

Returning Home

Chapter 1

Remembering Home

A Guided Conversation About Place

A structured dialogue for deepening connection to
place, community, and possibility.



Awakening Lands

This booklet is Chapter 1 of a three-part cycle:

The Returning Home Arc



Chapter 1 - **Remembering Home**

Returning our attention to what makes us feel alive.

Chapter 2 - **Revealing the Way Home**

Listening for what wants to emerge.

Chapter 3 - **Reconnecting and Walking Home**

Taking the obvious step forward.

This conversation invites two people to
slow down,
listen deeply,
feel more alive,
and feel more connected to their place.

One Interviewer
One Interviewee
About 45 Minutes

Choose a quiet place where you will not be interrupted.

The interviewer reads selected questions.

The interviewee shares their thoughts.

Depth often arrives in pauses and silence.

This is an opportunity to listen, to hear a person and a place speak.

1. Arrival & Orientation

(5 minutes)

Ground attention in place.

Select from the questions below...

When you think of your "home place"
what image comes to mind first?

What about your local community or culture
do you most identify with?

Where do you feel most at ease
in your local environment?

Next, let's go a little deeper...



2. **Memory Activation**

(10 - 15 minutes)

*Surface moments of aliveness
in relationship to place
and others.*

Select from the questions below...

Tell about a moment your
place felt alive to you.

Tell about a moment when you felt
a shared sense of belonging.

Describe a time with local land or people that felt
unexpectedly connecting.

Is there a specific location where you feel
a deep sense of home?

Encourage sensory detail. Invite silence.



3. **Meaning-Making**

(10 - 15 minutes)

*Move from experience
to insight and shared longing.*

Select from the questions below...

What matters most to you in your home place?

What do you find yourself wanting more of
in your local lands or community?

What would make your place feel
more whole or alive for you?

What do you sense local people
may be longing for?

Next, let's listen for what wants to emerge.



4. Legacy & Future Orientation

(5 - 10 minutes)

Open into possibility and relationship with place as a living system.

Select from the questions below...

What might your local land, watershed, or ecosystem need from people?

What would thriving look like not just for people, but for the living systems around you?

If your home place could speak, what might it say?

Next, we invite silence into the conversation...



Silence & Stillness

(5 minutes)

Sit quietly together.

Notice what feels newly alive.



What Stays With You?

(5 - 10 minutes)

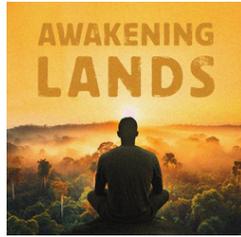
Each person reflects on a separate piece of paper:

Name an impactful insight or realization from this conversation.

Name one question you are now curious about regarding your place.

Notice what you feel curious to observe or pay attention to when you next travel through your place





Supporting communities
and facilitators in cultivating
shared meaning and purpose, belonging,
and long-term place care.

This is Chapter 1 of Returning Home.

This dialogue now bridges into
Chapter 2 - Revealing the Way Home
with a *Short Walking Game*,
where listening includes

Place.