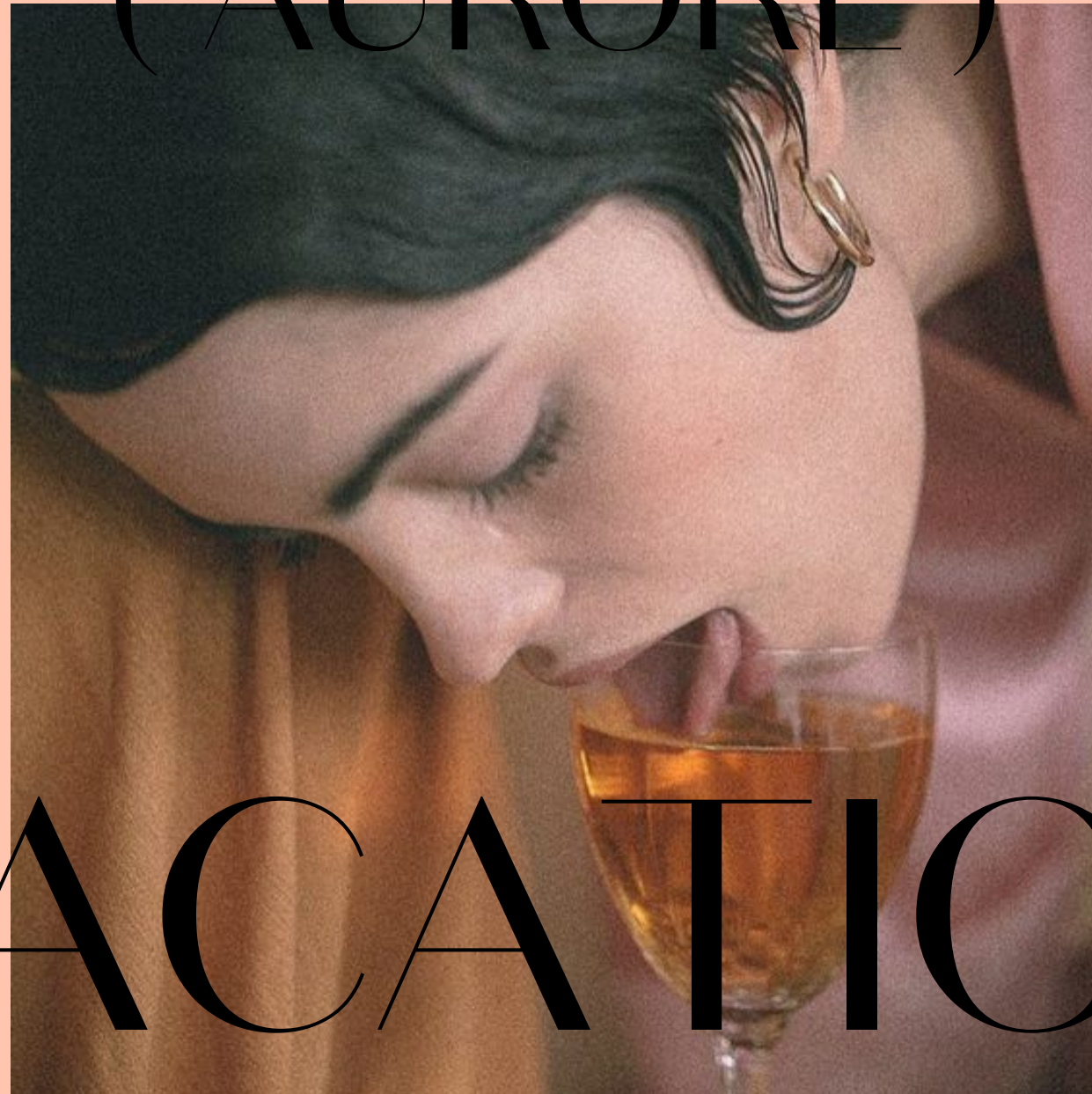


(AURORE)



VACATION

THEORY

## editor's note

Vacation Theory is the notion that you are your best self on vacation. Traveling alone or with one friend makes you bolder and more receptive—because you have to be. It's a survival instinct that kicks in. You're compelled to make friends for the evening or overnight. You'll say yes to things you'd typically say no to.

The trick of vacation theory is that it's not just for spatial travel, it works too for time travel. If you want to go places.

This workbook invites you to revisit your former selves and past lovers. Check in, stay awhile, pay tribute. Apply Vacation Theory to reminiscing on your past lives. Take a bath in the freedom and possibility and let yourself open up like the raw wound you once were. It's a vacation that costs us only imagination and a dash of heartache. It's a little bit summertime sadness, a little bit feral fantasy. Bon voyage!

xxxCarly



“We travel, some of us forever, to seek other states, other lives, other souls.”—anaïs nin

“Now more than ever do I realize that I will never be content with a sedentary life, that I will always be haunted by thoughts of a sun-drenched elsewhere.”

— Isabelle Eberhardt

What's the weather like where you are? What would make it perfect—a couple degrees? A body of water just outside your door? Describe your ideal climate and place for this moment. Make a Pinterest board if you're feeling visual and want to manifest.

# Revisit *your* old self

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Pick a time of your life to go back and check on your former self. How is she? Is she wilder, freer? Does she know less but live more? Or is she still in her shell, waiting to figure it all out. Describe the circumstances of the visit—how do you find her?

Choose a date (a year, month, or exact moment) and enter in.

# Describe Vacation \*You\*

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What are you like on vacation? How are you different than you are in your day to day?  
Can you apply vacation theory to an outing in your own city/within your routine? Do  
it just to observe how others react to you/how you feel about yourself. If you have a  
memory that exemplifies vacation \*you\* write it down!

# Past Lives

Make an inventory of all the ones you loved (or never loved) before.

This can be a simple list with some descriptors, or more in depth writing about each relationship. If you want to find a happy medium, choose one moment together to memorialize in a few sentences. Revel in the impossibility and fantasy.

If you're feeling this flow, submit it as an AUREORE story (even though it doesn't fit the usual requirements!)

“Romance— in movies and in life— is often unsatisfying, but that very dissatisfaction is what generates the romance. Or, at least, that’s how it’s supposed to work. Lack is the force that sustains yearning. Wanting, we’re told from before we know what any of this is, is about not having. I’d heard the phrase “people only want what they can’t have,” thousands of times before I ever even kissed anybody. It was a law of physics, a thing everybody knew. Romance means reaching, Tantalus-like, for fruit that always evades your grasp. The glow between two bodies is only possible because they’re holding themselves apart.”—Helena Fitzgerald

Write a bio for future you in third person.

This is a way to dream and manifest what you imagine to be your best life/future self.

Share where you reside and with whom.

Your work and your awards.

What else is noteworthy about this future life?

\*always an option to make it OTT ie. "Carly lives in Bali with her harem of 7 men"



“Every dreamer knows that it is entirely possible to be homesick for a place you've never been to, perhaps more homesick than for familiar ground.”

— Judith Thurman

Describe a place you're homesick for, having never been there. Make it sexy and longing, slow and unruly.

# in-yeon 인연

Noun[[edit](#)]

**인연** ㄹ (inyeon) (hanja 因緣)

1. the ties between two people over the course of their lives;  
one's connection with certain people or things
2. **첫사랑과의 인연**
3. cheotsarang-gwa-ui inyeon
4. relationship with one's first love over the course of one's  
life
5. predestined relationship; fate; destiny.
6. (Buddhism) karmic affinity
7. chain of cause and effect

Write about a lover or person  
in your life with whom  
things felt especially fateful.