Inquiring Minds: Co-Creating Ourselves and Our World

#68 Jan.-May /23 "The creative adult is the child who survived." - Ursula Leguin 22 more quotes on creativity

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Back By Popular Request: The 20 most missed questions on the CA DMV's 2023 Knowledge Test.

On Creativity and Angst of many Artists was cleverly documented and explained by Elizabeth Gilbert on this top-ten TED talk.

"In 2006, Gilbert published *Eat, Pray, Love: One Woman's Search for Everything Across Italy, India and Indonesia* (Viking, 2006), a chronicle of her year of "spiritual and personal exploration" spent traveling abroad. She financed her world travel for the book with a \$200,000 publisher's advance after pitching the concept in a book proposal." -wiki

I found this renowned author and journalist entertaining, eloquent, and insightful. I was especially fascinated by her (or others?) theory of why artists in the last 500 years were radically different from those before them. I listened to the **19 min. TED Talk** as I walked.

Krazy Ken to the Rescue: Looking for "The Best Portable Air Conditioners in 2023". I almost fell for this fake Air Cooler (not AC) recommendation. My first clue was not finding *any* author or organization listed like *Consumer Reports*, online or in many public libraries. Fortunately, I found this irreverent fact-checker who exposed how "new" products avoid the reviews. Really an eye-opener even for this skeptic.

A Post Card from 1969 is a memory a boy had of his father and family entering California in the turbulent '50 and '60's. Neal Foard—the famed story teller, director, and advertising and marketing genius—was that boy. You have probably seen this classic before. So much of this is applicable to what we are going through today, and how simple acts of kindness can transform and have far reaching effects. 3 min. Video.

The Mini Series on FDR (on The History Channel) couldn't have aired at a more propitious moment. It started on Labor Day while the Senate was struggling to avoid a Debt Default. Patricia loved this docudrama for the acting, which I agree was excellent; but I also loved the insights and expertise of respected Presiden-

tial Historians like Doris Kearns Goodwin, Jon Meacham, and many others do not hide FDR's mistakes. I was pleased that the words of those powerful short speeches were skillfully shared by the actors as well as in the actual words or films of FDR himself. This country and the world have been so fortunate to have had such great leaders at the times of its greatest need. Our greatest presidents had these traits: strong character shaped by some trauma in their lives; the ability to relate to the common person as well as to work with political foes, such as FDR did with Russia's Stalin at Yalta in WWII; were great communicators with a sense of humor (maybe not Washington); surrounded themselves with capable staff and experts in their fields; and were flexible, humble, and creative. **View all here** *if* you have The History Channel.

Carl Sagan's <u>Pale Blue Dot</u> is a powerful eloquent commentary on our unique planet by this gifted scientist. His *Cosmos* is one of the best books I've ever read. 3 minutes to view this classic again.



60 Minutes tells how a multi-millionaire Greg Carr and Mozambique's president employed the people to restore the Gorogosa National Park. (6 min here)

Crash Course in Philosophy: #16 finding what gives your life meaning, and a quick summary of Philosophy. Also, the best explanation of Jean-Paul Sartre's "Existence precedes essence" quote I ever heard. It ties all of these people together, who dared to be different, and re-created themselves, and, in some cases the world around them and beyond. -PBS&Digital Studios

Family Update: Aimée singing at a local show with a opera pro. Tommy (7) wins the overall ski season competi-



tion for his age group team at Bear Valley, his first year competing. and Lois (13) was in school Shakespeare's <u>Comedy of Errors</u> in which she had to learn 270 lines of Shakespeare! Congrats, Team Miles. We're so proud of you all.

Keep Evolving, my friends. -Joe