

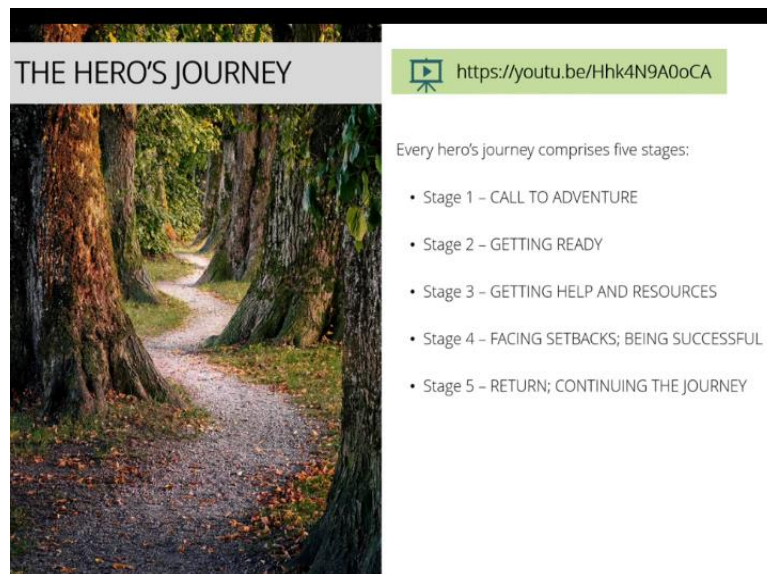
Introduction to Biomimicry
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Lecture – 40
Finding the Hero in You

Which of you is a hero? And when I am saying the word hero, what comes to your mind? Amitabh Bachchan, Rajnikanth? That is our idea of hero, right? The heroes that we see in movies and of course nowadays we are also very fond of superheroes. All those movies that we see Spider Man and all that. But supposing I said that the next 5 or 6 minutes, we are going to be speaking about the hero's journey.

Which hero do you think we are going to be talking about? Which hero, the superhero or the Amitabh Bachchan and the Rajnikanth, which hero?

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THE HERO'S JOURNEY

<https://youtu.be/Hhk4N9A0oCA>

Every hero's journey comprises five stages:

- Stage 1 – CALL TO ADVENTURE
- Stage 2 – GETTING READY
- Stage 3 – GETTING HELP AND RESOURCES
- Stage 4 – FACING SETBACKS; BEING SUCCESSFUL
- Stage 5 – RETURN; CONTINUING THE JOURNEY

I think most of you are starting to guess we are going to be speaking about you as the hero that is the hero's journey. You as the hero. Before you start listening to this, if you can watch that video, pause now and watch that video, it will really make sense. What I am saying really make sense because what I am saying is only to ratify what you are already seeing in the video. Just an emphasis that is all. So, can I please request you to stop, to pause and watch that video please?

Alright, if you have watched that video, you start to understand what I am going to speak about. So here, the purpose of including this session in week 8 is to help you realize that each one of you is a hero. In the context of biomimicry, each one of you can be a hero because you can show the world how a problem can be solved and actually give some solace to the world with your solution. If you are going to do that, you are a hero.

Because what is a hero, a hero is one who when there is trouble, when someone is in trouble does something to help that someone. So, if you are a biomimicry hero, what does it mean? It means you know that the earth is in trouble and you know that using the learning from nature you can save the earth. And if you actually do that, if you quickly go learn biomimicry which you are doing now, and use the learning to solve a problem, in this case the UN SDG problem.

And you come back with that solution and you use that solution to mitigate the problems in the world, then are not you a hero? Is not this very obvious that hero need not necessarily be someone that you see on screen or someone who has done some great thing to the world, it does not have to be. It does not have to be that only Einstein has to be the hero or only a screen hero has to be the hero.

The video simply tells you that every one of you is a hero. And what I am going to say now is just to reinforce how the hero's journey happens in all of us. So, for instance, of course, there are several stages that the video talks about, but I am only going to talk about five essential stages in the hero's journey. The first is call to adventure. What does it mean that all of us many times in our life, not just once, many times in our life hear a call. It could be anything.

Right now, it is a biomimicry call. It could be anything, it could be go back to when you were 16 years old or 17 years old and you had to leave school. There was a call for you, right? You want to do it. Some of you wanted to do college, some of you wanted to do something else. Some of you wanted to a catering course, some of you wanted to do medicine, some of you wanted to do engineering. Each of you heard different drummers as you would say.

And only you could hear the drummer, and therefore there was a call to adventure. You stop being a school student, you started a new journey in your life, either as a college student or as a professional or as anything at all. Call to adventure is stage 1. We are only looking at the

stages. So, right now the call to adventure for all of you is the biomimicry call, the call to say that the nature is demanding that you help nature.

Nature is calling you that is your call to adventure. So, what is the step 2? Step 2 is getting ready. How does it fit in with this? You are getting ready by doing the 8 weeks what you have done, you have got ready for the adventure. If you are going to college, what would you do? You will start applying to different colleges. You would start preparing papers. You will start preparing your certificate. You would start looking at your finances.

You will start getting ready. Right now, the getting ready here in the biometric context is learning biomimicry, is understanding biomimicry, is teaching biomimicry, is practicing biomimicry. So, you are getting ready. What is the third stage? The third stage is getting help and resources, can it be more obvious? So for here, Mrinalini and I am here to help you and the NPTEL program is the resources. Janine Benyus' book is a resource.

All the books that we will suggest to you are resources. AskNature.org is a resource. UN SDG is a resource for you to look for a problem. Call to adventure, nature is calling you. Getting ready, getting ready with all your knowledge, the process of biomimicry, the approaches to biomimicry, the UN SDG, the problem that you want to solve, your emotional connect to the problems, the questions that you are framing, everything is getting ready.

Getting help and resources, looking at the videos, writing to us, calling us, asking us for doubts, getting ready with getting help and resources. And facing setbacks and being successful, come on, you will have to agree that facing a setback in a journey is part of the journey. How many times have you gone on a train journey, when suddenly the train has stopped and someone says there has been an accident in the front.

And therefore, the train is going to be delayed by 2 hours which means subsequently whatever you are planning to do is going to get delayed too. How many times have you got delayed in an airport when the flight is not on time and therefore the meeting that you are going to attend is not going to happen on time, facing setbacks. So, there will be setbacks, and when you look at the process of creativity there will be a problem with the way you have defined the problem.

There will be a problem with the organism that you did not choose. There will be a problem with evaluate. But you learn to keep on and that is not a failure. It is not a failure, it is just that you keep on iterating, iterating. Being successful, as much as failure is part of the journey. So therefore, when you start your journey, you are not going to decide whether you are going to be ending up in a failure or you are going to be successful.

You are just going to understand that in the journey, failure and successes are going to happen. And finally, stage 5, you either solve the problem or you do not and you come back and you start all over again. So, this lecture has been designed by the two of us, especially because we want you to understand that every one of you is a biomimicry hero and the very fact that you even enrolled for this program means that you are one of those special people who heard a call to adventure, the call from nature.

All of us are heroes in the biomimicry journey and we are hoping that all of us will be able to meet on a hero's day or something like that and share each other's stories of the journey. Really looking forward to find out what adventure each of you had.