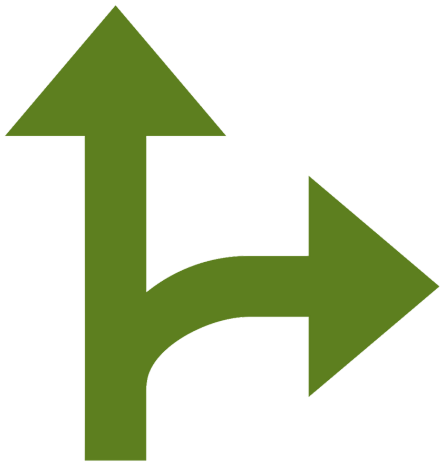




THEMES

Continue to use your timeline to explore your life themes.



Feedback on this exercise? E-mail me at hello@rose-prose.com

© Copyright Loretta Rose, 2018

make notes

Review the timeline you created and have used in the last two lessons. By now, you'll have put quite a lot of thought into it, so you should be able to remember more important events of your journey. Add them to your timeline. Put in as many details as you can.

identify

Now look for themes in your timeline. Try not to prejudge what you might find and be open to the possibility of finding anything. Get yourself into the headspace of an objective observer. For example, you might find themes around:

- Risks taken or not taken.
- Lessons learned.
- Puzzles; things that don't make sense to you.
- Easy and difficult relationships.
- People, places, and activities.
- Accidents and serendipities.

List as many themes as you can find. You might want to do this over a number of days, as this can take some hard thinking.

write

Imagine that you're a biographer, mapping out your client's story based on these themes. What kind of story is this? Give it a title and write a one-page story description that you'll use to interest publishers. Remember, you've got to hook your reader!



reflect

- What surprised or intrigued you about these themes?
- How do you feel about the biographer's story?
- How did writing to hook a reader affect how you told your story?
- What did you learn about yourself, your story, and writing through this exercise?
- What are you curious about - about yourself, your story, or your writing? Write down your questions. Then spend some time planning how you'll get them answered.