



The Voice of the Natural World

Description

Bernie Krause has been recording wild soundscapes — the wind in the trees, the chirping of birds, the subtle sounds of insect larvae — for 45 years. In that time, he has seen many environments radically altered by humans, sometimes even by practices thought to be environmentally safe.

A surprising look at what we can learn through nature's symphonies, from the grunting of a sea anemone to the sad calls of a beaver in mourning.

Unless your query concerns inflammable materials currently engulfed in said flames you've likely wasted their time – in fact, you may have even wasted your own. One of my favorite side-effects of working remotely is the way slow-time communication forces you to stop and think before you speak. When I have a question for one of our programmers, for example, here's a bit of what goes through my head:

The basic idea is this: you try to minimize the things that are bad, and maximize those that are good.

It's usually at this point that I either figure out the answer for myself or come up with a new way of considering the problem, never having to even ask the original question. I didn't bother my co-worker, I didn't look like an idiot trying to articulate the question on-the-fly, and most importantly I figured out the answer!

[Cormorant Fisherman](#) © Joel Santos
Cormorant Fisherman © Joel Santos

People who struggle to work remotely often bemoan the lack of in-person collaboration jumping from this tool to that tech in an effort to recreate the magic that only happens when we're all in the same room. There are definitely advantages to face time, but too often it seems like facial expressions and

waving arms are substituted for clear thought and courtesy.

The next time you have a question for a coworker, try writing it out as if they were 1000 miles and 3 time zones away – even if they're sitting right next to you. You might surprise yourself with the answer.

Categorie

1. Work & Travel

Tags

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3. Photography
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