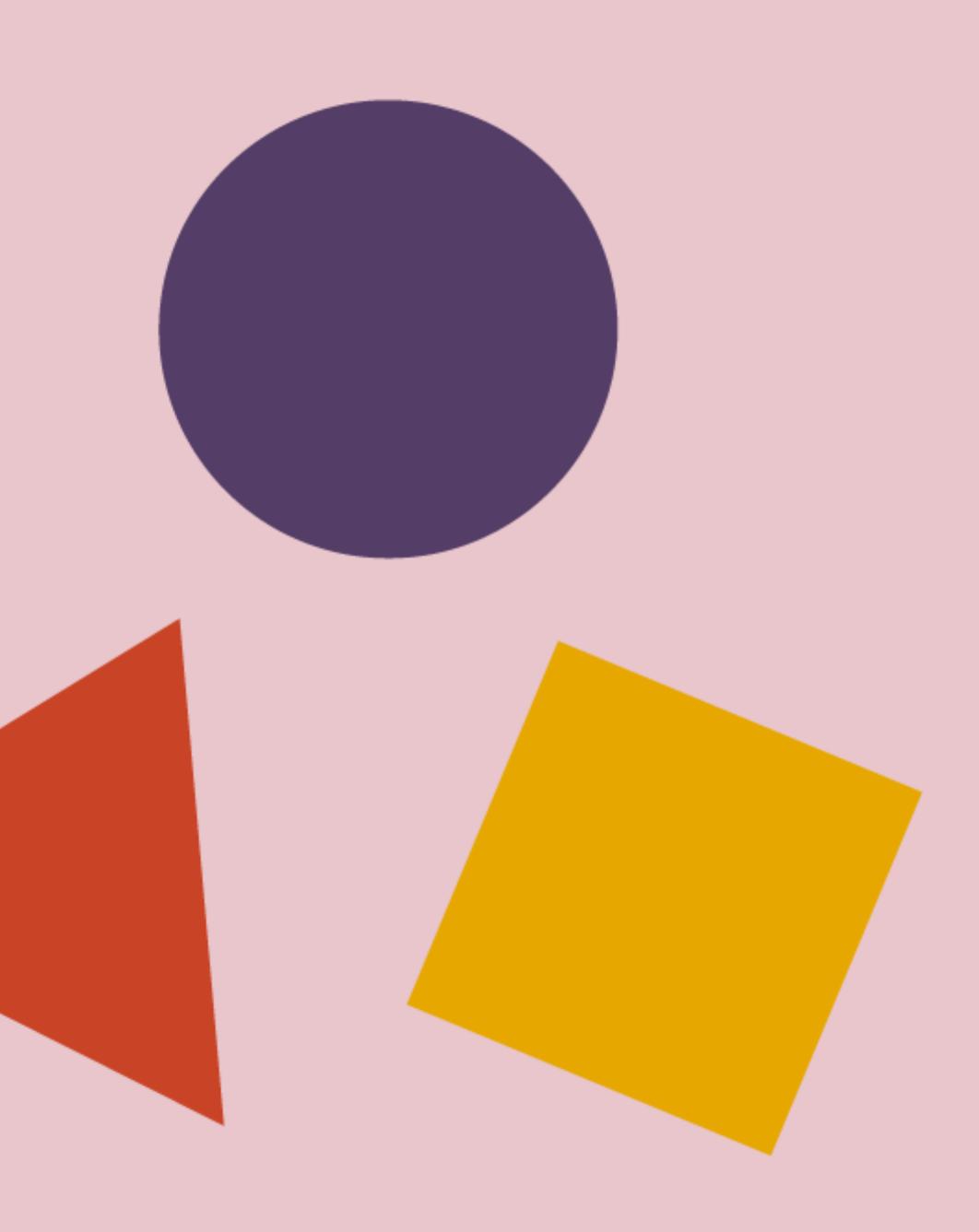
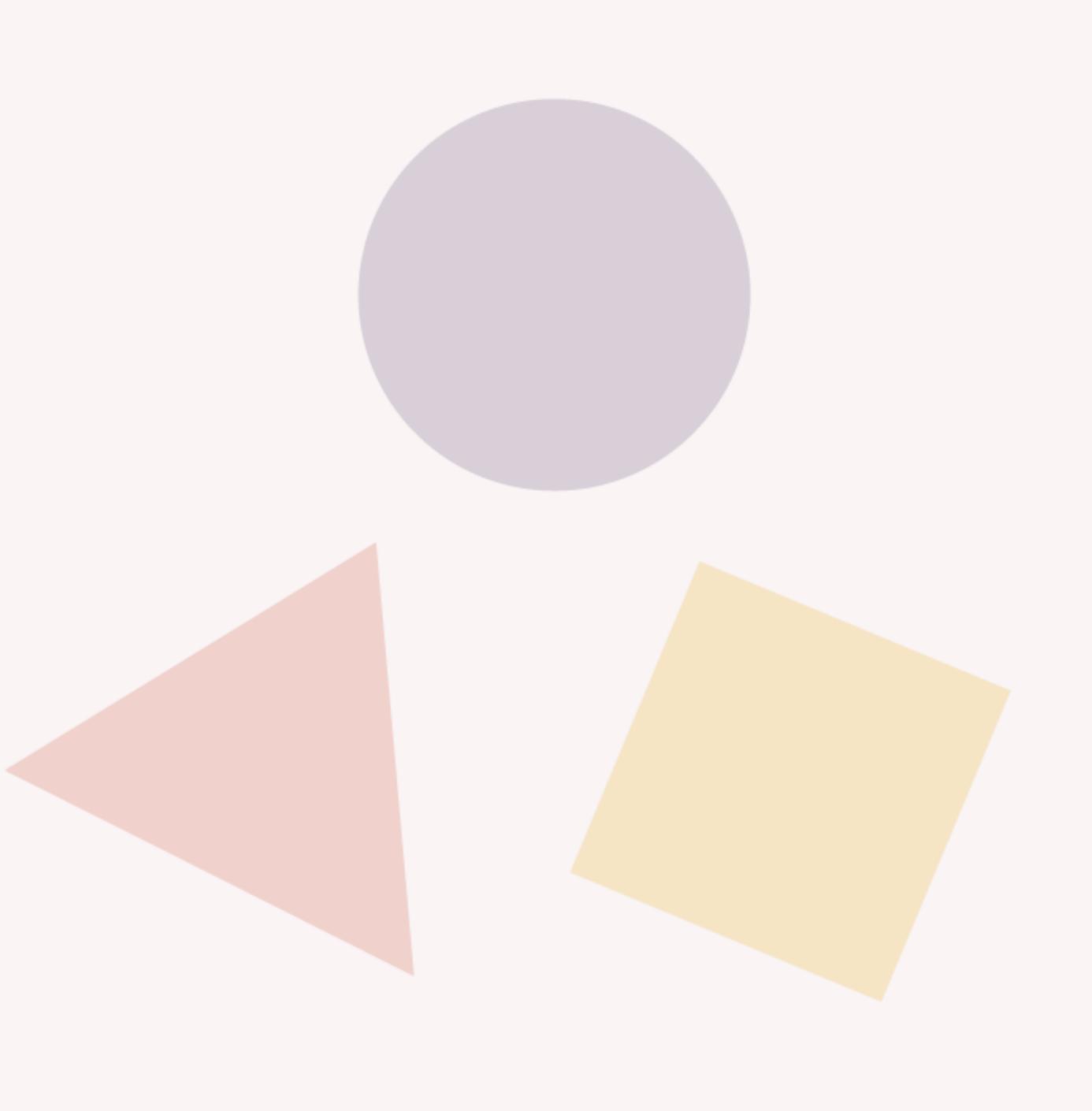
Summer 2019

Taking Off
Saul's Armour



Famous

by Naomi Shihab Nye



I want to be famous in the way a pulley is famous, or a buttonhole, not because it did anything spectacular, but because it never forgot what it could do.

Naomi Shihab Nye

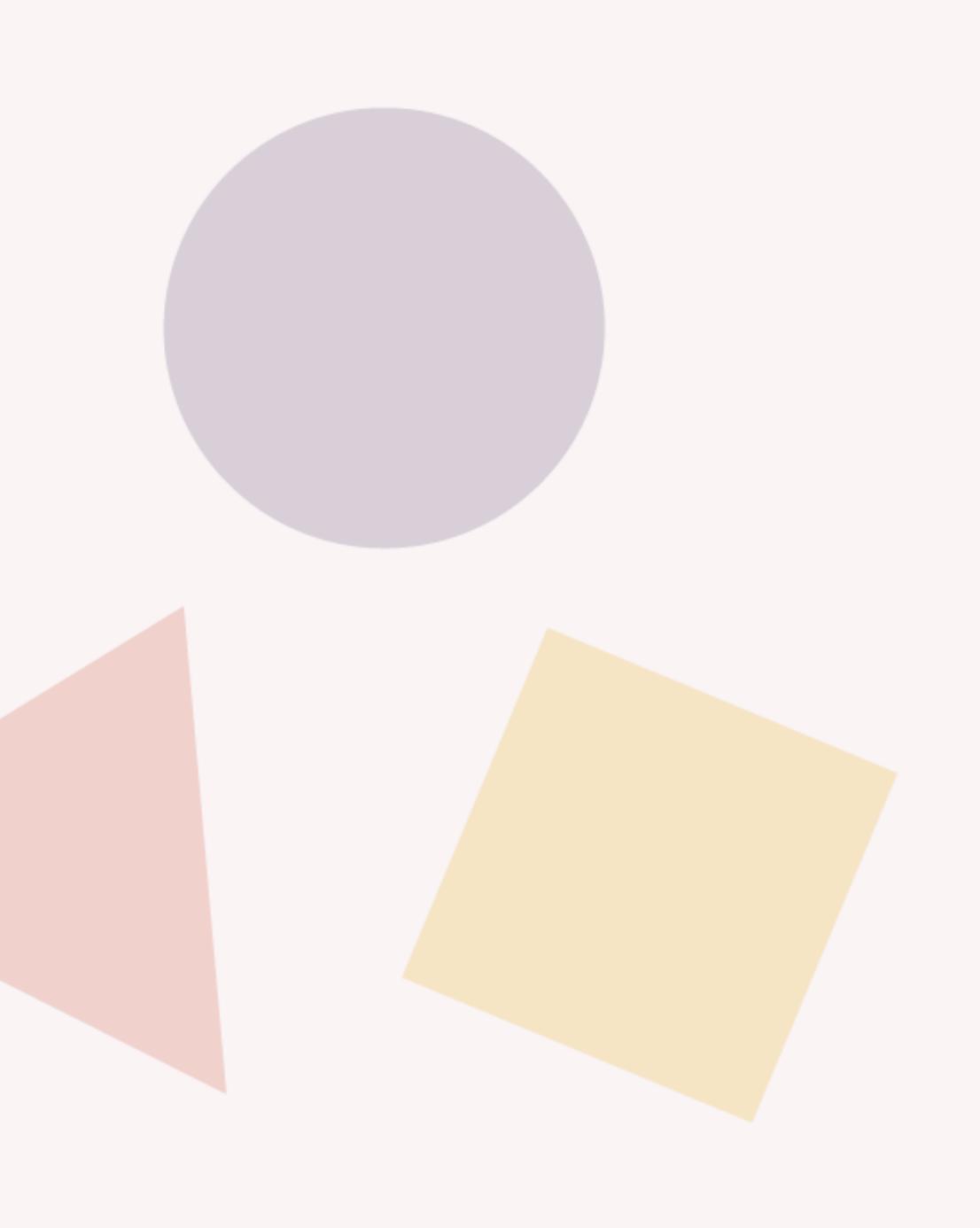


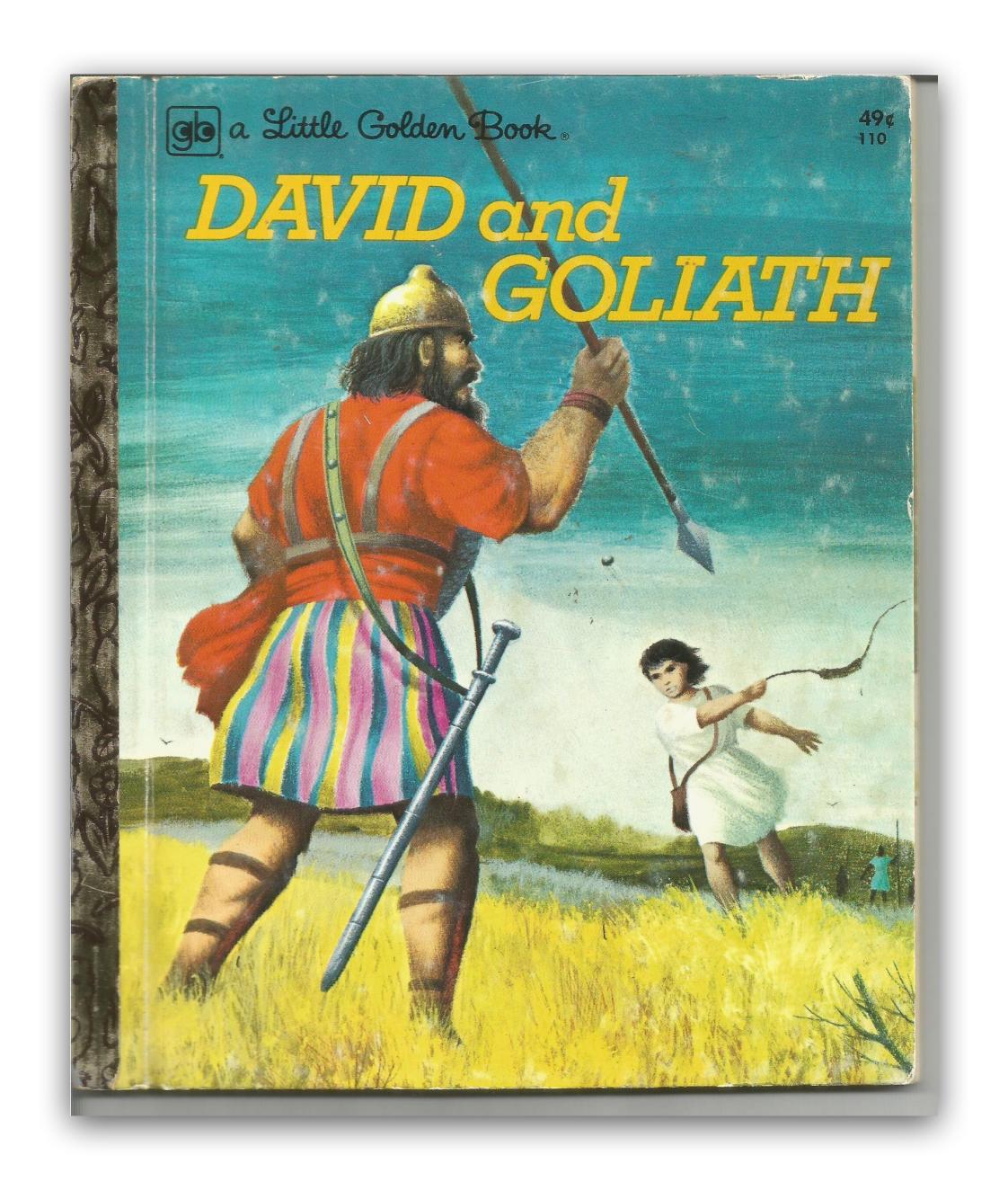
Oscar Wilde

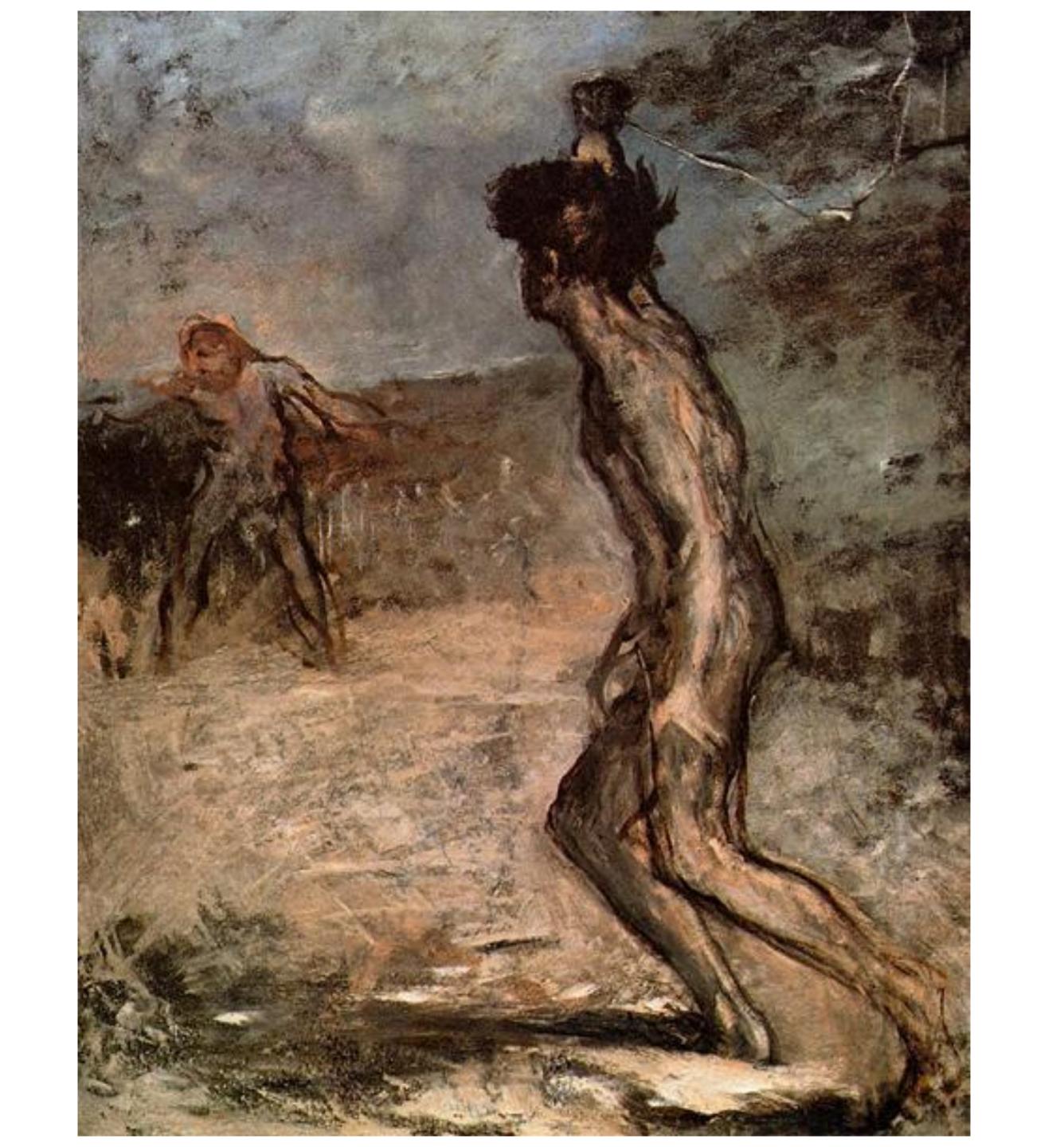
"If I find Him, I will find myself. If I find my true self, I will find Him."

Thomas Merton









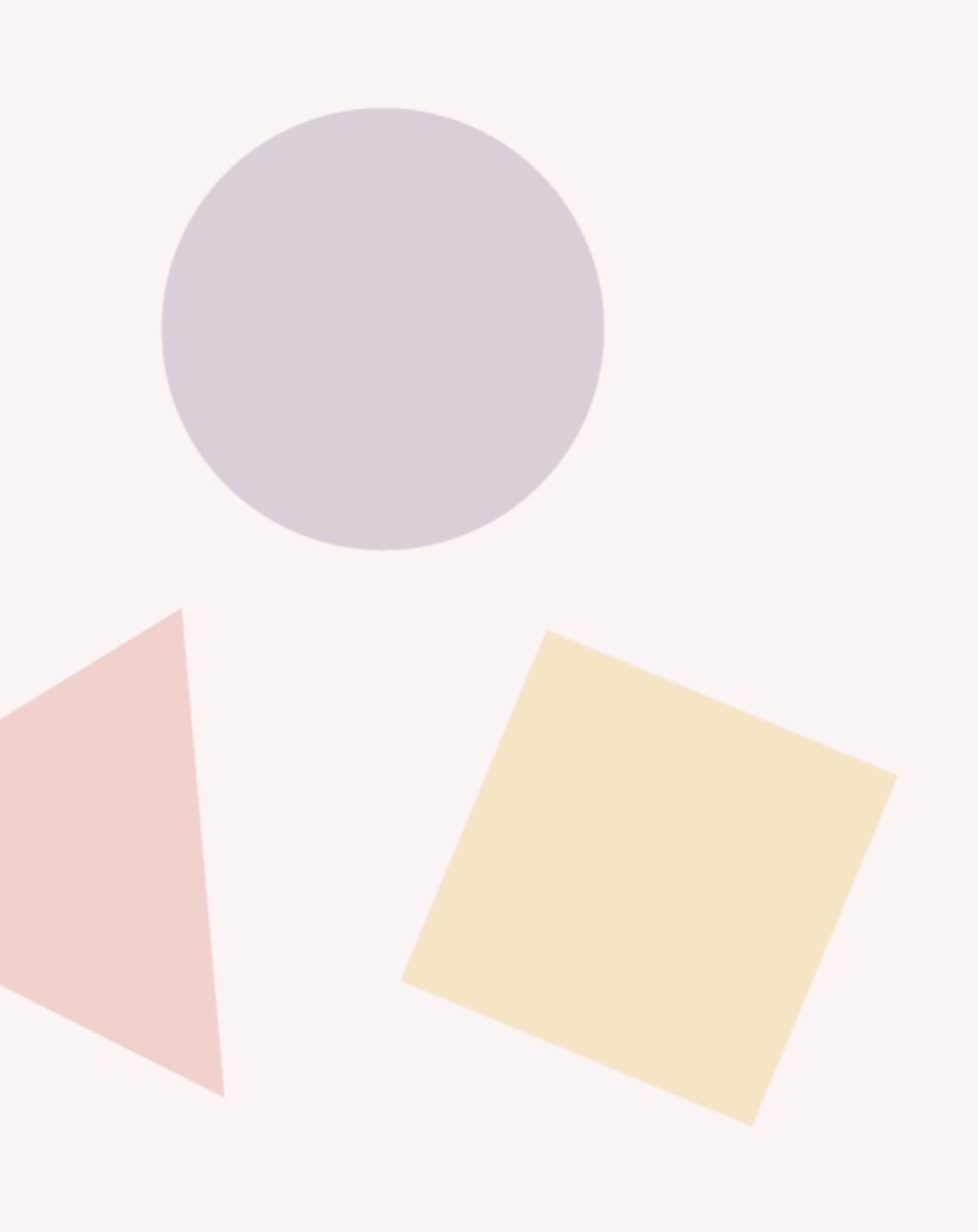


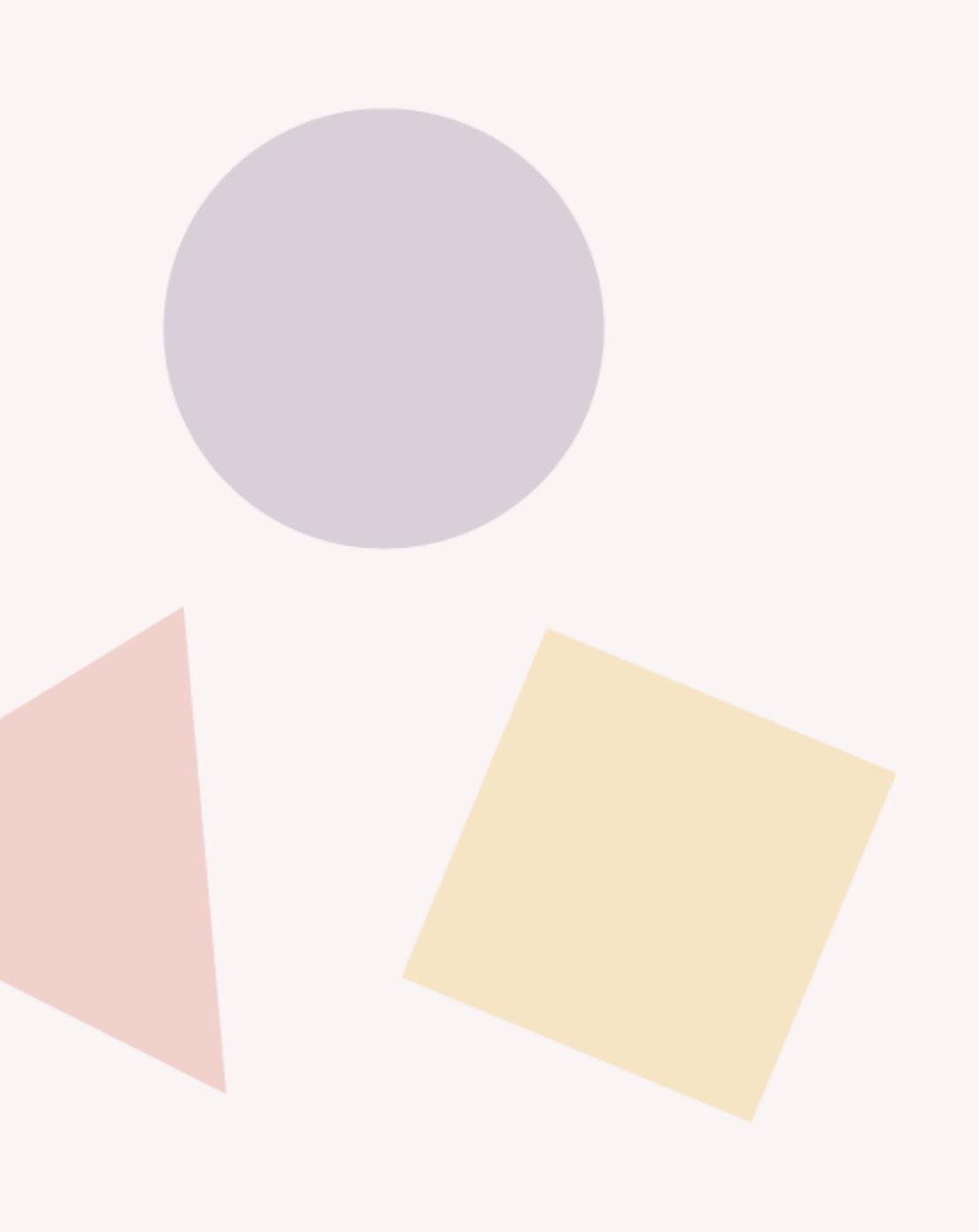












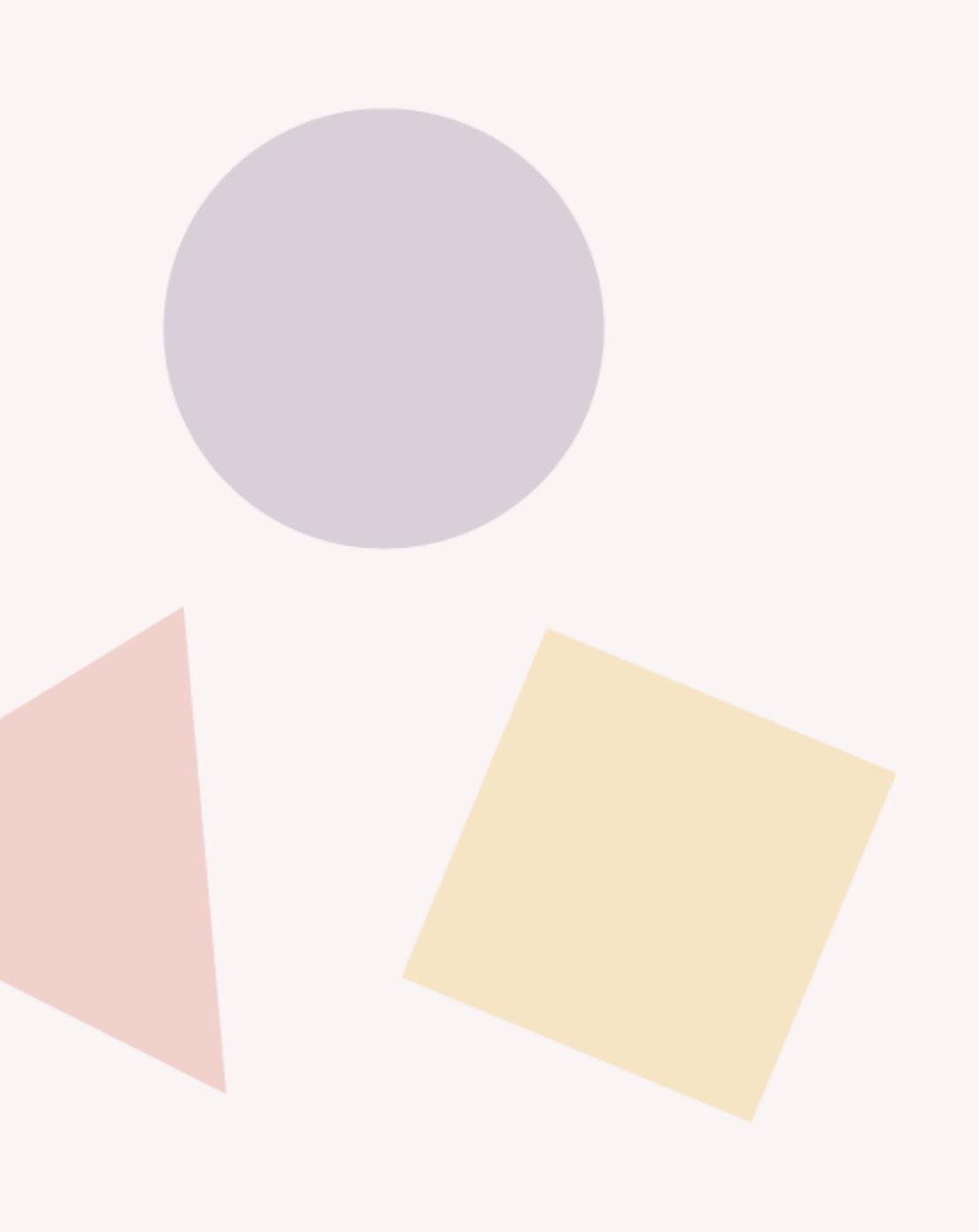
"But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

1 Samuel 16:7

"...God judges persons differently than humans do. Men and women look at the face; God looks into the heart."

1 Samuel 16:7 (The Message)

Whose judgement matters to you more?



"Jesse sent for him. He was brought in, the very picture of health—bright-eyed, goodlooking. God said, "Up on your feet! Anoint him! This is the one." Samuel took his flask of oil and anointed him, with his brothers standing around watching. The Spirit of God entered David like a rush of wind, God vitally empowering him for the rest of his life."

Can we celebrate the success of others?

We're all created equal...

We're all created equal... sort of

"We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us."

Apostle Paul (Romans 12:6)

The Parable of the Talents

unrealistic expectations

You won't lag behind, because you'll have the speed. You'll pass the whole gang and you'll soon take the lead.

Wherever you fly, you'll be best of the best. Wherever you go, you will top all the rest.

Dr. Seuss, "Oh, The Places You'll Go!"

You won't lag behind, because you'll have the speed. You'll pass the whole gang and you'll soon take the lead.

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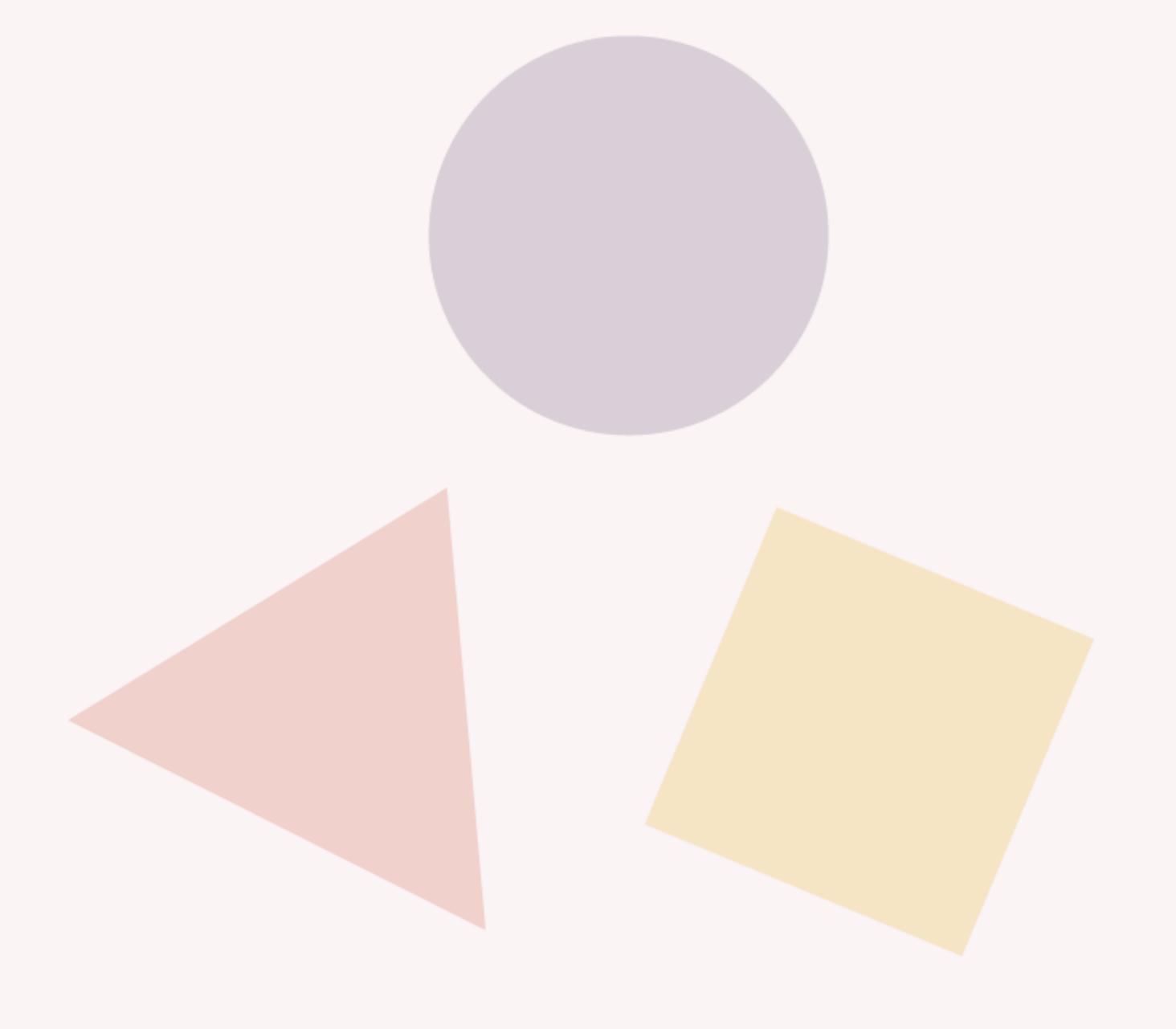
Except when you don't Because, sometimes, you won't...

Dr. Seuss, "Oh, The Places You'll Go!"

Comparison



Comparison Insecurity



Comparison Insecurity Jealousy



Comparison Insecurity Jealousy Disappointment

Comparison Insecurity Jealousy

Resentment

Disappointment

Comparison

Insecurity
Jealousy
Disappointment
Resentment
Sadness

Identity Calling Limits

David knew his identity

1 Samuel 17:33-39

The Message

"Then Saul outfitted David as a soldier in armour. He put his bronze helmet on his head, and belted his sword on him over the armour. David tried to walk but he could hardly budge. David told Saul, 'I can't even move with all this stuff on me. I'm not used to this.' And he took it all off."

1 Samuel 17:38-39 (The Message)

"Then Saul outfitted David as a soldier in armour. He put his bronze helmet on his head, and belted his sword on him over the armour. David tried to walk but he could hardly budge. David told Saul, 'I can't even move with all this stuff on me. I'm not used to this.' And he took it all off."

1 Samuel 17:38-39 (The Message)

"And he took it all off."

Rabbi Zusya, when he was an old man, said, "In the coming world, they will not ask me: 'Why were you not Moses?' They will ask me: 'Why were you not Zusya?'"

Hassidic Tale

Story of coming to Vancouver

Now I become myself.

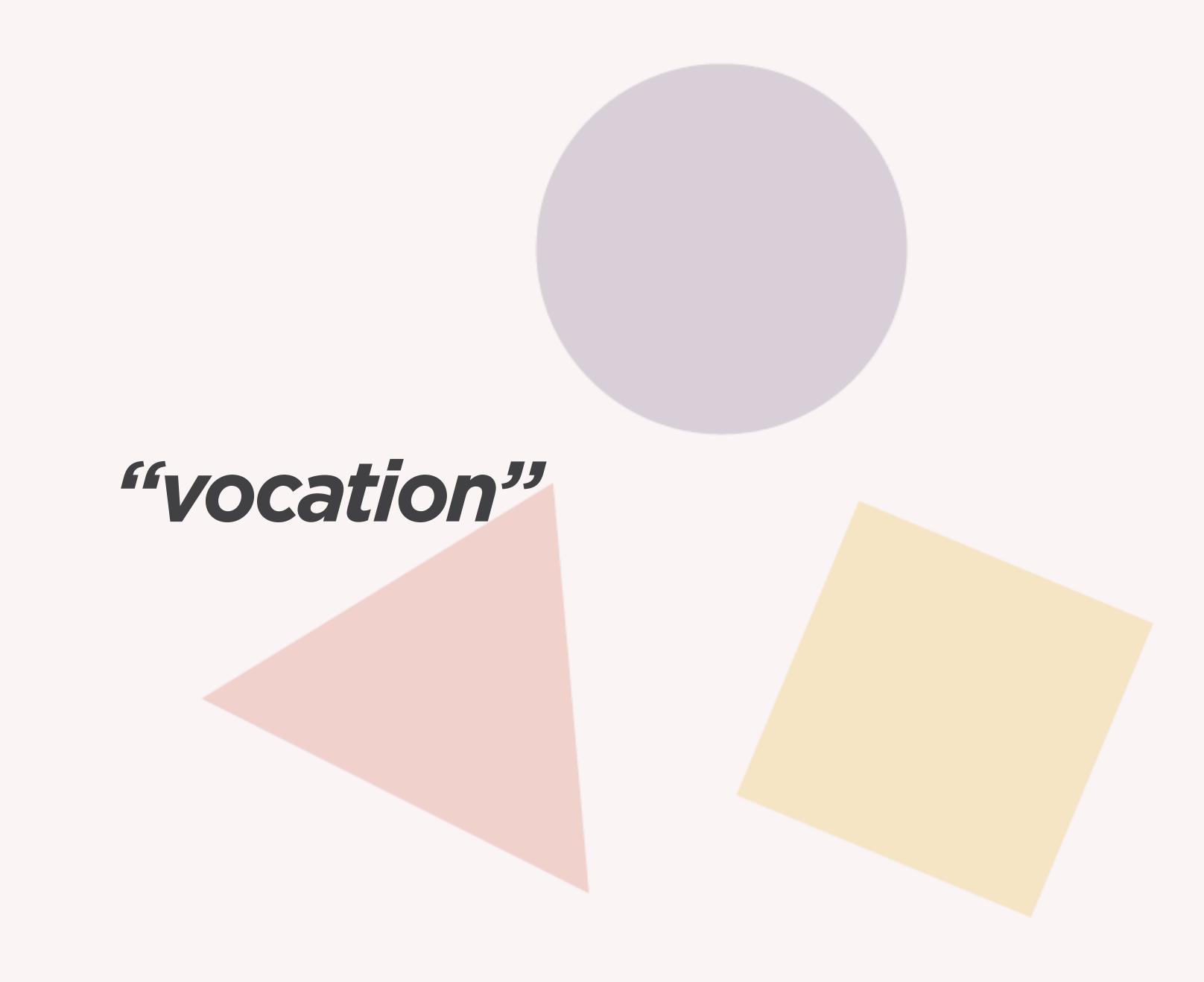
It's taken time, many years and places.

I have been dissolved and shaken,

Worn other people's faces...

May Sarton

David knew his calling



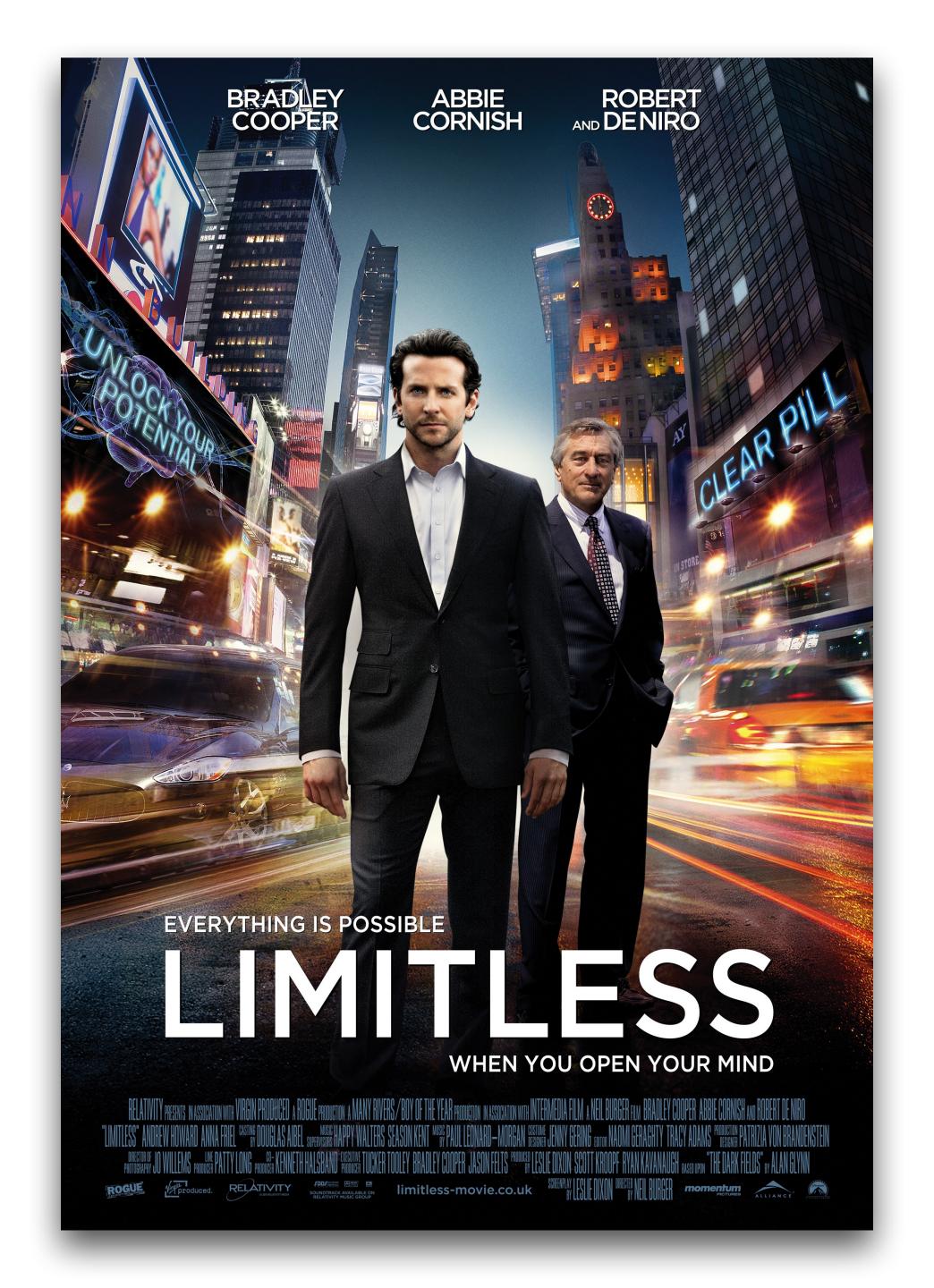
"Vocation at its deepest level is, 'This is something I can't not do, for reasons I'm unable to explain to anyone else and don't fully understand myself but that are nonetheless compelling."

Parker Palmer

David knew his limits

Story of The Mughal King

presenting our "true self"



Knowing your limitations

"...understanding the material you are working with."

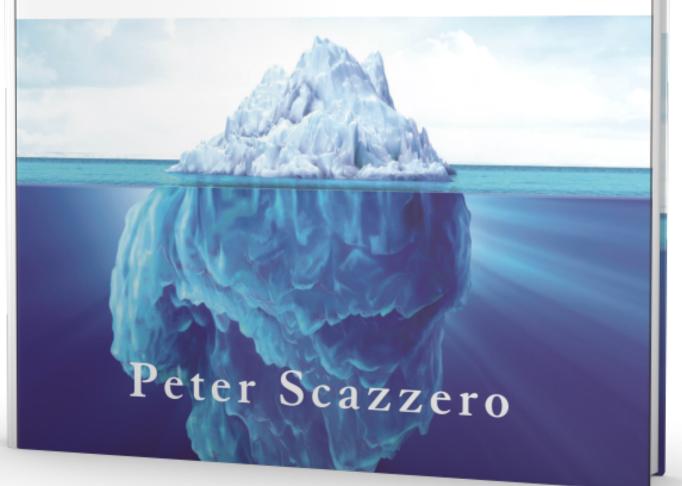
Parker Palmer



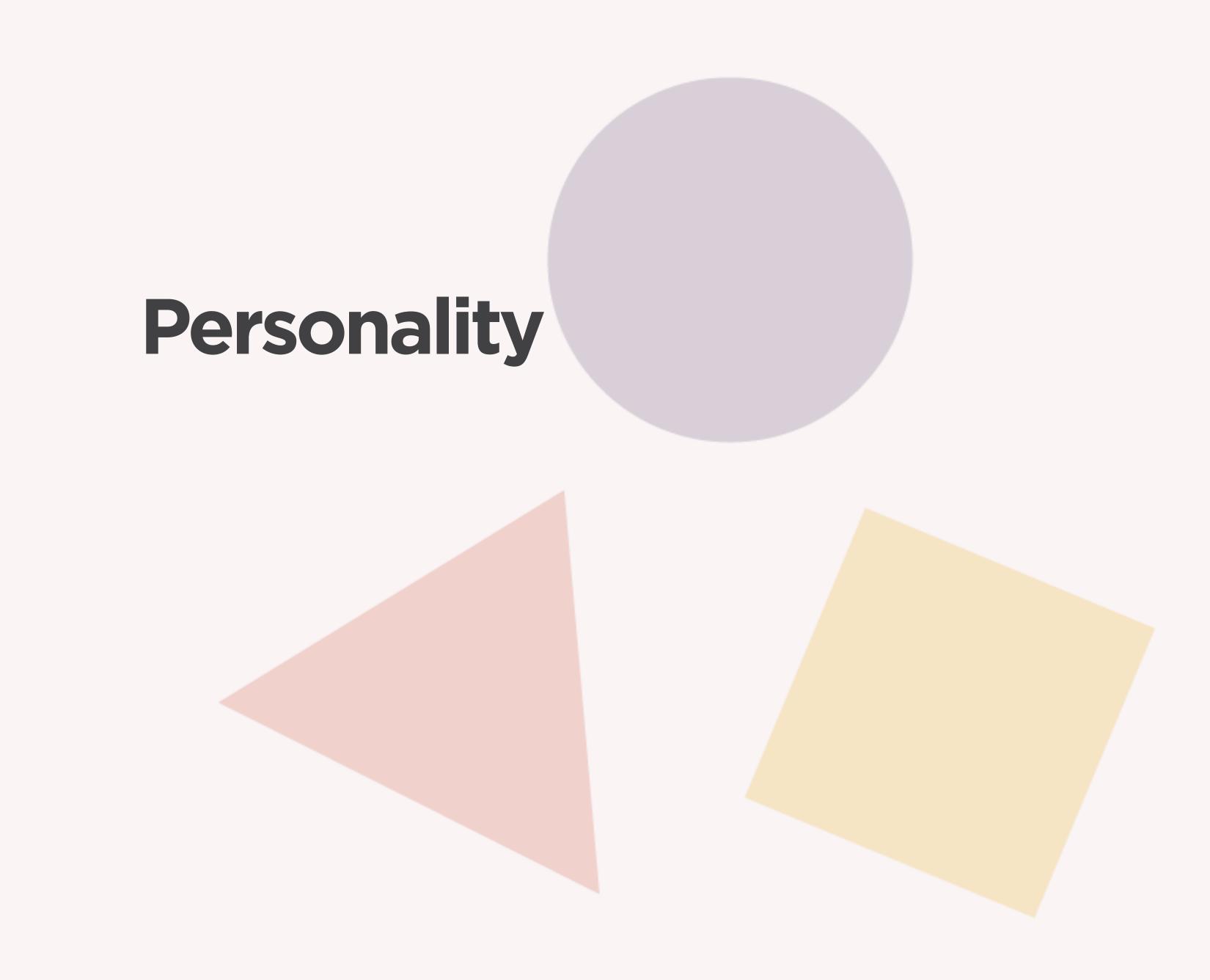
Emotionally Healthy Spirituality

UPDATED EDITION

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE to be SPIRITUALLY MATURE
WHILE REMAINING EMOTIONALLY IMMATURE



Learning to discern your limitations



Personality Season of Life

Personality Season of Life Capacity

Personality Season of Life Capacity "Difficult" Emotions

Personality
Season of Life
Capacity
"Difficult" Emotions
Scars & Wounds

Knowing our limitations

Knowing our limitations Growing through our limitations

Knowing our limitations Growing through our limitations God working through our limitations

"If I find Him, I will find myself. If I find my true self, I will find Him."

Thomas Merton

"So since we find ourselves fashioned into all these excellently formed and marvellously functioning parts in Christ's body, let's just go ahead and be what we were made to be, without enviously or pridefully comparing ourselves with each other, or trying to be something we aren't."

Romans 12:3-6a (The Message)

Questions for Reflection:

- What pieces of armour have I been tempted to put on? What is God calling me to take off? What is He replacing it with or affirming in me?
- Does the way in which I am living my life right now fit with my God-given nature? My "true self"?
- Am I being faithful to my God-given talents and my unique story?
- Am I being honest with who I am? My strengths/ weaknesses? My limits?