

Consider

Our stories tell us not just what we did, but also what we wanted to do, what we believed we were doing, and what we now think what happened.

EXCERPT FROM
PATRICIA FERNÁNDEZ'S
ORAL HISTORY

Patricia Fernández: My first memory of my grandfather [PAUSES AND LAUGHS]. I just spent a lot of time with him, and he would always make me toys out of wood [LAUGHS] and actually, I kind of had this thing where I later asked my parents—did you guys abandon me with my grandparents? Because for a while I did not realize that my grandfather was not my dad. Or like, that was not my parent. I feel like I spent a lot of time with my grandparents, just maybe summers. Maybe my parents took off on vacation, I'm not totally sure, but I vaguely had the feeling of being abandoned with them. But I also really loved being with them. But yeah, my grandfather would always be making things out of wood.

LISTEN TO THE FULL ORAL HISTORY AT WWW.ORALHISTORYGROUP.COM

What is Fernández's tone and mood?

What does Fernández remember about her parents and grandfather?

What if Fernández's parents didn't go on vacation but were instead waiting in the room next door? What if Fernández's parents were barely present in Fernández's life?

Thinking about this, describe something you know only in feeling.

How do you share this knowledge or feeling?

