



How can we learn to ask better questions?





If the quality of our questions matters so much, how can we

**Learn to ask better questions?**

# The Habitual Questions of Your Life



My current life is defined by questions like:

Next level questions might be:

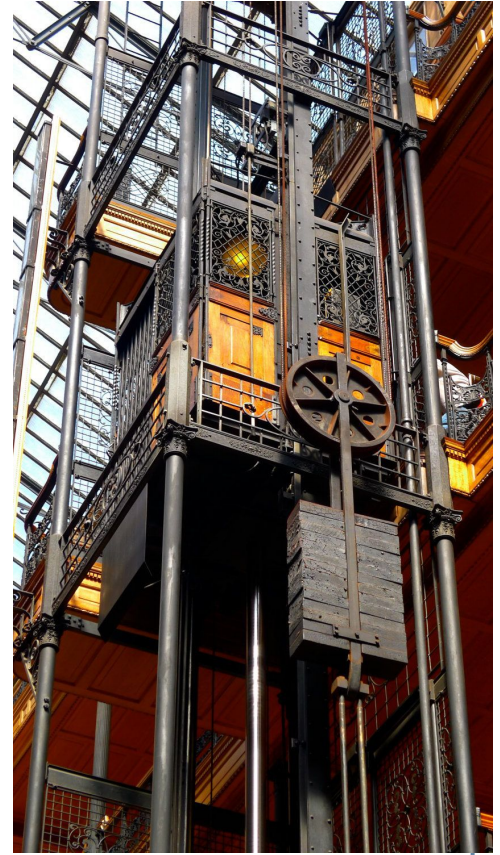


One way to uncover more interesting questions.

When you think or write,  
use fewer periods, be present, then use  
**more commas and more question marks**  
to explore next level deeper questions.



Elevator Statements =  
opportunities to go  
deeper or higher  
towards truth

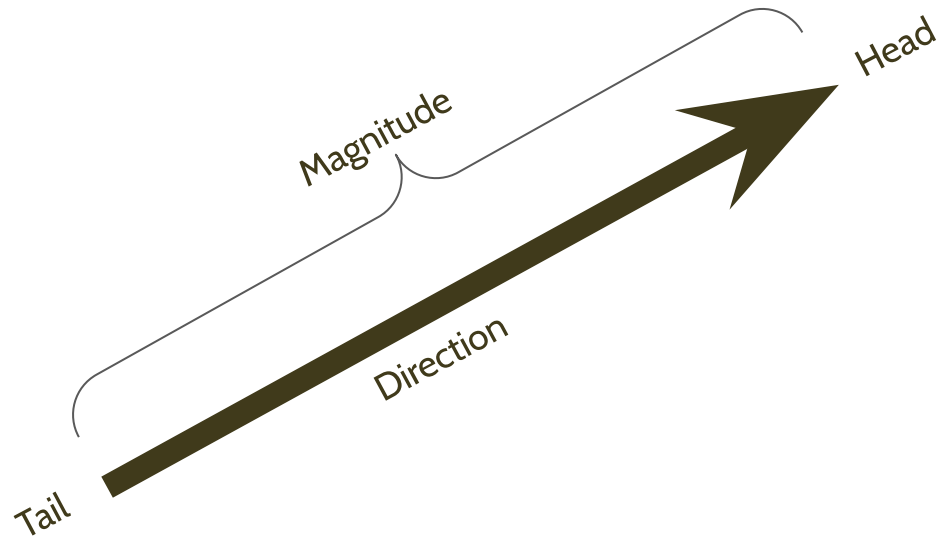


# Elevator Statement Examples and Questions

- **Statement:** “..., but that’s just the way \_\_\_\_\_ is.” (love, life, loss, work, aging)
  - **Question:** “Can you tell me more about how “love is”?”
- “..., but that’s another story...”
  - “Would be willing to share the story? I have not heard it.”
- “That was the end of that.”
  - “What happened next? How did that affect you?”

# What Are the Qualities of Questions?

- A questions is like a vector
  - Starting point (tail)
  - End point (head)
  - Magnitude (length)
  - Direction (angle)



# Higher Quality Questions Wisdom Jig

	Current Question	Higher Quality Question
Question		
Starting points		
End points		
Magnitude		
Direction		



# Practice Asking Higher Quality Questions

Set time with friends and family and get curious

- Work with the higher quality question you just designed
- Ask more open-ended questions
- Listen - really
- Follow your curiosity into elevator statements
  - Definitions
  - Assumptions
  - Meanings
  - Implications

# Read & Study Examples of Great Questions

Plato's Dialogues - start with [Meno](#)

[Ecclesiastes](#) - digging into really big questions

Thomas Aquinas - [Summa Theologica](#) - a giant collection of dialectic thinking

[Sherlock Holmes](#) - especially his curiosity and methodical thought processes

Good interviewers - Krista Tippett and her [On Being](#) podcast

Hal Gregersen, MIT - [Questions are the Answer](#)

Dale Carnegie - [How to Win Friends and Influence People](#) - the American classic

