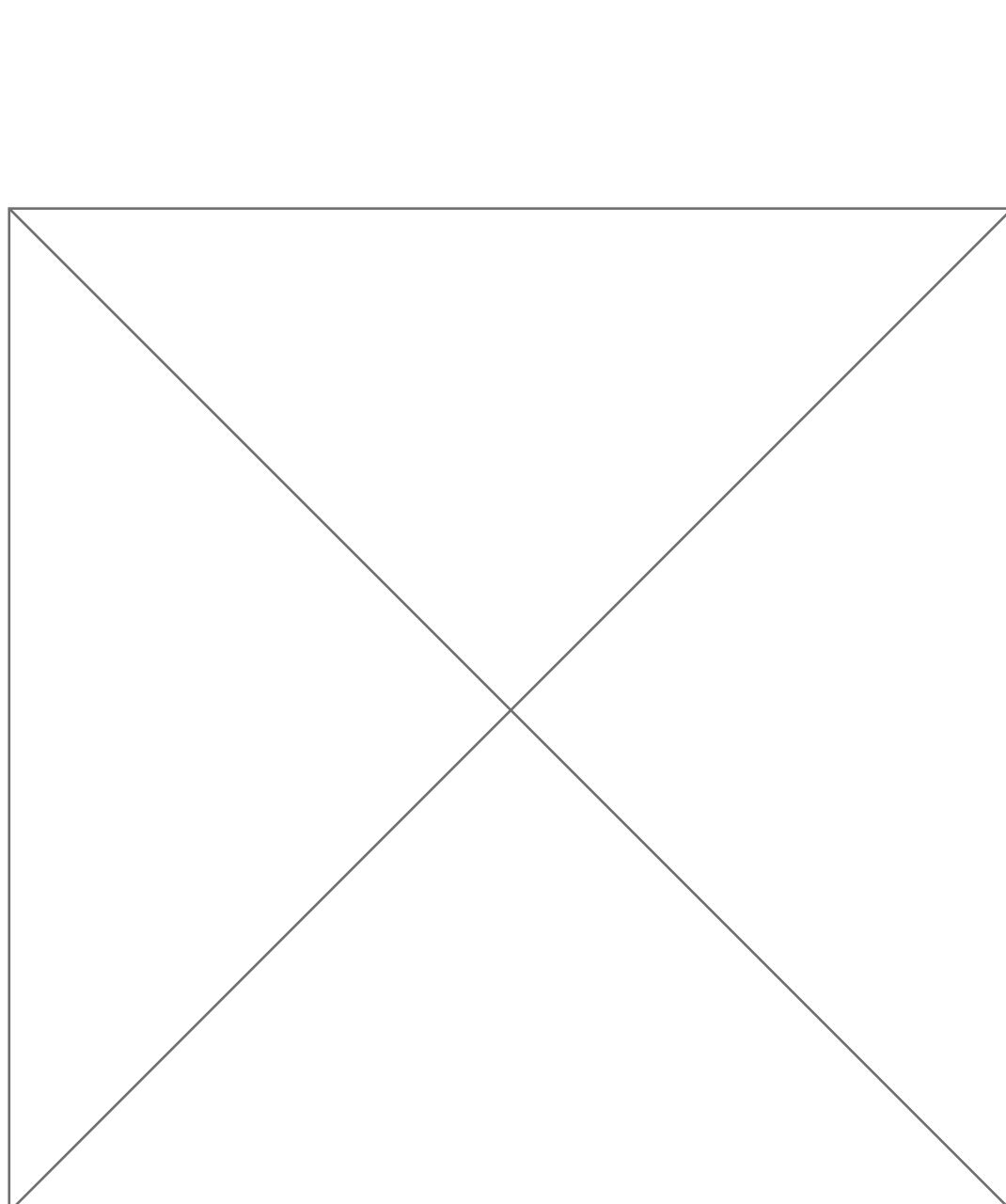
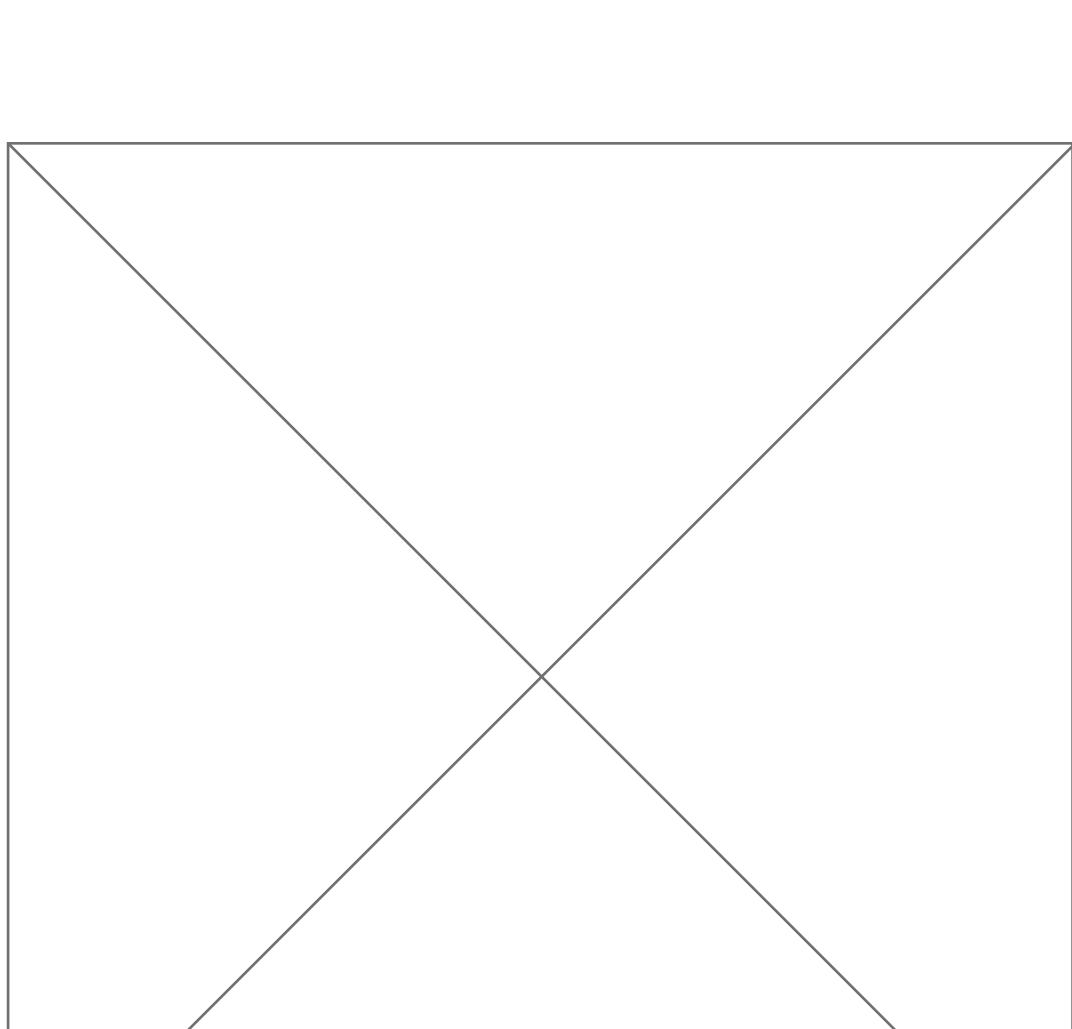
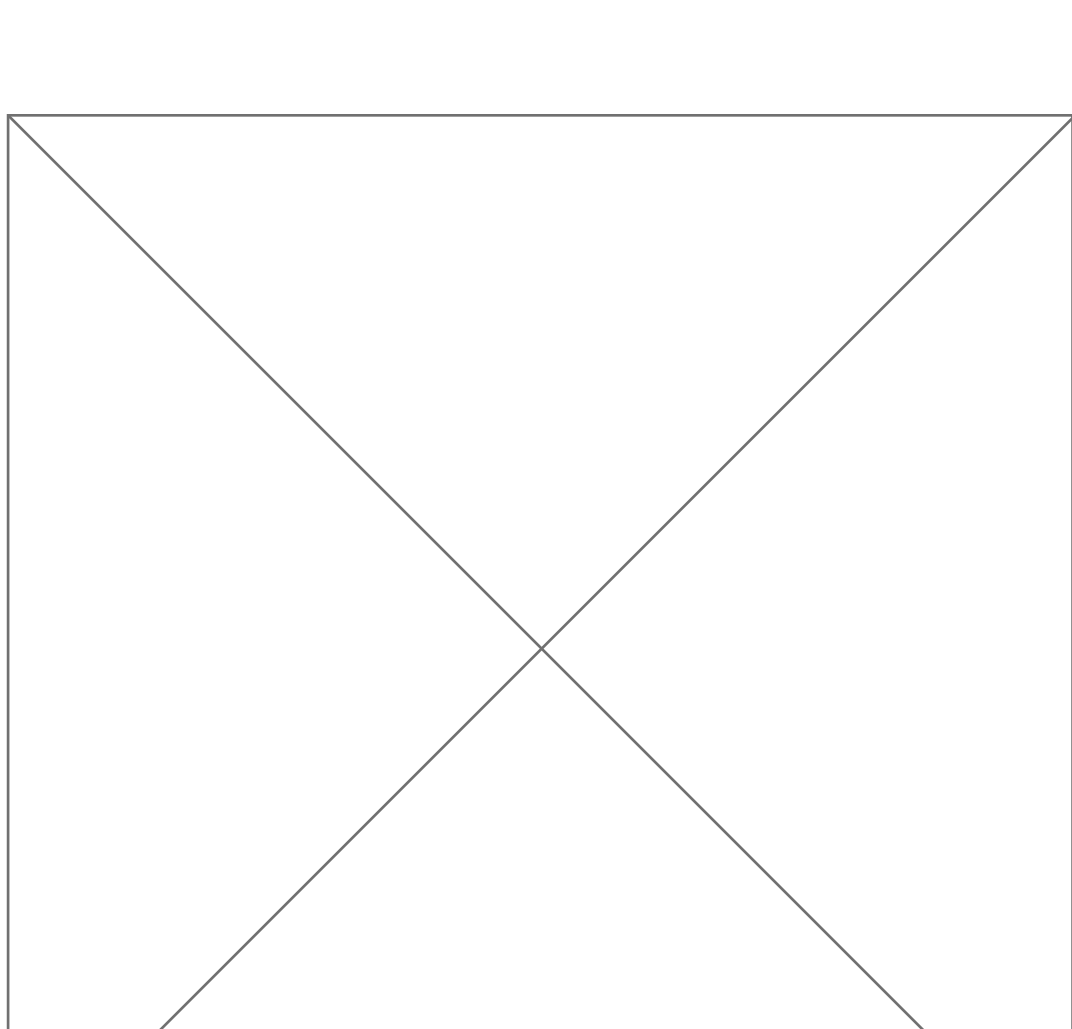
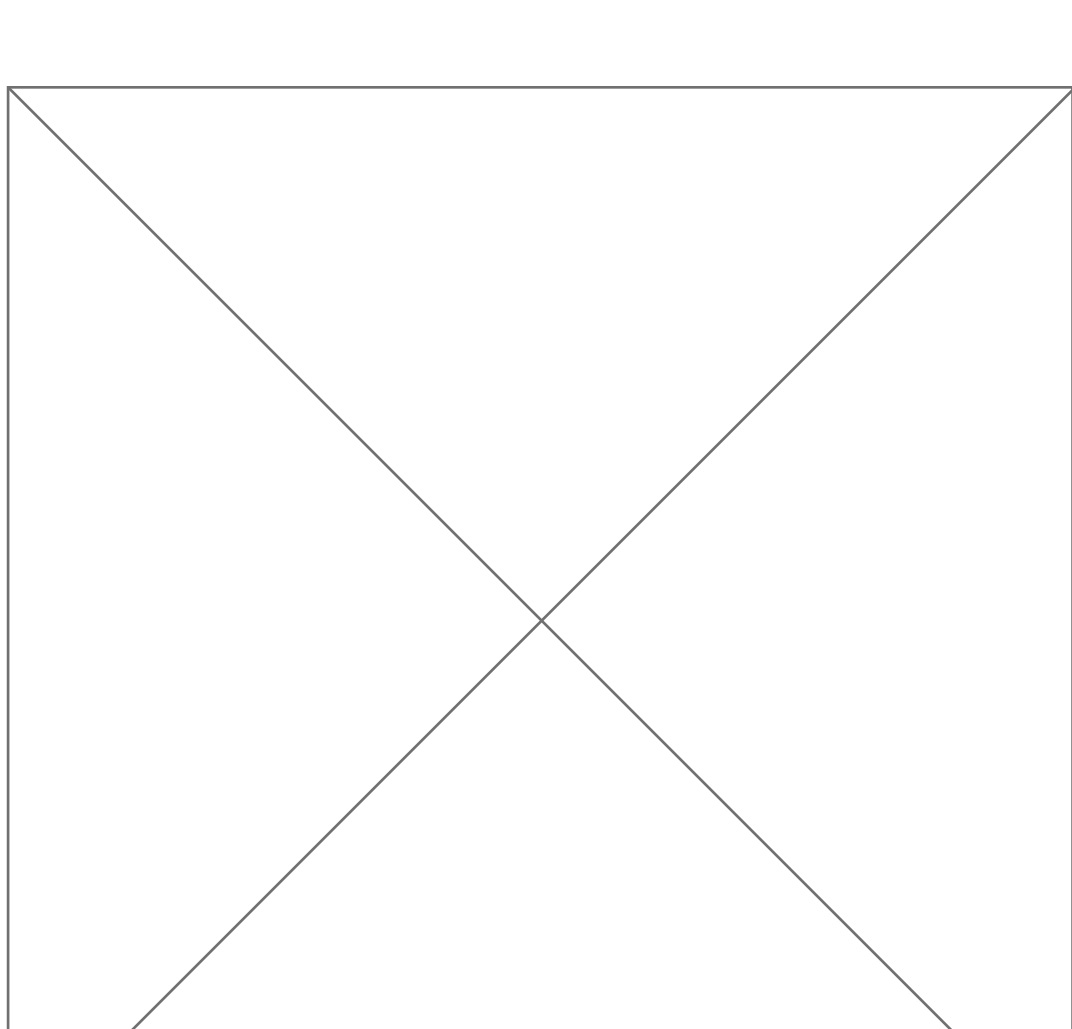
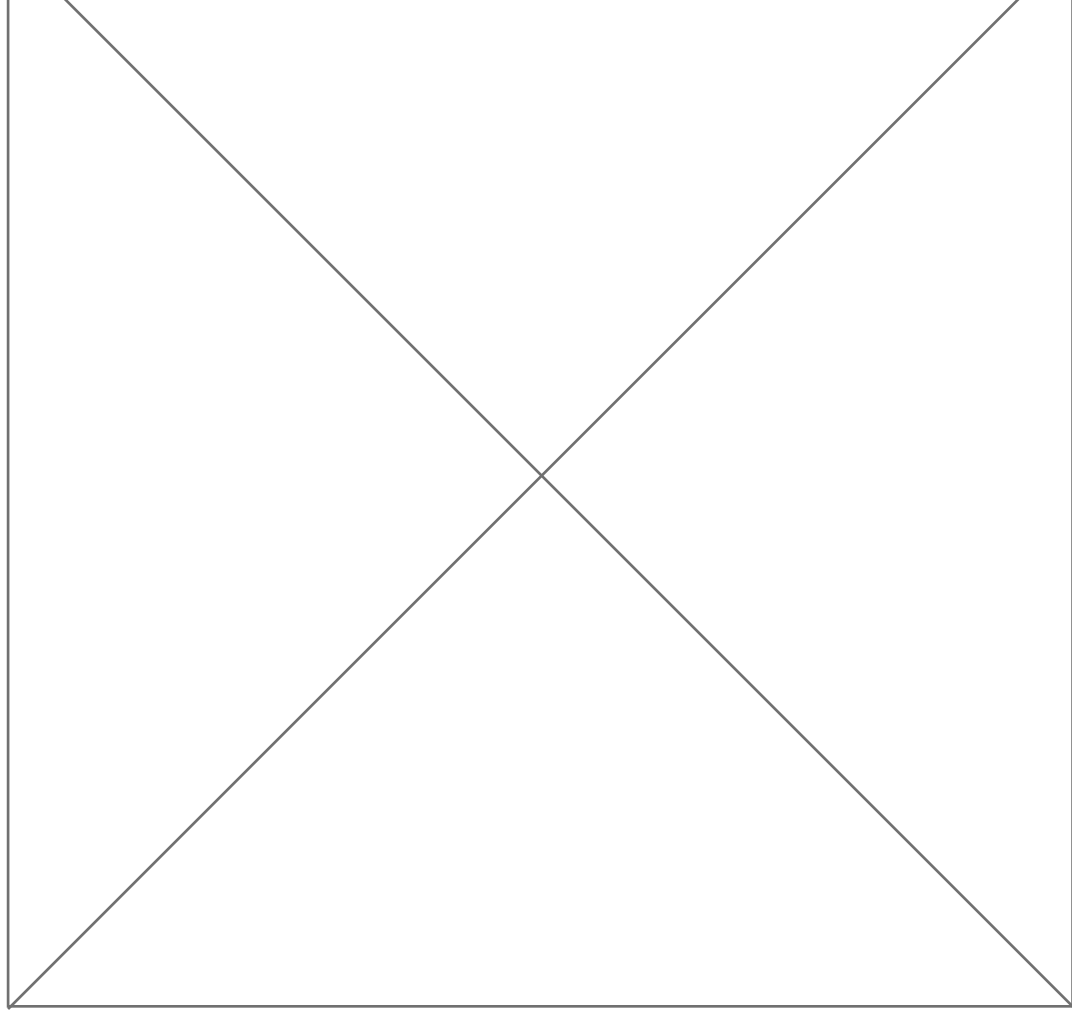
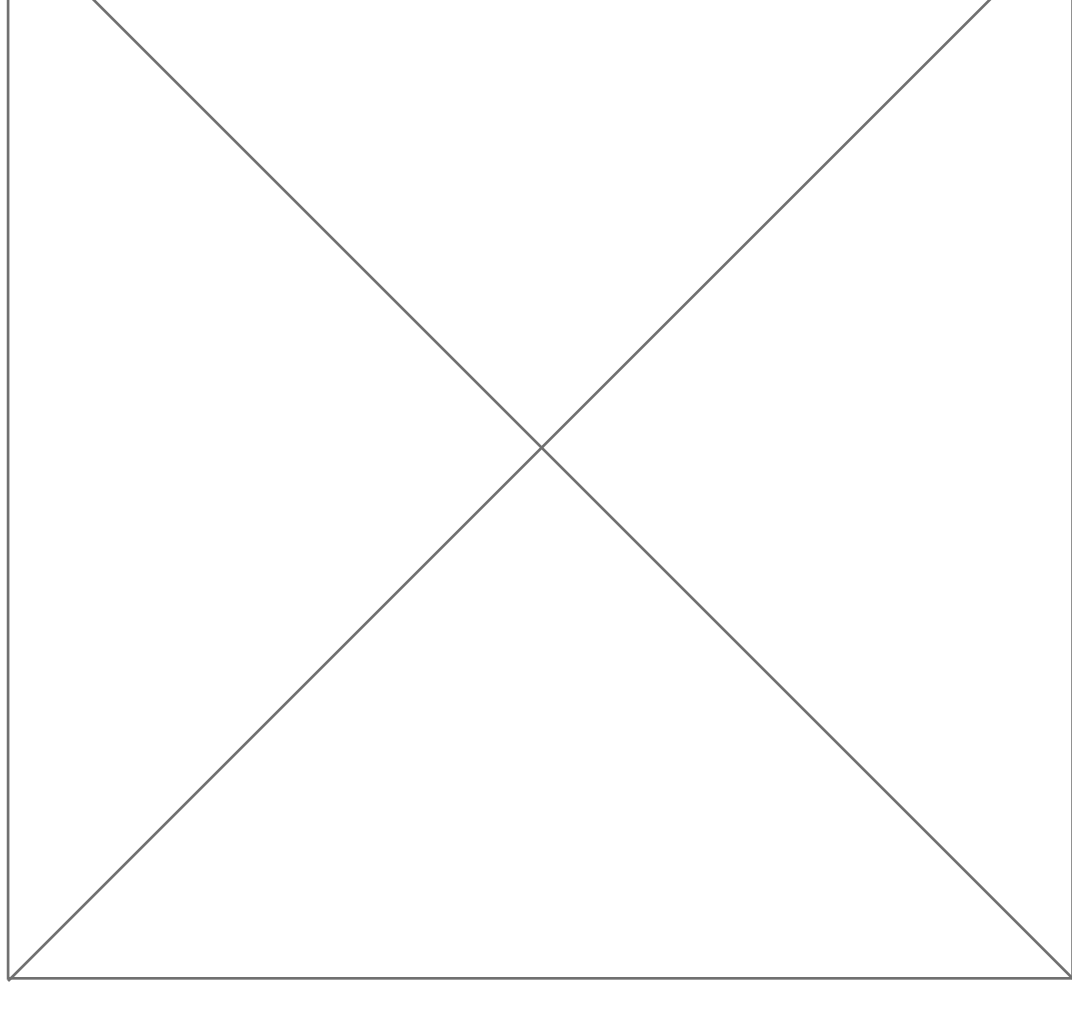
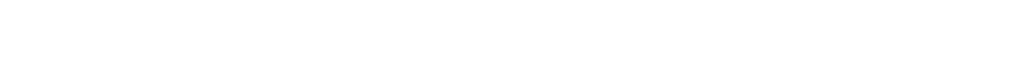
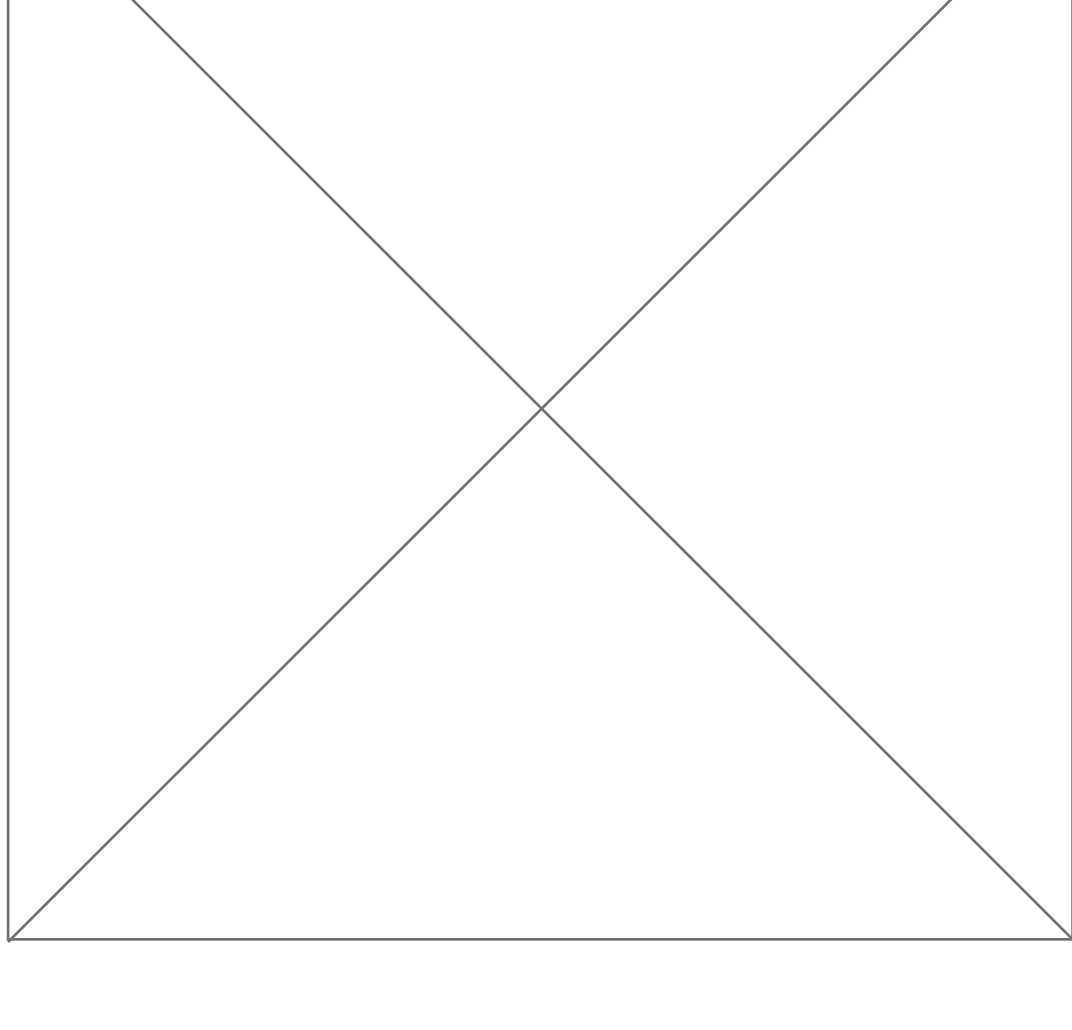
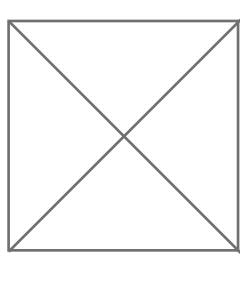
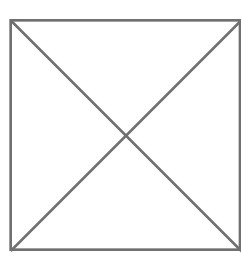


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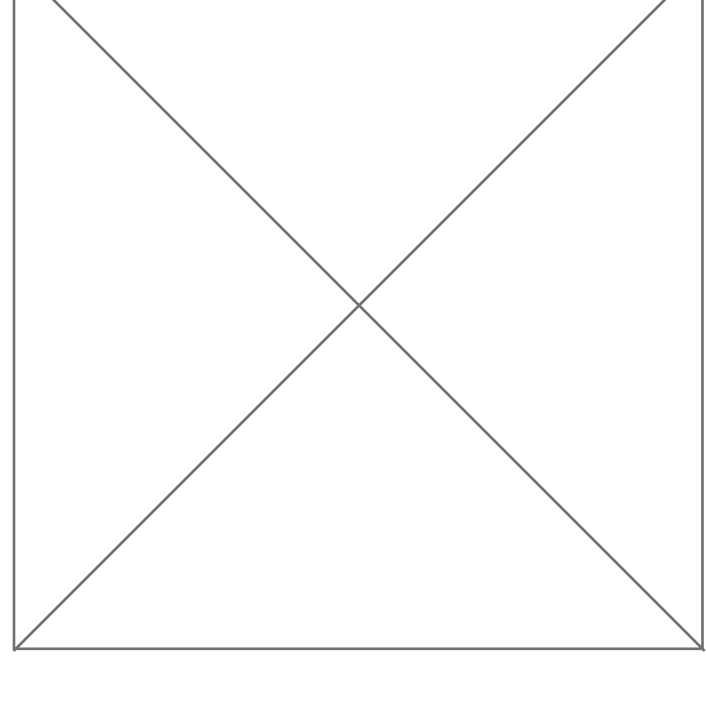
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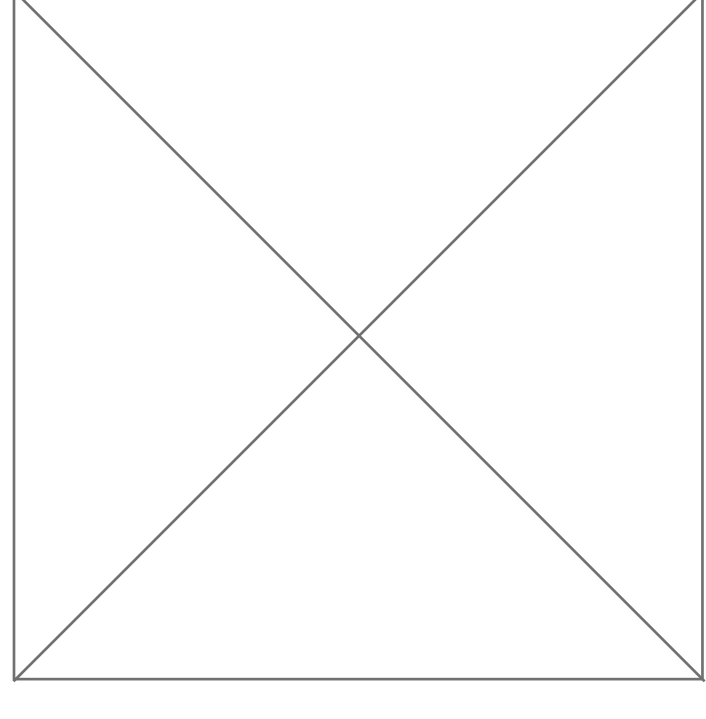


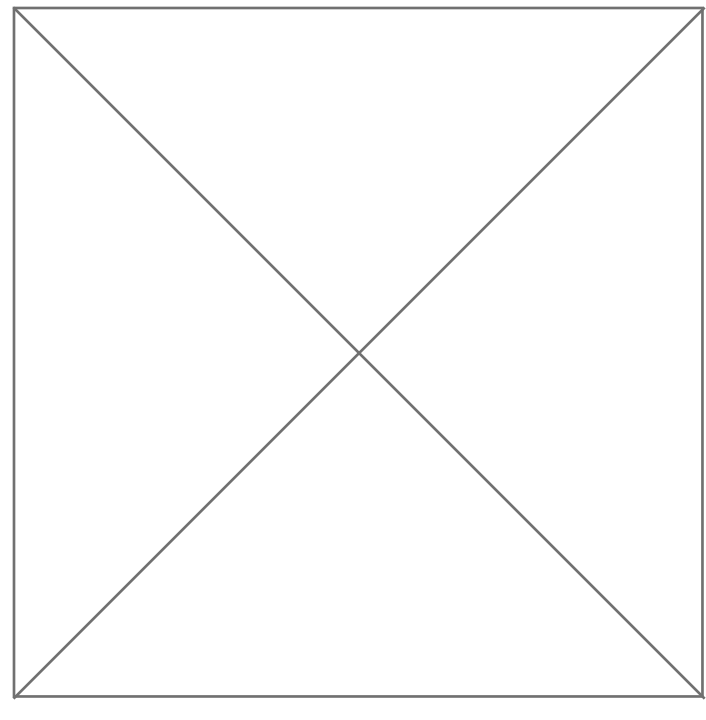


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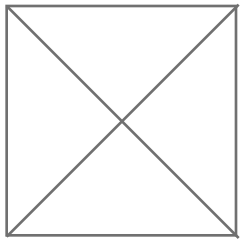
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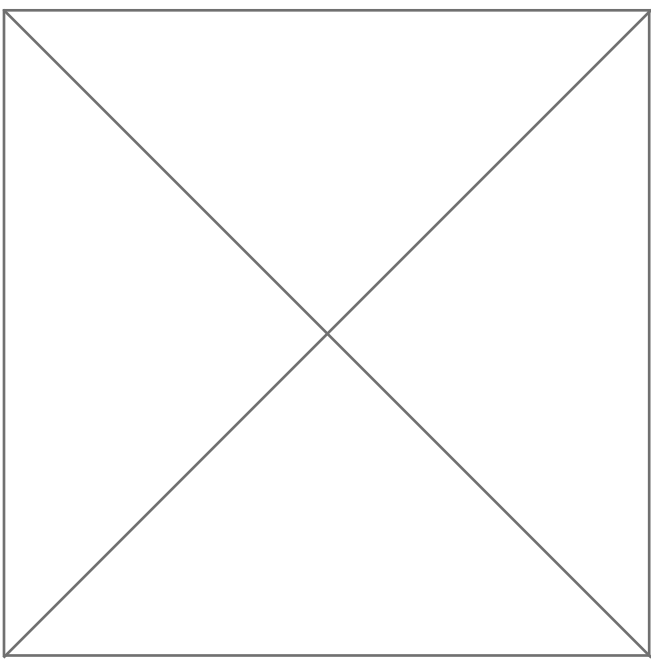
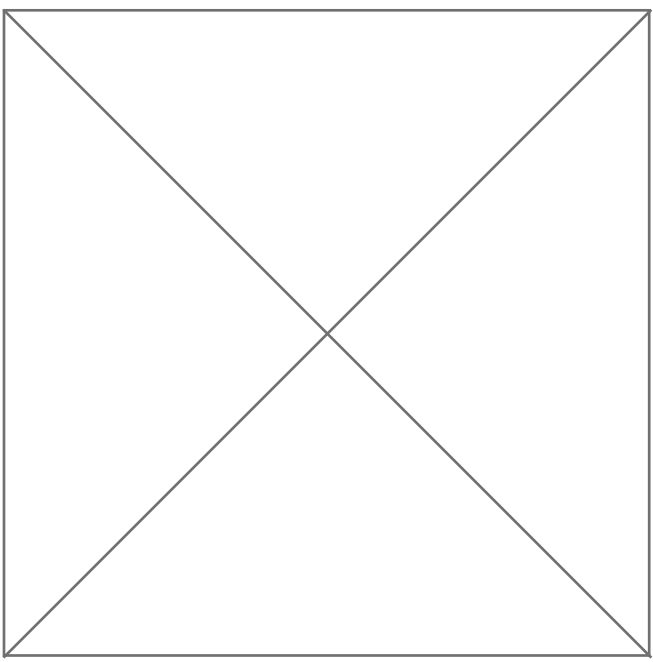
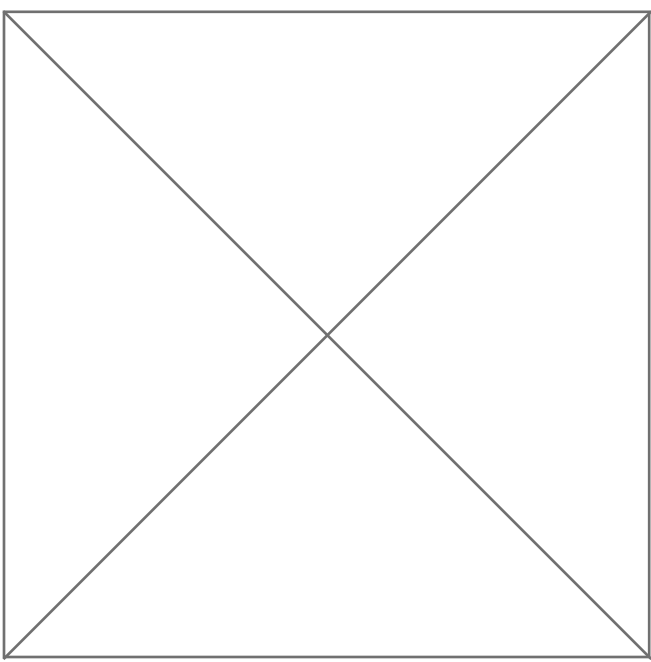
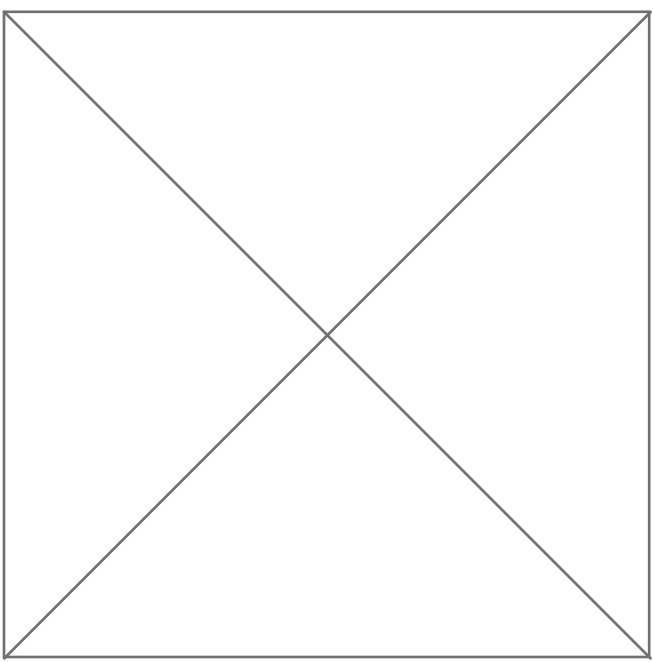
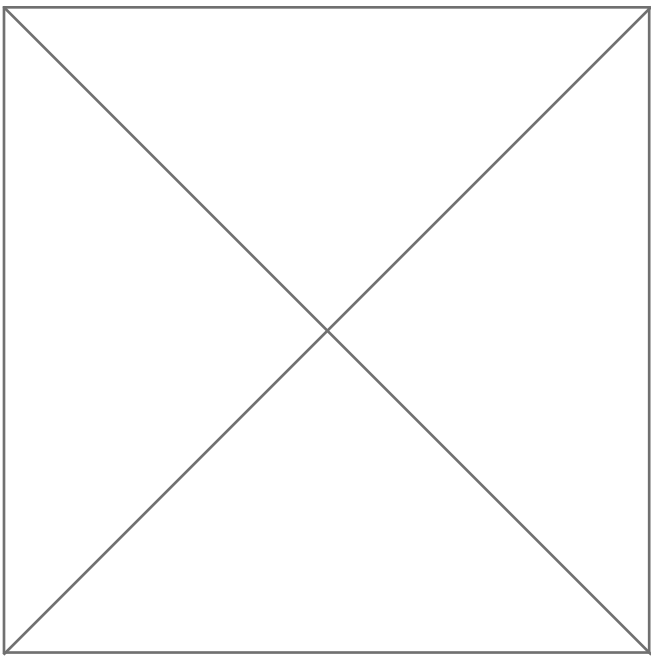
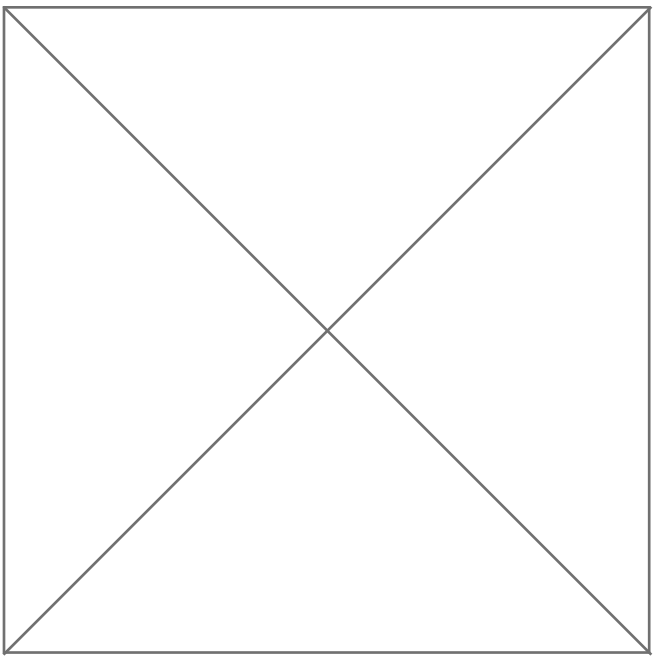
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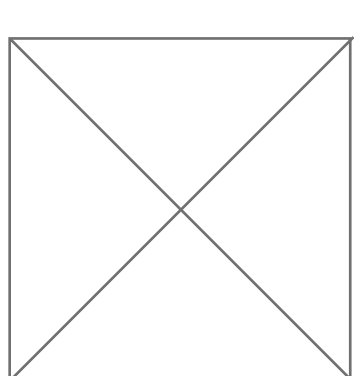
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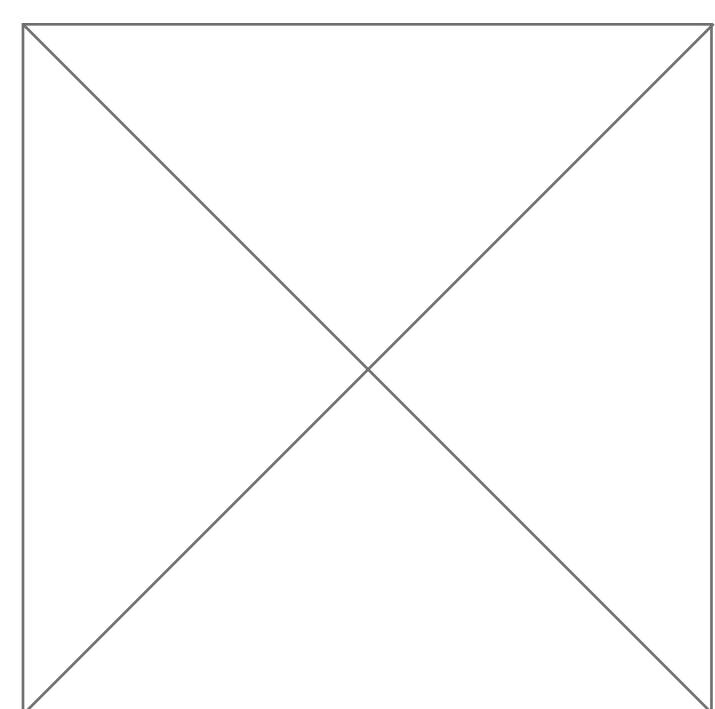
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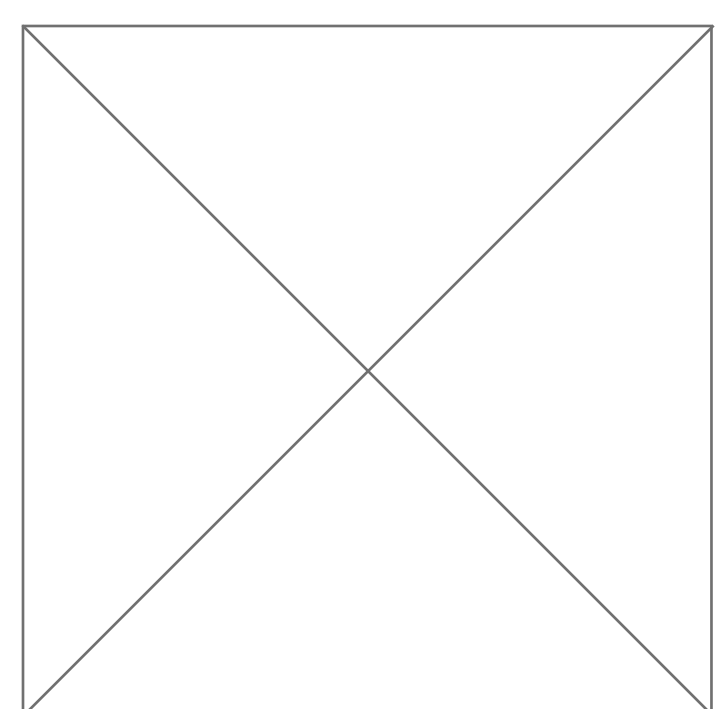


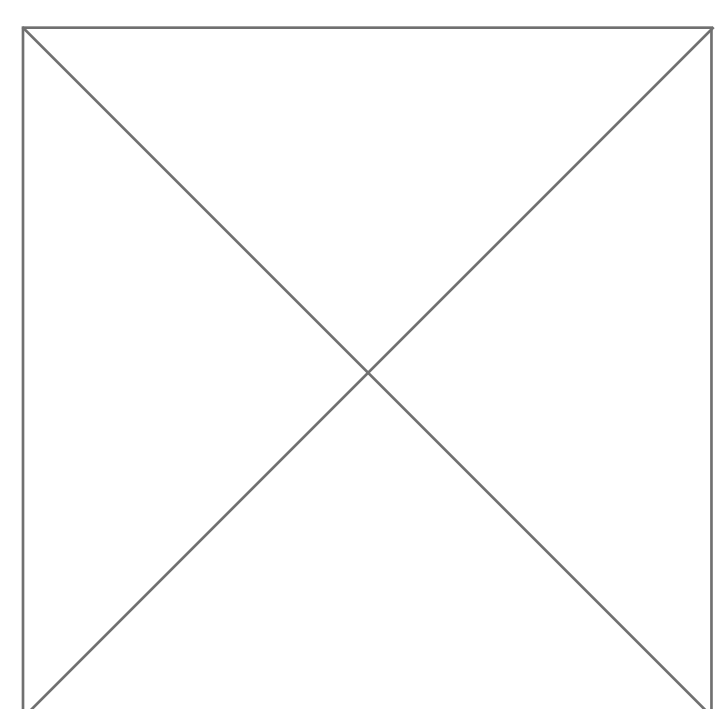


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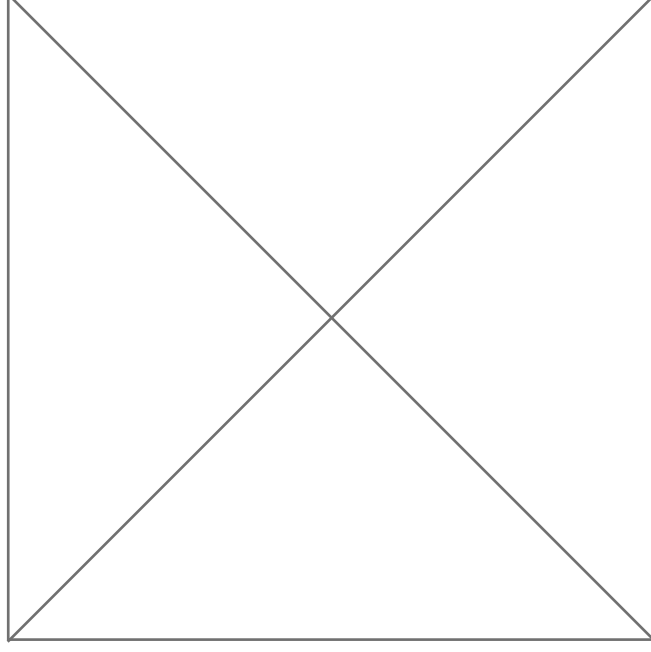
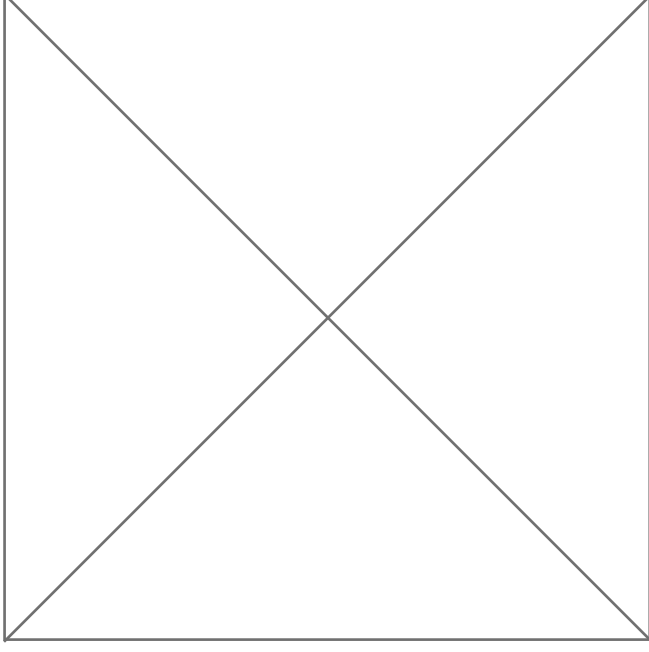
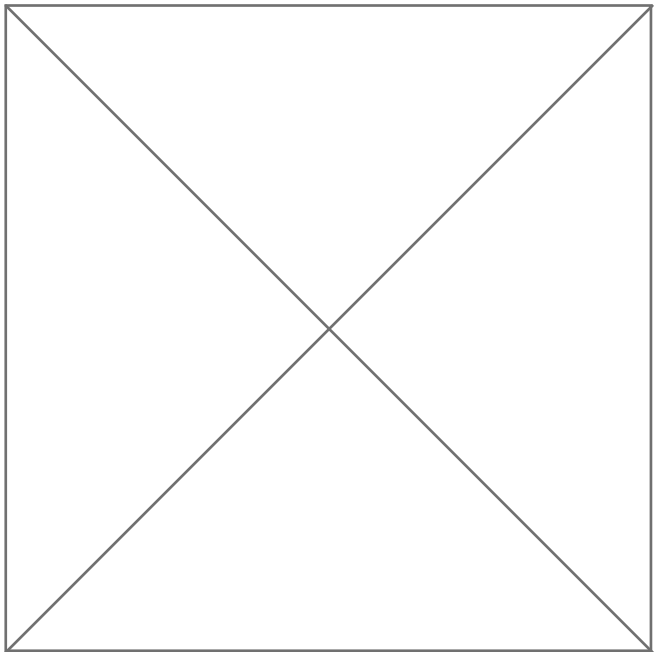
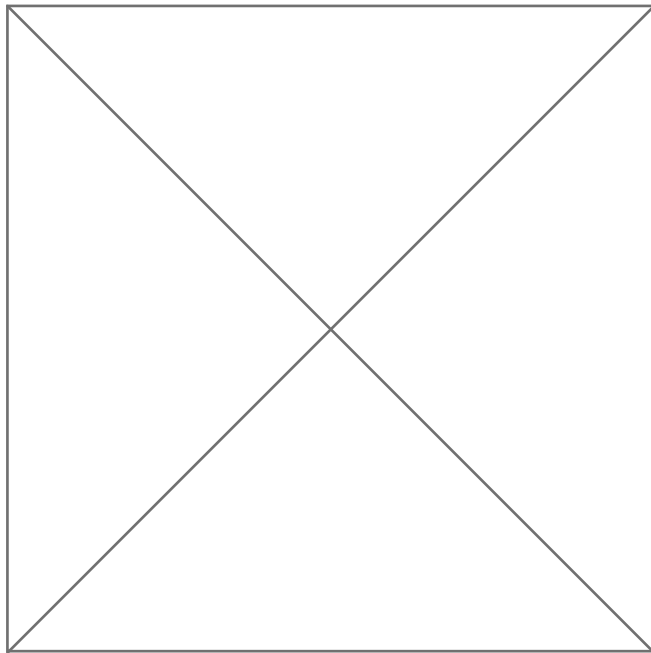
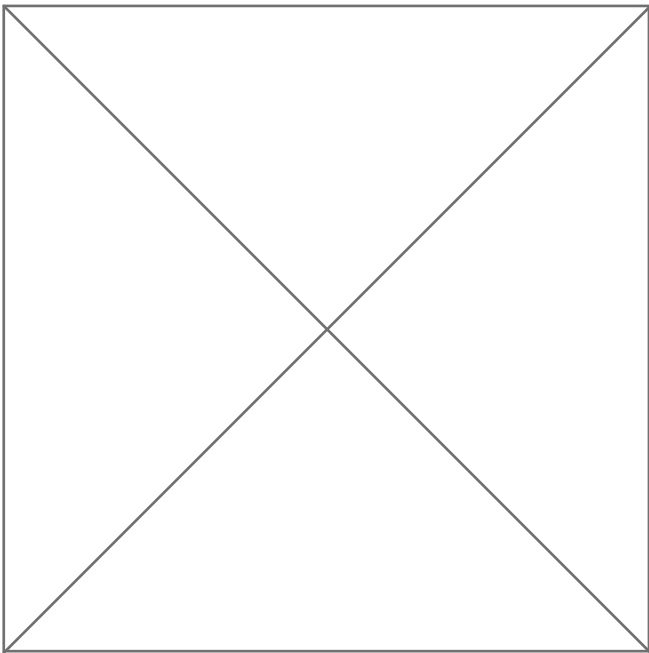
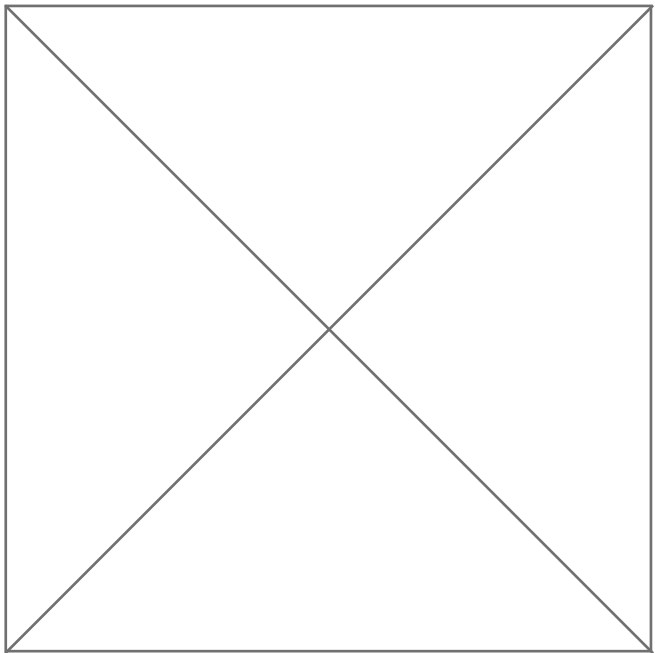
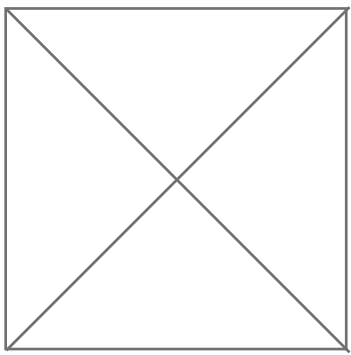
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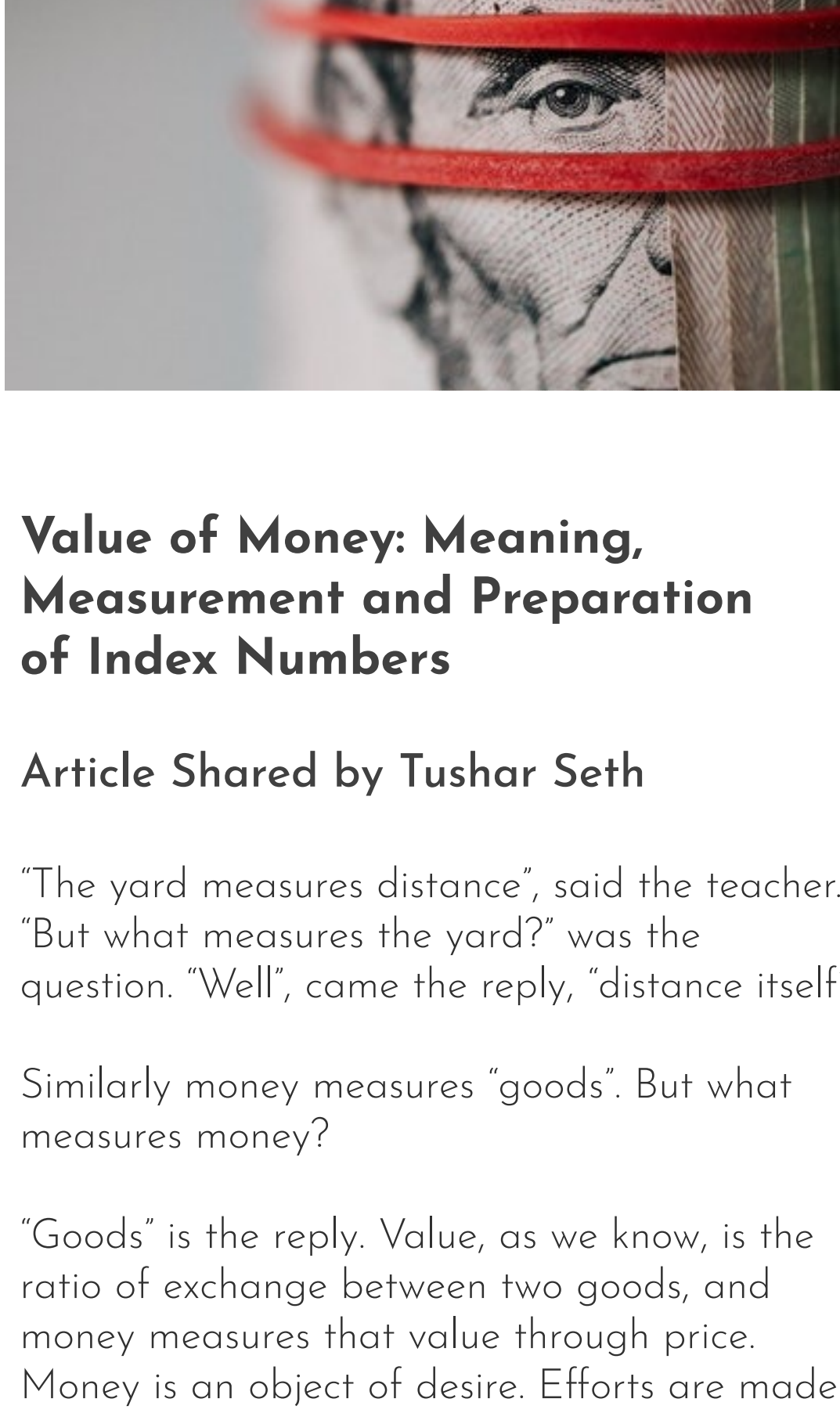


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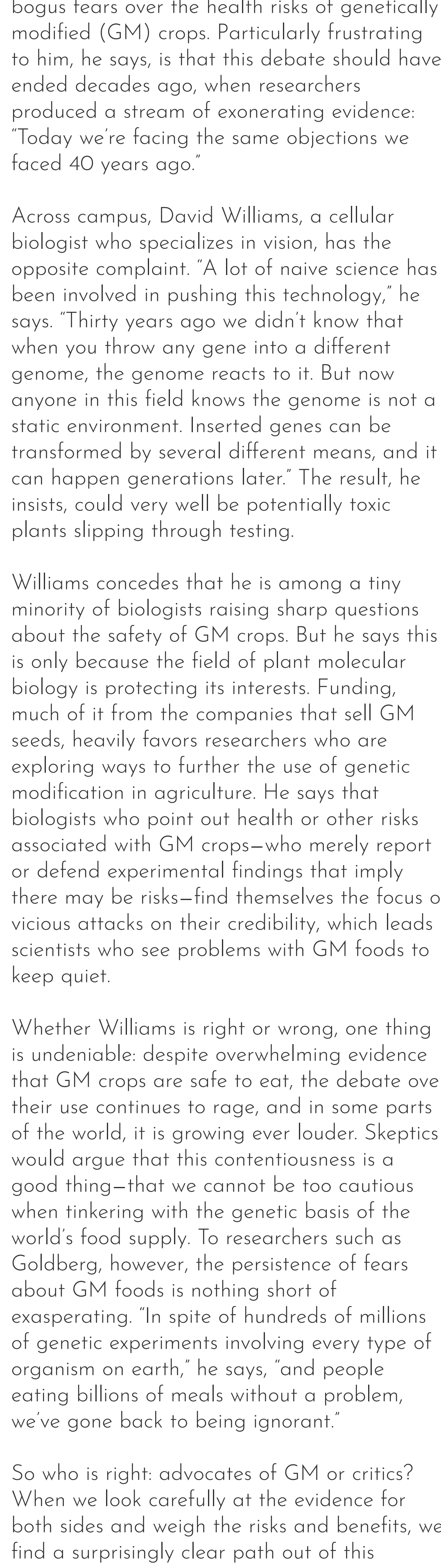
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The Truth about Genetically Modified Food

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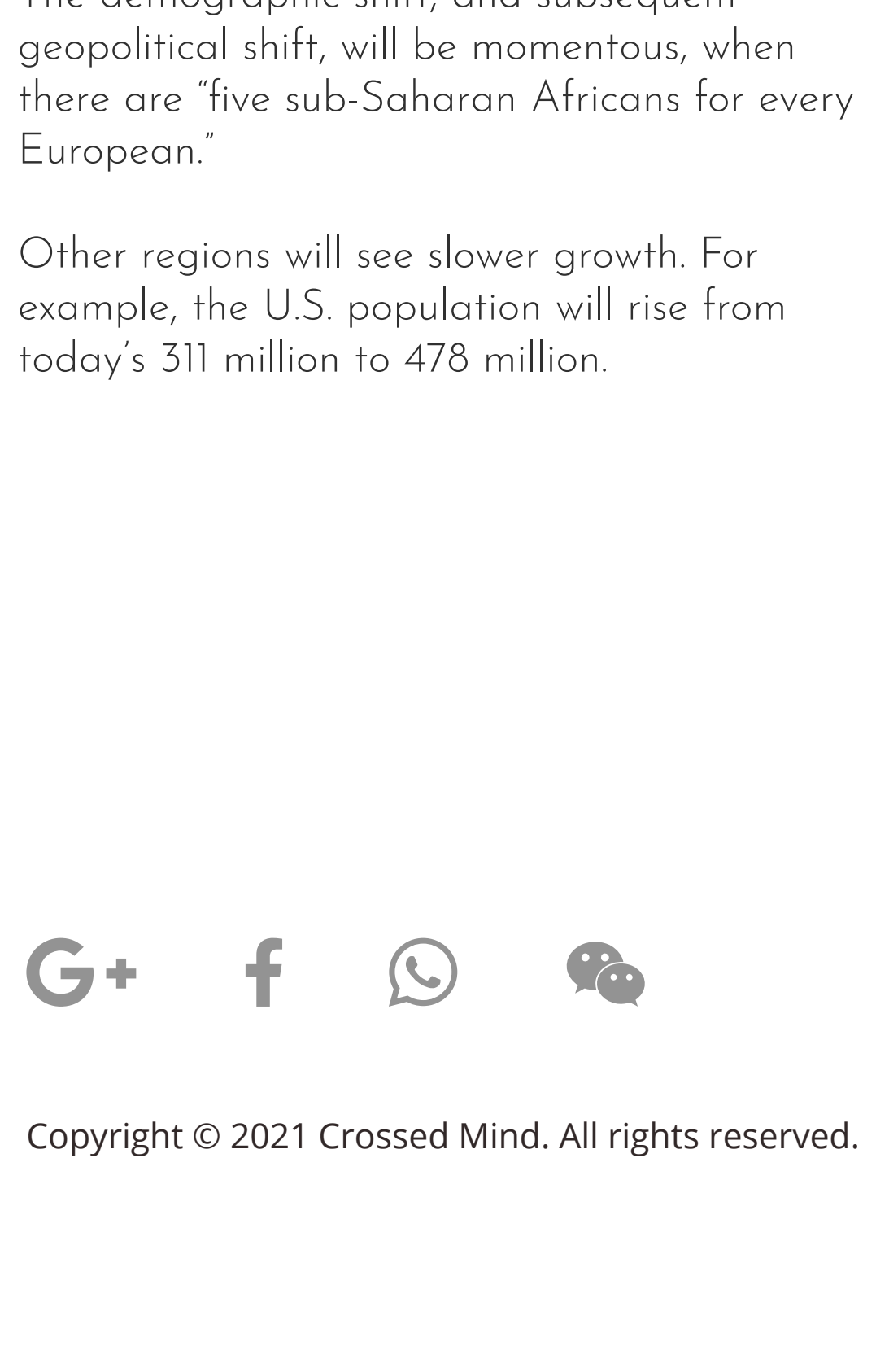
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Across campus, David Williams, a cellular biologist who specializes in vision, has the opposite complaint. “A lot of naive science has been involved in pushing this technology,” he says. “Thirty years ago we didn’t know that when you throw any gene into a different genome, the genome reacts to it. But now anyone in this field knows the genome is not a static environment. Inserted genes can be transformed by several different means, and it can happen generations later.” The result, he insists, could very well be potentially toxic plants slipping through testing.

Williams concedes that he is among a tiny minority of biologists raising sharp questions about the safety of GM crops. But he says this is only because the field of plant molecular biology is protecting its interests. Funding, much of it from the companies that sell GM seeds, heavily favors researchers who are exploring ways to further the use of genetic modification in agriculture. He says that biologists who point out health or other risks associated with GM crops—who merely report or defend experimental findings that imply there may be risks—find themselves the focus of vicious attacks on their credibility, which leads scientists who see problems with GM foods to keep quiet.

Whether Williams is right or wrong, one thing is undeniable: despite overwhelming evidence that GM crops are safe to eat, the debate over their use continues to rage, and in some parts of the world, it is growing ever louder. Skeptics would argue that this contentiousness is a good thing—that we cannot be too cautious when tinkering with the genetic basis of the world’s food supply. To researchers such as Goldberg, however, the persistence of fears about GM foods is nothing short of exasperating. “In spite of hundreds of millions of genetic experiments involving every type of organism on earth,” he says, “and people eating billions of meals without a problem, we’ve gone back to being ignorant.”

So who is right: advocates of GM or critics? When we look carefully at the evidence for both sides and weigh the risks and benefits, we find a surprisingly clear path out of this dilemma.



THE WORLD IN 2100: Ten Billion People, No Oil And Not Enough Food

By Eric Goldscheim and Robert Johnson

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Already, at less than seven billion, we are experiencing severe poverty, hunger, a shortage of resources, increased urbanization and climate change issues.

Will we be doomed by 2100, or can we make it work? Since we’ve only got one planet (so far), let’s hope for the latter.

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The burden on the youth to carry the old will be greater than ever.

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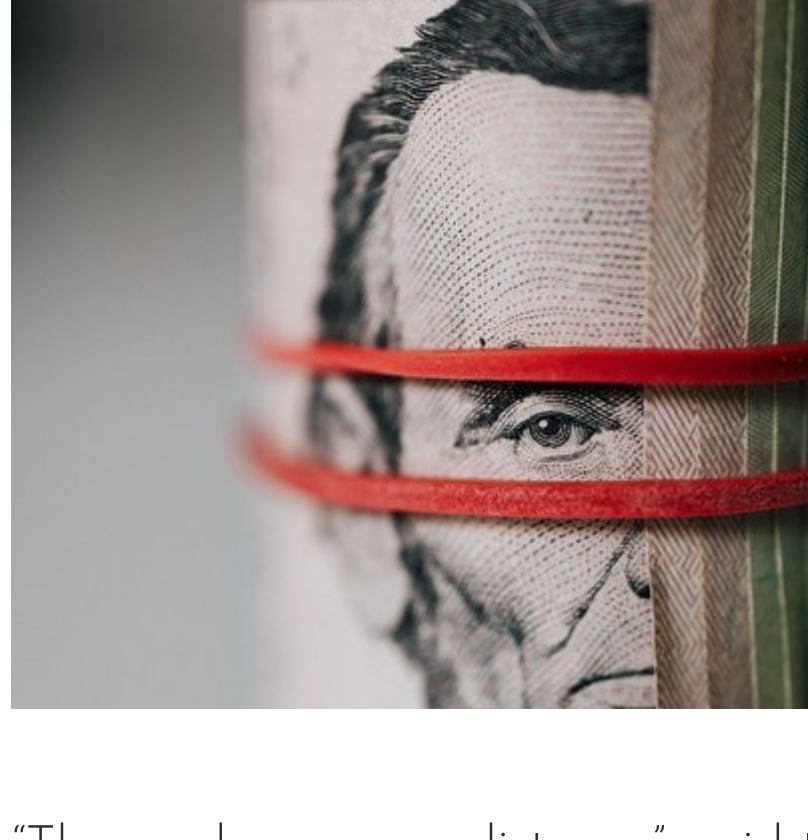


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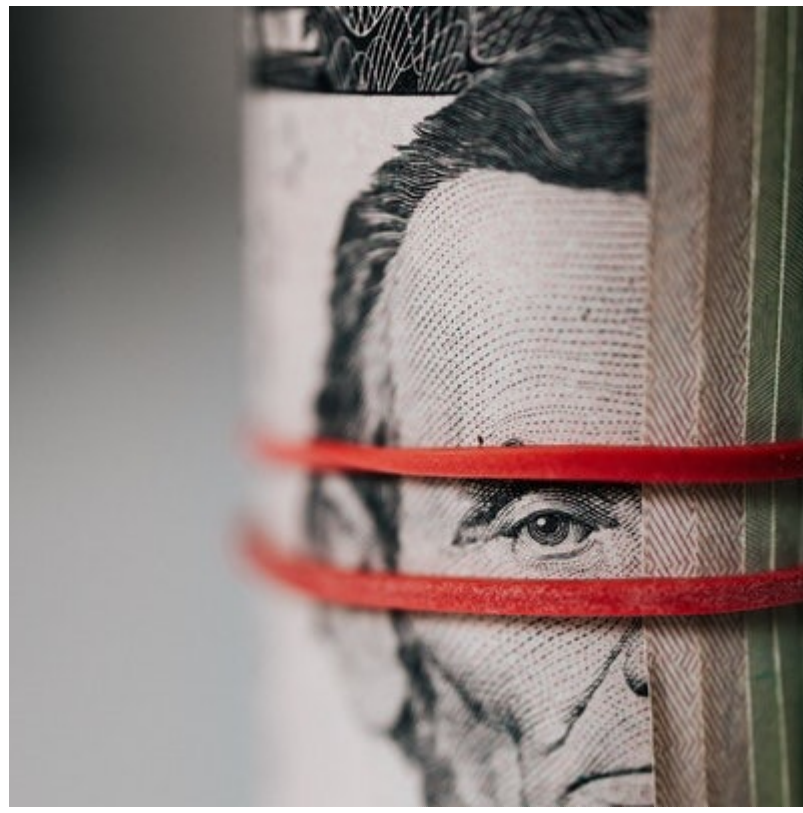


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Possible candidates for mega-city status include: Beijing, Delhi, Jakarta, Mexico City, Mumbai, São Paulo, and Shanghai.

The world will have a few hundred languages at the most

Right now, there are over 7,000 languages spoken. But lesser used languages will fall by the wayside, while English will become the most used form of communication around the world.

22.3 percent of people will be at least 65 years old

That will be a huge increase, up from 7.6 percent in 2010.

The burden on the youth to carry the old will be greater than ever.

Most of the population growth will come from the developing world, especially Africa

Africa’s population will go from one billion in 2010 to 3.6 billion in 2100.

The demographic shift, and subsequent geopolitical shift, will be momentous, when there are “five sub-Saharan Africans for every European.”

Other regions will see slower growth. For example, the U.S. population will rise from today’s 311 million to 478 million.



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