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**Who are we who will join together to bring this into being?**

(At this point there is no clear "we." We are *information* [information = whiskers] individually and collectively.)

We have a variety of skills and gifts and our unique visions, and our unique prickly points.

Hopefully the power of this dream and the urgency of our need will allow enough of us to work together to bring forth a new thing.

I offer myself, as a poet at heart, filled with a sense of vision, a love of words and of nature, including *Homo sapiens* and with rather poor organizational skills.

**Here are some of my suggestions for the 10 minute video:**

(VISUALS IN CAPS; voices in "quotes.")

Opening Scene:  
SUNLIGHT  
THROUGH TREES.

"Isn't it beautiful?"

"Isn't it important that we pay attention to the power this beauty stirs within us?"

"Many would say, 'here we experience the presence of the divine.' Others say 'we feel this way because we are within a natural wholeness.'"

"Isn't there something about places like these that makes the life of the spirit more accessible?"

Scene: WINTER.  
DEER CARCASS,  
PARTIALLY EATEN

"But the beauty of the forest community is terrible at times. Wholeness includes death and limitation. Of trees, animals, humans." A HUGE OLD DEAD TREE. ONE OF A BROOD OF PIGLETS, UNABLE TO FIND A PLACE TO SUCK. AN ABANDONED FARMSTEAD.

"How do we understand natural wholeness, given what we know about the essential limitations of life and

about the carrying capacity of the land?"

"We consume and are sustained by the lives of other species *and*, within a sustainable natural order, we necessarily yield some of ourselves to them. In the sweat of our labor TENDING YOUNG TREES, in accepting limitation of our numbers A SMALL SETTLEMENT UNDER A FOREST CANOPY, and in accepting a certain level of danger, skillfully managed, SMALL SAWMILL & OPERATOR rather than relying on machinery that

on their reservation in Menominee County, Wisconsin.

"And they have done well at preserving and adapting. What their grandparents knew how to do in the whole expanse of the Lake Superior basin, they have learned to do hemmed all round by a society of excess. They are living sustainably, living from the fruits of the land and leaving the land fit to sustain lives of generations to come."

SCENES OF POLLUTION AND URBAN SPRAWL

"Quakers, like many others in modern industrial society, now

recognize that we must learn to live in a sustainable manner on the skin of Mother Earth.

IMAGES OF  
QUAKER  
COMMUNITY  
THROUGH HISTORY

"We are a spiritual community, a bit like the Menominee, and we might learn from them.

"Let's us try to find and protect a forest, to learn to live with it, from it, through it, not as a *crop*, but as a living being, a sustaining wholeness of which we are a part.

FULL FACE  
INTERVIEW

"We are forming a Quaker Community Forest. Here's our plan so far: I'd love to think big, like this Menominee Forest, but we could

also think small, for starters, like some land surrounding a "Quaker Forest Education Center," located near one of the national forests. A demonstration project, a promise and an organizing tool to gather a generation's momentum.

"What can you, and those you know, offer to this effort?"

Preserving wilderness is a difficult and splendid thing. Less splendid and even more difficult is learning, as a species, to *give ourselves back to nature*, to open our hearts to the wholeness of which we are but a part and to make our most basic human choices while remaining attuned to the contending elements of that wholeness.

Almost no group of humans born into Industrial Culture knows how to do this, though we have many fine individual examples. We will learn how to do it step by step. Among the trees, upon the sea, within the air. The attempt to create and maintain a Quaker Community Forest will be a wonderful experiment.

Guided by the Spirit

And by the rewards of accepting a more balanced relationship to the self-healing and evolving natural order, We can start on a path that will take generations to travel.

Creating, like the Menominee, a forest that sustains us as we work to sustain it.

In the process we will be changed, moved in the direction we know we must go.

And if we are even moderately successful we will have a great legacy to offer our children.

And an example to offer the larger society, which can only grow more desperate for alternatives in the decades to come.

dominates and obliterates." BELCHING CLOUDS FROM A WOOD-PROCESSING FACTORY.

Scene: SHOTS OF THE MENOMINEE FOREST, LOGGING, COMMUNITY

"Like other Indian tribes in the US the Menominee were driven from most of the lands they occupied when Europeans invaded.

"For the last 140 years they have clung to life and to their ways of life

