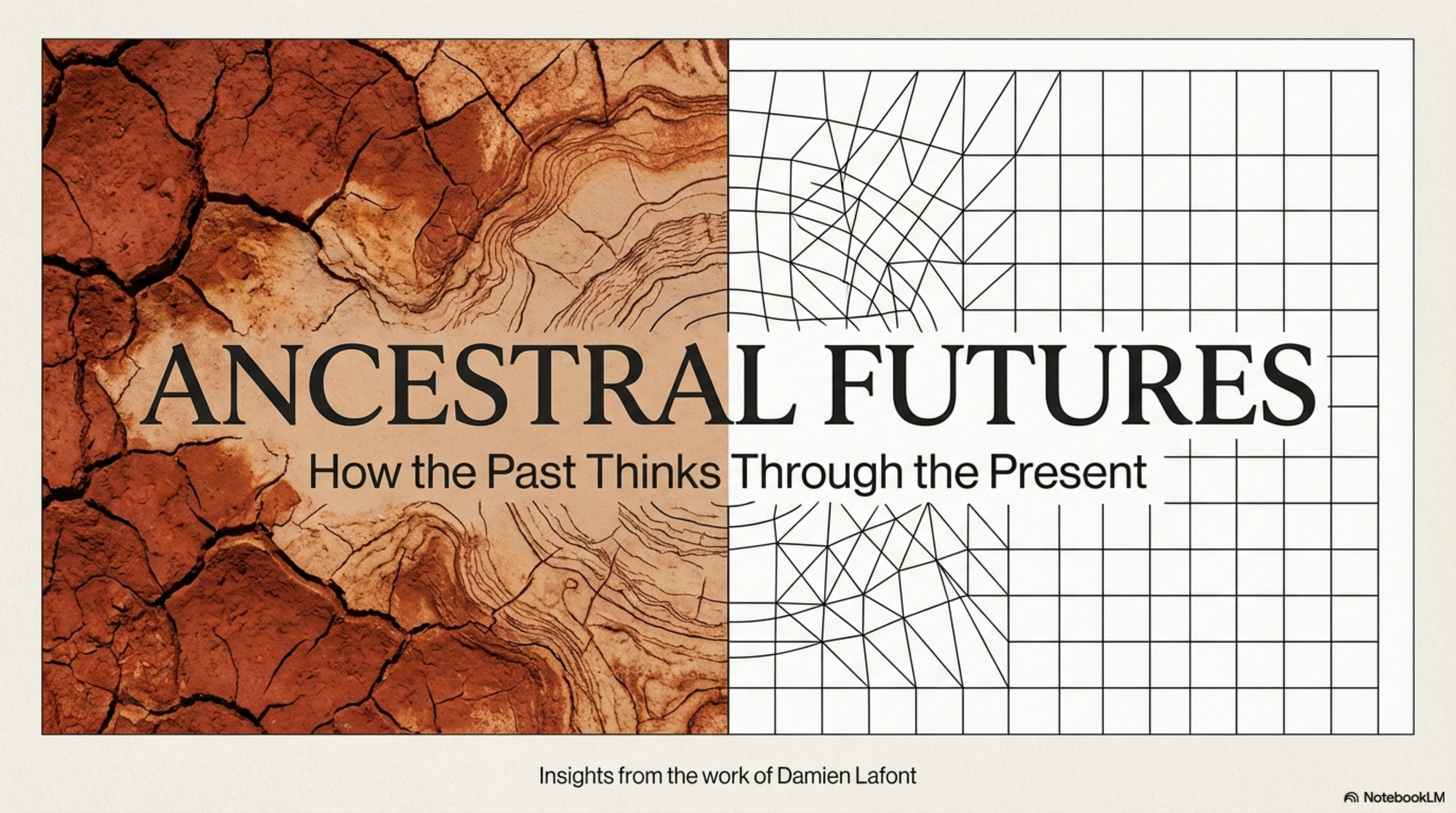


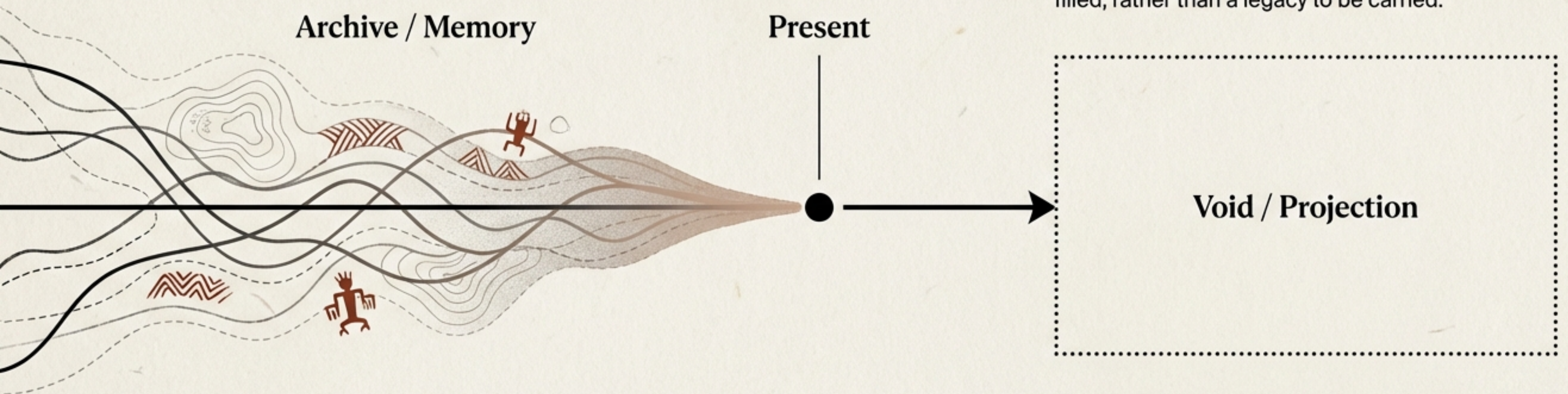


ANCESTRAL FUTURES

How the Past Thinks Through the Present

Insights from the work of Damien Lafont

The Illusion of the Empty Future



Modern thought views time as a linear succession:
Past → Present → Future.

- The Past is reduced to a finished archive.
- The Future is perceived as an empty space for design.

The Result: We treat the future as a space to be filled, rather than a legacy to be carried.

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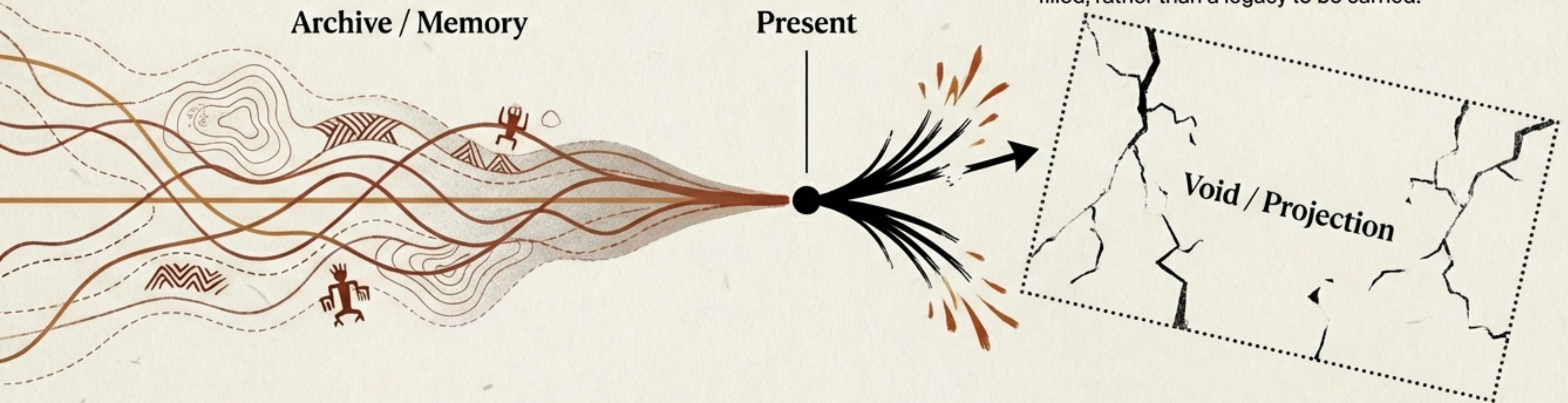
The Ontological Rupture

When time is a sequence, continuity breaks.

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Past → Present → Future.

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Extraction

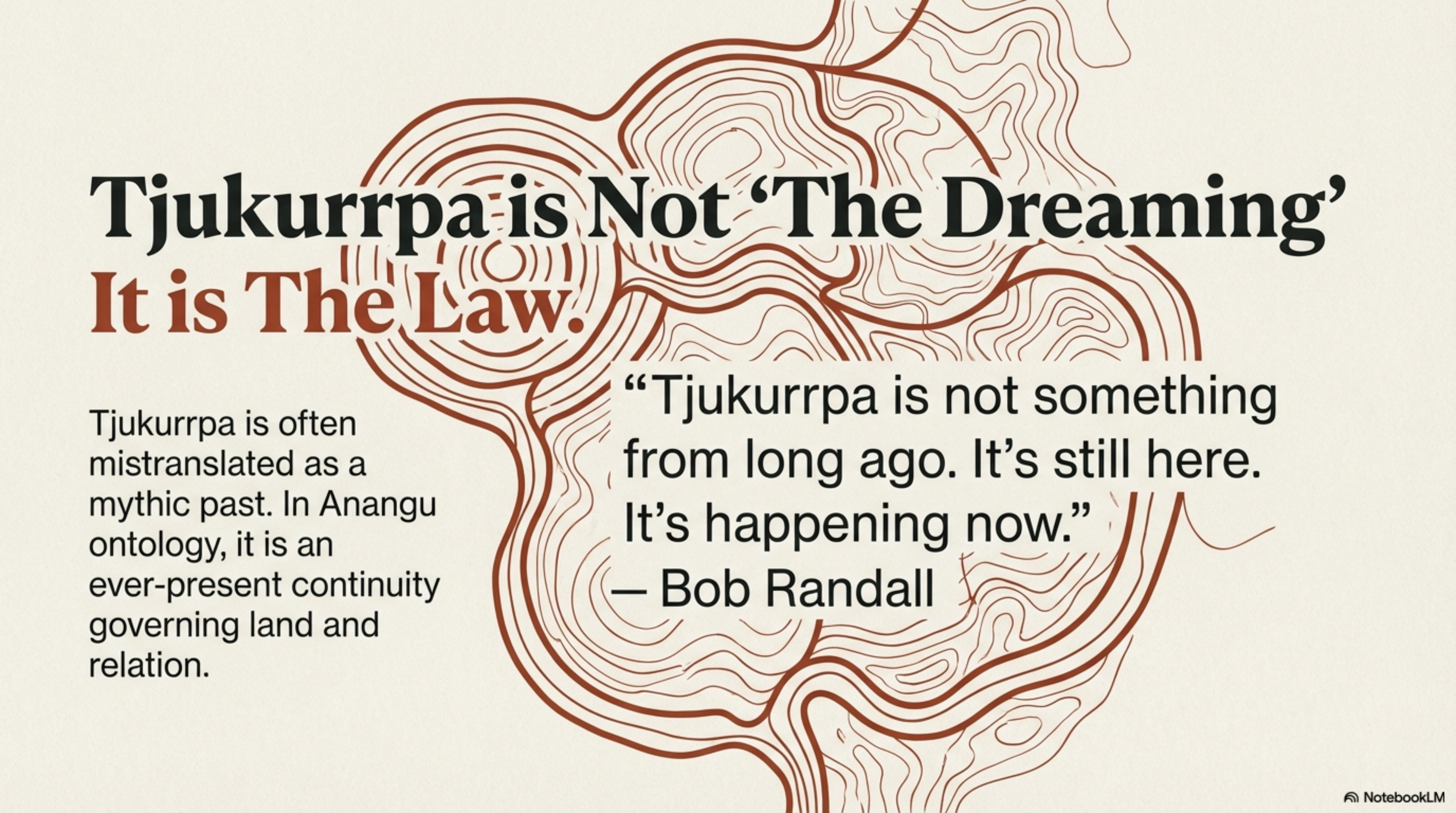
Without the past, the future becomes a resource to be mined or optimized.

Disconnection

Responsibility becomes abstract—a “choice” rather than a structural obligation.

Fragility

Modern futurity is haunted not by too much past, but by too little continuity.



Tjukurrpa is Not ‘The Dreaming’ It is The Law.

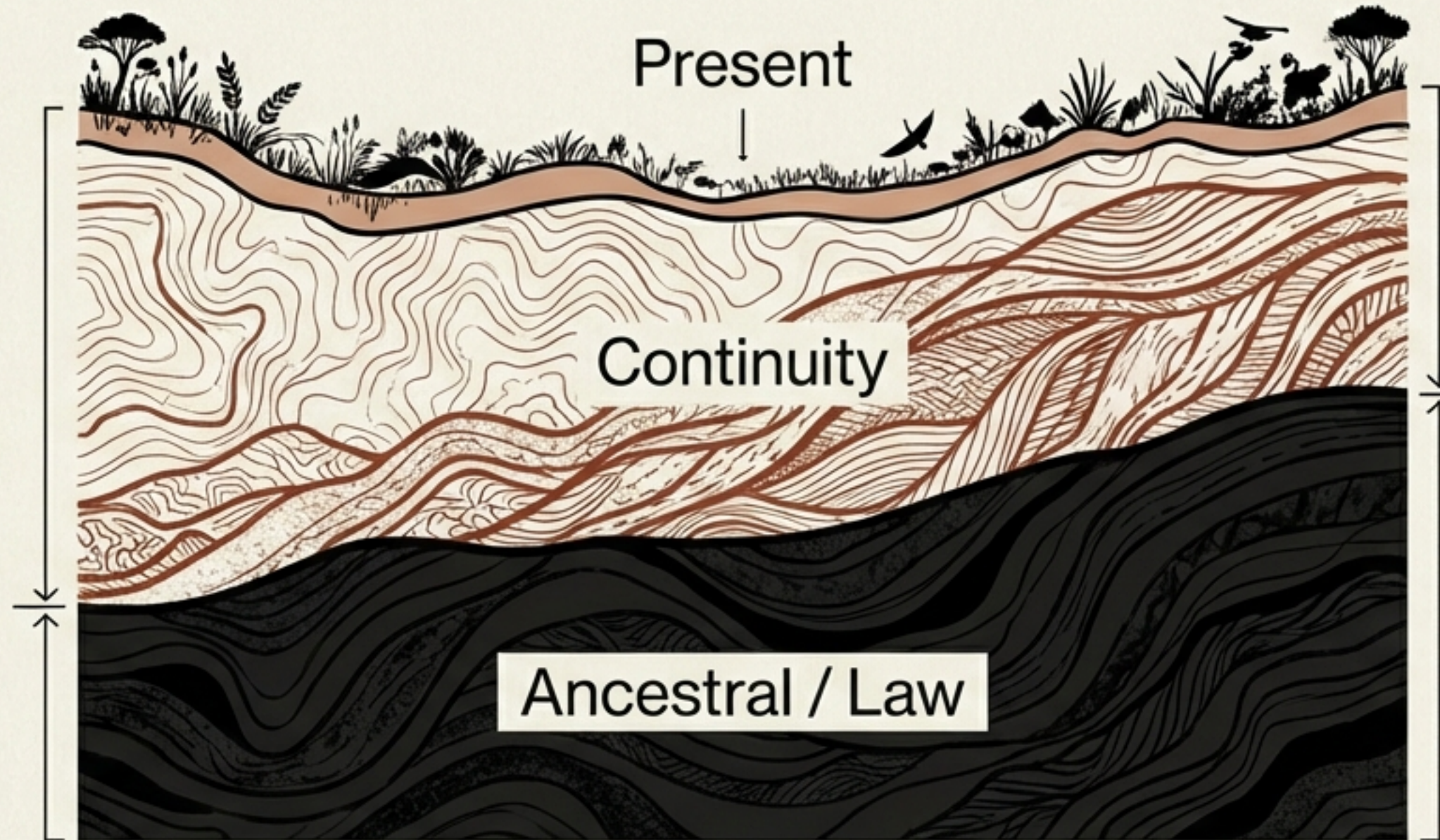
Tjukurrpa is often mistranslated as a mythic past. In Anangu ontology, it is an ever-present continuity governing land and relation.

“Tjukurrpa is not something from long ago. It’s still here. It’s happening now.”
— Bob Randall

The Past Thinks Through the Present

Linear View

Past = Memory
(Psychological).
Gone and
finished.



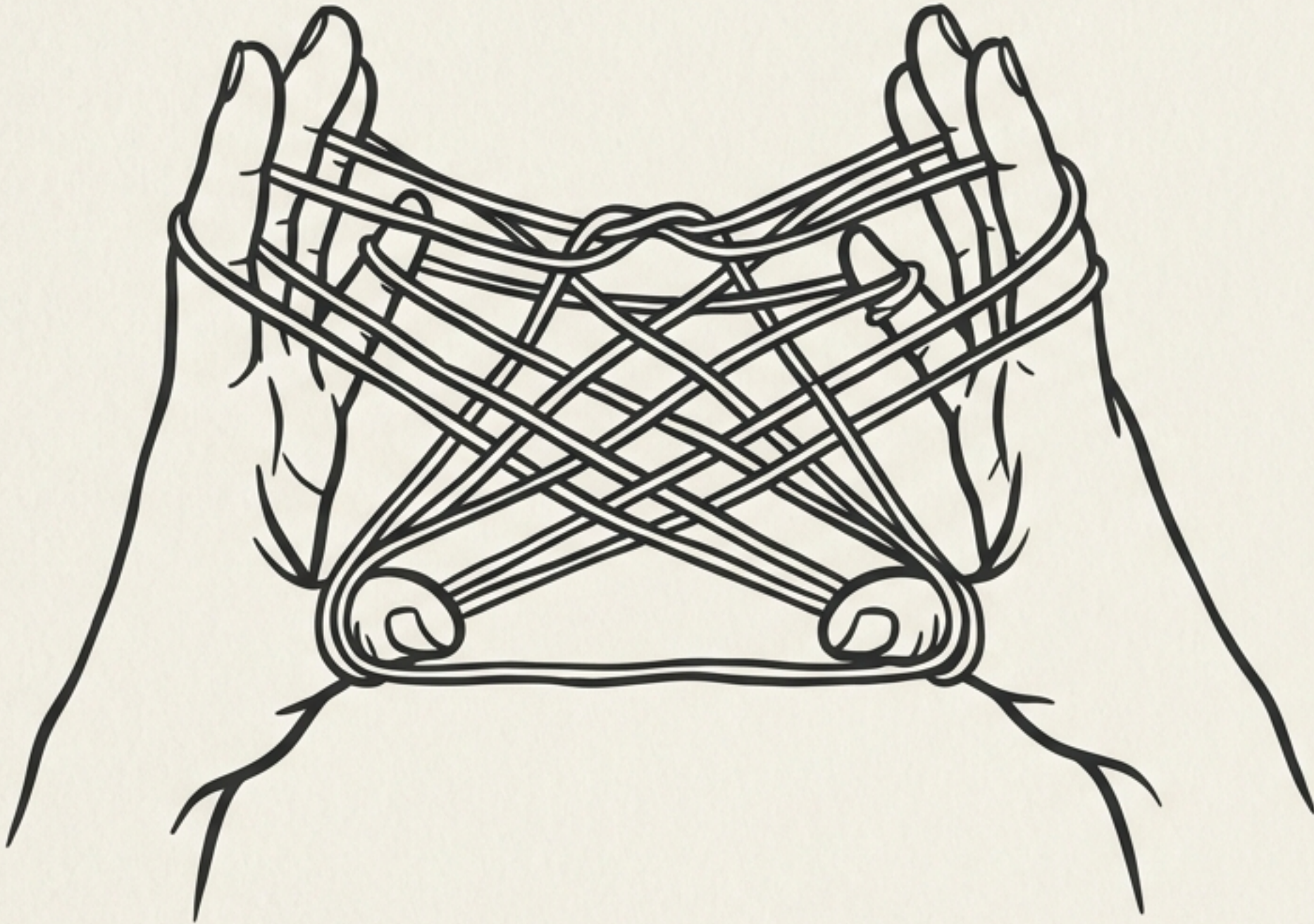
Ancestral View

Past = Presence
(Ontological).

A structural
support.

Creation is not an event that happened once; it is happening now, insofar as Law is carried.

Time Must Be Carried



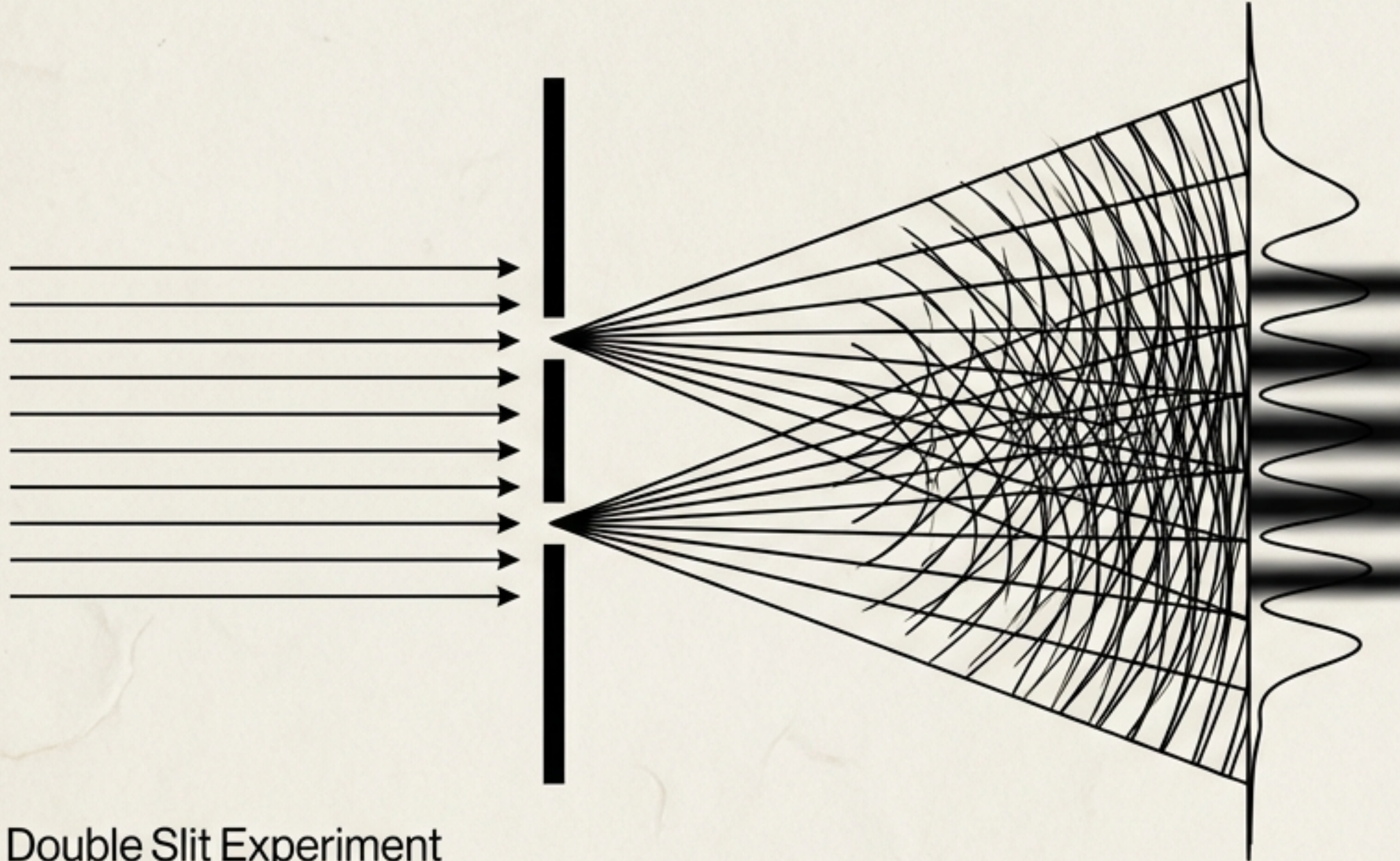
Futurity is not inevitable; **it is conditional.** Time is maintained through:

- **Ceremony**
- **Care**
- **Right Relation**

To break continuity is not merely to forget history, but to foreclose the future.

Physics Encounters the Limit

Linear mechanics failed to describe non-local correlations.



Double Slit Experiment

20th Century Physics
(Quantum Theory) dismantled
the linear timeline. Science
found that reality is not
fragmented into isolated
particles or isolated moments.

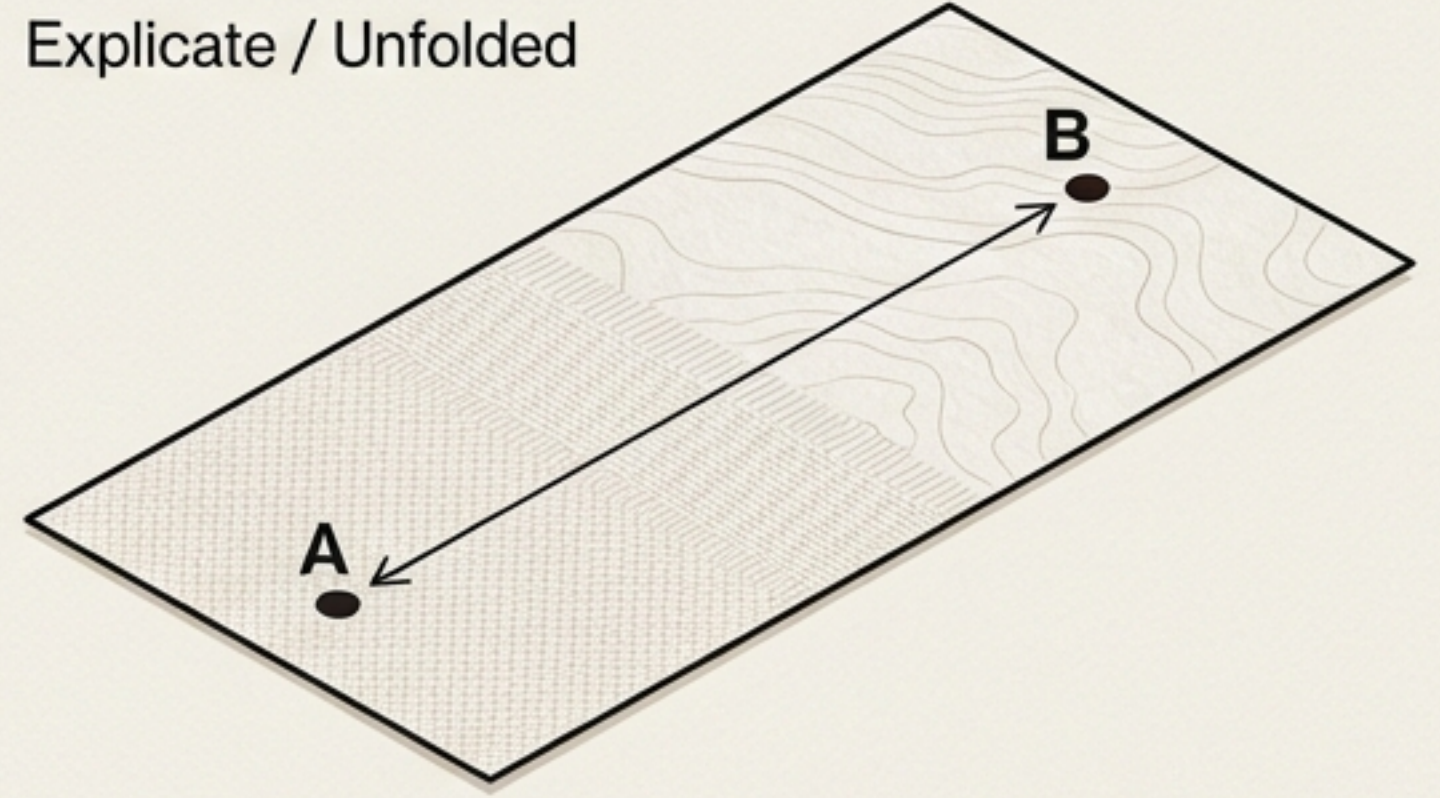
David Bohm

The Holomovement

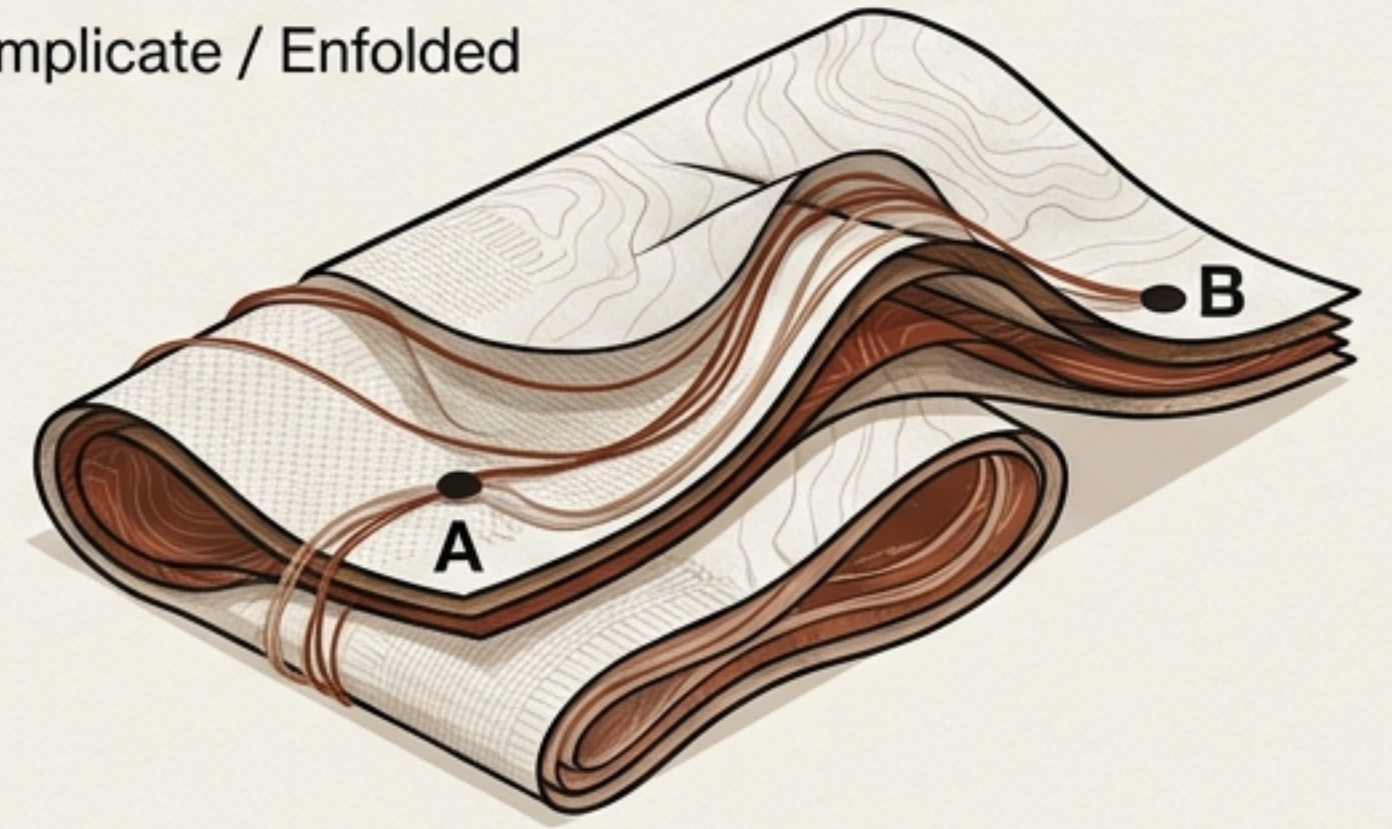
Reality is an undivided movement.
Past, Present, and Future are “enfolded”
into the present moment.

“Fragmentation is an
illusion of thought.
The whole is primary.”
— David Bohm

Explicate / Unfolded



Implicate / Enfolded



Description vs. Obligation



Science can tell us time is non-linear, but it cannot tell us how to live responsibly within it.

ANCESTRAL FUTURES

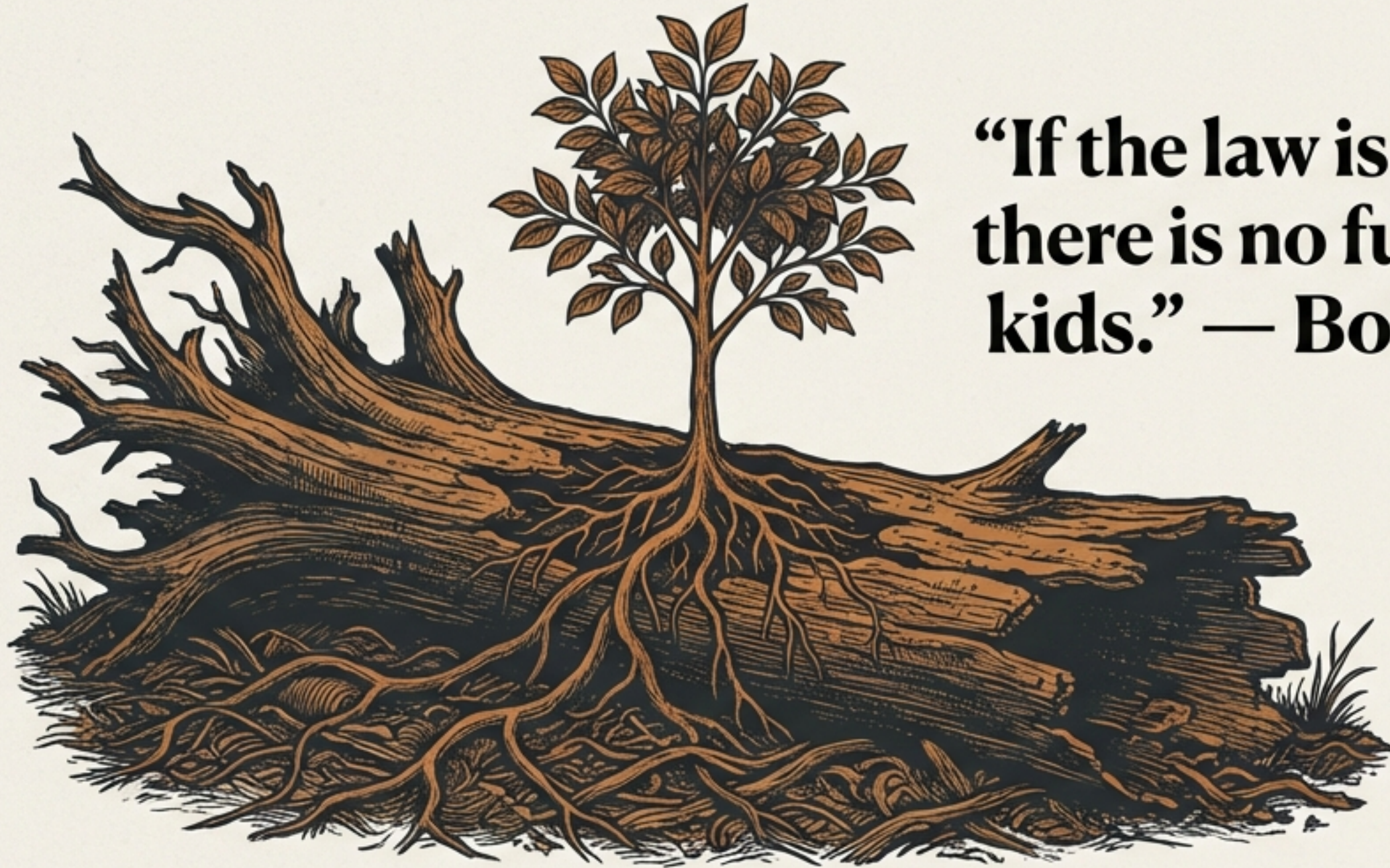
A mode of futurity grounded in
Responsibility, Care, and Continuity.

From:
Novelty,
Prediction,
Control

To:
**Maintenance,
Relationship,
Inheritance**

Futures are not invented from nothing; they emerge
from the integrity of relationships maintained today.

The Conditional Future



**“If the law is gone,
there is no future for the
kids.” — Bob Randall**

The future is inherited, not designed. Futurity depends
on the maintenance of relational order.

Continuity as Strategy



Innovation without
Continuity



Holding the Relation

Innovation without continuity is temporal incoherence.

Stop asking: "What is the new trend?"
Start asking: "What relationships must be maintained?"

The Crisis of Futurity



Our crisis is not a failure of imagination or planning. **It is a failure to recognize how the past acts.**

We cannot optimize the future while eroding the conditions—**Land, Law, Relation**—that allow the future to exist.

Thinking Through the Present

Ancestral futures do not ask what might
be possible tomorrow. They ask
what must be held today.

Based on 'Ancestral Futures: How the Past Thinks Through the Present' by Damien Lafont.