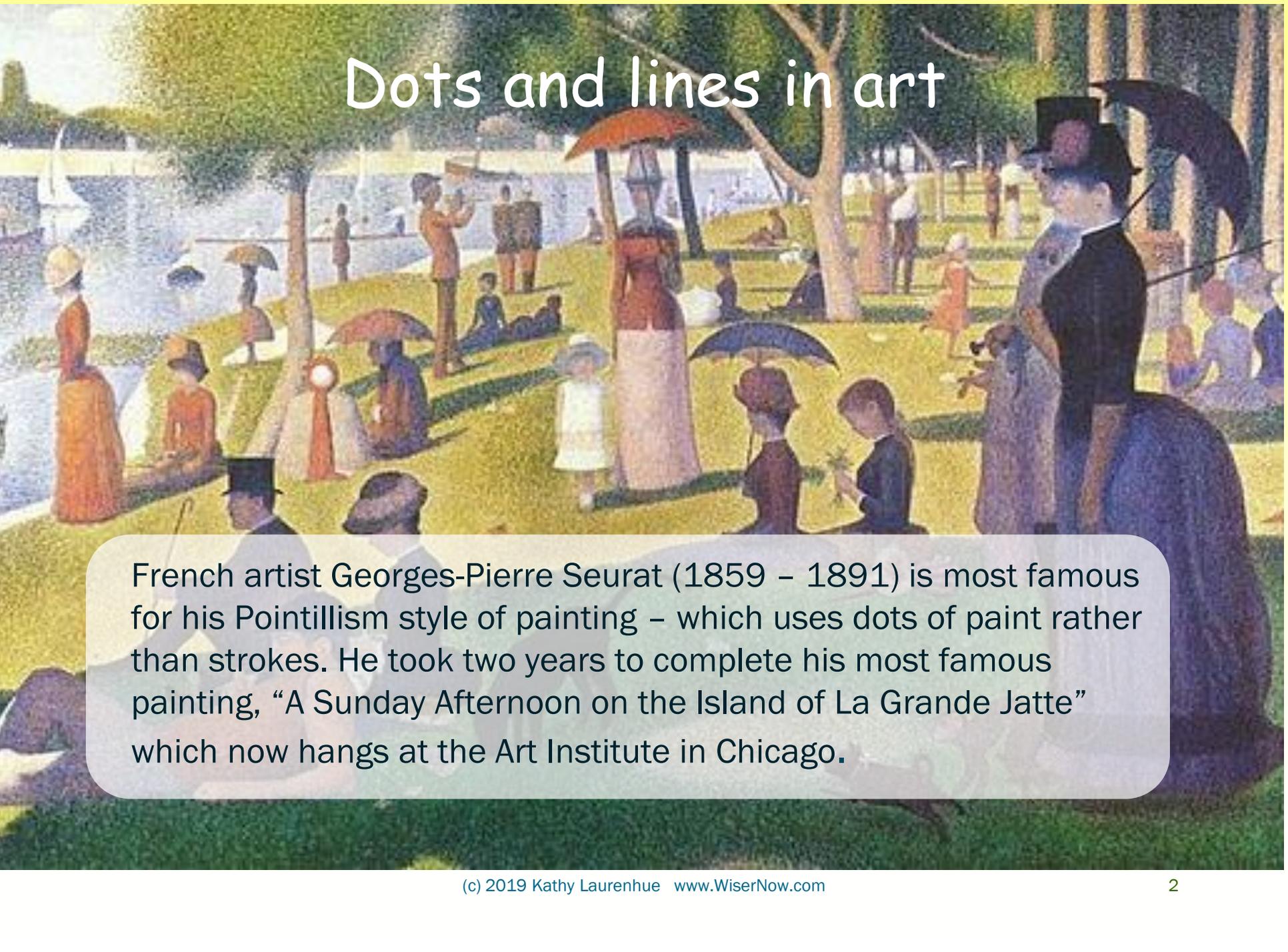


# Fun with Dots and Lines Excerpt



*Wiser Now, Inc.*

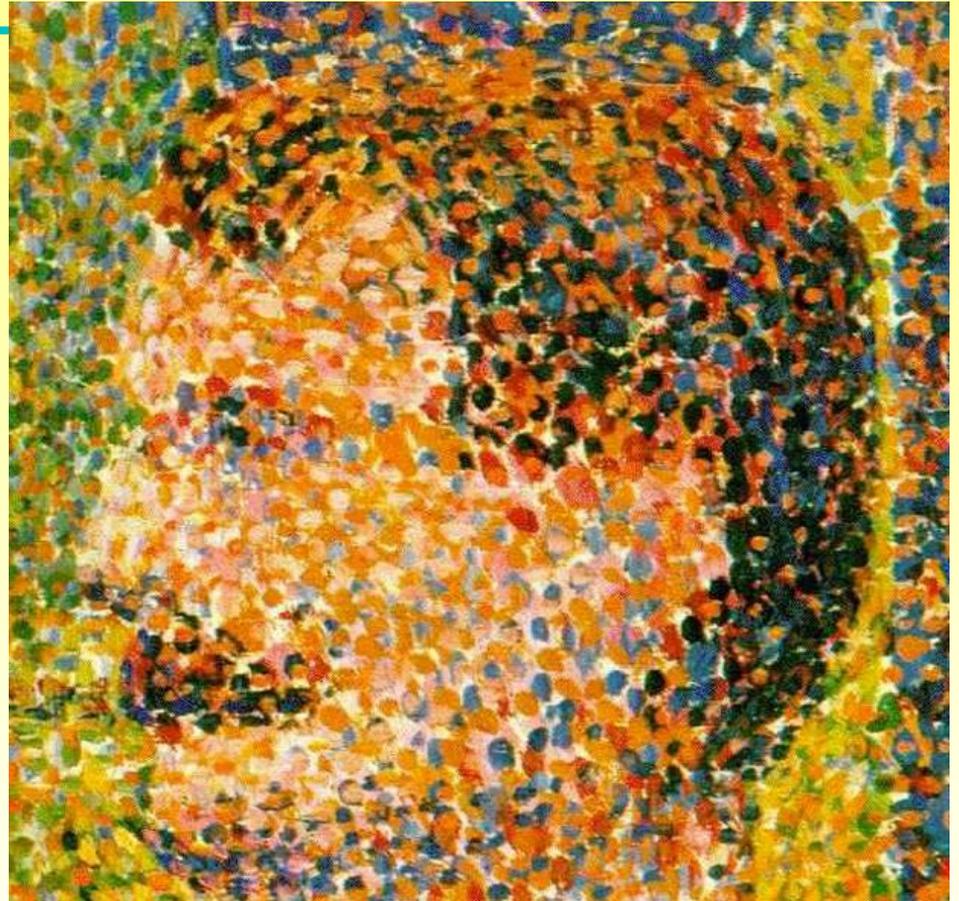
# Dots and lines in art

The painting 'A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte' by Georges-Pierre Seurat is a masterpiece of Pointillism. It depicts a large group of people in late 19th-century attire enjoying a day on a grassy island. The scene is filled with numerous small, distinct dots of color that, when viewed from a distance, blend together to create a sense of light and movement. The composition is carefully balanced, with figures scattered across the landscape, some sitting on the grass, others standing or walking. The background shows a body of water with several sailboats and a line of trees. The overall effect is one of a peaceful, yet vibrant, social gathering.

French artist Georges-Pierre Seurat (1859 – 1891) is most famous for his Pointillism style of painting – which uses dots of paint rather than strokes. He took two years to complete his most famous painting, “A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte” which now hangs at the Art Institute in Chicago.

# Dots and lines in art

Georges Seurat was strongly influenced by science writers who had studied the effects of light and color, and showed that two colors slightly overlapping or very close together had the effect of creating a third color when seen from a distance. For example, if you put a dot of red and a dot of blue together and step back, the two dots blend to a single dot of purple. This became the basis for the Pointillist technique.

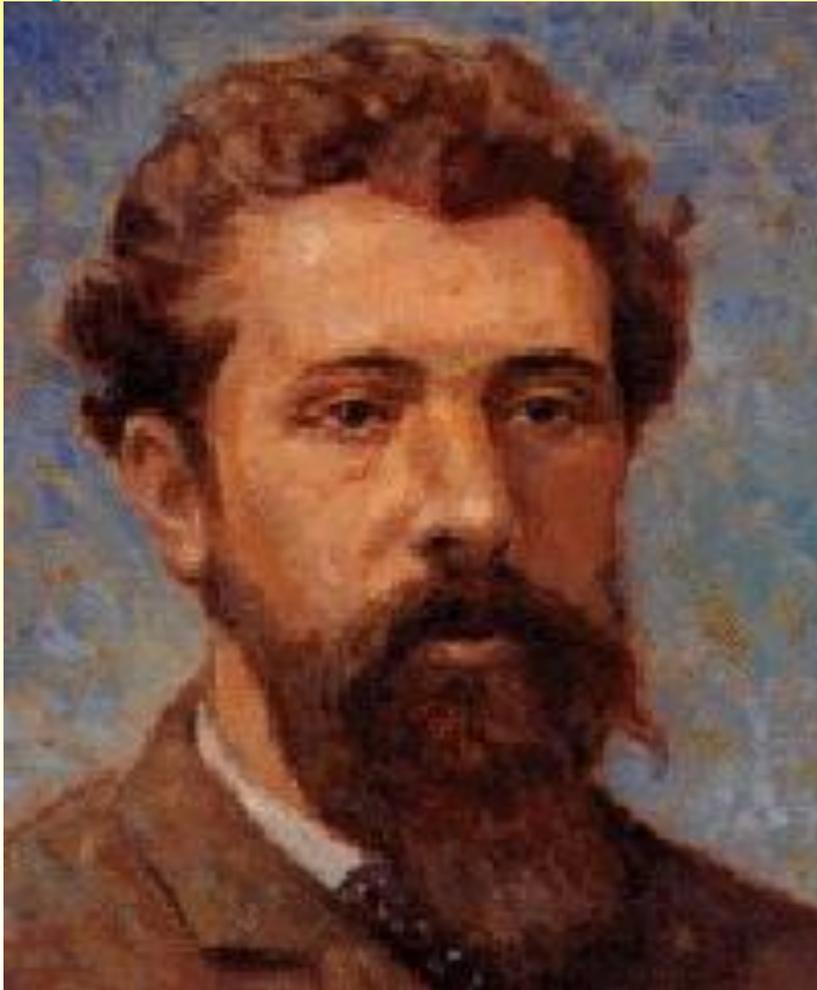


# Dots and lines in art

It shouldn't be surprising that Georges Seurat's dots of color produce a blend of colors, because that's essentially what mosaics have done for thousands of years. Here, for example, is both a mosaic portrait of Queen Esther and a detail of the mosaic pieces that make up her face.



# Dots and lines in art



Georges Seurat made extensive use of complementary colors in his paintings, believing that he could use color to create harmony and emotion in art in the same way that a musician uses counterpoint and variation to create harmony in music. Other artists have used dots in interesting ways, too.



# Dotty Aboriginal art

This detail of of “Dreamtime Sisters” by Aboriginal artist Colleen Wallace Nungari illustrates the importance of dots and circular shapes in Aboriginal art. Australian Aborigines have made highly symbolic dot paintings for thousands of years on stones, rock walls, bark, canvas, musical instruments and their own bodies.

# Another dotty artist

Yayoi Kusama is a Japanese artist of many talents, but perhaps most famous for her polka dot art.. Here's a sample to whet your curiosity:





## And an artist who colored outside the lines

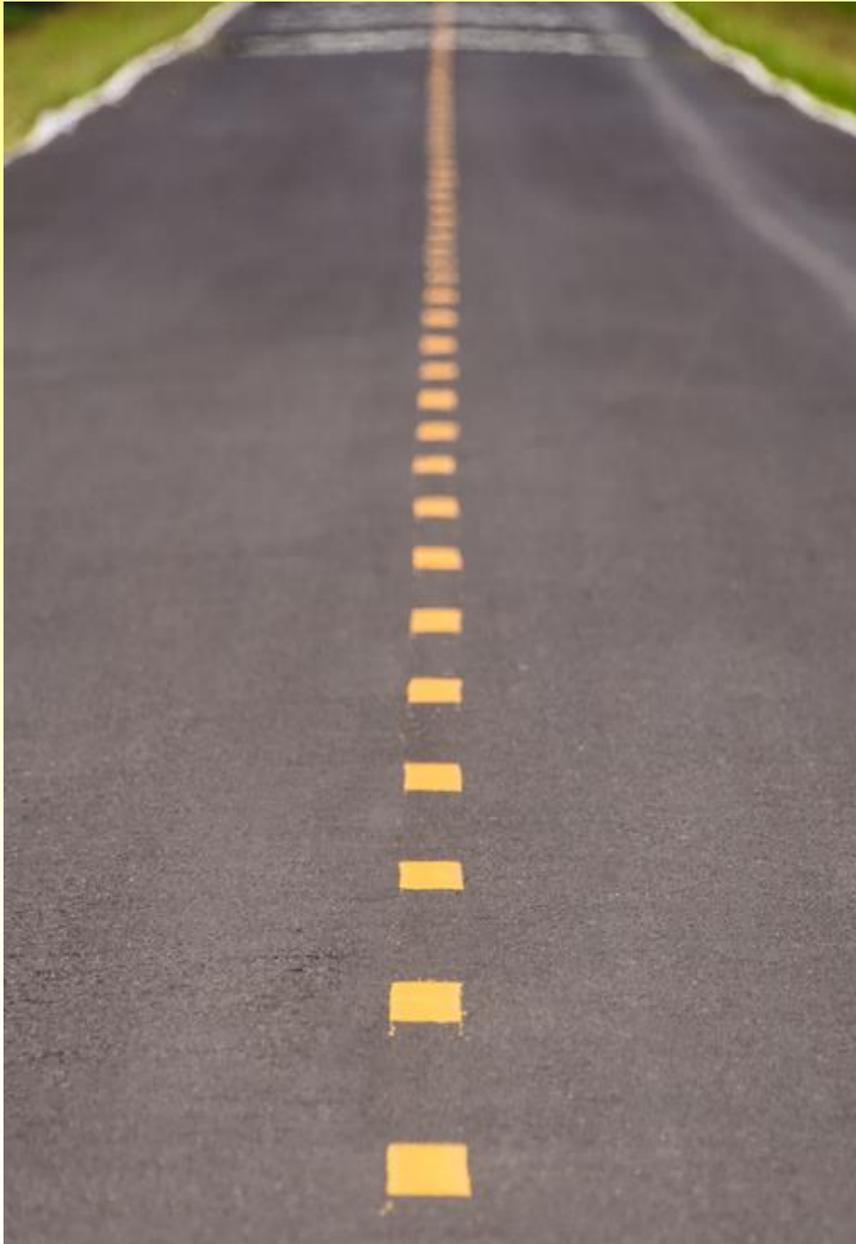
Paul Klee once described his artistic process as “I take a line out for a walk.” He died in 1940 leaving a legacy of 9000 works of art. Better known for his mastery of colors than lines, here is a painting with a bit of both. Some artists who draw outside the lines, do so to enhance those lines!

A close-up photograph of a young child with blonde hair, wearing a white long-sleeved shirt and a coral-colored knit sweater, focused on painting. The child is holding a paintbrush with a wooden handle and a metal ferrule. Their hands are covered in various colors of paint, including yellow, orange, and green. The child is using the brush to apply paint to a white canvas that already has some colorful splatters and brushstrokes. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a wooden cabinet or desk.

# Coloring outside the lines

Talk about it:

- As a child, were you ever criticized for drawing outside the lines? How did you feel?
- Have you since learned that sometimes it's good to change the rules for creative results? Can you give an example?
- Have you ever tried painting with dots?



# Imagine the lines in your life

Our lives are made up of many types of lines – some of them dotted. Here’s your chance to think about what they may or may not have in common. Share your thoughts on the underlined phrases on the following slides.

# Imagine the lines in your life

We spend a lot of time waiting in lines. Which lines are most loathsome to you and what suggestions do you have to streamline them? On the other hand, what's *worth* waiting for?



# Imagine the lines in your life

When we have a problem to solve, a hotline can be a lifeline. What kind of hotline would you most appreciate? (And do you remember when phones had cords?)



# Imagine the lines in your life



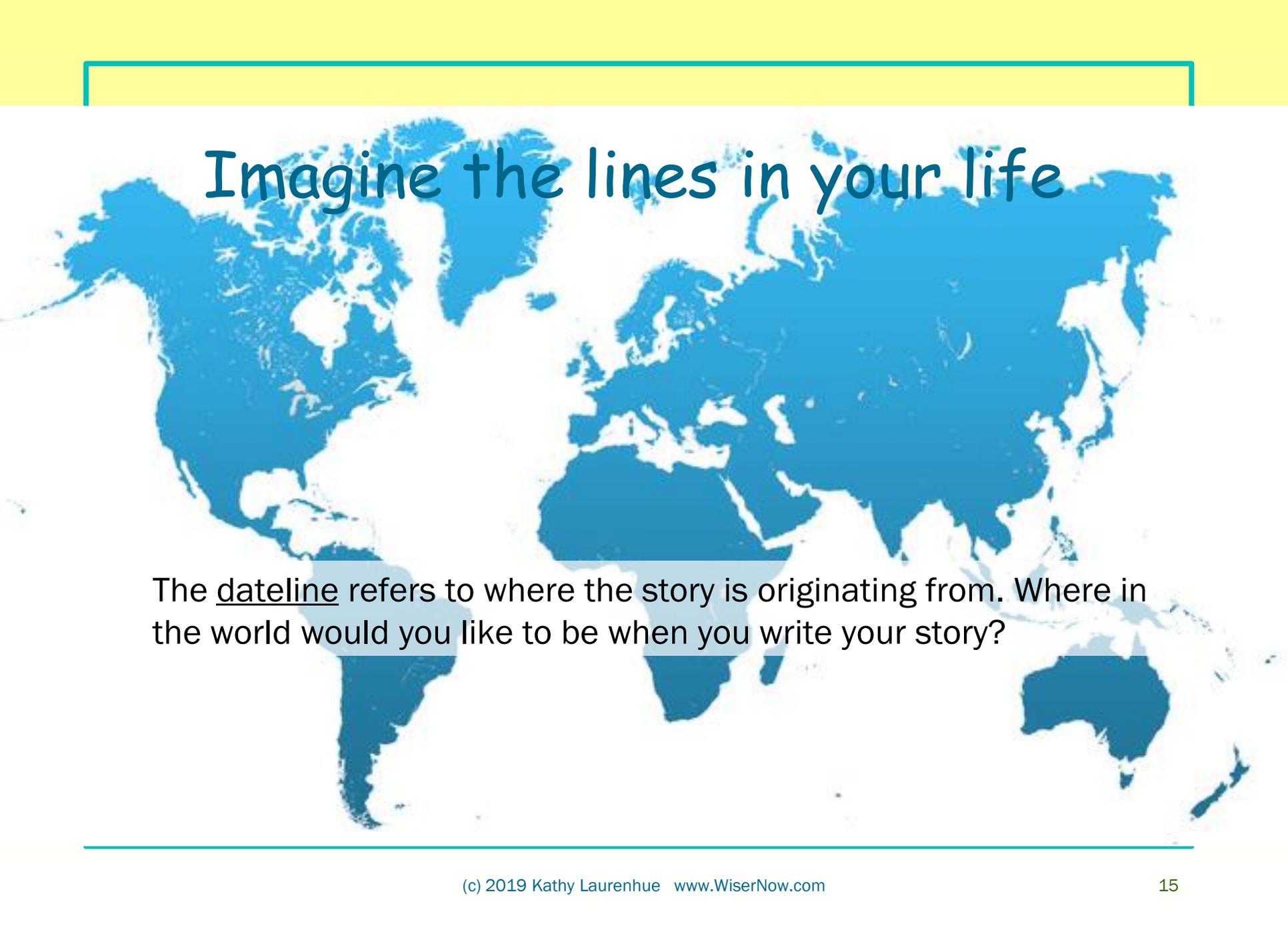
In some aspects of life, it's fun to be on the frontlines; for others, watching from the sidelines is just fine. On what occasions do you like being on either the frontline or sideline?



# Imagine the lines in your life

If you could have a byline in any publication, what publication would you want it to appear in and what would you want to write about?

# Imagine the lines in your life



The dateline refers to where the story is originating from. Where in the world would you like to be when you write your story?

# Imagine the lines in your life

If a headline were to be written about some major accomplishment in your life, what would you like it to say?



An hourglass with blue sand is placed on a calendar with a red border. The calendar shows dates like 23, 24, 25, and 26. The hourglass is positioned over the 23rd. The background is a wooden surface.

# Imagine the lines in your life

Next consider the deadlines in your life. Are some useful? Which ones are hardest to meet? Do you set them yourself?

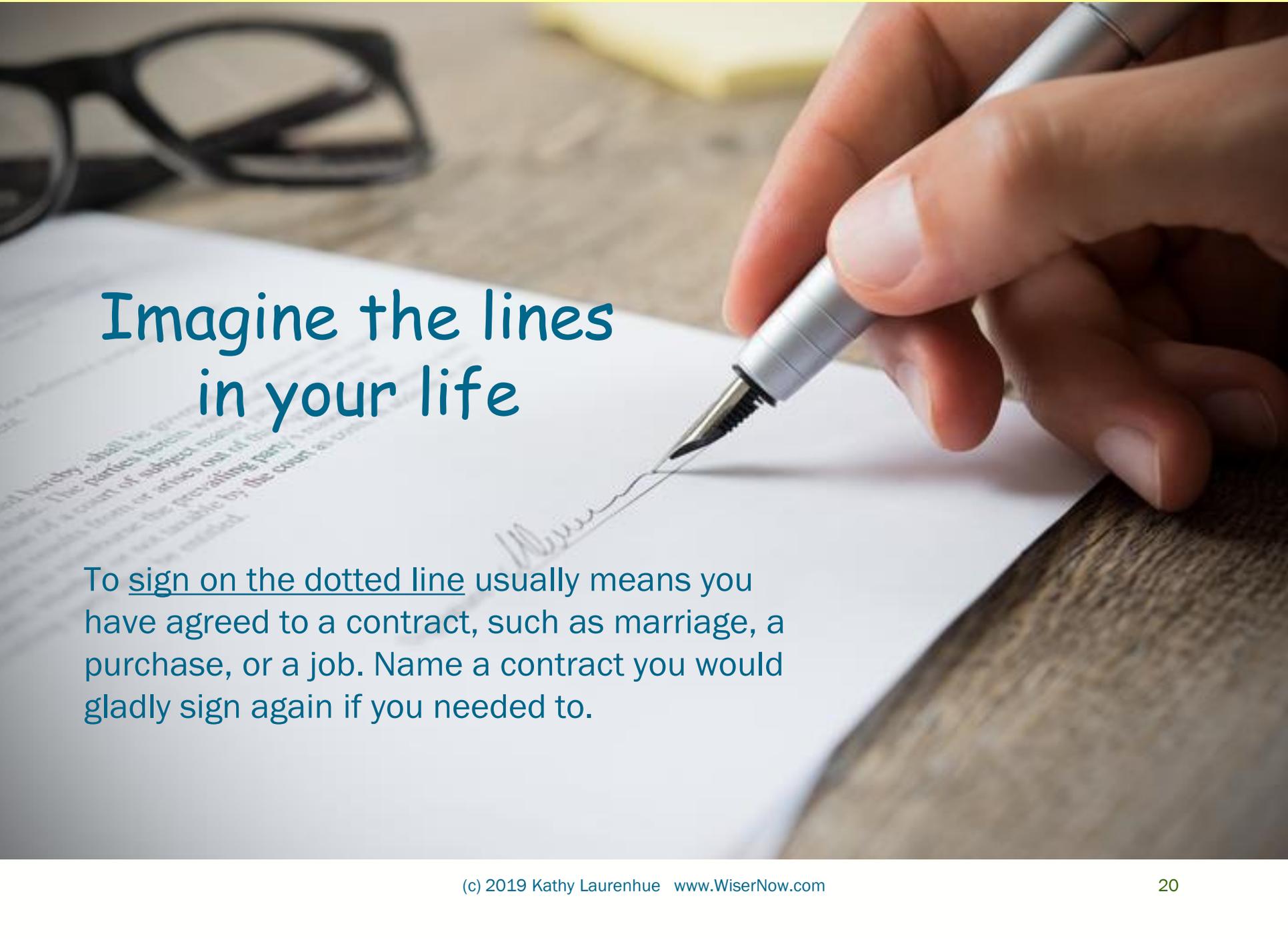
# Imagine the lines in your life

In any relationship, it's important to keep the lines of communication open. What are your guidelines for doing so?

# Imagine the lines in your life

Most of us will bend over backwards to help the people we love or a cause we believe in. Where do you draw the line on what you are willing to do?

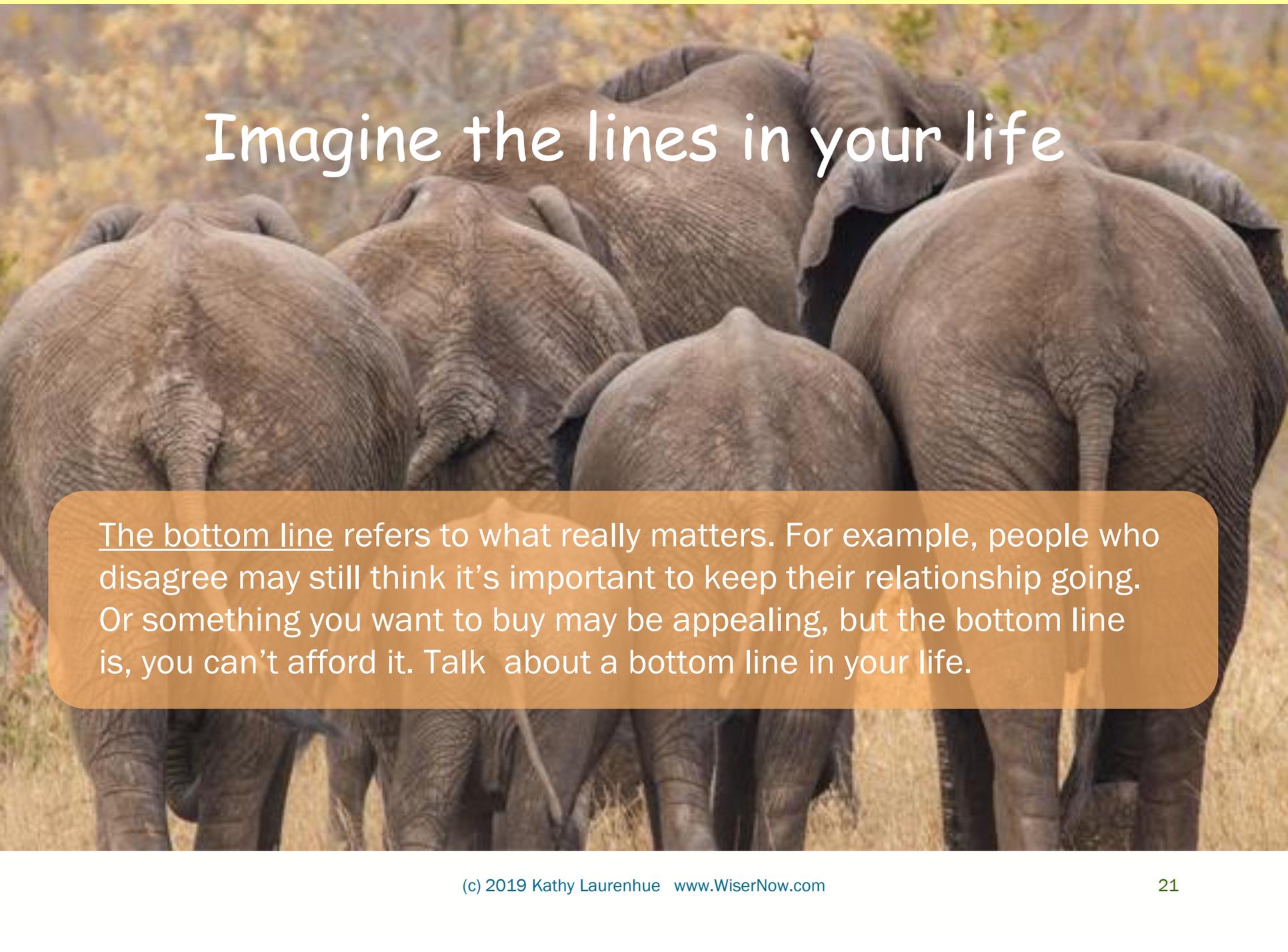




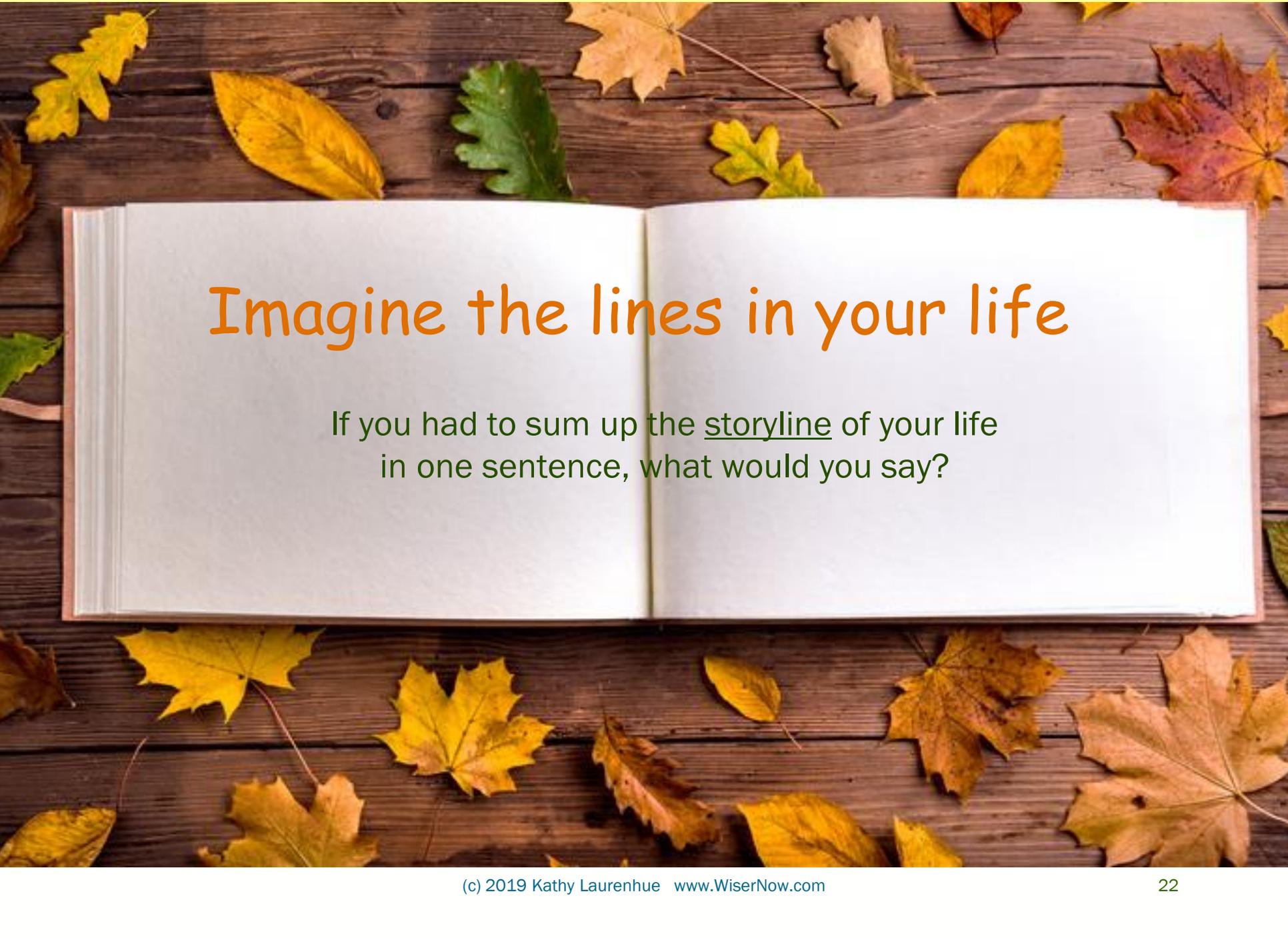
# Imagine the lines in your life

To sign on the dotted line usually means you have agreed to a contract, such as marriage, a purchase, or a job. Name a contract you would gladly sign again if you needed to.

# Imagine the lines in your life



The bottom line refers to what really matters. For example, people who disagree may still think it's important to keep their relationship going. Or something you want to buy may be appealing, but the bottom line is, you can't afford it. Talk about a bottom line in your life.



# Imagine the lines in your life

If you had to sum up the storyline of your life  
in one sentence, what would you say?



# Quick word game: Lines as lanes

One last quick word game: Another kind of line is a lane.

Can you name three things with lanes?



# Quick word game: Lines as lanes

Last quick word game:  
Another kind of line is  
a lane.

Can you name three  
things with lanes?

Bowling alley,  
swimming pool,  
highway

If, as I hope, this slide show excerpt has helped you make new connections in your brain and delightful connections sharing it with others, reach out: For more information or more slide shows, email me at [Kathy@WiserNow.com](mailto:Kathy@WiserNow.com).

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