Walking Alone and Together Origin Story:
On April 1st, 2020, in the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the three of us - Shimira Williams, Michelle King, and Marijke Hecht - set out to have a conversation on Zoom together. We three are women educators, playmakers, learning instigators, and earth troublemakers. As we were learning what it meant to be sheltered in place, we serendipitously birthed #WalkingAloneandTogether (WAAT). Through the discipline of showing up week after week, we created refugia, an area in which a population of organisms can survive through a period of unfavorable conditions. This virtual refugia was our emergent community space, centering our complex identities of race, gender, class, spirituality and geographies. As we look back, more than a year later, we can see that it is also a place of refuge and futurity inspired by Afrofuturism, SolarPunk and Indigeneity. Now, we want to offer not only a summary of what we have learned together - we also want to share the process that we developed by offering our Learning Refugia Workshop with ASLE.

The Invitation:
Would you like to cultivate a practice of walking or being-in-place together and alone as part of your conference experience? We invite you to co-create and co-connect communities around the world for #ASLE2021 with #WalkingAloneAndTogether at our

Live Workshop on Monday July 26, 2021 from 12 noon-1pm EDT

Vocabulary to Grapple With:
refugia, beloved community, ki/kin, loitering, decay, scalar, tiny experiment

Ross Gay on Loitering:
The Paris Review - Loitering Is Delightful - The Paris Review (article)

Ross Gay – Tending Joy and Practicing Delight | The On Being Project - The On Being Project (audio)

Musical Playlist:
https://sptfy.com/es30

Walking Alone & Together:
A Journal of walking gratitude and joy

Let's do an experiment!
Spend one week doing a daily walk with a journal entry.

Week 1 - Loitering
• Photo or doodle of the walk
• Notice and record what you are grateful for in your community
• Noticings of ‘time beings’ (visual, auditory, all senses)
  □ a person in community
  □ More than human creature
  □ Element (air, water, etc)
  □ What do you hear when you sit still outside your house
• Wonderings
  □ What do we think that these other time beings might notice and wonder about?

"Enjoy your walks, be patient with yourself, take notice"
- Marijke Hecht & Michelle King & Shimira Williams