

design your story

Make a point to tell the story you're uniquely qualified to tell: yours. BY CATHY ZIELSKE

Ladies, this is the year to tell your story! If there's one scrapbooking theme I am really passionate about, it's the story of you. Well, actually me. And you. I know all the pages we create about everything else in our lives are great, but the storyteller needs her (or his!) story told, too. I have a couple of ideas to help you get it done!

layout 1

THE DECADE CHALLENGE

In 2008, selfies were really just taking off. I didn't even own a smart phone until 2011, but I managed to snag a selfie with my digital point-and-shoot camera.

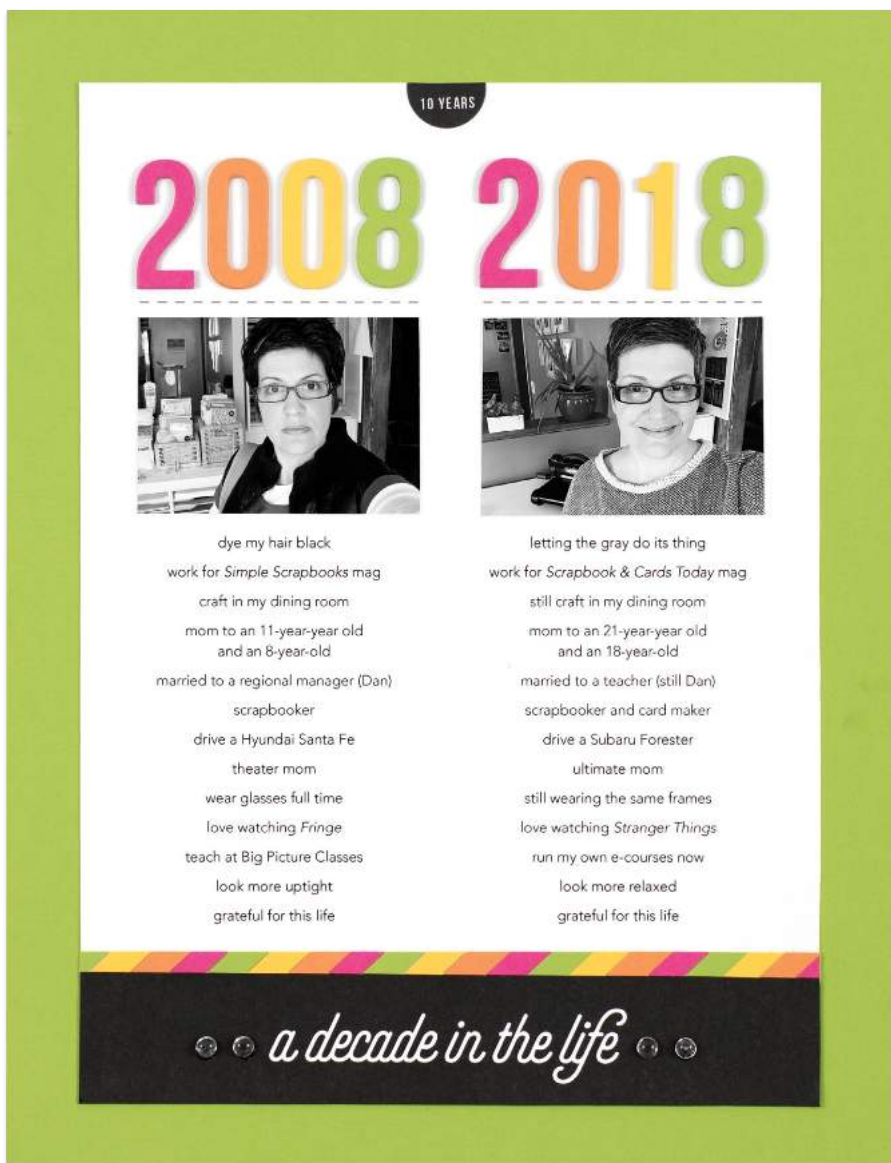
This gave me a simple idea—re-create the shot in 2018 and make a list of then and now story items to see what has changed and what has stayed the same.

STORY TIP: Apples to apples.

Choose the same topics for each year to create a parallel structure to your story. Each item on my 2008 list has a corresponding one for the 2018 version. Take my lead and compare things about an earlier version of you with the you of today. Oh, and don't forget to include those pics! Bonus points if you can re-create the shot. I look pretty dang good for 10 years later.

a decade in the life

supplies CARDSTOCK: Gina K. Designs, Lawn Fawn, Neenah; CLEAR DOTS: Pretty Pink Posh; DIES: CZ Design for Simon Says Stamp, Hero Arts; FONTS: Avenir, Selfie; ADHESIVE: Ranger Industries, Scrapbook Adhesives by 3L



DESIGN TIP: To create a patterned paper strip that perfectly matched the colours of my die cut numbers, I cut thin strips from the same cardstock, adhered them to a plain piece of paper, and then cut a strip from that for a bump of matching colour.

DATE: JAN 2018

Currently

JUST A FEW RANDOM TIDBITS ABOUT ME



	<p>LOVING my whole foray into the world of card marking</p>	<p>EATING breakfast: smoothies lunch: turkey + veggies dinner: hello crockpot</p>
	<p>PRACTICING getting better at painting with my new watercolors</p>	<p>WATCHING the good place black mirror stranger things</p>
	<p>WORKING designing layouts, writing my column + my e-classes</p>	<p>HOPING that both of my kids get into their schools of choice</p>

FINISH THAT SENTENCE...

One simple way to tell your story is to take a list of active words and complete the sentence. I just picked a few words ending in *ing* and added the appropriate details. The patterned paper I used from Close To My Heart actually comes with prompt words already in place. I simply decided to create my own circles in Photoshop so I could have more control over the design.

STORY TIP: Don't overthink it. Your answers need not be flowery or fancy. Just report the facts of what is going on right now in your life.

DESIGN TIP: Use coordinated products. I love the peaceful, calm vibe of the patterned papers and embellishments I used for this page. Coordinated product lines take some of the guesswork out of design.

PHOTO TIP: Get in the shot! A page about you needs a shot of you. Hand off the smart phone and have someone snap it. Or take a quick selfie. Your future self will thank you.

currently

supplies CARDSTOCK: Bazzill Basics, Neenah; PATTERNED PAPER, EPHEMERA, STICKERS: Close To My Heart; FONT: Avenir; ADHESIVE: Scrapbook Adhesives by 3L

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