



# *the* SKETCHNOTE HANDBOOK

→ THE ILLUSTRATED *guide* ←  
to VISUAL NOTE-TAKING



by MIKE ROHDE  
*the illustrator of REWORK*

## PRAISE FOR *THE SKETCHNOTE HANDBOOK*

.. ————— ..

“Entertaining and memorable (just like sketchnotes), this fast-reading, fact-packed book by the godfather of sketchnoting provides everything you and your team need to know about the creative, mnemonic, and business benefits of this brilliant new method of note taking.”

—Jeffrey Zeldman, author of *Designing with Web Standards*

“Mike Rohde has taken his original, fun, and smart approach to note taking and broken it down into simple, clear steps.

—Chris Guillebeau, author of *The \$100 Startup*

“Sketchnotes are a great way to capture the highlights of an idea in a way that will naturally work for your brain.

Nobody will teach you how to do it better than Mike.”

—David Heinemeier Hansson, co-author of *REWORK*

“*The Sketchnote Handbook* is an informative, hands-on book designed to quickly share the principles of sketchnoting so you can get right to creating sketchnotes for yourself. Mike’s fun, illustrative style energizes you to pick up a pen and sketchnote!”

—Nancy Duarte, CEO Duarte Inc.,

and best-selling author of *Resonate* and *Slide:ology*

“Never fear note taking again. Mike Rohde demystifies the practice and makes it accessible to everyone. Your brain will thank him later.”

—Sunni Brown, co-author of *Gamestorming* and leader of the Doodle Revolution

“This book is not really a book. It’s a tool kit for learning a new and better way of capturing and understanding information, and it’s perfectly aligned with the way our brains actually work. If you’re a student, teacher, or businessperson, this book has the potential to change the way you learn, and the way you think.”

—Daniel Coyle, *The New York Times* best-selling author of

*The Talent Code* and *The Little Book of Talent*

“The perfect introduction to visual note taking and the most useful how-to guide I’ve ever read, no contest.”

—Josh Kaufman, author of *The Personal MBA: Master the Art of Business*

# R E C A P

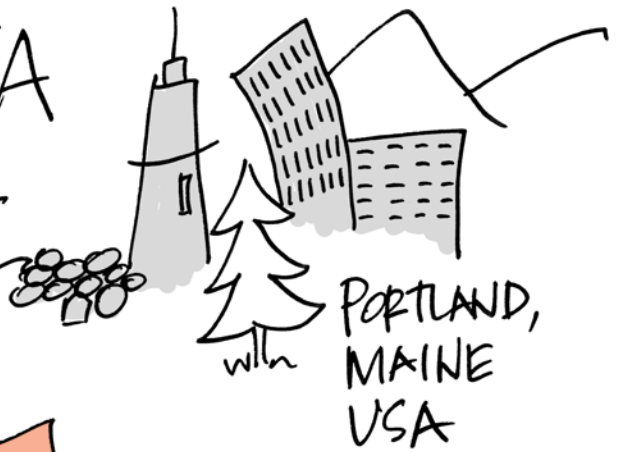


- ➔ Capturing sketchnotes begins with hearing accurate information.
- ➔ When you listen actively, your mind can spot patterns and cache ideas.
- ➔ Give your undivided attention.
- ➔ Eliminate and filter distractions.
- ➔ Immerse your mind in the presentation.
- ➔ Cache ideas.
- ➔ Recognize patterns.
- ➔ Practice to improve your listening skills at every opportunity.

★ NEXT: THE SKETCHNOTING PROCESS

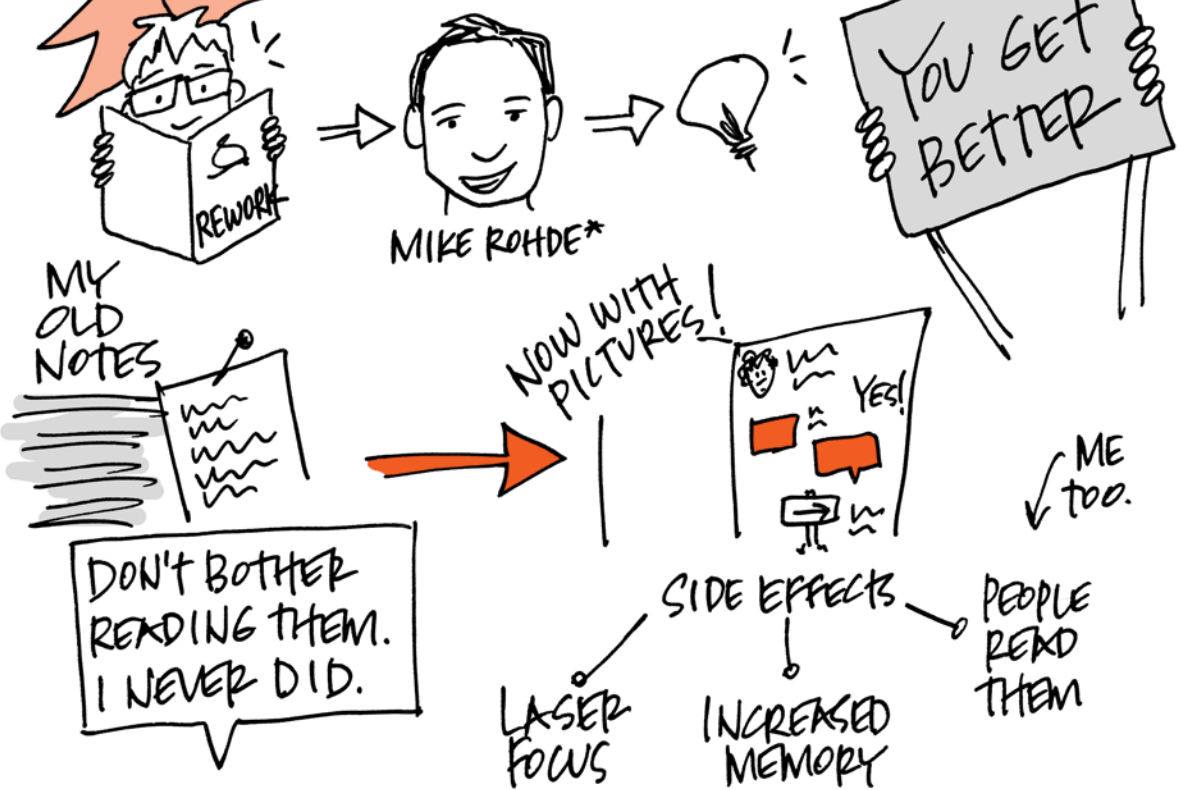


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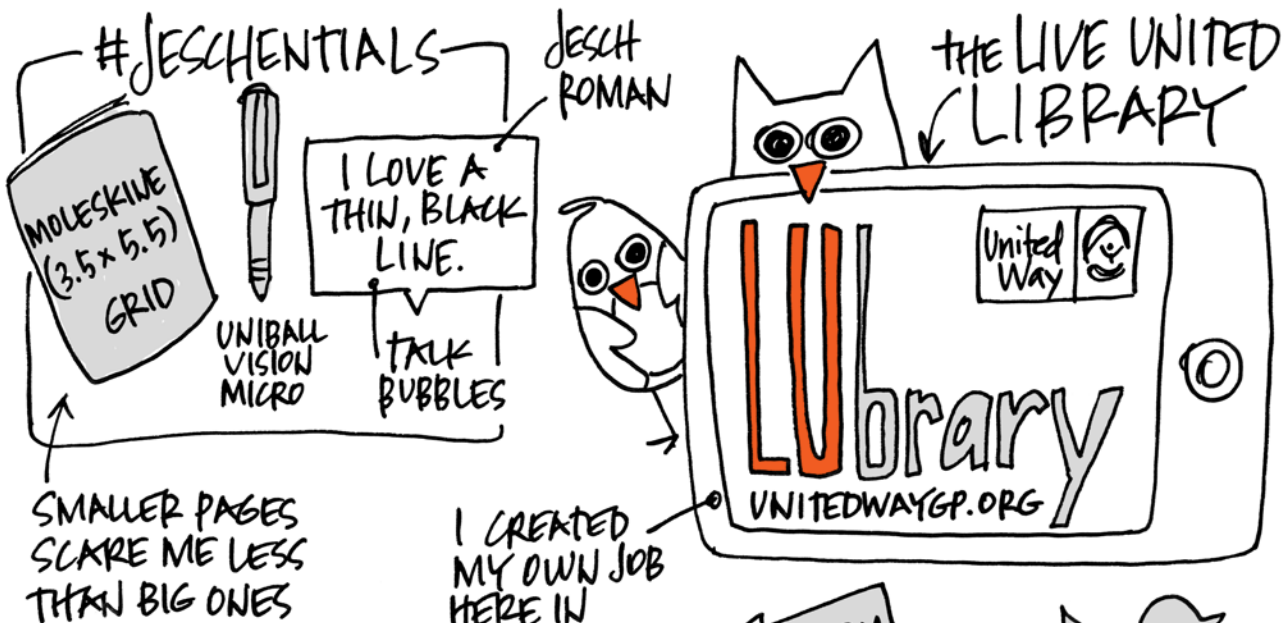


PORTLAND,  
MAINE  
USA

THE ORIGINS OF  
JESCHNOTES



\* AND NOT JUST BECAUSE THIS IS HIS BOOK



ONCE UPON A TIME...

WORDS WORDS WORDS WORDS

WORDS & PICTURES  
ALREADY  
ON THE PAGE

THEN I  
DISCOVERED  
BOOKS

# WORDS

WORDS ON THE  
PAGE...  
PICTURES  
STAY  
IN MY  
HEAD



NEW SCHOOL IN 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

SO I'M  
NOT THE  
CREATIVE  
BUT  
(OH GOSH)

REDISCOVER  
LOVE  
OF  
ART

**BUT**

ART

TO: JIM@AOL.COM  
FROM: ME@CIT.CO  
SUBJECT: CAN  
WE MEET?  
JIM,  
I'D LIKE TO

JOB BY-JOB..  
NO PICTURES THERE

## KEYBOARD INTERFACE

THIS IS HOW THEY SHARE & LEARN

KIDS DRAW WHATEVER  
IS IN THEIR HEAD...

I LIKED TO  
DRAW  
DINOSAURS...

SO IF THE GREEKS

(I THINK IT WAS MORE

BUT  
FIRST  
IT WAS

EVERYONE  
- CAN -  
SKETCH!

NO HAND  
RAISING IN  
CLASSES..

IF THAT'S

WHAT ABOUT

**How CAN**

TOO MANY THREADS

**FOLLOW THE  
PATH OF DISCUSSION**

IDEA ↑ COMMENT...  
THOUGHT ↑

# HOW TO

# KEEP TRACK

AND CONTRIBUTE?

# BUT: EMAIL

MORE  
COLORS  
WITH

## S+ FLOW CHART STYLE

PLUS

SOME  
DRAWINGS

...Cool



## CHAPTER 4

# the Sketchnoting PROCESS

AFTER YEARS OF EXPERIENCE  
I'VE DEVELOPED MY OWN  
SKETCHNOTING PROCESS  
THAT WORKS WELL FOR  
ME AND CAN HELP YOU  
CREATE A PROCESS OF YOUR OWN.

