The Power of Opposites

Exercises for home-bound seniors, caregivers, parents, children, and anyone who needs a break.

15 minutes

For an audio version in English and Spanish

dial: 646-880-9127

Breathe in and let it out ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh

Breathe in and let it out whooooOOOooo Inhale—scrunching up our mouth and nose and jaw and eyes! Scrunching to the smallest you can scrunch like a tiny mouse

Exhale open up your mouth and eyes and stretch your face out wiiiiiide. Let your body take up space.

Repeat. All sounds welcome WITHOUT THINKING ABOUT IT, let's list out loud all the things we DON'T know. Let it be the first thing that comes to mind. Trust your impulses and surprise yourself.

We'll start each sentence by saying "I DON'T KNOW___"

For example: I DON'T KNOW how to fix my door I DON'T KNOW when I'll see my students

SET A TIMER FOR 1 MINUTE **AND BEGIN!**

" **"| DON'T KNOW** " **"I DON'T KNOW** " **"I DON'T KNOW** " **"I DON'T KNOW** 99

"I DON'T KNOW

DING!

AND NOW we'll speak a list of things we DO know.

Let it be the first thing that comes to mind.

For example: I DO KNOW how to write an email I DO KNOW how to breathe deeply

SET A TIMER FOR 1 MINUTE AND BEGIN!

"I DO KNOW___" "I DO KNOW___" "I DO KNOW___" "I DO KNOW___" "I DO KNOW___"

DING!

Today we invite you remember all that you do not know, so you can remain curious and practice ease in the face of all the unknowns. And to trust that YOU ARE NOT ALONE IN NOT KNOWING

AND THAT YOU DON'T HAVE TO KNOW EVERYTHING

AND THAT WE ARE ALL WITH YOU!

AND THAT THE WORLD WOULD BE BETTER IF WE ALL ADMITTED WHAT WE DON'T KNOW!

We also want to remind ourselves that we do know things, we've learned so many things, and these skills small and large are what stitch together and make possible the most beautiful parts of our days and lives.

We thank you for your knowledge.

To end, we want to invite you to imagine a NEW country. You are creating this country. You get to make up its laws, its geography, its language, its value system, its national anthem.

Imagine that you are floating above it so you can see your country below.

Are you seeing it?

Is it coming in to focus?

What is your country called?

What is the motto or the value system or the rules of the land?

What do the people of your country feel and believe in?

How does time function?

What would we hear and see if we were walking through your country?

Where would be the best gathering space?

What is the most important place in this land?

What is on your country's flag?

Lastly, does your country have an anthem or a song? What does it sound like? Will you sing one verse? We'd love to hear any of your visions for your countries, or any lists of what you don't know and what you know.

Call us at 646-880-9127 and press 0 to leave us a voicemail. Press 1 to hear an audio version of this episode in English and 2 to hear a version in Spanish.

You can also send us feedback and wishes for future programs at silverliningradio@gmail.com This episode of the Silver Lining is created by Caitlin Ryan O'Connell and Rachel Kauder Nalebuff, Camila Cano Flavia and Nicole Villamil through a SU CASA grant supported by the Bushwick Starr theater, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and the New York City Council. Music in our audio program is by Coleman Zurkowski.