

Ceremony of Identity

Outsider witness question prompts by Kim Billington ©2015

1. What **words or phrases** did you hear that stood out for you, or **caught your attention**?



2. How did what you heard, shape **the image you have** of who this person is?

(What's your guess about **what might be precious to them**, or what their hopes and commitments might be?)



3. How have these things **struck a chord for you**? (from what you've heard, what you've pictured and reflected on) ...**how is this linked to something you value in your own life**? Why is it resonant for you?



4. **Where has being-present to this story, as an audience, taken you**? In what way has this added something to your own Life-Journey today? (That you'd have missed if you were out shopping or ...) **What new understandings** might this bring to your own life?



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THE ROLE OF THE AUDIENCE

Part 1:

The audience will hear a person be interviewed about a story where a small skill or knowledge might be further acknowledged. They will listen with the 4 categories of questions in mind (P.T.O.)

Part 2:

After hearing the story, the audience use 4 categories from which to give their responses, not directly to the person, but as a sharing amongst the audience members.

These responses do not need to be framed so that the person hears an empathic response to their story. Neither is it the place to offer opinions or advice as we often do in regular conversations.

Audiences orient themselves in a different way than usual, and tune-into how what they hear resonates for themselves in some way, and then sharing that to the group knowing the person is listening-in from the periphery.

It's not about imposing something on the person, or about:

- giving affirmations
- offering congratulatory responses
- pointing out positives
- focusing on strengths
- making moral judgements
- evaluating people's lives against cultural norms
- interpreting lives of others
- delivering interventions with the hope to solve people's problems
- give advice
- re-framing events of people's lives
- trying to help people with their predicaments
- expressing worry for the lives of others

Part 3:

The person whose story was shared initially is then interviewed about what they heard that was resonant for them.

