

Fran Stallings' Keynote 23 November 2019

“Aware -> Care -> Dare”

We know that stories can touch the heart and mind (Aware), inspiring concern for others and the environment we share (Care). But can they also Dare listeners to change behaviors? We'll discuss recent research in social psychology and connect it with stories that model how individuals and communities have cooperated to take action. Stories can help build a sustainable future for us all.

Power of stories:

On the Origin of Stories: Evolution, Cognition, and Fiction by Brian Boyd (Belknap Press, 2010)

The Storytelling Animal: How Stories Make Us Human by Jonathan Gottschall (Mariner Books 2013)

Fictions:

“Rustle and Shelley” by Jenni Cargill-Strong, Australian environmental activist and storyteller, who has kindly given us permission to retell her original story. Watch her tell it in full

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LF1xaPb2Nqo>

True stories of positive actions:

Rachel Carson, author of *Silent Spring*

Wangari Maathai, Nobel Peace Prize for the Green Belt Movement in Africa.

Giraffe Heroes <http://giraffeheroes.org/> individuals who stood tall and stuck their necks out for justice.

www.DRAWDOWN.org 100 worldwide projects that are working

https://www.ted.com/talks/chad_frischmann_100_solutions_to_climate_change

Returning beavers to the San Pedro River, Arizona

<https://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/arizona/placesweprotect/san-pedro-river.xml>) (also on Fran's *CD Stories & Songs for a Green Earth*)

Returning wolves to Yellowstone National Park (trophic cascade)

<https://www.wimp.com/how-wolves-change-rivers/>

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"First they ignore you, then they laugh at you, then they fight you, then you win."

– Mahatma Gandhi

“Once we start to act, hope is everywhere.” -- Greta Thunberg, September 2019