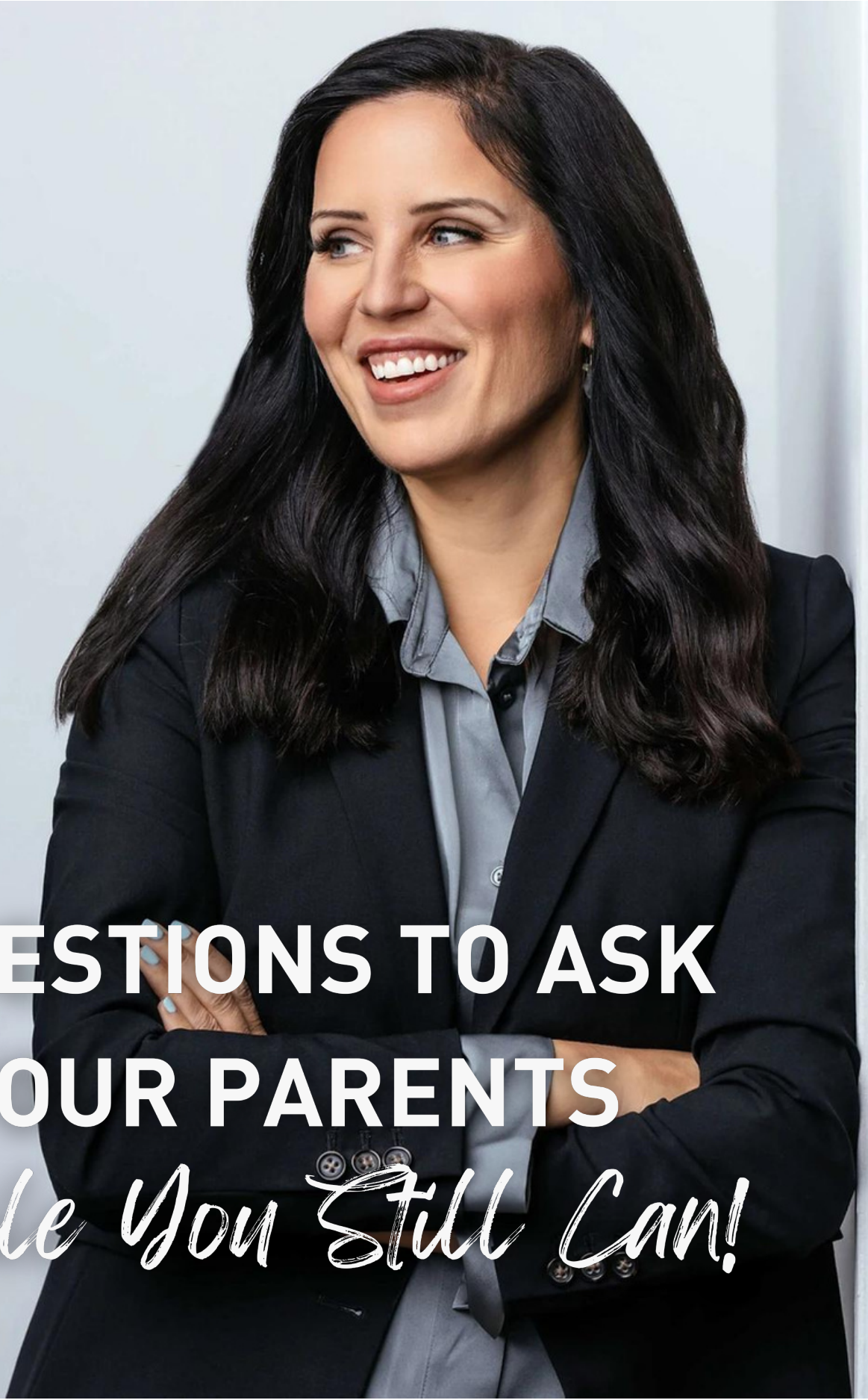




Redeeming Babel

Featuring Nancy French



**QUESTIONS TO ASK
YOUR PARENTS**

While You Still Can!



Redeeming Babel

Nancy French was recently a guest on The Good Faith podcast discussing the importance of storytelling. Her prompts will help you interview your parents or loved ones in order to get to know them and document their lives.

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR PARENTS *While You Still Can!*

1. What is the first thing you remember?
2. Describe your neighborhood.
3. What did your parents look like?
4. How did your parents discipline you?
5. Did you get along?
6. What advice did they hammer into you? Did you follow it? Rebel against it?
7. How many siblings did you have?
8. What types of things did you do with your brothers and sisters?
9. Did you get along? Fight? If you fought, what did you fight about?
10. Who cooked in your house?
11. What foods did you enjoy?
12. What was your favourite meal?
13. Who were your role models?
14. Did you have a nickname? Who gave it to you and how did you get it?
15. What television shows did you watch growing up?
16. What were your favourite songs (and how did you listen to them)?
17. When you went to the movie theatre, what types of movies did you see?
Did any make you cry? Laugh? Inspire you?
18. Who was famous when you were a kid?
19. How was childhood different when you were growing up, versus now?
Which is better?

20. What was the most significant historical event you remember?
21. Where were you on Pearl Harbor Day?
22. Where were you when JFK was assassinated?
23. Where were you when the Challenger exploded?
24. Where were you on 9/11?
25. What was good about your childhood?
26. What was tough?
27. If you could relive one day, which one would it be?
28. To whom in your family were you the closest and why?
29. Whom did you resemble?
30. Did you know your grandparents? What were they like?
31. How old were you when you had your first crush? Did your crush know you liked them?
32. When was your first kiss?
33. Who was it?
34. How many times have you fallen head over heels in love?
35. How did you meet mom/dad?
36. How did you make that relationship work (if it did)? Any marriage tips?
37. If they are divorced, what originally attracted you? What was good about the relationship?
38. What have your relationships taught you about life?
39. Do you have romantic regrets?
40. Describe your spouse?
41. Why did you propose? Describe the setting.
42. Describe the engagement ring and your wedding.
43. What is your most romantic moment?
44. Where did you go to college and how did you pick it?
45. Who were your roommates? Did you get along?
46. What was college like for you?
47. How did you decide your major? Do you regret that major? Did it ultimately help you?
48. What was your first job? Were you any good at it? How much did it pay? What did you spend your money on?
49. What's your worst job?
50. What was your favourite?
51. If you could've picked another occupation, what would you have picked?

52. Do you have any occupational regrets?
53. What are you most proud of about your job?
54. What hobbies did you have outside of your day job that caused you joy (or pain)?
55. What was your greatest adventure in life?
56. What is the happiest moment of your life?
57. What is the funniest moment of your life?
58. What advice would you give yourself as a kid?
59. Did your moral and political values change as you aged? Which ones?
60. Looking back, what were you most wrong about?
61. How did you parent? Did you differ from other parents at the time?
62. What physical object do you cherish most?
63. What were some of the most challenging times of your life? How did you overcome/deal with these challenges?
64. What is a hard choice you had to make?
65. Other than speeding, have you ever broken the law?
66. What books did you love reading?
67. What books changed your life?
68. If you could change one thing about your life, what would it have been?
69. What do you think of the world we live in right now and are you glad you grew up when you did?
70. What regrets do you have? What do you regret not learning, doing, or seeing?
71. Where is your favourite location? What is the most beautiful place you've ever been to?
72. What are you proud of yourself for?
73. Who's the oldest relative you remember having a relationship with? 74. What family member I never met do you wish I knew about?
75. What did your family do to celebrate Christmas and Easter when you were growing up? How did you incorporate that into our family life?
76. Tell me the stories of each of your kids' births.
77. Describe my personality over the years.
78. What is one of your favourite memories or stories about me? 79. In what ways do you hope I turn out like you? Or not like you?
80. Describe my brothers/sisters?
81. How do parents have it easier/harder than you did?
82. What did you love about being a parent?

83. What did you not love about it?
84. What was one of your proudest moments as a parent?
85. What was your favourite year or time period of life?
86. What do you wish you hadn't worried so much about?
87. What makes you feel at peace?
88. Describe your spiritual beliefs. How have they changed?
89. When in your life have you felt most alive? Most yourself?
90. If you wanted to teach each of us something, what would it be?
91. Did you ever find out anything surprising about your relatives?
92. Who was your favourite relative?
93. How did your parents meet?
94. Can we draw our family tree together?
95. What aromas remind you of childhood?
96. What did you used to do on a Saturday afternoon?
97. What was your elementary school like?
98. What were the "hinge moments" you faced in life? And did you make the right decisions?
99. What was your favourite birthday party?
100. What do you hope we'll remember about you?