

Down to Earth Climate Justice Stories
Questions for Reflection/Discussion/Journaling

Which filmed stories/storytellers reflect your own story and/or inspire you?

- ❖ **Sylvia** wrestled with what she would need to do if she were to truly live her values and beliefs. **Iris** spoke of embracing activism as “just something inside of me.” What are the values you hold deepest and dearest? Where did those come from? How do you live those values daily?
- ❖ **Chloe** fell in love with Maine’s wilderness. **Skip** felt profound concern for frontline communities experiencing painful social, economic, and environmental injustices. **Dawn** loved two horned owl friends and was always drawn to the Penobscot River. Love prompted them to act. **Rachel** and **Wendy** both shared their belief that love is at the heart of actions for justice. What/whom do you love that climate disruption/ injustices might impact? What bold new action(s) will you pledge to take to protect that which/whom you love? *(See activities for creative ways to show your love and actions)*
- ❖ **Maria** recounts her Wabanaki peoples’ prophecy, saying this is the time foretold when all people must come together to light the 8th fire. **Chloe** says that the beautiful, yet scary, thing about climate change is that it impacts all of us, though to different degrees. And that it is not going to be political leaders who solve the problem...it’s you and me and our families and friends. Where do you see signs of a paradigm shift/of people coming together for justice?
- ❖ Each storyteller found his/her own path to be active in the movement towards a just and sustainable world. **Fred** and **Hadley** are “practivists” while **MJ** is a contemplative and puts prayer into action. **Hilary** found courage and her voice to share her Healing Walk and tar sands experience when she returned. **Becky** finds joy and hope in getting off the couch and into action. What is your role to play on this new Earth?

(Last revised 8/3/16)

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Some Suggested Activities/Actions

- ❖ *All about Love*: Create a list of the things/people/places you love and actions you would take to protect them from the impacts of climate disruption. (Love Chart available for download on the **Down to Earth (DTE)** website: www.downtoearthstories.org) Make a poster, a t-shirt, a banner, a community collage, that expresses your love and actions. Wear/display this conversation starter everywhere! Post something on the **DTE** webpage so we build a visible community showcasing love into action.
- ❖ **DTE** is pleased to present a *House Tour* short film, on DVD or for download through DTE website, featuring Fred and Hadley Horch and their lifestyle choices addressing climate change. Watch the film and then quietly contemplate what your just, compassionate, and ecologically resilient home/community/ state/nation/Earth would look like and what the steps are to get there. In a group or alone, write it down; sketch it on large paper; build a diorama out of modeling clay and recycled objects; make a collage or mobile model of your perfect world.
- ❖ Download from the **DTE** website the journaling workbook and the section on taking action and contemplate and write down on the chart the actions you will take today and in the future to address climate change and build that just world you envision.
- ❖ Schedule a **DTE** workshop for your community or join our next virtual workshop. Contact us at downtoearth145@gmail.com for more information about our resources that can provide a path for you/a group to unearth your own stories.

Brief List of Resources for Information/Action

- ❖ Visit our website for information about upcoming climate justice actions and solutions, workshops, film screenings, and more resources (www.downtoearthstories.org)
- ❖ Resources for Organizing and Social Change (ROSC) publishes the *Changing Maine Directory*, and organizes social, economic and environmental justice projects. (www.resourcesforsocialchange.org)
- ❖ Sierra Club-Maine Climate Action Teams (CATs) are working on local solutions to global climate change. (www.sierraclub.org/maine)
- ❖ Divest/Reinvest info: www.350maine.org; www.divestinvest.org

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