Human Library: Thomas Jefferson University Guidelines for Readers

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Thomas Jefferson University Guidelines for Readers

- The Reader must return the book in the same condition as when it was lent. Readers must be respectful in their questions and conversation with the Human Book, and maintain confidentiality.

- The Reader accepts the fact that the Human Book can quit the conversation at any time.

- The loan period is for 30 minutes.

- The Reader cannot record, videotape or take pictures of the Human Book, or post about the Book or the conversation on any type of social media.

- The Reader is not allowed to ask the Human Book for personal contact information. All requests for further contact should be through the Human Library organizers.

Sample Questions for Readers to Ask Human Books

*There are no silly questions, as long as questions are from a place of mutual respect and a desire to learn.*

Here’s a list of general questions you can ask to get the conversation going.

- Could you tell me about yourself?

- What experience has had the most impact on making you the person you are today?

- What is a typical day like for you?

- Why did you want to be a Human Book?

- What’s a good thing happening in your life right now? What makes it good?

- What were some of the more difficult aspects of your life? What made it difficult?

- Is there a community or a support system that you’re a part of?

- Do you have any advice for someone going through a situation similar to yours?

(Adapted from http://humanlibrary.org)