



"I think everybody's weird. We
should all celebrate our
individuality and not be
embarrassed or ashamed of it."

Kurt Cobain

**I do not accept being stuck in a time or filtered
through a lens,**

**because the only restrictions that help my
creativity,**

are of my own making.

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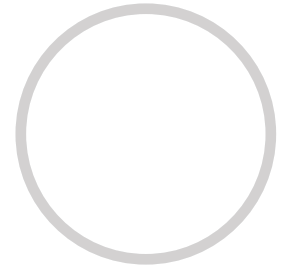
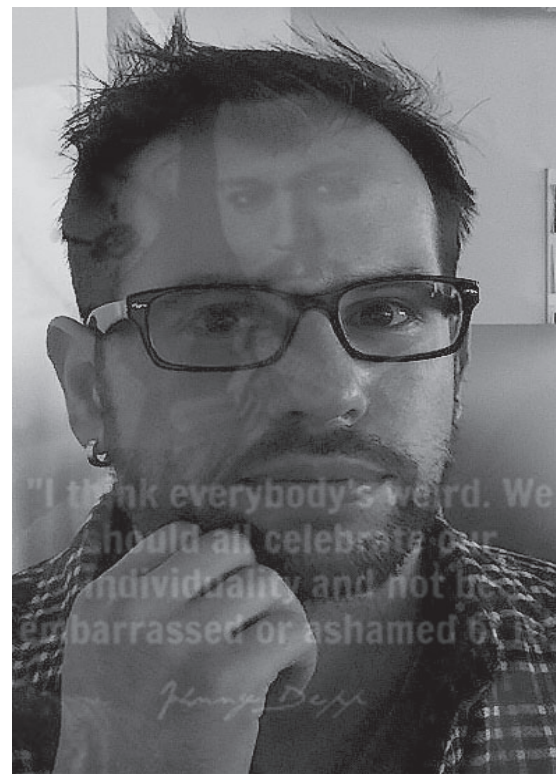
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Ian Hella

Free Write: A Walk in Nature

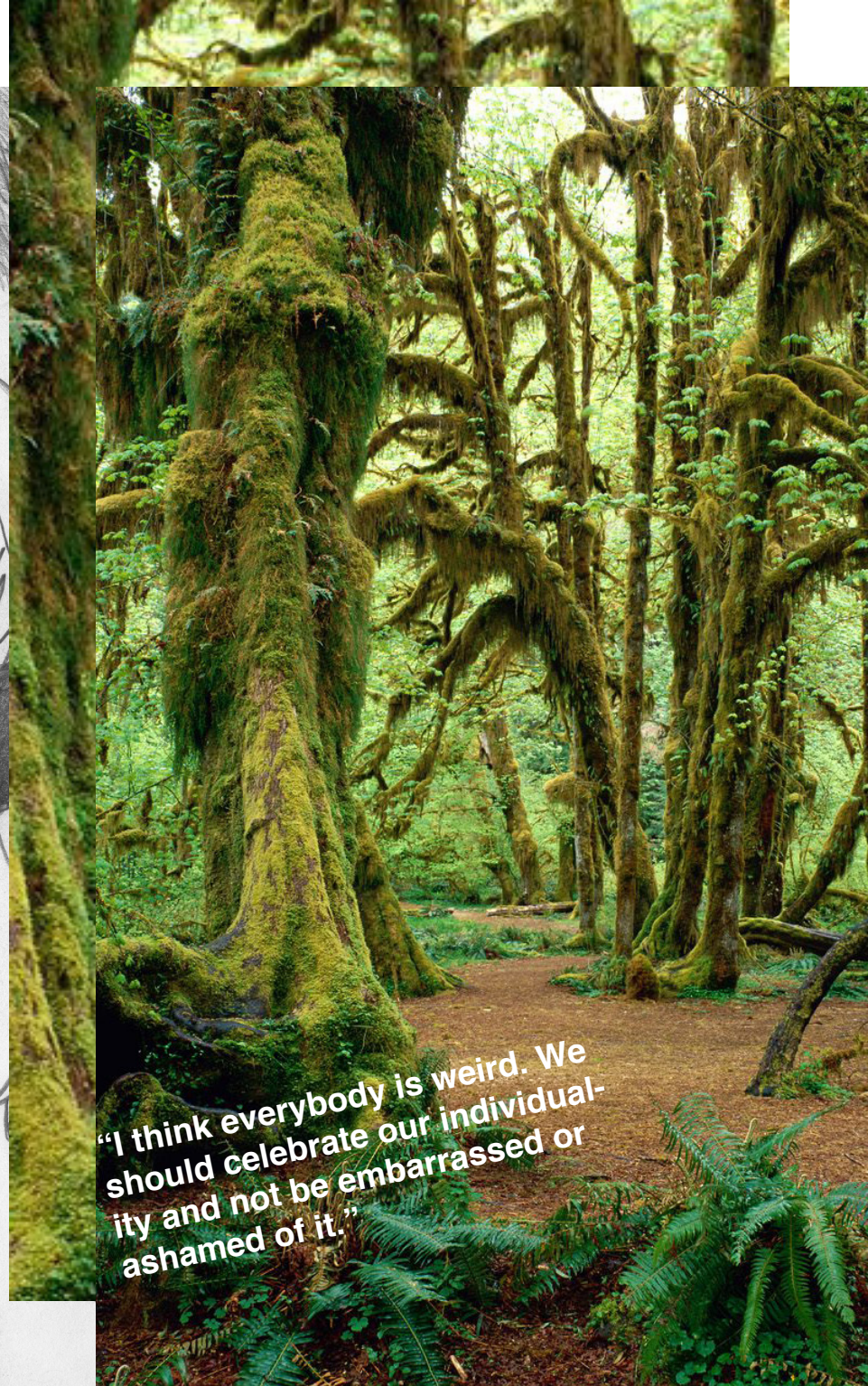
So it's Wednesday and I am at Mill Creek Park. Basically, it is a long trail that goes through a nature preserve. After I get through the gates the traffic noise quickly goes away and is replaced by songbirds. I wished it were summer so I wouldn't be so cold despite wearing a warm coat. However, all the silence from the outside world is a nice thing. All the trees and greenery, even before spring, is nice to look at. I thought to myself even though it's cold I'm still enjoying myself. I should make time for these little nature walks more often. I find that nature is my muse today and so I try to remember all the sights. The little creek, the big tree on top of the hill, and the small pond at the end.

As I was heading back I came across a group of younger people. I guessed them to be about

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high school age. As I walked closer, I caught the scent of something familiar. They tried to appear as though they were just sitting there, heads hung. I found that a bit funny. As I walked by I nodded and said "Hi guys." One cleared his throat and said hi in return trying to avoid coughing. I chuckled a little. The small exchange reminded me when I was younger. Technically grown but not quite an adult. When I had almost all the freedom one could have with almost none of the responsibility. It's hard not to miss that. I miss hanging out with friends after school because we had nothing else to do. These days I need to schedule time with nothing to do by getting a babysitter. I wonder if it's possible to get that back.

On a side note, the rest of the day I came up with a few ideas I liked. It would seem that nature is my muse. I don't think I would have even gave that group of kids a second thought if I hadn't just walked through the woods noticing everything.



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