Recognizing the current moment as one dominated by high capital, this piece articulates the kind of labour necessary for the imagination to dream the human, the nonhuman and the earth elements out of the unjust present into a more just future, without foreclosing what justice might mean. I recognize our embeddedness in history, which for me includes the persistence of the technological, the inescapability and productivity of a politics of difference, as well as the recognition that the Western tradition contains alternatives to the Cartesian subject. Reading Lewis Hyde, I propose an
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The human race will be no more, and humanity will slip into the timeless, dreamless sleep like everything that came before it. What lies in store for the Earth beyond humanity? After humans are dead and gone, microbial life would more than likely become the dominant species on Earth. This scenario is plausible if humanity were to be ended by a large asteroid or a nuclear holocaust. After seeing each other during the lows, seeing each other during the highs was such a great feeling. Getting involved on campus, making new friends, and succeeding in classes are only a few of the many ways you have watched each other grow. There was so much time to bond before the stresses of college would later take over. To imagine the future in terms of innovation means, most fundamentally, to imagine change in terms of new ideas, and to think of life as an array of individual experiments and choices. Indeed, if we think of the future primarily in terms of human innovation, then this dynamic and unmanaged trial and error process turns out to be the all-important filter that determines what tomorrow will bring. The combination of innovation and choice, each feeding back into the other in a self-correcting process, will work in a complex, unpredictable, but highly effective way to secure for us a future that works, even if we could not have imagined it. Only humans have religion, because only humans have the brain architecture to imagine things that don't exist. And the reason is that they can't imagine beyond this immediate social circle, or backwards and forwards in time, in the same way that humans can. Bloch believes our ancestors developed the necessary neural architecture to imagine before or around 40-50,000 years ago, at a time called the Upper Palaeological Revolution, the final sub-division of the Stone Age.