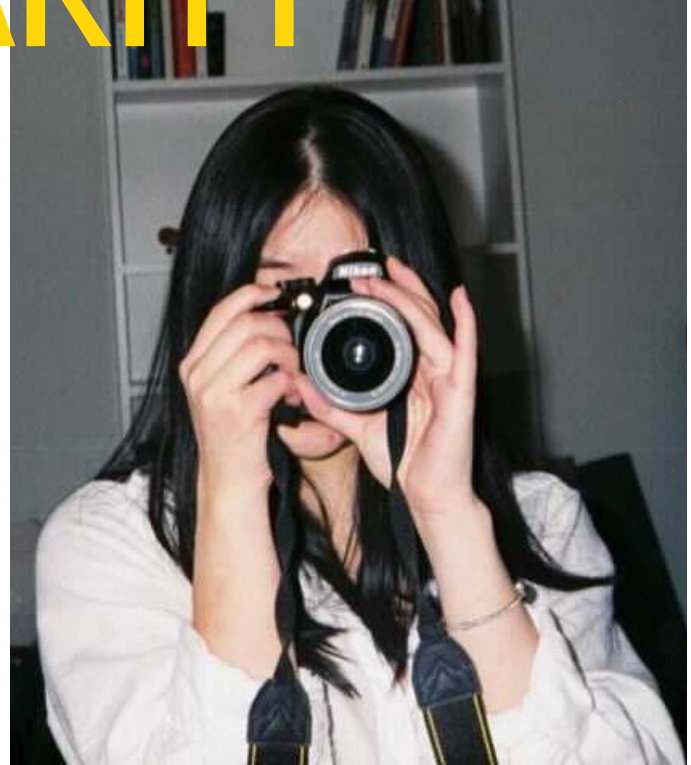


CLARITY CLARITY CLARITY



WHAT LENSE DO YOU CHOOSE?

HOW DO YOU SEE?

**BLINDSIGHT;
A CONDITION IN
WHICH THE SUFFERER
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CONSCIOUSLY
PERCEIVING THEM.**

WRITTEN BY
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If I tell you to picture an apple, can you see it?

I'm studying for my final exam when my friend asks me this, to which I say: "yea... can't everyone do that?" To 2% of the world, the answer is no. The condition is called aphantasia, and it belongs to people who are unable to visualize mental images: a blind mind with seeing eyes.

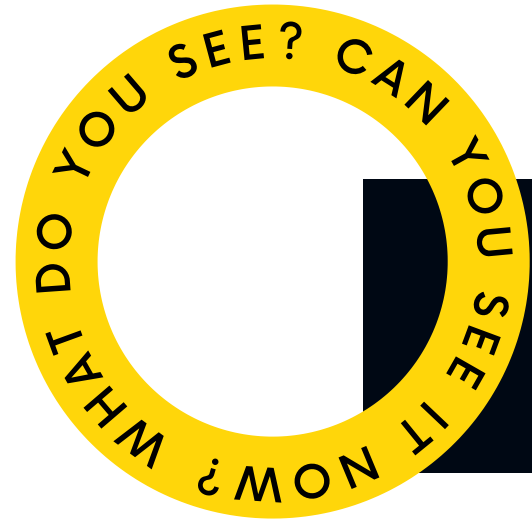
I'm then introduced to another condition: blindsight. Those with blindsight cannot physically see things--at least not consciously. Yet, people with blindsight still respond to visual stimuli without perceiving them: blind eyes with a seeing mind.

WHAT DO YOU SEE?

CLARITY

I've never thought about sight beyond its literal implications: to see the world with your eyes. But, perhaps sight is more abstract than that.

When I first heard about blindsight, I had thought of blindsight; to take someone by surprise, usually negatively. I thought about instances when I have felt blindsided:



When I was in first grade and my best friend moved across the country in the middle of the school year.

When I was in third grade, and the same thing happened again.

When my pet goldfish, Bubbles and Rainbow, died the day after we bought them.

When I came home from school one day and my father told me that we were moving out of my childhood home--even if the new place was just 5 minutes away.

When I was 15, and my friend passed without warning.

When teachers called on me while I was spacing out.

When I felt heartbreak for the first time.

When my friend caught a cold and I had to pretend to be her for a last minute presentation.

In hindsight, I see that sight is a luxury, and not one that everyone can afford. It's one that we often take for granted, and one that has different forms. Sight can give us clarity: in every sense of the word, if we're lucky enough to see it.

CAN YOU SEE IT NOW?