A close-up, macro shot of a woven basket, showing the intricate texture of the fibers. The lighting is warm and directional, highlighting the individual strands and creating a sense of depth and texture. The background is dark, making the woven pattern stand out.

The Tension between Story Collecting & Story Telling in Research

Bilan Hashi, Design Researcher

March 10, 2021

Stories are connective on individual, interpersonal, and collective levels



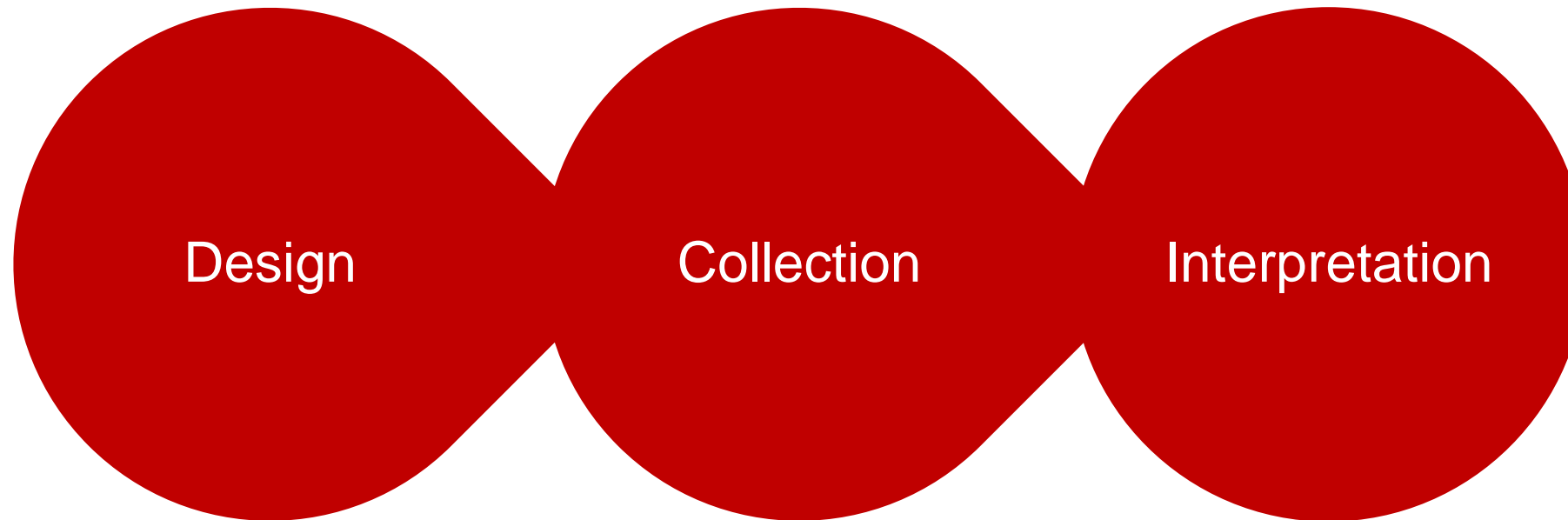
“The truth about stories is, that's all we are.”

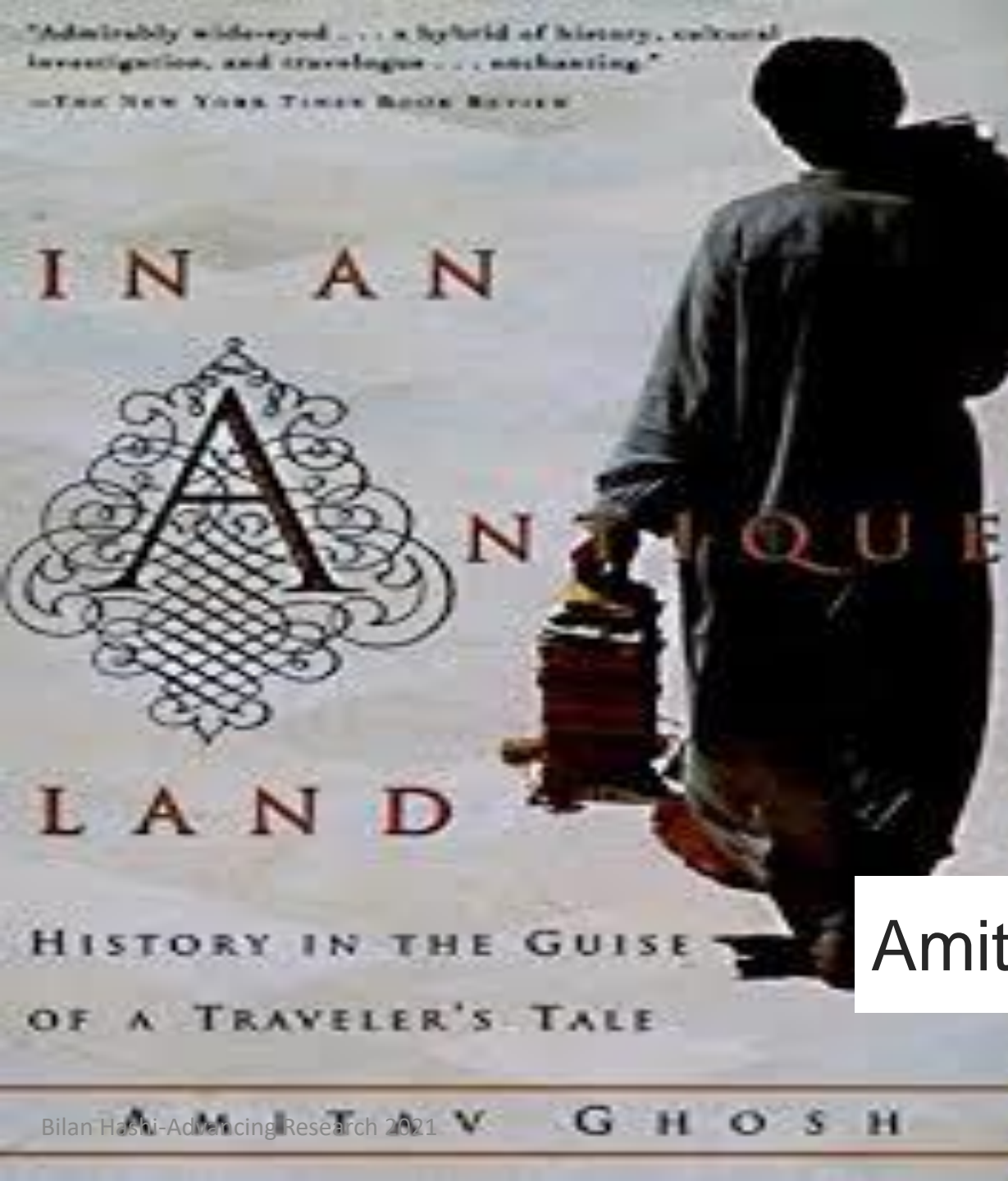
Thomas King



Storytelling allows self-representation in hegemonic narratives

Similar to a narrative arc, research has its own structure

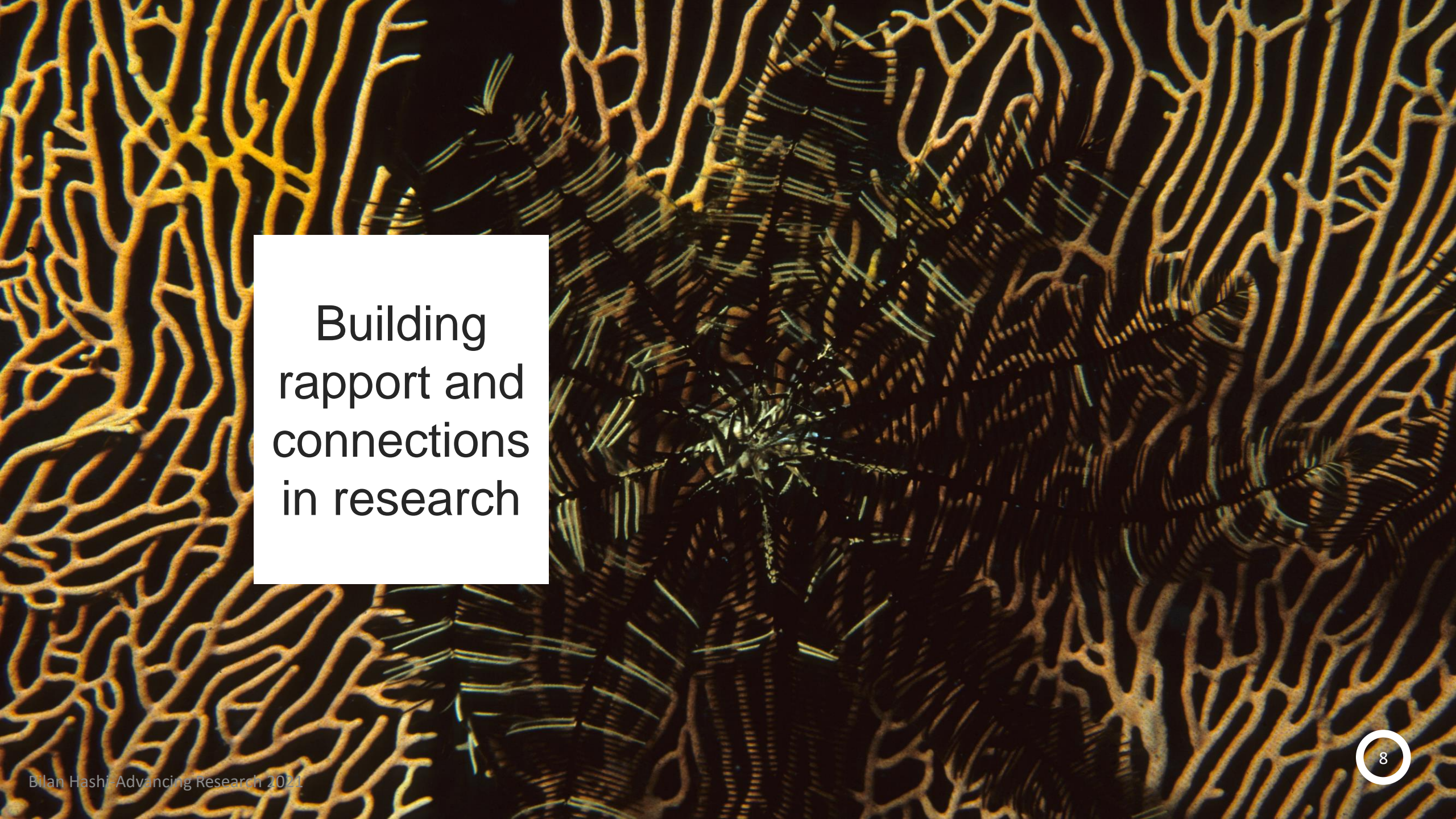




Amitav Ghosh looking for connections

“I was crushed, as I walked away; it seemed to me that the Imam and I had participated in our own final defeat, in the dissolution of the centuries of dialogue that had linked us: we had demonstrated the irreversible triumph of the language that has usurped all the others in which people once discussed.”

Amitav Ghosh

The background of the slide features a close-up photograph of coral. On the left side, there is a dense, branching structure of yellowish-orange coral. On the right side, there is a sea urchin with its characteristic radial symmetry and dark, spiny arms. The overall lighting is dramatic, highlighting the textures of the marine life against a dark background.

Building rapport and connections in research

But as researchers, we are **collecting stories.**

Who am I?

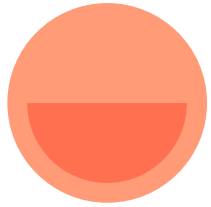
Qualitative Researcher

Anthropology & Gender Studies

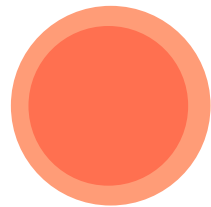


Story Collecting





Acknowledge
your positionality



Feel the
discomfort and
normalize it

How to...?

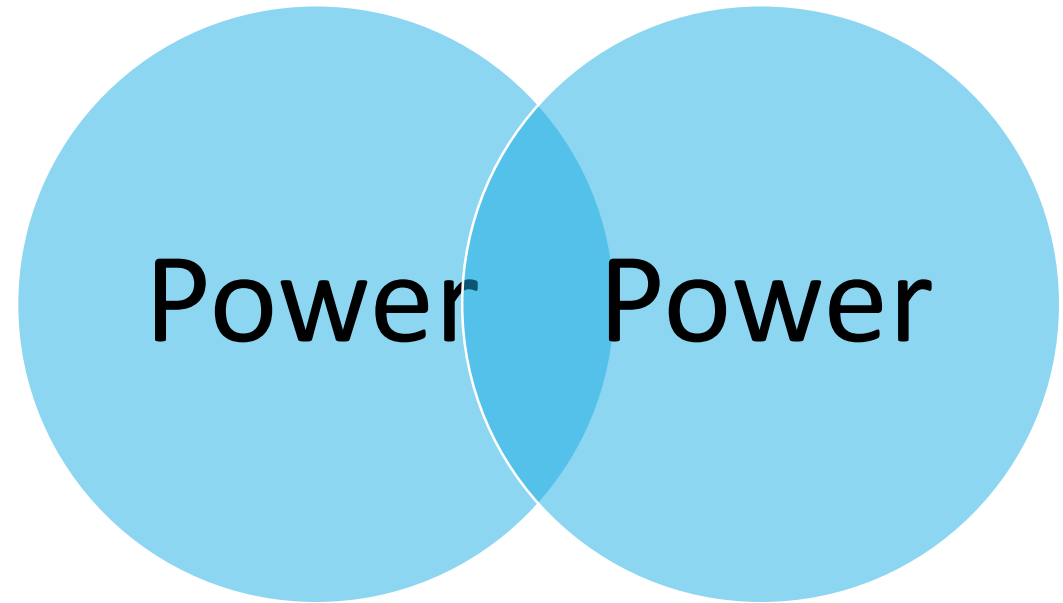
Reflect

Investigate

Examine your Influence
& Impact

Accept your Limitations

Create a space
where power can be
negotiated
by Researcher and
Participant



We need to **disrupt**
normative research
principles.

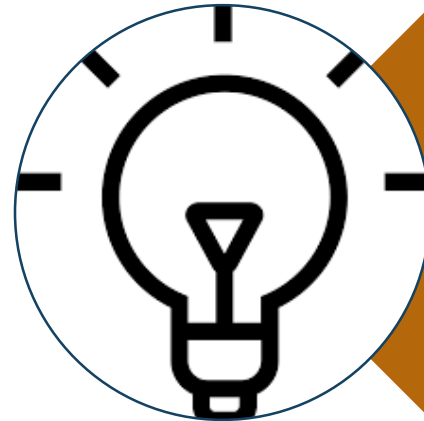
Researcher as Objective

Our agenda



Be open and transparent

Our assumptions and biases



Challenge your assumptions and biases

Researcher as Authority

Sticking to a script or guide



Let participant lead the story

Structured questions



Use invitational language

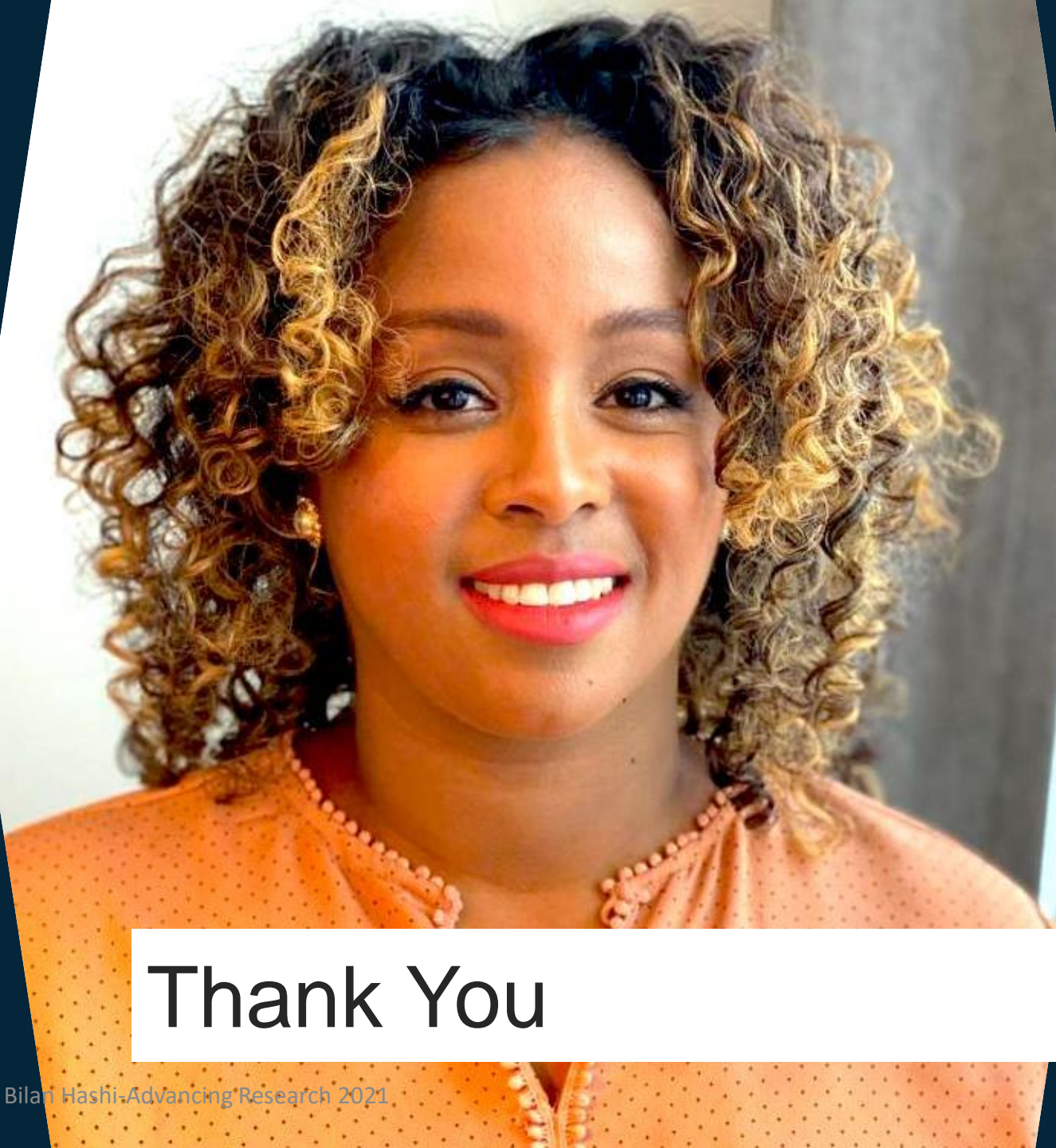
Listening, unlike hearing, is enabled by **intentionality**.



The tension between
story collecting and
story telling
is messy.



How do you want to show up?



LinkedIn

www.linkedin.com/in/bilanshashi



Twitter

[@itsmebilan](https://twitter.com/itsmebilan)



Email

bilanshashi@hotmail.com

Thank You