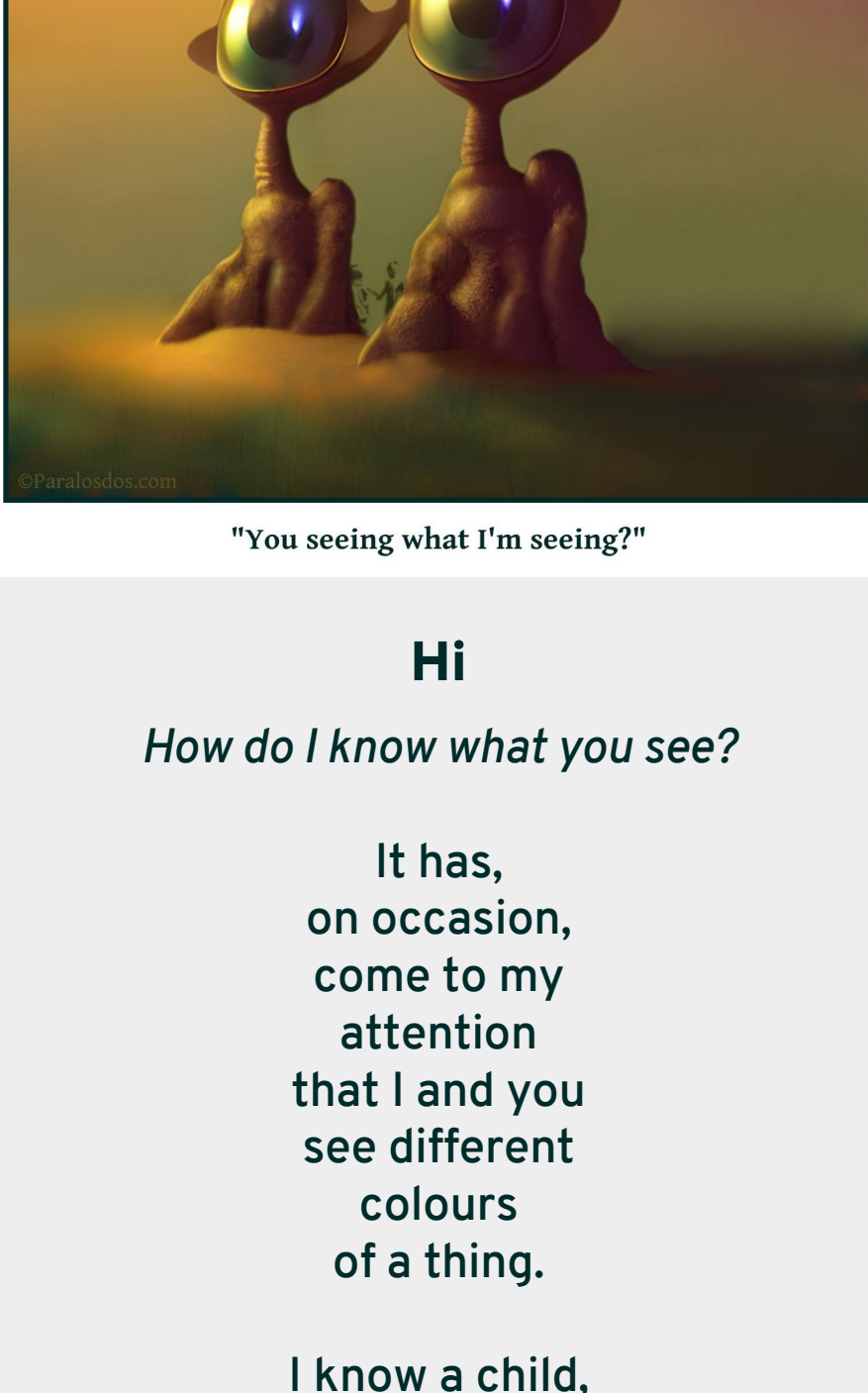


Change Happens

Have a great day,
find your way

The Alien Life



"You seeing what I'm seeing?"

Hi

How do I know what you see?

It has,
on occasion,
come to my
attention
that I and you
see different
colours
of a thing.

I know a child,
of great intellect
and acumen,
his insights
are appealing,
yet he insists
that green is blue,
and further,
that blue is green.

We have agreed
that this is
less a breach
of reality,
and more
a proof
that reality
is unconcerned
with our
agreements.

We, he and I,
consider this matter
at rest.

Do you now have the time?

How railroads inspired the creation of time zones

"For millennia prior to this date, many people around the world measured time based on the placement of the Sun, with midday (or "high noon") determined by when the Sun was highest in the sky over that particular village or town. Mechanical clocks eventually started replacing sundials in the Middle Ages. Towns would set their clocks by gauging the position of the Sun, leading every city to operate on a slightly different time. This method lasted well into the 1800s, when there were at least 144 different time zones in North America."

"

- If you only travel by foot or by horse, you don't need times zones, it's not even a consideration. No time is spent wondering where the sun is, in the sky for somebody a thousand miles away, most likely you aren't concerned with anything beyond where you have already been. The railroad changed all that, now it mattered where the sun was beyond the horizon. The introduction of the railroad made it obvious that we needed some means to agree upon the time relative to each other. We needed trains to know where and when other trains were on the track, and people needed to know when the trains would be arriving and departing. Life was now to become much more specifically about the mechanisms of order.

The right to bear fools

How to Accept Criticism with Grace and Appreciation

"How do you stay above the attacks and be the better person? By removing yourself from the criticism, and looking only at the actions criticized."

- This is one guy's opinion on criticism, his approach to it. How he has changed his approach and been able to manifest a better attitude towards it. I found it to be a nice reminder of the role criticism plays, especially in today's society where everybody's got an opinion on everything, informed and otherwise. People are quick to tear down things that they may, or may not, understand. And as likely to pump the tires of things in a way that's probably not any more warranted or useful.

Being able to hear and process criticism without losing your mind is essentially a superpower. I think, in a large part, this ability separates people who are successful from people who are not. Being able to hear it and take it for what it is. In some cases it can be useful and in other cases it's just nonsense. Knowing which is which, and having the courage to hear it and then decide on its value, is a skill worth cultivating.

Perhaps less could be more

Why the simple life is not just beautiful, it's necessary

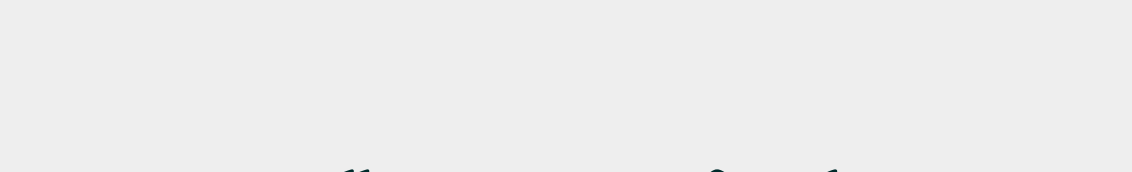
"But the problem isn't just that our practice conflicts with our professed beliefs. Our thinking about simplicity and luxury, frugality and extravagance, is fundamentally inconsistent. We condemn extravagance that is wasteful or tasteless and yet we tout monuments of past extravagance, such as the Forbidden City in Beijing or the palace at Versailles, as highly admirable. The truth is that much of what we call 'culture' is fuelled by forms of extravagance."

- A good article for generating a consideration of the advantages of living a simpler life. We are increasingly being forced to lead simpler lives circumstantially. Whether it is economically or environmentally, we find ourselves needing to reassess lifestyle.

I think there's the possibility of a larger consideration here. The idea that if reducing the amount of things that you have, or pursue, in your life, makes it easier to focus on the things that may truly matter. There is something to be said for reconsidering meaning and value.

November 26, 1917

National Hockey League Greatest sport on earth



Wiki Rabbit Hole

"The National Hockey League was organized at the Windsor Hotel in Montreal on November 26, 1917, after the suspension of operations of its predecessor organization, the National Hockey Association (NHA), which had been founded in 1909 at Renfrew, Ontario. The NHL immediately took the NHA's place as one of the leagues that contested for the Stanley Cup in an annual interleague competition, before a series of league mergers and foldings left the NHL as the only league competing for the Stanley Cup in 1926."

Followers are not friends

The Myth of the Loneliness Epidemic

"Social scientists studying a representative town in America's heartland reported widespread concern among its residents that friendship was waning, that true friends were fewer than a generation before. This report, Middletown, was published in 1929. About two decades later, The Lonely Crowd, a sociological study of American character in the post-war era, described its subjects as shallow conformists, eager to imitate others but lacking in deep connections."

- The article itself is quite a nerd festival of writing and citation, but it's an interesting and simply explained consideration of what friendship is, and how it has been assessed over, especially, the last hundred years.

It's worth asking if we are in the midst of a breakdown of what we have come to consider normal. Is our tribal existence beginning to run its course? Or, this seems more likely to me, are we feeling the effects of the splintering of our tribes in a world that is more connected mechanically and less connected in reality?

Snake oil is always on sale What Were We Thinking? Most Dangerous Ads

"While some faulty campaigns were merely the victims of evolving scientific knowledge, many blatantly ignored facts in their race for the dollar, using so-called experts to promote products terrible for public health, like cigarettes. Revered professionals like doctors and scientists routinely told us precisely the wrong things to do, as they are likely still doing today."

- From vitamin filled donuts, to Lysol as a woman's hygiene product and 7Up for babies, wow. Some of these things are outrageous, just mind boggling that they ever came to be accepted. It still goes on today. We see you out there, shady little 'influencer', going against scientific convention, using your dubious authority to sell modern day snake oil. Rolling up to town in your podcast, posting your garbage, with the benefit of the power of confidence in ignorance. Greasy weasels making a buck off trust remains a human constant.

Able to label food

Smartest Animals in the World

"According to the majority of behaviourists and animal psychologists... 'intelligence' can be understood as mental or behavioural flexibility or the ability of an organism to solve problems occurring in its natural and social environment, culminating in the appearance of novel solutions that are not part of the animal's normal repertoire, according to researchers Ursula Dicke and Gerhard Roth. Just like us, animals can showcase remarkable problem-solving skills, emotional intelligence and even self-awareness."

- Humans make the list at number one. Hard to argue if the metric is computational power. I'm not sure how they ordered this list, but the definition from the article in the quote above is probably as good as any for defining intelligence for the sake of this kind of discussion.

The value in this article is the light it shines on the obvious intelligence that many animals possess. Knowing that an elephant prepares food, or uses tools, is not just trivia. Realizing that an octopus is capable of a myriad of activities requiring complex calculations is not trivial knowledge. There are people with less problem solving ability than an octopus. Everyone is not necessarily smarter than their food.

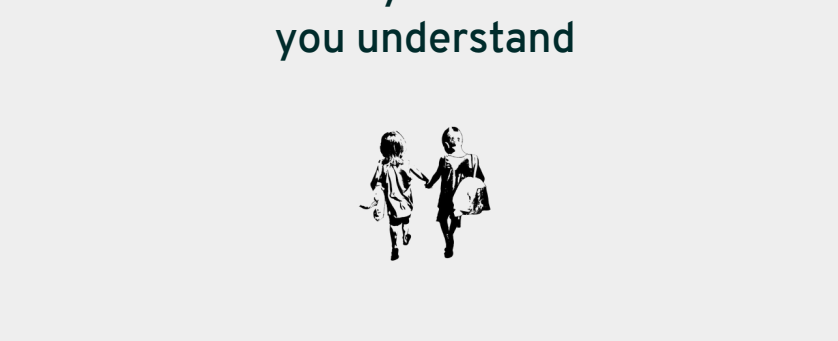
"Nature is the source of all true knowledge. She has her own logic, her own laws, she has no effect without cause nor invention without necessity."

Leonardo da Vinci

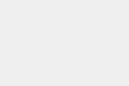


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it's your life
you understand



Please feel free to forward **Change Happens** to anyone you think might enjoy it and have a most excellent day