OBSERVE • RECOGNIZE • SET BOUNDARIES • SURVIVE KINDLY

SAME PEOPLE DIFFERENT PARASITES.

KINDER PEOPLE BUILD BRIGHTER TOMORROWS.

SOCIETY OF SNAKE PEOPLE

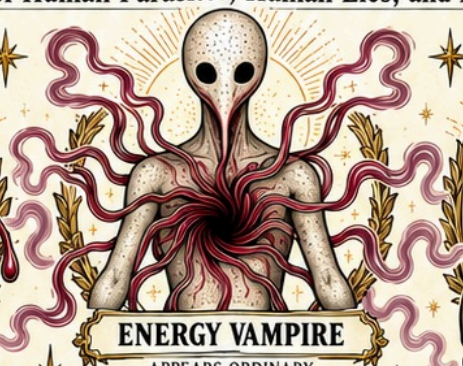
THE EARTH SURVIVAL FIELD GUIDE

A Coffee Table Archive of Human Parasites, Human Lies, and Planetary Self-Protection



HUMAN LEECH

ATTACHES TO CARING PEOPLE.
TAKES MORE THAN IT GIVES.



ENERGY VAMPIRE

APPEARS ORDINARY.
LEAVES YOU EMPTY.



WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING

SWEET WORDS.
HIDDEN AGENDAS.



VENOM SLINGER

TURNS PAIN INTO A WEAPON.
JUSTIFIES THE HARM.

SAME PATTERNS • DIFFERENT FACES



A KINDER WORLD IS A WISER WORLD



SHAPESHIFTER

CHANGES TO FIT THE MOMENT.
THE TRUTH DOESN'T.



YES MAN

AGREES, FLATTERS, ECHOES.
LEAVES YOU QUESTIONING YOURSELF.

KNOW THEM SO YOU CAN THRIVE

AWARENESS
BOUNDARIES
A BRIGHTER TOMORROW



FRIEND

A RARE AND PRECIOUS FIND.
PROTECT THEM.

HUMAN NATURE IS A RENEWABLE RESOURCE.

Dedicated to the universe,
and to people looking for safety.

BOUNDARIES ARE A FORM. OF KINDNESS TO YOUR FUTURE SELF.

Three million years of fictional lore. a *satirical field guide.*

CURIOSITY PROTECTS THE KIND.

A CALMER WORLD IS A KINDER WORLD.

INTRODUCTION

Dedicated to the universe, and to people looking for safety.

MAY WE NOTICE SOONER.



MAY WE CHOOSE KINDER.

WHY THIS GUIDE EXISTS

This is a satirical field guide for surviving life among human beings. It studies recurring patterns of draining, borrowing, disguising, pressuring, and evading.

WHAT IT IS FOR

Use it to recognize dangerous habits in others, examine them in yourself, and protect what is alive and good.

HOW TO READ IT

Observe clearly.
Set boundaries early,
Protect your peace
without losing
your humanity.

A SAFER TOMORROW STARTS WITH AWARENESS.

Three million years of fictional lore • A satirical field guide.

PROTECT WHAT MAKES LIFE BEAUTIFUL.

A guide with room for a whole person

The original artwork, the conversational map, and the extended Human Survival archive share one reading edition.

How to read this edition

Begin with the seven original figure plates. Each is followed by a field note with recognition cues, boundary language, a mirror question, and a possible repair. The Human Manipulator Playbook follows as an original image and an expanded commentary. The complete fifty-page extended guide closes the collection, retaining its original folios and research ledger.

The original collection

Energy Vampire; Human Leech; Wolf in Sheep’s Clothing; Venom Slinger; Shapeshifter; Yes Man; Friend. The supplied set contains seven named figures, plus the cover, introduction, and Playbook.

A pattern is an invitation to observe

These are satirical figures for conduct, including our own. A difficult moment, a need for care, distress, or disagreement does not establish a person’s motives or identity. Ask what happened, what was agreed, and whether a refusal can stand. A boundary can be useful without a verdict about someone’s character.

Edition record

The ten November 2026 images are preserved without repainting. New examples and response language are editorial additions. The October 2026 extended archive remains intact. Its older Playbook labels are preserved as source history; the new commentary follows the latest supplied poster.

Print note

The originals are 1055 × 1491 pixels. At 3.5 inches wide they provide about 301 pixels per inch. The companion print sheets use this scale. Images enlarged on these book pages retain only the supplied detail. Larger wall prints require a higher-resolution source and a physical proof.

SOCIETY OF SNAKE PEOPLE

OBSERVE • RECOGNIZE • SET BOUNDARIES • SURVIVE KINDLY

SAME PEOPLE DIFFERENT PARASITES.

KINDER PEOPLE BUILD BRIGHTER TOMORROWS.

ENERGY VAMPIRE

APPEARS ORDINARY. LEAVES YOU EMPTY.

DEFINITION

Harvests your attention, emotional bandwidth, and critical thinking while treating your availability as endlessly renewable.

RECOGNIZE

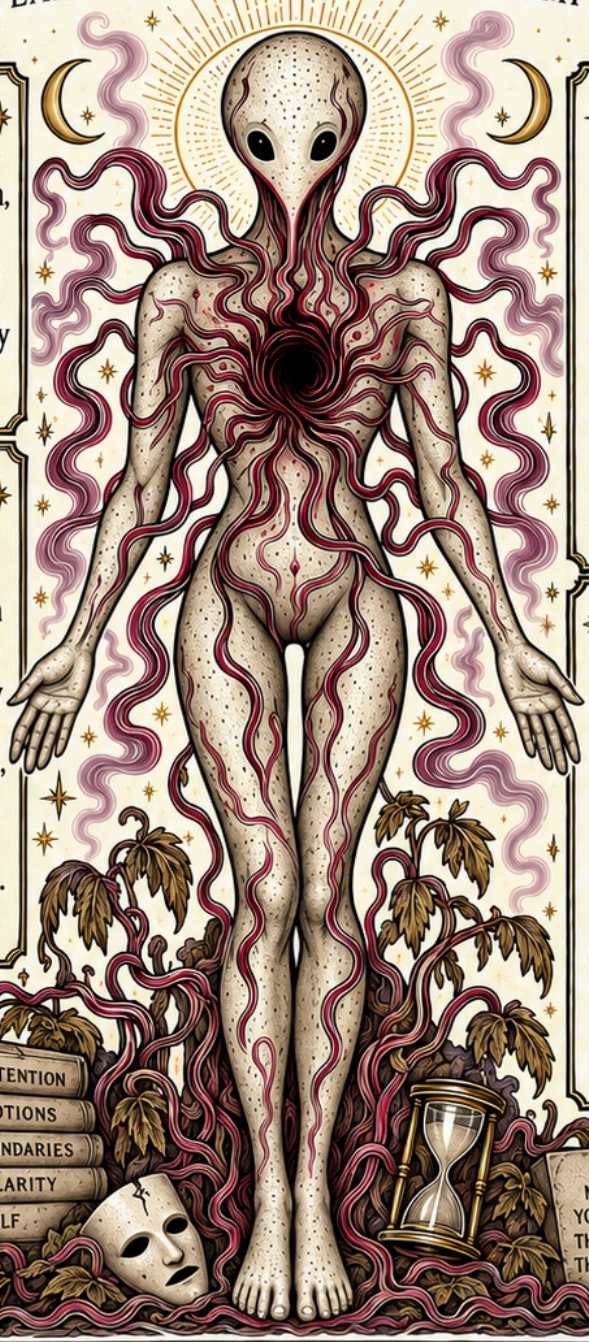
- Leaves heavier than they arrived.
- Contacts you mainly when they need reassurance, analysis, or rescue.
- Resists limits by calling them unkind.

PROTECT

- Name the time you can offer.
- Do not solve what was never yours.
- Caring does not require endless access.

TRAIT INDEX

ACCESS	●●●●○ 4/5
DRAIN	●●●●● 5/5
DISGUISE	●●●●○ 4/5
PRESSURE	●●○○○ 2/5
EVASION	●●●●○ 4/5







HUMAN NATURE IS A RENEWABLE RESOURCE.

"Not everyone who takes is a thief. Some take with a smile."

BOUNDARIES ARE A FORM OF KINDNESS TO YOUR FUTURE SELF.

A KINDER WORLD IS A WISER WORLD

Energy Vampire / field note

Appears ordinary. Leaves you empty.

Harvests your attention, emotional bandwidth, and critical thinking while treating your availability as endlessly renewable.

Recognize

- You leave the exchange carrying more than you arrived with.
- Contact mainly arrives with a need for reassurance, analysis, or rescue.
- A limit is repeatedly treated as unkind.

Protect

- Name the time you can offer.
- Leave responsibility with its owner.
- Let caring have a closing time.

Words to try

> “I can listen for ten minutes. I cannot take responsibility for solving this.”

An ordinary example

A brief check-in repeatedly expands into hours, even after you have said you need to leave.

What repair could look like

Acknowledge the limit, ask whether another time works, and make a plan that does not depend on unlimited access.

The mirror

Did I ask whether the other person had room before I began?

Original trait settings: Access 4/5, Drain 5/5, Disguise 4/5, Pressure 2/5, Evasion 4/5. Fictional editorial ratings.

SOCIETY OF SNAKE PEOPLE

OBSERVE • RECOGNIZE • SET BOUNDARIES • SURVIVE KINDLY

SAME PEOPLE DIFFERENT PARASITES.

KINDER PEOPLE BUILD BRIGHTER TOMORROWS.

HUMAN LEECH

Attaches to caring people. Takes more than it gives.

DEFINITION

Takes your judgment, role, credibility, responsibility, or resources while keeping the benefit.



YOUR GOOD WILL FUELS THEM.

RECOGNIZE

- You do the work while they keep the authority.
- They borrow your backbone and call it teamwork.
- Credit and consequences travel in different directions.



SAME FACE. DIFFERENT AGENDA.

PROTECT

- Define roles.
- Share only what you can afford to lose.
- Make support visible and accountable.



A KINDER YOU STAYS HEALTHIER.

TRAIT INDEX

Access	●●●●○ 4/5
Drain	●●●●○ 4/5
Disguise	●●●○○ 3/5
Pressure	●●●○○ 3/5
Evasion	●●●●● 5/5

ATTACH • EXTRACT • JUSTIFY • MOVE ON

It does not take all at once.
It takes just enough, for long enough.



BOUNDARIES ARE A FORM OF KINDNESS TO YOUR FUTURE SELF.

A FIELD GUIDE TO HUMAN PARASITES AND A HEALTHIER TOMORROW.

Human Leech / field note

Attaches to caring people. Takes more than it gives.

Takes your judgment, role, credibility, responsibility, or resources while keeping the benefit.

Recognize

- You do the work while someone else keeps the authority.
- Your effort is called teamwork without a clear agreement.
- Credit and consequences travel in different directions.

Protect

- Define who owns the work, decision, and credit.
- Share only what you freely agree to share.
- Make support visible and accountable.

Words to try

> “I can complete this part. Before I begin, let’s agree who decides, who delivers, and how the contribution is credited.”

An ordinary example

You repeatedly complete a shared project while another person claims the result and leaves you with the unfinished work.

What repair could look like

Correct the credit, share the decision authority, and agree on the next task before accepting help.

The mirror

Have I made another person’s generosity into their permanent assignment?

Original trait settings: Access 4/5, Drain 4/5, Disguise 3/5, Pressure 3/5, Evasion 5/5. Fictional editorial ratings.

OBSERVE • RECOGNIZE • SET BOUNDARIES • SURVIVE KINDLY

SAME PEOPLE DIFFERENT PARASITES.

KINDER PEOPLE BUILD BRIGHTER TOMORROWS.

SOCIETY OF SNAKE PEOPLE

WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING

Sweet words. Hidden agendas.

DEFINITION

Gains access through safety, softness, or loyalty, then takes a bite out of trust, work, or vulnerability.



SOFT OUTSIDE. HUNGRY INSIDE.

RECOGNIZE

- Comfort often arrives before concealment.
- They ask for faith faster than they earn it.
- A gentle tone does not match the impact.



A FAMILIAR FACE CAN HIDE A HUNGRY ONE.

PROTECT

- Watch conduct, not costume.
- Separate reassurance from evidence.
- Leave when safety and sweetness split apart.

BOUNDARIES KEEP GOOD PEOPLE GOOD.

TRAIT INDEX

Access	5/5
Drain	4/5
Disguise	5/5
Pressure	4/5
Evasion	4/5

A CALMER YOU BUILDS A BRIGHTER TOMORROW.

TRUST OPENS THE DOOR. THEY ALREADY LIVE INSIDE.

HUMAN NATURE IS A RENEWABLE RESOURCE.

A kinder world is a wiser world.

KNOW THEM SO YOU CAN THRIVE.

AWARENESS BOUNDARIES A BRIGHTER TOMORROW.

Wolf in Sheep’s Clothing / field note

Sweet words. Hidden agendas.

Gains access through the appearance of safety, softness, or loyalty, then uses that access at the expense of trust, work, or vulnerability.

Recognize

- Reassurance arrives before the relevant facts.
- You are asked for trust faster than it has been earned.
- The gentle tone and the actual impact diverge.

Protect

- Compare promises with conduct over time.
- Separate reassurance from evidence.
- Limit access when the terms of an exchange remain concealed.

Words to try

> “I appreciate the reassurance. I need the terms in writing before I decide.”

An ordinary example

A generous offer is followed by an undisclosed condition after you have become reliant on it.

What repair could look like

Disclose the terms before the choice and accept a refusal without penalty.

The mirror

Have I made my offer sound freer than it really is?

Original trait settings: Access 5/5, Drain 4/5, Disguise 5/5, Pressure 4/5, Evasion 4/5. Fictional editorial ratings.

SOCIETY OF SNAKE PEOPLE

OBSERVE • RECOGNIZE • SET BOUNDARIES • SURVIVE KINDLY

SAME PEOPLE DIFFERENT PARASITES.

KINDER PEOPLE BUILD BRIGHTER TOMORROWS.

VENOM SLINGER

TURNS PAIN INTO A WEAPON. JUSTIFIES THE HARM.

A THREAT REAL OR IMAGINED.

PERCEIVED THREAT

STORED HURT

RATIONALIZATION BREEDS VENOM.



DEFINITION

When threatened or ashamed, this type slings emotional venom and calls it honesty, justice, or truth.

RECOGNIZE

- Injury becomes permission.
- Criticism turns personal fast.
- They aim for a wound, not a resolution.

PROTECT

- Stop the exchange when it becomes punitive.
- Do not reward escalation with more exposure.
- Distance is allowed.

TRAIT INDEX

Access	●●○○○	2/5
Drain	●●●○○	3/5
Disguise	●●○○○	2/5
Pressure	●●●●●	5/5
Evasion	●●●○○	3/5

HUMAN NATURE IS A RENEWABLE RESOURCE.

"Harm dressed as truth is still harm."

BOUNDARIES ARE A FORM OF KINDNESS TO YOUR FUTURE SELF.

Venom Slinger / field note

Turns pain into a weapon. Justifies the harm.

When threatened or ashamed, this figure slings emotional venom and calls it honesty, justice, or truth.

Recognize

- Hurt is offered as permission to hurt someone else.
- A specific criticism quickly becomes a personal attack.
- The exchange targets a wound instead of a workable resolution.

Protect

- Stop participating when the exchange becomes punitive.
- Avoid answering an insult with more exposure.
- Choose distance when you need it.

Words to try

> “I will discuss the concern. I will not continue while I’m being insulted. I’m pausing now.”

An ordinary example

A discussion of a missed commitment turns into ridicule about your worth or vulnerabilities.

What repair could look like

Name the harmful words, stop using them, and address the original concern without demanding immediate forgiveness.

The mirror

Am I explaining my hurt, or using it as permission?

Original trait settings: Access 2/5, Drain 3/5, Disguise 2/5, Pressure 5/5, Evasion 3/5. Fictional editorial ratings.

SOCIETY OF SNAKE PEOPLE

OBSERVE • RECOGNIZE • SET BOUNDARIES • SURVIVE KINDLY

SAME PEOPLE DIFFERENT PARASITES.

KINDER PEOPLE BUILD BRIGHTER TOMORROWS.

SHAPESHIFTER

CHANGES TO FIT THE MOMENT.
THE TRUTH DOESN'T.

DEFINITION

Alters the story, the role, or the face while preserving the advantage.



A DIFFERENT FACE FOR A DIFFERENT STORY.



SAME CORE. DIFFERENT SURFACE.



NOT A MASK. THEY ARE THE MASKS.



RECOGNIZE

- Every version favors them.
- Facts change when evidence arrives.
- You end the talk unsure what question you started with.

PROTECT

- Return to one concrete point.
- Write things down.
- Treat repeated confusion as information.

TRAIT INDEX

ACCESS ●●●●○	4/5
DRAIN ●●●○○	3/5
DISGUISE ●●●●●	5/5
PRESSURE ●●○○○	2/5
EVASION ●●●●●	5/5

HUMAN NATURE IS A RENEWABLE RESOURCE.

"They change to fit the moment. The truth doesn't."

BOUNDARIES ARE A FORM OF KINDNESS TO YOUR FUTURE SELF.

A SMALLER, WISER WORLD IS A KINDER WORLD.

Shapeshifter / field note

Changes to fit the moment. The truth doesn’t.

Alters the story, role, or face while preserving the advantage.

Recognize

- Each new account removes responsibility from the same person.
- Facts change when contrary evidence arrives, without a clear correction.
- You finish unsure which question you started with.

Protect

- Return to one concrete point.
- Keep a short record of agreements and revisions.
- Notice repeated confusion without treating every revision as deceit.

Words to try

> “Earlier we agreed to Tuesday. What has changed, and what date can I now rely on?”

An ordinary example

The stated agreement changes each time you ask about it, but no new commitment replaces it.

What repair could look like

State what was wrong in the earlier account, explain the revision, and make the current commitment clear.

The mirror

Can I describe what changed in my account and why?

Original trait settings: Access 4/5, Drain 3/5, Disguise 5/5, Pressure 2/5, Evasion 5/5. Fictional editorial ratings.

SOCIETY OF SNAKE PEOPLE

OBSERVE • RECOGNIZE • SET BOUNDARIES • SURVIVE KINDLY

SAME PEOPLE DIFFERENT PARASITES.

KINDER PEOPLE BUILD BRIGHTER TOMORROWS

YES MAN

AGREES. FLATTERS. ECHOES.

APPEARS ORDINARY. LEAVES YOU EMPTY.

CONVERSATION FEELS GOOD. THE COST SHOWS LATER.



DEFINITION

Wins access through approval, mirroring, and enthusiastic agreement, then quietly steers the exchange toward their benefit.

PROTECT

- Test consistency over time.
- Ask what they actually want.
- Do not confuse validation with loyalty.

RECOGNIZE

- Too much agreement, too little substance.
- Praise arrives before trust is earned.
- They echo your ideas until authorship blurs.

TRAIT INDEX

Access	●●●●● 5/5
Drain	●●○○○ 2/5
Disguise	●●●●○ 4/5
Pressure	●○○○○ 1/5
Evasion	●●●●○ 4/5

They agree – until it benefits them.

HUMAN NATURE IS A RENEWABLE RESOURCE.

BOUNDARIES ARE A FORM OF KINDNESS TO YOUR FUTURE SELF.

A SMALLER, WISER WORLD IS POSSIBLE.

Yes Man / field note

Agrees. Flatters. Echoes.

Wins access through approval, mirroring, and enthusiastic agreement, then quietly steers the exchange toward a private benefit.

Recognize

- There is abundant agreement and little specific substance.
- Praise precedes a request for access or influence.
- Your ideas are repeated until authorship becomes unclear.

Protect

- Look for consistency beyond the agreeable moment.
- Ask what the other person actually wants.
- Welcome a clear difference of opinion.

Words to try

> “What do you disagree with, and what are you asking me to commit to?”

An ordinary example

An enthusiastic supporter agrees to everything, then treats your approval as permission for an unrelated favor.

What repair could look like

Name the real preference and request. Credit ideas clearly and permit disagreement.

The mirror

Did I say yes to something I do not actually intend to do?

Original trait settings: Access 5/5, Drain 2/5, Disguise 4/5, Pressure 1/5, Evasion 4/5. Fictional editorial ratings.

OBSERVE ✦ RECOGNIZE ✦ SET BOUNDARIES ✦ SURVIVE KINDLY

SAME PEOPLE DIFFERENT PARASITES.

KINDER PEOPLE BUILD BRIGHTER TOMORROWS.

FRIEND

THE MOST POWERFUL ACCESS POINT.

OPEN HEARTS CHANGE WORLDS



REAL FRIENDSHIP ADDS LIFE.

FALSE FRIENDSHIP TAKES ACCESS.

DEFINITION

A false friend gains access under the premise of benefit, care, or loyalty. A real friend is proven by steady beneficial action, especially when it costs them something.

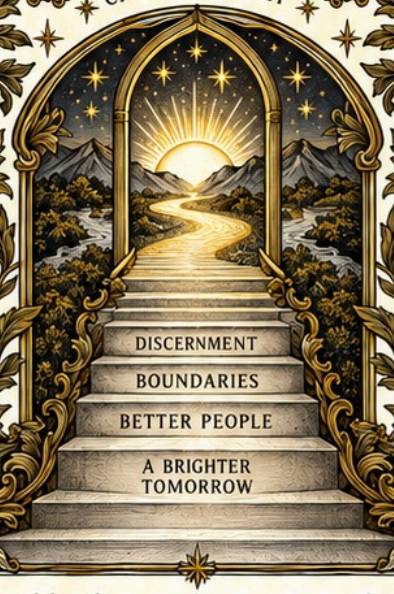
RECOGNIZE

- They describe being your friend more than they demonstrate it.
- Their benefits flow toward themselves.
- When cost appears, their helpfulness disappears.

FRIEND

PEOPLE ARE THE DOORWAYS

CHOOSE WISELY



PROTECT

- Measure friendship by evidence.
- Value the people who show up at a cost.
- Protect your heart and your door.

TRAIT INDEX

Access	5/5
Drain	3/5
Disguise	5/5
Pressure	2/5
Evasion	5/5

HUMAN NATURE IS A RENEWABLE RESOURCE.

GUARD WHAT BRINGS GOOD PEOPLE CLOSER.

NOT EVERY SMILE IS A HOME. LOOK FOR THE PROOF.

BOUNDARIES ARE A FORM OF KINDNESS TO YOUR FUTURE SELF.

A real friend is rare and precious. Protect them.

Friend / field note

The most powerful access point.

A false friend claims access through benefit, care, or loyalty. A real friend demonstrates care through steady action and respect for choice.

Recognize

- The title of friend is used more often than care is demonstrated.
- Benefits repeatedly flow in only one direction without agreement.
- A boundary makes the promised helpfulness disappear.

Protect

- Consider the relationship’s conduct over time.
- Value those who follow through and respect refusal.
- Protect your heart and your door.

Words to try

> “I value our friendship. I am not agreeing to this request. Let’s talk about what I can offer freely.”

An ordinary example

A gift becomes a debt only after you decline a later request. The relationship label is used to enforce a condition never discussed.

What repair could look like

Keep gifts free of hidden terms, discuss actual commitments explicitly, and make room for each person’s capacity.

The mirror

Can my friend say no and still remain my friend?

Original trait settings: Access 5/5, Drain 3/5, Disguise 5/5, Pressure 2/5, Evasion 5/5. Fictional editorial ratings.

SOCIETY OF SNAKE PEOPLE

OBSERVE • RECOGNIZE • SET BOUNDARIES • SURVIVE KINDLY

SAME PEOPLE DIFFERENT PARASITES.

KINDER PEOPLE BUILD BRIGHTER TOMORROWS.

THE HUMAN MANIPULATOR PLAYBOOK

A CONVERSATIONAL EVASION MAP

RECOGNIZE THE PATTERN. PROTECT YOUR PEACE.

UNDERSTAND THE TACTICS. KEEP YOUR BOUNDARIES. STAY HUMAN.

NOT EVERY CONFLICT IS A CONVERSATION. SOME ARE A PERFORMANCE.

01 DENY

"I never said that." "I never did that."

Claims the reported action of statement did not occur.

02 DEFLECT OR REDIRECT

"I already said that." "I am already doing that."

Moves away from the question of what happened.

03 CHANGE THE SUBJECT

"Well, you already did that."

Introduces a different topic, often a personal one.

04 COUNTERATTACK CHARACTER

"Well, you did it too." "Well, you did it to me."

Attacks your character instead of addressing the concern.

05 MISDIRECT & RECRUIT OTHERS

"My family says you're disgusting."

Brings in others to create doubt, pressure, or isolation.

06 WEAPONIZE THE ORIGINAL POINT

"You are only saying this because you do it too."

Twists the original concern into an accusation.

07 FOCUS ON THE REACTION

Your anger or distress becomes the new topic.

Initial facts risk being sidelined by labels like "overreacting."

08 FREAK OUT → RESET

Insults or shouting, then a return to denial.

A few moments later: "I never said that."

THE REACTION TRAP

AT ANY STAGE THE EXCHANGE MAY SHIFT FROM THE ORIGINAL CONCERN TO YOUR TONE, ANGER, OR DISTRESS.

ANGER IS NOT PROOF THAT THE ORIGINAL CLAIM WAS FALSE.

EMOTIONAL DYSREGULATION IS THE TRAP.

A CLEAR MIND IS A KIND WORLD.

WAS THE ORIGINAL CONCERN ACTUALLY ANSWERED?

YES

CLARIFY / REPAIR

Stay with facts and consent. A changed answer may be a correction, not a diagnosis.

NO

PAUSE / BOUNDARY / EXIT

End the exchange if unsafe or futile. You are not required to keep arguing.

GOOD PEOPLE GIVE SO MUCH.

BOUNDARIES ARE A FORM OF KINDNESS TO YOUR FUTURE SELF.

A kinder world is a wiser world.

The reaction trap

At any stage, the subject can become your reaction.

Instead of answering the concern, the exchange turns to your tone, anger, or distress. Trying to prove your right to be upset can use the time that might have clarified the event.

Emotions neither prove nor disprove the facts. Harmful behavior during a reaction also deserves its own accountability. You can acknowledge your contribution and preserve the original question as a separate matter.

> “I’m taking a pause. I can address my tone, and the question about the agreement still needs an answer.”

Eight reference points, not an inevitable sequence

Moves may occur alone, repeat, overlap, or never occur. Their order does not establish intention. The words to try are possible responses, not guaranteed conflict-resolution techniques.

The retained original point

The latest poster calls step six “Weaponize the original point.” This commentary also retains the earlier guide’s idea of turning an expressed value into leverage for compliance. The older guide’s separate eight-label wording remains in the archive.

> A concern can be answered, corrected, or left unresolved. You can pause or leave at any stage.

The Playbook / moves 1 and 2

01 / Deny

“I never said that. I never did that.”

The reported event or statement is disputed.

The pull: The conversation can become a contest over memory before the specific disagreement is identified.

Words to try: “Which specific fact do we disagree about? Let’s check the message or agreement.”

A useful distinction: A denial may be accurate. If the evidence changes your account, correct it.

Return: Agree on what is known, disputed, and still uncertain.

02 / Deflect or redirect

“I already said that. I am already doing that.”

A related effort or assertion replaces a direct answer to what happened.

The pull: You may feel pressured to prove you appreciate everything else before the original question can be answered.

Words to try: “I hear that. My question is whether this specific commitment was completed.”

A useful distinction: A relevant explanation can answer the concern. An adjacent success may not.

Return: Bring the exchange back to the particular action or agreement.

The Playbook / moves 3 and 4

03 / Change the subject

“Well, you already did that.”

A different topic takes the place of the original concern.

The pull: Following every new thread makes the first question disappear.

Words to try: “We can discuss that separately. First, can we finish the question about Tuesday?”

A useful distinction: A second concern can be legitimate and still need its own conversation.

Return: Give the new concern a place without abandoning the first.

04 / Counterattack character

“Well, you did it too. Well, you did it to me.”

The questioner’s character becomes the subject instead of the action under discussion.

The pull: Defending your entire character uses the time that could have clarified the event.

Words to try: “I will discuss a specific concern about my conduct separately. What is the answer to this question?”

A useful distinction: Relevant conduct matters. An insult or general verdict does not answer a factual question.

Return: Separate the two concerns, and pause if insults continue.

The Playbook / moves 5 and 6

05 / Misdirect & recruit others

“My family says you’re disgusting.”

Other people’s alleged opinions are introduced to create pressure, doubt, or isolation.

The pull: You may start defending yourself to an imagined audience instead of addressing the people and facts involved.

Words to try: “What specific event are we discussing, and how does that information answer the question?”

A useful distinction: An independent witness or support person can be useful. An unnamed chorus is not a substitute for relevant evidence.

Return: Ask for the relevant observation, not a vote on your worth.

06 / Weaponize the original point

“You are only saying this because you do it too.”

The concern is turned back into an accusation or used as leverage: ‘If you care about fairness, do my share.’

The pull: You are pushed to prove the value you raised by giving up the boundary it was meant to protect.

Words to try: “We can examine my conduct separately. Caring about this does not mean I agreed to that request.”

A useful distinction: Apply the same standard to yourself. A valid counterconcern still does not establish consent to a new demand.

Return: Clarify the original issue, the new allegation, and what was actually agreed.

The Playbook / moves 7 and 8

07 / Focus on the reaction

“Your anger or distress becomes the new topic.”

Attention shifts from the original concern to your tone, anger, or distress.

The pull: Trying to prove that you are calm can replace deciding what to do about the unresolved concern.

Words to try: “I’m upset, and I’m taking a pause. The question about the agreement remains unanswered.”

A useful distinction: Emotions do not prove or disprove a claim. Harmful behavior during a reaction also deserves its own accountability.

Return: Address the reaction and the original facts as separate matters.

08 / Freak out → reset

“Insults or shouting, then a return to denial.”

Escalation interrupts the exchange, then discussion restarts without resolving what came before.

The pull: The restart can invite another round of the same argument, with less energy and less clarity.

Words to try: “I am stopping here. This is the unresolved question. We can revisit it only in a workable conversation.”

A useful distinction: Distress can be sincere. You can acknowledge it and still stop participating in an unsafe or futile exchange.

Return: Preserve the question and choose a pause, boundary, alternative arrangement, or exit.

Break the loop

Was the original concern actually answered?

Yes / clarity and repair

Acknowledge the answer or correction. Decide what happens next, who owns it, and when to check back. A changed answer may be a correction rather than a tactic.

No / pause and boundary

Return to the specific question once. If it remains unanswered, summarize it in one sentence and choose your participation: pause, use another arrangement, or end the exchange.

Unsafe / exit

Prioritize getting to a safer place and contacting someone you trust. You do not need to complete the map or announce a boundary when doing so could increase danger.

A field note for one exchange

What happened? What did we agree? What remains uncertain? What question needs an answer? What can I choose next? What would a specific repair look like?

The extended archive follows

All fifty original pages follow, including sixteen modes and eight pairs, The Thin Line, the earlier Playbook, Break the Loop, the Apothecary, human capacities, practical powers, lessons, experiments, and six research references. Original page numbers remain visible.

Game and teaching source room

The site’s print and source room contains the art installation PowerPoint, three recovered Shedding School templates, the v0.14 game prototype source, the v0.9 paired-role workbook, and the v0.7 power and mechanics workbooks. Versions remain distinct; the five artwork traits are not the later eight game attributes.

SOCIETY OF SNAKE PEOPLE · EXTENDED EDITION



HUMAN SURVIVAL FIELD GUIDE

THE HUMAN PARASITE INDEX AND THE ART OF SHEDDING THE ALIBI

Sixteen human modes. Eight revealing pairs.
A practical, magnificently unserious archive of our needs,
our useful powers, and the habits that do too much work.

FOR SNAKE PEOPLE
AND OTHER SPLENDIDLY UNFINISHED HUMANS

OBSERVE · QUESTION · PROTECT · REPAIR · REVISE

A STANDALONE GUIDE TO HUMAN EXPERIENCE

The figures are satire. The practices are invitations.
The three-million-year archive is make-believe.

DISPATCH 01 / AN INVITATION FROM THE EARTH DESK

A Need Before a Flaw

A person contains more possibilities than the habit you noticed first.

Inside every splendidly unfinished human lives a collection of old survival patterns. Each learned one useful trick and kept repeating it. When another skill is missing, tired or hard to reach, that trick does too much work. We all need attention, effort, reassurance and care. This guide invites us to notice the need, laugh with recognition, ask clearly and choose our next action with regard for ourselves and others.

The useful trick

A survival habit often begins with an intelligible aim: find company, protect space, gain help, hold a promise, reduce uncertainty or keep a place in the group. The archive gives each habit a body so that it can be noticed, laughed with and questioned.

When one trick becomes the whole repertoire

Reaching for contact can become pursuit. Protecting quiet can become withdrawal before an invitation has been considered. Being agreeable can conceal a real preference; being independent can become a reflexive objection. The useful question is what this moment requires.

Compassion with ownership

A need can deserve understanding while a particular action still needs to change. Name the conduct, notice its effect and choose an available correction. No one has to become a flawless specimen before asking for help or setting a limit.

An invitation without a debt

Care can be freely offered and freely received. Conditions belong in the agreement before the exchange. A person may understand your need and still lack the time, willingness or ability to meet it.

“You are allowed to need. You are also allowed to learn another way to ask.”

DISPATCH 02 / FOUR KINDS OF MATERIAL

How to Read the Archive

Observe a moment. Leave the whole person larger than the label.

FIGURES & FABLES

The sixteen positions are fictional modes of human experience. They are available to the same person in different situations. Their names, bodies, tendrils and three-million-year history belong to the Society's imaginative archive.

PRACTICES & POWERS

The attributes name capacities; the powers describe actions you can practice. Each has a useful expression and a way to become overused. There are no fixed scores, rankings or personality results to earn.

COMMITMENTS & CHOICES

Respect for refusal, care without an invented debt and responsibility for one's conduct are the guide's ethical commitments. A practice is optional. Choose a manageable situation and an action within your own control.

RESEARCH & ITS LIMITS

The research ledger on pages 47–48 identifies six published sources, their findings and their limits. They offer relevant questions about cooperation, explanation, responsiveness and change. They do not establish sixteen psychological types or validate the illustrations.

> **THE MIRROR PAIR**
>
> Sixteen roles appear in eight pairs. Fifteen illustrations are unique because Friend meets Friend: both positions deliberately share the same image. Both friends can offer, receive, ask and refuse; neither position carries a hidden moral rank.

The control pair concerns attachment, handover and authority. In the figure called the One Armed Man, many routes gather into one busy approval channel. Its anatomy is a visual metaphor for a process, never a judgment about disability or a person's ability.

"A label is a handle for a question. It is not a complete account of a human."

ARCHIVE INDEX / FIND THE SITUATION

Eight Pairs, Sixteen Modes

Two responses can illuminate the same need; either can do too much work.

01	Attention	Energy Vampire / Wary Wallflower	07–09
02	Responsibility	Human Leech / Salt Sprayer	10–12
03	Trust	Wolf in Sheep's Clothing / Clue Collector	13–15
04	Threat	Venom Slinger / Lie-Downer	16–18
05	Explanations	Shapeshifter / Question Wrangler	19–21
06	Approval	Yes Man / Honest Heckler	22–24
07	Friendship	Friend / Friend	25–27
08	Control	Limb Looser / the One Armed Man	28–30

Awaken the Human **31**

The original field practices, expanded **32–39**

Human experience attributes & practical powers **40–44**

Lessons & a seven-day field practice **45–46**

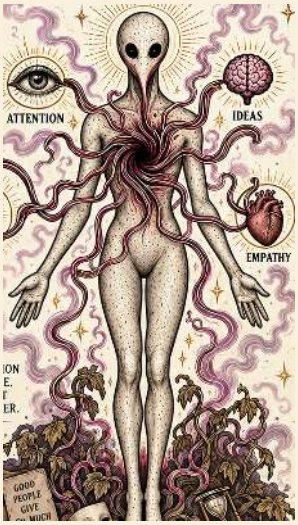
Research ledger & edition record **47–49**

Use the index by situation, or open a figure at random and ask where you have met its useful trick in yourself.

VISUAL REGISTER / EVERY FIGURE BELONGS TO THE HUMAN

The Specimen Cabinet / I

A portrait of a habit, drawn with affection and an eyebrow raised.



M01

Energy Vampire



M02

Wary Wallflower



M03

Human Leech



M04

Salt Sprayer



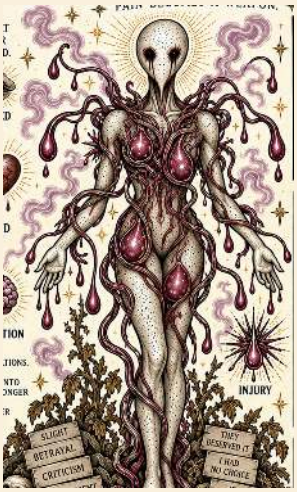
M05

Wolf in Sheep's Clothing



M06

Clue Collector



M07

Venom Slinger



M08

Lie-Downer

The two Friend positions share the same illustration. Seven recovered original figures and eight new companion designs form fifteen distinct images across sixteen human modes.

VISUAL REGISTER / EVERY FIGURE BELONGS TO THE HUMAN

The Specimen Cabinet / II

A portrait of a habit, drawn with affection and an eyebrow raised.



M09

Shapeshifter



M10

Question Wrangler



M11

Yes Man



M12

Honest Heckler



M13

Friend



M14

Friend



M15

Limb Looser



M16

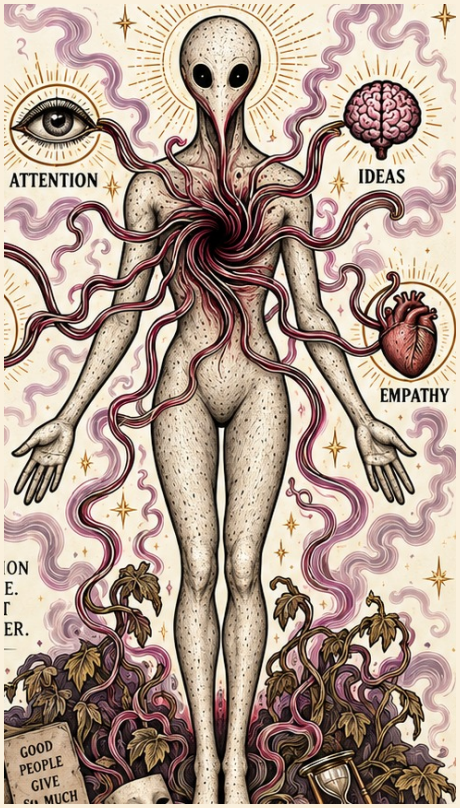
the One Armed Man

The two Friend positions share the same illustration. Seven recovered original figures and eight new companion designs form fifteen distinct images across sixteen human modes.

SPECIMEN M01 / PAIR 01 · ATTENTION

Energy Vampire

The connection seeker



ORIGINAL ARCHIVE

One More Little Moment

It came to borrow one moment. The moment was so comforting that it invited five more moments to stay. By sunset, the conversation had developed roots. The creature is surprised that its listener needs a rest; it thought closeness was something that could not run out.

CONNECTION · REASSURANCE · PERSISTENCE

THE NEED

Reassurance, company and help holding a difficult feeling.

THE USEFUL CAPACITY

Initiates connection and makes shared attention possible.

WHEN OVERUSED

Keeps drawing on another person's attention without checking their capacity.

FIELD CHECK

Seeking comfort is ordinary, and difficult days can require extra support. This mode concerns repeatedly assuming another person's attention is available after their capacity or limit has been expressed.

HUMAN POWER / UNLIMITED BORROWED BRAIN

Invite shared thinking, ask for reassurance openly and create a conversation whose participants can choose how much attention to offer.

SMALL PRACTICE

Ask, “Do you have five minutes?” Choose one concern, honor the stopping point and decide how you will settle afterward.

MIRROR

Have I checked how much attention is available?

Connection becomes easier to sustain when everyone can influence its size.

FAMILIAR CUE And one more thing:

The last thing had six sequels.

SPECIMEN M02 / PAIR 01 · ATTENTION

Wary Wallflower

The keeper of breathing room



COMPANION ILLUSTRATION

The Door With A Latch

It prepared a careful refusal for a party nobody had planned. Then it wondered why nobody had invited it. Behind the folded doorway, it had saved a small space for company. The latch was simply better practiced than the welcome.

PRIVACY · REST · CAUTION

THE NEED

Rest, manageable closeness and protection from rejection.

THE USEFUL CAPACITY

Protects capacity and notices when a pause is needed.

WHEN OVERUSED

Closes before checking the invitation, then hopes others will somehow know how to reach it.

FIELD CHECK

Solitude and declining an invitation are ordinary choices that need no apology. This mode concerns automatic withdrawal that conceals a wanted connection and leaves the other person guessing.

HUMAN POWER / THE COMFORTABLE NO

Protect breathing room with a clear, chosen limit while leaving a workable route back to contact when you want one.

SMALL PRACTICE

Decline one invitation plainly. If you want future contact, offer a specific alternative without apologizing for needing rest.

MIRROR

Is this a chosen pause, or a door closing by habit?

A deliberate pause can protect both solitude and the possibility of company.

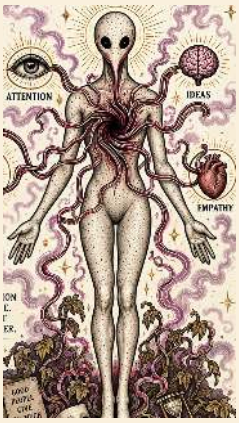
FAMILIAR CUE With all due respect:

Declined an invitation still being invented.

PAIR 01 / THE EXCHANGE BETWEEN TWO HABITS

Attention / The Reach And The Door

Connection and room to breathe



Energy Vampire



Wary Wallflower

Energy Vampire arrived with one small thought and a folding chair for its sequels. Wary Wallflower had already declined the chair, the thought and a possible anniversary of the thought. Through the closed door came a muffled, 'I do like you.' 'Wonderful,' said the Vampire, unfolding a second chair. At last they agreed on ten minutes and a cup of tea another day. The conversation ended while both could still enjoy it. The unused chairs were returned to the Department of Things That Might Have Become Necessary.

A DIFFERENT CONVERSATION

Energy Vampire: Do you have ten minutes to listen?

Wary Wallflower: I have five now, and I need quiet afterward.

Energy Vampire: Five works. I will choose the part that matters most.

Wary Wallflower: Then we can stop without guessing what the stopping means.

THE REINFORCING LOOP

More pursuit prompts more withdrawal; more withdrawal prompts more pursuit.

ATTRACTION

One reaches for company while the other offers the quiet and selectivity that make company feel precious.

ENTANGLEMENT

Each unanswered reach becomes a reason to pursue harder, and each harder pursuit becomes a reason to close sooner.

COORDINATION

A clear invitation, a real capacity check and an agreed pause let contact have a beginning and an end.

RELEASE

Either person can finish the exchange without turning the pause into a verdict on the relationship.

FIELD EXPERIMENT

Before one ordinary conversation, ask how much time and attention are available. End at the agreed point and notice whether the clear boundary makes another conversation easier to imagine.

What would make this amount of contact workable for both of us?

SPECIMEN M03 / PAIR 02 · RESPONSIBILITY

Human Leech

The borrower of effort



ORIGINAL ARCHIVE

Borrowing Someone Else's Momentum

It organized a magnificent group effort by finding someone already working. When the work was finished, it accepted congratulations on behalf of the attachment. It was not entirely sure how the task happened, but it sincerely hoped everyone would use the same arrangement next time.

ASSISTANCE · ATTACHMENT · SHARED EFFORT

THE NEED

Practical support when skills, confidence or capacity are insufficient.

THE USEFUL CAPACITY

Finds assistance and can coordinate shared effort.

WHEN OVERUSED

Lets an attachment become an assumption while effort and credit travel in different directions.

FIELD CHECK

Receiving practical help is ordinary, including help that cannot be repaid. This mode concerns treating assistance as an unspoken entitlement while leaving responsibilities and credit unclear.

HUMAN POWER / BORROWED SPINE

Ask for practical support, learn from another person's experience and coordinate a shared task with clear responsibilities and credit.

SMALL PRACTICE

Name one kind of help you need, ask whether it is available and agree on your own workable contribution.

MIRROR

What did we actually agree each of us would do?

Support can be received honestly without pretending to be entirely self-sufficient or becoming entitled to another person's labor.

FAMILIAR CUE Thanks to my leadership:

Delegated the lifting. Retained the bow.

SPECIMEN M04 / PAIR 02 · RESPONSIBILITY

Salt Sprayer

The keeper of fair shares



COMPANION ILLUSTRATION

A Receipt For Every Kindness

It returned a borrowed seed with three grains of interest and a complaint about the weather. By afternoon it had calculated who owed whom a smile. The accounting began because nobody had noticed how much it carried. Now even a gift has to pass inspection.

FAIRNESS · ACCOUNTING · AGREEMENTS

THE NEED

Fairness, reliable agreements and recognition of effort.

THE USEFUL CAPACITY

Clarifies roles, contributions and promises.

WHEN OVERUSED

Turns every kindness into a balance to collect and can make help feel unsafe to accept.

FIELD CHECK

Tracking shared work, money or promises can protect a fair agreement. This mode concerns assigning repayment to a gift after the other person has already received it.

HUMAN POWER / RECEIPT RECONCILER

Make responsibilities and expectations visible, recognize effort and distinguish an agreed exchange from a freely offered gift.

SMALL PRACTICE

Before one exchange, say whether you are offering a gift, making a request or proposing an agreement.

MIRROR

Was repayment agreed, or did I quietly invent it?

Fairness becomes clearer when expectations arrive before the invoice.

FAMILIAR CUE For the record:

Your kindness has been entered into the ledger.

PAIR 02 / THE EXCHANGE BETWEEN TWO HABITS

Responsibility / The Borrowing And The Bill

Help and fair contribution



Human Leech



Salt Sprayer

Human Leech announced a splendid communal supper by standing near Salt Sprayer while supper was made. Salt Sprayer recorded the standing under 'supervision, disputed.' By dessert, everyone owed everyone a fraction of a spoon. The Leech finally asked what help was wanted. 'Wash these bowls,' said Salt Sprayer, 'and please tell the others I cooked.' Then Salt Sprayer crossed the cake off the account. 'That was a gift.' The cake, which had feared an adjustable interest rate, was received with considerable relief by everyone still holding a spoon.

A DIFFERENT CONVERSATION

Human Leech: Could you help me carry this? I can take the smaller load.

Salt Sprayer: Yes. Let us agree on the work before we begin.

Human Leech: And the tea you offered—was anything expected in return?

Salt Sprayer: No. The tea is a gift, and it can remain one.

THE REINFORCING LOOP

Unclear borrowing invites scorekeeping; scorekeeping makes honest asking harder.

ATTRACTION

One finds relief in available help while the other finds reassurance in making a contribution visible.

ENTANGLEMENT

An assumed favor becomes an unannounced invoice, and the invoice makes the next honest request harder to voice.

COORDINATION

The pair names the request, agrees on a workable contribution and says clearly when care is a gift.

RELEASE

Either person can renegotiate or decline the arrangement without inventing a debt that was never agreed.

FIELD EXPERIMENT

Choose one shared task and state who has agreed to do what before starting. Name any separate gift as a gift, then notice how much guessing disappears from the exchange.

Which part of this exchange was agreed, and which part have we only assumed?

SPECIMEN M05 / PAIR 03 · TRUST

Wolf in Sheep's Clothing

The maker of reassurance



ORIGINAL ARCHIVE

A Most Reassuring Entrance

It built the warmest entrance in the valley. Every visitor felt expected. Behind the welcome, an old collection channel quietly kept running. The creature had practiced looking helpful for so long that it sometimes mistook the welcome itself for having helped.

WELCOME · PRESENTATION · REASSURANCE

THE NEED

Belonging, access and confidence that an imperfect self can still be accepted.

THE USEFUL CAPACITY

Creates comfort and helps people approach one another.

WHEN OVERUSED

Uses a reassuring presentation to cover a mismatch between promises and conduct, sometimes without noticing it.

FIELD CHECK

Warmth, charm and a welcoming appearance do not establish deception. This mode concerns a recurring mismatch between reassuring promises and observable conduct.

HUMAN POWER / THE VELVET BITE

Make a difficult conversation approachable through warmth and tact, then support the reassuring presentation with a truthful promise and consistent conduct.

SMALL PRACTICE

Make one smaller promise that you can keep. Name its limit clearly and follow through without adding decorative certainty.

MIRROR

Which action supports the reassurance I am offering?

A welcome becomes dependable through the conduct that follows it.

FAMILIAR CUE You can absolutely trust me:

The welcome mat had a collection department.

SPECIMEN M06 / PAIR 03 · TRUST

Clue Collector

The checker of promises



COMPANION ILLUSTRATION

The Crumb Has A File

It found a crumb beside the shared meal and opened a very small investigation. The investigation grew roots, shelves and a second investigation. Meanwhile, the whole loaf remained in plain sight. It was trying to prevent another disappointment and had forgotten to look up.

EVIDENCE · CAUTION · VERIFICATION

THE NEED

Enough reliable information to feel safe making a choice.

THE USEFUL CAPACITY

Compares claims with observable actions.

WHEN OVERUSED

Collects confirming fragments until uncertainty itself feels like proof.

FIELD CHECK

Checking an important claim is ordinary, especially when an agreement matters. This mode concerns continuing to collect confirming fragments while overlooking contrary evidence or a sufficient answer.

HUMAN POWER / STAFF OF SECOND SIGHT

Compare one important claim with observable information, consider a competing explanation and keep your conclusion open to a relevant correction.

SMALL PRACTICE

Write one claim, one available check and what would change your mind. Stop when you have enough for the actual decision.

MIRROR

What evidence would make me revise this suspicion?

Useful evidence answers a question; it does not grant complete access to another person.

FAMILIAR CUE According to my evidence:

The missing crumb now has a case number.

PAIR 03 / THE EXCHANGE BETWEEN TWO HABITS

Trust / The Welcome And The Evidence

Belonging and reliable information



Wolf in Sheep's Clothing



Clue Collector

Wolf in Sheep's Clothing opened a stall called Entirely Dependable Soup. Clue Collector requested the soup's references, childhood history and position on spoons. The Wolf offered a larger sign. The Collector began examining the sign. Eventually someone asked whether the pot would be ready at noon. 'At twelve fifteen,' admitted the Wolf, removing a decorative promise. At twelve fifteen, soup appeared. The Collector recorded one useful observation and ate lunch. A crumb escaped examination, carrying neither a confession nor a certificate of innocence, which was permitted for the afternoon.

A DIFFERENT CONVERSATION

Wolf in Sheep's Clothing: I can bring the supplies tomorrow; I cannot promise this evening.

Clue Collector: Tomorrow is useful. How will we know if that changes?

Wolf in Sheep's Clothing: I will tell you by noon if I cannot follow through.

Clue Collector: That gives me something specific to check and plan around.

THE REINFORCING LOOP

Extra reassurance invites extra suspicion; extra suspicion encourages a safer-looking facade.

ATTRACTION

A reassuring welcome meets a wish to know whether the welcome can be relied upon.

ENTANGLEMENT

A larger promise invites a larger investigation, and the investigation encourages an even more polished promise.

COORDINATION

One person offers a specific truthful commitment while the other checks relevant conduct and remains open to correction.

RELEASE

A decision can be made from sufficient information without demanding complete certainty about a whole person.

FIELD EXPERIMENT

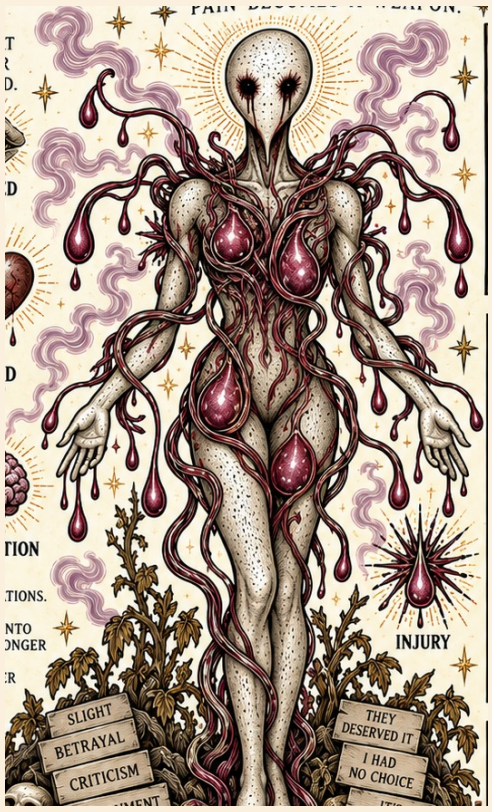
Turn one broad reassurance into a small observable commitment. Agree on what would count as follow-through and what new information would change your assessment.

What observable action would help us make this particular decision?

SPECIMEN M07 / PAIR 04 · THREAT

Venom Slinger

The alarm that learned to answer back



ORIGINAL ARCHIVE

An Ancestral Reply To Lunch

A tiny disturbance entered its receiving threads. The old alarm chamber consulted every previous disturbance and prepared a reply large enough for all of them. Afterward, the creature felt lighter and wondered why the room had become so quiet.

ALARM · PROTECTION · PRESSURE

THE NEED

Protection, dignity and an end to overwhelming pressure.

THE USEFUL CAPACITY

Notices danger and supplies energy for a firm response.

WHEN OVERUSED

Treats small disturbances as old emergencies and damages connections while trying to feel safe.

FIELD CHECK

Anger and firm boundaries can respond to real problems. This mode concerns a reply that adds personal punishment or humiliation beyond the concrete protection needed.

HUMAN POWER / VENOM DISCHARGE

Turn the energy of anger into a clear boundary or a practical protective step, keeping the response focused on the conduct at issue.

SMALL PRACTICE

State the problem in one sentence and name what you will do next. Remove the personal insult from the draft.

MIRROR

What would protect me without trying to make someone smaller?

A firm response can protect dignity without demanding a second injury as payment.

FAMILIAR CUE With the greatest affection:

A small inconvenience. An ancestral response.

SPECIMEN M08 / PAIR 04 · THREAT

Lie-Downer

The keeper of quiet



COMPANION ILLUSTRATION

The Alarm Gets A Blanket

It cushioned every alarm until the entire colony sounded pleasantly distant. Even the urgent alarm received a blanket. The stillness was a real achievement. The problem was that the creature had also muffled the little signal telling it when to get up.

QUIET · RECOVERY · CONSERVATION

THE NEED

Safety, recovery and relief from escalation.

THE USEFUL CAPACITY

De-escalates, pauses and saves energy.

WHEN OVERUSED

Damps important warnings along with unnecessary noise and can leave a concrete problem unattended.

FIELD CHECK

Rest, stillness and stepping away from conflict can be deliberate and useful. This mode concerns continuing to damp a signal after a concrete problem needs attention.

HUMAN POWER / THE MAGNIFICENT SHRUG

Let minor friction pass, pause an escalating exchange and conserve attention for what actually needs a response.

SMALL PRACTICE

Take a brief pause, then ask whether one practical action remains needed. Choose that action or let the minor matter rest.

MIRROR

Is this rest restoring choice, or hiding a problem that still needs attention?

Rest becomes more useful when you can also notice the moment to respond.

FAMILIAR CUE I remain magnificently unbothered:

The emergency has been asked to speak quietly.

PAIR 04 / THE EXCHANGE BETWEEN TWO HABITS

Threat / The Alarm And The Blanket

Protection and relief from conflict



Venom Slinger



Lie-Downer

A drop of rain entered the archive. Venom Slinger prepared a reply to the entire history of weather. Lie-Downer placed a blanket over the drip and declared the atmosphere improved. The puddle, unmoved by either interpretation, continued becoming a puddle. After a quiet minute, they fetched a bowl and moved the records. Venom Slinger supplied excellent energy for lifting. Lie-Downer noticed when everybody needed a rest. The rain received no personal insults, and the blanket was reassigned to someone who actually wanted it after the work was done.

A DIFFERENT CONVERSATION

Venom Slinger: I am angry about the spill, and the books need moving.

Lie-Downer: Give me a moment to settle, then I can take that stack.

Venom Slinger: I will move this stack and keep the request about the books.

Lie-Downer: Then we can rest once the immediate problem is handled.

THE REINFORCING LOOP

A sharp response encourages shutdown; prolonged shutdown can allow pressure to accumulate.

ATTRACTION

Urgent force seeks relief, and quiet offers a place where the pressure might settle.

ENTANGLEMENT

A sharper alarm produces deeper shutdown while the unattended problem supplies fresh material for the alarm.

COORDINATION

The pair allows a pause, identifies the actual problem and chooses a response proportionate to the needed protection.

RELEASE

The exchange can stop or change location while a clear practical next step remains available.

FIELD EXPERIMENT

With a small everyday irritation, separate the observable problem from the extra story gathering around it. Take a useful pause and choose one concrete step that addresses the problem.

What needs protection here, and what response would be enough?

SPECIMEN M09 / PAIR 05 · EXPLANATIONS

Shapeshifter

The reviser of the story



ORIGINAL ARCHIVE

Yesterday's Newly Revised Edition

It corrected yesterday before breakfast. By lunch, yesterday had always been that way. A thin old outline remained in the archive, but the creature called it an early draft of certainty. It had become excellent at changing and less practiced at admitting the change.

ADAPTATION · REVISION · FLEXIBILITY

THE NEED

Flexibility, acceptance and a route through changing circumstances.

THE USEFUL CAPACITY

Revises plans when information or circumstances change.

WHEN OVERUSED

Changes explanations so quickly that other people cannot tell what remains dependable.

FIELD CHECK

Changing your mind when information changes is ordinary and useful. This mode concerns revising an account without acknowledging what changed, leaving others unable to follow it.

HUMAN POWER / SURFACE REPLACEMENT

Revise a plan or explanation when circumstances change, while acknowledging the earlier version and keeping the transition understandable.

SMALL PRACTICE

Say, "I said this before. I now think this because…" Include what has changed and what remains dependable.

MIRROR

Did I explain what changed and why?

An acknowledged revision can strengthen trust in an unfinished account.

FAMILIAR CUE According to the new yesterday:

Yesterday has been updated for your convenience.

SPECIMEN M10 / PAIR 05 · EXPLANATIONS

Question Wrangler

The holder of the loose thread



COMPANION ILLUSTRATION

One Question And Its Relatives

It caught one loose thread and politely asked where it led. Then it asked where the answer led, and where that answer had been earlier. By evening, the question required a larger nest. The original thread was still small and still waiting to be gently released.

CLARITY · INQUIRY · PERSISTENCE

THE NEED

Clarity, closure and a shared account that can be followed.

THE USEFUL CAPACITY

Returns attention to a relevant unanswered question.

WHEN OVERUSED

Keeps every thread under tension until a harmless ambiguity becomes an exhausting trial.

FIELD CHECK

A focused follow-up question can clarify a decision or agreement. This mode concerns extending the inquiry after the answer is sufficient for the stated purpose.

HUMAN POWER / FREEZE THE FRAME

Hold a relevant question steady long enough to obtain the clarity a practical decision requires.

SMALL PRACTICE

State the decision your question serves. Ask one focused follow-up and recognize an answer that is sufficient for that purpose.

MIRROR

What decision will this answer help me make?

A question earns its place by helping someone choose what to do next.

FAMILIAR CUE One small question:

One small question has requested additional rooms.

PAIR 05 / THE EXCHANGE BETWEEN TWO HABITS

Explanations / The Revision And The Thread

Flexibility and a dependable account



Shapeshifter



Question Wrangler

Shapeshifter announced that the meeting had always been tomorrow. Question Wrangler produced a thread attached to yesterday's announcement, then requested the thread's supporting threads. Soon the meeting required a larger room simply to accommodate its explanations. Shapeshifter finally said, 'I changed the day because the chairs are being repaired. I should have told you.' Question Wrangler checked which day to arrive, then let the remaining loops rest. Yesterday remained in the archive, mildly untidy and perfectly capable of surviving a correction without a committee of additional yesterdays.

THE REINFORCING LOOP

Changing accounts invite more questions; endless questions invite further evasive revisions.

A DIFFERENT CONVERSATION

Shapeshifter: I said Tuesday. I changed it to Wednesday after the room became unavailable.

Question Wrangler: Is Wednesday confirmed? That is what I need to arrange my travel.

Shapeshifter: Yes. I will update the invitation and acknowledge the change.

Question Wrangler: That answers the decision I needed to make.

ATTRACTION

Flexible interpretation meets a wish for an account stable enough to follow.

ENTANGLEMENT

An unexplained revision creates more questions, and the growing inquiry encourages further evasive revisions.

COORDINATION

One acknowledges the change and its reason while the other asks the focused question needed for a decision.

RELEASE

The pair can keep a small uncertainty visible and move on once the practical purpose has been served.

FIELD EXPERIMENT

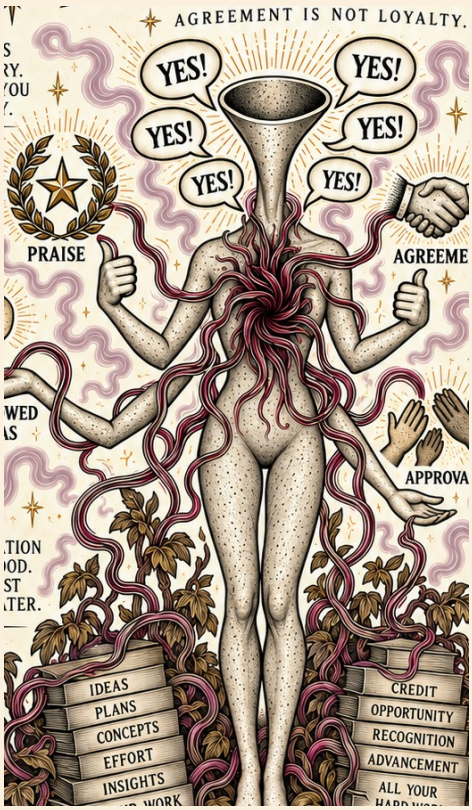
When one small plan changes, state the earlier plan, the new plan and the reason together. Ask only the follow-up needed to decide what you will do next.

Which uncertainty matters to the next decision, and which can remain open?

SPECIMEN M11 / PAIR 06 · APPROVAL

Yes Man

The keeper of agreement



ORIGINAL ARCHIVE

Agreement Before The Full Sentence

It agreed to carry the basket, leave the basket and become the basket. Each agreement sounded wonderfully welcoming. Only when three people came looking for three different baskets did it notice that its own small preference had never reached the conversation.

BELONGING · COOPERATION · ECHO

THE NEED

Belonging, cooperation and reassurance that a place will remain available.

THE USEFUL CAPACITY

Finds common ground and makes cooperation easier.

WHEN OVERUSED

Echoes incompatible requests and leaves others relying on promises it cannot keep.

FIELD CHECK

Agreement and flexibility can express a real preference. This mode concerns agreeing before checking capacity or intention, especially when the resulting promises cannot all be kept.

HUMAN POWER / THE ECHO CHAMBER

Listen closely, find genuine common ground and offer cooperation that reflects your actual preference and available capacity.

SMALL PRACTICE

Pause before saying yes. State what you can actually offer, including one limit or preference that matters.

MIRROR

Do I agree, or am I trying to keep my place?

A sincere agreement leaves room for the person making it.

FAMILIAR CUE Absolutely. Whatever that means:

Agreed before the sentence found its ending.

SPECIMEN M12 / PAIR 06 · APPROVAL

Honest Heckler

The keeper of a separate voice



COMPANION ILLUSTRATION

An Objection To The Objections

It disagreed with the plan, the revised plan and the plan to stop making plans. At last, somebody asked what it preferred. A small, unfamiliar silence followed. It had guarded its right to speak so carefully that it had forgotten to prepare something it wanted to say.

DISSENT · AUTONOMY · SCRUTINY

THE NEED

Autonomy, visibility and permission to have a different view.

THE USEFUL CAPACITY

Tests assumptions and makes room for overlooked views.

WHEN OVERUSED

Opposes by habit and can block cooperation simply to remain distinct.

FIELD CHECK

Disagreement can reveal an overlooked issue and improve a plan. This mode concerns opposing by reflex while leaving one's own preference or workable alternative unstated.

HUMAN POWER / THE COURTEOUS NOPE

Name an overlooked concern, protect an independent view and help improve a shared plan with a workable alternative.

SMALL PRACTICE

Give your concern, its reason and one possible next step. Allow yourself to agree when the proposal genuinely works.

MIRROR

What do I want to contribute after the objection?

An independent voice can contribute through agreement as well as dissent.

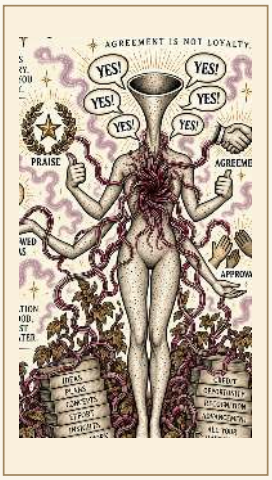
FAMILIAR CUE A small objection:

Objects to the proposal to hear objections.

PAIR 06 / THE EXCHANGE BETWEEN TWO HABITS

Approval / The Echo And The Objection

Belonging and an independent voice



Yes Man



Honest Heckler

Yes Man approved a picnic indoors, outdoors and somewhere emotionally adjacent to outdoors. Honest Heckler objected to all three, including the adjacency. The sandwiches began to lose confidence. Asked what they actually wanted, Yes Man admitted a preference for shade. Honest Heckler wanted a dry place to sit. They chose a covered bench. For several unsettling seconds, both agreed sincerely. The archive recorded this rare event under 'Perfectly Possible.' Neither had become the other, and the sandwiches were able to resume their ordinary responsibilities without a constitutional amendment.

A DIFFERENT CONVERSATION

Yes Man: I want to help, and I would prefer a shorter meeting.

Honest Heckler: My concern is that we have not heard the last option.

Yes Man: Could we give that option five minutes and then decide?

Honest Heckler: Yes. I agree with that plan and do not need an objection to prove it.

THE REINFORCING LOOP

Automatic agreement invites louder dissent; automatic dissent makes others agree just to end the exchange.

ATTRACTION

Easy agreement offers belonging while a separate voice promises that something overlooked might finally be heard.

ENTANGLEMENT

Automatic agreement invites louder dissent, and relentless dissent makes agreement a convenient way to end the exchange.

COORDINATION

Each person states a real preference, names a reason and helps shape a workable shared choice.

RELEASE

A person can decline part of a plan or accept a different choice without surrendering a place or performing another objection.

FIELD EXPERIMENT

Before answering one group suggestion, identify your actual preference and available capacity. Offer one honest agreement, limit or alternative with a short reason.

What do I actually want to contribute, once belonging and disagreement are no longer the whole task?

SPECIMEN M13 / PAIR 07 · FRIENDSHIP

Friend

The participant in mutual care · Offering care



ORIGINAL ARCHIVE

The Same Open Door

It brought a warm bowl and a warm smile. Somewhere along the connecting thread, a tiny unspoken expectation came too. Nobody could tell whether it was a gift or an arrangement until somebody asked. Both creatures looked relieved when the question finally arrived.

MUTUAL CARE · CHOICE · PARTICIPATION

THE NEED

Companionship, dependable support and freedom to accept or refuse.

THE USEFUL CAPACITY

Offers, receives and shares care with room for choice.

WHEN OVERUSED

Assumes closeness grants access, or silently converts a gift into a debt.

FIELD CHECK

Friends may offer unequal amounts of care without creating a debt. This mode becomes costly when closeness is treated as automatic access or an expectation remains unspoken.

HUMAN POWER / THE OPEN DOOR

Offer, receive and share care while allowing each person to make requests, keep limits and choose their participation.

SMALL PRACTICE

Make one offer without an implied debt. If you also want something, ask separately and leave room for a real refusal.

MIRROR

What am I freely offering, and have I made any separate request visible?

Receiving care does not create a moral debt.

FAMILIAR CUE As your friend:

A gift arrives. Expectations may arrive later.

SPECIMEN M14 / PAIR 07 · FRIENDSHIP

Friend

The participant in mutual care · Receiving care



ORIGINAL ARCHIVE

The Same Open Door

It brought a warm bowl and a warm smile. Somewhere along the connecting thread, a tiny unspoken expectation came too. Nobody could tell whether it was a gift or an arrangement until somebody asked. Both creatures looked relieved when the question finally arrived.

MUTUAL CARE · CHOICE · PARTICIPATION

THE NEED

Companionship, dependable support and freedom to accept or refuse.

THE USEFUL CAPACITY

Offers, receives and shares care with room for choice.

WHEN OVERUSED

Assumes closeness grants access, or silently converts a gift into a debt.

FIELD CHECK

Friends may offer unequal amounts of care without creating a debt. This mode becomes costly when closeness is treated as automatic access or an expectation remains unspoken.

HUMAN POWER / THE OPEN DOOR

Offer, receive and share care while allowing each person to make requests, keep limits and choose their participation.

SMALL PRACTICE

Make one offer without an implied debt. If you also want something, ask separately and leave room for a real refusal.

MIRROR

What can I receive, ask for or decline without inventing a debt?

Receiving care does not create a moral debt.

FAMILIAR CUE As your friend:

A gift arrives. Expectations may arrive later.

PAIR 07 / THE EXCHANGE BETWEEN TWO HABITS

Friendship / The Same Open Door

Mutual care with freedom to choose



Friend



Friend

Friend brought Friend a bowl of soup. 'As your friend,' said Friend, which was a promising beginning and an incomplete agreement. Friend accepted the soup. Later, an expectation appeared beside the bowl wearing a tiny official hat. Neither Friend remembered appointing it. They asked whether the soup had been a gift or a request for help tomorrow. 'A gift,' said Friend. 'I would also like to ask about tomorrow.' The request was considered separately. The hat was returned to its rightful owner, a mushroom with no authority whatsoever.

A DIFFERENT CONVERSATION

Friend: I made extra soup. You are welcome to it; nothing is owed.

Friend: Thank you. I would like some.

Friend: Separately, could you help tomorrow? It is all right to say no.

Friend: I cannot tomorrow. The gift and the answer can both stay true.

THE REINFORCING LOOP

Unspoken expectations turn gifts into debts; fear of debt makes receiving care harder.

ATTRACTION

Each participant finds company and care in someone who can also choose whether to offer or receive them.

ENTANGLEMENT

An unnamed expectation travels with a gift until closeness starts to resemble an obligation nobody remembers accepting.

COORDINATION

Both participants make requests and offers explicit, allow refusal and leave freely given care free of invented repayment.

RELEASE

Either friend can decline an offer, take space or end an arrangement without the gift becoming a retroactive invoice.

FIELD EXPERIMENT

In one ordinary exchange of care, say whether you are offering a gift, making a request or proposing an agreement. Leave enough room for a real answer, including a refusal.

What has each of us freely offered or actually agreed to?

SPECIMEN M15 / PAIR 08 · CONTROL

Limb Looser

The releaser of attachments



COMPANION ILLUSTRATION

Freedom With A Forwarding Address

It discovered that every difficult knot could be solved by leaving the thread behind. This worked beautifully for travel and less beautifully for the bridge everyone was still crossing. The creature needed freedom. It had not yet learned that a handover can be part of an exit.

RELEASE · FLEXIBILITY · HANDOVER

THE NEED

Freedom, flexibility and escape from commitments that exceed capacity.

THE USEFUL CAPACITY

Lets go of outdated plans and makes room for a new route.

WHEN OVERUSED

Drops a commitment without communicating, leaving others to discover what was released.

FIELD CHECK

Ending a commitment or leaving an unsuitable situation can be necessary. This mode concerns leaving a feasible communication or handover undone when others are still relying on the arrangement.

HUMAN POWER / THE CONSIDERED RELEASE

Release a commitment that no longer works, communicate a clear stopping point and arrange a feasible handover without surrendering the right to leave.

SMALL PRACTICE

Name what you can no longer carry. Where feasible, state what remains, your stopping point and who has agreed to take over.

MIRROR

What needs to be communicated before I let this go?

Freedom can include clear communication about what is being left behind.

FAMILIAR CUE I have freed myself from:

Escaped the knot. Left the promise attached.

SPECIMEN M16 / PAIR 08 · CONTROL

the One Armed Man

The keeper of the only working route



COMPANION ILLUSTRATION

Please Queue For My Help

It built a reliable system in which every request passed through one helpful channel. Then it built a waiting area for the requests. Then a waiting area for the waiting area. It wondered why help felt exhausting while carefully approving nobody else to help.

COORDINATION · USEFULNESS · CONTROL

THE NEED

Usefulness, predictable outcomes and reassurance that it remains needed.

THE USEFUL CAPACITY

Coordinates work, notices dependencies and follows through.

WHEN OVERUSED

Routes every request through itself until its wish to be useful becomes a bottleneck.

FIELD CHECK

A single coordinator can be useful when a task genuinely requires one. This mode concerns keeping authority unnecessarily concentrated while capable alternatives are prevented from participating.

HUMAN POWER / THE SINGLE APPROVAL CHANNEL

Coordinate dependencies, make responsibility clear and help another person participate with enough information and real authority to carry the work.

SMALL PRACTICE

Share one real task or decision. Explain the needed outcome, then allow the other person to choose a workable method.

MIRROR

Could I remain valuable while someone else carries this?

Your usefulness can continue when authority is shared.

FAMILIAR CUE For your convenience, I alone will:

All assistance must pass through the help desk.

PAIR 08 / THE EXCHANGE BETWEEN TWO HABITS

Control / The Exit And The Only Desk

Freedom and dependable coordination



Limb Looser



the One Armed Man

Limb Looser escaped the planning committee by leaving its thread on the chair. The One Armed Man collected the thread and announced that all future departures required personal approval. Soon a queue formed to request permission to join the queue. They eventually agreed on a handover: the task, the deadline and the next willing participant. The One Armed Man let that participant choose a different method. Limb Looser left a useful note. The chair retained no official duties and was finally permitted to return to being somewhere to sit.

A DIFFERENT CONVERSATION

Limb Looser: I cannot continue after Friday. Here is what remains and what I can hand over.

the One Armed Man: The result matters, but the next person can choose a different method.

Limb Looser: Let us ask who is willing and make the handover clear.

the One Armed Man: I can share the decision without making myself the next waiting room.

THE REINFORCING LOOP

Sudden exits invite tighter control; tighter control makes sudden exits feel necessary.

ATTRACTION

One wants freedom from an overfull commitment while the other wants confidence that the work will still be carried.

ENTANGLEMENT

An abrupt exit invites tighter oversight, and tighter oversight makes another abrupt exit feel increasingly attractive.

COORDINATION

A clear handover meets genuinely shared authority, with the necessary outcome distinguished from a preferred personal method.

RELEASE

One participant can leave a role while the other allows a different person or route to carry the work.

FIELD EXPERIMENT

Choose one small responsibility that needs to change hands and describe its outcome, current state and agreed stopping point. Let the next willing participant choose a workable method, then notice which extra approvals are unnecessary.

What would let this work continue without requiring either disappearance or total control?

INTEGRATION / KEEP THE REPERTOIRE AVAILABLE

Awaken the Human

The whole person can use more than one useful trick.

Awakening is an ordinary act of attention: notice the habit that has taken the whole room, then invite another capacity into the conversation. You can want closeness and name a limit; revise a plan and keep the history visible; receive help and speak honestly about what you can offer.

CONTACT *Attention + Approval*	Reach for another person, listen for their capacity and keep your own preference present. Belonging can make room for both a real invitation and a real answer.
UNDERSTANDING *Trust + Explanations*	Compare a promise with conduct, ask a relevant question and revise an account when the information changes. Leave enough uncertainty for the next observation.
RECIPROCITY *Responsibility + Friendship*	Distinguish gifts, requests and agreements. Coordinate work clearly while leaving care free to be uneven, generous and voluntary.
AGENCY *Threat + Control*	Pause, protect, act, share authority or leave. Choose an available step and communicate a feasible handover when others are relying on an arrangement.

ONE HUMAN MOMENT

Ask: What do I need? What has actually happened? What can I choose? What would respect for both people look like in the next small action?

FIELD DISTINCTIONS / READ THE TERMS OF THE EXCHANGE

The Thin Line

Influence can arrive with a reason, a kindness, a concealed condition or a very impressive hat. Examine what is being offered, what is being withheld and whether the other person can choose. The name of the relationship does not settle the terms of the exchange.

Persuasion / An invitation with reasons

Reasons are visible; the other person can question the facts and refuse. “Here is my case. What do you think?” The useful question is whether the offered reasons can be examined, corrected or declined without a concealed penalty.

Friendship / Care with room for choice

Care and attention can be freely offered; support may be unequal without being deceitful. “I can help today. I cannot tomorrow.” The two Friends in this guide look identical because either can offer, receive, ask or refuse. Neither carries a secret moral certificate.

Manipulation / A hidden lever

A choice is steered through concealed information, misleading signals or distorting pressure. “If you cared, you would not ask.” Look for the actual withheld term, false claim or pressured choice. A disappointment, disagreement or awkward request does not establish the whole pattern.

Exploitation / An unfair taking

Someone benefits by unfairly using another’s labor, vulnerability, trust or resources. “I take the credit. You keep the work.” Examine ownership, consent and consequences. A sincere need for assistance does not by itself make the person receiving it an exploiter.

The three-question instrument

Was the choice informed? Could a refusal stand? What actually happened afterward? Your experience matters; compare it with available conduct and consequences. Return to a specific exchange before issuing a certificate on the entire human.

“Care is not proved by the size of a sacrifice. It is also shown by what remains when a boundary is spoken.”

The original Earth Field Archive

POSSIBLE CONVERSATIONAL MOVES / NO COMPULSORY SEQUENCE

The Human Manipulator Playbook

The Society keeps these names for moments when an original concern wanders out of the conversation wearing somebody else's coat. The moves can occur alone, overlap or fail to occur. Their order proves nothing, and a label cannot establish a hidden intention.

DENIAL

"I never agreed to Tuesday." The denial may be accurate. Check the actual agreement before deciding that refusing your account is itself evidence against the speaker.

DEFLECTION

"Look at everything else I finished." An adjacent success replaces the unfinished question. Acknowledge what is relevant, then ask whether the particular commitment was completed.

DEFLECT

"Why are you bringing this up now?" Attention moves from the concern to its timing or presentation. Timing can matter; it need not erase the original issue.

COUNTERATTACK

"You miss deadlines too." A second concern arrives as a rebuttal. Give it a separate place rather than letting two unanswered questions cancel each other out.

MISDIRECT

"Everyone thinks you are difficult." Recruited opinions or unrelated details replace available evidence. Ask how that information answers the specific question already on the table.

REVERSE ACCUSATION

"You are only asking because you are hiding something." A claim about the questioner's motives takes over. Keep any new allegation distinct from the first concern.

WEAPONIZE THE ORIGINAL TOPIC

"If you believe in fairness, prove it by doing my share." The stated value becomes a new demand. Return to what each person actually agreed to do.

FREAK OUT AND RESET

The reaction becomes the whole subject, then the original question disappears. Distress can be sincere. Offer a pause and preserve the concern separately; emotion does not settle its accuracy.

"Was the original concern addressed?"

The original Earth Field Archive

ONE EVENT / ONE WORKABLE NEXT STEP

Break the Loop

A circular conversation can become a remarkably efficient machine for producing more conversation. Begin with a small observable event. The purpose of this process is to find a workable response, including an honest correction or a chosen ending. The Department of Justification may prefer a longer hearing.

Name the event

Write what happened in a sentence: “The agreed delivery did not arrive on Tuesday.” Keep observation separate from interpretation. “You never care” contains a much larger claim and gives the discussion many extra places to disappear.

Check the account

Find the available message, agreement or other relevant record. Note what remains uncertain. If the record corrects your memory, change your account openly. The notebook is allowed to contain an improvement without issuing an apology to its former theory.

Ask one clear question

Ask for the answer needed to make a decision: “Is the delivery now expected on Thursday?” A useful question has a practical purpose. Question Wrangler may hold one thread without renting an additional building for its relatives.

Choose a limit

If the response misses the issue, return to the question once. Then choose what you will do: pause, use another arrangement, document an unresolved commitment or end the exchange. A limit can stand without a verdict about somebody’s nature.

Make a specific repair

If your contribution needs correction, name it and change the action. If another person supplies a relevant answer or correction, acknowledge it. Review whether the revised arrangement worked; do not require a grand confession before accepting an ordinary improvement.

“A changed answer can be growth. A changed subject may be escape. The difference deserves investigation.”

Society Principle of Sacred Uncertainty

PREPARATIONS FOR THE OBSERVER / NO PERSONALITY POTIONS

The Apothecary of Dignified Appetite

The jars contain choices you can make. Nothing here cures another person's personality, and the assistant behind the counter is still learning to accept a refusal. Choose the preparation that fits the actual exchange; administering all five at once may simply become a speech.

Salt of Consent

Protect voluntary help. "I have twenty minutes; I cannot take the task." Ask before using attention, effort or access. Check that an offer can be declined without punishment. Mirror: Am I accepting "no," or arranging a smaller penalty for it?

Seal of Ownership

Clarify decisions, tasks and credit. "I can advise; you own the next step." Name the share each person has accepted, including any handover. Assistance can be generous without transferring unlimited responsibility. Mirror: What difficult part have I quietly assigned elsewhere?

Lantern of Evidence

Separate event, memory and interpretation. "What can we verify about Tuesday?" Look for information that could change the account, as well as information that supports it. The lantern must illuminate the observer's notes too. Mirror: What would make me revise my story?

Antivenom of the Pause

Interrupt an exchange that is becoming an injury. "We can continue without insults, or stop." Use the pause to choose protection or a practical next step. A very satisfying comeback may still add a second problem. Mirror: What am I trying to protect?

Balm of Specific Repair

Prefer a changed action to a magnificent confession. "I interrupted after you said no. I will stop." Correct what is yours to correct; the other person chooses their response. Mirror: What observable action will be different the next time this situation appears?

"A boundary may disappoint someone; that alone does not make it cruel."

The original Earth Field Archive

OBSERVE / QUESTION / PROTECT / REPAIR / REVISE

Earth Survival Protocol

Carry this protocol lightly. It is a way to choose a next step, not a requirement to investigate every unpleasant encounter. The archive brings sixteen human perspectives together because people have several ways of getting by; it does not issue permanent verdicts about who they are.

Notice / Name the event

"The deadline moved." "The promise was not kept." "The question went unanswered." Start with the conduct you can describe. Add the relevant time, agreement or consequence, and leave room to discover that part of your account needs correction.

Calibrate / Check what is known

Could there be a misunderstanding, a mismatch in expectations or an honest change? Consider a second explanation without forcing yourself to accept it. Separate what you observed, what somebody reported and what you are currently inferring.

Protect / Set an actual limit

Name your available time, labor, money or access. Say what you will do if the arrangement cannot work. A clear limit does not require another person to agree with your interpretation or become an identified specimen first.

Observe / Look at the response

Notice follow-through across the relevant exchanges. A useful response can be small: an answer, a kept commitment, an accepted refusal or a correction. Keep your observation proportionate; one perfect gesture or one disappointing day is not a whole biography.

Repair / Own your contribution

Ask what you wanted, what you did and what you can change. Compassion and accountability can occupy the same sentence. A repair concerns a specific contribution; it does not require you to adopt responsibility for everything that happened.

Exit / Keep the door available

You may stop a circular exchange or leave an arrangement that cannot meet your limits. When you feel threatened, prioritize getting to a safer situation and seeking suitable support. Completing the notebook is optional; remaining available is not a debt.

"You do not owe anyone the chance to complete an eight-stage demonstration."

Emergency Field Rule, original Earth Field Archive

INHERITED DOCTRINE / QUESTIONS ABOUT THE LIMITS OF LABELS

Human Lies & Sacred Uncertainty

The Society's founding work names The 13 Human Lies; the supplied list contains eleven headings, preserved here in order. "Lies" is the archive's provocative word for labels mistaken for a complete account. It does not declare anyone's identity, body, community or faith false, or erase social history, physical needs or the practical consequences of a belief. Two missing headings have not been invented.

THE 13 HUMAN LIES

01 Normal
02 Human Identity
03 Race
04 Gender
05 Language
06 Names
07 Religion
08 Authority
09 Body & Face
10 Thinking
11 Reality

READ A LABEL AS A TOOL

Ask what a word helps you notice, what it leaves outside the frame and when it has stopped being useful. A name can support communication without containing the whole experience. Keep the label available for discussion rather than making it a test of belonging.

KEEP THE QUESTIONS SEPARATE

What happened, what caused it and what it means may need different evidence or different conversations. A clear observation can coexist with uncertainty about a motive. Resist the temptation to purchase certainty with an explanation that conveniently leaves your own contribution outside the frame.

REMEMBER THE OBSERVER

You have never occupied another person's full experience. Ask what you may be missing. You can protect your choices while leaving part of the explanation unresolved; practical action need not wait for perfect access to somebody else's inner account.

LEAVE THE STORY REVISABLE

The Society is available for questioning too. Its figures, narrator and current edition receive no exemption. An unfinished account leaves room for new information, an ordinary correction and occasionally a joke that has outlived its official permit.

"The field guide is an invitation to freedom, never a superior identity certificate."

The original Earth Field Archive

FIELD NOTEBOOK / NO ONE RECEIVES AUTHOR IMMUNITY

The Mirror Examination

Choose one manageable exchange, including one you handled reasonably well. Write a few lines for each prompt. Use observations and ordinary language; the notebook does not need a confession, a diagnosis or an explanation of every childhood event. Inspect the observer before issuing a verdict. Leave a blank where you do not yet know, and let a later observation remain free to change the page.

What did I want?

Attention, recognition, relief, control, safety, assistance, revenge or certainty? Name the want without turning it into an excuse or a crime. Wanting help does not establish an entitlement to it. Wanting distance does not require a case against the other person.

What did I actually do?

Describe conduct: the request you made, the answer you gave, the task you accepted or the limit you crossed. Keep a quotation separate from your interpretation of it. Which details could another observer check, and which are currently your own account?

Which story made it seem necessary?

What explanation protected your innocence, importance or preferred outcome? Offer one alternative that might fit without pretending it is established. A sincere feeling can be present while the explanation remains incomplete. The Department of Justification may submit a statement; it does not receive the final vote.

What would respect for both people look like?

Choose an available next action: ask, refuse, document, change the arrangement, repair or leave. Make it specific enough to carry out. Respect does not require agreement, unlimited access or forgiveness. Record what you choose and what remains for the other person to choose.

"The purpose is informed choice and voluntary self-correction."

FINAL DECREE / A KINDER SORT OF SELF-INTEREST

The Dignity of the Disgusting

We are magnificent, ridiculous, needful creatures. We want comfort. We want the credit. We want our hurts to count. We want someone else to understand us before we must explain ourselves. None of these wants requires a disguise.

Admit the appetite

We can ask without claiming. Refuse without condemning. Disagree without erasing. Protect ourselves without collecting a second injury as payment. We can enjoy being gloriously imperfect without turning imperfection into an excuse. We can admit the appetite and still choose the method.

Keep every useful capacity available

The figures give familiar human habits a face. Reaching out, taking space, accepting help, checking a promise, agreeing and objecting can each have a place. Let the situation and the available agreement guide the choice. No figure has to become the whole human.

The seven orders of the Society's Earth Desk

01 Observe conduct.

02 Consider a second explanation.

03 Ask for informed, voluntary agreement.

04 Respect a refusal.

05 Protect yourself without unnecessary injury.

06 Own and repair your contribution.

07 Remain willing to discover the next fault.

Allow an ordinary beginning

Practice can begin with one honest request or one promise made smaller. A useful repair may be quieter than the speech prepared to introduce it. If you notice another fault tomorrow, the archive has not failed. It has acquired a relevant new entry, ideally before the committee orders commemorative furniture.

"The finest specimen is not the one without faults. It is the one still willing to discover the next."

Society of Snake People / Three Million Years, Allegedly

CAPACITY REGISTER / 01–02 OF 08

Human Experience Attributes

Situational capacities to notice and practice; no fixed scores or ranks.

ACCESS

Connection and access

Approach another person, ask for information or assistance, and decide how much contact you can offer.

BALANCED USE

Make a clear invitation, check available time and allow a genuine answer, including a refusal or a smaller offer.

WHEN OVERUSED

Assume that attention, reassurance or access remains available because it was offered before or feels urgently needed now.

Have I asked what is available, or treated my need as permission?

Small practice: Before one conversation, ask how much time the other person has. Agree on a stopping point and honor it without turning the ending into a test of affection.

GRIP

Commitment and follow-through

Hold an agreed responsibility, maintain a chosen limit and carry a useful intention into action.

BALANCED USE

Follow through on a real promise while checking whether its conditions or the people's available capacity have changed.

WHEN OVERUSED

Keep tightening control, preserve an outdated arrangement or demand that a commitment survive every change without discussion.

What am I keeping steady, and does it still serve the agreement?

Small practice: Choose one promise. State the next concrete step, its owner and a workable time to review it; make space to renegotiate if the situation changes.

CAPACITY REGISTER / 03–04 OF 08

Human Experience Attributes

Situational capacities to notice and practice; no fixed scores or ranks.

CAMOUFLAGE

Presentation and privacy

Choose how to present an idea, protect private details and make a message approachable to its audience.

BALANCED USE

Use warmth, tact and suitable language while remaining truthful about the part that affects the other person's choice.

WHEN OVERUSED

Let reassuring appearances hide a relevant condition, unsupported promise or contradiction between the message and what follows.

Am I keeping something private, or creating a misleading impression about this agreement?

Small practice: Give one clear answer about what you can offer. Keep unrelated details private if you wish, and name any limit that the other person needs to understand.

VENOM

Protective force

Mobilize a strong response, make a boundary unmistakable and interrupt conduct you cannot accept.

BALANCED USE

Use enough firmness to protect your participation, attention or space, and keep the response tied to the concrete problem.

WHEN OVERUSED

Add humiliation, intimidation or a satisfying extra injury after the practical boundary has already been established.

What would protect me here without requiring the other person to suffer?

Small practice: Prepare a short boundary: "I will discuss the issue without insults. If the insults continue, I will end this conversation." Choose a next step you can actually carry out.

CAPACITY REGISTER / 05–06 OF 08

Human Experience Attributes

Situational capacities to notice and practice; no fixed scores or ranks.

SHIFT

Flexibility and revision

Change an approach, interpretation or plan when new information or a different need becomes relevant.

BALANCED USE

Acknowledge the earlier account, explain what changed and let other people understand what they can now rely upon.

WHEN OVERUSED

Revise so quickly or quietly that others cannot follow the history, locate an agreement or ask a relevant question.

Have I explained the change, including the part I previously said?

Small practice: Use three short phrases: “I previously thought… I now think… The reason is…” Leave any remaining uncertainty visible instead of replacing it with a larger promise.

CLARITY

Discernment and evidence

Separate an observation, a report, an interpretation and an unanswered question so a decision can be examined.

BALANCED USE

Check the claim that matters, consider information that could change your view and stop when the answer serves the decision.

WHEN OVERUSED

Collect only confirming fragments, demand complete certainty or mistake a growing collection of questions for an answer.

What would change my account, and how much information does this decision require?

Small practice: Write one claim and its available evidence. Add one alternative explanation and one useful next check, then identify what can reasonably remain unresolved.

CAPACITY REGISTER / 07–08 OF 08

Human Experience Attributes

Situational capacities to notice and practice; no fixed scores or ranks.

REPAIR

Care and making amends

Offer accepted practical help and correct your own specific contribution to a problem through a changed action.

BALANCED USE

Name what happened, address the part you can change and let the other person decide how to respond.

WHEN OVERUSED

Take responsibility for everything, replace change with a dramatic apology or expect forgiveness as payment for making amends.

What is mine to correct, and what remains the other person's choice?

Small practice: Choose one concrete correction you can complete. Say what you will do differently, carry it out and avoid attaching a request for immediate reassurance.

AWARENESS

Attention and self-observation

Notice what is happening, what you are feeling and which familiar response you are preparing to use.

BALANCED USE

Describe an available cue, recognize your own need and leave room for another explanation of the situation.

WHEN OVERUSED

Watch every detail for confirmation, become absorbed in inspecting yourself or treat a strong impression as access to another mind.

What did I notice, and what meaning did I add afterward?

Small practice: Pause briefly before one familiar response. Name the observed event, your immediate urge and another available action; choose a step without requiring perfect certainty.

THE ORDINARY REPERTOIRE / USEFUL IN AN UNFINISHED DAY

Practical Human Powers

Power becomes useful when it gives someone a workable next choice.

01	Ask clearly *"Do you have ten minutes to listen?"*	Name the help, the time or the information you want. Leave room for a smaller offer or a refusal.
02	Set a limit *"I can do this part. I cannot take on the rest."*	Describe your participation and a next step you can actually carry out.
03	Receive care *"Thank you. I would welcome that."*	Accept a freely offered kindness. Discuss a separate request separately.
04	Pause and choose *"I need a moment before I answer."*	Give yourself room to notice the urge and choose a response that serves the present situation.
05	Change your mind *"I thought this before. I now think this because..."*	Keep the revision and its reason visible, including what other people can now rely upon.
06	Make a repair *"I did this. I will correct this part."*	Choose a concrete correction. Allow the other person to decide what follows.
07	Share authority *"Here is the outcome; you can choose the method."*	Give someone the information and actual discretion their responsibility requires.
08	Release with care *"My part ends here. This is what remains."*	Where feasible, agree on a handover with a willing person and a clear stopping point.

Try one power in one manageable exchange. You do not have to perform the whole repertoire at once.

EIGHT INSIGHTS / SMALL ENOUGH TO USE TODAY

Lessons from Sixteen Modes

The lesson is available before you have mastered the habit.

01

Care can remain a gift

Receiving care does not create a moral debt. If an exchange has conditions, make them visible while the other person can still choose.

02

The opposite habit can also take over

A paired response supplies a useful capacity, but it can become automatic too. Withdrawal can overwork as surely as pursuit; objection can overwork as surely as agreement.

03

A limit can protect participation

A boundary describes your participation and the step you can carry out. Adding an injury to make someone pay is a separate choice.

04

A changed mind can be honest

Revision can acknowledge new information or a genuine mistake. It becomes easier to follow when the earlier account, the change and the reason remain visible.

05

Privacy has a place beside honesty

You may keep personal information private while being clear about the part that affects another person’s choice. Privacy does not require a misleading promise.

06

An ending can include a handover

A necessary exit can still leave a shared task unfinished. Where feasible, communicate what ends, what remains and who has freely agreed to carry the next part.

07

Understanding does not create automatic access

You can understand why someone wants reassurance, attention or assistance and still decline. Empathy helps interpret a need; it does not decide your available time or consent.

08

Repair leaves the response open

You can correct your contribution and change your conduct. Forgiveness, renewed trust and reconnection remain choices for the other person rather than a fee owed for your repair.

A PRACTICAL NOTEBOOK / ONE SMALL EXPERIMENT PER DAY

Seven Days in the Field

Repeat a day, skip a day, or choose only the practice that fits.

DAY 01

Notice the useful trick

Choose one recent, manageable exchange. Describe the event, your need and your first impulse. Name one useful capacity inside the impulse without making the impulse inevitable.

DAY 02

Make a bounded invitation

Ask for a specific amount of time, attention or help. Hear the answer and honor the agreed stopping point. Notice what the clearer agreement changes.

DAY 03

Untangle the exchange

Name one exchange as a gift, a request or an agreement. Check whether the other person understands it in the same way. Clarify an expectation before it becomes an invoice.

DAY 04

Keep a revision visible

Choose a small changed plan or opinion. Say what you thought before, what you think now and why. Leave any remaining uncertainty visible.

DAY 05

Protect without an extra injury

Prepare one limit and its practical next step. Remove the insult, prediction of motive or sentence whose main purpose is punishment.

DAY 06

Make one concrete repair

Correct your own part in something manageable. Return the item, send the missing information or acknowledge the mistaken statement. Leave the other person’s response open.

DAY 07

Share or release one responsibility

Explain the outcome and current state of a task. Agree with a willing person on who holds the next part, including a stopping point and real room to choose a method.

AFTERWARD

What happened? What did I add to the story? What did the other person actually choose? What would I repeat, revise or leave alone next time?

SIX PUBLISHED SOURCES / FINDINGS, LIMITS AND CREATIVE APPLICATIONS

Research Ledger / 01

Research informs the questions; the fictional cast remains an artistic framework.

E01 / COOPERATION HAS CONDITIONS

Five rules for the evolution of cooperation (2006)

Martin A. Nowak. Science, 314(5805), 1560-1563.

doi:10.1126/science.1133755

Finding: The paper describes five mechanisms through which cooperation can evolve under specified conditions: kin selection, direct reciprocity, indirect reciprocity, network reciprocity and group selection.

Limit: These are evolutionary models with assumptions, not a genetic classification of people or an instruction about how anyone must behave.

Use in this guide: Analogy for the guide: ask what arrangement makes cooperation workable. The characters illustrate choices within an arrangement; they do not identify genes or biological kinds of people.

E02 / HELP IS PART OF THE PICTURE

Altruistic helping in human infants and young chimpanzees (2006)

Felix Warneken; Michael Tomasello. Science, 311(5765), 1301-1303.

doi:10.1126/science.1121448

Finding: In the reported tasks, children as young as eighteen months helped others achieve goals across different situations. The authors also investigated helping in young chimpanzees.

Limit: Specific developmental tasks do not establish that everyone always helps, explain every motive for help, or validate a personality taxonomy.

Use in this guide: Analogy for the guide: ordinary need, dependence and receiving help should remain distinct from repeatedly ignoring an agreement. The Human Leech is a fictional pattern of overuse, not a label for needing care.

E03 / A PREFERRED ANSWER CAN GUIDE THE SEARCH

The Case for Motivated Reasoning (1990)

Ziva Kunda. Psychological Bulletin, 108(3), 480-498.

doi:10.1037/0033-2909.108.3.480

Finding: Kunda argues that desired conclusions can influence how people retrieve, construct and assess beliefs, while the need for a plausible justification constrains the conclusion they can reach.

Limit: This is a review and theoretical argument, not a new experiment or a method for diagnosing dishonesty in a particular person.

Use in this guide: Analogy for the guide: the Clue Collector can ask what would change its mind, and the observer can ask the same question. The practice is an editorial adaptation, not a tested treatment.

SIX PUBLISHED SOURCES / FINDINGS, LIMITS AND CREATIVE APPLICATIONS

Research Ledger / 02

Research informs the questions; the fictional cast remains an artistic framework.

E04 / MAKE THE CONSEQUENCES VISIBLE

Exploiting moral wiggle room: experiments demonstrating an illusory preference for fairness (2007)

Jason Dana; Roberto A. Weber; Jason Xi Kuang. Economic Theory, 33, 67-80.

doi:10.1007/s00199-006-0153-z

Finding: In modified laboratory allocation tasks, participants were less generous when the connection between their choices and another person's outcome could remain uncertain than in a transparent baseline.

Limit: Laboratory allocation choices do not prove a hidden motive in any individual, or establish that all generosity is insincere.

Use in this guide: Analogy for the guide: name the task, its owner and its consequence. Clear agreements can make the comic gap between a helpful appearance and actual follow-through easier to discuss.

E05 / CLOSENESS INVOLVES A RESPONSE

Intimacy as an interpersonal process: The importance of self-disclosure, partner disclosure, and perceived partner responsiveness in interpersonal exchanges (1998)

Jean-Philippe Laurenceau; Lisa Feldman Barrett; Paula R. Pietromonaco. Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 74(5), 1238-1251.

doi:10.1037/0022-3514.74.5.1238

Finding: Across two diary studies, self-disclosure and partner disclosure were associated with felt intimacy; perceived partner responsiveness partly accounted for those relationships. Emotional disclosure was especially relevant in the second study.

Limit: The studies used selected undergraduate samples and self-reports. Associations do not establish causation or a universal recipe for every relationship.

Use in this guide: Analogy for the guide: the two identical Friends become meaningful through their exchange. The image cannot tell the reader which person listens, respects a limit or follows through.

E06 / KINDNESS CAN LEAVE ROOM FOR REPAIR

Self-Compassion Increases Self-Improvement Motivation (2012)

Juliana G. Breines; Serena Chen. Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin, 38(9), 1133-1143.

doi:10.1177/0146167212445599

Finding: Participants prompted toward self-compassion after a weakness or mistake showed greater improvement-oriented motivation or effort on several measures, including motivation to make amends and time spent studying after failure, relative to the tested controls.

Limit: Short experiments measure particular motivations and actions; they do not guarantee lasting change, successful repair or anyone else's forgiveness.

Use in this guide: Analogy for the guide: a reader can acknowledge a costly habit without making it a permanent identity. The practice pairs a kinder account of the need with ownership of the next action.

ARCHIVE PROVENANCE / WHAT WAS PRESERVED AND EXTENDED

Edition Record

Prepared for this extended human-experience edition · October 2026

THE RECOVERED VISUAL SOURCE

The early illustrated source is saved as Society of Snake People: Earth Survival Field Guide — Field Edition 2026, a nineteen-page guide. It is the visual reference used here. The available source does not visibly identify itself as “Human Survival Field Guide Version 1.”

THE CURRENT CAST

Character names, eight pairings and established character prose were recovered from the 24 October 2026 character material and checked against the later supplied archive. Sixteen positions include Friend twice, deliberately yielding fifteen distinct figures.

THE ORIGINAL ILLUSTRATIONS

All seven distinct original figures have been reused as supplied: Energy Vampire, Human Leech, Wolf in Sheep’s Clothing, Venom Slinger, Shapeshifter, Yes Man and Friend. Their image bytes and original markings remain unchanged.

THE EIGHT COMPANION FIGURES

Wary Wallflower, Salt Sprayer, Clue Collector, Lie-Downer, Question Wrangler, Honest Heckler, Limb Looser and the One Armed Man are new illustrations. They use the original ivory, burgundy, lavender and gold palette, engraved botanical linework and dense roots, with opaque botanical garments.

THE EXTENDED WRITING

Human powers, eight capacities, paired scenes and dialogues, field experiments and practical lessons are editorial expansions. They stand on their own as reflection on human experience. The older “13 Human Lies” title and its eleven supplied headings are retained without inventing missing entries.

DESIGN AND READING

The parchment ground, serif headings, burgundy and gold rules, green practices, blush mirror boxes and archive ornaments follow the recovered design. EB Garamond and DejaVu Sans are embedded. A reflowable reading companion and editable source materials accompany this edition.

PRINT NOTE

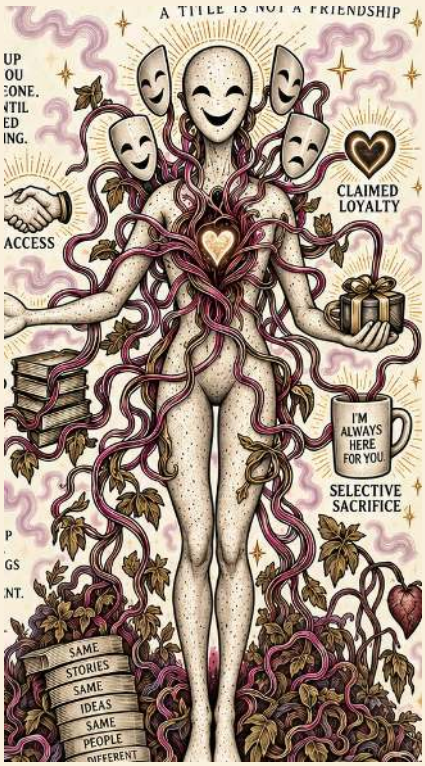
The PDF uses US Letter portrait pages. Print at actual size or fit to the selected paper. The original illustrations retain their recovered resolution; this edition is composed for reading at book-page scale.

Published under the Society of Snake People project name. The archive’s historical claims, creatures and Replication Kernel are fictional lore; no genetic or diagnostic classification is proposed.

CLOSING DISPATCH / THE EARTH DESK REMAINS OPEN

Your Next Human Moment

You do not have to finish being human before you begin again.



THE OPEN DOOR

You may discover an appetite under a principle,
a fear under a performance,
or a useful capacity beneath a habit you dislike.

Keep the capacity. Examine the agreement.
Make the next choice with the information you have.

Ask clearly. Receive honestly. Protect deliberately.
Repair specifically. Remain revisable.

THE FINEST SPECIMEN IS STILL LEARNING.