

# The Stories That Define Us

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# Humans are social animals



# Humans use language for more than information



# The Monomyth

JOSEPH  
CAMPBELL



THE HERO  
WITH A  
THOUSAND  
FACES

# The Call to Adventure



# Prompt 1

## The Call to Adventure

What called to you about going to college? Why UD? Were there specific people or events that spurred you to make the decision? How did that take you out of your previous life? What story would someone have told about you before you came? What story did you tell or believe about yourself? In other words, what was your identity?

# Encounter with Primal Forces



# Prompt 2

## Encounter with Primal Forces

What were the biggest challenges you faced after you arrived? How did you meet those challenges? Who did you meet that became your allies/supporters? What new stories helped change your identity?

# The Return



# Prompt 3

## The Return

What is your community now? How have you changed because of your college experiences? How do you see yourself serving that community in the future? How have your changes impacted your relationships from before UD?

# Serving versus Conforming

You do not have to be good.  
You do not have to walk on your knees  
for a hundred miles through the desert repenting.  
You only have to let the soft animal of your body  
love what it loves.  
Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.  
Meanwhile the world goes on.  
Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain  
are moving across the landscapes,  
over the prairies and the deep trees,  
the mountains and the rivers.  
Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air,  
are heading home again.  
Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,  
the world offers itself to your imagination,  
calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting -  
over and over announcing your place  
in the family of things.



LARRY FANNING *Wild Geese*

Mary Oliver  
**Wild Geese**