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Librarianship is Personal: Qualitative Library Practices in the Post-COVID Era

Emily Ford

Portland State University, forder@pdx.edu

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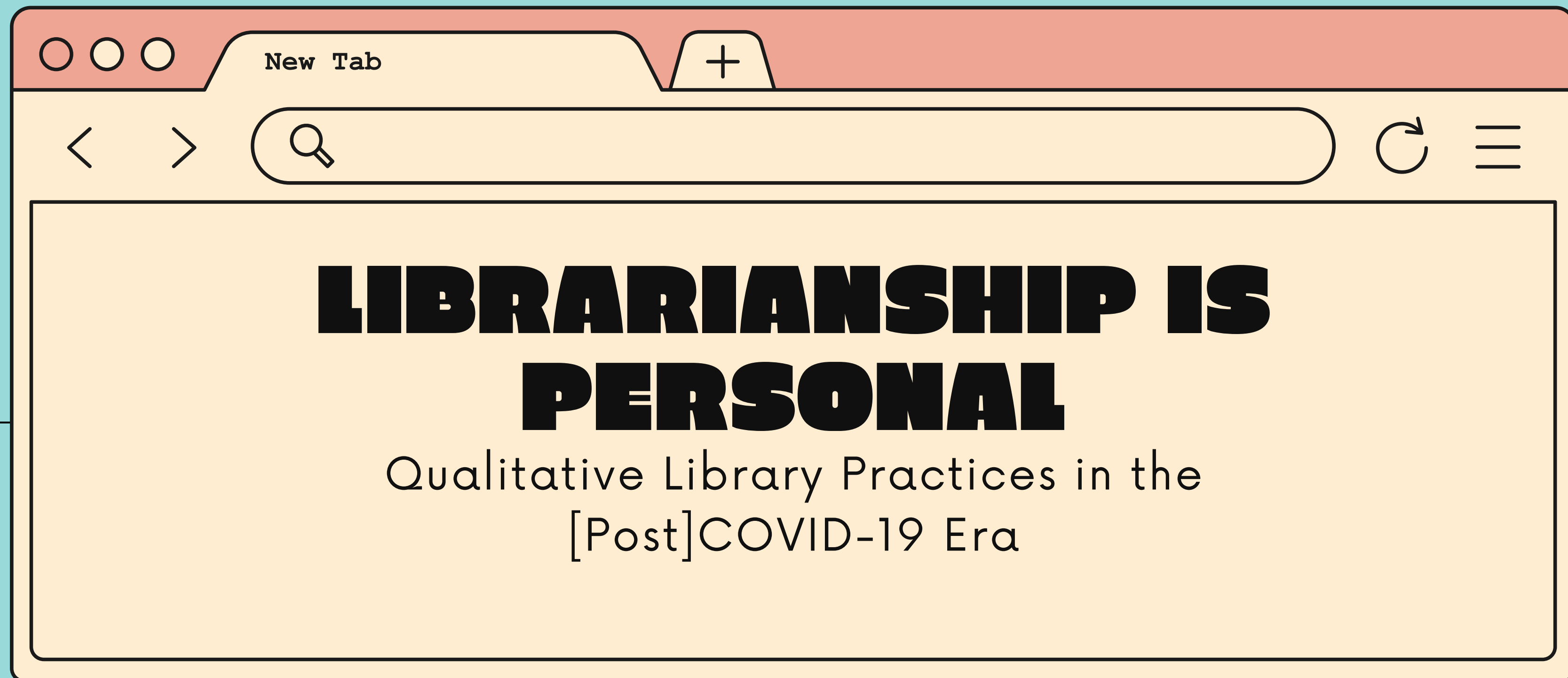
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LIBRARIANSHIP IS PERSONAL


Qualitative Library Practices in the
[Post]COVID-19 Era

Emily Ford
Urban & Public Affairs Librarian
Portland State University
forder@pdx.edu
@familyr

LIBRARIES ARE PERSONAL



**Atlas of New
Librarianship -
R. David Lankes**

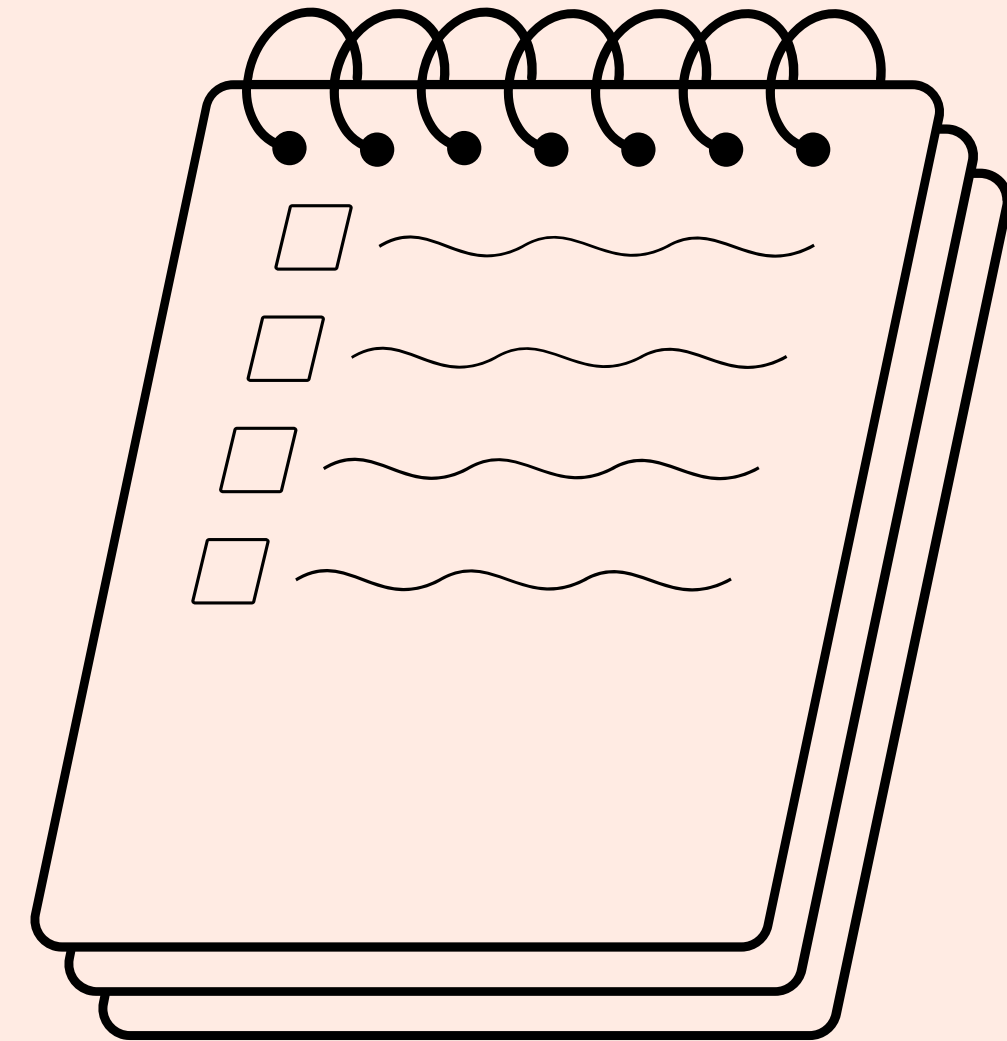


**Humanism and
Libraries - André
Cossette
(translated by
Litwin)**



AGENDA

1	Boundary crossing; Qualitative methods and phenomenology
2	Library values and practices
3	Future Stories
4	Takeaways



Boundary Crossing: Qualitative methods & phenomenology

What became more personal for you
(or your library users) since the
COVID-19 pandemic began?

QUALITATIVE METHODS

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**"...designed to explore the human elements of a given topic, while specific qualitative methods examine how individuals see and experience the world. Qualitative approaches are typically used to explore new phenomena and to capture individuals' thoughts, feelings, or interpretations of meaning and process."**

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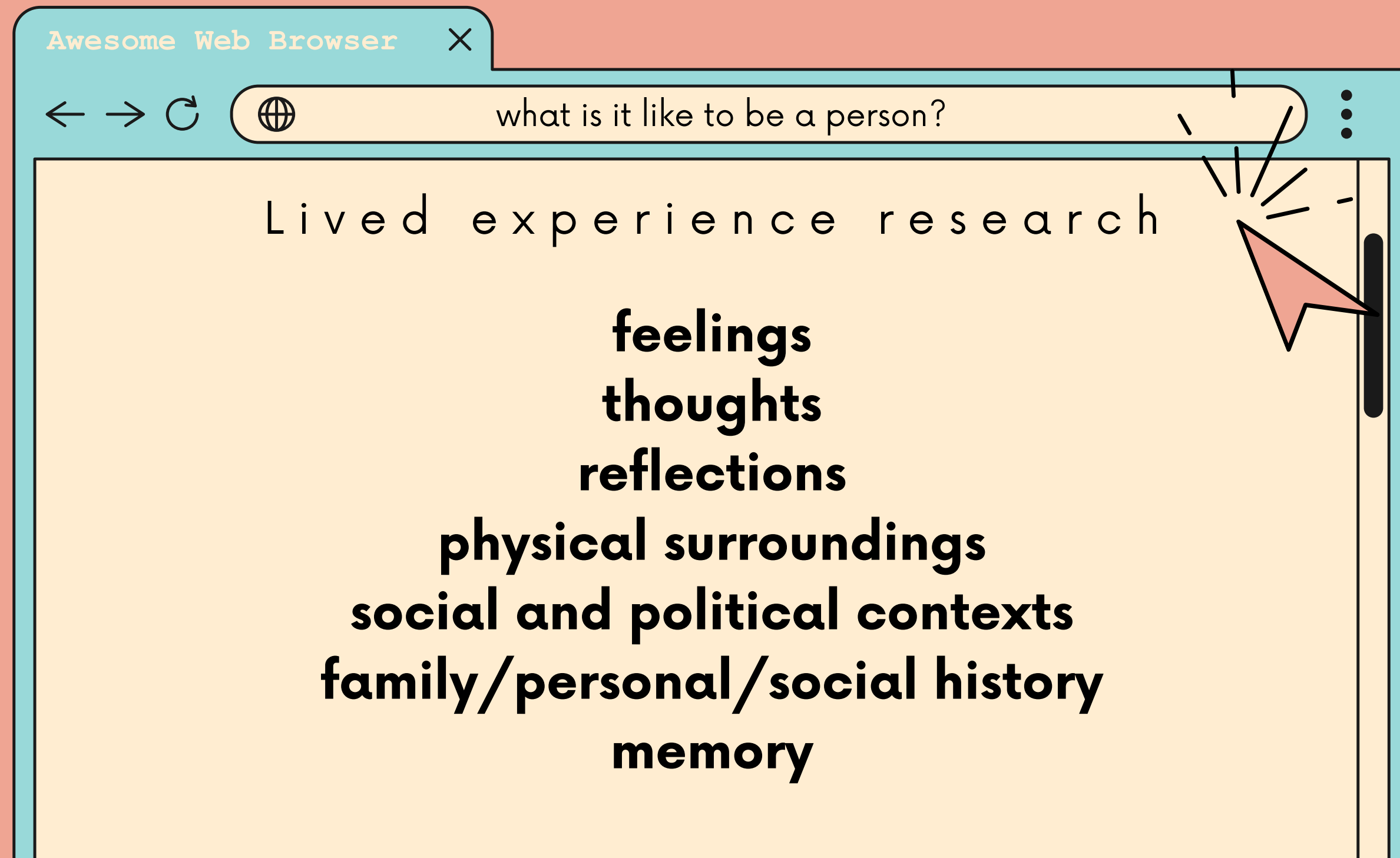
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**Given, L. M. (2008). The SAGE encyclopedia of qualitative research methods (Vols. 1-0). Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc. doi: 10.4135/9781412963909**

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	METHODS	
Interviews, focus groups, observation, oral histories,		
photo voice, journaling, creative works, autoethnography,		
textual analysis...		

PHENOMENOLOGY = LIVED EXPERIENCE



Library Values & Practices

What do you value about libraries?
What do your patrons value?
What practices honor these values?

SEEK OUT STORIES

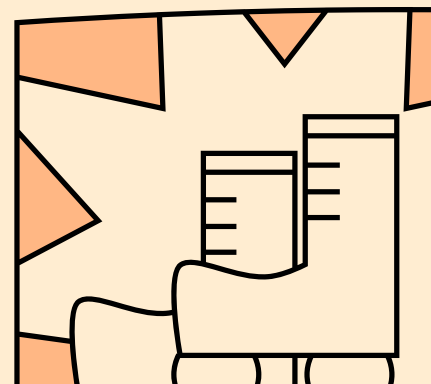
What are the stories behind our services/buildings/collections/instruction?

Foot Washing Station Installed Last Friday Library Meets Students' Needs

Station already sees high use

[Placeholder for text content]

[Placeholder for text content]



WHOSE STORIES?

How we collect stories influences whose stories get told

Who are your patrons?

Who are *not* your patrons?
Why not?

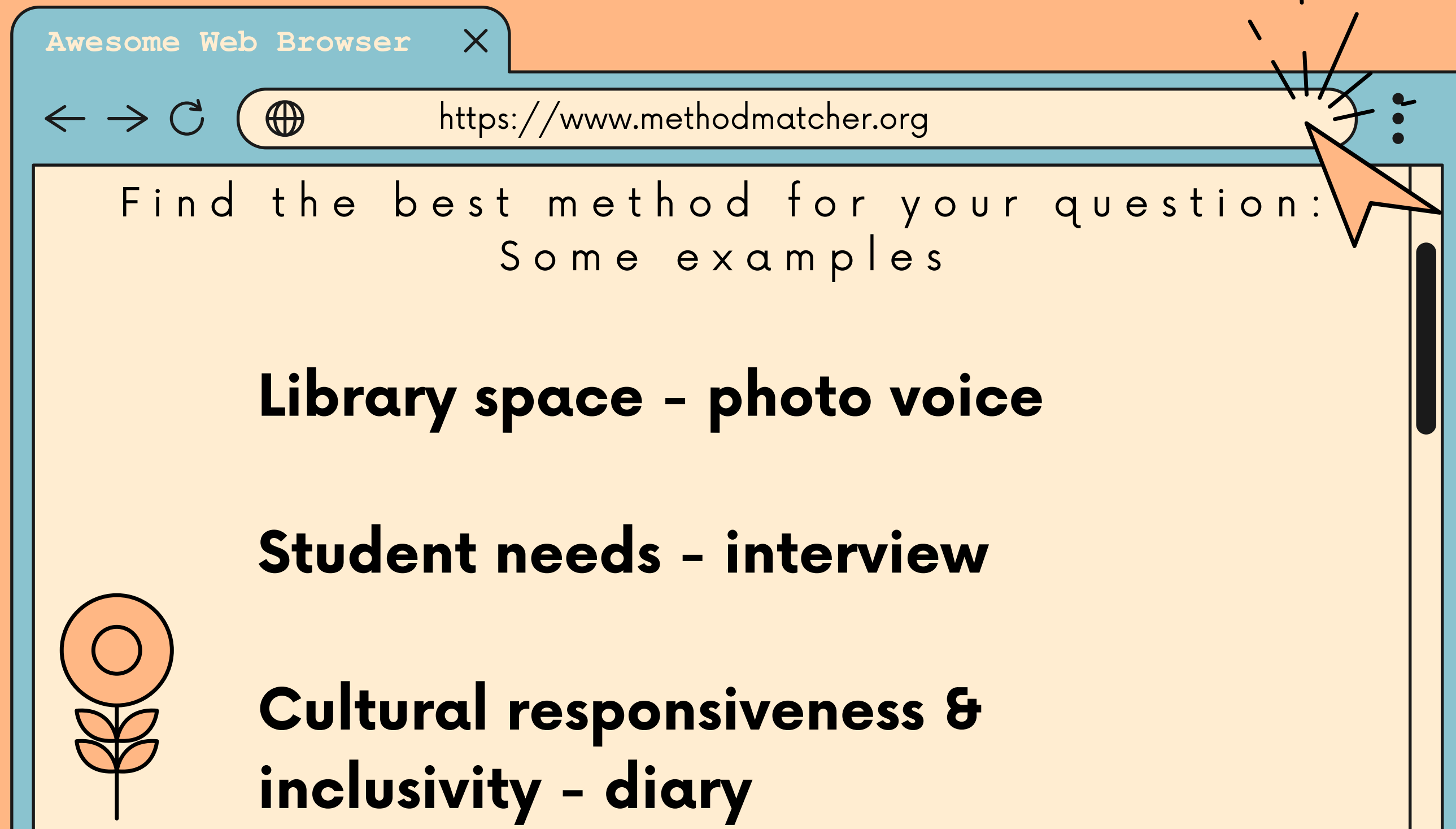
What do you want stories about?

What do you want to learn?

How are you positioned to influence the stories gathered?

METHOD MATCH

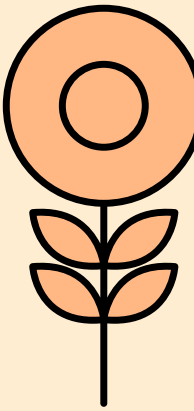
Match story gathering method to the research question AND to the people whose stories you want to hear



Awesome Web Browser

← → ↻  <https://www.methodmatcher.org>

Find the best method for your question:
Some examples

- Library space - photo voice**
- Student needs - interview**
-  **Cultural responsiveness & inclusivity - diary**

Future Stories

"...stories invite us not to describe the world as it is, but instead to move and live into the world with others to try to shape a future together." (2013, Adams, Jones, & Ellis)

Conclusion: Storying our Future, in Handbook of Autoethnography, edited by Stacy Holman Jones, Tony E. Adams,
and Carolyn Ellis, 669–677. 2013 Left Coast Press, Inc.

FUTURE STORIES

~~~~~  
**What stories do you  
want to gather?**  
~~~~~

~~~~~  
**What stories do you  
hope are told about  
your library in the  
future?**  
~~~~~

Takeaways

What will you be taking back to your library?

SELECTED READINGS

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<https://emilysbibliography.org>



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<https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315427812>

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SELECTED READINGS

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