

Sustainability Sunday Fact Sheet

#13: Choose your own adventure

I know you all remember the books that described totally realistic hypothetical situations like: A semi truck of giant radioactive mutated sharks with straight razors for teeth just got dumped in your face, will you A: run around screaming like a moron before dying a miserable death B: turn your hands into yarn and knit a cap for Jeffries Nathaniel McAllister or C: take the ladder to your left to safety and yet more “adventure”? I ate that shit up man, nothing like a good grounding in reality to get through elementary math class.

And in thinking about our event at Hope House later this month and the start of our wall I’d like to take the ball and roll it into your court-[Hawk that’s my sports reference just for you] It’s easy to begin things and kind of move on from them, to get wrapped up in all the little off shoots of life and lose sight of your intentions so I’d like to do a little recap about what this is and where it’s going. For the first time there is a relatively steady group of people who come to these things which I am beyond grateful for, we enjoy each others company and smiles and laughs are had by all. I love to cook, and to feed good people even more.

However the food is more or less just an incentive to add context to learning and growing as a community of people. When I started this it was mostly based on strictly sustainable topics and there is still plenty more to come but doing things as a group of people and learning the strengths and weakness of each while working as a whole has taken precedence for now. I try to be open with the lectures or information or whatever you want to call them but I’m usually running around so intent on getting everything done that I forget to take them full circle and engage those that have so generously given me their attention not only to get feedback on whether anyone really gets anything out of it, but also to build those very relationships that create a community in the first place. My intention with these things is not to just talk at you because you have to listen, but to find those who want to be a little more engaged with affecting the world around them, in the hopes of actually making an impact.

So this week I want all those who have come before to think about what they get out of coming to “Sustainability Sundays” and to all those who are new or have just begun I am hoping to offer each of you something valuable and honest. Put into practice I’d like everyone to think about something they’ve been meaning to do and have put off, or an action that affects the world even in the smallest way for the better. Whether it’s repotting a dying plant, helping an elder across the street, cleaning your room, or just spending time with someone that matters that you don’t get to see very often. Dreams,

hope and action are inexorably linked, or at least they should be. You wake up each day and choose right action in the largest and smallest moments and doing so should be an adventure, as fulfilling and exhilarating as all those adventures books like the one mentioned took you on as a child. The beauty of this life we have as we get older and start to appreciate all the opportunity and potential of the world around is knowing how with the right mindset and willpower anyone can change the world, we do it in the smallest of ways in ways sometimes no one even notices and I would stake my word and my life on the fact that those moments when no one does are the most important of all. So next Sunday I'm gonna try something a little different- there won't actually be a dinner, I will open my home and ask each and every one of you tonight to think of something to do, to do it and to come back and talk about it. Food will kick back up the following week but I'd like to gather for the sake of ability and to let the focus be paying tribute to our actions, and our growing community. I do want to reiterate how thankful I am for all of you and slowly getting to know each of you is a privilege and an honor I hope to see all of you next week, and regardless thank you for your time and support, Dane.