COLD SPRING MOUNTAIN—

Climate Breakdown in Whitebark Country



texts, music & photos
by ***Cliff Crego***



*book one "The **TEACHING TREE** and the **LOVE & WATER** sequences,"*



Composed ***off-grid*** *in the wild* ***WALLOWAS,***
Land of Winding Waters, *Northeast OREGON,*


#Sun2Sound



COLD SPRING MOUNTAIN *(CSM)* is part ***slideshow***,

part ***poetry reading***, part ***call to climate action***;

It's also a kind of *philosophical* ***PictureBook*** *intended to inspire a* ***Dialogue Circle*** *of talented young people.*

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inspire a ***Dialogue Circle*** *of talented young people.*

Teaching the Teachers of Teachers.

I like to start the show by singing together a little

ANTIPHON—*a call-and-respone*—

taken from the world spiritual *music-poetry* tradition.

IT'S FUN!

The intention is simply to bring us together via the beauty of ***living sound***.

MUSIC? *The one thing humans do*

that makes the rest of ***NATURE****,*

jealous.



SHANTIDEVA, *8th century monk / scholar at*

***NALANDA UNIVERSITY**, India (**tap** to watch)*



HILDEGARD *(1098-1179) with her spiritual sidekick,* **VOLMAR.**

Tap here *in eBook version to listen…*

“For as long as space endures,

And for as long as living beings remain,

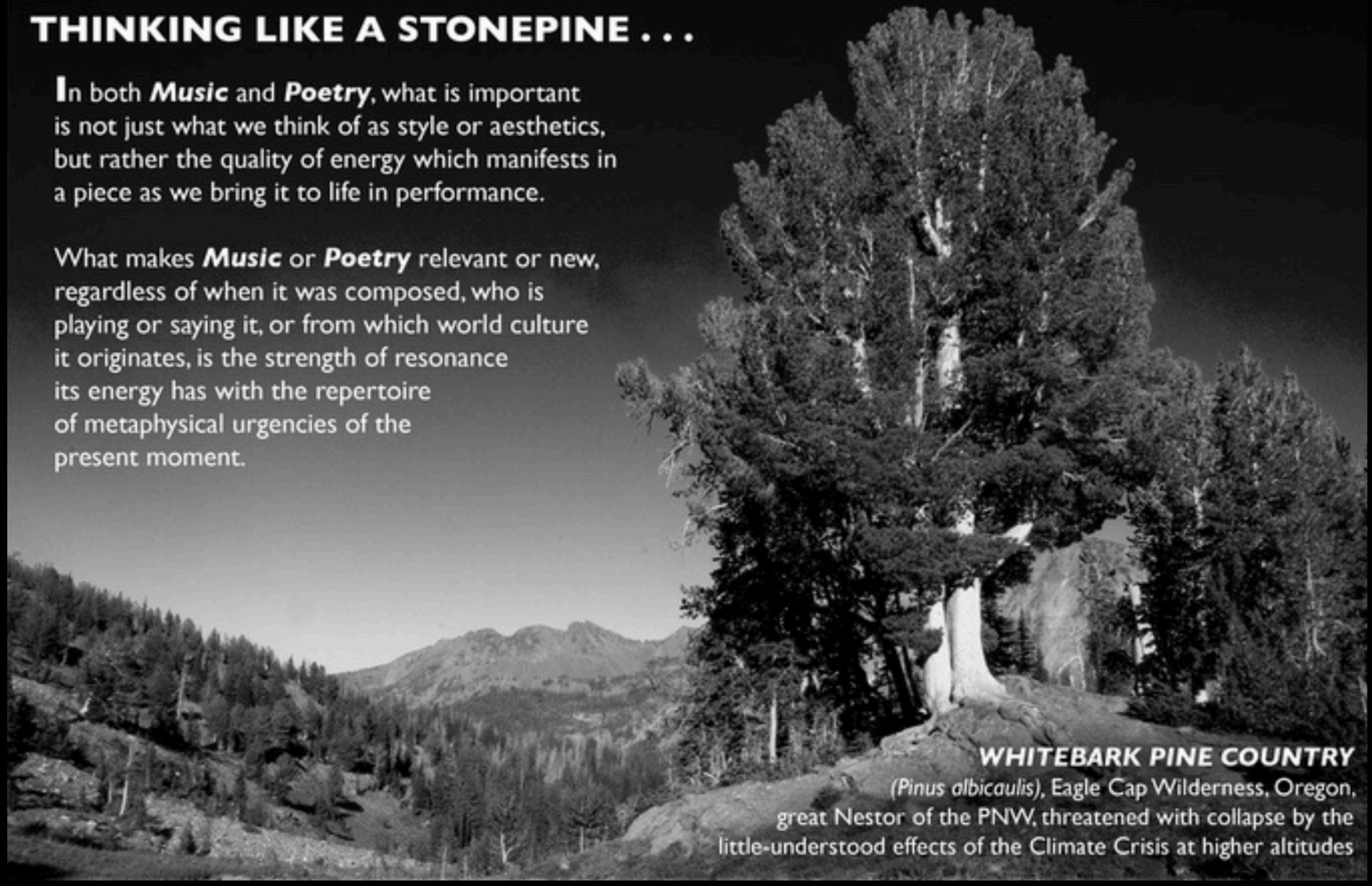
Until then, may I too abide,

To dispel the misery of the world.”

THINKING LIKE A STONEPINE . . .

In both ***Music*** and ***Poetry***, what is important is not just what we think of as style or aesthetics, but rather the quality of energy which manifests in a piece as we bring it to life in performance.

What makes ***Music*** or ***Poetry*** relevant or new, regardless of when it was composed, who is playing or saying it, or from which world culture it originates, is the strength of resonance its energy has with the repertoire of metaphysical urgencies of the present moment.



WHITEBARK PINE COUNTRY
(Pinus albicaulis), Eagle Cap Wilderness, Oregon,
great Nestor of the PNW, threatened with collapse by the
little-understood effects of the Climate Crisis at higher altitudes

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WHITEBARK PINE COUNTRY

(*Pinus albicaulis*), Eagle Cap Wilderness, Oregon,

great Nestor of the PNW, threatened with collapse by the

little-understood effects of the ***Climate BREAKDOWN*** at

higher altitudes.

*The **TEACHING TREE** sequence—*

*The **TEACHING TREE** sequence—*

Our journey begins with **consciousness**,

dialogue & **learning to listen** *(to the trees...)*

*The **TEACHING TREE**—*

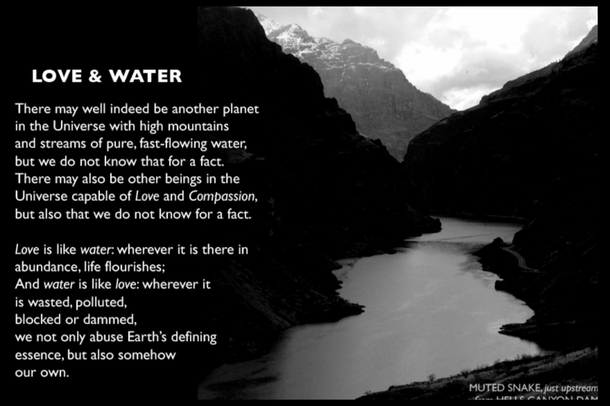
*there are **seven centers***

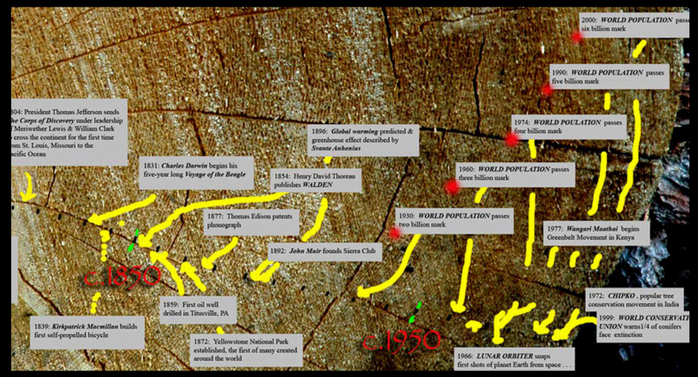
which span the arch of our

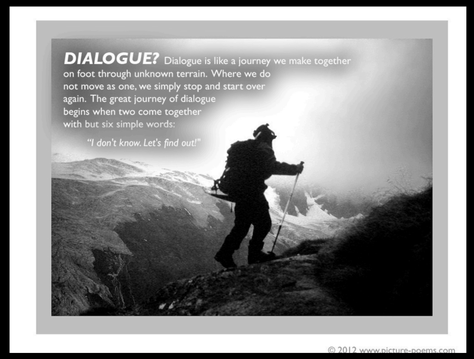
journey like seven springs of

pure mountain water.



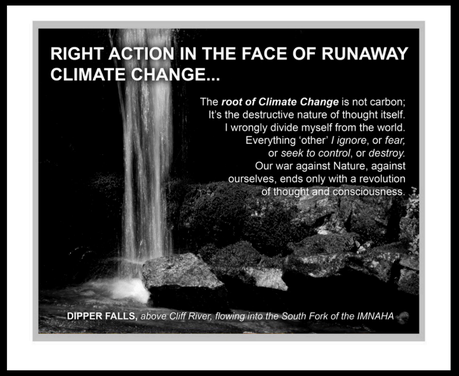


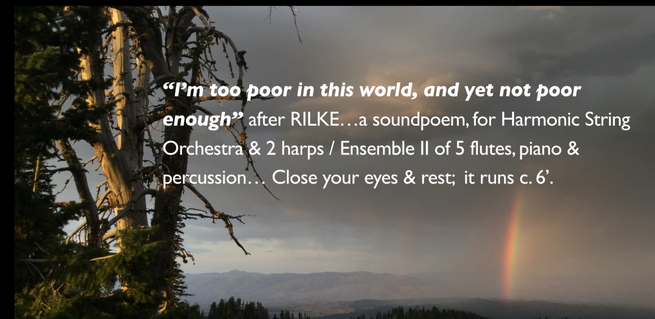




The **TEACHING TREE**— *there are* ***seven centers*** *which span the arch of our journey like seven springs of pure mountain water.*



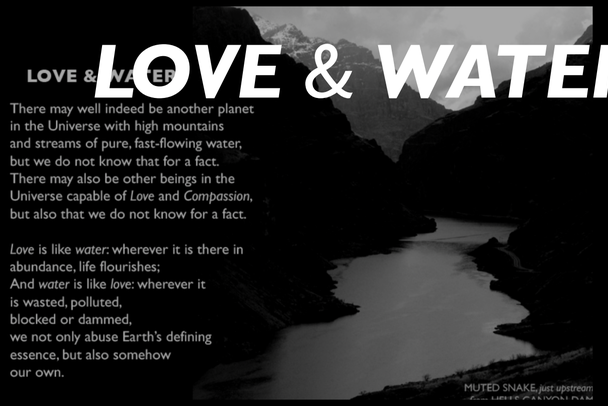




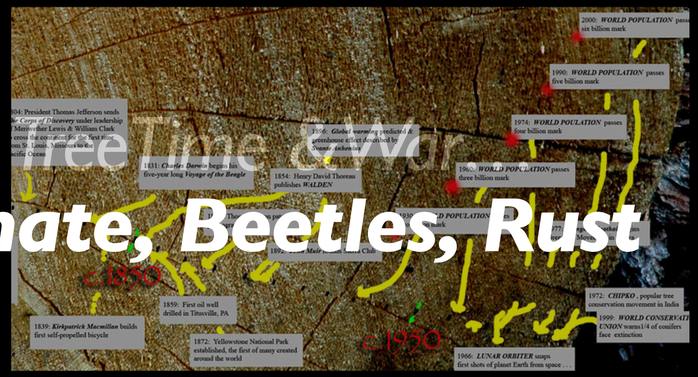


Nez Perce

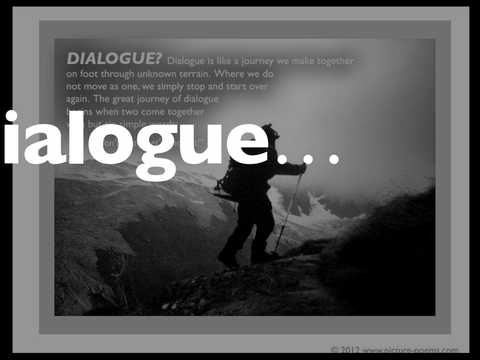
Wallowa **MANDALA**



LOVE & WATER



Climate, Beetles, Rust



Dialogue…

The ***TEACHING TREE—***

there are ***seven centers***

which span the arch of our

journey like seven springs of

pure mountain water.



HOT DROUGHT…



Right action…



"I'm too poor in this world…

To create a natural,, convivial, open-air space for our dialogue, here' are a few sets of images from the rugged ***Whitebark Pine Country*** *of the Eagle Cap Wilderness,* ***OREGON****…*




















ALPINE MOUNTAIN TRUMPET (*Collomia debilis*)
a member of the *Phlox family*, at 2600m


















REMEMBER *this photograph, a glacial lake at c. 2500 meters……*



THE POETRY OF IMAGES



The *poetry* of images
evokes the text
without the words;

The *texture* of images
evokes the feel
without the touch;

The *music* of images
evokes the sound
and rhythm
of the dance,
without the voice,
without
the drum.

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evokes the text
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I never look at what kind of cameras photographers use. I only look at their tripods. Here's my trusty ***Manfrotto***



I never look at what kind of cameras photographers use. I only look at their tripods. Here's my trusty ***Manfrotto*** *on the former Benson Glacier, covered with the troubling black soot of* ***Pacific Northwest car culture.***






*Powerful **SENTINEL PINE**, relic of a cooler, wetter climate….*




West facing…


West facing…
EAGLE CAP, neutral center of the great ***WALLOWA MANDALA***….


West facing…
EAGLE CAP, neutral center of the great WALLOWA MANDALA….
(LOST) GLACIER PEAK, source of the great glacier that carved Wallowa Lake


Northeast facing…


Northeast facing...
LOST GLACIER PEAK,
source of the great glacier that
carved Wallowa Lake


EAGLE CAP, neutral center
of the great ***WALLOWA***
MANDALA....
LOST GLACIER PEAK,
source of the great glacier that
carved Wallowa Lake


Summit of (Lost) ***Glacier Peak*** *c. 2900m*


Healthy Whitebark pines…
Summit of (Lost) Glacier Peak c. 2900m


Healthy Whitebark pines…
Hidden Lake c. 2200 m.
Summit of (Lost) Glacier Peak c. 2900m



Remember this photograph, *from the summit of Lost Glacier Peak, to Hidden Lake, below, beautiful batholith granite to Whitebark Pine to a precious alpine cirque, 2900 to 2200 m…* ***That's the whole show!***



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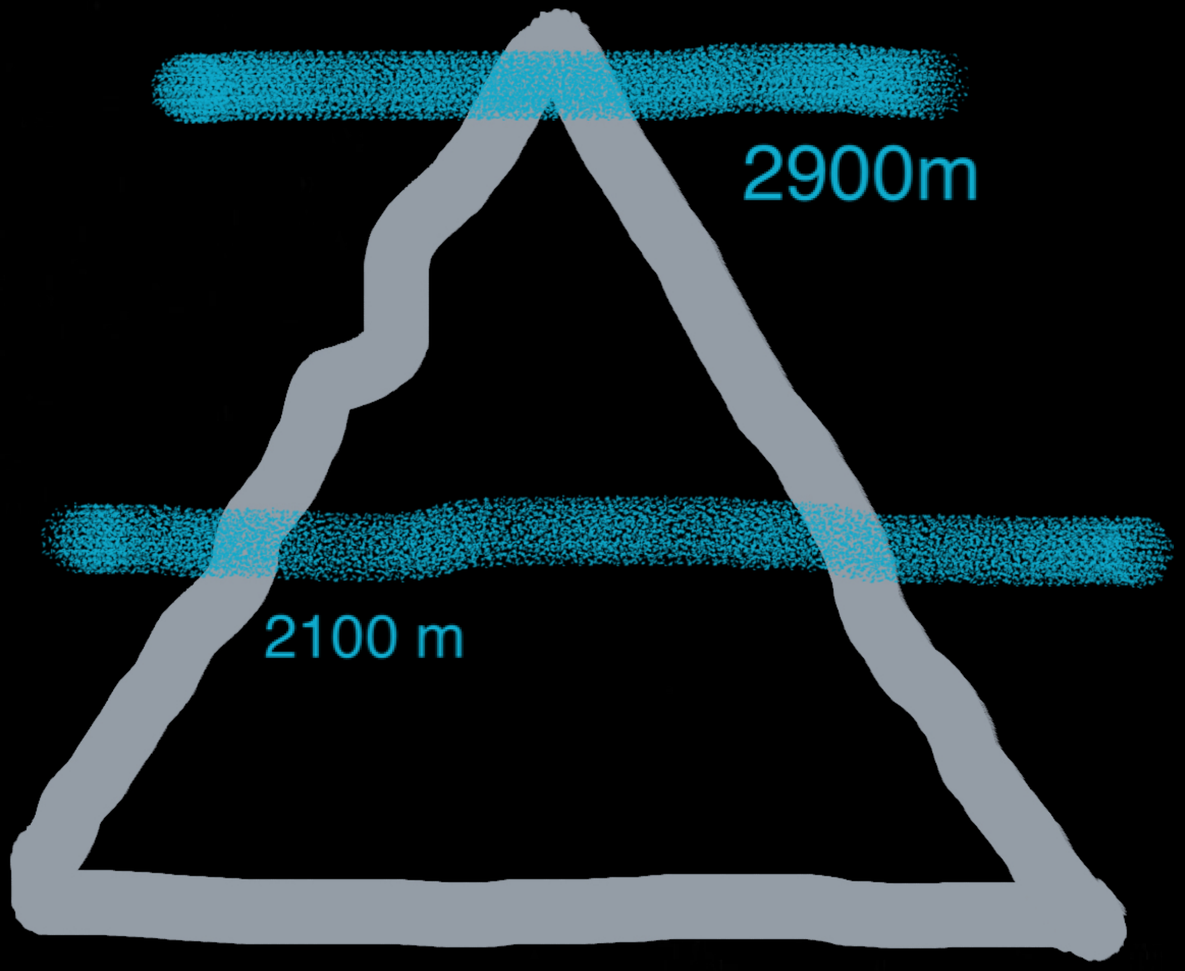
whitebarks grow between 2100
& 2900 meters... . . .



that's an ALTITUDE BANDWIDTH of 800m
(& 20 degrees of LATITUDE...)

Solo Whitebark pine (WBP), great NESTOR of the Pacific Northwest (PNW), embodiment of spiritual ***STRENGTH*** *&* ***PERSEVERANCE****…*



Solo Whitebark pine (WBP), great NESTOR of the Pacific Northwest (PNW), embodiment of spiritual ***STRENGTH*** *&* ***PERSEVERANCE****…*
(PER = very + SEVERUS = serious, grave, strict, austere + *from PIE root* **segh* = have, hold, steadfastness, toughness)



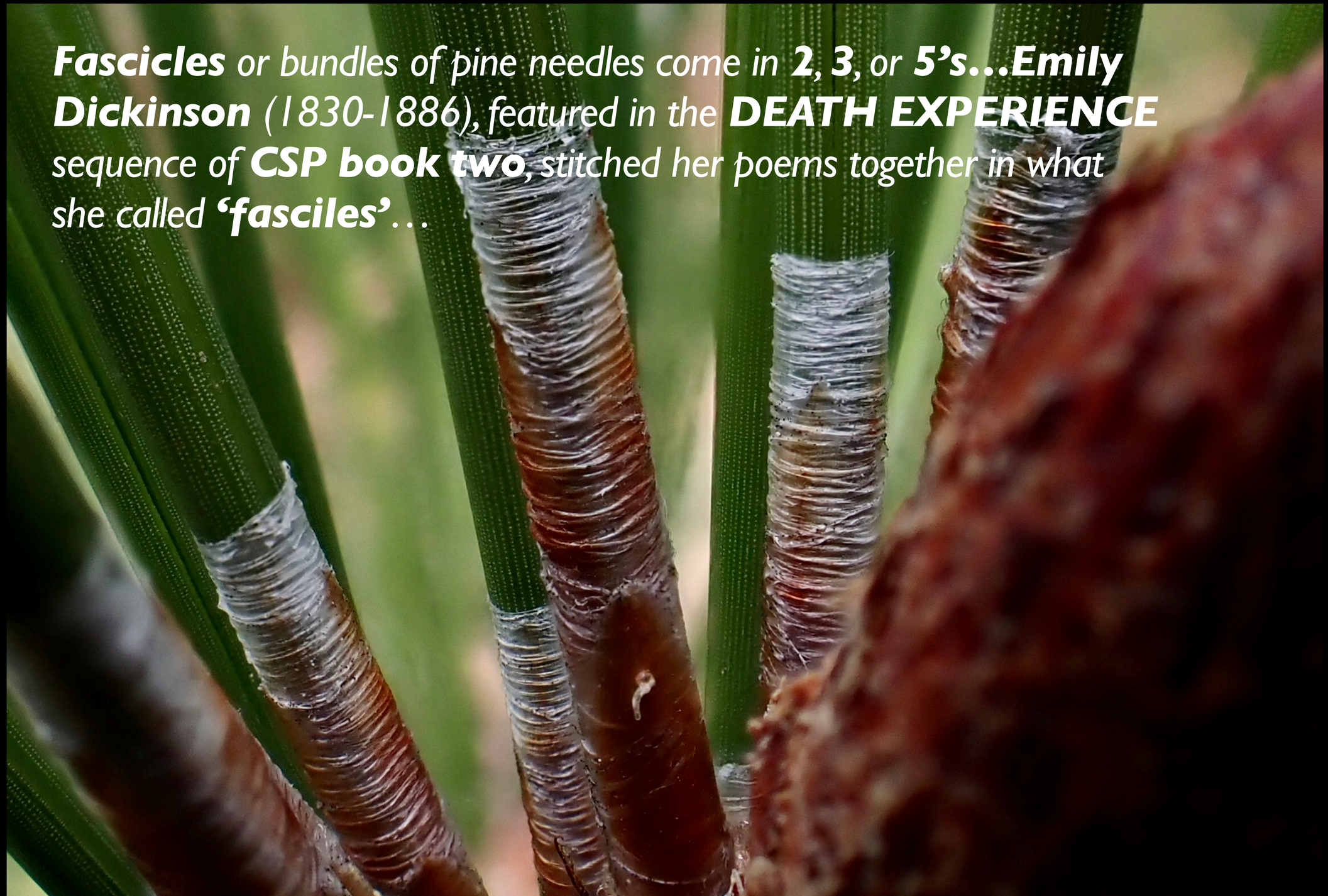





HURRICANE DIVIDE….


HAWKENS PASS....




Fascicles *or bundles of pine needles come in* ***2****,* ***3****, or* ***5's…Emily Dickinson*** *(1830-1886), featured in the* ***DEATH EXPERIENCE*** *sequence of* ***CSP book two****, stitched her poems together in what she called* ***'fasciles'****…*



FIREWEED *(Chamaenerion angustifolium), member of the Evening Primrose family. A circumpolar plant…*



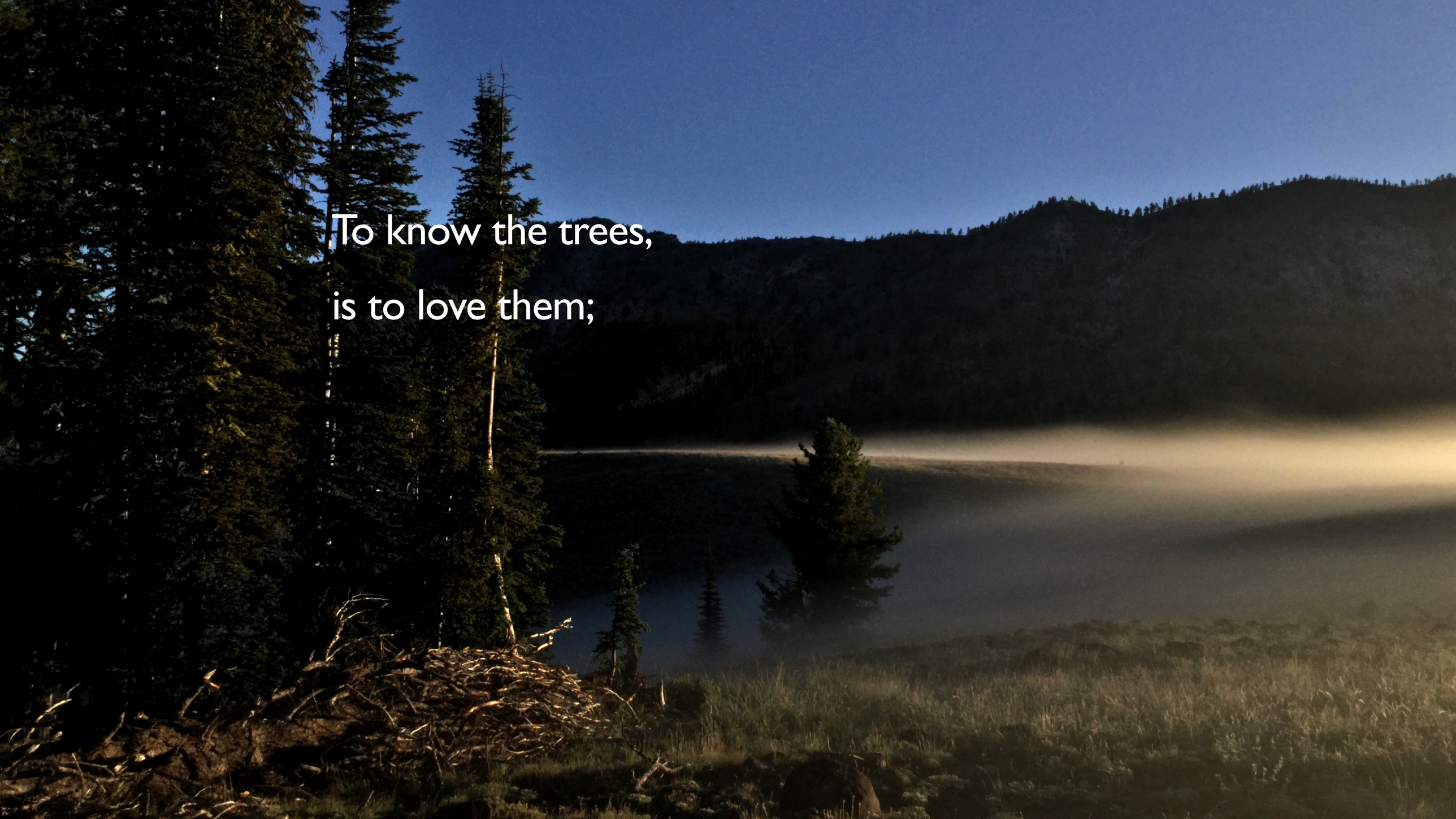
SIERRA CORYDALIS*(Corydalis caseana), uncommon member of the Poppy family, at 2350 m.*

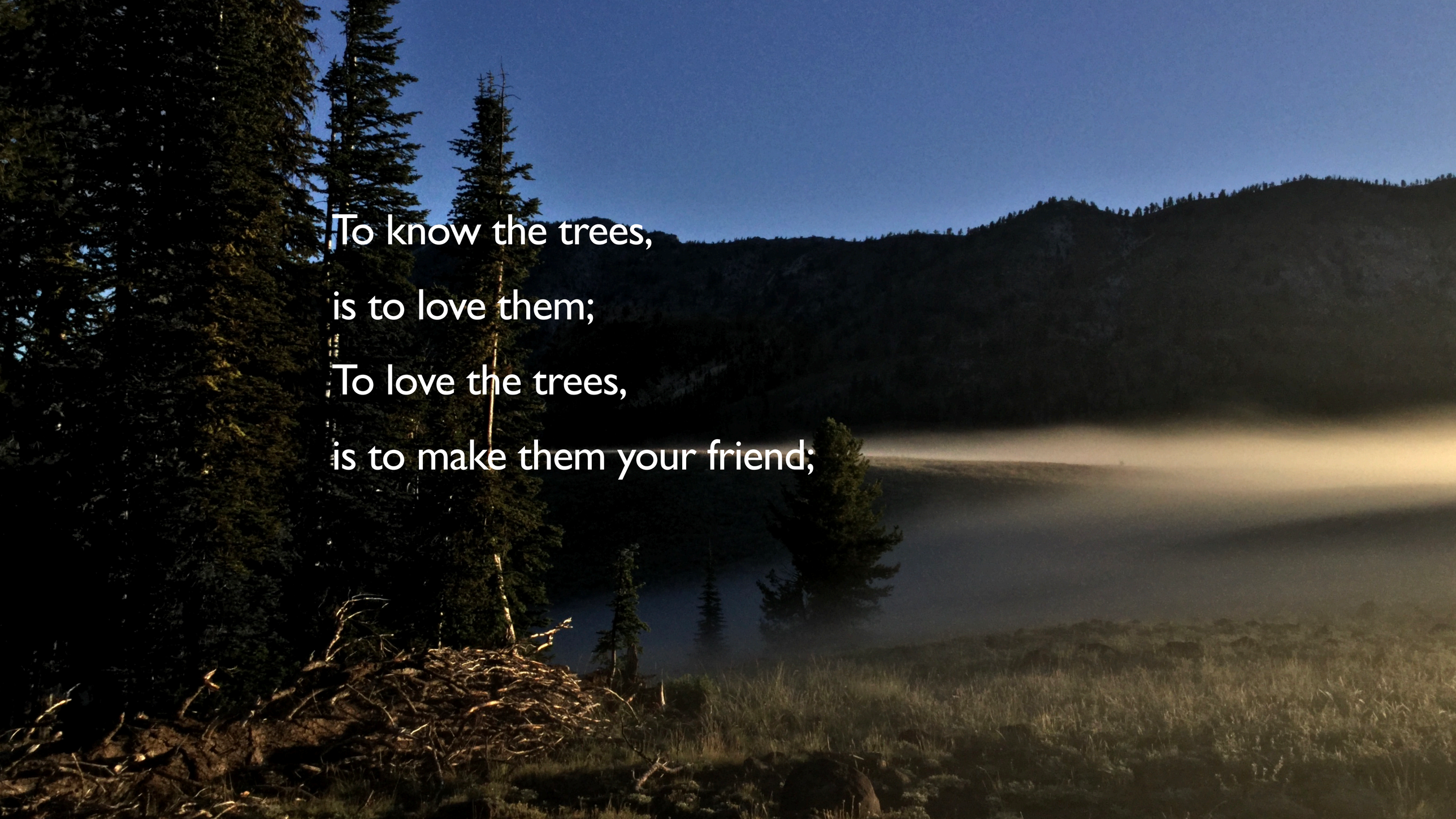


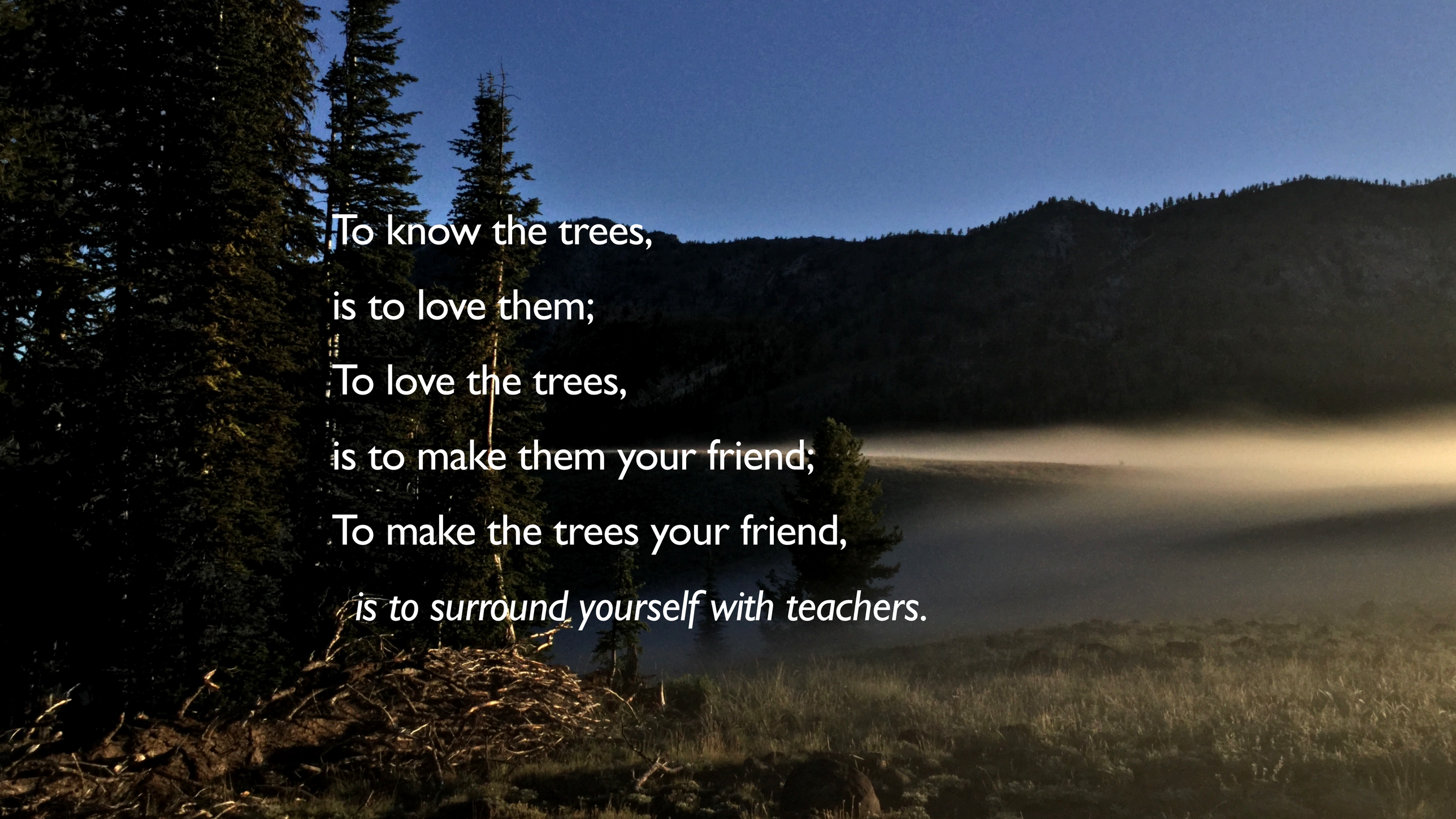







To know the trees,
is to love them;


To know the trees,
is to love them;
To love the trees,
is to make them your friend;


To know the trees,
is to love them;
To love the trees,
is to make them your friend;
To make the trees your friend,
is to surround yourself with teachers.

To know the trees,

is to love them;

To love the trees,

is to make them your friend;

To make the trees your friend,

is to surround yourself with teachers.















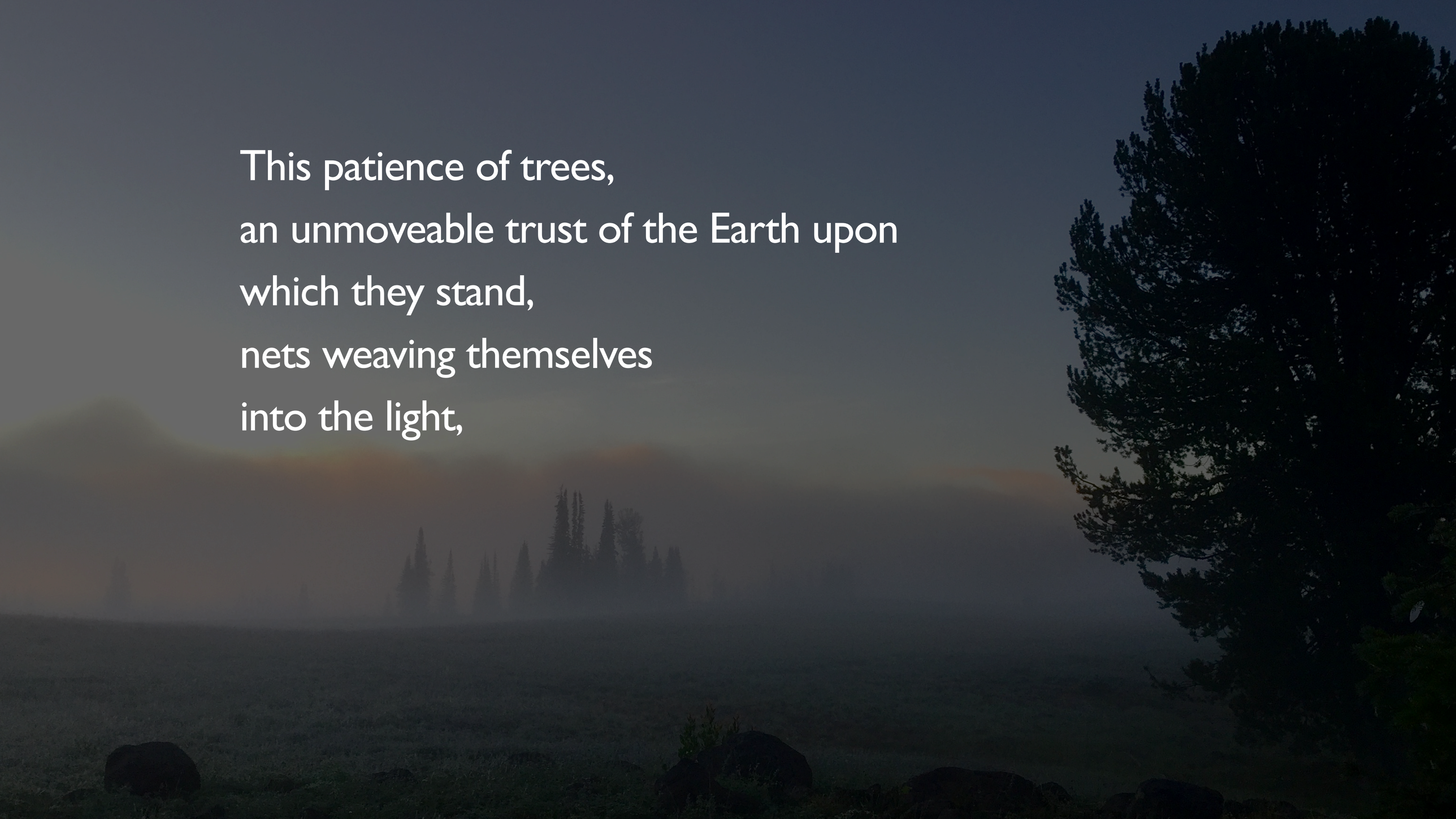





This patience of trees,


This patience of trees,
an unmoveable trust of the Earth upon
which they stand,


This patience of trees,
an unmoveable trust of the Earth upon
which they stand,
nets weaving themselves


This patience of trees,
an unmoveable trust of the Earth upon
which they stand,
nets weaving themselves
into the light,

This patience of trees,
an unmoveable trust of the Earth upon
which they stand,
nets weaving themselves
into the light,
the dark,

This patience of trees,
an unmoveable trust of the Earth upon
which they stand,
nets weaving themselves
into the light,
the dark,
    growing in all directions.






The ***serpentine spirals*** of an erosion-exposed WBP root, still thriving at 2300 m.



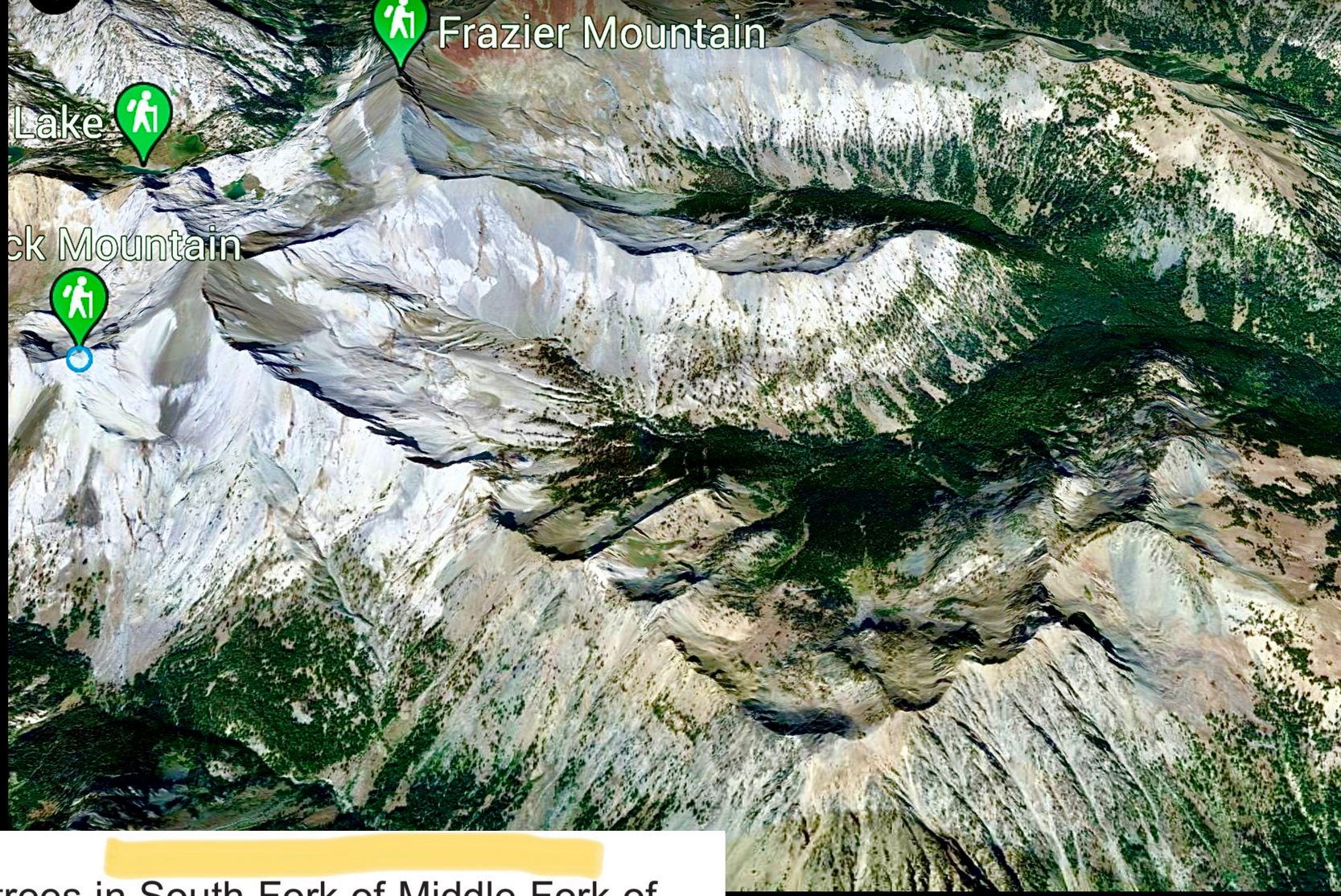
Do you know mountain spring perennial? We'll come back to it in a bit. The reddish color is the pigment, ***anthocyanin***, a plant-produced natural ***antifreeze***.






The "Dielman's Monarch"
Limber pine *(Pinus flexilis).*
(Photo *by my good friend,*
Derl Miller…)

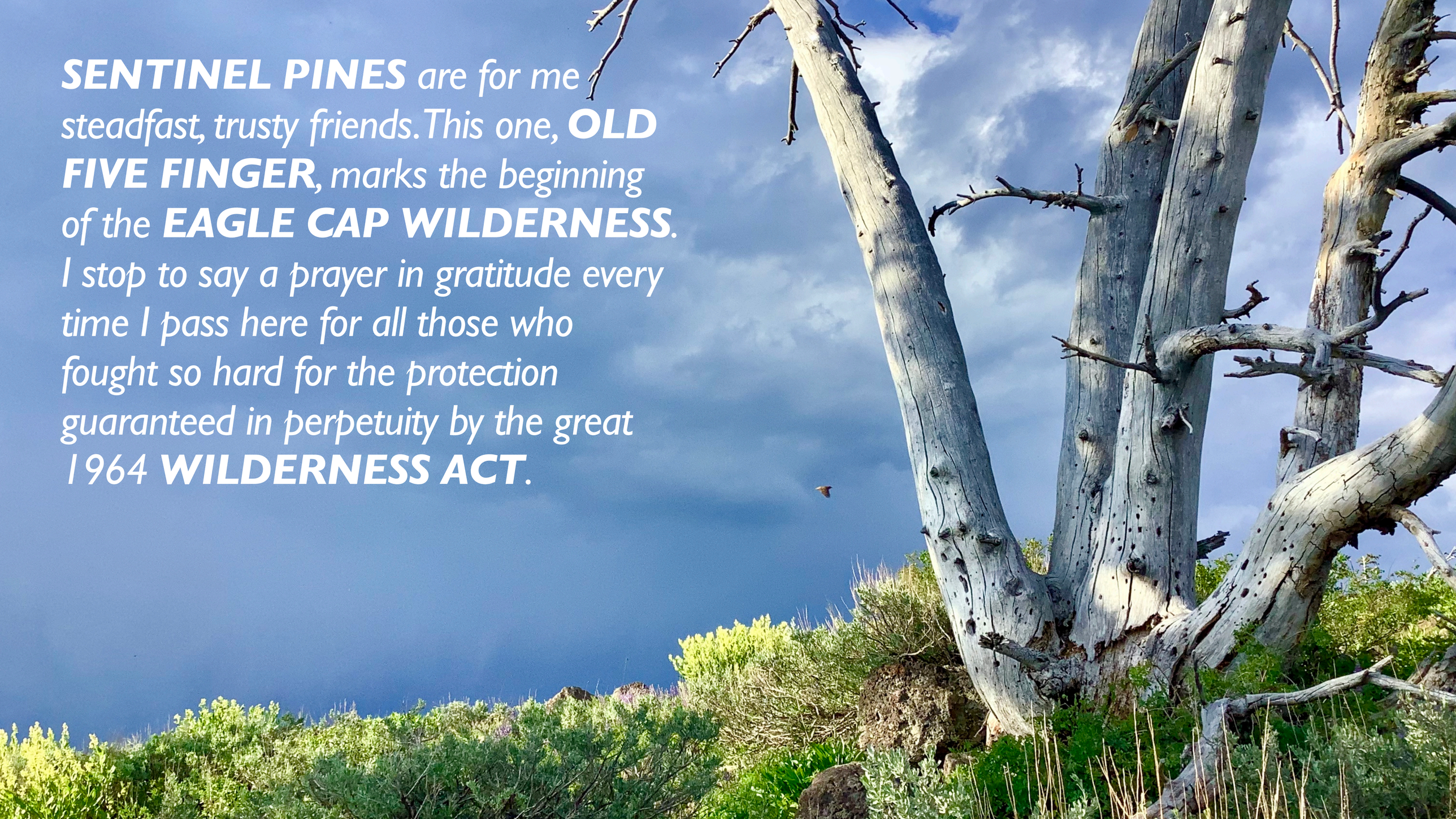
Personally, I'm not much interested in the runaway obsession with measurement & "oldest tree" searches or claims. ***Except this one..***



Miscellany - Ages of two-cored trees in South Fork of Middle Fork of Imnaha River Canyon were estimated at 750 and 2,030 years, respectively. Limber pines and whitebark pines growing in subalpine environments constitute the oldest living trees in northeastern Oregon.

From 1990s Charles G. Johnson WBP report

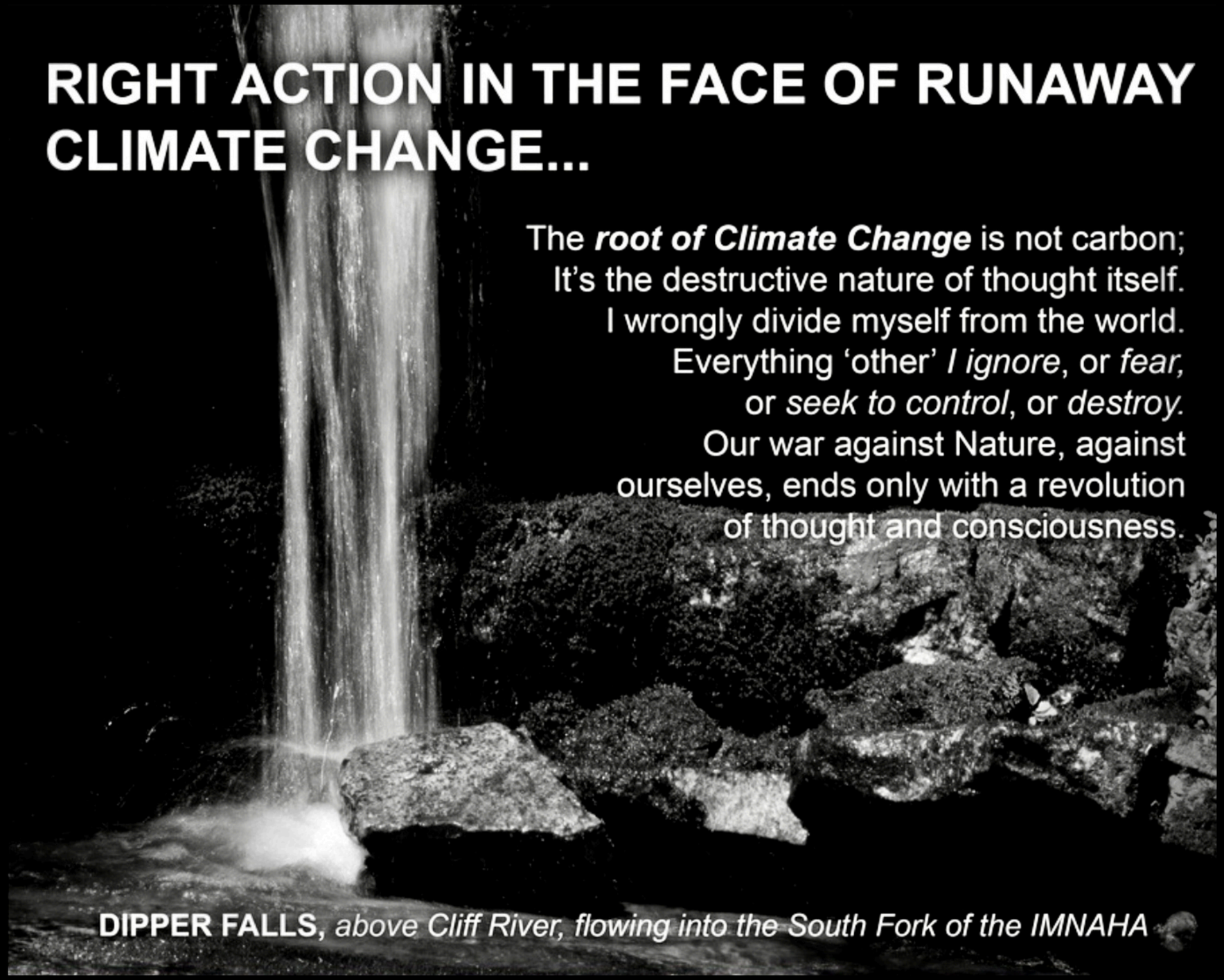

SENTINEL PINES *are for me steadfast, trusty friends. This one,* ***OLD FIVE FINGER****, marks the beginning of the* ***EAGLE CAP WILDERNESS****.*



SENTINEL PINES *are for me steadfast, trusty friends. This one,* ***OLD FIVE FINGER****, marks the beginning of the* ***EAGLE CAP WILDERNESS****. I stop to say a prayer in gratitude every time I pass here for all those who fought so hard for the protection guaranteed in perpetuity by the great 1964* ***WILDERNESS ACT****.*

RIGHT ACTION IN THE FACE OF RUNAWAY CLIMATE CHANGE...

The ***root of Climate Change*** is not carbon;
It's the destructive nature of thought itself.
I wrongly divide myself from the world.
Everything 'other' *I ignore*, or *fear,*
or *seek to control*, or *destroy.*
Our war against Nature, against
ourselves, ends only with a revolution
of thought and consciousness.



DIPPER FALLS, *above Cliff River, flowing into the South Fork of the IMNAHA*

The root of ***Climate Change*** isn't carbon;

It's the destructive nature of thought itself.

The root of ***Climate Change*** isn't carbon;

It's the destructive nature of thought itself.

I wrongly divide myself from the world;

The root of ***Climate Change*** isn't carbon;

It's the destructive nature of thought itself.

I wrongly divide myself from the world;

Everything other I either ignore or fear,

The root of ***Climate Change*** isn't carbon;
It's the destructive nature of thought itself.
I wrongly divide myself from the world;
Everything other I either ignore or fear,
or seek to control or destroy.

The root of ***Climate Change*** isn't carbon;
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I wrongly divide myself from the world;
Everything other I either ignore or fear,
or seek to control or destroy.
The Geometry of Life is not two guns pointed
at each other; ***it's a circle.***

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The Geometry of Life is not two guns pointed
at each other; ***it's a circle***. We're all Brothers
& Sisters, you & I, the Rock, the River, the Tree, the Sky.

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Our war against Nature, against ourselves, only ends
with a revolution of thought and consciousness.

The Geometry of Life is not two guns pointed at each other; ***it's a circle.***

My central contention is that our entire
way of being is still stuck,—*our Science, our Art, our Religion*—
in this ***GEOMETRY OF TWO GUNS*** pointed at each other…

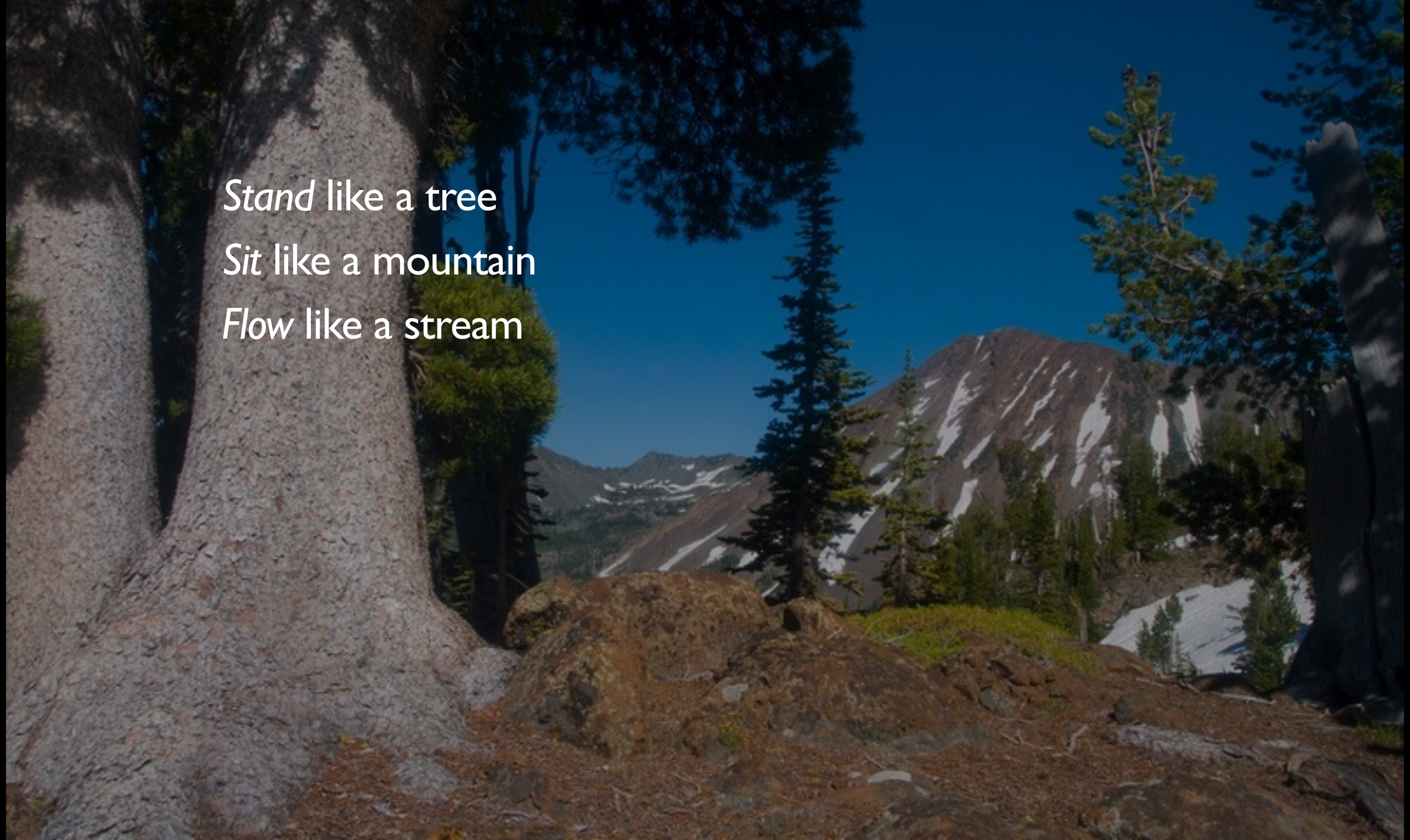
The Geometry of Life is not two guns pointed
at each other; ***it's a circle.***

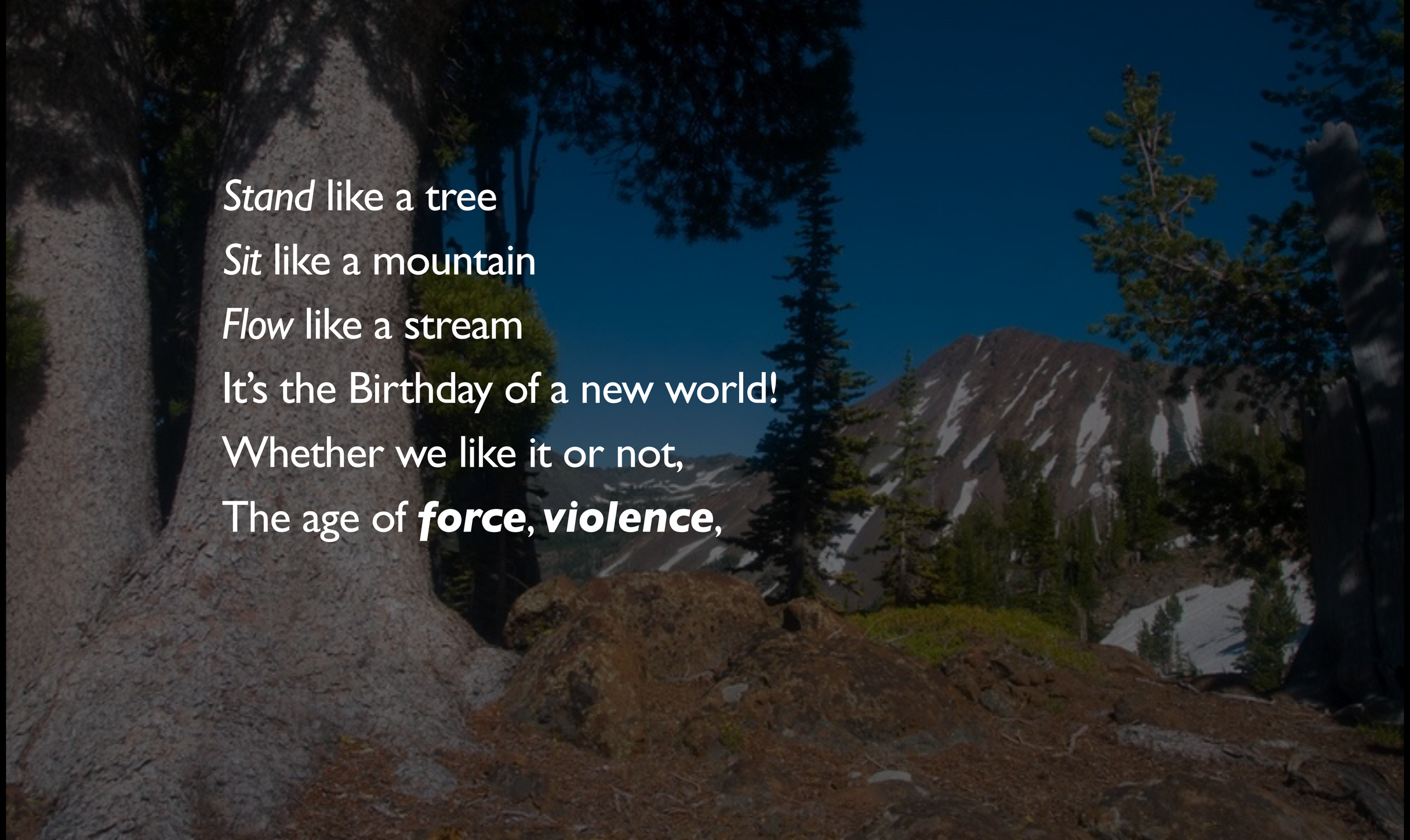
The Geometry of Life is not two guns pointed at each other; ***it's a circle.***

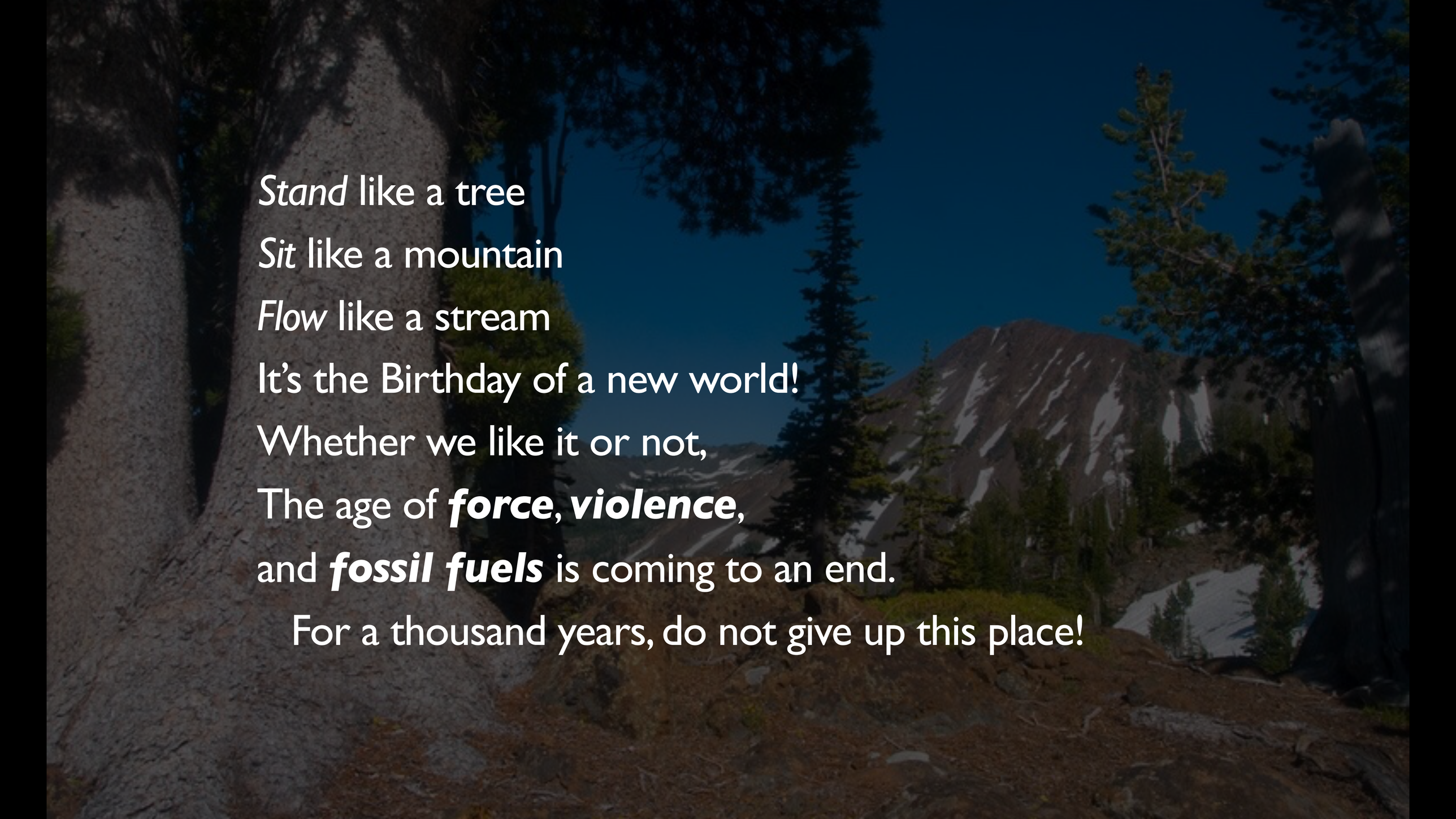
But don't take my word for it. I only ask that we ask, ***"Is this true?"***

But don’t take my word for it. I only ask that we ask, ***“Is this true?”***




Stand like a tree
Sit like a mountain
Flow like a stream


Stand like a tree
Sit like a mountain
Flow like a stream
It's the Birthday of a new world!
Whether we like it or not,
The age of ***force***, ***violence***,



Stand like a tree
Sit like a mountain
Flow like a stream
It's the Birthday of a new world!
Whether we like it or not,
The age of ***force***, ***violence***,
and ***fossil fuels*** is coming to an end.
For a thousand years, do not give up this place!

Stand like a tree

Sit like a mountain

Flow like a stream

It's the Birthday of a new world!

Whether we like it or not,

The age of ***force***, ***violence***,

and ***fossil fuels*** is coming to an end.

For a thousand years, do not give up this place!

[break… . . .]

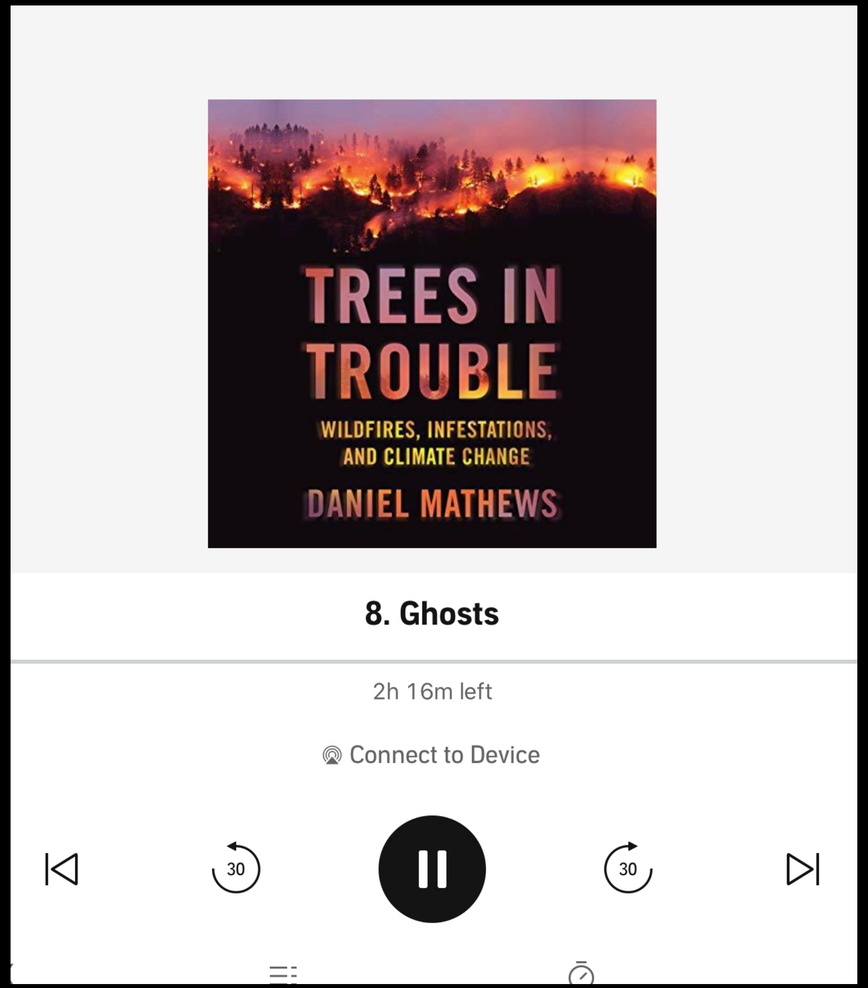


MOUNTAIN GOOSEBERRY *(Ribes montigenum)*



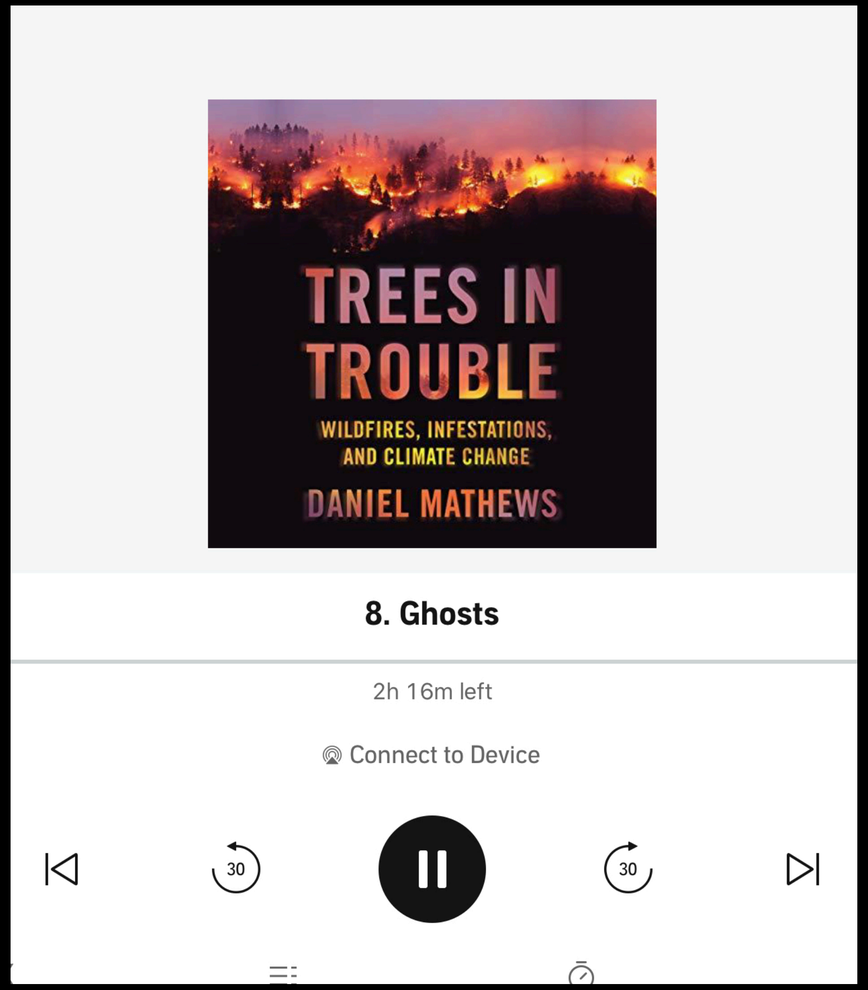
MOUNTAIN GOOSEBERRY *(Ribes montigenum)*

At the end of this slidetalk, there's a list of the recommended readings, one of which is Daniel Mathews' 2019, ***TREES IN TROUBLE....***



At the end of this slidetalk, there's a list of the recommended readings, one of which is Daniel Mathews' 2019, ***TREES IN TROUBLE....***

He does a superb job of telling the epic, decades-long , tragic-comic tale of attempting to eradicate mountain gooseberry because of its role in the complex lifecycle of *white pine blister rust,* a notorious introduced pathogen.





MOUNTAIN GOOSEBERRY *(Ribes montigenum)*



MOUNTAIN GOOSEBERRY *(Ribes montigenum)*

Photographers love the brilliant fall colors of the ***Alpine Fleeceflower,*** but few know the amazing story of overgrazing that caused its abundance in the WALLOWAS.



Charles G. Johnson, most notable ecologist of Northeast Oregon.

Photographers love the brilliant fall colors of the ***Alpine Fleeceflower,*** but few know the amazing story of overgrazing that caused its abundance in the WALLOWAS. Multiple bands of sheep – – ***1200 ewes contrasting with a maximum of 120 ewes in the Alps*** – – competing for lush, subalpine, spring first green. ***Primavera***, indeed…



Charles G. Johnson, most notable ecologist of Northeast Oregon.

USDA

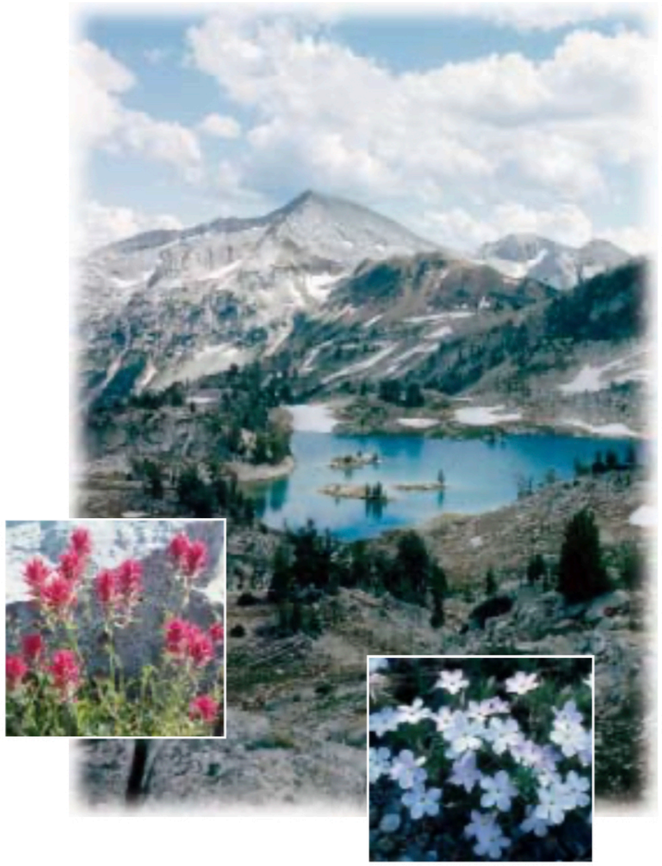
United States Department of Agriculture

Forest Service

Pacific Northwest Region

Alpine and Subalpine Vegetation of the Wallowa, Seven Devils and Blue Mountains

By Charles Grier Johnson Jr.

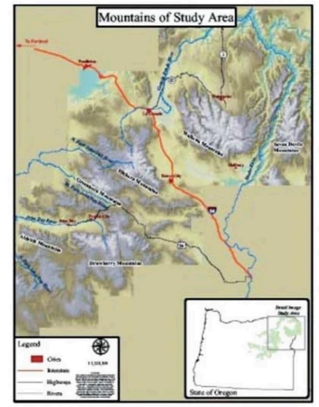


*(**Tap** below in eBook version to download)*

twitter.com

READING: The classic "Alpine & Subalpine Vegetation of the #WALLOWAS ...," by late #ecologist, Charles JOHNSON #pdf 8Mb bit.ly/2hduJ9Q

#OREGON #nariveplants



The principal locations used in the study were the Wallowa, Elkhorn, Greenhorn, Strawberry, and Aldrich Mountains in northeastern Oregon and the Seven Devils Mountains in adjacent Idaho.

Locations of the Study

Wallowa Mountains - This mountainous uplift encompasses an area of 30 by 60 miles and has the greatest extent of subalpine and alpine environments within the study area. These mountains are located primarily in Wallowa County; the southern flank in northern Baker County; and the western flank in eastern Union County of northeast Oregon. A large portion of the Wallowa Mountains are administered by the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest with almost 300,000 acres included in the Eagle Cap Wilderness. Relief is approximately 5,000 ft from Chief Joseph Mountain to Wallowa Valley. The uplift is characterized by granitic, limestone-marble, and volcanic rock, which is surrounded by lower mountainous ridges of Columbia River basaltic rock. Prominent peaks are above 9,200 ft elevation with the highest represented by Mt. Sacajawea (9,838 ft), The Matterhorn (9,826 ft), Point Joseph (9,616 ft), and Red Mountain (9,555 ft).



The Matterhorn from Eagle Cap



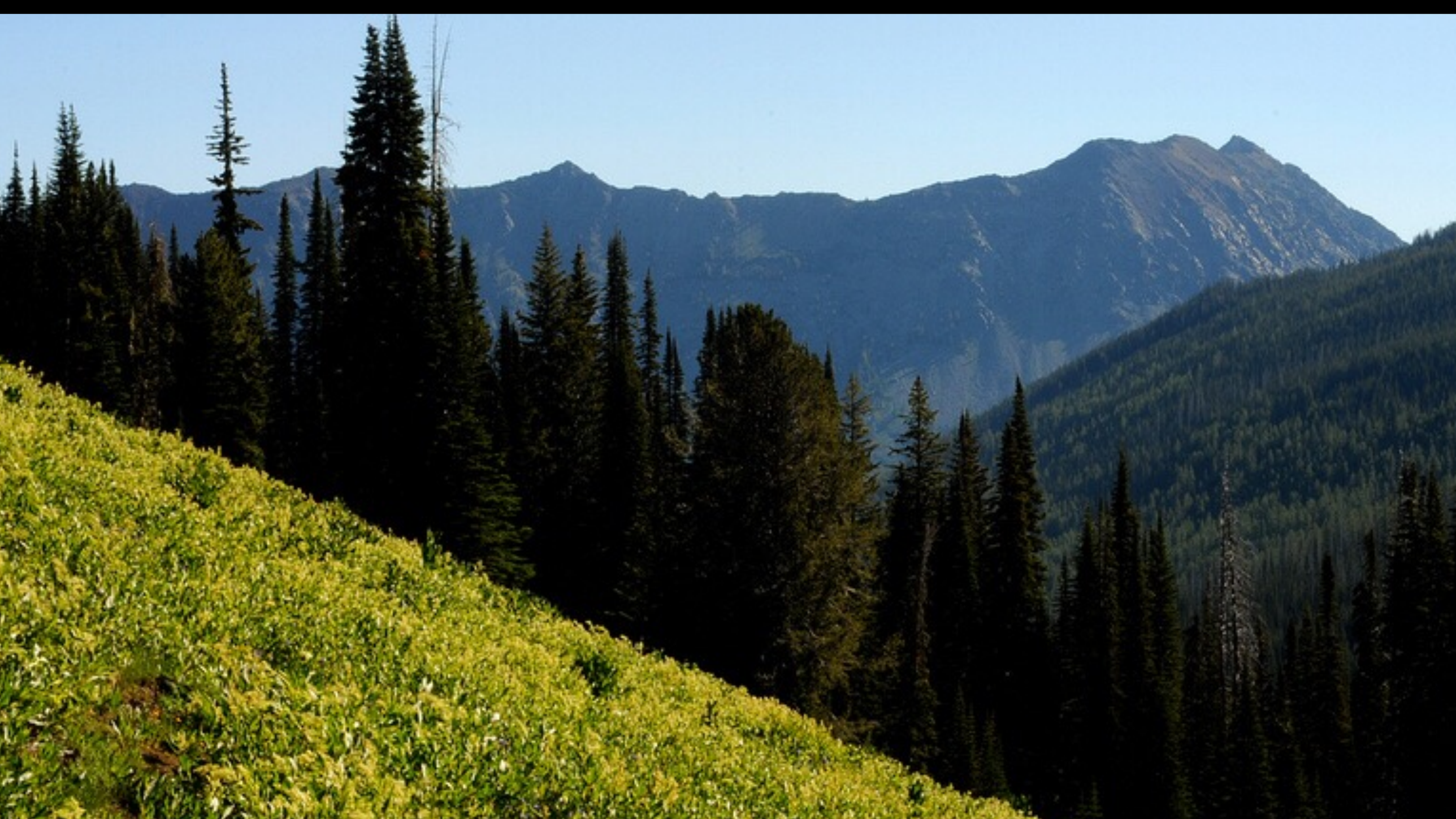
ALPINE FLEECEFLOWER *(Polygonum phytolaccifolium)*



















The signature ***Alpine fleeceflower*** fall color
of the ***South WALLOWAS, OREGON***



The signature ***Alpine fleeceflower*** fall color
of the ***South WALLOWAS*, OREGON**



BITTERROOT *(Lewisia rediviva)*



BITTERROOT *(Lewisia rediviva)*



BITTERROOT *(Lewisia rediviva)*

Jesse, at the ***N'KUSUM SALISH LANGUAGE REVITALIZATION INSTITUTE,*** showing me his SALISH / ENGLISH native flora.

Quite an achievement!!



Jesse, at the ***N'KUSUM SALISH LANGUAGE REVITALIZATION INSTITUTE,*** showing me his SALISH / ENGLISH native flora. Quite an achievement!!

It's a true joy for me to be among people for whom ***BITTERROOT*** & ***CAMAS*** & ***LANGUAGE*** are sacred!.





*(**Tap** image to watch **SALISH LEARNING SALISH**)*



BITTERROOT *(Lewisia rediviva)*









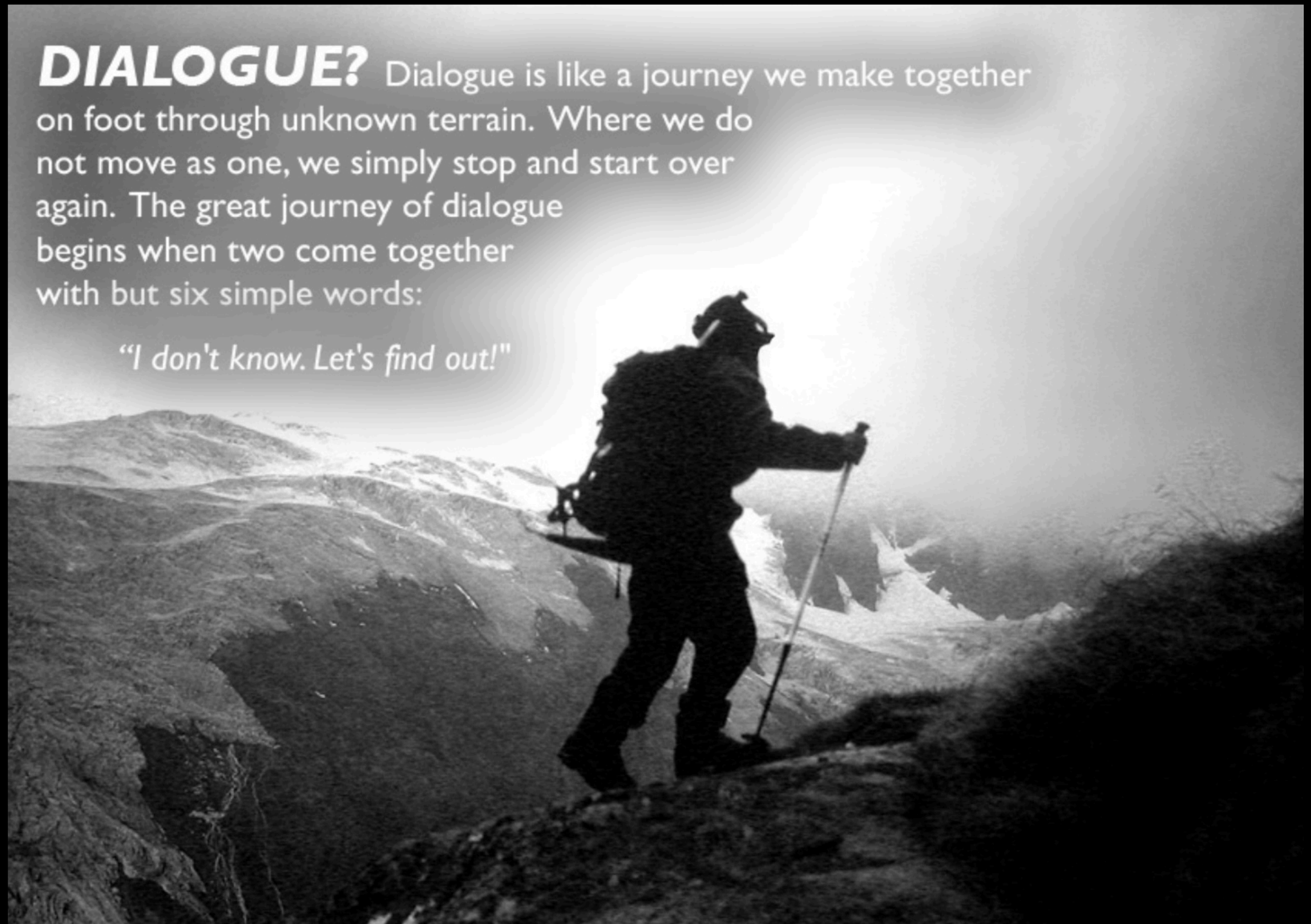
Two Mountain Heathers: *a phenologocal comparison... VII.18.2016 at 2200 meters*





Western Bog Laurel *(Kalmia mircophylla)* **&** **Pink Mountain-Heather** *(Phyllodoce empetriformis)*




DIALOGUE? Dialogue is like a journey we make together on foot through unknown terrain. Where we do not move as one, we simply stop and start over again. The great journey of dialogue begins when two come together with but six simple words:
"I don't know. Let's find out!"

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"I don't know. Let's find out!"



THE DIALOGUE PROBLEM CIRCLE…

Learning to think together as one about objective difficulties that are "thrown" at us—like ***war*** or ***climate breakdown***—and must be understood and resolved if life is to flourish.

THE DIALOGUE PROBLEM CIRCLE…

What holds the circle together is ***a shared commitment to truth,*** knowing full well that truth is beyond all thought and measure.

THE DIALOGUE PROBLEM CIRCLE…

Part ***Science***, in its willingness to *question everything, and to drop an idea if it is contradicted by fact;*

THE DIALOGUE PROBLEM CIRCLE…

Part ***Mathematical logic***, in its commitment to *simplicity, clarity, and consistency.*

THE DIALOGUE PROBLEM CIRCLE…

Part ***Art***, in its intuitive knack of

asking the right questions.

THE DIALOGUE PROBLEM CIRCLE…

Part ***Religion***, in its negation of all authority,
and its transcendence of the *limited* ***self-centered energies of control & competition.***

THE DIALOGUE PROBLEM CIRCLE…

The problem of ***THE PROBLEM CIRCLE ITSELF***
is its own primary problem.

THE DIALOGUE PROBLEM CIRCLE…

The primary problem I focus on is this

simple question:—

is it possible to live a

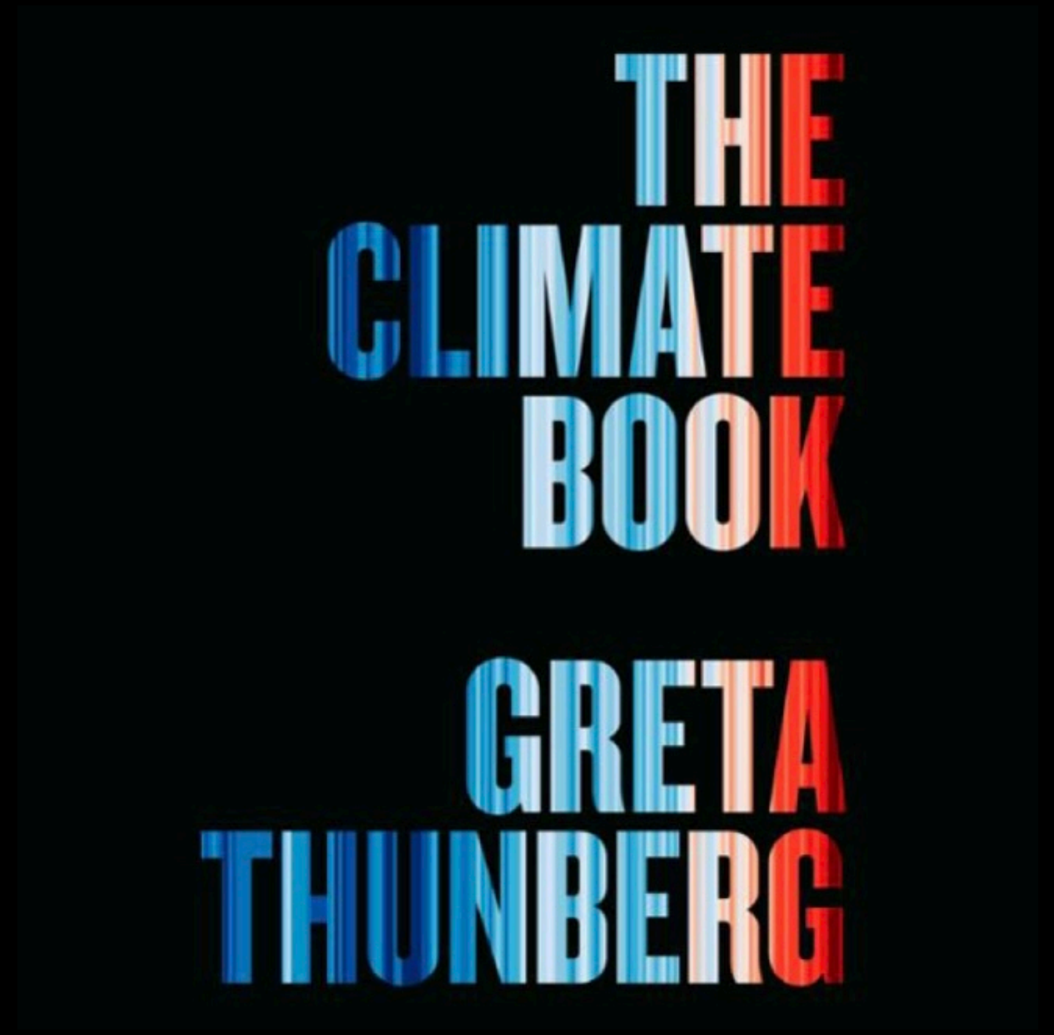
life without conflict,

contradiction, or waste?

This question ***is*** the path of the ***spiritual warrior*** *or* ***pilgrim,*** with its absolute commitment, to ***nonviolence, spiritual excellence,*** and ***reverence for life.***

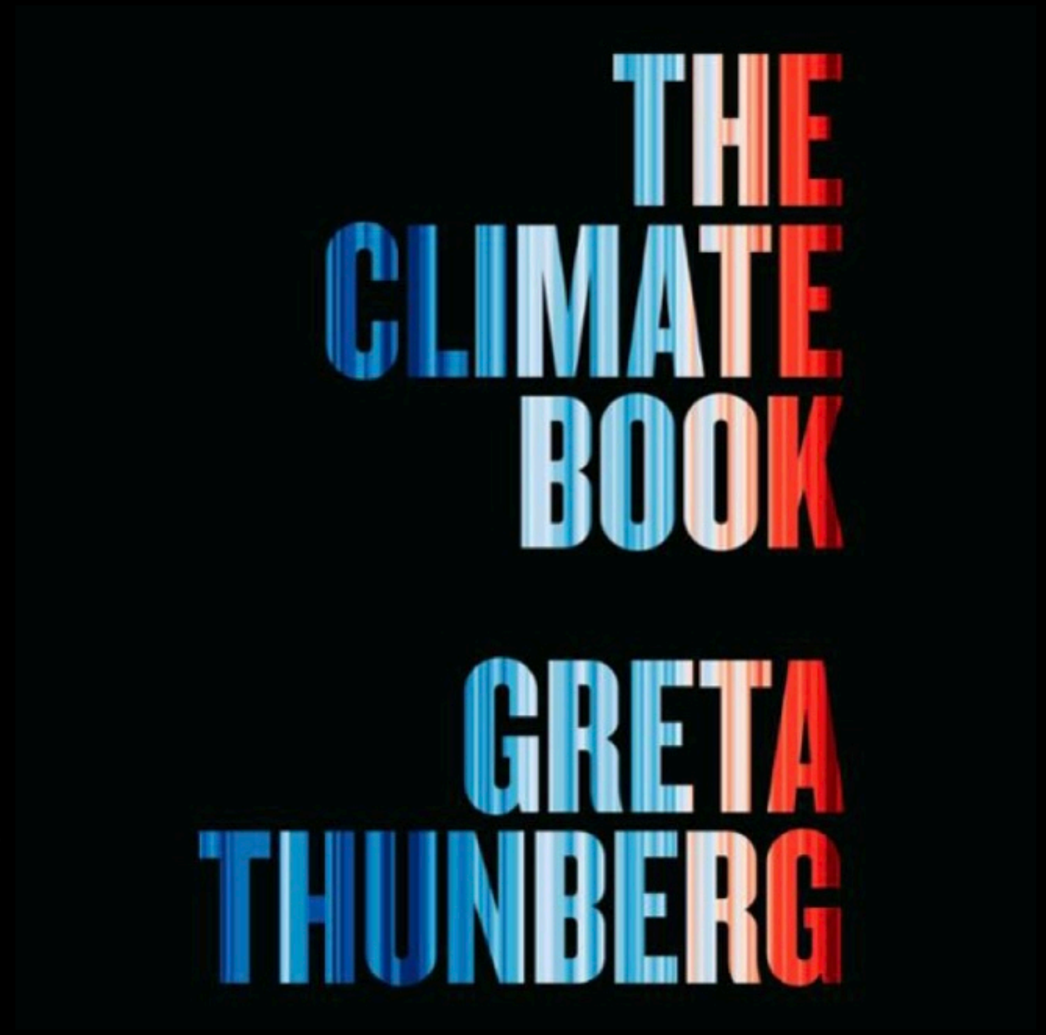
If there ever were a ***spiritual warrior***

in this view, it's Greta Thunberg.



If there ever were a ***spiritual warrior*** in this view, it's Greta Thunberg.

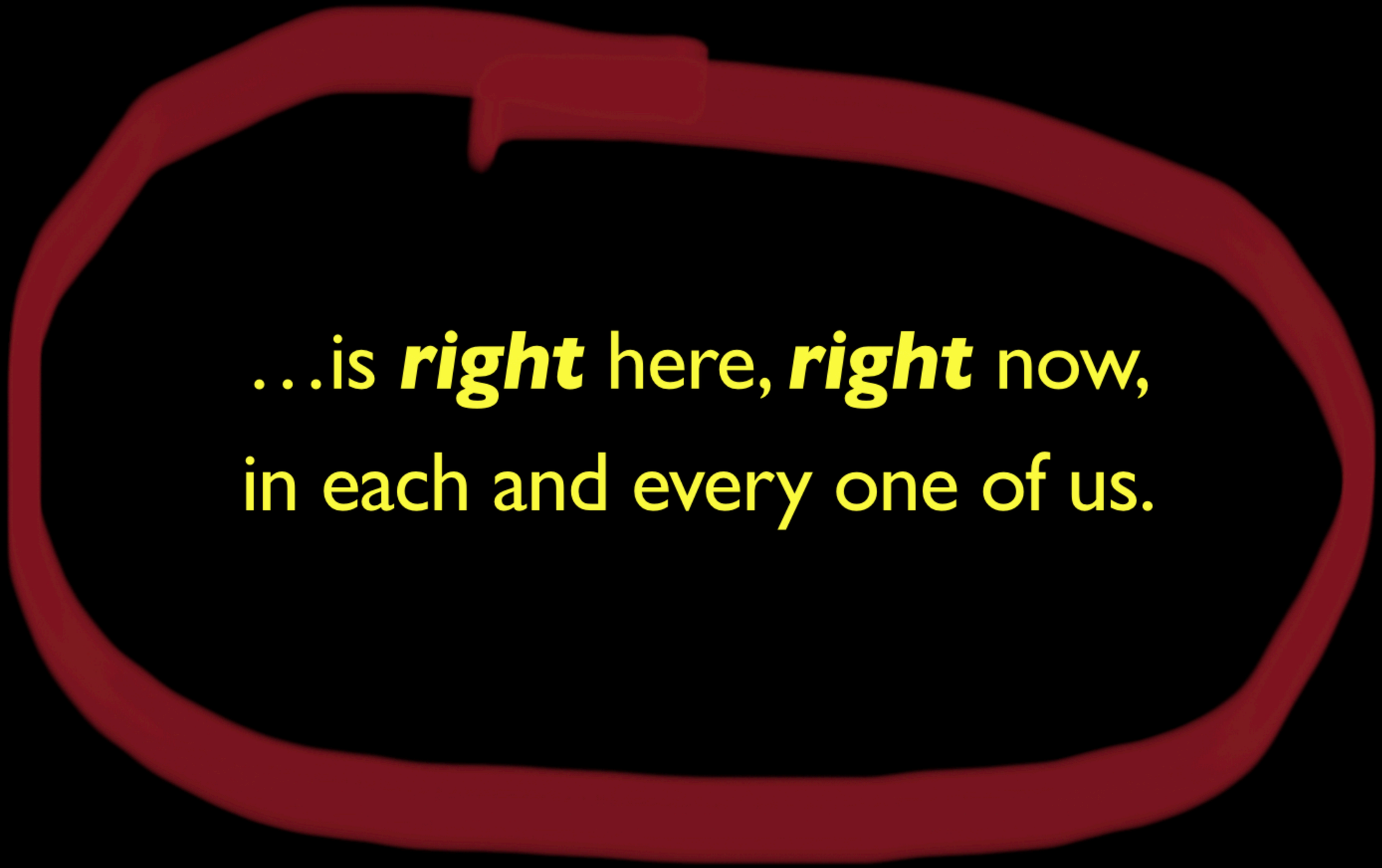
In the recommended readings at the end of COLD SPRING MOUNTAIN book one is this ***landmark wor***k by this world'-leading youth activist for the ***climate emergency***,. A veritable who's who of international climate science.
Listen to this book!



Where the youth activists go tragically wrong, however, is ***merely calling for system change.***

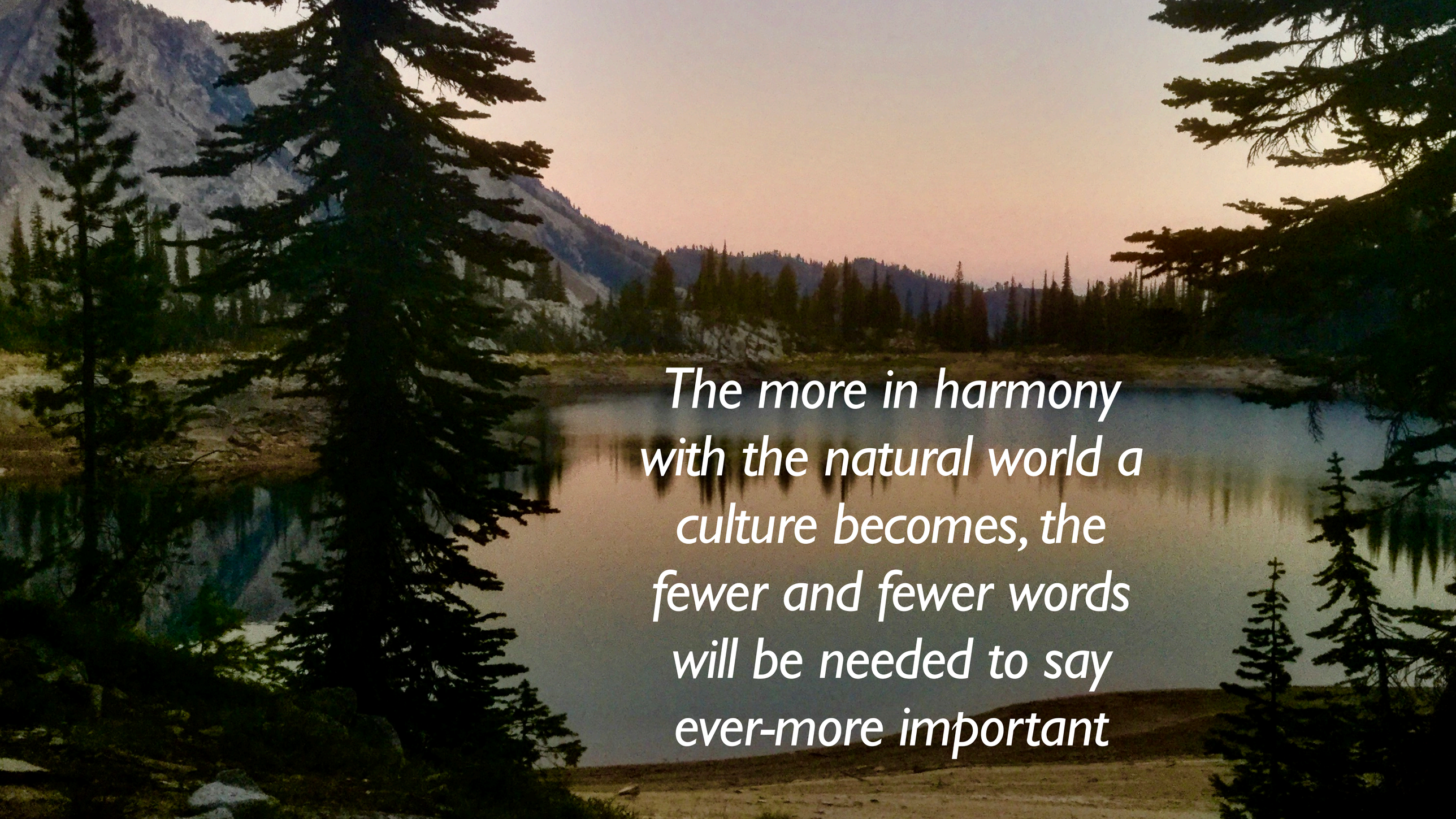
Seen from a wider circle, what we need I think is not just, for example, the end of self- destructive preditory *Capitalism* or *Imperialism*, but rather ***the end of conflict itself.***

ENDING CONFLICT is largely a movement of negation, of taking away. So the solution to ***War & Climate Breakdown…***


. . . .is ***right*** here, ***right*** now,
in each and every one of us.






The more in harmony
with the natural world a
culture becomes, the
fewer and fewer words
will be needed to say
ever-more important

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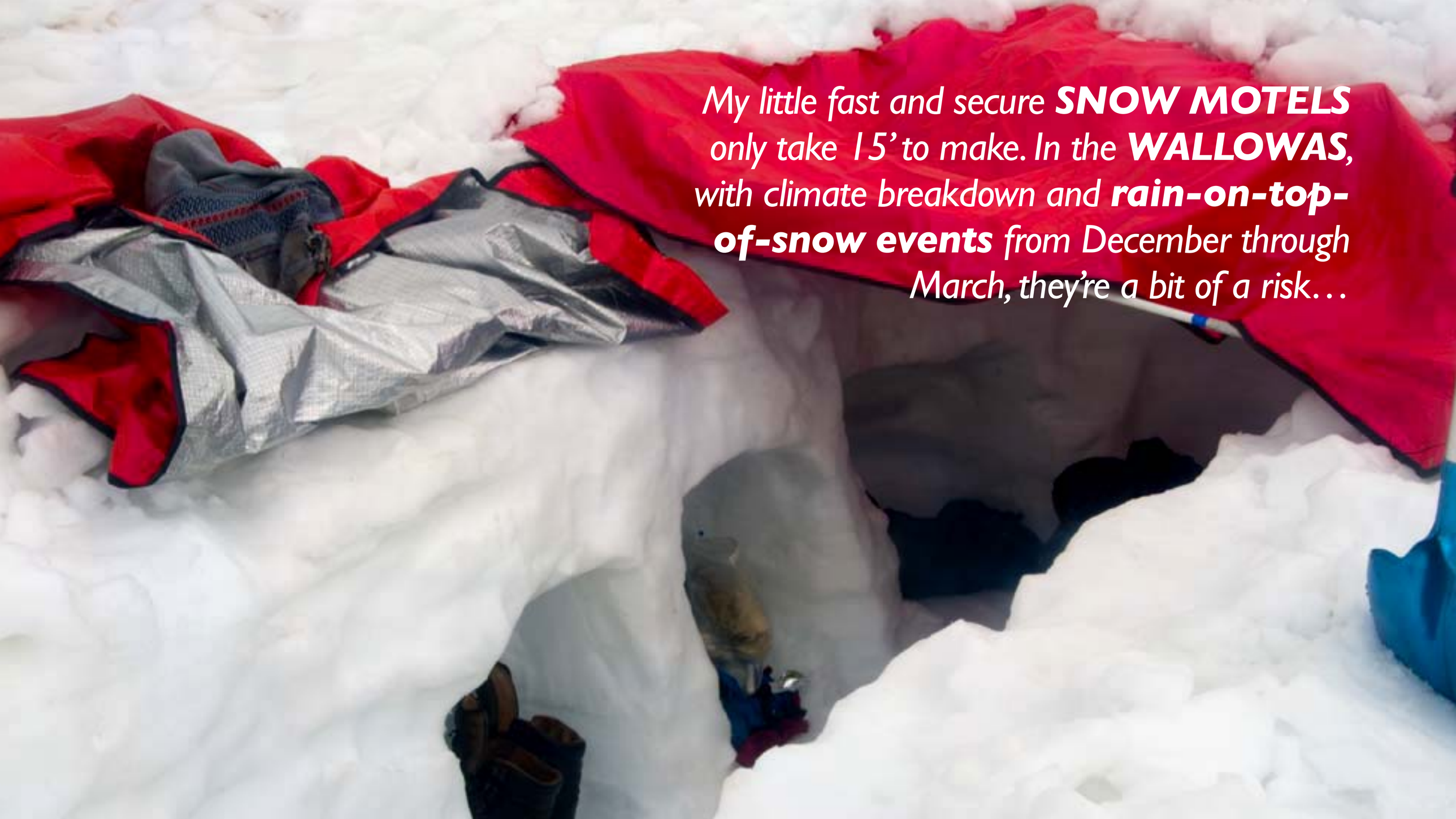
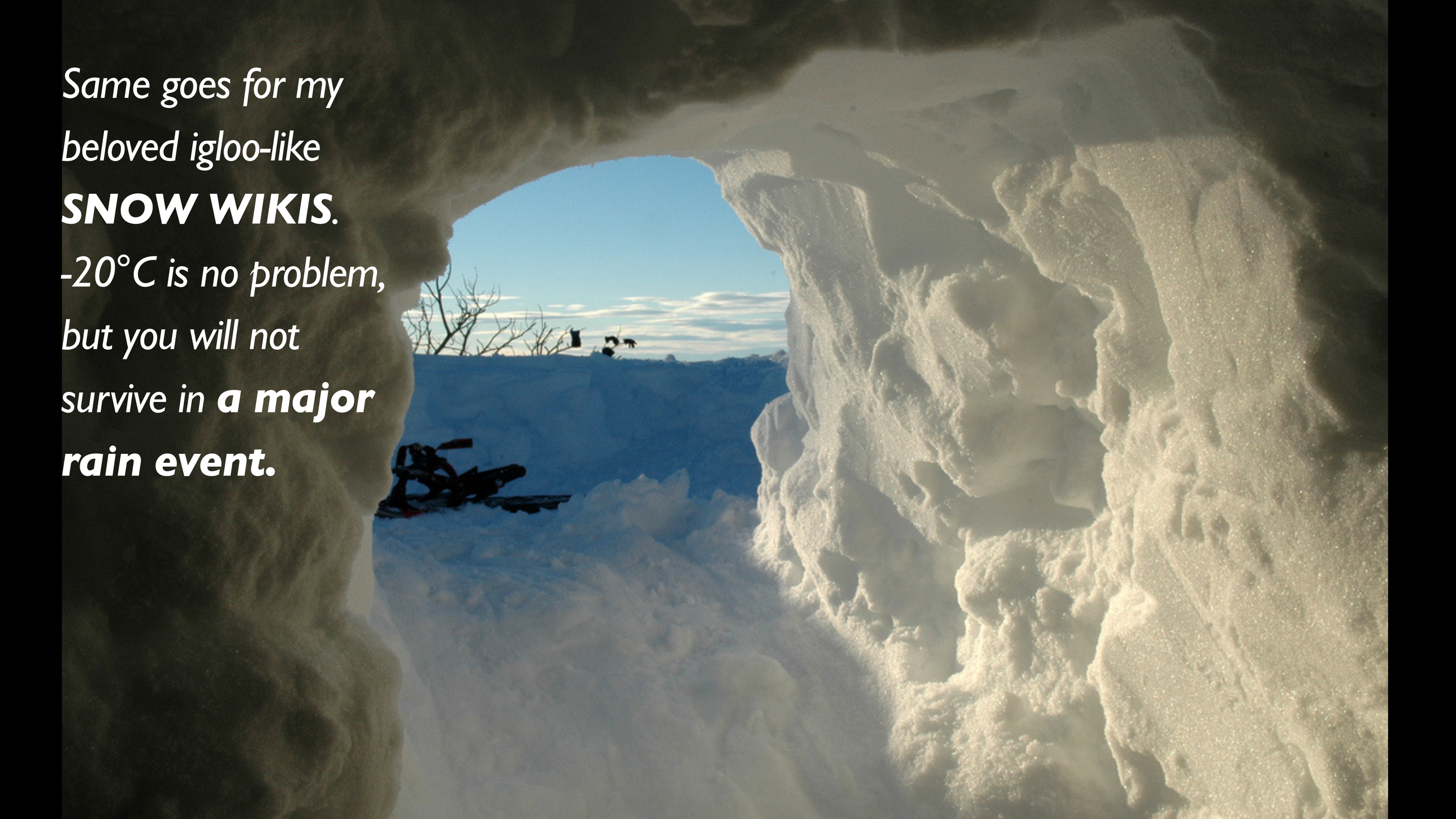
North-facing ridge *in a good snow year, end of July.There would be a small glacier here in years of more reliable snowpack just 200 years ago…*


My little fast and secure **SNOW MOTELS** only take 15' to make. In the **WALLOWAS**, with climate breakdown and **rain-on-top-of-snow events** from December through March, they're a bit of a risk…



Same goes for my beloved igloo-like ***SNOW WIKIS****. -20°C is no problem, but you will not survive in* ***a major rain event.***





My love for snow goes back to my childhood in Ohio.. I hated school. All but music. During the winter, I would get up in the middle of the night and listen to the radio, hoping it might announce a deep-freeze cancellation of classes. Closures could last weeks.. So, for me, ***snow came to mean liberation****.*



*The notorious **Kleinschmidt Grade** on the Idaho side of the Snake.*



World-class bikepacking on what I call the 60-k ***CANNABIS HIGHWAY****, a great gravel track between two happy OREGON small towns,* Richland & Huntington. *At the latter,* ***don't leave your bike rig unlocked!***

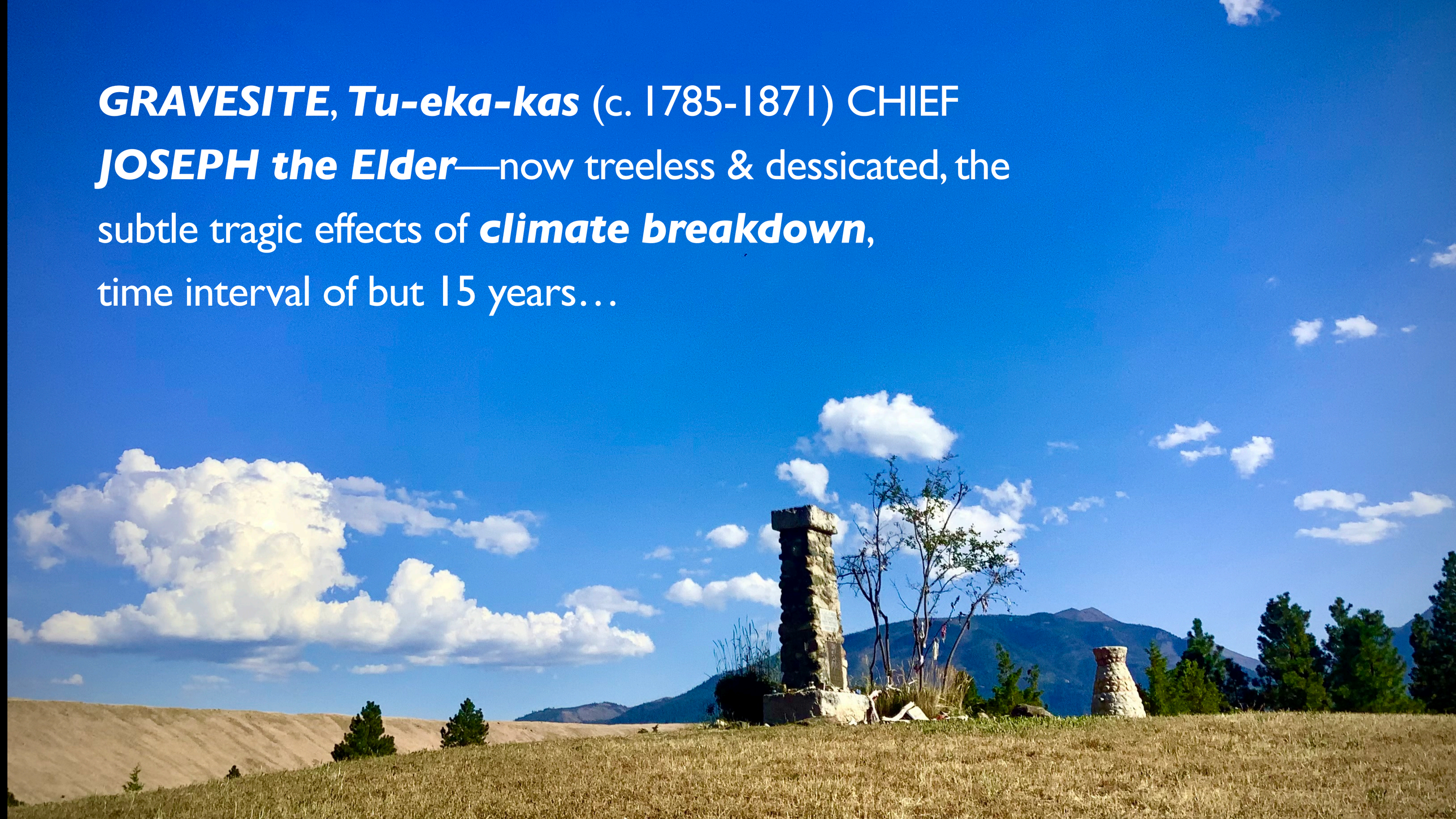



Deep in **NEZ PERCE**
/ Nimiipoo Country
Qém'és háama "ineweespe
CAMAS OVERLOOK at 1250m
***CAMAS** (Camassia quamash)*
One of the signature plants of
***OREGON** &*
*the **WALLOWAS…***

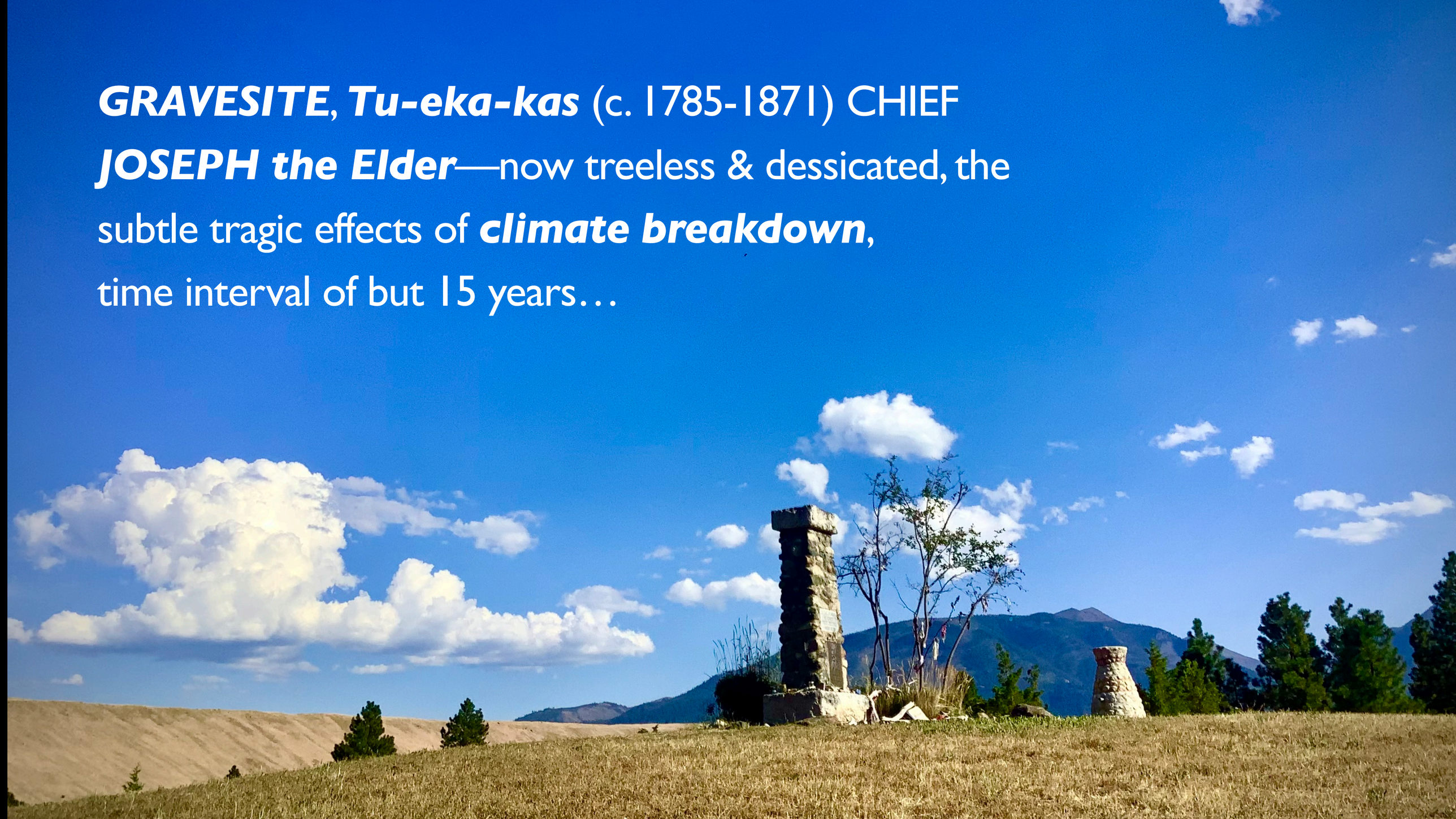





GRAVESITE, Tu-eka-kas (c. 1785-1871) CHIEF
JOSEPH the Elder—looking Southeast towards
Signal Peak
(so-called ***"Mt. Howard"***)


GRAVESITE*, *Tu-eka-kas (c. 1785-1871) CHIEF
JOSEPH the Elder—now treeless & dessicated, the
subtle tragic effects of ***climate breakdown***,
time interval of but 15 years…

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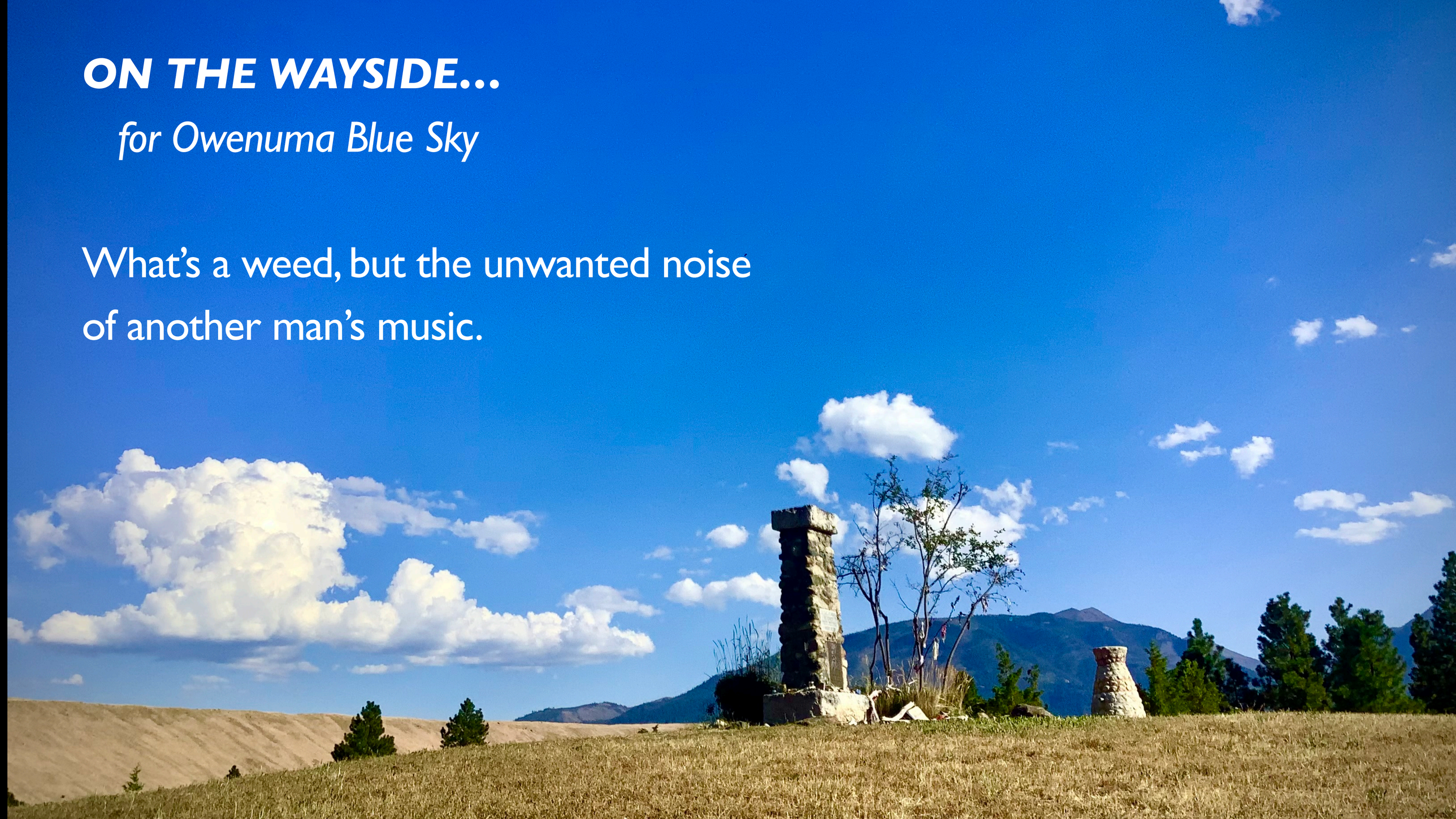
ON THE WAYSIDE...

for Owenuma Blue Sky

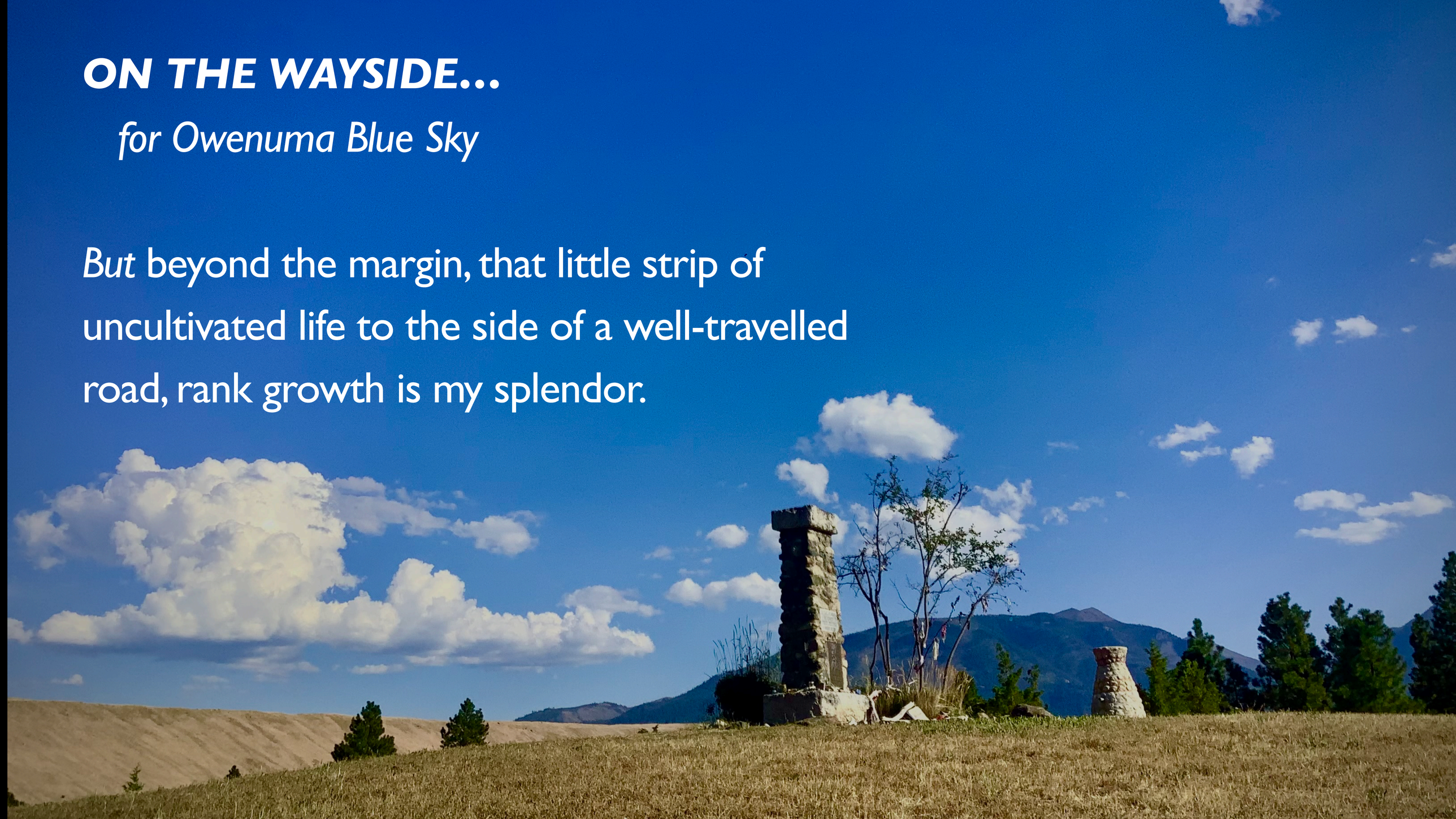




ON THE WAYSIDE…

for Owenuma Blue Sky

What's a weed, but the unwanted noise
of another man's music.



ON THE WAYSIDE…

for Owenuma Blue Sky

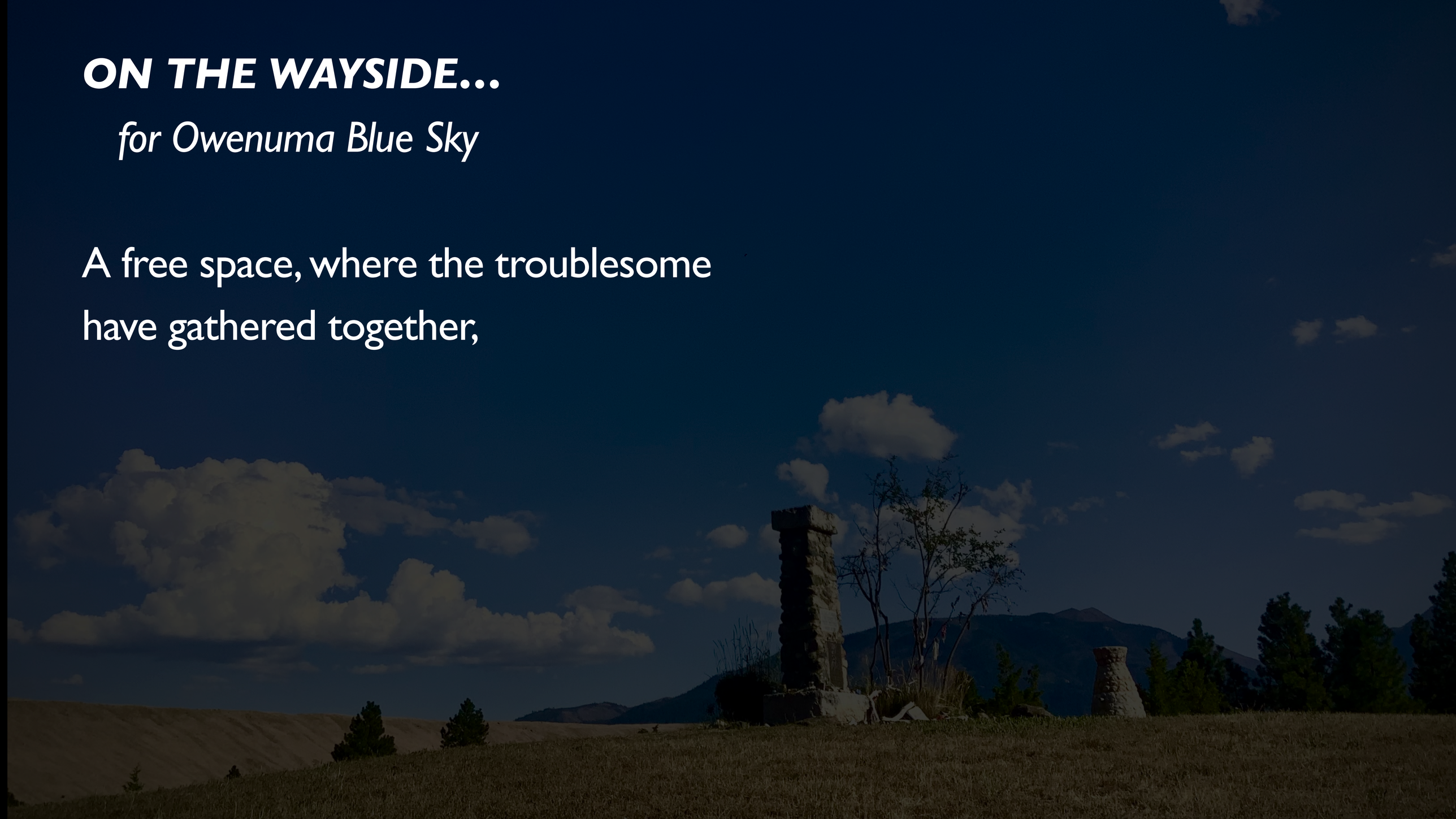
But beyond the margin, that little strip of uncultivated life to the side of a well-travelled road, rank growth is my splendor.



ON THE WAYSIDE…

for Owenuma Blue Sky

Everything needs a place to be,
and here, even the weeds feel at home.



ON THE WAYSIDE...

for Owenuma Blue Sky

A free space, where the troublesome
have gathered together,

ON THE WAYSIDE…

for Owenuma Blue Sky

unfolding their own songs,

ON THE WAYSIDE…

for Owenuma Blue Sky

unfolding their own songs,

flowering, in peace.





THE WALLOWAS AS MANDALA?

The Earth is alive!

The Earth is alive with patterns of pulsing energy,

THE WALLOWAS AS MANDALA?

The Earth is alive!

The Earth is alive with patterns of pulsing energy,
patterns of energy that one naturally learns to sense and
resonate with like the movements of music, like we read
the rings of the Whitebark's wood, like we attune
to the strings of the ***Poet's lyre****.*

THE WALLOWAS AS MANDALA?

Most every year, I ***circumambulate*** *the*
WALLOWAS. On bike & foot. *It takes two months.*
I've done it eight times.

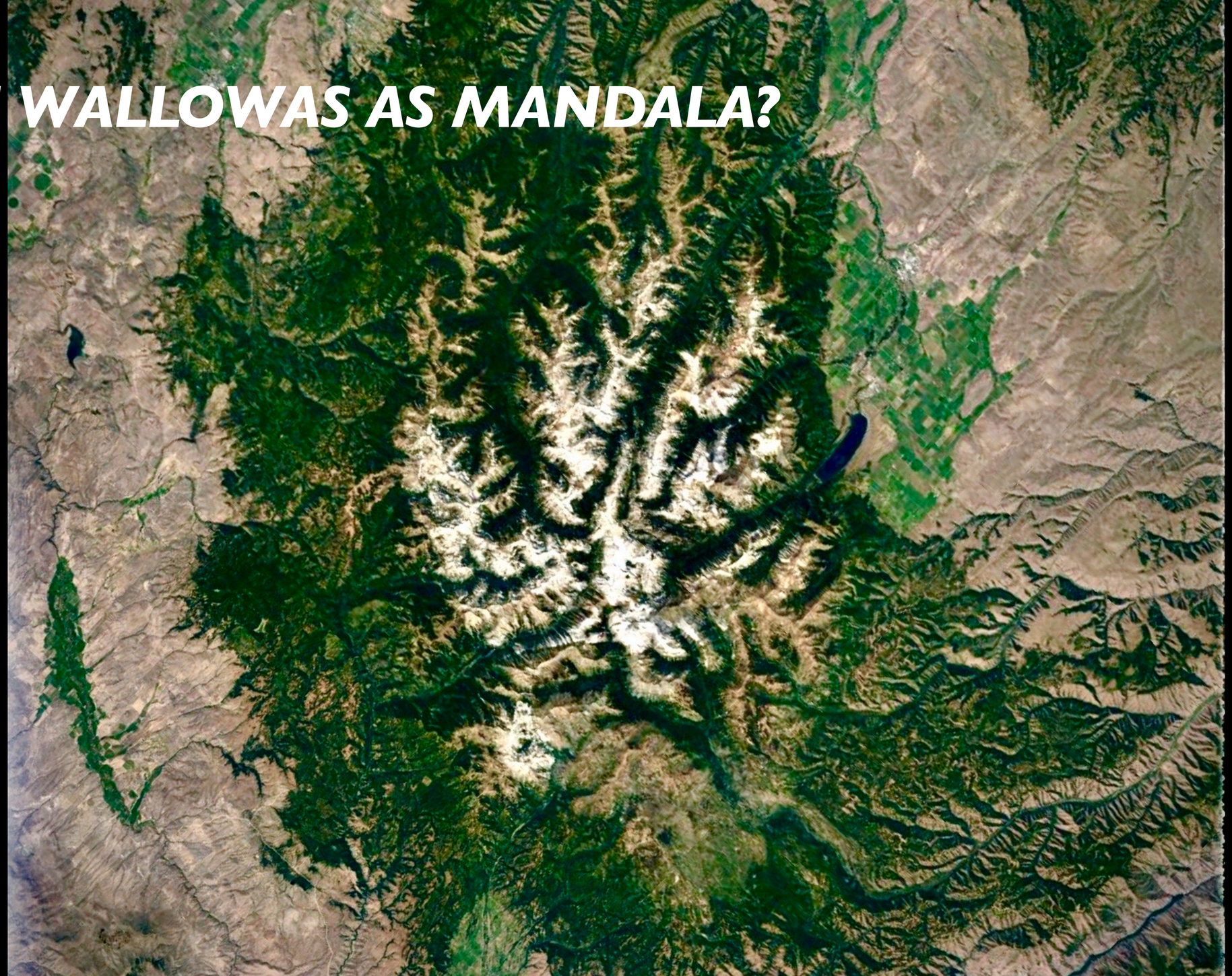
THE WALLOWAS AS MANDALA?

*The **WALLOWA MANDALA** is a great wheel of counter-clockwise turning energy with **EAGLE CAP** as its neutral, motionless hub; It has powerful rivers—the **EAGLE**, **PINE**, **IMNAHA**,*

THE WALLOWAS AS MANDALA?

*The **WALLOWA MANDALA** is a great wheel of counter-clockwise turning energy with **EAGLE CAP** as its neutral, motionless hub; It has powerful rivers—the **EAGLE**, **PINE**, **IMNAHA**, **WALLOWA**, **HURRICANE**, **MINAM**, **KATHRINE**, back to **EAGLE**—radiating out in all four directions. **But don't take my word for it.** Make the journey yourself. You'll never forget it!*

THE WALLOWAS AS MANDALA?



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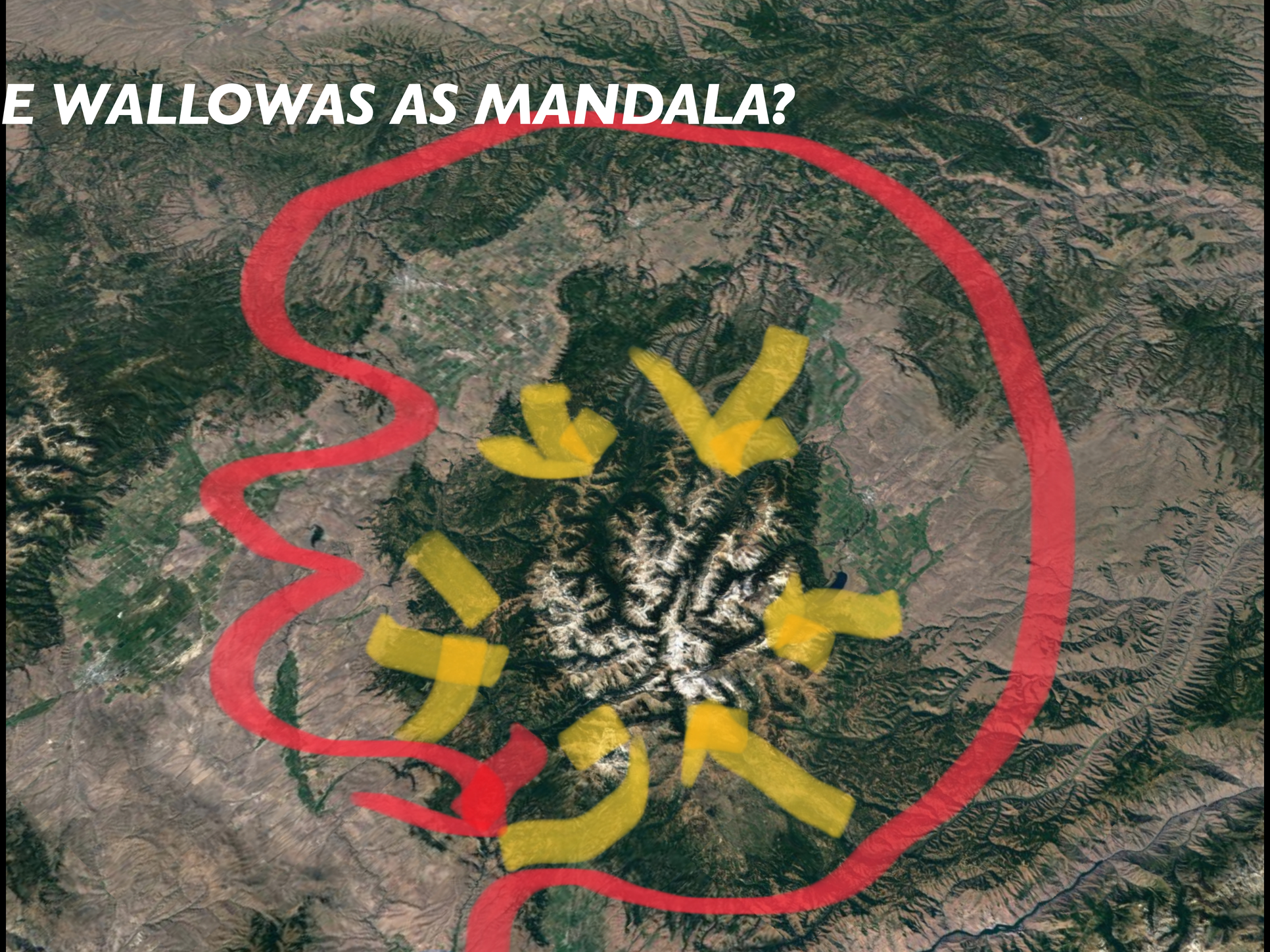
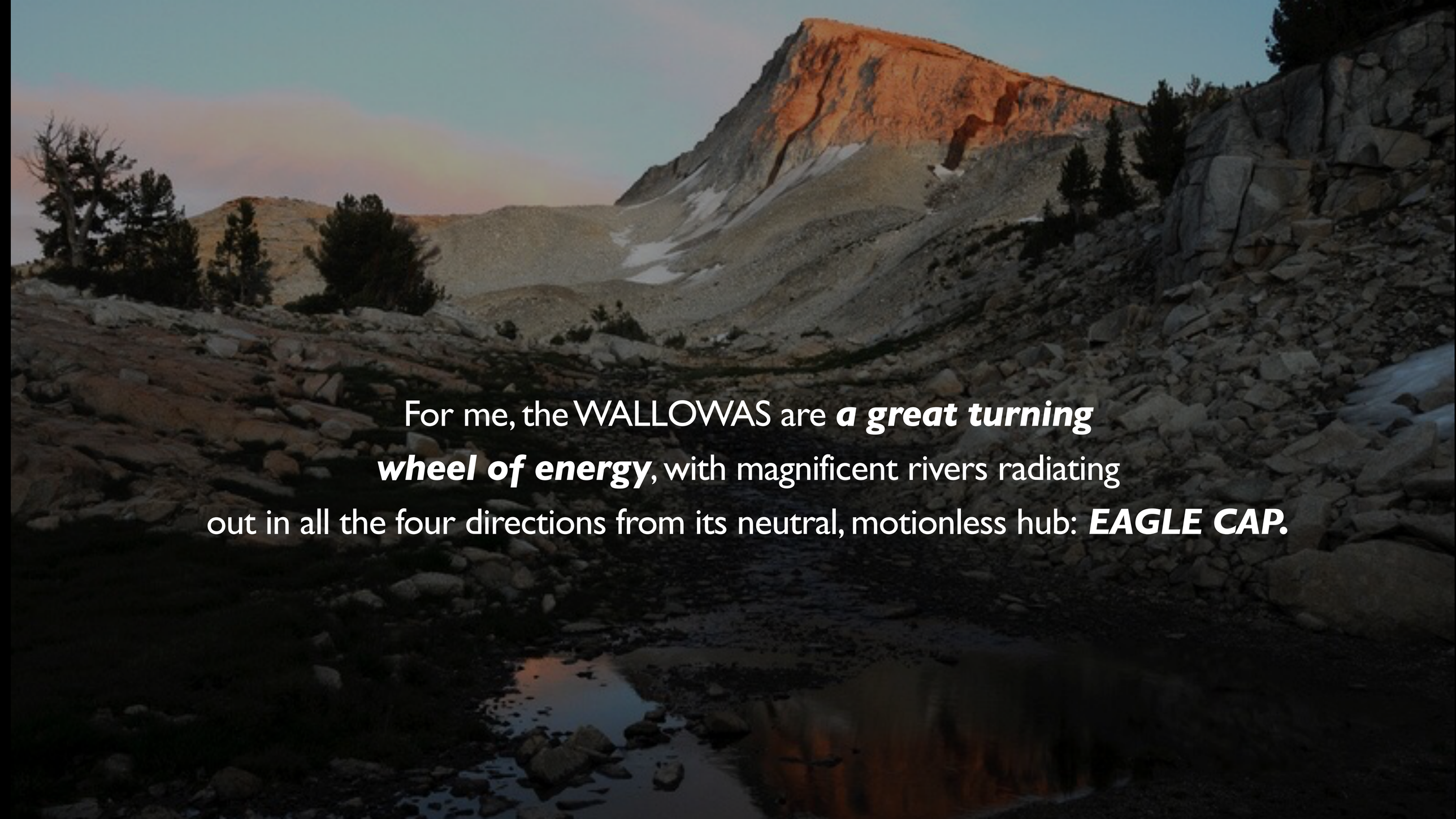


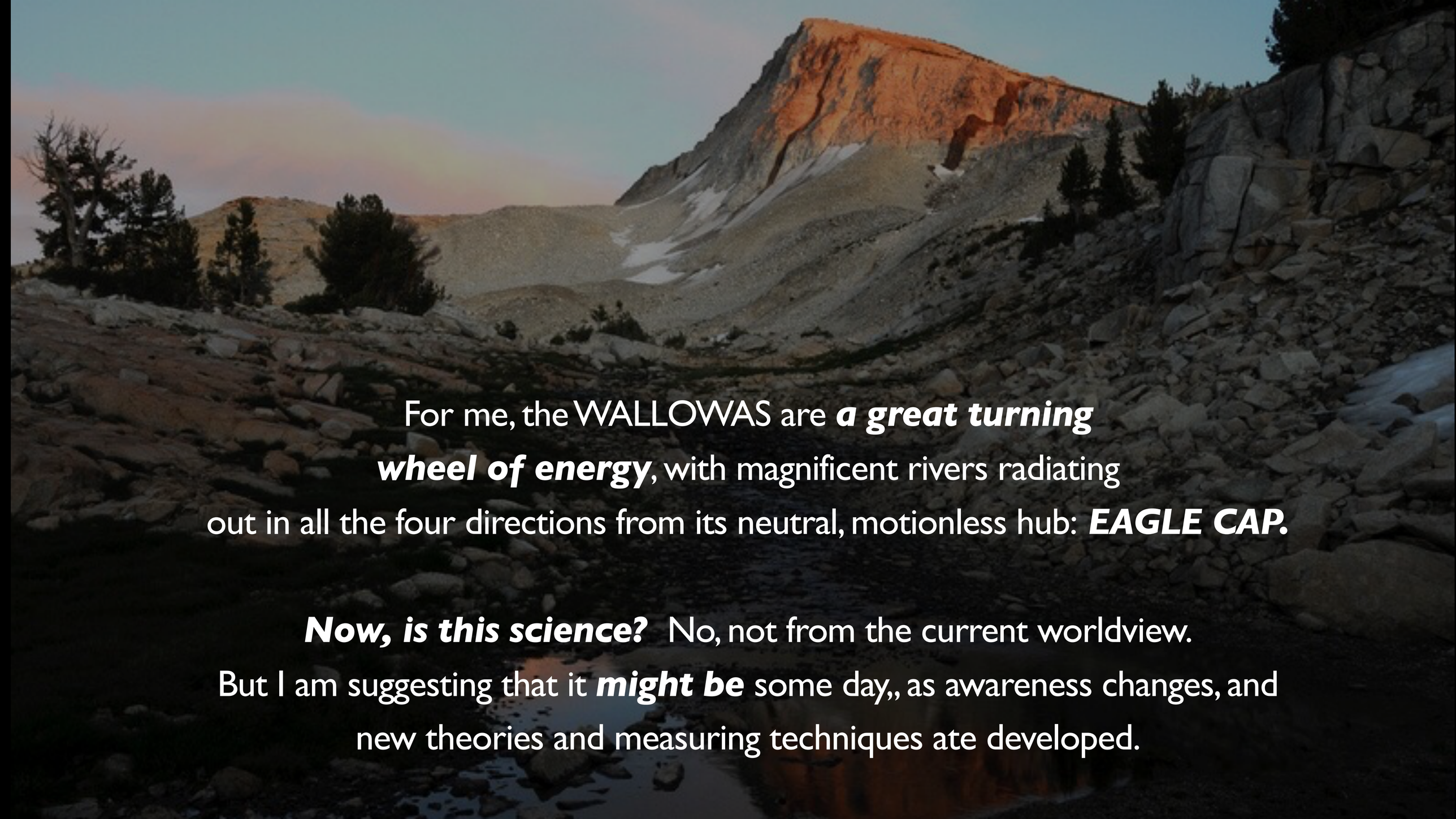
CSM: takes the unity of a radically redefined ***ART***, ***SCIENCE*** & ***RELIGION*** as its point of departure.

It's based on ***the best of international climate science*** from four different language groups.

Nonetheless, this science is
still ***mechanistic in its assumptions*** and,
therefore, ***likely to neglect the wider circle***
ethical dimsensions and to look at problems
from *far too narrow a point of of view.*



For me, the WALLOWAS are ***a great turning wheel of energy***, with magnificent rivers radiating out in all the four directions from its neutral, motionless hub: ***EAGLE CAP.***



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Now, is this science? No, not from the current worldview. But I am suggesting that it ***might be*** some day,, as awareness changes, and new theories and measuring techniques ate developed.

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MATTER & SPIRIT, ***circle within circle*****. . . . .**

Where does matter ***stop***, and spirit ***begin***?



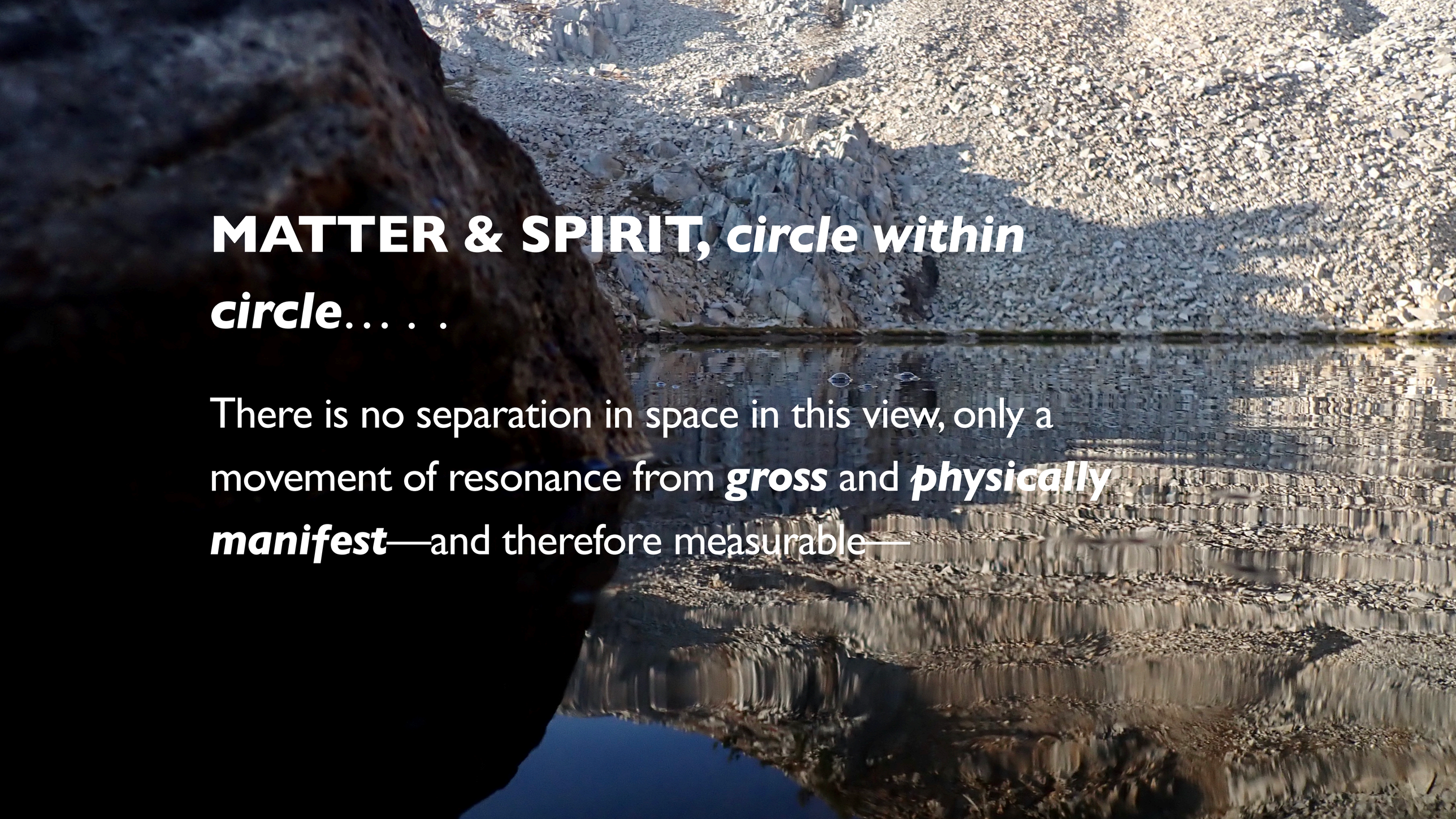
MATTER & SPIRIT, ***circle within circle*** . . . . .

Spirit, or ***intelligence***, might be thought of as a very ***subtle form of resonance.***



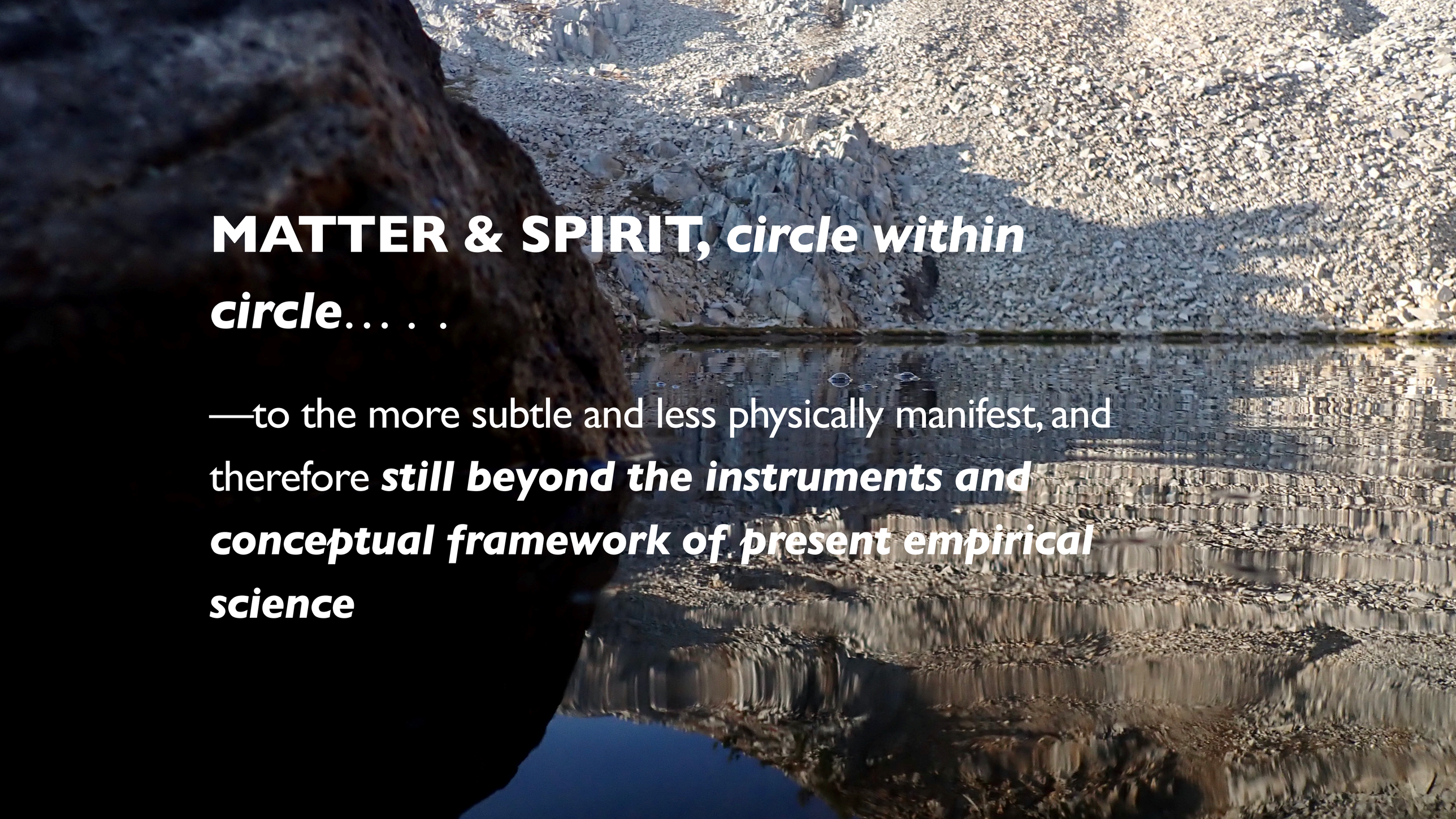
MATTER & SPIRIT, ***circle within circle*****. . . . .**

Think of a resonance body which envelopes the whole of the less subtle and more dense physical body, the one ***nested*** within the other, ***circle within circle.***



MATTER & SPIRIT, ***circle within circle*****. . . . .**

There is no separation in space in this view, only a movement of resonance from ***gross*** and ***physically manifest***—and therefore measurable—



MATTER & SPIRIT, ***circle within circle*****. . . . .**

—to the more subtle and less physically manifest, and therefore ***still beyond the instruments and conceptual framework of present empirical science***

[break… . . .]

The ***LOVE & WATER*** *sequence—*



Part of the great ***Eagle Watershed****,*
EAST EAGLE *runs 48 kilometers, dropping from* ***2,200*** *to* ***600*** *m., a fall of 1,600 m. Along the way, the water makes an amazing journey of purification.*

A ribbon of life, pulsing, ***renewing itself rhythmically about twice each day****.,*
only to slam into the dammed, highly polluted
POWDER RIVER. Here are a few images of
the river. renewing itself rhythmically about
twice every day.


A place I call ***ROLLING THUNDER***
FALLS*…the last salmon runs on the* ***EAGLE***
were c. 1959. Unlike the ***IMNAHA****, there's*
now recovery project here. That's bad.























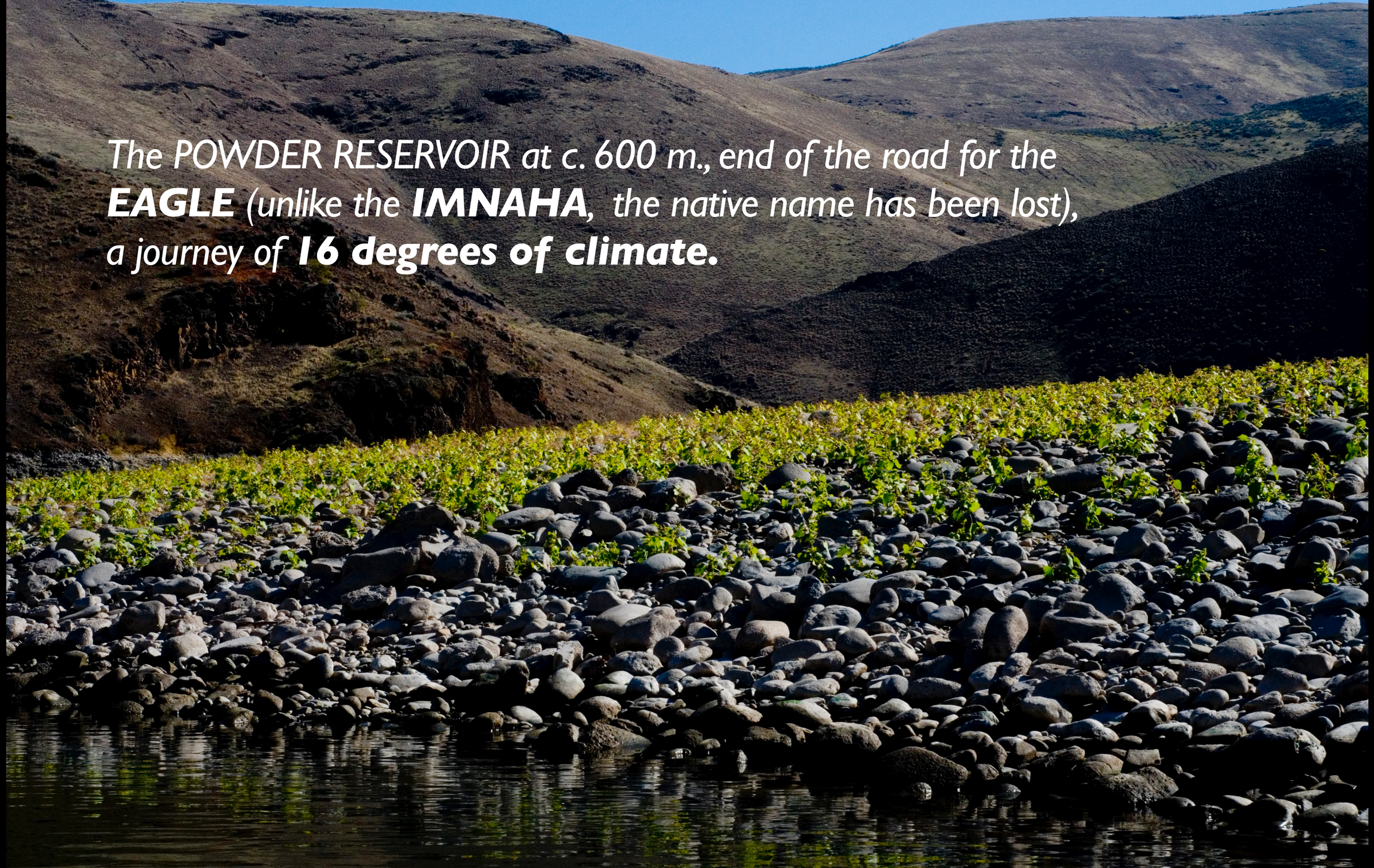
If we wish to understand a culture in its deepest sense, ***follow the water.*** *What water* ***means****. How water is* ***used****. How we* ***image it****.*

Is water alive? Is it sacred? Or is it merely a resource? And if water is merely a resource,

who owns it? Who controls it?



*Confluence of **EAGLE** & **POWDER RIVERS** in what is now the reservoir behind the **OXBOW DAM**…*


The POWDER RESERVOIR at c. 600 m., end of the road for the
***EAGLE** (unlike the **IMNAHA**, the native name has been lost),*
*a journey of **16 degrees of climate.***



ROUGH COCKLEBUR
(Xanthium strumarium),
an annual toxic (used
properly, medicinal)



ROUGH COCKLEBUR
(Xanthium strumarium),
an annual toxic (used properly, medicinal) invasive in the Aster family with floating burr seeds made to order for explosive growth in ***slack-water, polluted reservoirs….***



***AMERICAN DIPPER** on*
***HURRICANE CREEK**,*
Eaglr Cap Wilderness, OREGON



BROWNLEE DAM, *(Muted) Snake River*

HAB *or* ***Harmful Algal Blooms****, caused by fragmenting the water purification cycle behind outmoded, massive dams. But also the* ***rising***

HAB *or* ***Harmful Algal Blooms****, caused by fragmenting the water purification cycle behind outmoded, massive dams. But also the* ***rising temps of climate breakdown*** *and the nutrient pollution from* ***AG runoff***

The green pictured here is
***cyanobacteria**, a kind of "water weed" or*
*blue-green algae, **as thick as paint.***


A standard app on cellphones *should*
to be ***WATER TEMPS*** *of* ***RIVERS,***
LAKES *&* ***RESERVOIRS****…Just as vital as*

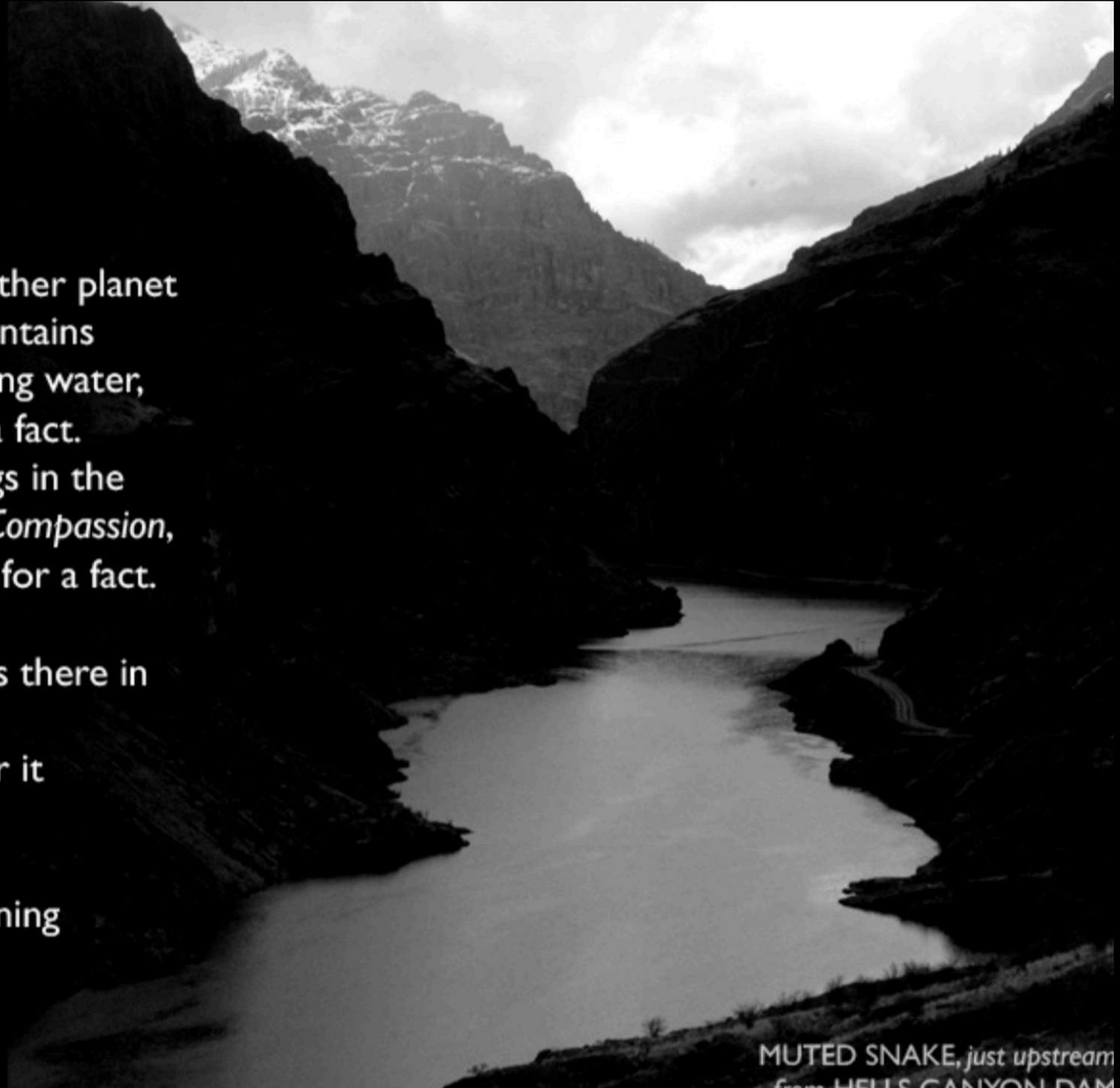

A standard app on cellphones *should*
to be ***WATER TEMPS*** *of* ***RIVERS,***
LAKES *&* ***RESERVOIRS****…Just as vital as*
following your own pulse rate.
Soon, ***dammed water will cross a***
nonlinear temp threshold….


WARNING
ABSOLUTELY
NO TRESPASSING
BEYOND
THIS POINT

LOVE & WATER

There may well indeed be another planet
in the Universe with high mountains
and streams of pure, fast-flowing water,
but we do not know that for a fact.
There may also be other beings in the
Universe capable of *Love* and *Compassion*,
but also that we do not know for a fact.

Love is like *water*: wherever it is there in
abundance, life flourishes;
And *water* is like *love*: wherever it
is wasted, polluted,
blocked or dammed,
we not only abuse Earth's defining
essence, but also somehow
our own.



MUTED SNAKE, *just upstream*

LOVE & WATER

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in the Universe with high mountains
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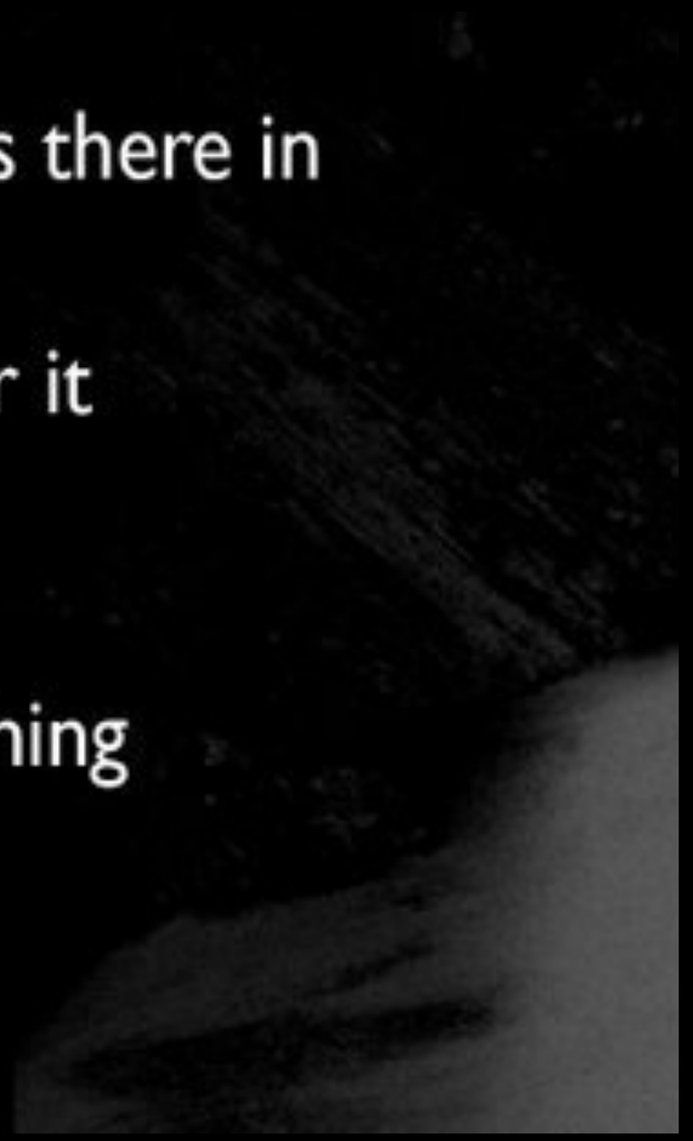


Back to the pristine ***KRAG PEAK BASIN*** *at c. 2500,*
c. 20 degrees of climate above the Muted POWDER…


*What I call the **ANSEL ADAMS BEND** of the OWYHEE RIVER,*
*now under the slack water of the **OWYHEE DAM** (1928-32j*


HIDDEN LAKE *cirque, like* ***KRAG PEAK BASIN*** *at c. 2200 m. a crucial*
climate breakdown *refuge that stays moist all summer.. Fall aspect….*





UPPER PINE LAKES, end of October,. The lake is 200 m or ***two degrees of climate*** above the lower lakes. Note that its water is already partly frozen, while the lower lakes are still ice-free. ***That difference is climate***!



The long-term climate history of this beauiful at 2500 meters North-Northeast-facing cirque is revealing. ***Until 1850, t***here would have been a small ***vestigial glacier*** here. One can still see the pile of unsorted large and small rocks of the ***lateral moraine*** it left behind.



Until a decade ago, this upper lake would remain frozen and coveted with snow for most of the high mountain summer. So its local climate has shifted upward, by at least ***3 degrees of climate*** or 300 m just since around 1950 with declining snowpack, becoming now more similar to the lakes below..

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REMEMBER, *7 degrees of climate…*



WBP *cones ripening, seeds (not nuts) have more calories than chocolate; They are the ONLY pine cones that do not open of themselves, making Whitebarks wholly dependent on Nutcrackers et al. for their dispersal…..*



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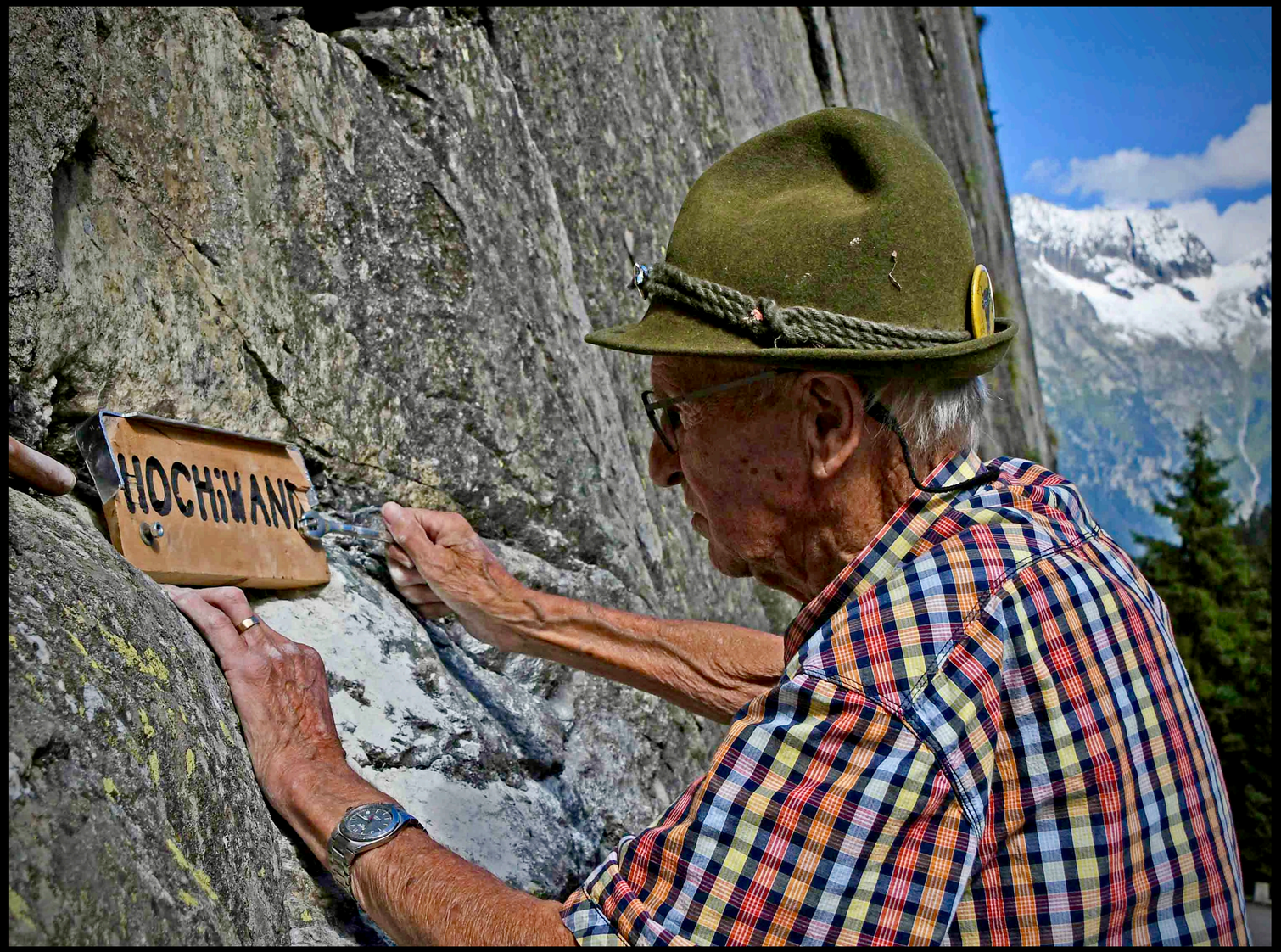
We'll cover this in detail in COLD SPRING MOUNTAIN, book two…



My Swiss friend, ***MATTLI Waldemar****, securing a name board he made of ARVE (Whitebark pine); It reads, "High Wall." The children of even one of the highest and most beautiful inhabited valleys in the ALPS are in danger of losing this first poetry of place.*

(Photo, Christian Dischl)





HIDDEN LAKE,
Fall aspect. . . .







[break… . . .]

Here's a quick ***OVERVIEW*** of a few
natural history & mountain ecology
themes we'll be exploring in future ***COLD SPRING***
MOUNTAIN (CSM) sequences:.

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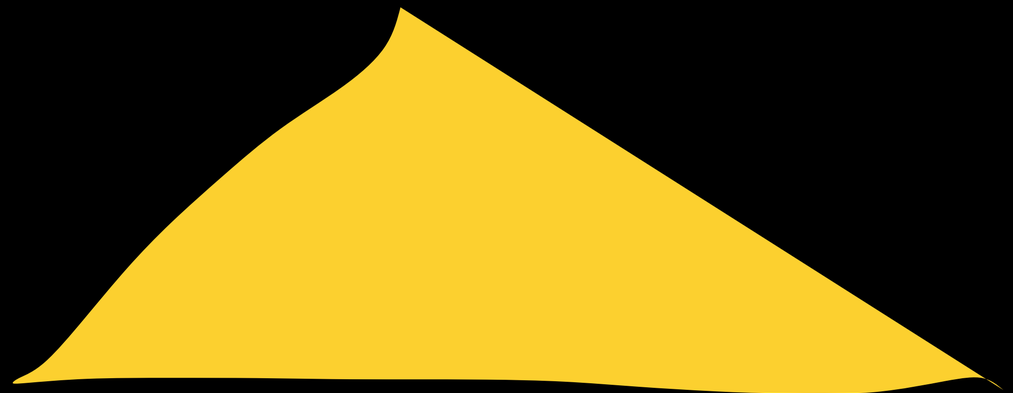
Climate & ***Elevation***, ***Snowpack***,
Mt. Pine Beetles, & ***Whitepine Blister Rust****….*

In the mountains, the story of climate depends on the relationship between ***three factors***:—

elevation



elevation



water (or snow)

elevation



water (or snow)

temperature

elevation



With dry air, temperature ***decreases***

by 1°C fot every 100 meter rise of elevation

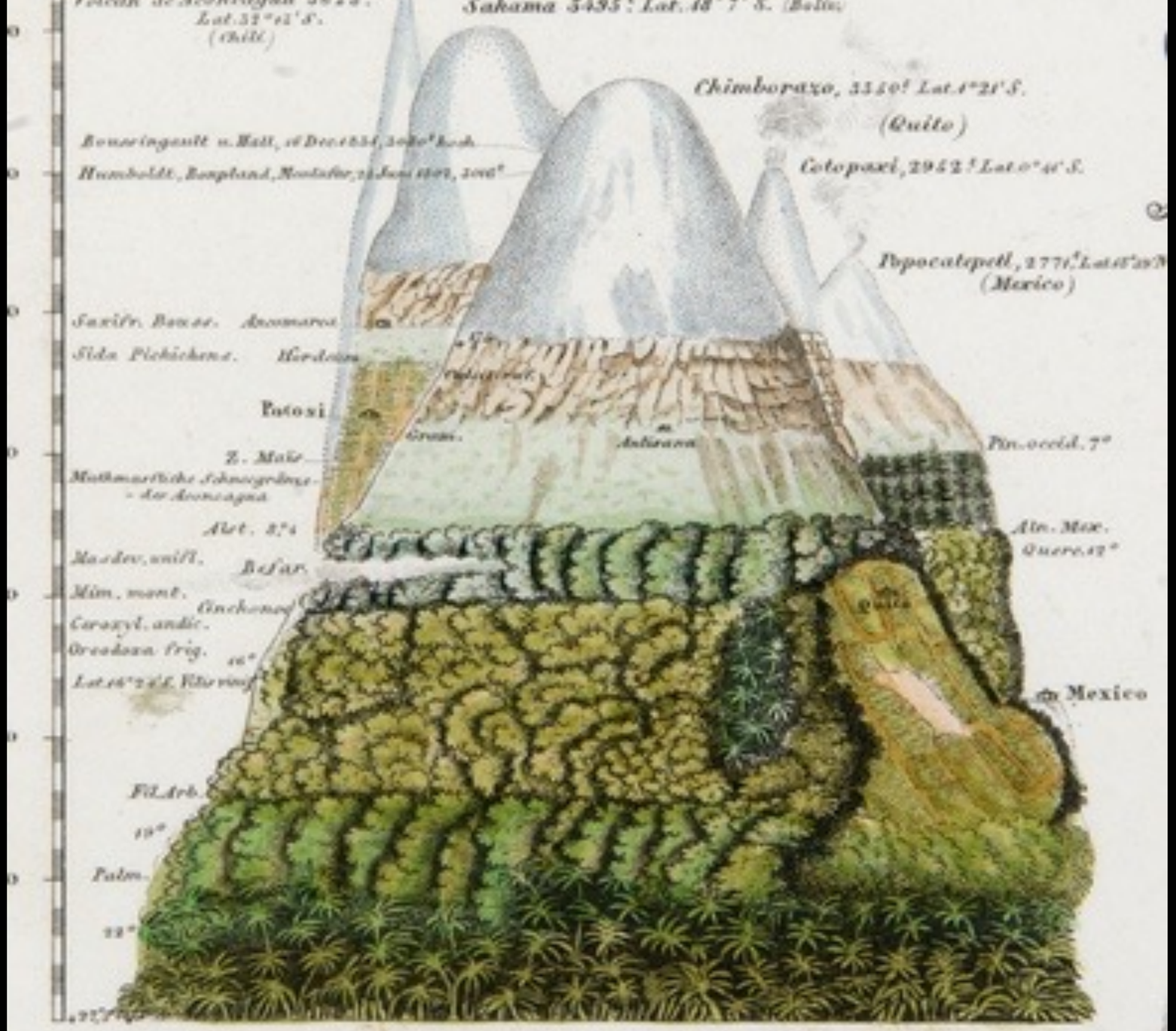
elevation



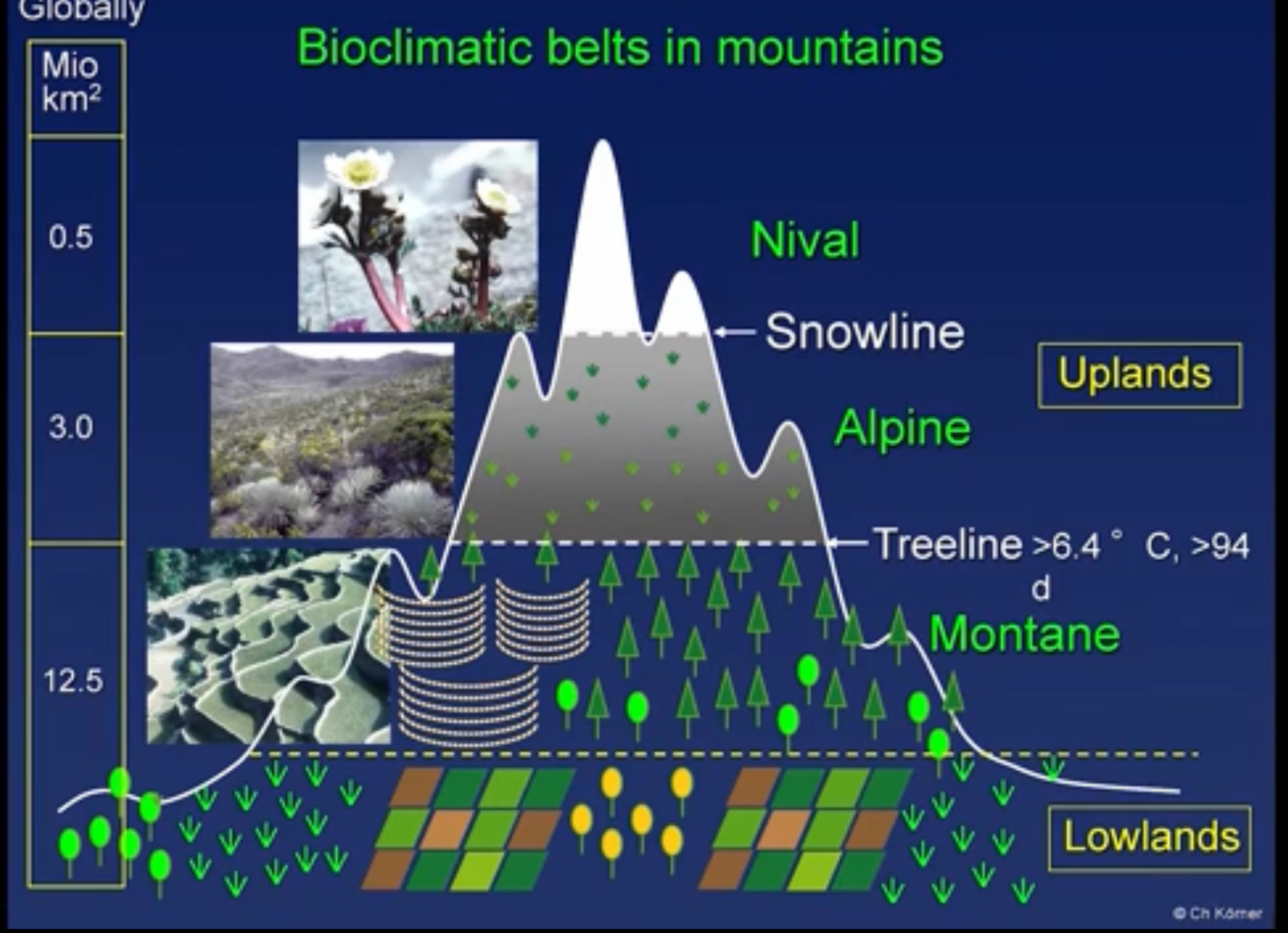
As a way of awakening of awareness, I call this

100 meter rise of elevation ***“one degree of climate”***

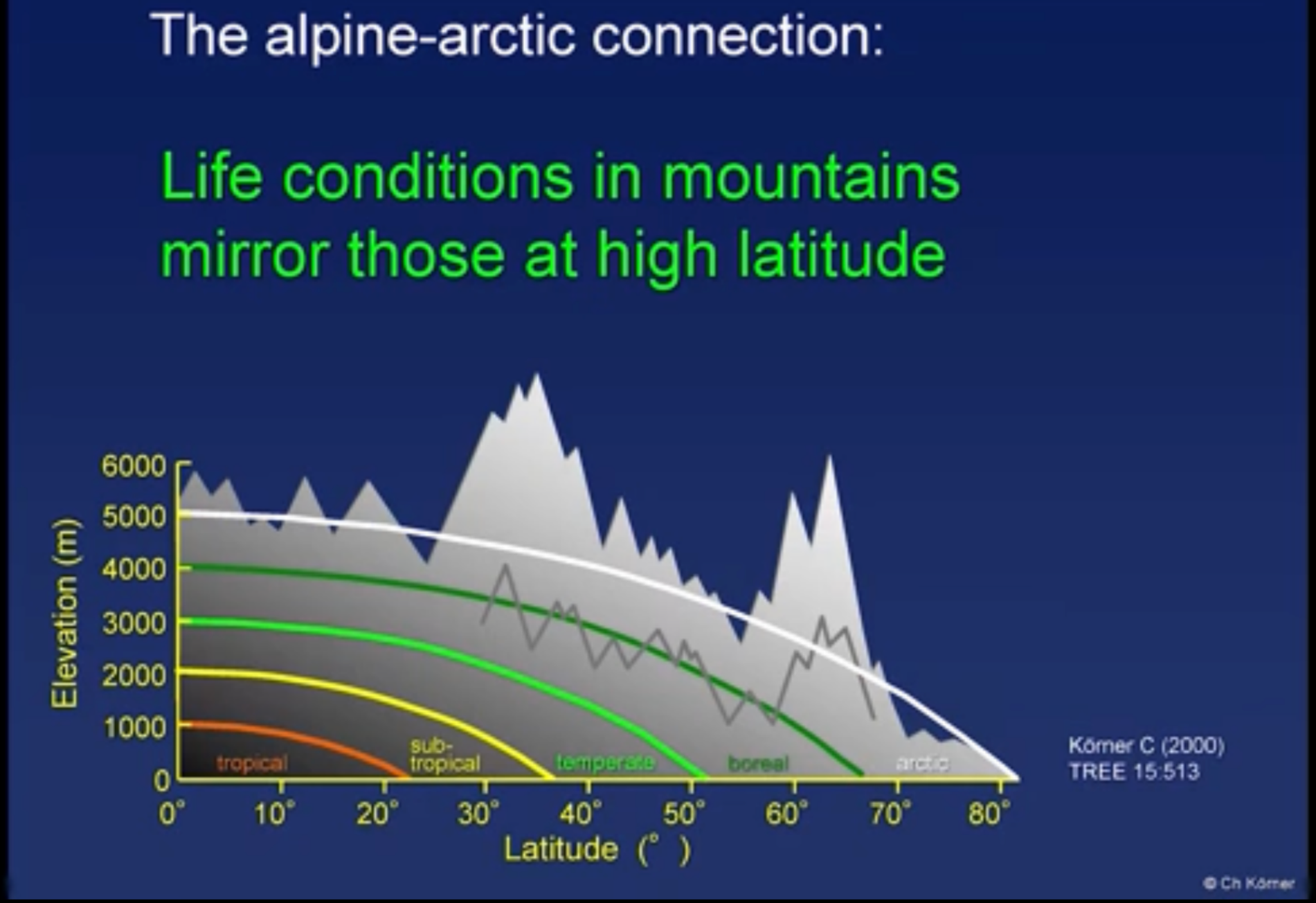
It was ***Alexander von Humboldt***, great explorer
of South America and father of holistic ecology,
that drew the first map of ***mountain climate zones.***


Sahama 5435 ; Lat. 18° 7' S. (Bolivia)
Lat. 32° 42' S.
(Chile)
Chimborazo, 3340 t Lat. 1° 28' S.
(Quito)
Bouguer u. Walt, 16 Dec. 1534, 3480 t h.
Humboldt, Bonpland, Montufar, 23 Juni 1802, 3000 t
Cotopaxi, 2942 t Lat. 0° 40' S.
Popocatepetl, 2770 t Lat. 19° 10' N.
(Mexico)
Saxifr. Bonar. Ancomarca
Sida Pichichensis. Hordeum
Potosi
Z. Mais
Mathematische Schneegränze
der Anden
Alnus. Mex.
Quercus
Mexico
Fil. Arb.
Palm.
Heisse Zone, Lat. 0° – 10°


(Chili)
Chimborazo, 3350 Lat. 1° 21' S.
(Quito)
Cotopaxi, 2952 Lat. 0° 41' S.
Popocatepetl, 2771 Lat. 15° 39' N
(Mexico)
Saxifr. Bouss.
Ancomarca
Sida Pichichens.
Hordeum
Potosi
Gram.
Antisana
Pin. occid. 7°
Z. Maïs
Alst. 8° 4
Aln. Mex.
Quere. 12°
Masdev. unifl.
Befar.
Mim. mont.
Cinchona
Ceroxyl. andic.
Oreodoxa frig.
16°



Graph by ***Dr. Christian Kôrner***, BASEL UNIVERSITY….



Graph by ***Dr. Christian Kôrner***, BASEL UNIVERSITY….



Humans are altering the climate…."by cutting down the forests…and by developing immense vapor and gas masses at the center of their industries." *1841*

Slide by ***Dr. Stefan Rahmsdorf*** *of POTSDAM University , ….*


From the **CHEATGRASS SEA** (*Bromus tinctorum*) at 600 meters to….



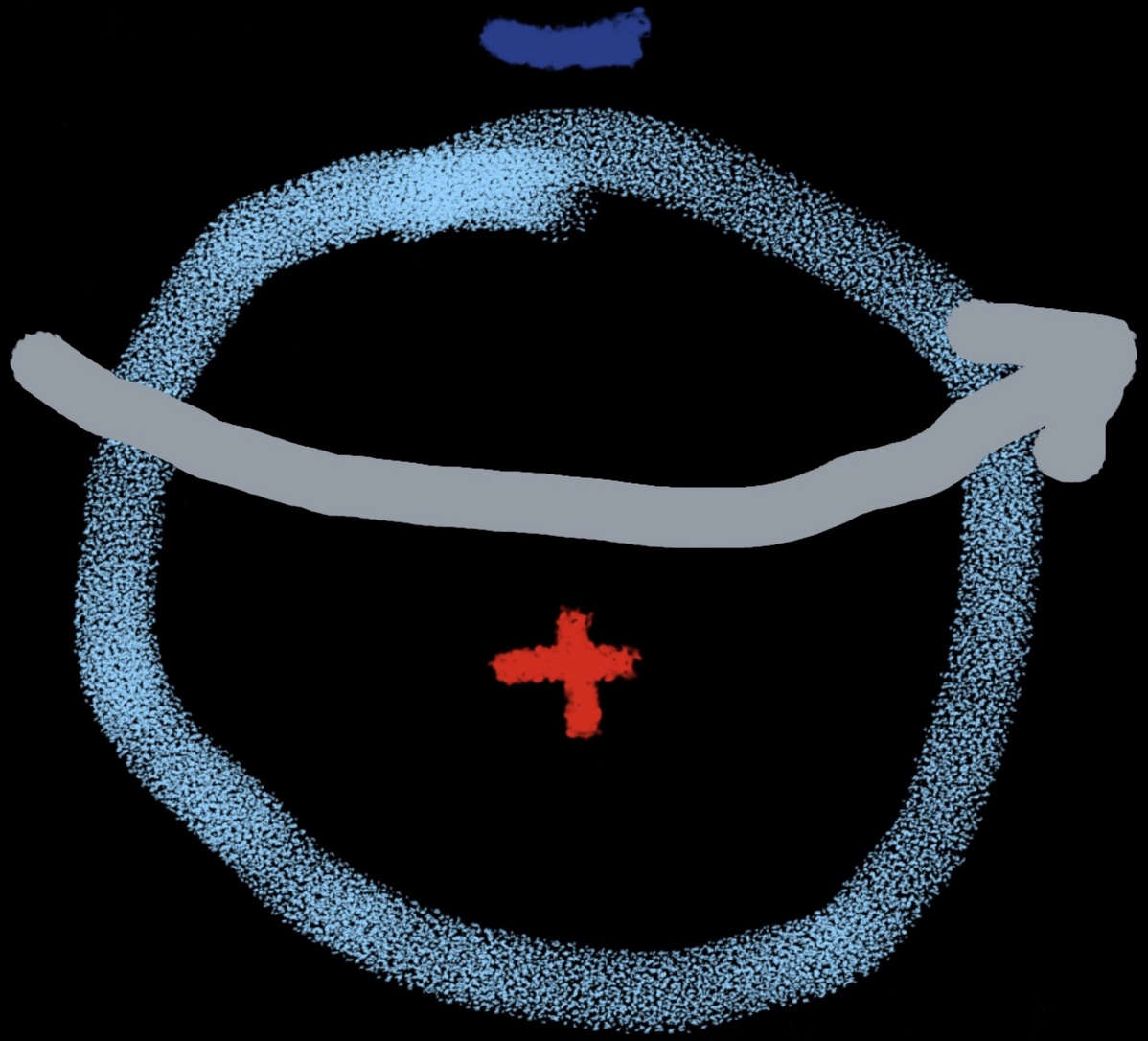
…to 2700m a the top of ***KRAG PEAK, 21 degrees of climate….***

With a ***hotter, drier climate,*** *t*hese climate zones are shifting upward. For instance, ***Whitebark pines*** in the WALLOWAS historically grew down to 1900 meters. That lower limit, depending on exposition, has now shifted to ***c. 2200 meters.***

With a ***hotter, drier climate,*** *t*hese climate zones are shifting upward. For instance, ***Whitebark pines*** in the WALLOWAS historically grew down to 1900 meters. That lower limit, depending on exposition, has now shifted to ***c. 2200 meters.***

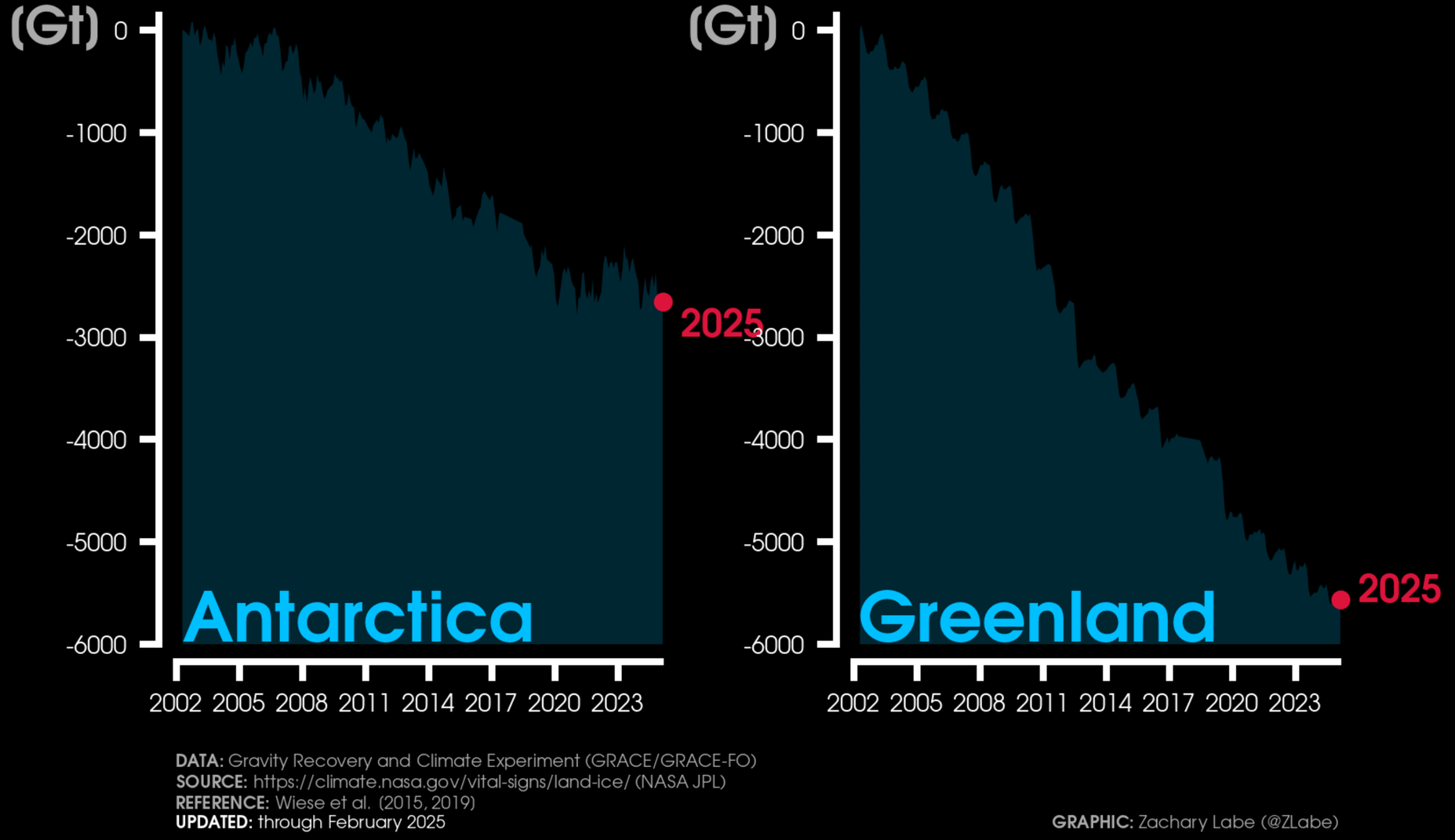
That's a difference of ***three degrees of climate…***

jetstream patterns of movement



historical pattern driven by > temp diff.
btwn equator & pole...

LOSS OF LAND ICE



DATA: Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment (GRACE/GRACE-FO)
SOURCE: https://climate.nasa.gov/vital-signs/land-ice/ (NASA JPL)
REFERENCE: Wiese et al. (2015, 2019)
UPDATED: through February 2025

GRAPHIC: Zachary Labe (@ZLabe)

Graph by ***Dr. Zack Labe,*** *formerly with NASA, ….*

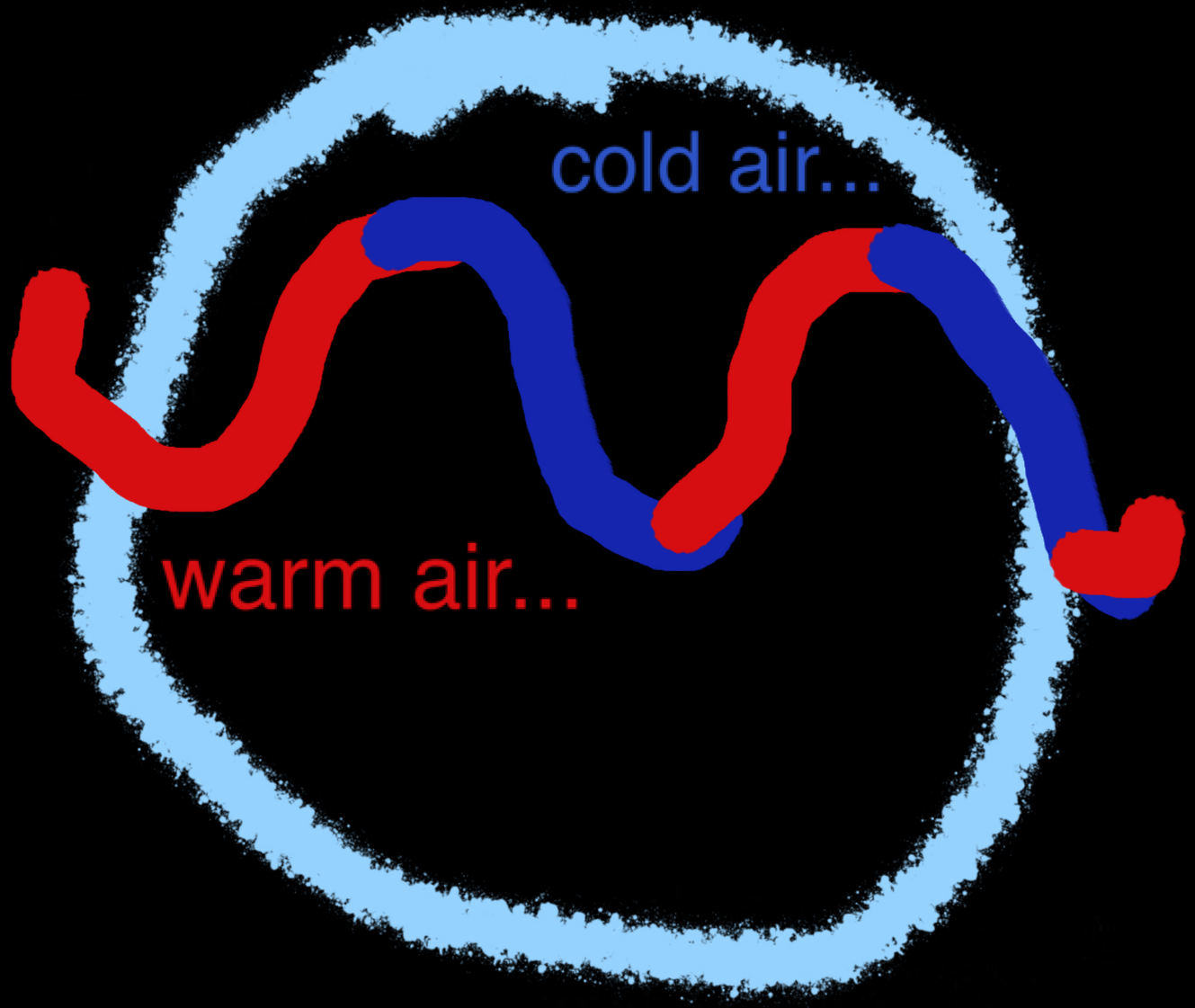
Here is a metric version of Idaho Power's data...

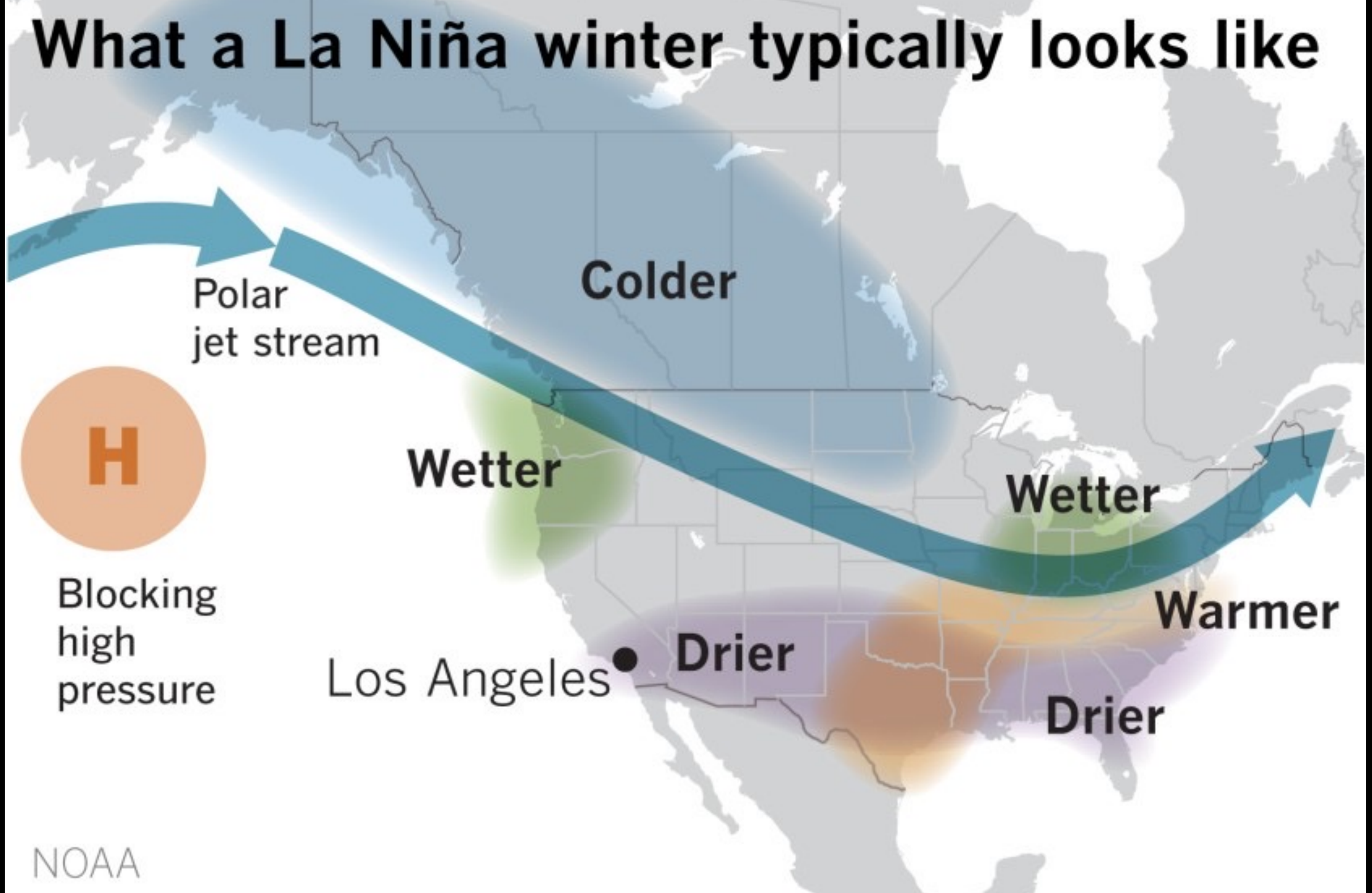
IDAHO POWER claims theoretically that
silver iodine cloudseeding from ground (28 stations)
& air (3 planes w/ flares) =
37 cm > snowpack = .37 km3 > meltwater =
+- 11Mw > energy⁉️

With the ***decline of reflectivity of snow and ice*** in the Arctic, the temperature difference between the ***Equator*** and the ***Pole*** is decreasing as the Arctic warms *four times faster* than any other place on the planet.

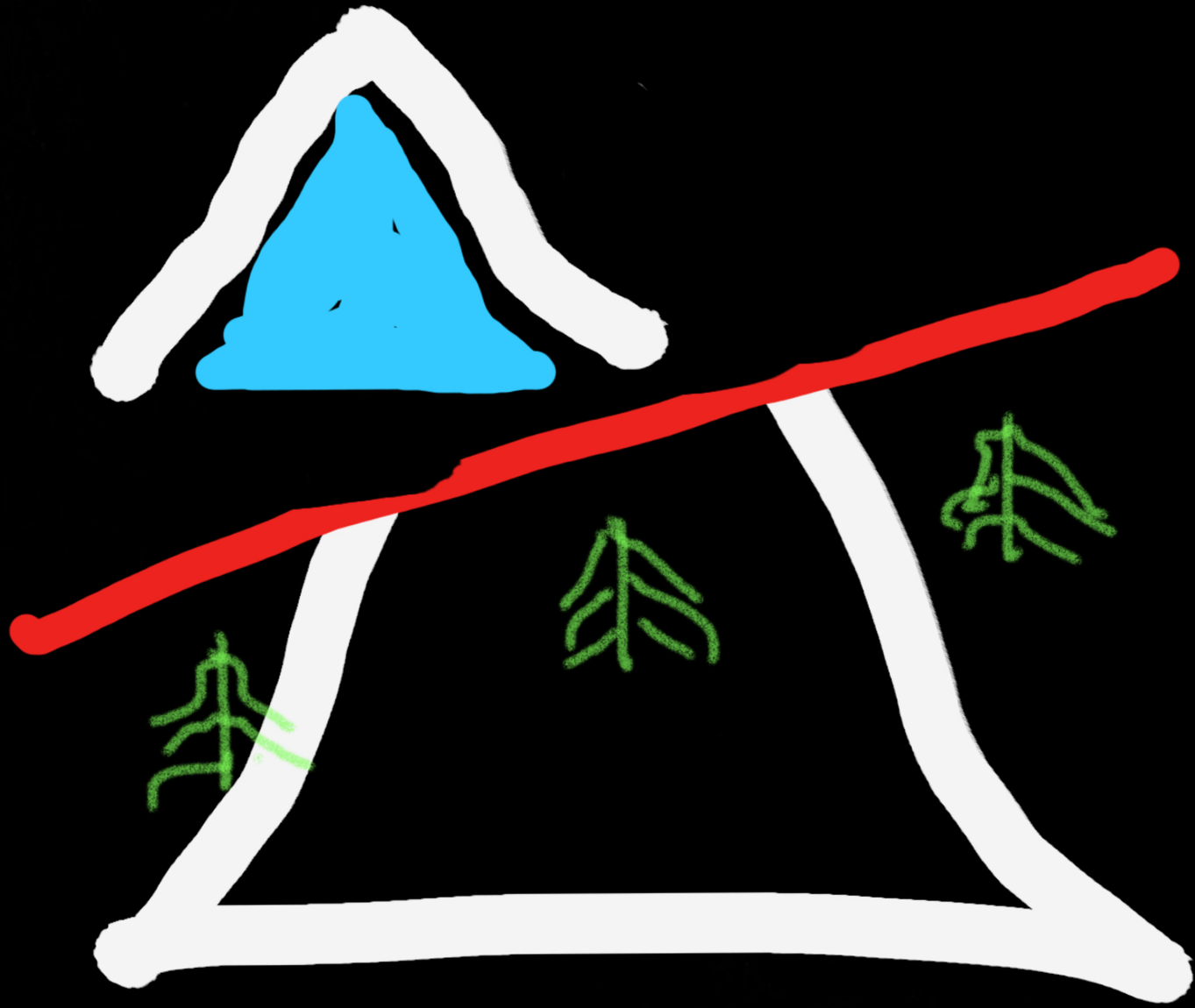
This has radically altered the ***jetstream,*** the fast-moving current of air "*where the jets fly*", generally moving from ***west*** to ***east***..

A wavier jetstream, moving more slowly from West to East, even remaining stationary for weeks at a time...

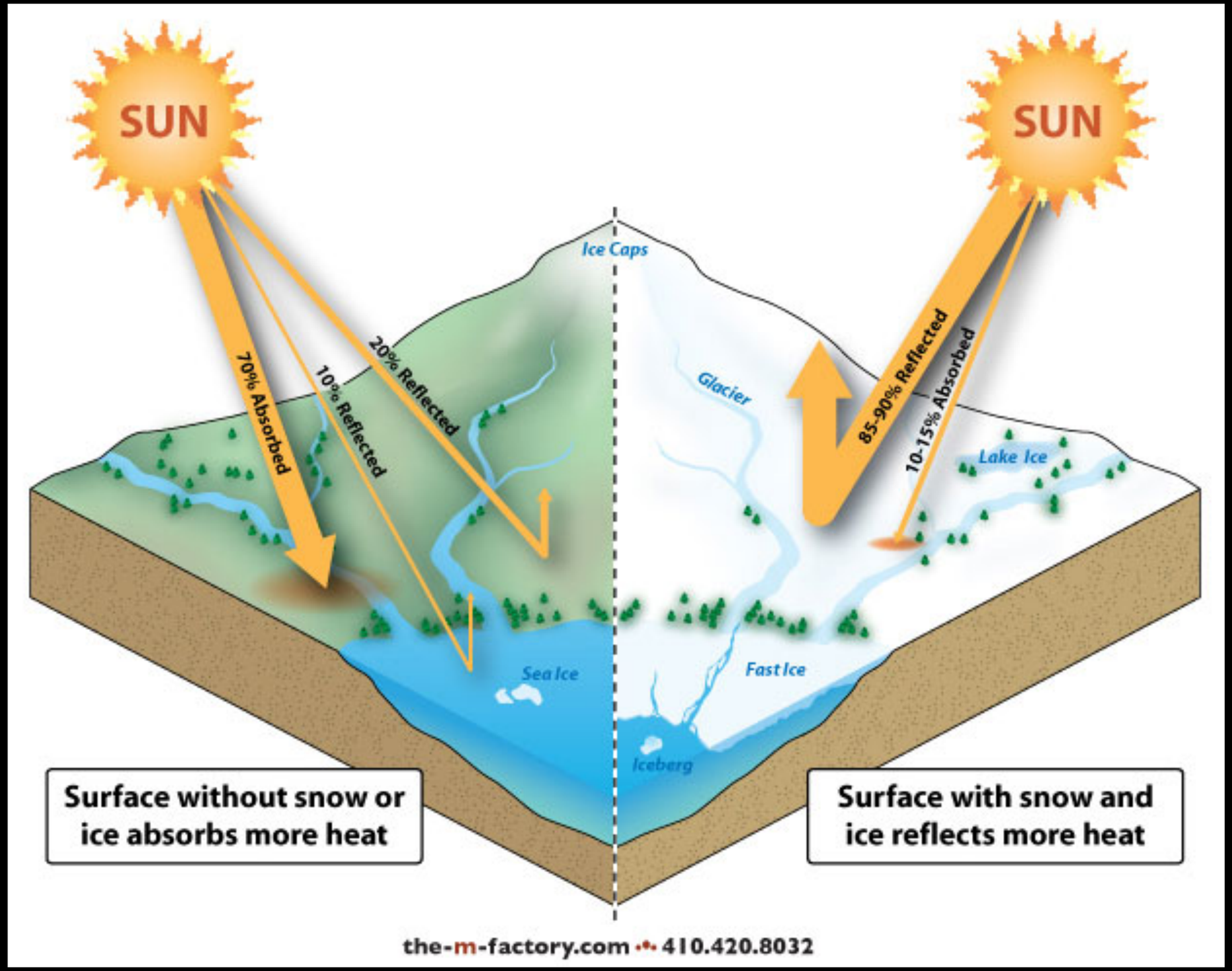



What a La Niña winter typically looks like
Polar
jet stream
Colder
H
Blocking
high
pressure
Wetter
Wetter
Warmer
Drier
Los Angeles
Drier
NOAA

a “cut-off mountain”






SUN
SUN
Ice Caps
70% Absorbed
10% Reflected
20% Reflected
85-90% Reflected
10-15% Absorbed
Glacier
Lake Ice
Sea Ice
Fast Ice
Iceberg
Surface without snow or ice absorbs more heat
Surface with snow and ice reflects more heat
the-m-factory.com 410.420.8032

BLATTEN Glacier Collapse: A Climate Tragedy in Swiss ALPS

(1) Like the #***Arctic***, a 20% loss of white snow reflective ***ALBEDO*** = ***ALPS*** warming 2x faster the rest of EU



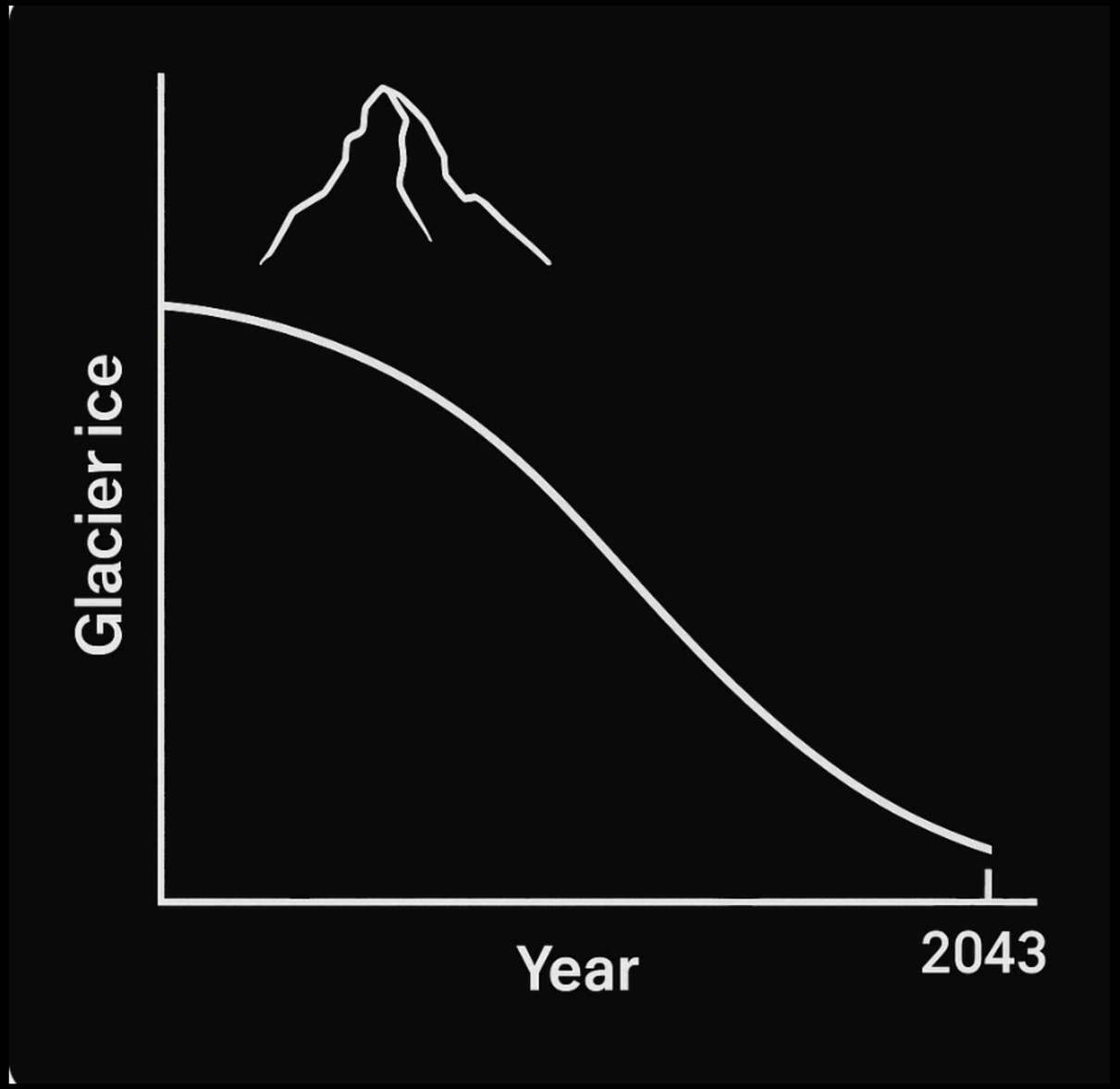
BLATTEN Glacier Collapse: A Climate Tragedy in Swiss ALPS

(1) Like the #***Arctic***, a 20% loss of white snow reflective ***ALBEDO*** = ***ALPS*** warming 2x faster the rest of EU

(2) In 2022-23, 10% of 💧 glacier ice melted ***6.4 gigatons of ice***, a block covering *Central Park* rising 1610m above the *Empire State Building*

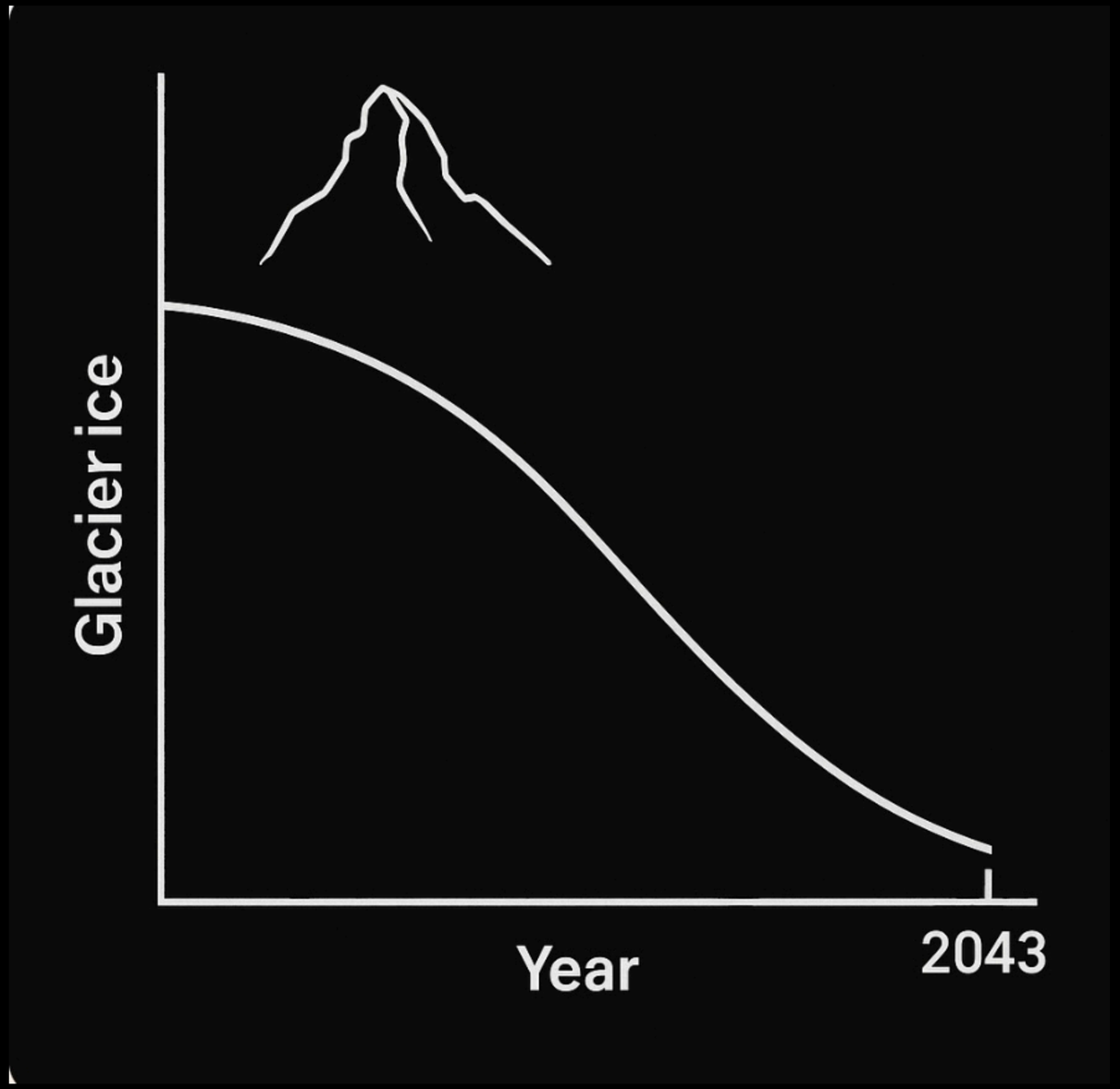


If we simply project this rate of glacier ice loss in the ALPS into the future, assuming that the rate of change is constant and not accelerating, then we ***hit rock bottom in the year 2043.***



If we simply project this rate of glacier ice loss in the ALPS into the future, assuming that the rate of change is constant and not accelerating, then we ***hit rock bottom in the year 2043.***

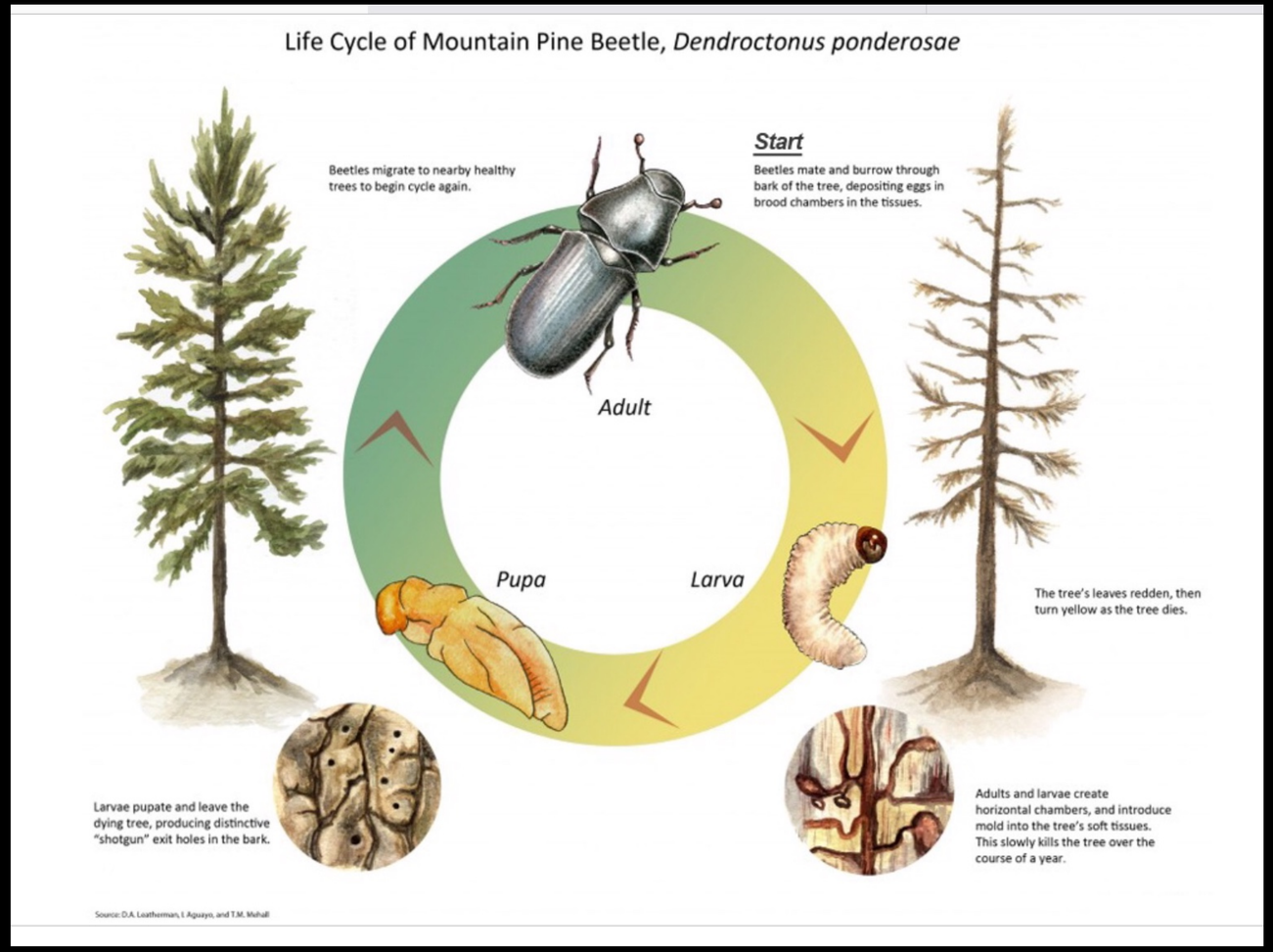
If this were the money and say, Bill GATES' bank account, you could bet your bottom dollar that he would have his broker on the phone…





Dr. Konrad Steffen, in his own words, from ***SWISS CAMP***,
GREENLAND 2017 (produced by ***NASA***…)

The native Mt. Pine Beetle explodes exponentially, exploiting the new *HOT DROUGHT* climate…



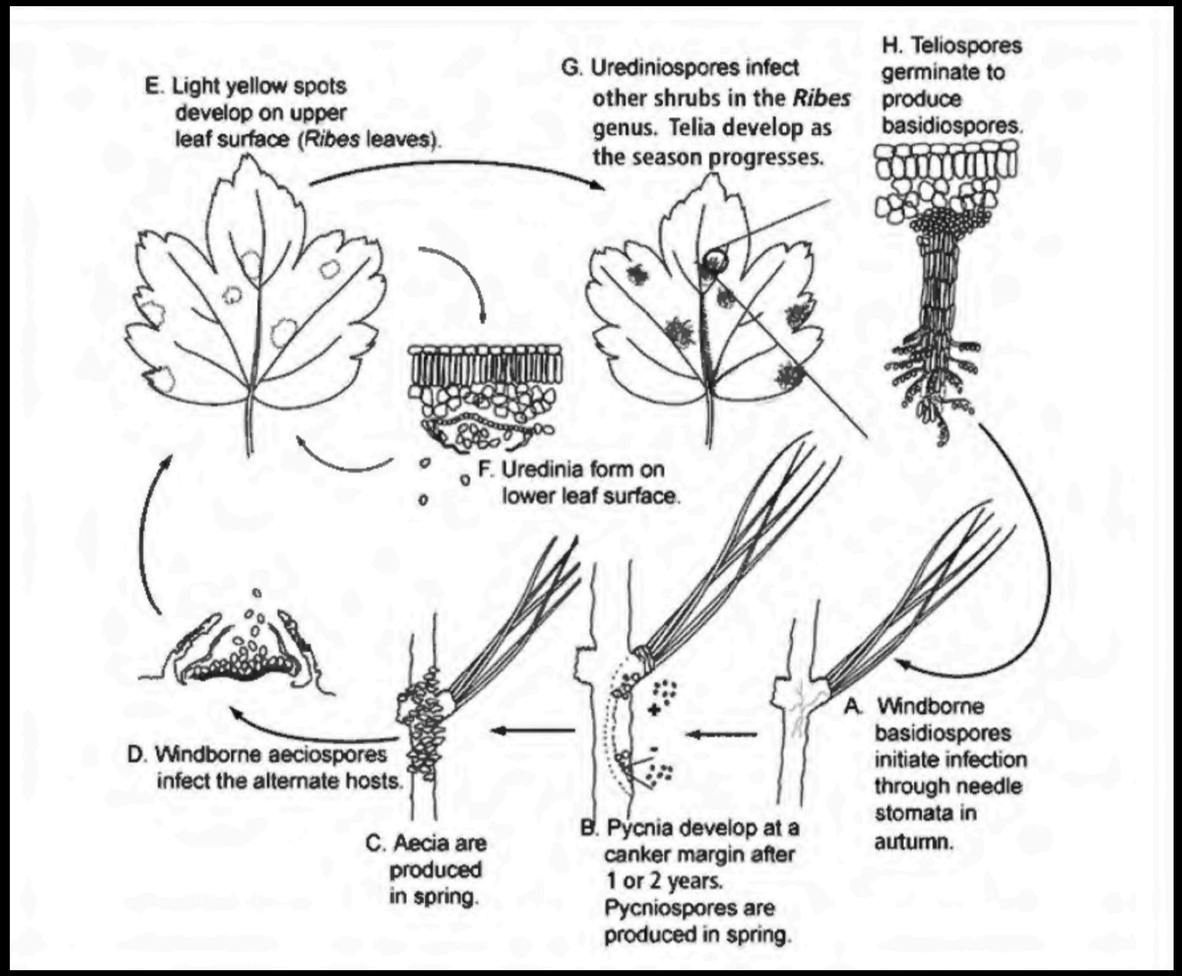








A century of Whitepine Blister Rust reaches up into the highest 5-needle pines….







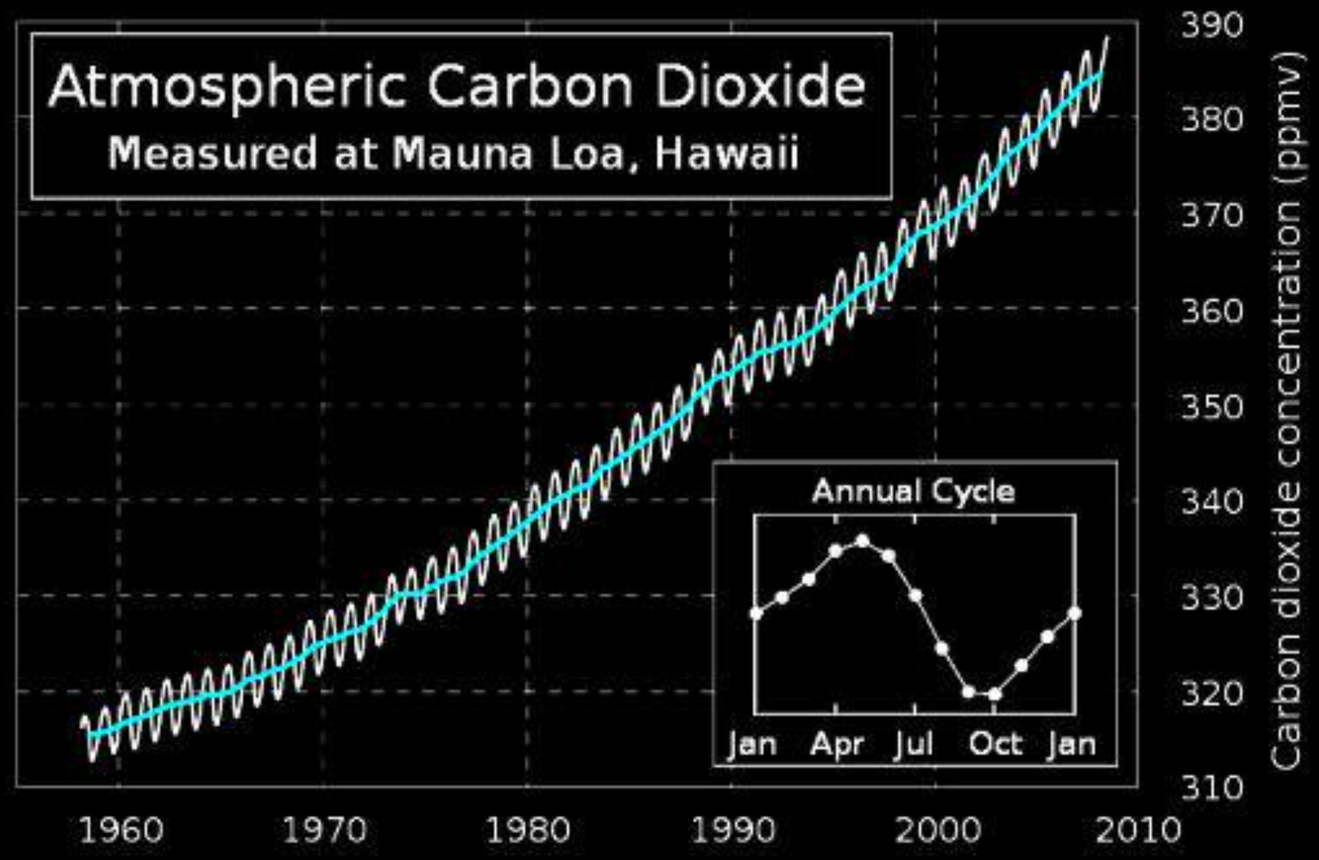




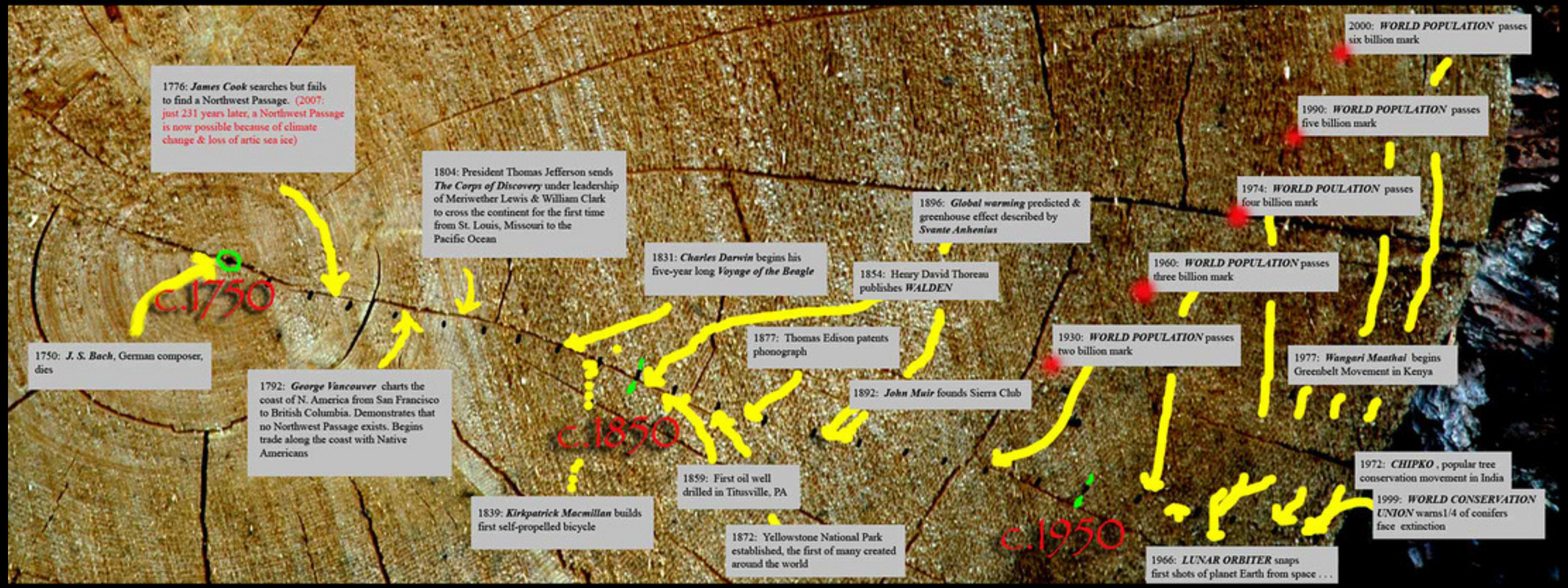
Ponderosa pine in the South Wallowas grows from about 900 meters to 1900 m. There's a marked increase of ***Dwarf Mistletoe*** *(Arceuthobium spp.)*. ***Why?***



Always in the background objective reality, ***MOTHER OF ALL GRAPHS,*** *the* **GREAT ACCELERATION** *of the* **ANTHROPOCENE**

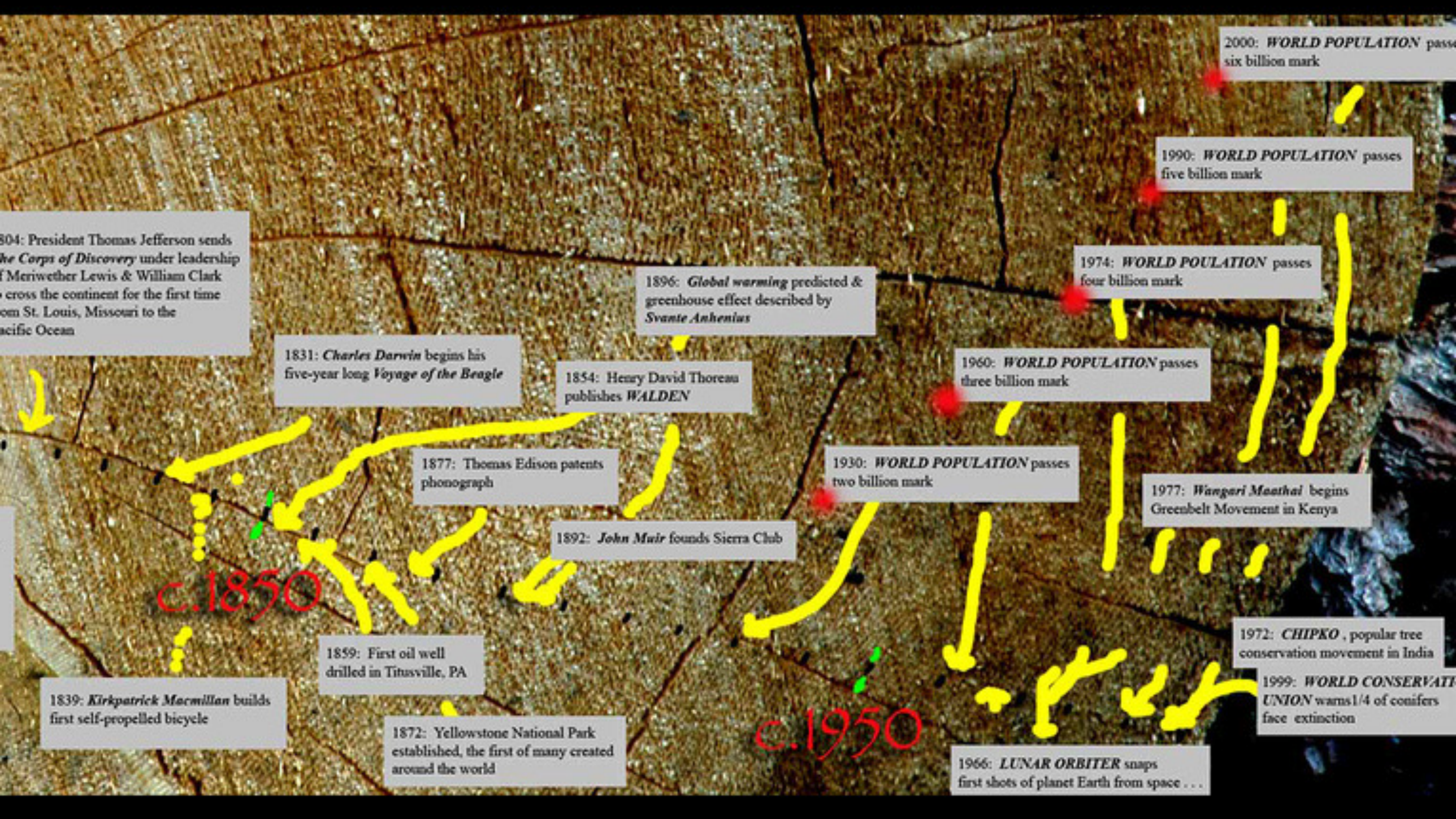


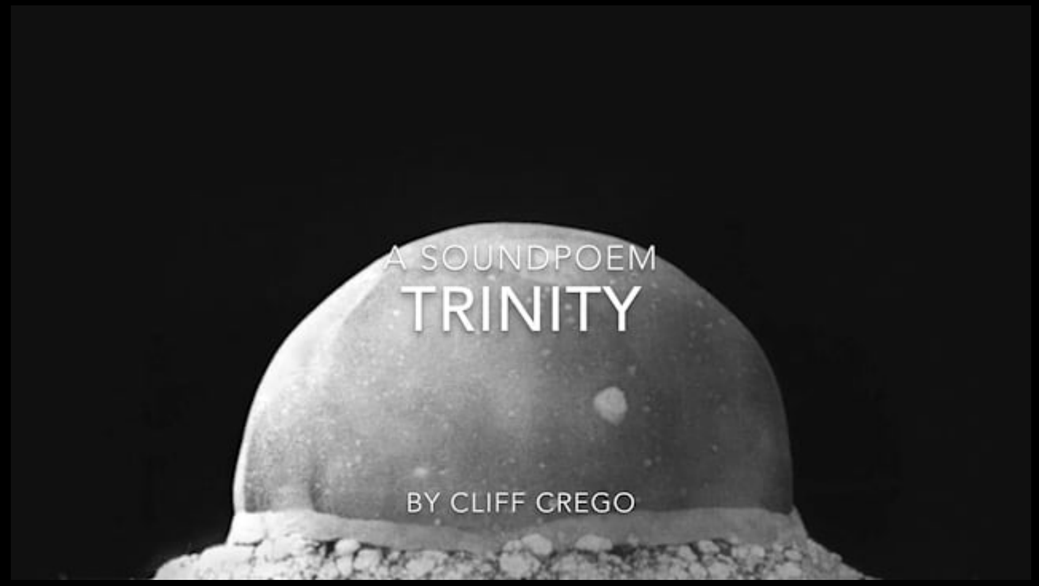
250 years of tree-time, *seen from the perspective of a Whitebark pine*



The great acceleration *into oblivion... . . . . .*

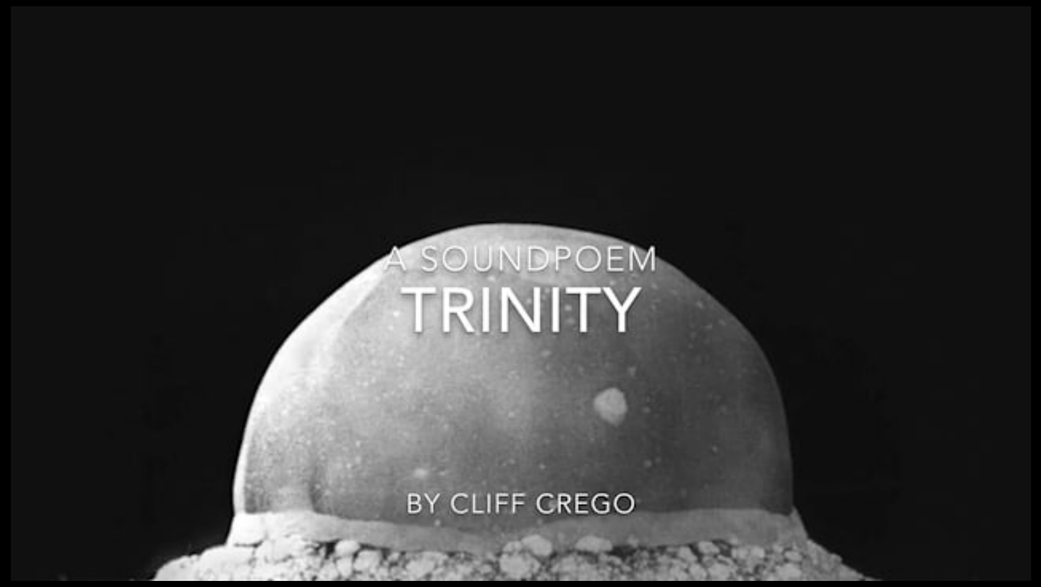
Since c. 1950, *most world indices of change have been following* ***strikingly exponential trajectories***. *Note the* ***red dots*** *above, each marking* ***1,000,000,000 additional people*** *on planet Earth. Clearly, from the Whitebark's point of view, we humans have a problem with* ***Natural Limit***. *As an ultimate irony—or is it really more hubris?—we are rightly concerned about the Whitebarks survival, while at the same time failing to really see the obvious and logically necessary signs of cultural collapse and perhaps even human extinction in evidence all around us.*


2000: *WORLD POPULATION* passe
six billion mark
1990: *WORLD POPULATION* passes
five billion mark
804: President Thomas Jefferson sends
he Corps of Discovery under leadership
f Meriwether Lewis & William Clark
cross the continent for the first time
om St. Louis, Missouri to the
acific Ocean
1896: *Global warming* predicted &
greenhouse effect described by
Svante Anhenius
1974: *WORLD POULATION* passes
four billion mark
1831: *Charles Darwin* begins his
five-year long *Voyage of the Beagle*
1854: Henry David Thoreau
publishes *WALDEN*
1960: *WORLD POPULATION* passes
three billion mark
1877: Thomas Edison patents
phonograph
1930: *WORLD POPULATION* passes
two billion mark
1977: *Wangari Maathai* begins
Greenbelt Movement in Kenya
1892: *John Muir* founds Sierra Club
c.1850
1972: *CHIPKO* , popular tree
conservation movement in India
1999: *WORLD CONSERVATI
UNION* warns1/4 of conifers
face extinction
1859: First oil well
drilled in Titusville, PA
1839: *Kirkpatrick Macmillan* builds
first self-propelled bicycle
1872: Yellowstone National Park
established, the first of many created
around the world
c.1950
1966: *LUNAR ORBITER* snaps
first shots of planet Earth from space . . .

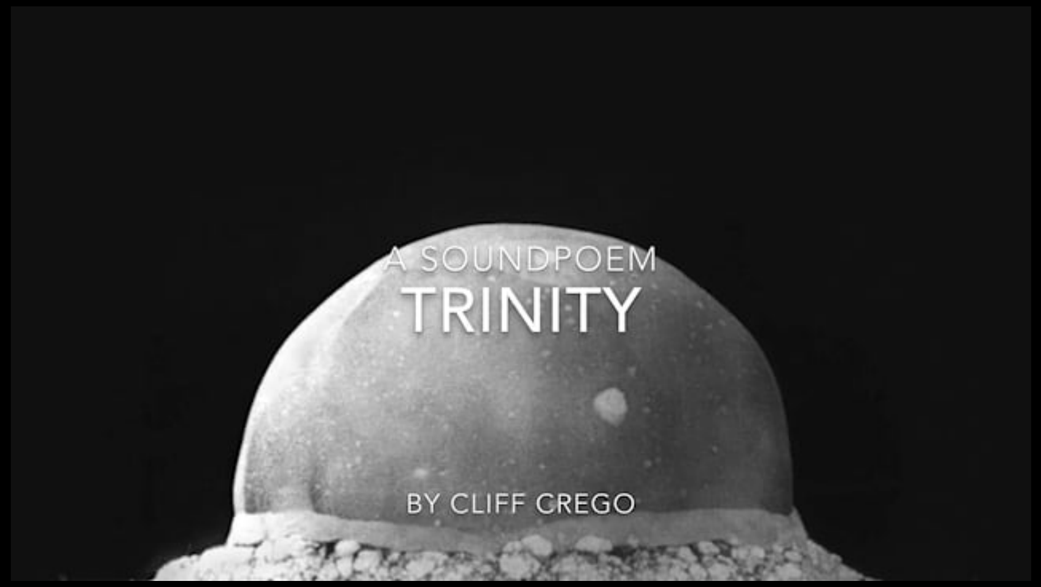


I am a child of this ***great ACCELERATION.*** *I place my* ***GOLDEN SPIKE*** *to mark the beginning of the ANTHROPOCENE at exactly 5:30 am July the 16th 1945. This is when the first plutonium device—THE GADGET—imploded.*

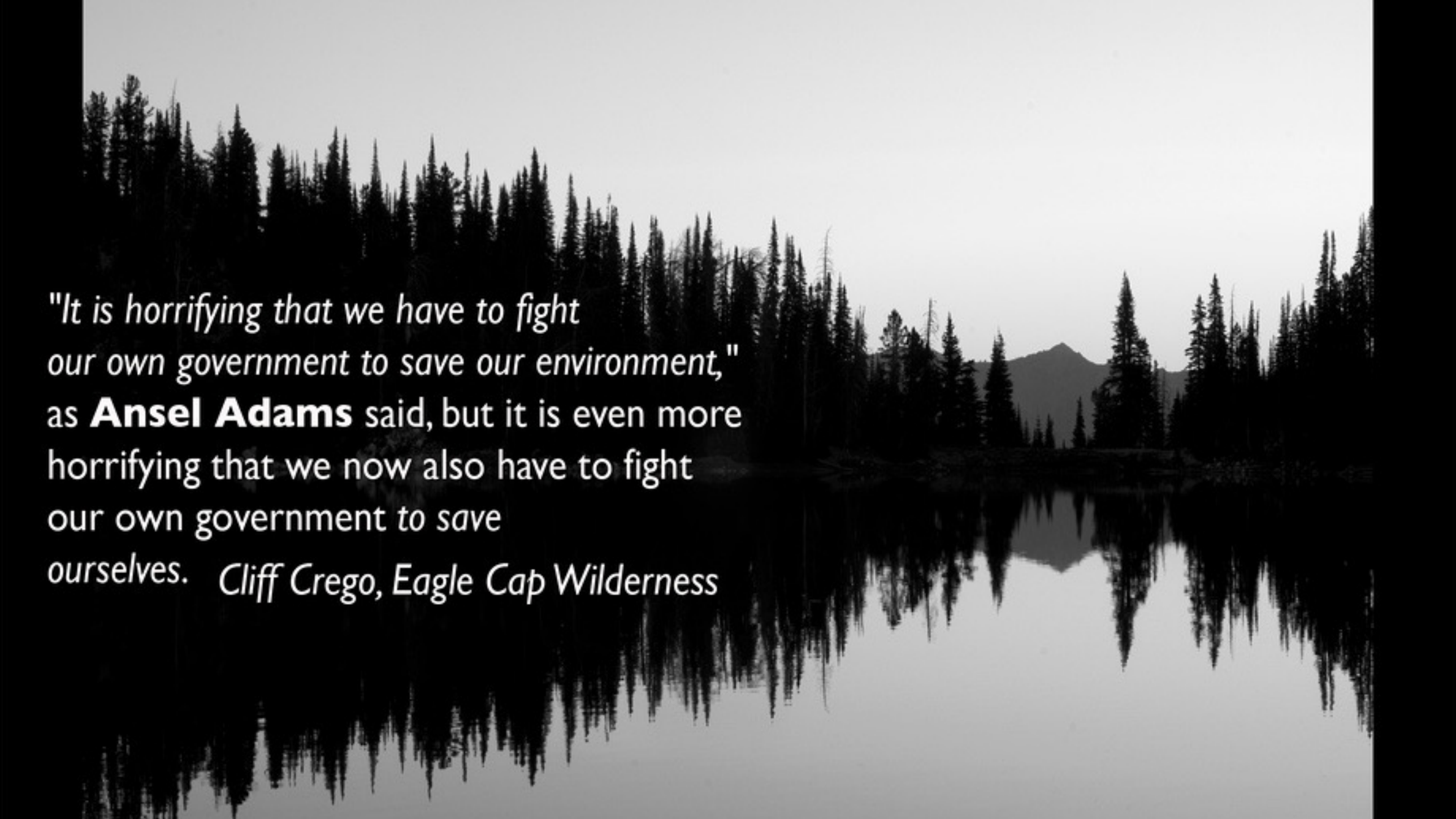
*(****Tap*** *to watch* ***TRINITY****, a soundpoem…)*

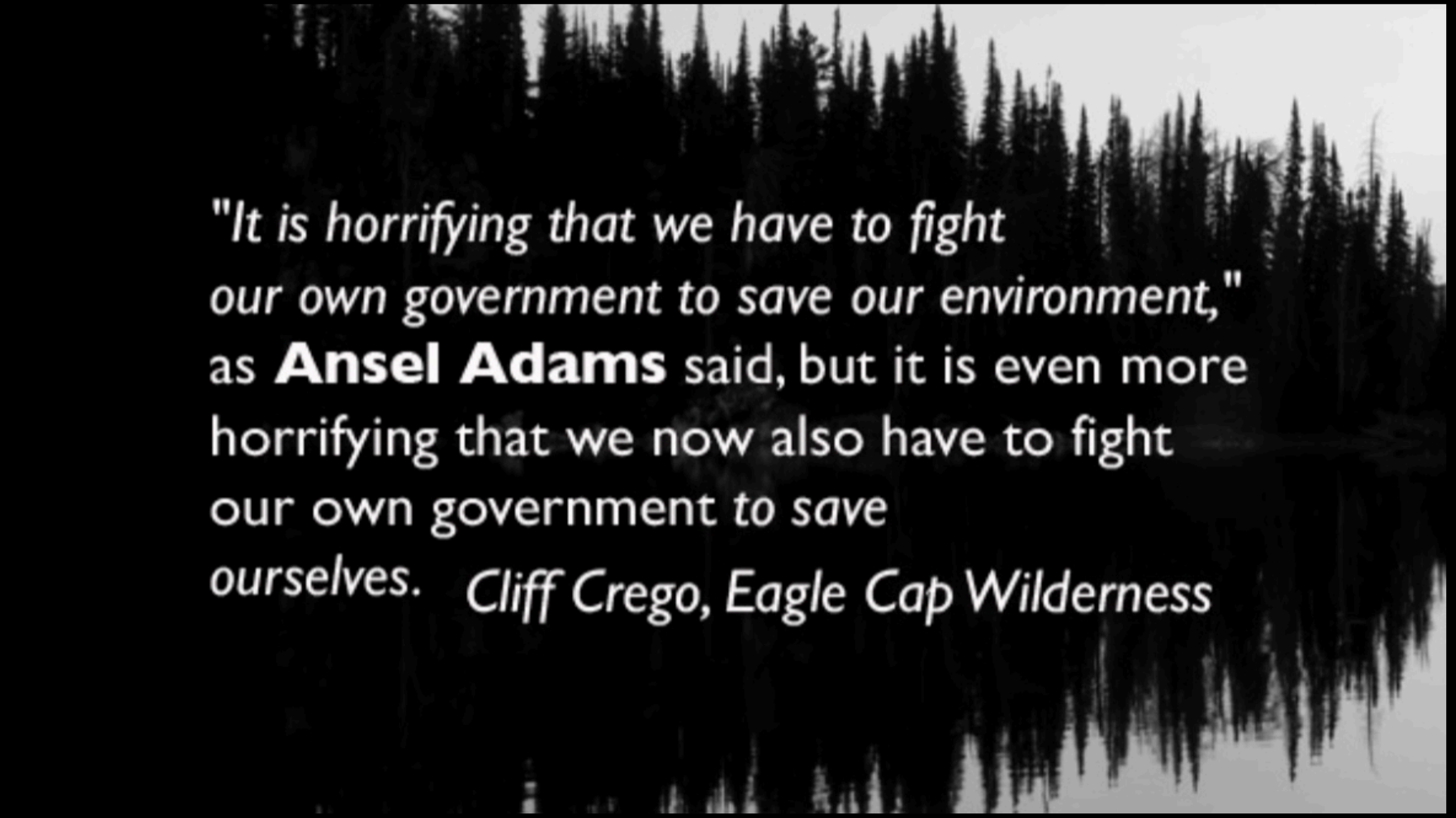


The plutonium for the bomb was produced at HANFORD on stolen Native American ground. Hanford is now ***the largest toxic waste site in the world.***



*Will Hanford ever be cleaned up,? Quite doubtful. Truly, it's a fire that will never be put out, just 220 k up wind as the crow flies from where I write. It has left its mark in every ice core—**every tree ring**—on the planet.*


"It is horrifying that we have to fight
our own government to save our environment,"
as **Ansel Adams** said, but it is even more
horrifying that we now also have to fight
our own government *to save*
ourselves. *Cliff Crego, Eagle Cap Wilderness*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[break… . . .]











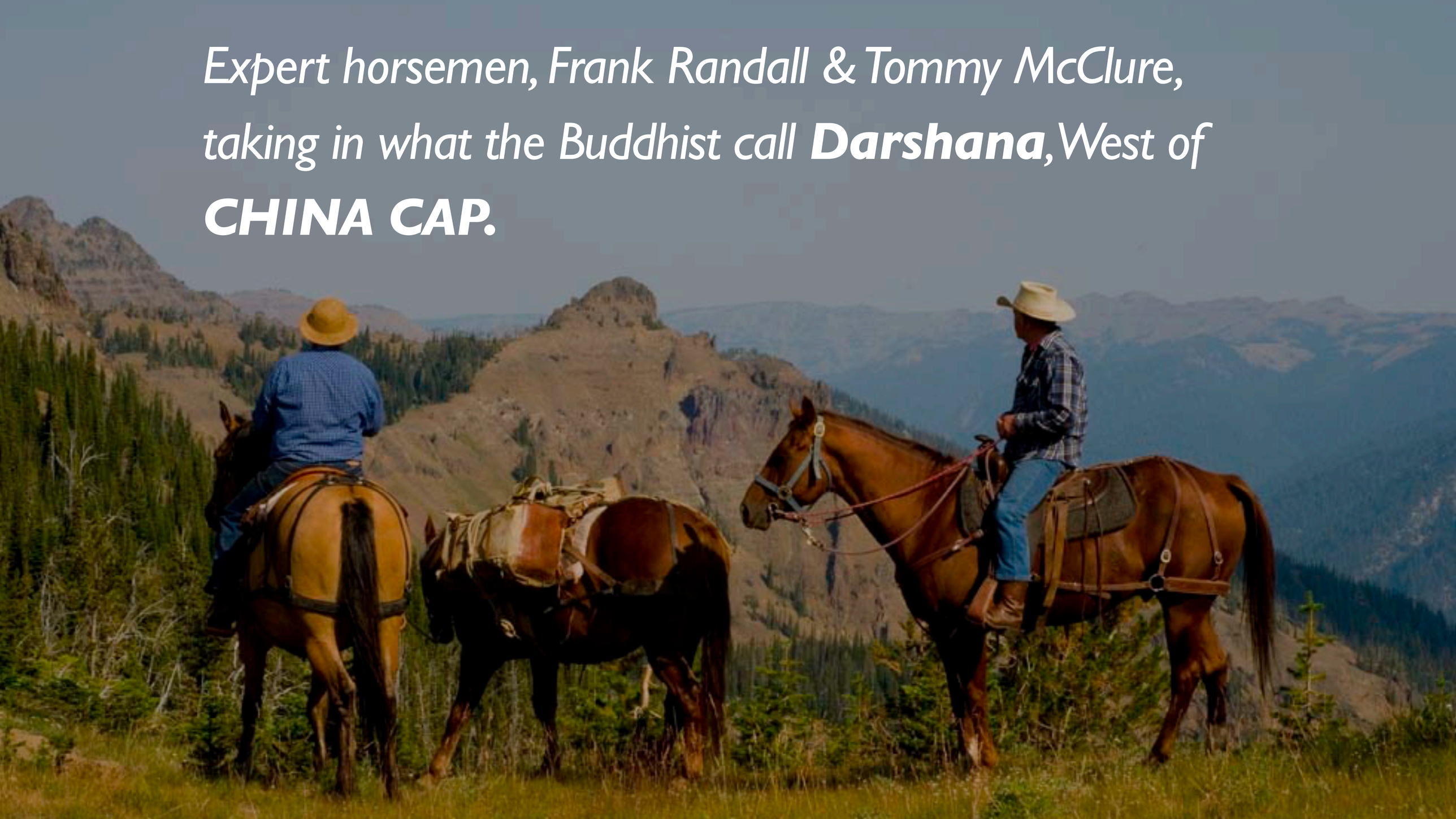






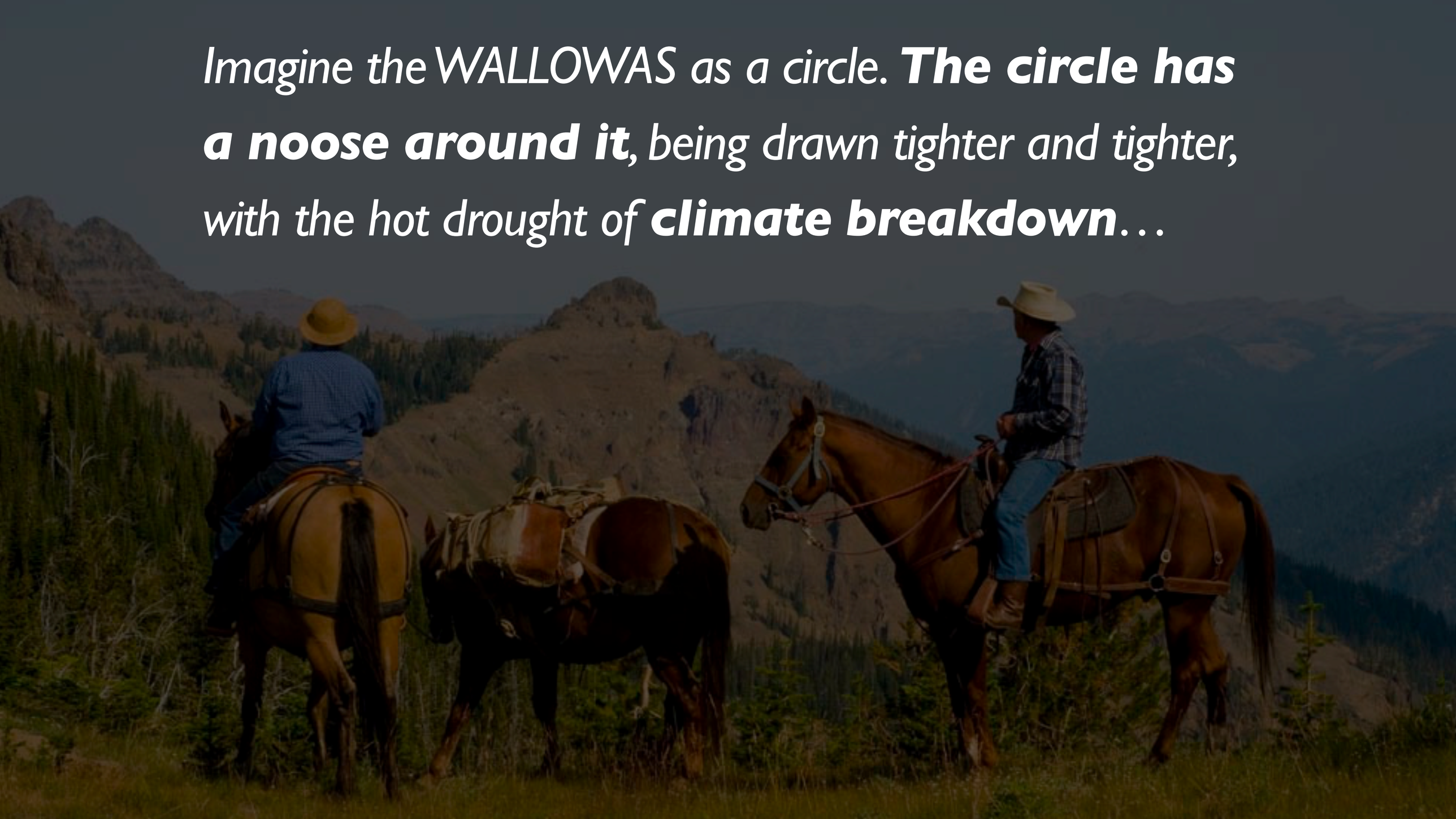


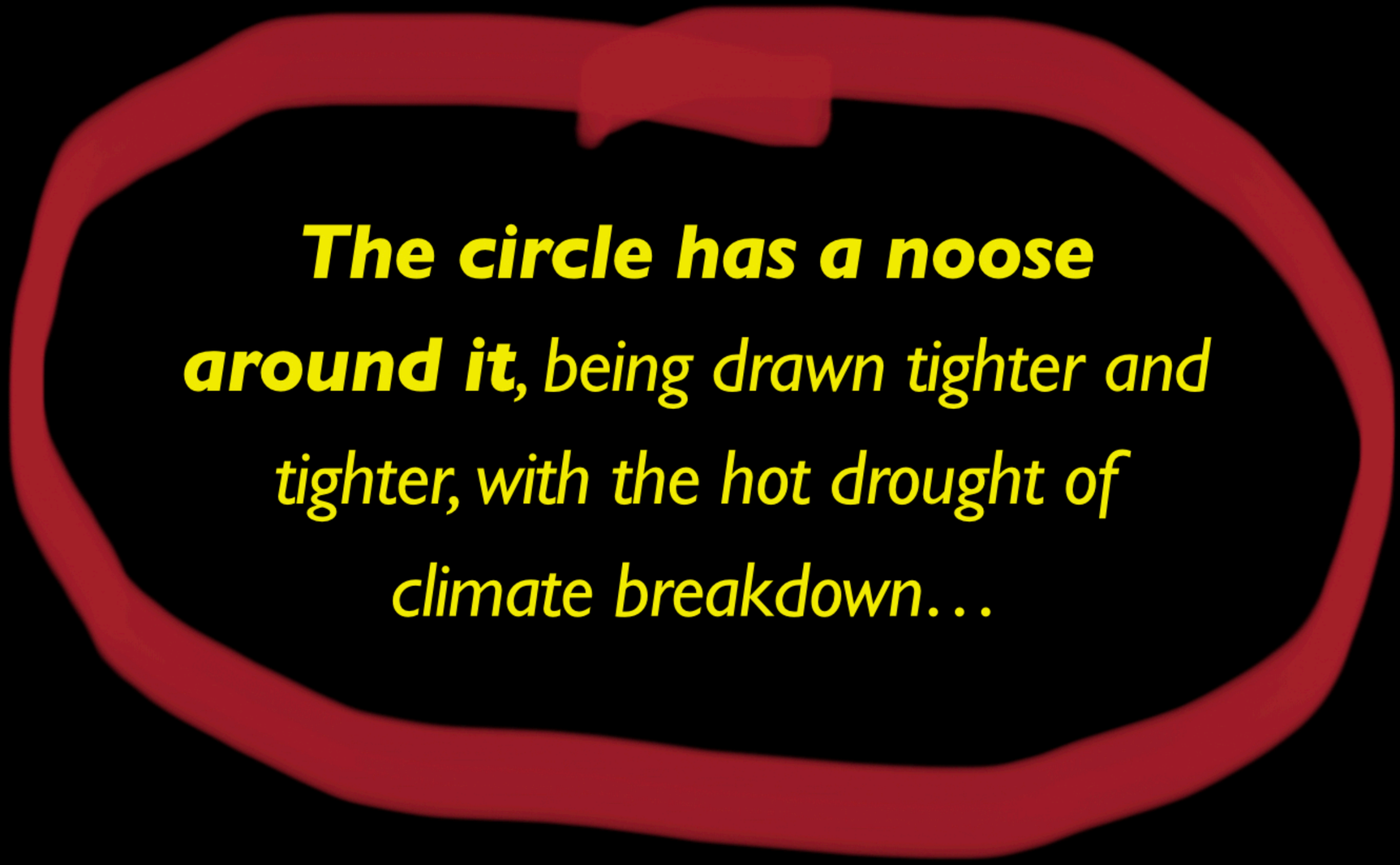




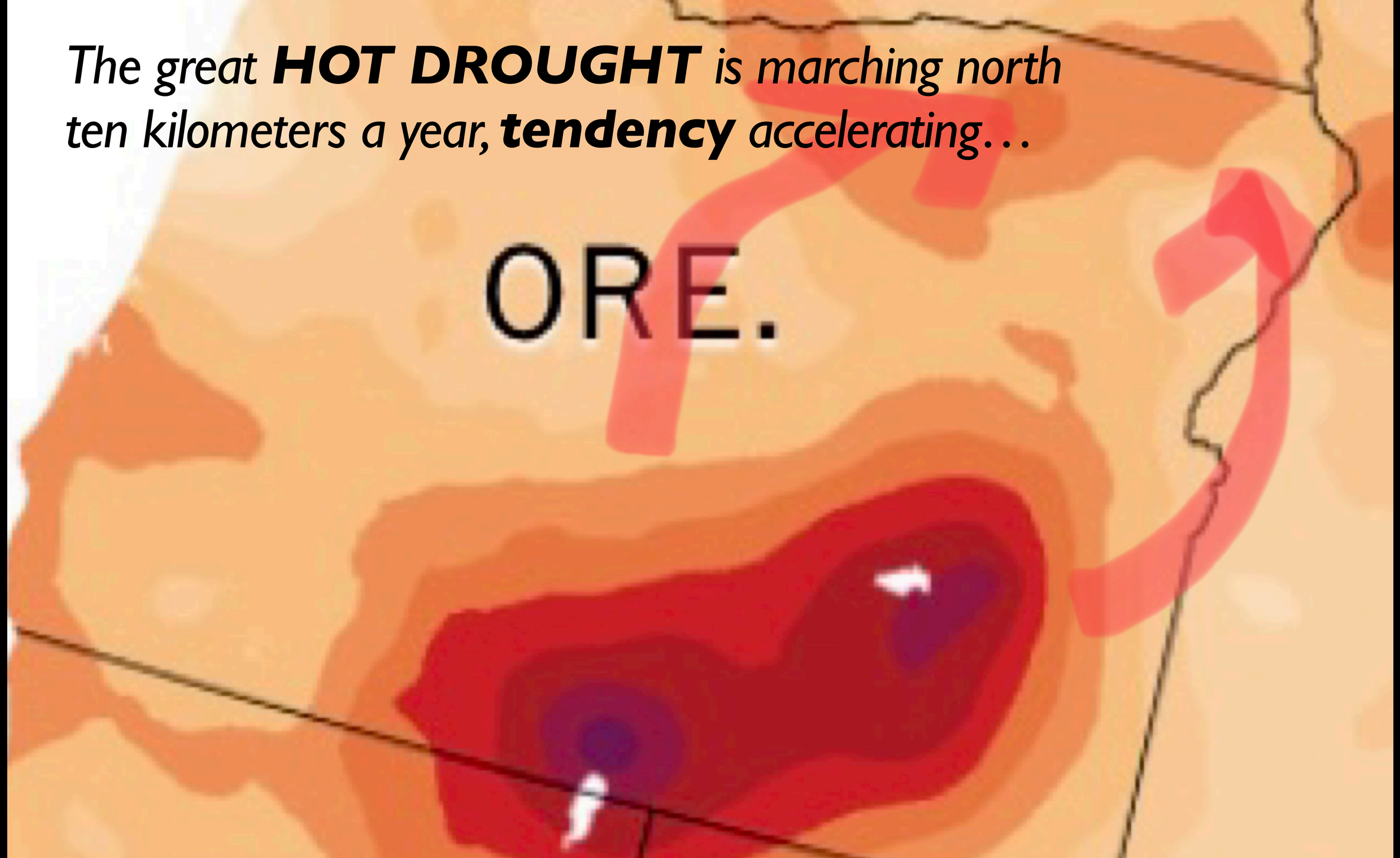
Expert horsemen, Frank Randall & Tommy McClure, taking in what the Buddhist call ***Darshana****, West of* ***CHINA CAP.***

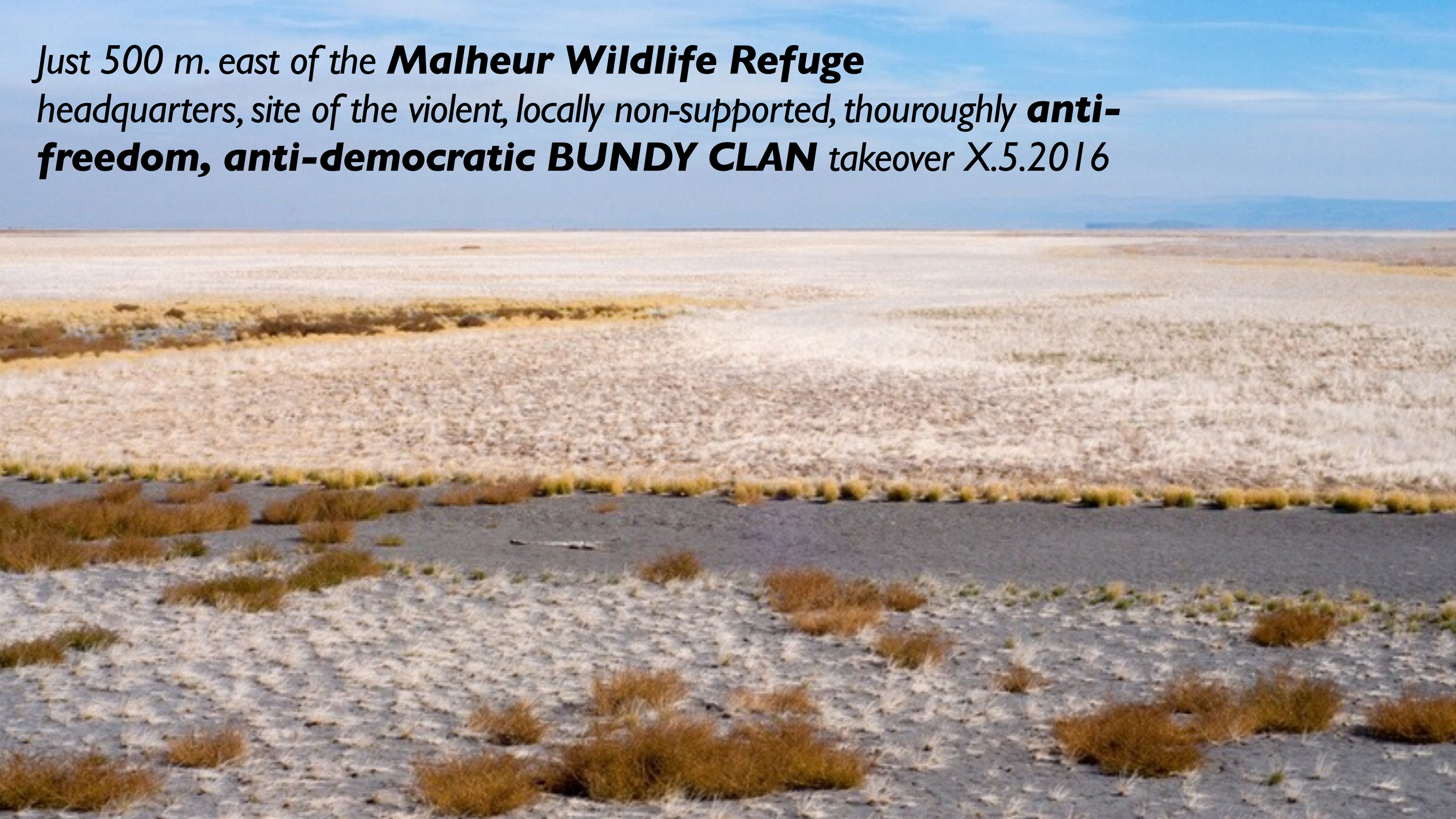
Imagine the WALLOWAS as a circle. ***The circle has a noose around it****, being drawn tighter and tighter, with the hot drought of* ***climate breakdown****…*




The circle has a noose
around it, *being drawn tighter and*
tighter, with the hot drought of
climate breakdown…




The great **HOT DROUGHT** is marching north
ten kilometers a year, **tendency** accelerating…
ORE.


Just 500 m. east of the ***Malheur Wildlife Refuge***
headquarters, site of the violent, locally non-supported, thouroughly ***anti-freedom, anti-democratic BUNDY CLAN*** *takeover X.5.2016*


The magnificent ***ALVORD PLAYA****, east of the*
great ***STEENS MOUNTAIN EAST FRONT,***
wesrside beginning of the singular ***OREGON***
OWYHEE COUNTRY…


Rough road to ***LESLIE GULCH*** *and the muted*
OWYHEE RIVER, a sea of one invasive species,
MEDUSAHEAD *(Taeniatherum caput-medusae)…*



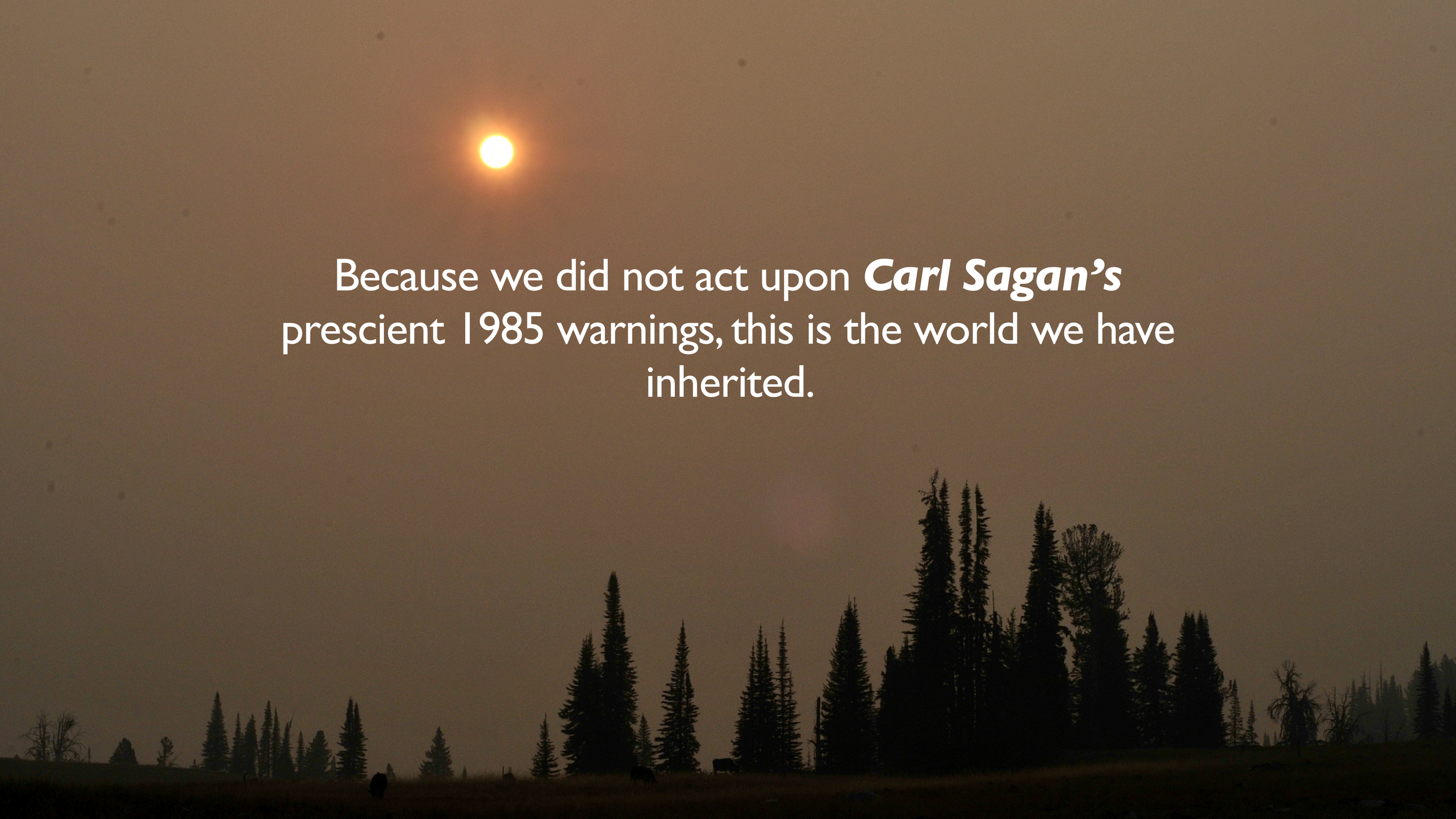


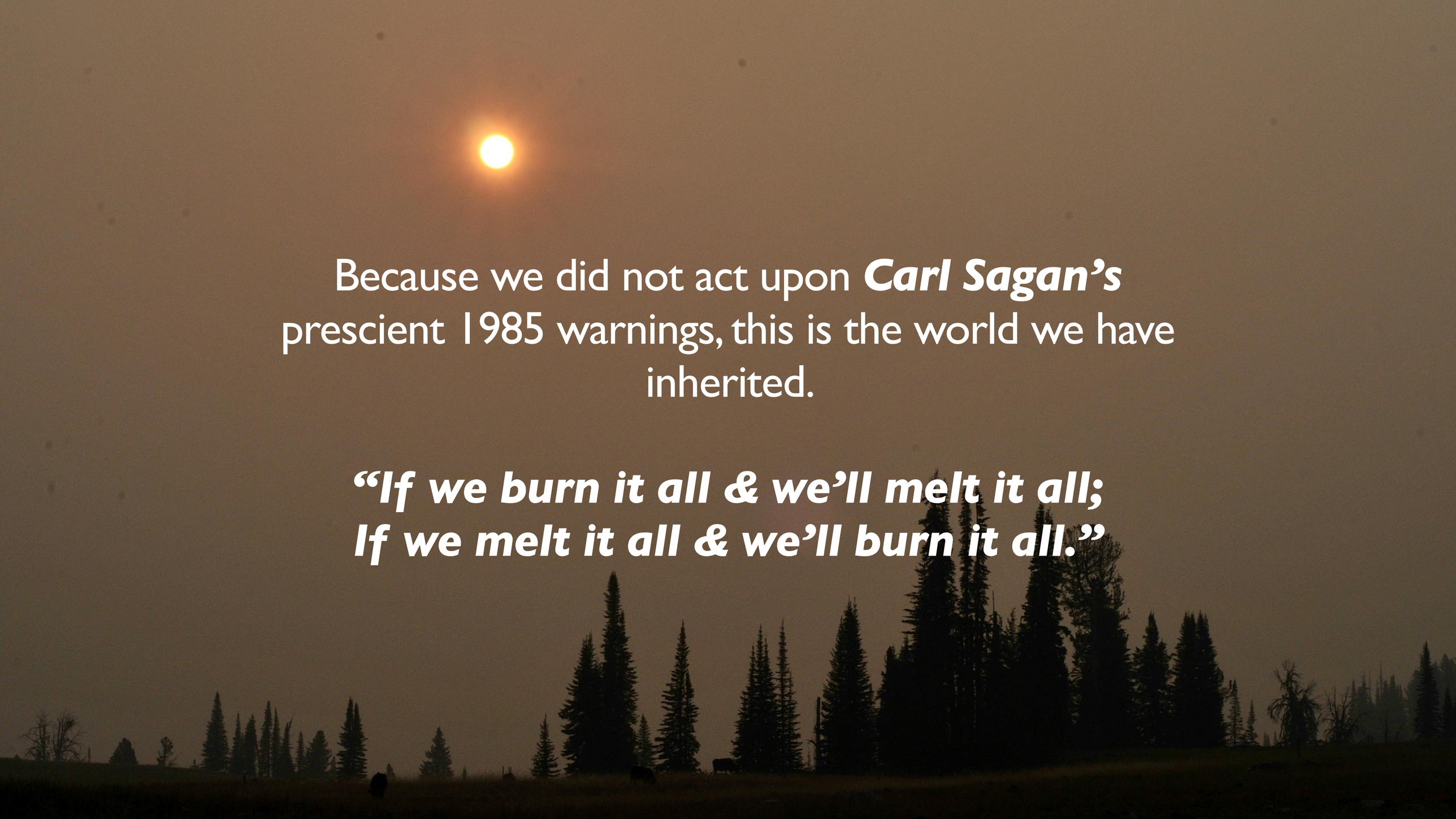

OFFICE
GOV. BROWN, SEN. WYDEN & SEN. MERKLEY
NO
MONUMENT
WITHOUT A VOTE OF CONGRESS
OurLandOurVoice.com

If we wish to be native to the Earth upon which we stand, ***the trees teach us to walk****. If walking is meditation, which I think it is, the timeless ground sound of our journey will be,*

“Where is the next spring, the next water?”


I commonly now have long periods of ***smoke-filled skies*** in Whitebark country, from July into November.


Because we did not act upon ***Carl Sagan's*** prescient 1985 warnings, this is the world we have inherited.

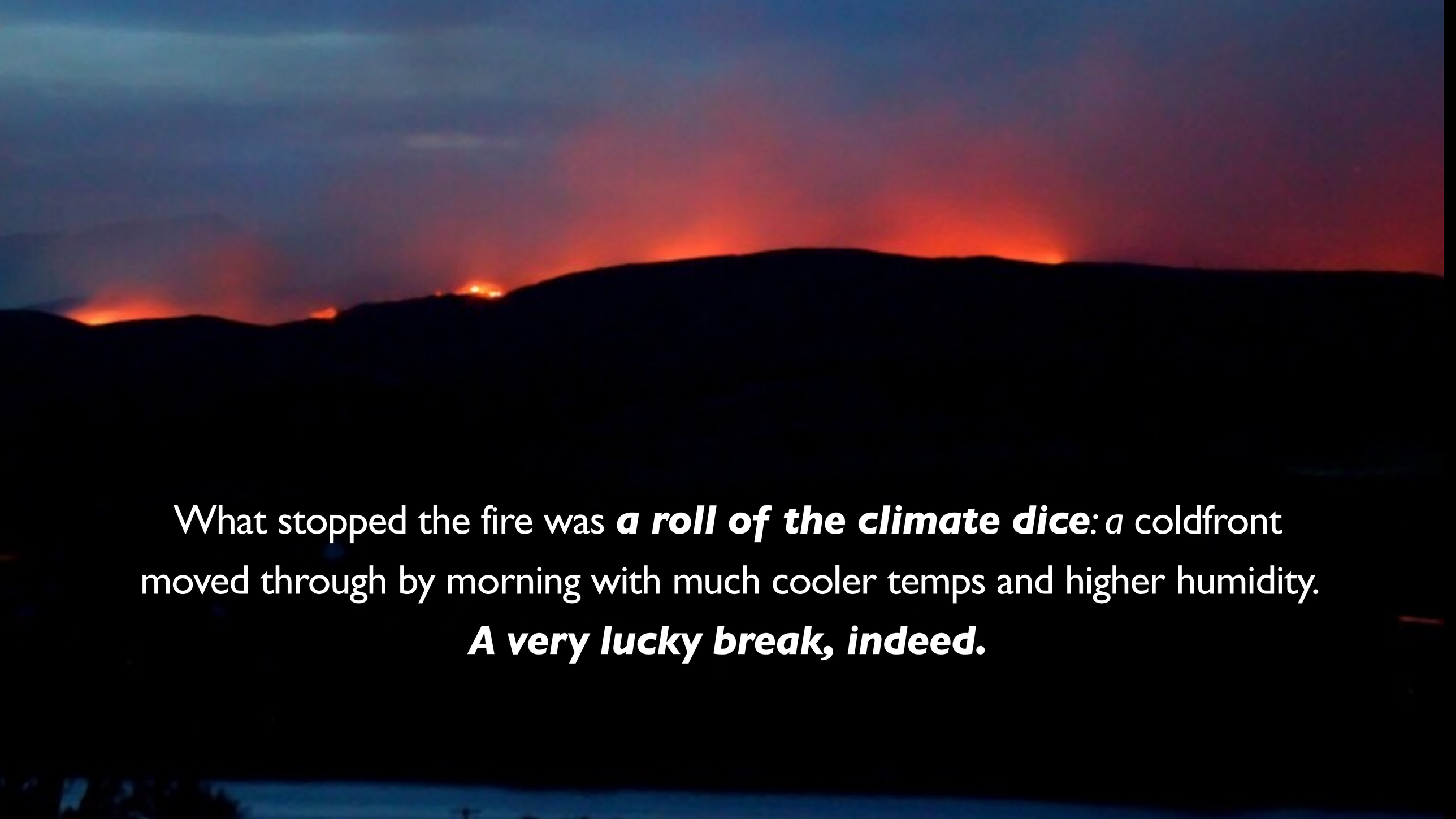

Because we did not act upon ***Carl Sagan's*** prescient 1985 warnings, this is the world we have inherited.
"If we burn it all & we'll melt it all;
If we melt it all & we'll burn it all."







The Eagle Valley ***DRY GULCH FIRE*** IX.13.2015 with its circular-saw-like spinning vortex, ripping from west to east towards WEST RIDGE & the town of HALFWAY, Oregon. (Seen from below POWDER POINT)



What stopped the fire was ***a roll of the climate dice***: *a* coldfront moved through by morning with much cooler temps and higher humidity.

A very lucky break, indeed.

[break… . . .]













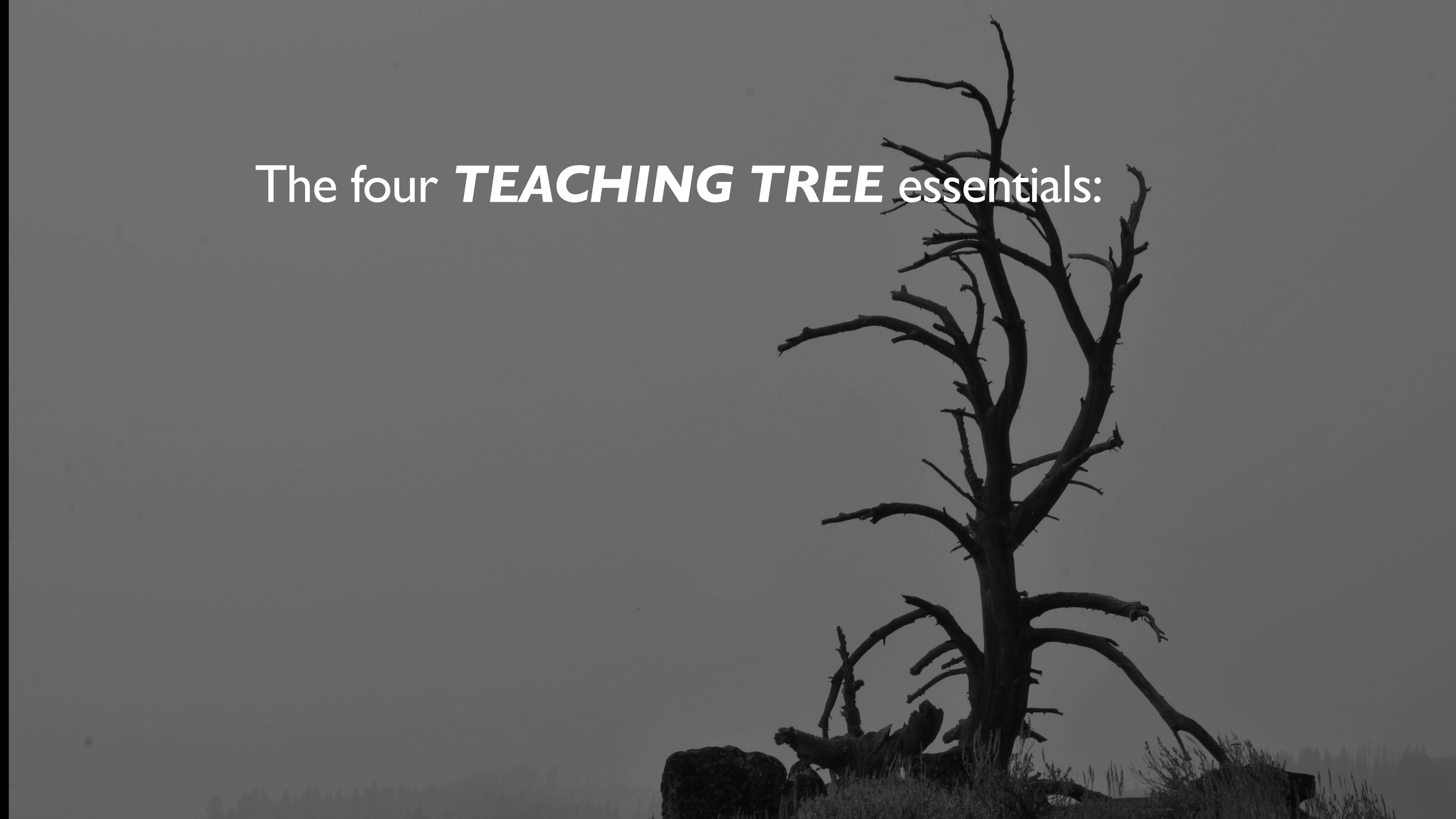







REMEMBER, *7 degrees of climate…*




The four *TEACHING TREE* essentials:

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(1) Create the conditions of your own ***flourishing***;

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(2) Life is a movement of ***interrelationship***;

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(3) ***Practice patience*** / a breath is a millennium;

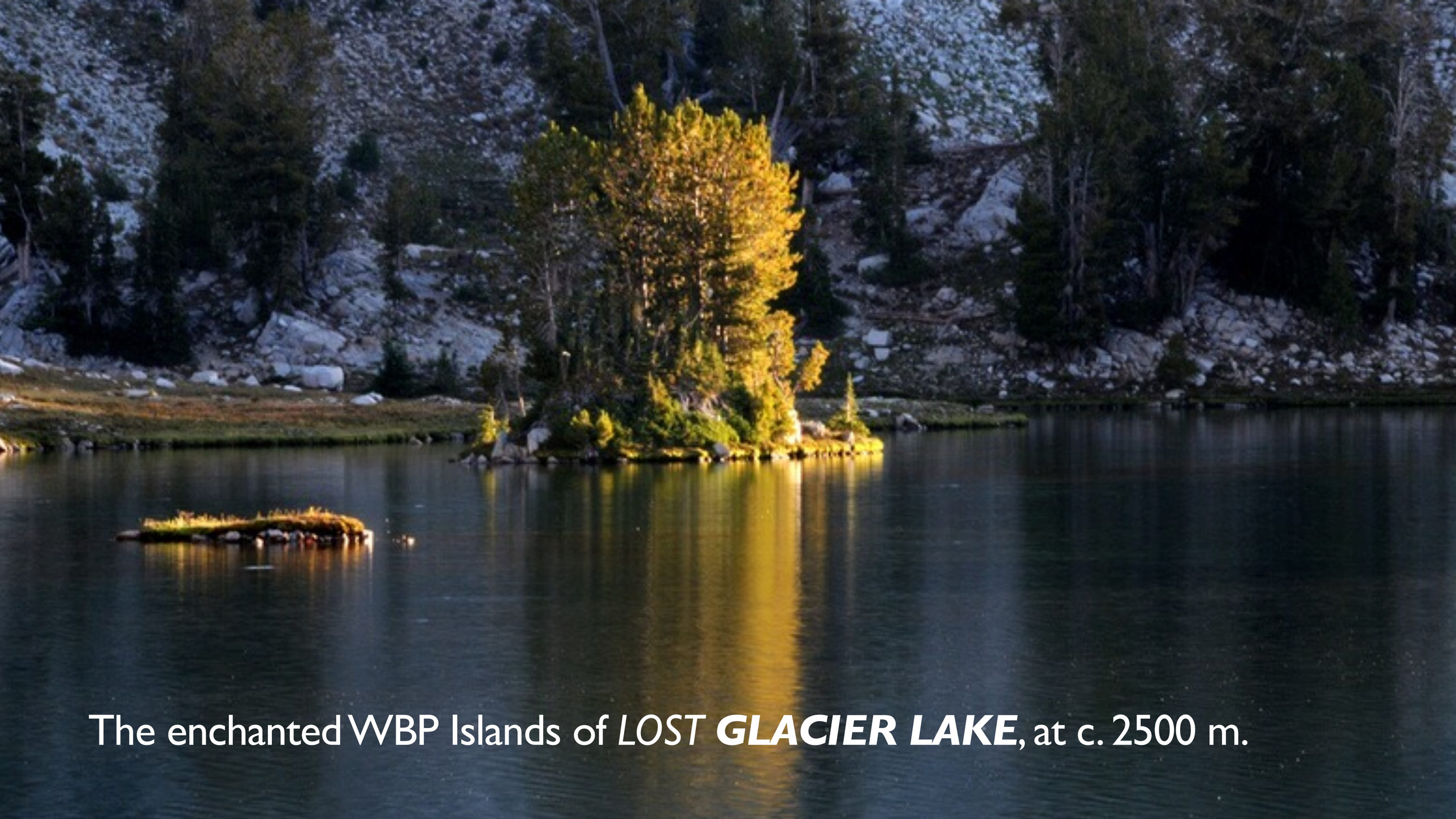
The four ***TEACHING TREE*** essentials:

(1) Create the conditions of your own ***flourishing***;

(2) Life is a movement of ***interrelationship***;

(3) ***Practice patience*** / a breath is a millennium;

(4) Root in the ***ground of truth*** / adaptation is now.



The enchanted WBP Islands of *LOST* ***GLACIER LAKE***, at c. 2500 m.











An historical interpolation…

An historical interpolation...



An historical interpolation...



An historical interpolation...

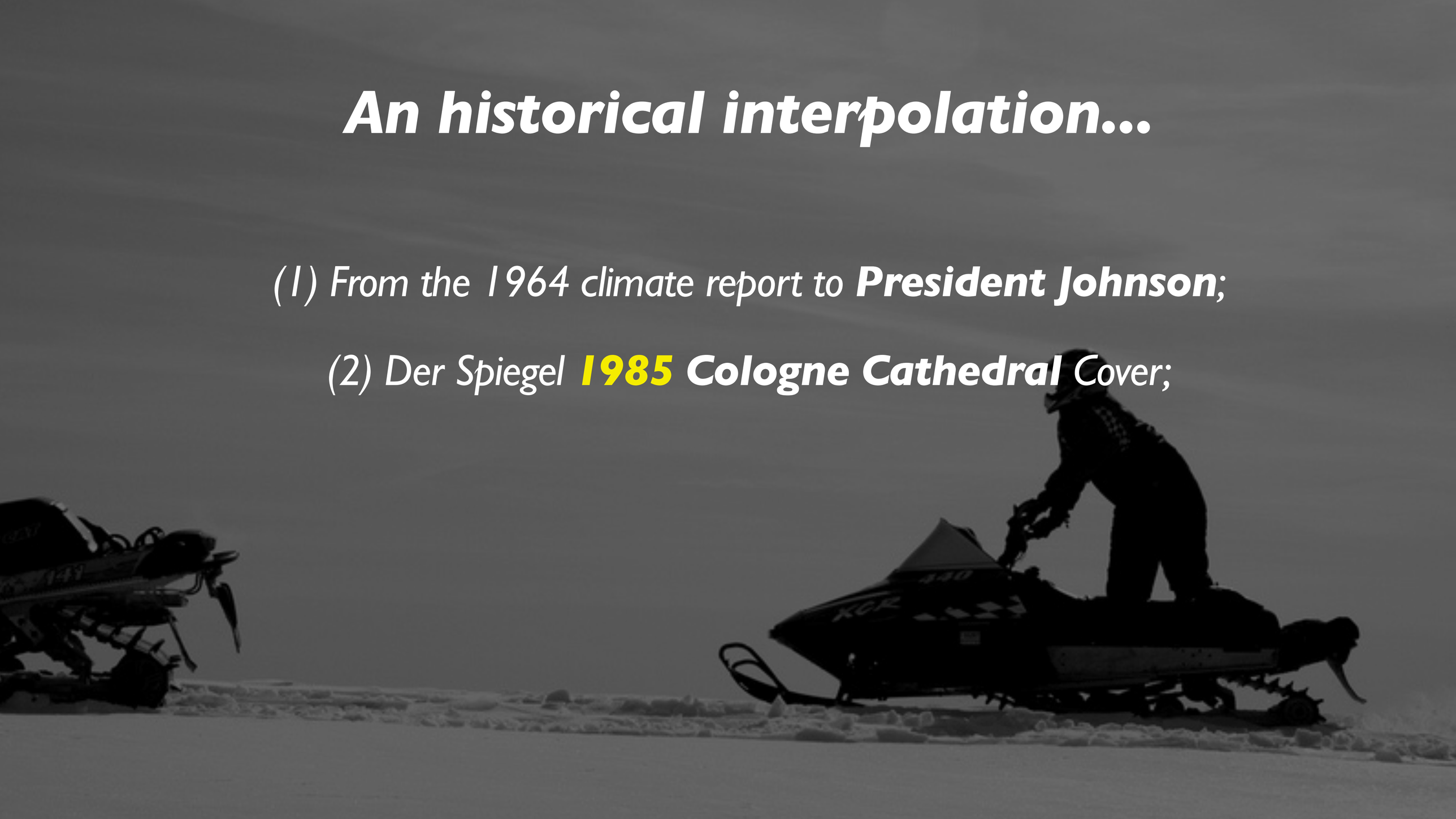
(1) From the ***1964*** *climate report to* ***President Johnson****;*



An historical interpolation...

(1) From the 1964 climate report to ***President Johnson****;*

(2) Der Spiegel ***1985*** ***Cologne Cathedral*** *Cover;*



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(1) From the 1964 climate report to ***President Johnson****;*

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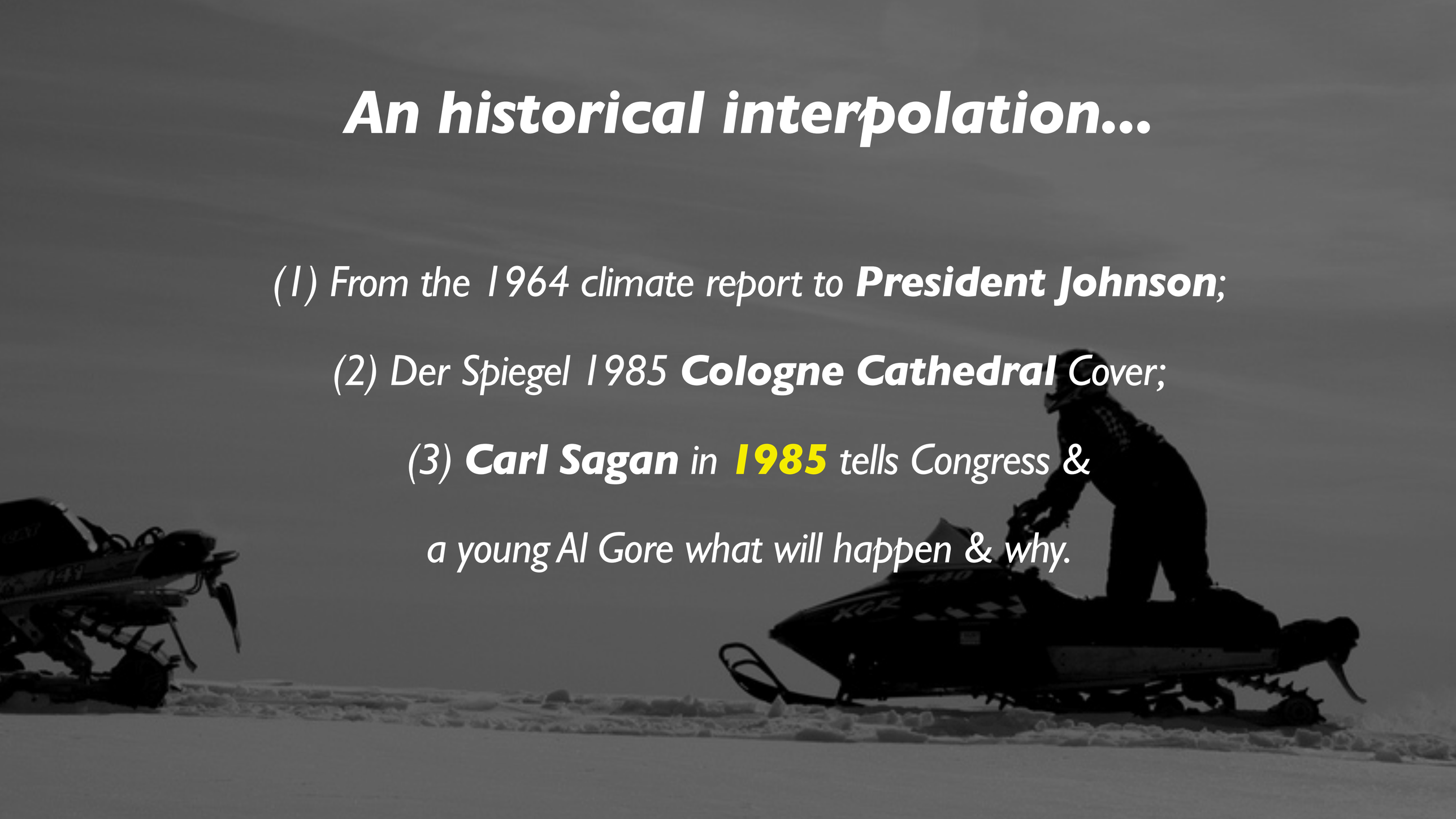

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(2) Der Spiegel 1985 ***Cologne Cathedral*** *Cover;*

(3) ***Carl Sagan*** *in 1985 tells Congress &*

a young Al Gore what will happen & why;

(4) Listen to the Children - ***Severn Cullis-Suzuki****'s* ***1992*** *speech on*

the environment

"Through his worldwide industrial civilization, Man is unwittingly conducting a vast geophysical experiment. Within a few generations he is burning the fossil fuels that slowly accumulated in the earth over the past 500 million years. By the year 2000 the increase in atmospheric CO_2 will be close to 25%. This may be sufficient to produce measurable and perhaps marked changes in climate..."

*President Johnson's **1964** climate commission's projection for a 25% CO2 increase by the year 2000 was almost right.* ***The actual increase was 29%.***

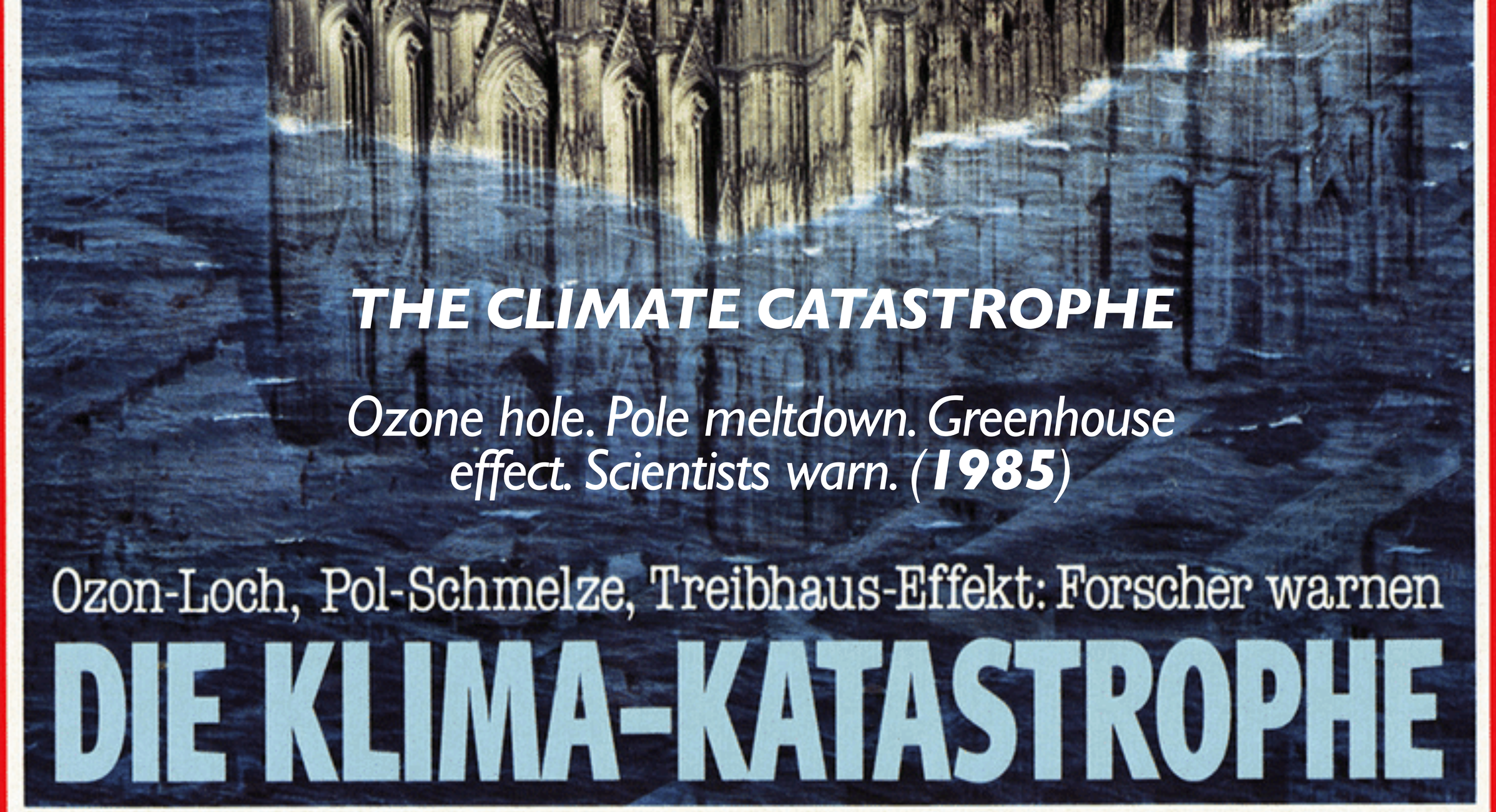
C 7007 C
Nr. 33
40. Jahrgang · DM 4,–
11. August 1986

DER SPIEGEL



Ozon-Loch, Pol-Schmelze, Treibhaus-Effekt: Forscher warnen

DIE KLIMA-KATASTROPHE


THE CLIMATE CATASTROPHE
Ozone hole. Pole meltdown. Greenhouse effect. Scientists warn. (1985)
Ozon-Loch, Pol-Schmelze, Treibhaus-Effekt: Forscher warnen
DIE KLIMA-KATASTROPHE



Carl Sagan *in* ***1985*** *tells Congress &*
a young Al Gore what will happen & why. (In eBook
version ***tap*** *image to play…)*



"If you can't fix it, don't break it."
*Severn Cullis-Suzuki (**1992**)*

[break… . . .]














The magnificent IMNAHA Country &
*The Nez Perce (**Nee-Me-Poo**) Trail,*
from WALLOWA LAKE to the BEAR
PAW, MONTANA. ***2100 km to go…***

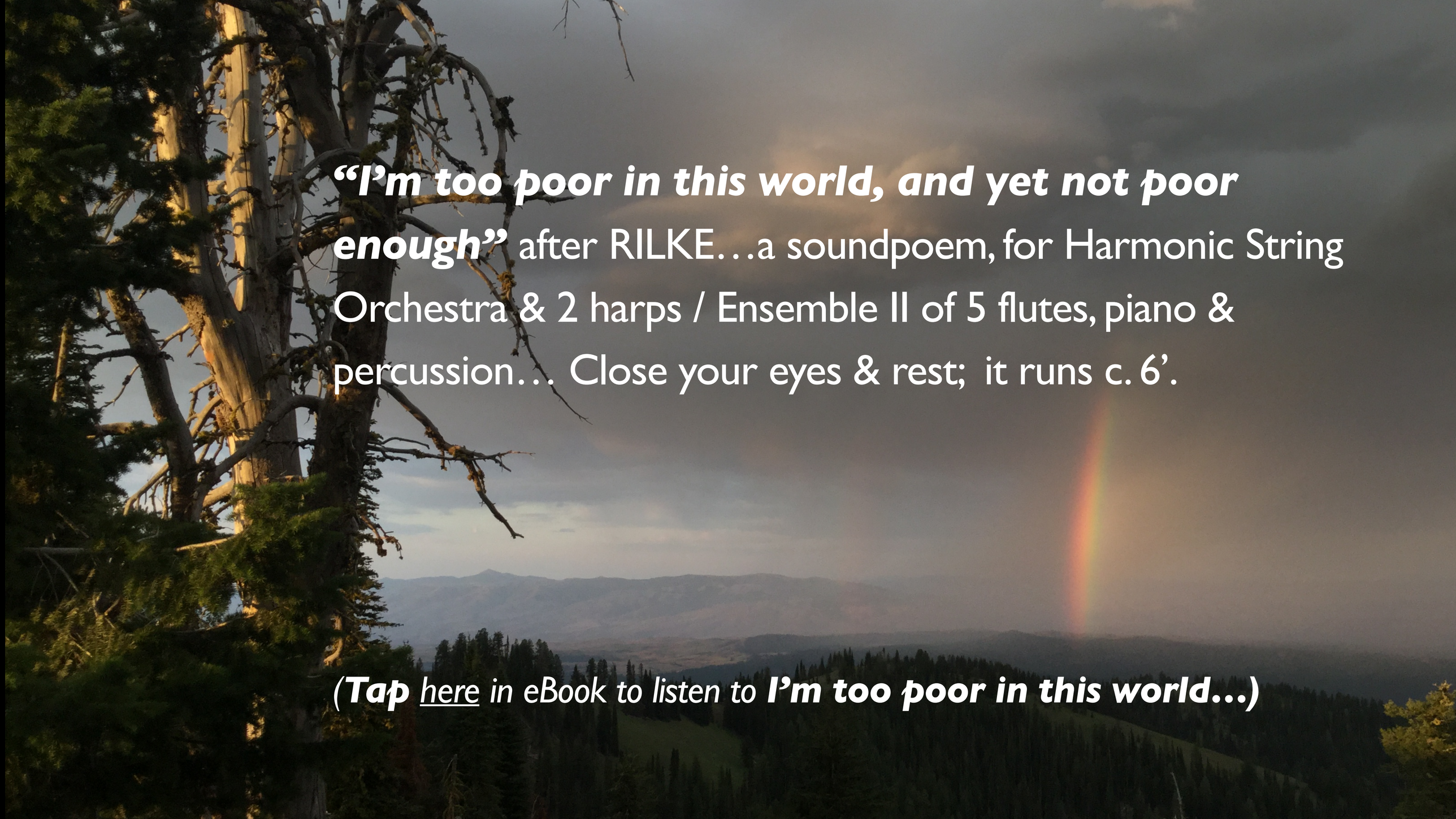












"I'm too poor in this world, and yet not poor enough" after RILKE…a soundpoem, for Harmonic String Orchestra & 2 harps / Ensemble II of 5 flutes, piano & percussion… Close your eyes & rest; it runs c. 6'.

*(**Tap** here in eBook to listen to **I'm too poor in this world…**)*

[break… . . .]

REVOLUTION OF CONSCIOUSNESS....

REVOLUTION OF CONSCIOUSNESS....

I like to think of consciousness as a river.

REVOLUTION OF CONSCIOUSNESS....

I like to think of consciousness as a river.
The old way of being, based on ***force***, ***violence***,
and ***fossil fuels,*** *is then* ***like polluted water.***

REVOLUTION OF CONSCIOUSNESS....

I like to think of consciousness as a river.
The old way of being, based on ***force, violence,***
and ***fossil fuels,*** *is then* ***like polluted water.***

Now, polluted or not, ***we still must drink.***

REVOLUTION OF CONSCIOUSNESS....

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The old way of being, based on ***force, violence,***
and ***fossil fuels,*** *is then* ***like polluted water.***

Now, polluted or not, ***we still must drink.***

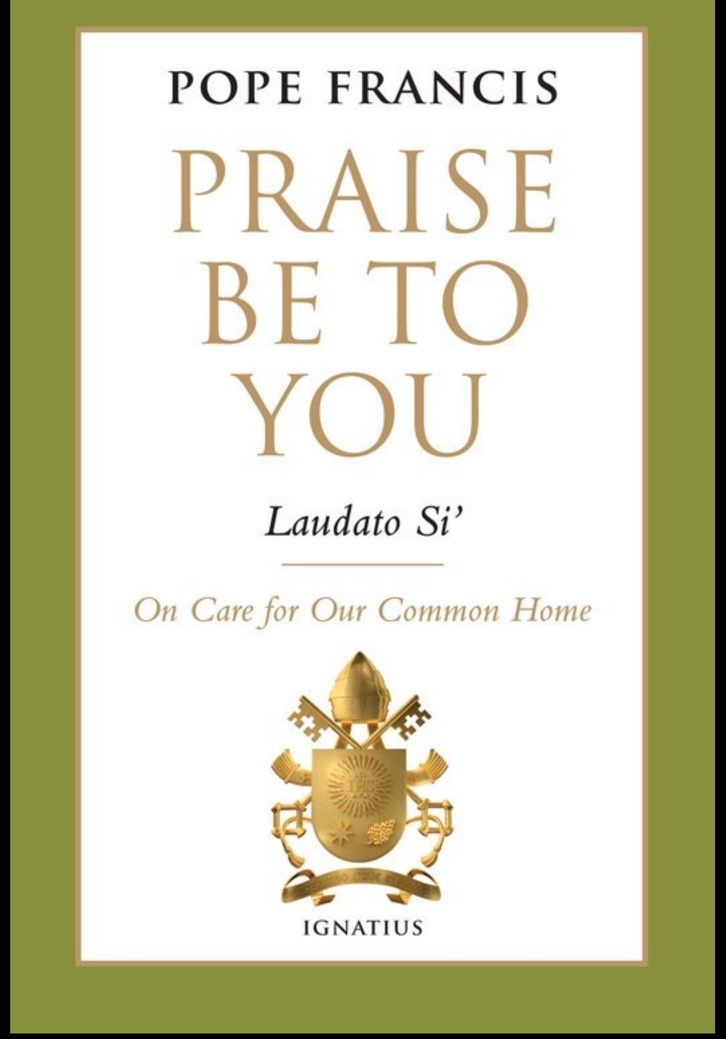
So, we either clean up the polluted water on the spot,
or head further upstream and ***end the pollution***
at its source.

REVOLUTION OF CONSCIOUSNESS....

A few helpful books to aid us purify the polluted water, with a special emphasis on ***right thinking*** *and* ***right action****, are Pope Francis' 2015* ***Encyclical on Climate***

REVOLUTION OF CONSCIOUSNESS....

A few helpful books to aid us purify the polluted water, with a special emphasis on ***right thinking*** *and* ***right action****, are Pope Francis' 2015* ***Encyclical on Climate Change and Inequality;*** *Kathleen Dean Moore's 2010* ***Moral Ground,*** *and Thich Nhat Hanh's 2021* ***Zen and the Art of Saving the Planet.***


POPE FRANCIS
PRAISE BE TO YOU
Laudato Si'
On Care for Our Common Home
IGNATIUS

POPE FRANCIS

PRAISE BE TO YOU

Laudato Si'

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IGNATIUS

MORAL GROUND

ETHICAL ACTION FOR A PLANET IN PERIL

KATHLEEN DEAN MOORE & MICHAEL P. NELSON, EDITORS



FOREWORD BY NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNER
DESMOND TUTU

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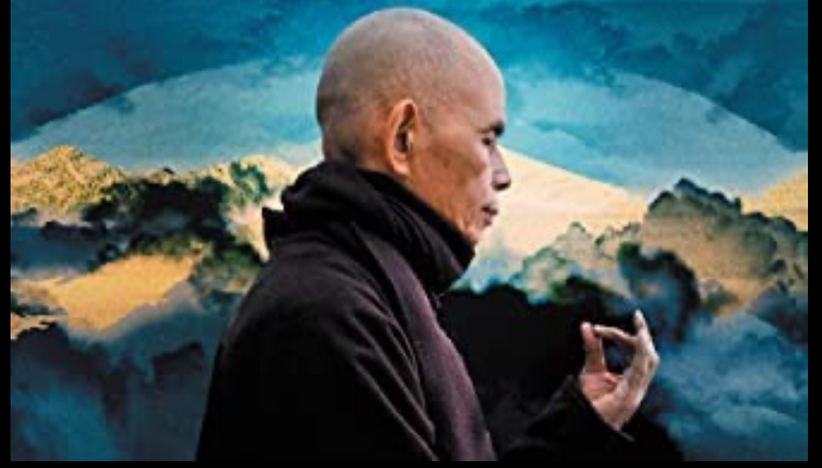
THICH NHAT HANH

BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *PEACE IS EVERY STEP*

ZEN AND THE ART OF SAVING THE PLANET



REVOLUTION OF CONSCIOUSNESS....

I may be wrong, but these excellent works are most likely
not enough to take us to ***the source of the pollution.***

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For those fearless and serious enough to make the arduous ascent upstream, I highly recommend Jiddu Krishnamurti's ***Freedom from the Known****, and especially the historic*

REVOLUTION OF CONSCIOUSNESS....

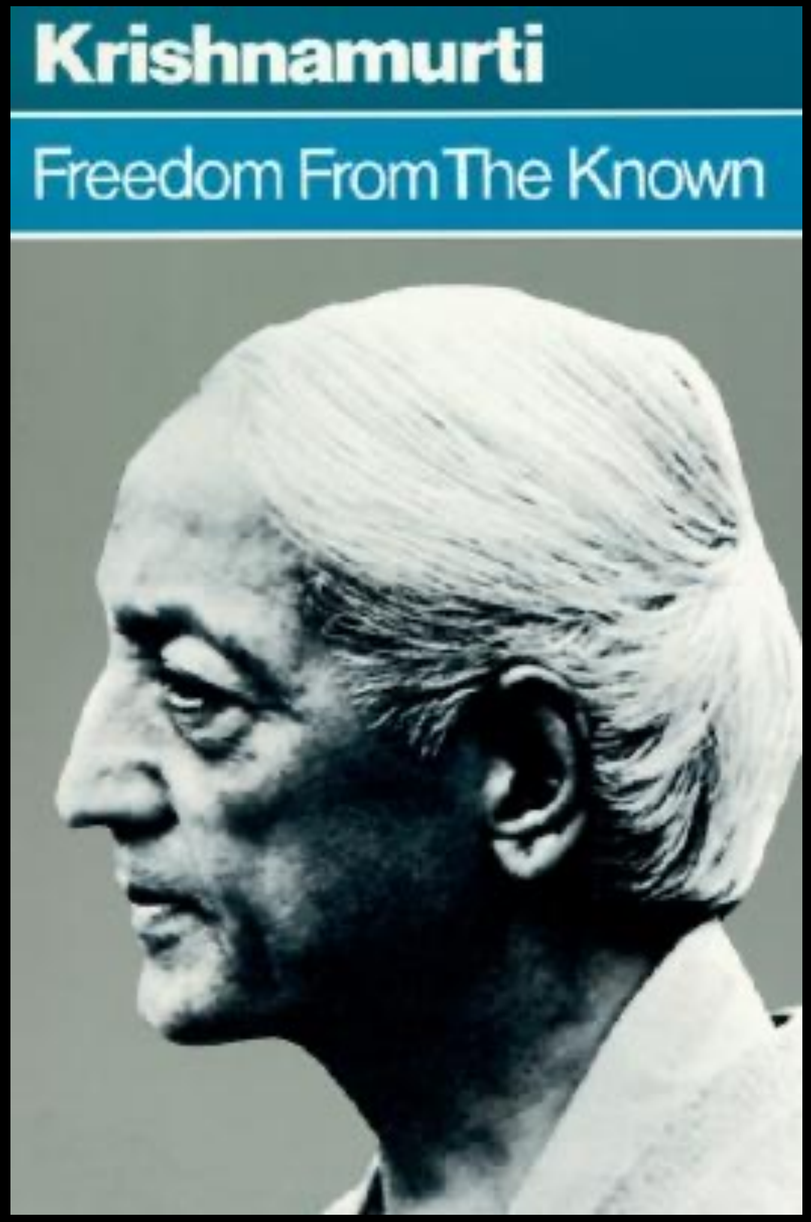
I may be wrong, but these excellent works are most likely not enough to take us to ***the source of the pollution.***

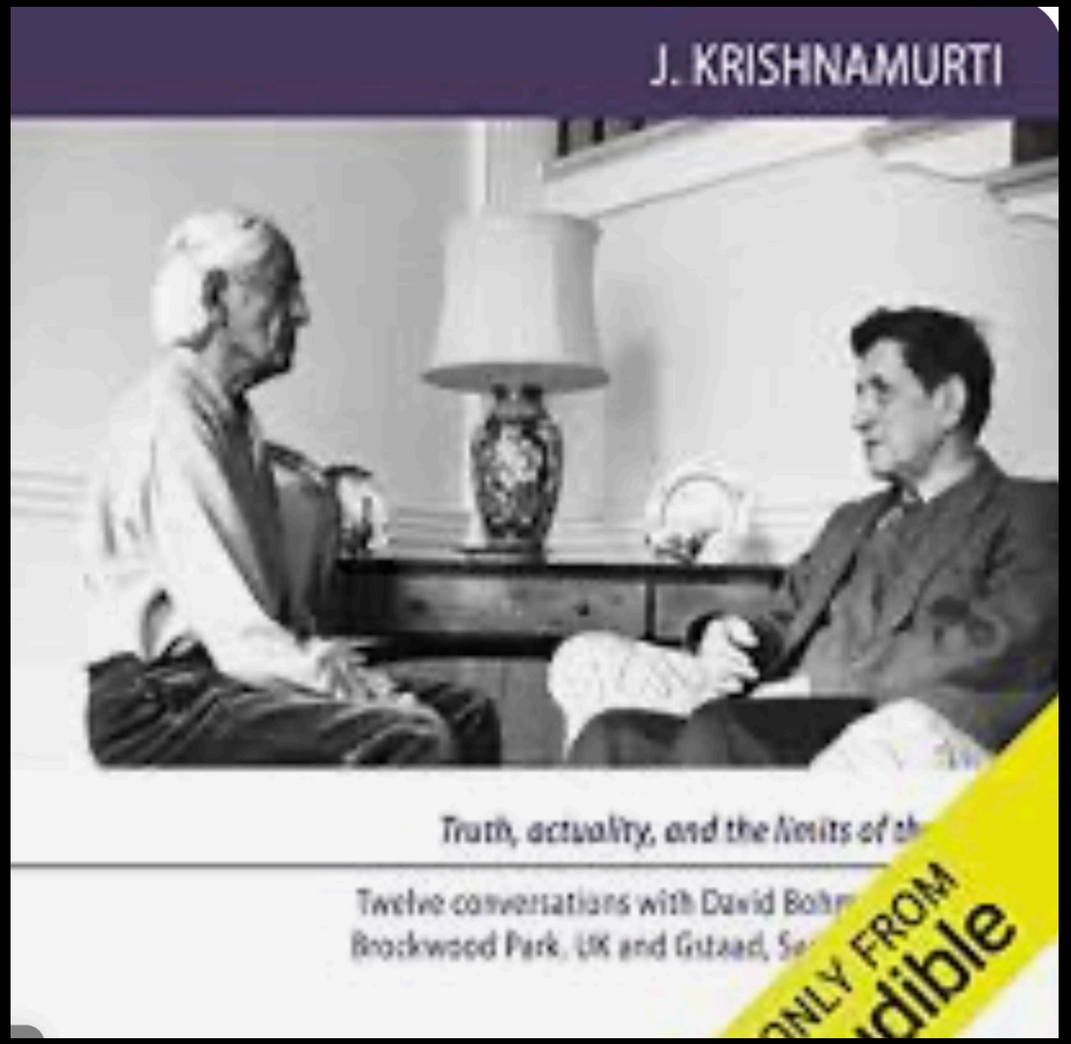
For those fearless and serious enough to make the arduous ascent upstream, I highly recommend Jiddu Krishnamurti's ***Freedom from the Known****, and especially the historic* **Krishnamurti / David Bohm dialogues***, recorded between 1965 and 1980.*

Krishnamurti

Freedom From The Known




Krishnamurti
Freedom From The Known


J. KRISHNAMURTI
Truth, actuality, and the limits of th
Twelve conversations with David Bohm
Brockwood Park, UK and Gstaad, Sw
ONLY FROM
dible

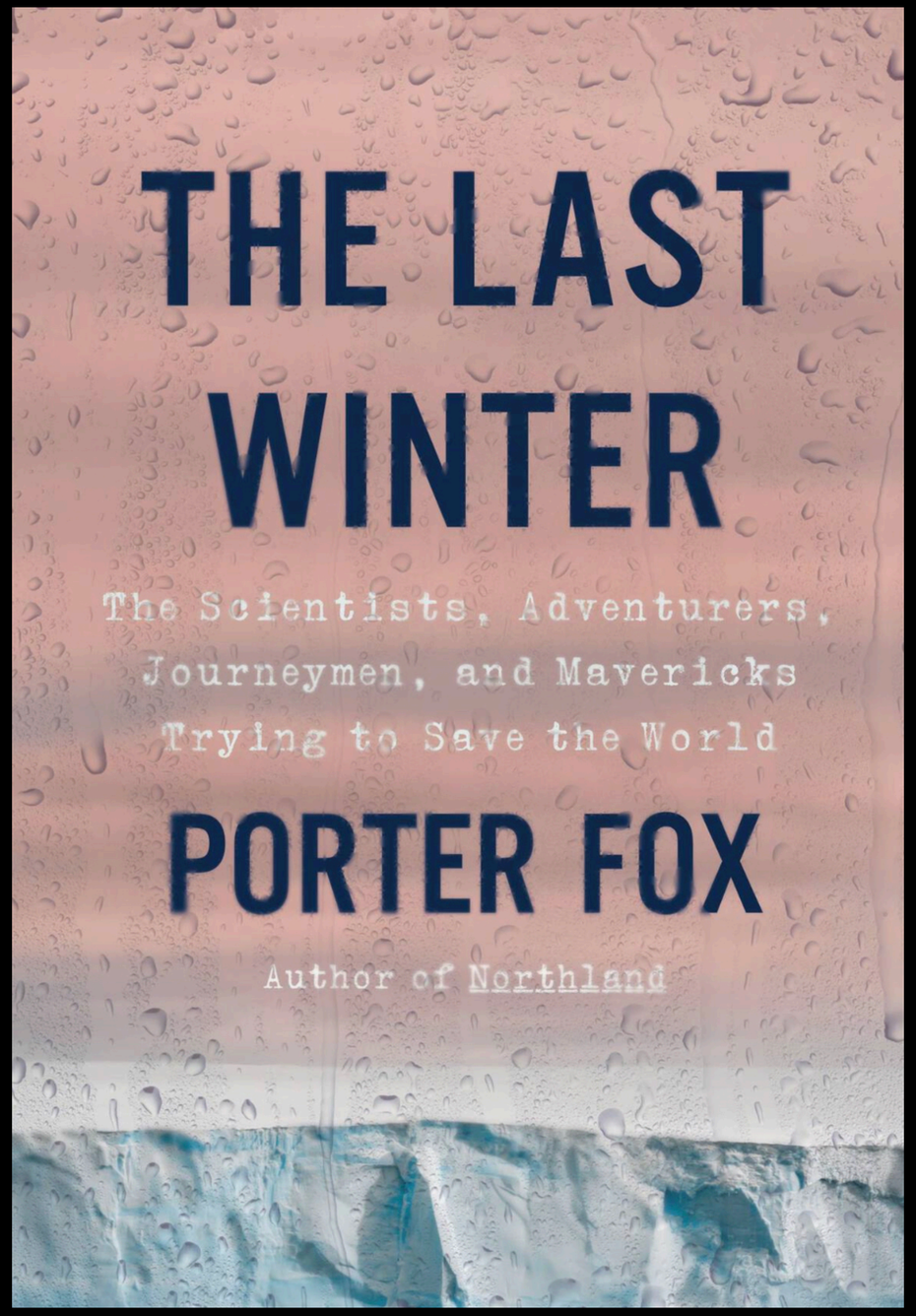
For more on ***Whitebark pines*** and other related species, I also highly recommend

Daniel Mathews 2019,

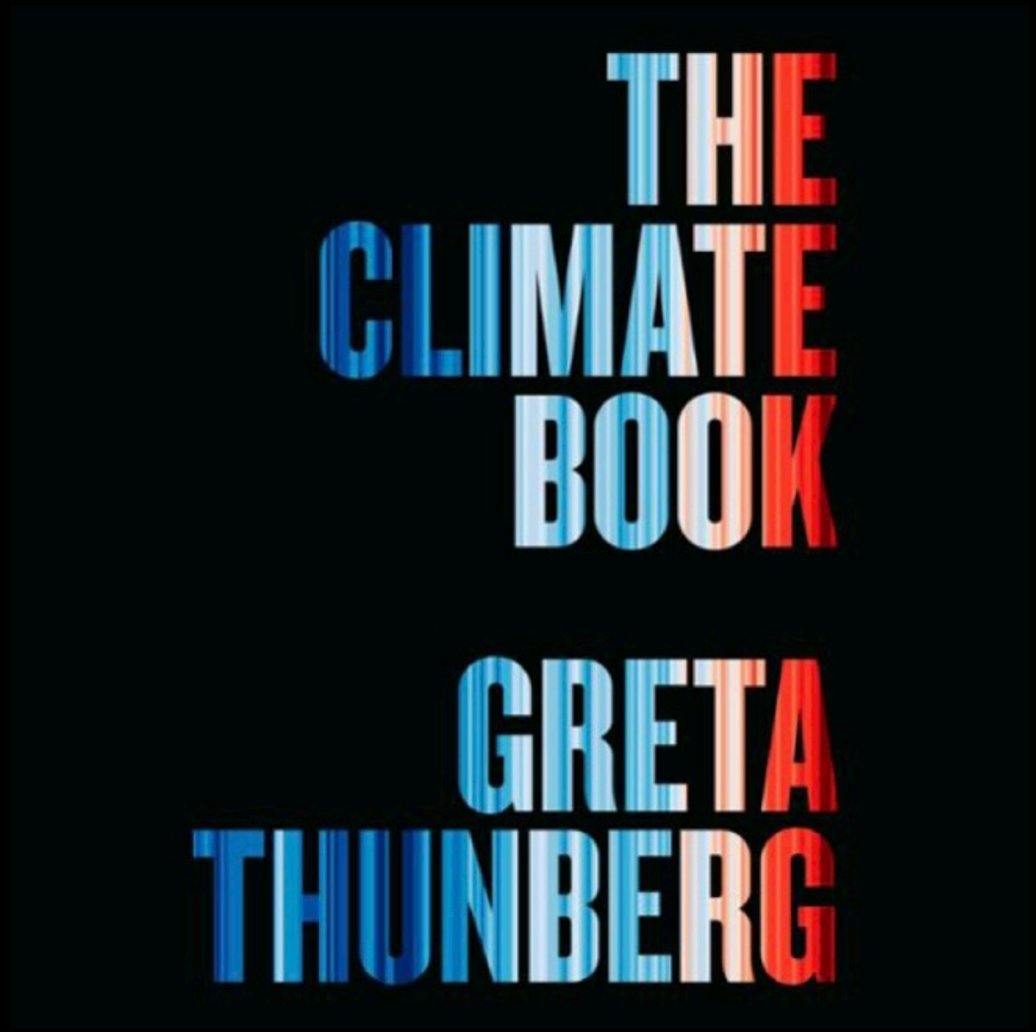
TREES IN TROUBLE....



For more on everything related to snow, mountaineering, skiing, and climate breakdown, ***THE LAST WINTER*** (2020) by Porter Fox is a must-read...



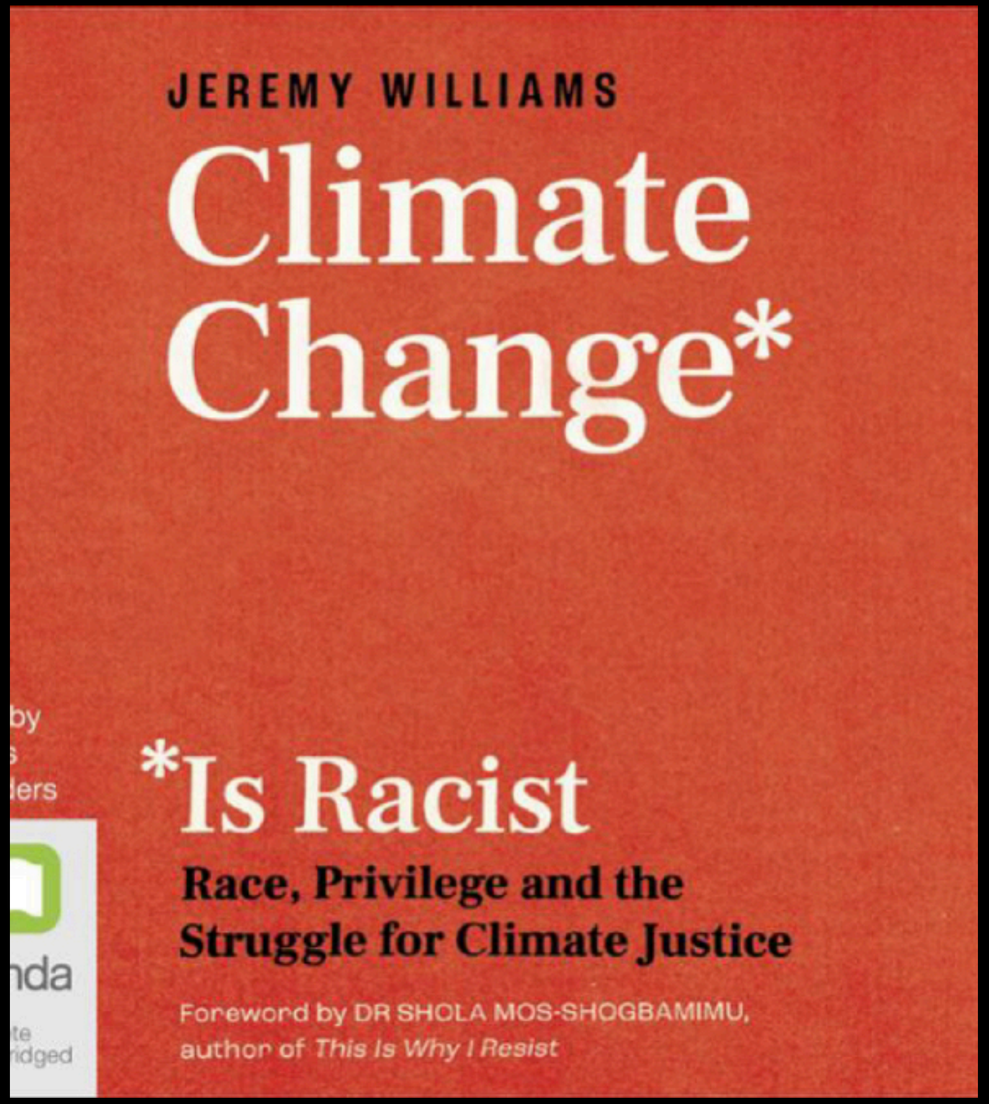
A landmark work by the world's leading youth activist for the climate emergency,. A veritable who's who of international climate change science.
Greta Thunberg 2023,
THE CLIMATE BOOK…



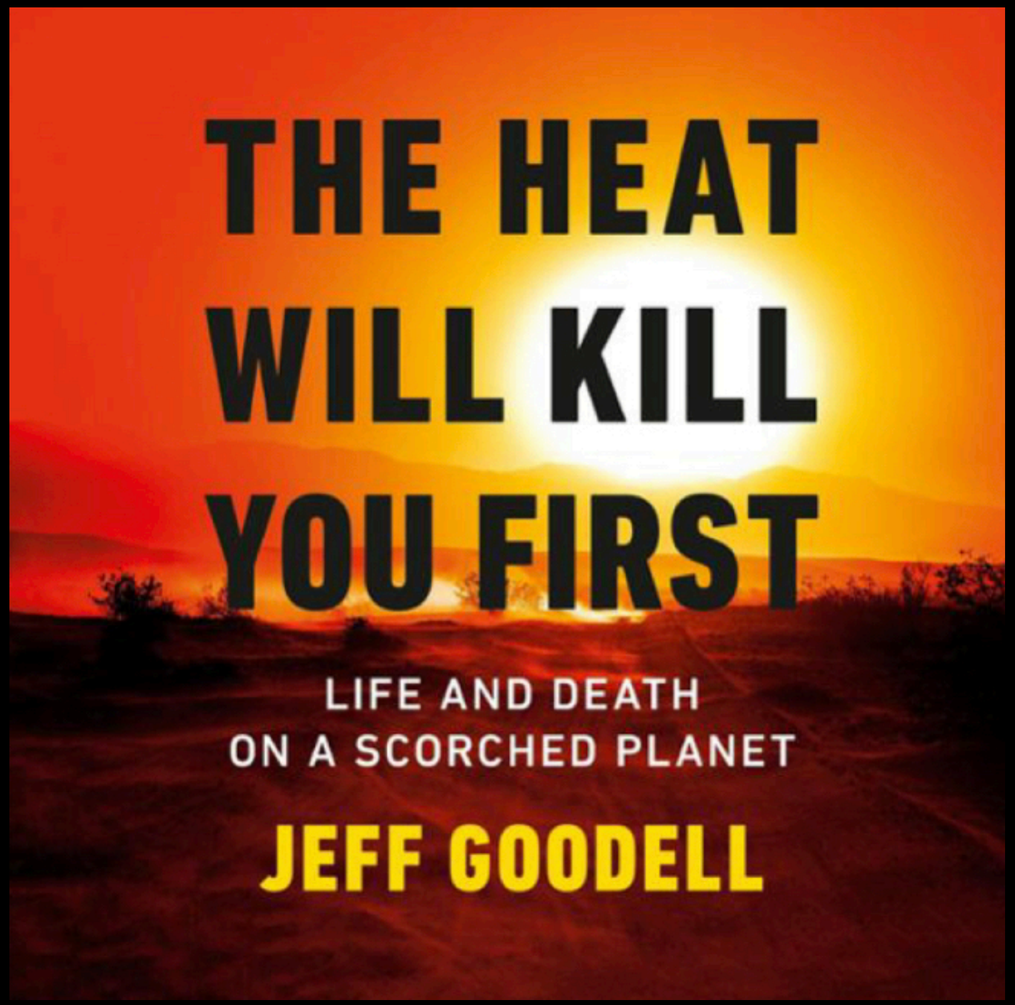
A much needed work on the issues of climate, justice and climate equality.

Jeremy Williams 2019,

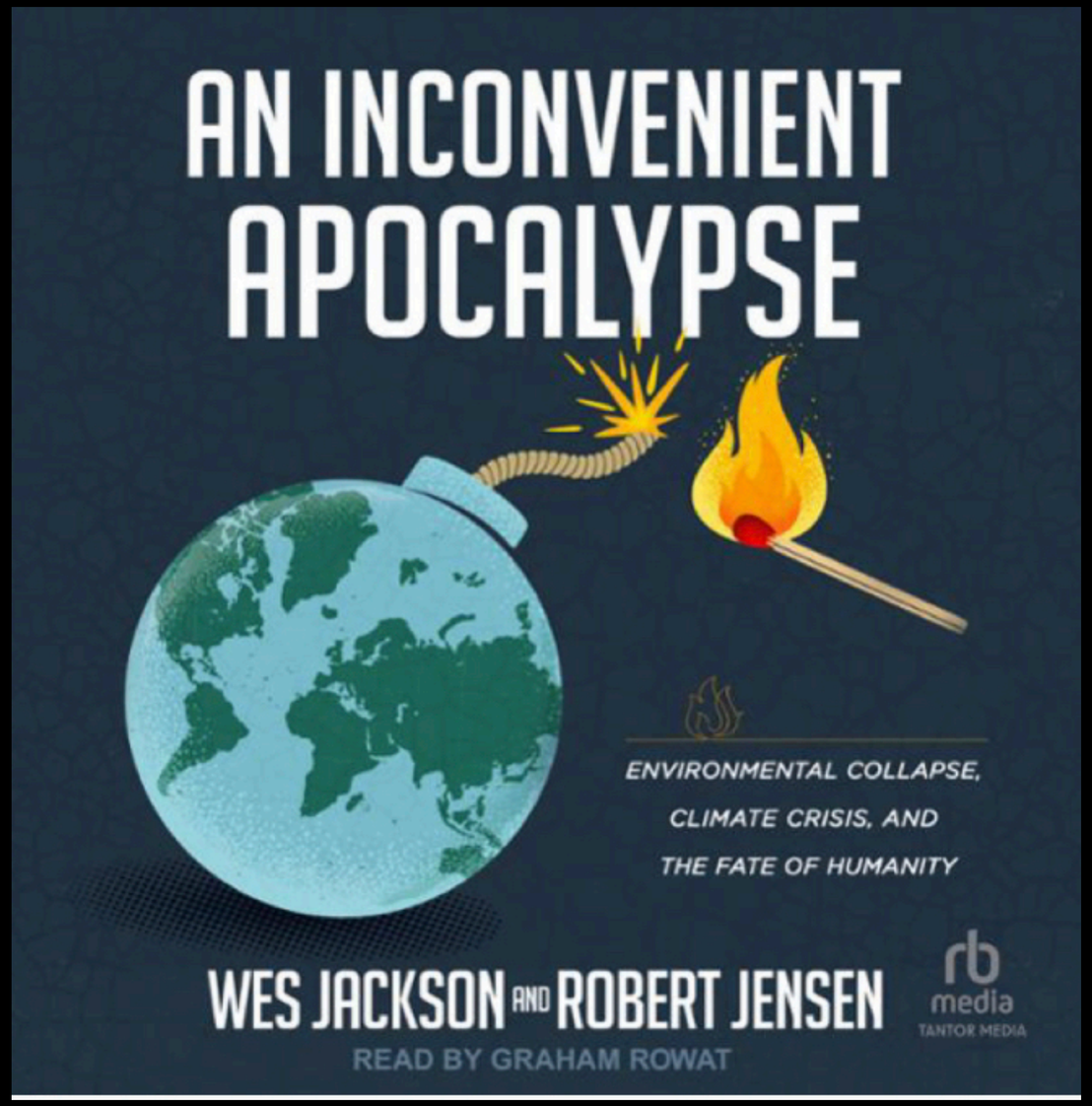
CLIMATE CHANGE IS RACIST



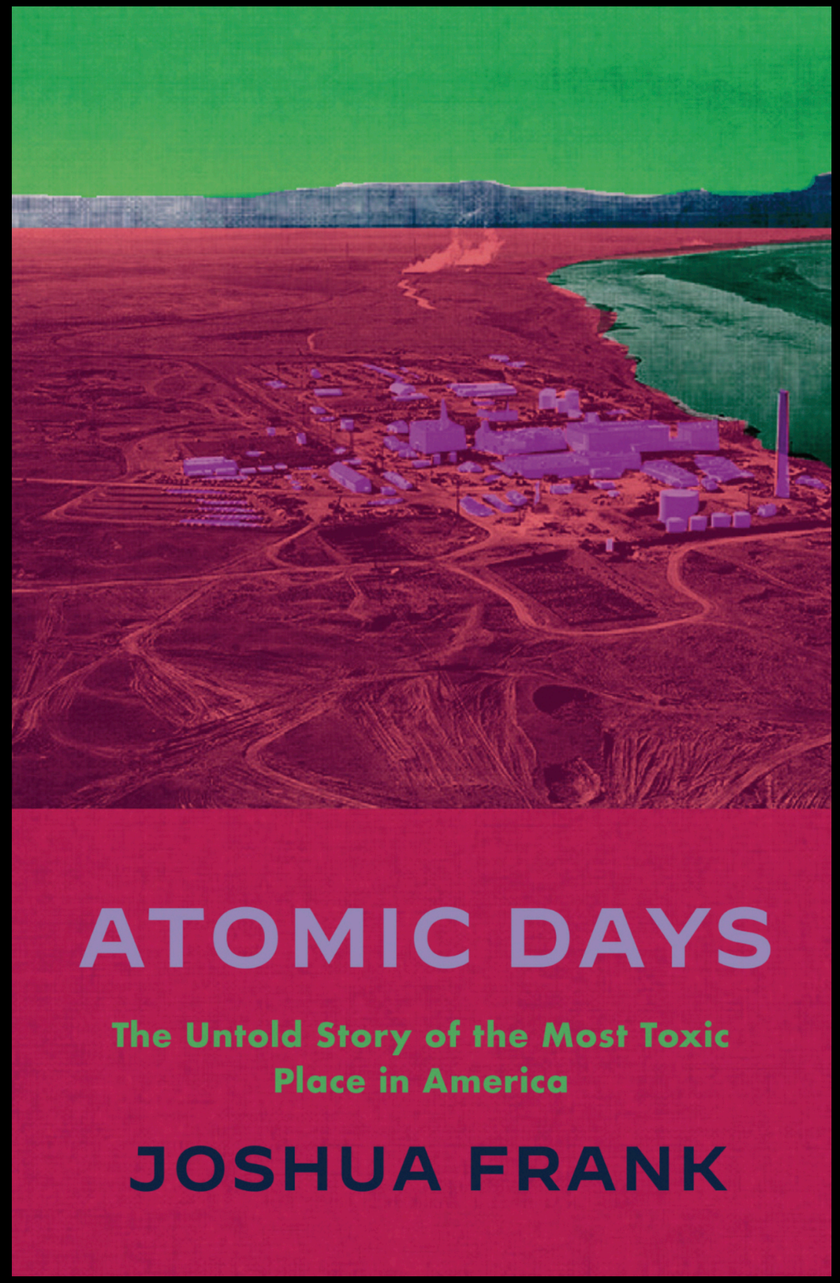
Another major work from the reporter's reporter. Amazingly well-researched and well-written.
Jeff Goodell 2023,
THE HEAT WILL KILL YOU FIRST



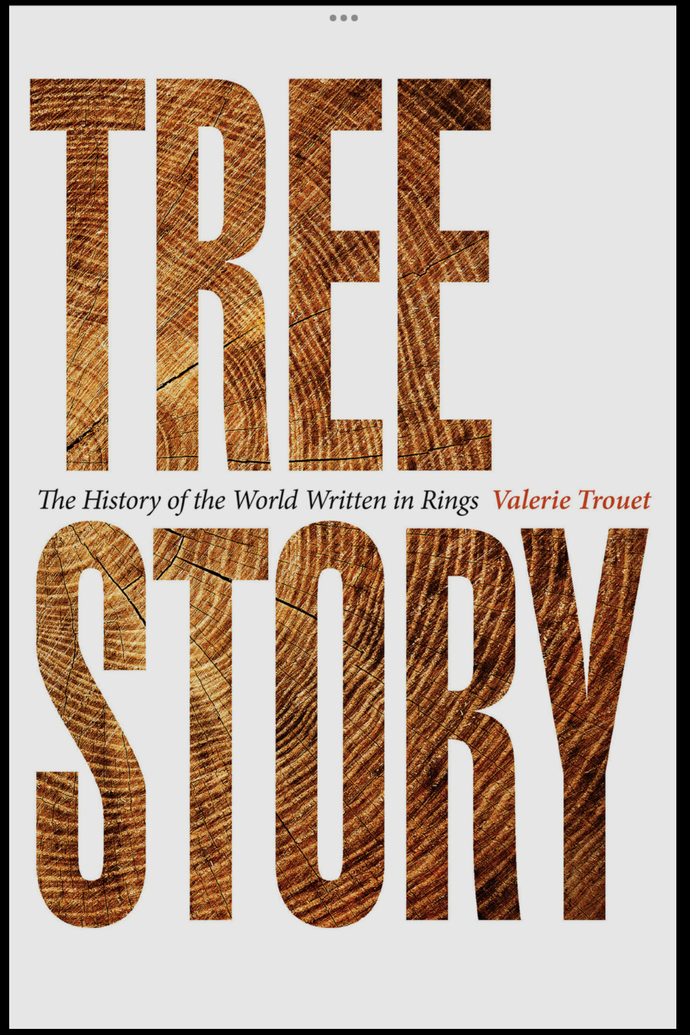
A charming sketch of ***the end of the world as we know it,*** by our leading philosopher/ practitioner of perennial agriculture,
Wes Jackson & Robert Jensen
2021.
AN INCONVENIENT APOCALYPSE…



An amazingly well researched book on the most contaminated site in the western hemisphere, between the Yakimo, Reservation & the Eagle Cap Wilderness, OR. Joshua Frank 2023, ***ATOMIC DAYS…***



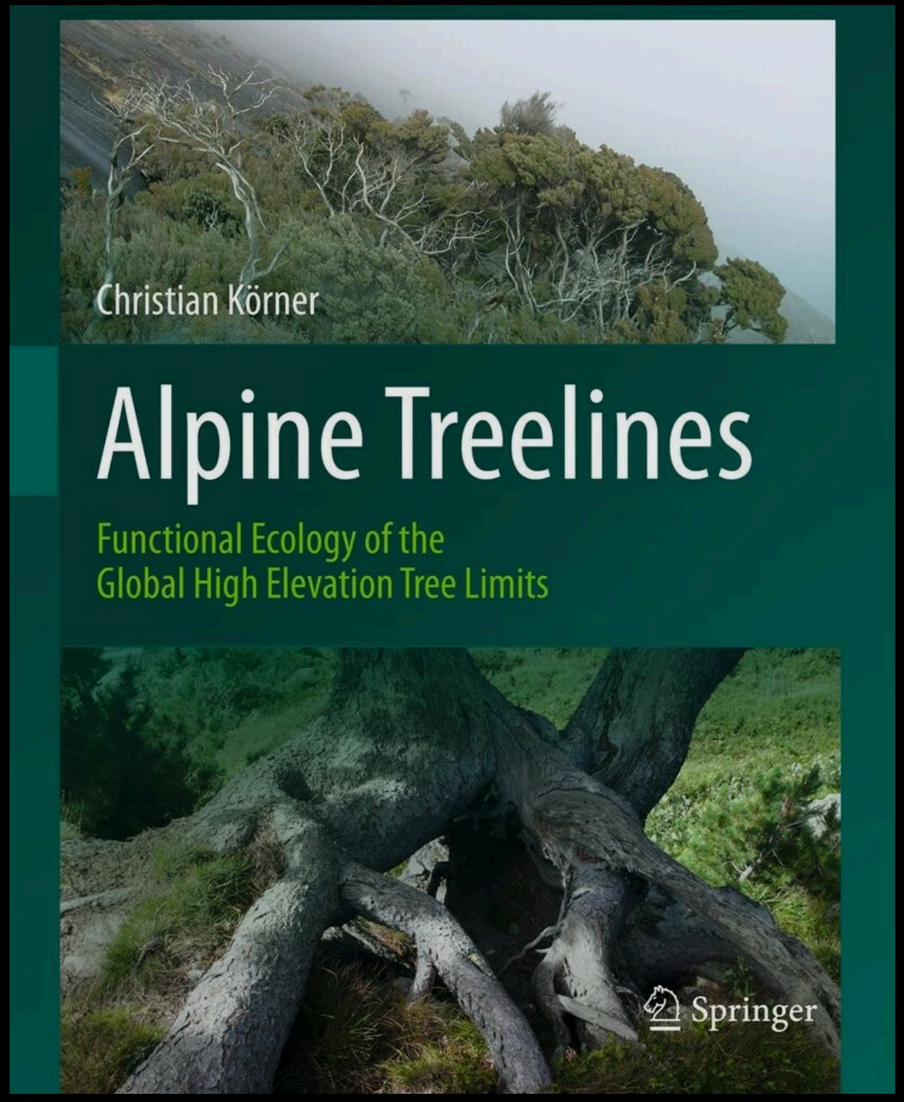
From the world-famous Tucson, Arizona ***LABORATORY OF TREE RING RESEARCH*** (founded by A.E. Douglass & Thomas Swetman), a new passionate voice of a Paleoclimate Dendro-chronogist. Exciting to read, from beginning to end. A great storyteller. Valerie Trouet 2021, ***TREE STORY:*** *The History of the World Written in Rings*



From the Swiss German alpine ecology researcher, who knows his mountains well. The man who gave us the landmark worldwide criterion of tree line:: ***three months of the growing season at an isotherm of 6.7°C.*** A must read. (Two beautiful color graphs in this presentation are stolen from his work…)

Christian Körner 2004

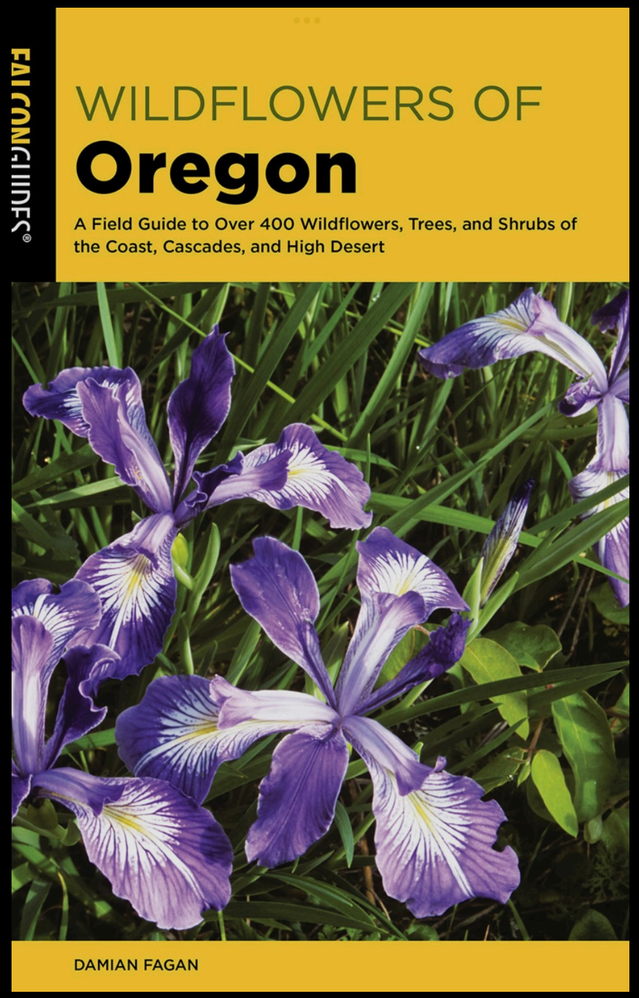
ALPINE TREELINES: *Functional Ecology of the Global High Elevation Tree Limits*



Take this book on your iPhone Kindle into the mountains and Sagebrush Steppe.. I use it with my ***TALKING HANDS / TALKING FEET practice*** every day. Vastly superior to any poetry journal I know. ..

Damian Fagan 2019

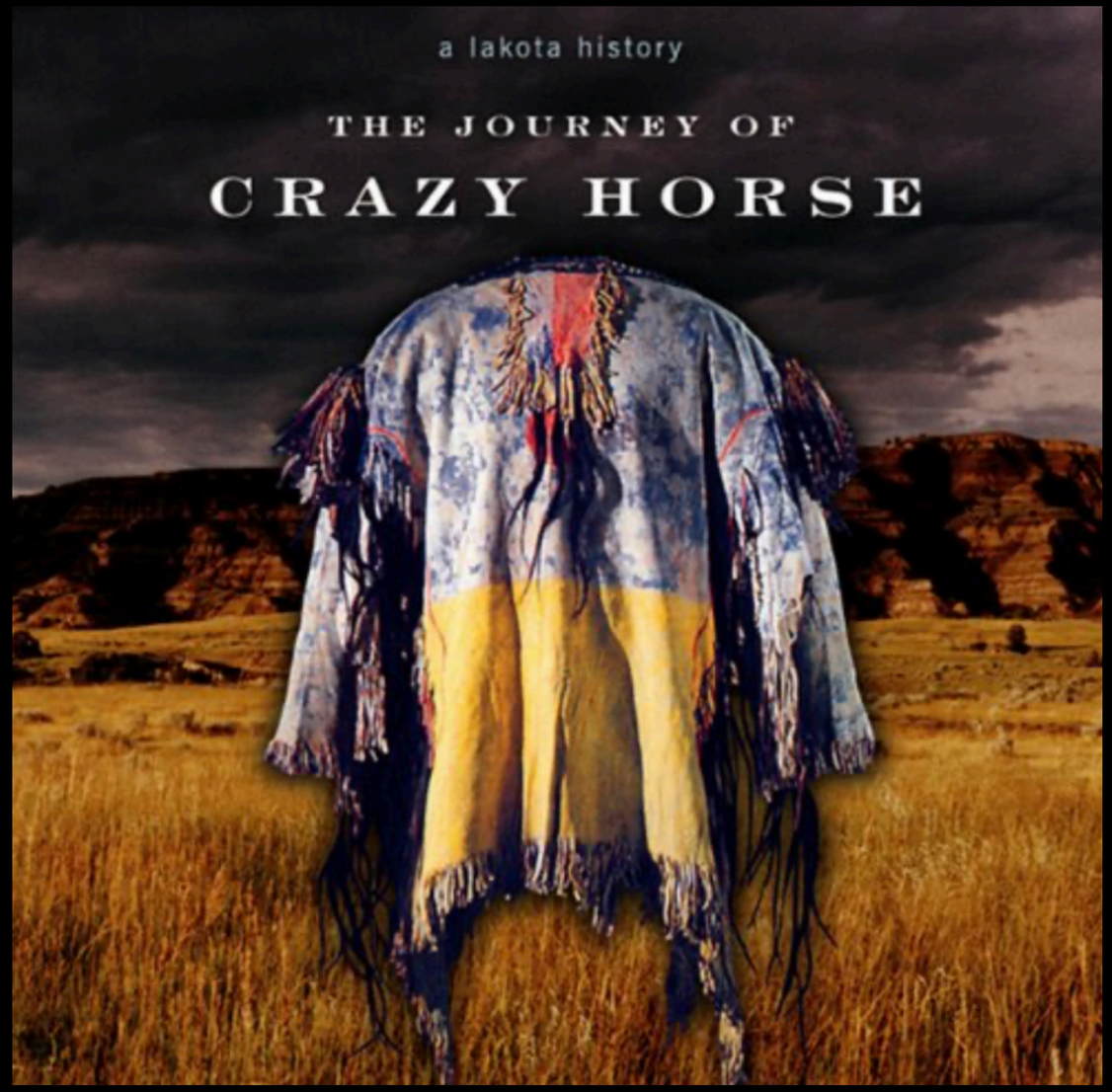
WILDFLOWERS OF OREGON: *A Field Guide to Over 400 Wildflowers, Trees, and Shrubs of the Coast, Cascades, and High Desert*



Should only be done as an audiobook. Marshall is Lakota. Only three or four steps away from Crazy Horse himself. Beautiful language, deeply rooted in Lakota earth. When heard from the wider circle of non-violence, what does the story mean?

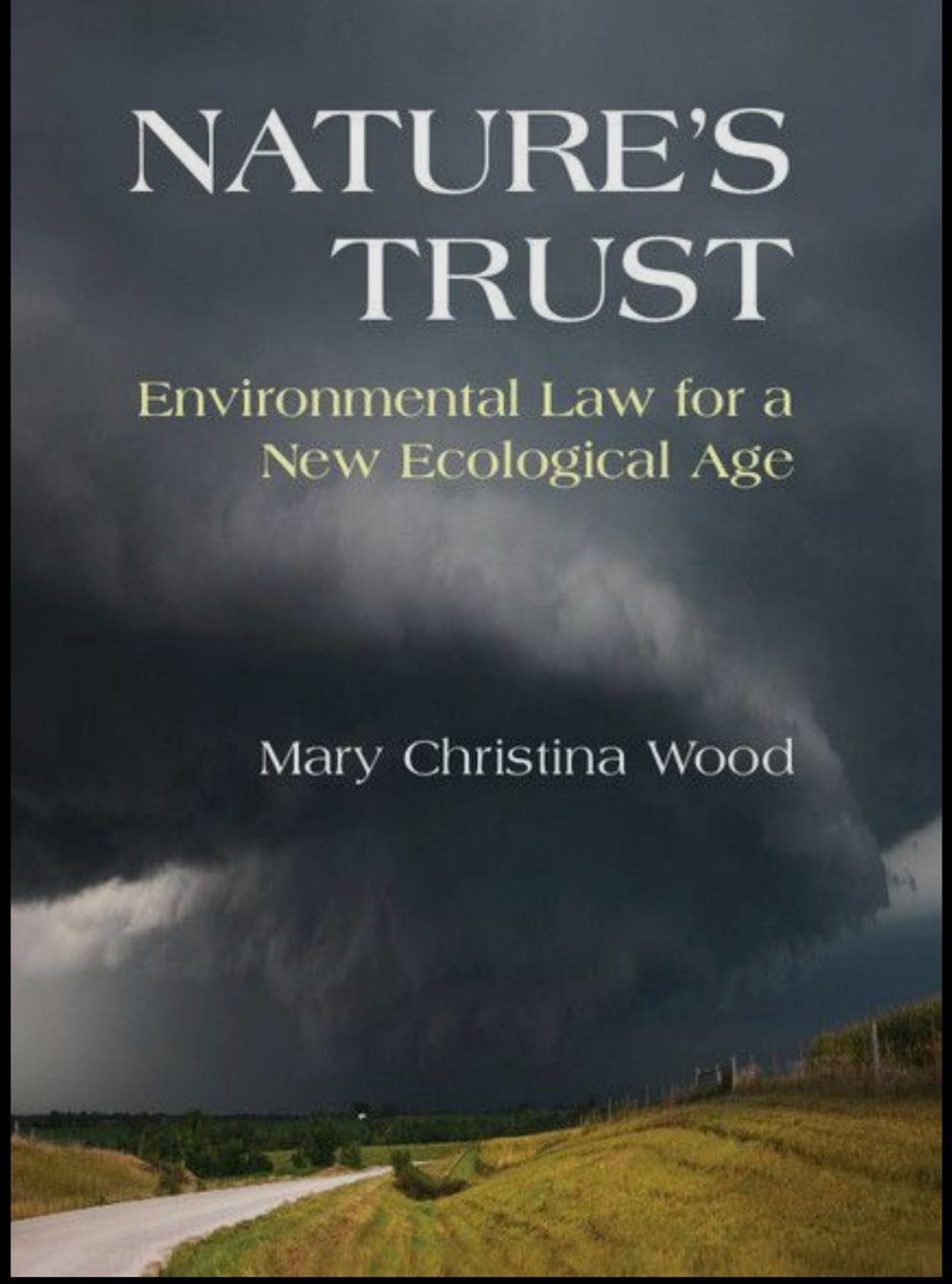
Joseph Marshall 2007,

THE JOURNEY OF CRAZY HORSE…



The exceptionally clear philosophical jurisprudence behind the ***youth*** *vs.* ***government*** court cases, world wide. One of our finest and most distinguished writers in Oregon Country.

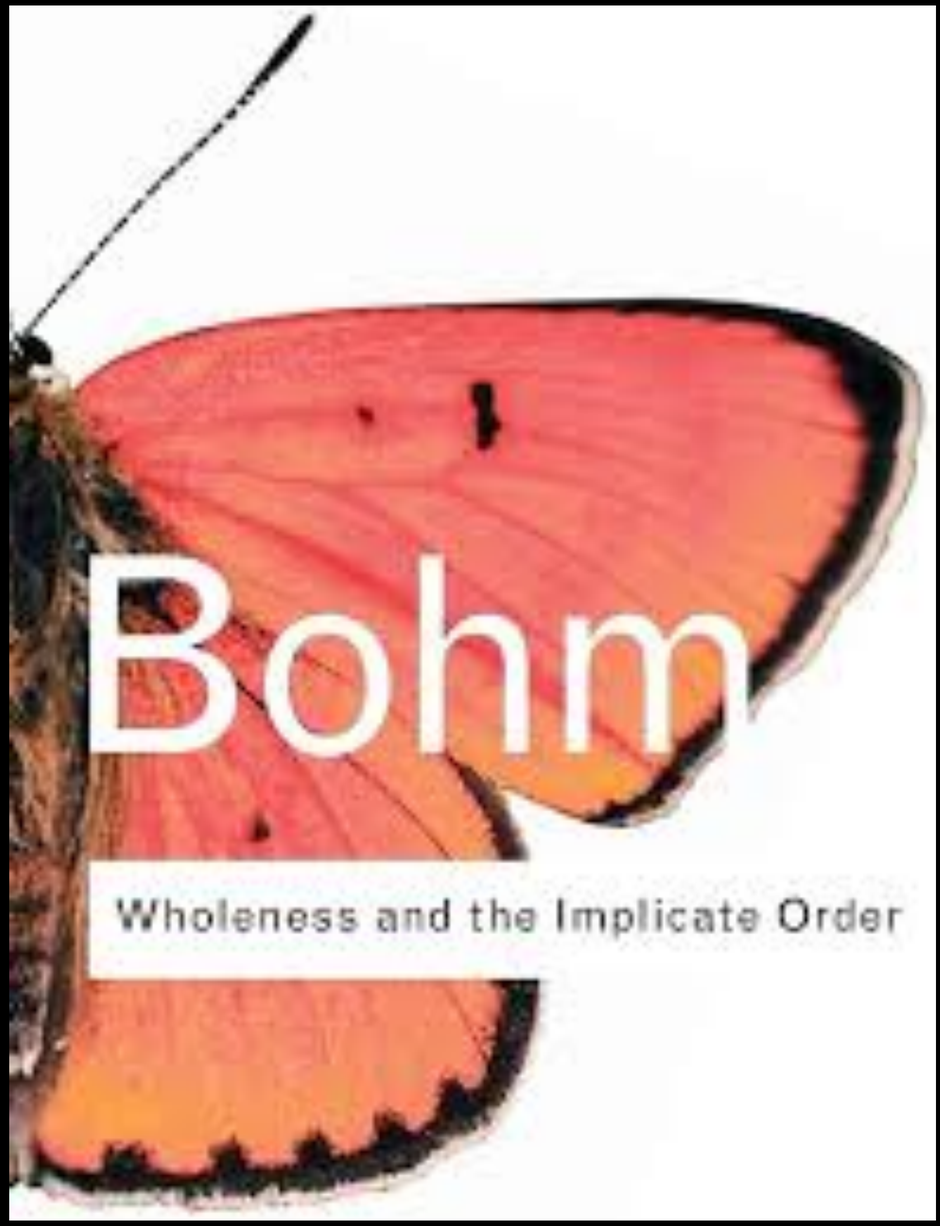
Mary Christina Wood 2013, ***NATURE'S TRUST,*** *Environmental Law for a New Ecologival Age*



By far the most important philosopher since Socrates & Plato.. By far the most important scientist since Einstein.

David Bohm 2002,

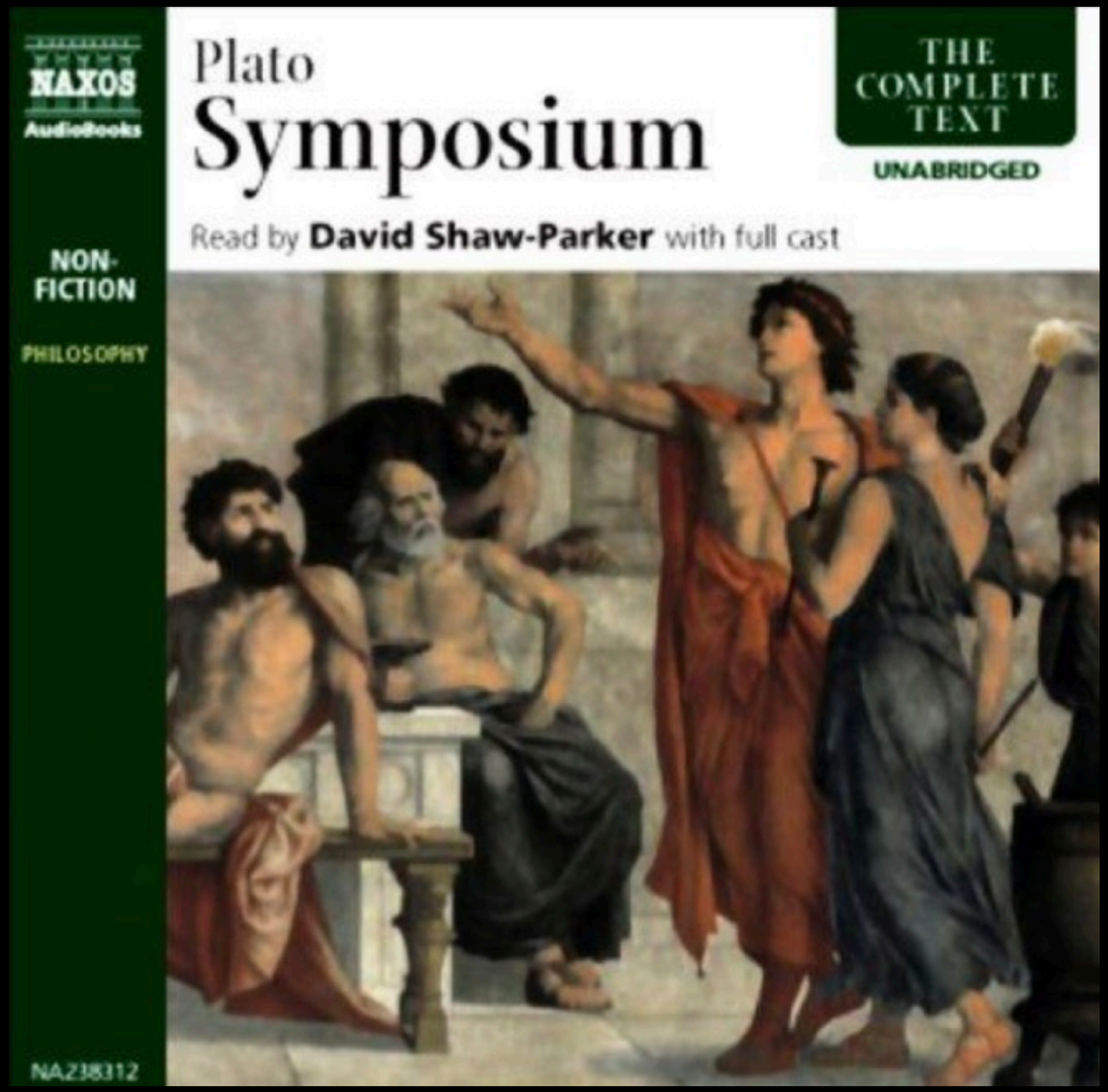
WHOLENESS AND THE IMPLICATE ORDER…



One of the greatest masterpieces of the Western philosophical/poetical tradition.. ***Soon to be banned and burned in the State of Idaho…***

Plato 384 bce.

THE SYMPOSIUM…





CODA..... . . . .

HOW I WORK, *or when how you get there is more than half the photograph, more than half the text . . .*

Following the simple ethical principle, ***"First, do no harm,"*** I never use cars. Instead, I do everything on foot, by bike, or snowshoe, or ski. I think this in a direct way affects the spirit of my work; it also deeply influences how I see and sense the world. The photos in this ***100 MINIATURES Collection*** were all approached in this way—including the spaces in between each image—as a kind of pilgrimage, sometimes involving journeys of many weeks or even months. Similarly, most of the texts were composed while walking, or at basecamps, or otherwise living outside. I would not want to work any other way.

Cliff Crego, the South Wallowas,
Oregon, X.29.2013





CROW & COYOTE…

Crow says to Coyote, *"See my Pocket Constitution. They say it's divine."*

CROW & COYOTE…

Crow says to Coyote, *"See my Pocket Constitution. They say it's divine."*

Coyote groaned, *"Who says?"*

"The lady who gave it to me."

CROW & COYOTE…

Crow says to Coyote, *"See my Pocket*
Constitution. They say it's divine."
Coyote groaned, *"Who says?"*
"The lady who gave it to me."
"Sounds like you're running for Sheriff in Utah."

CROW & COYOTE…

Crow says to Coyote, *"See my Pocket*
Constitution. They say it's divine."
Coyote groaned, *"Who says?"*
"The lady who gave it to me."
"Sounds like you're running for Sheriff in Utah."
"No." She said, "***Public land's bad; Private's good.***
That's how God & the Church say it's supposed to be."

CROW & COYOTE…

Crow says to Coyote, *"See my Pocket*
Constitution. They say it's divine."
Coyote groaned, *"Who says?"*
"The lady who gave it to me."
"Sounds like you're running for Sheriff in Utah."
"No." She said, "***Public land's bad; Private's good.***
That's how God & the Church say it's supposed to be."
Coyote groaned again, ***"Smells like one of those***
M44s to me."

ZEN KOAN practice…

"What is the sound of the flute
without the flute player?"


PUBLIC
LANDS
BEHIND THIS SIGN
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
92-1161
ROCKART®





PUSSY PAWS or **LAZY BOYS** (*Calyptridium umbellatum*),
a charming subalpine member of the ***Montia*** family.



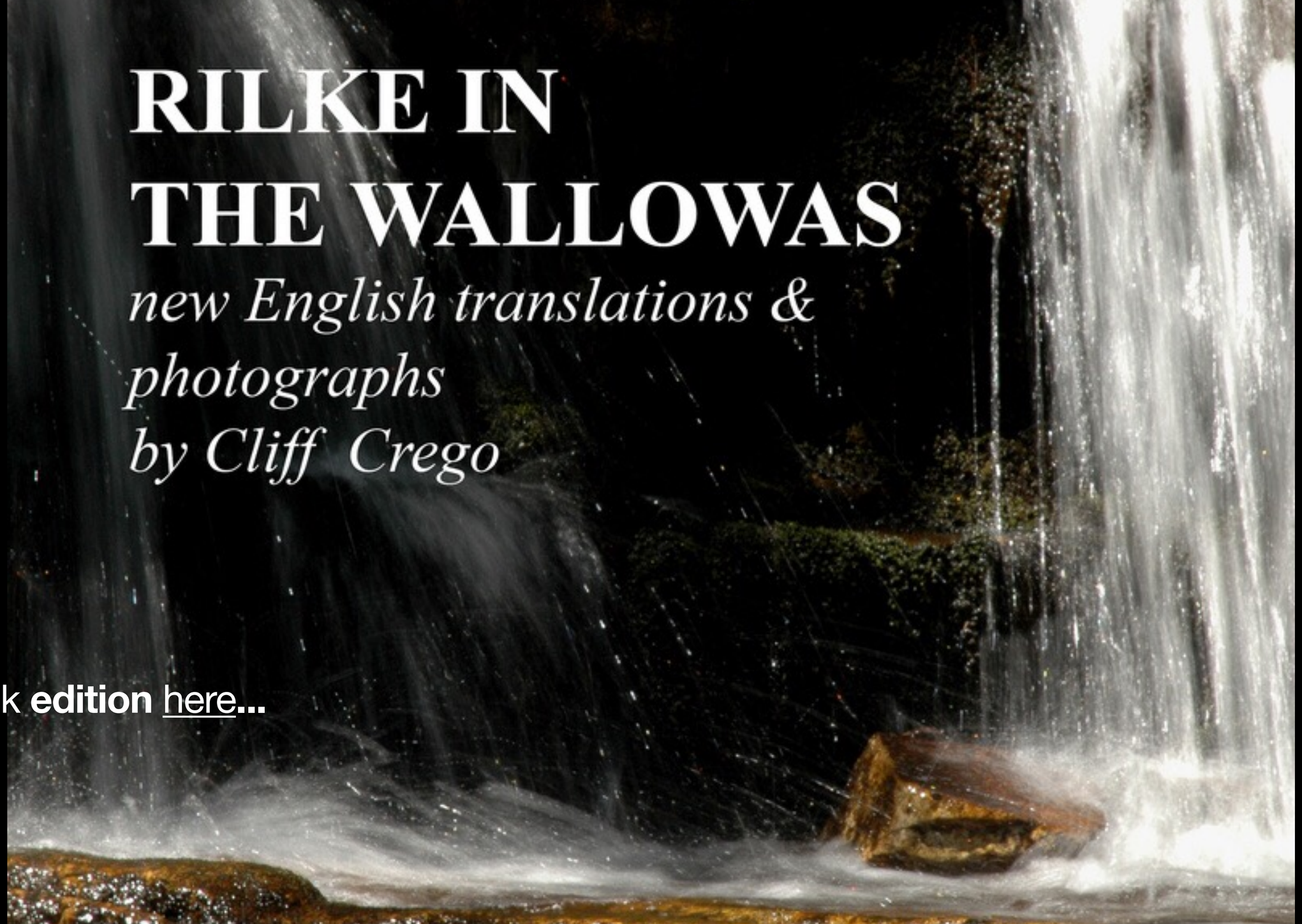




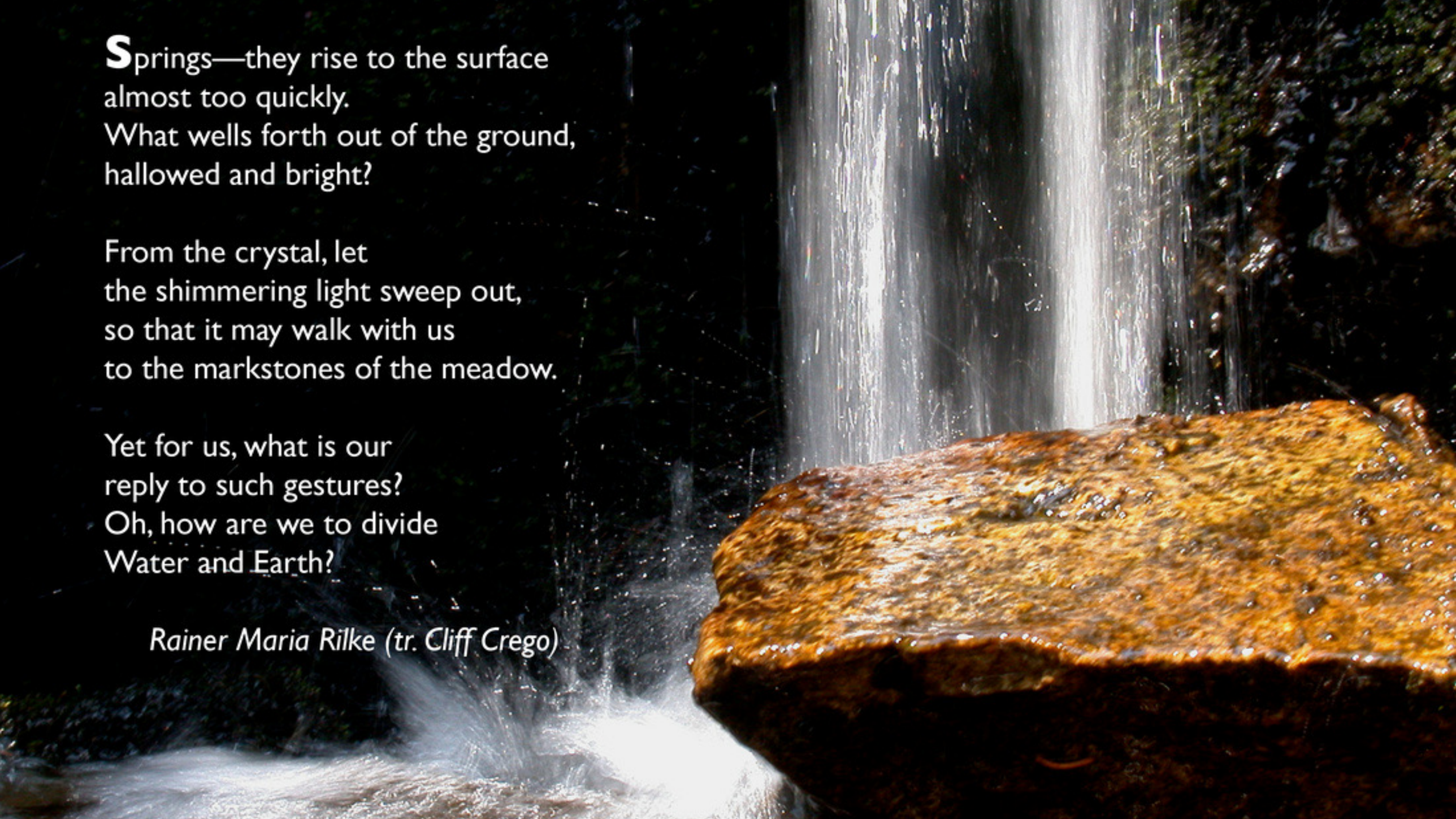








Ebook **edition** here**...**



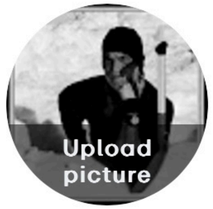
Springs—they rise to the surface
almost too quickly.
What wells forth out of the ground,
hallowed and bright?

From the crystal, let
the shimmering light sweep out,
so that it may walk with us
to the markstones of the meadow.

Yet for us, what is our
reply to such gestures?
Oh, how are we to divide
Water and Earth?

Rainer Maria Rilke (tr. Cliff Crego)

The following films can be found at (or ***tap*** *to watch in eBook… https://vimeo.com/user157546040*



Cliff Crego

Add location

Hide from profile

Composer. Writer. Photographer. Former conductor & founder of the ASKO ensemble. CURRENTLY on ...Read more

cliff@picture-poems.com

https://www.picture-poems.com

https://www.cs-music.com

@cliff-crego

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54 videos



X-COUNTRY STRING QUARTET ...



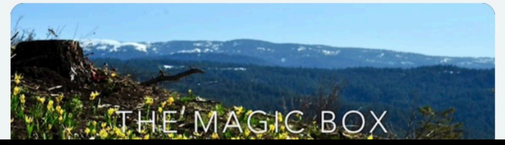
THE POETRY OF IMAGES, a set ...



LOCK 'EM UP! CEASE FIRE NOW...



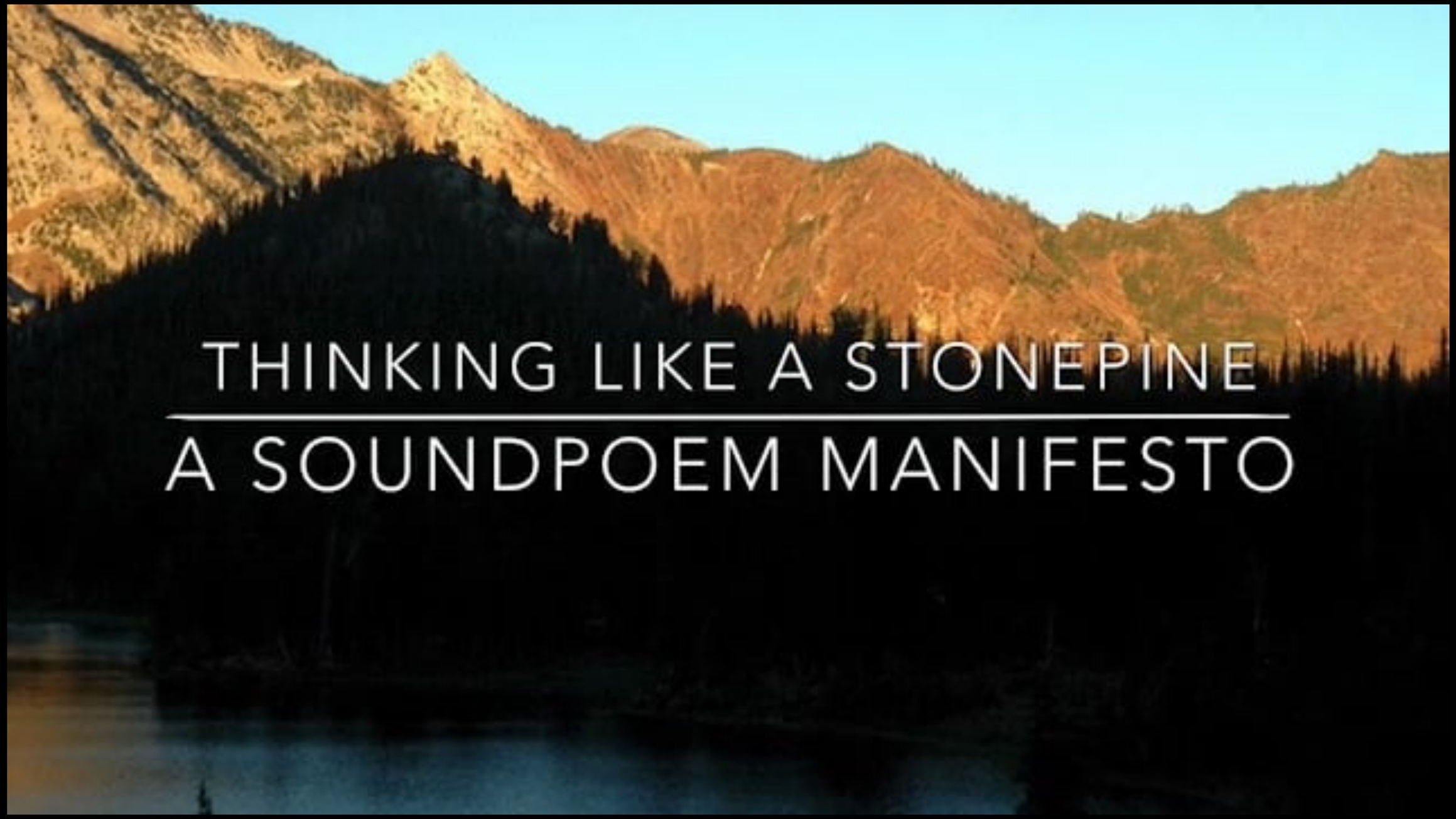
JOHN CAGE: 10 Rules for Teach...






...A SOUNDPOEM
FLOWERS...


I'M TOO POOR IN THIS WORLD, AND YET NOT POOR ENOUGH...
AFTER RILKE...


THINKING LIKE A STONEPINE
A SOUNDPOEM MANIFESTO


THINK OF A RIVER
A FLOWFORN MEDITATION

COLD SPRING MOUNTAIN is a set of 12 what I call, following the classical music tradition, ***sequences***. These are sets of about 400 ***texts*** & ***photos***, all of which cut a similar pattern, ***circumambulating*** or ***walking about*** a central theme.

At the end of each sequence, there is ***an historical interpolation***, or a quartet of links which places ***Climate BREAKDOWN*** in its proper historical ontext.

This is then followed by a collection of ***suggested readings***, with an emphasis on the best available book-length explorations relevant to the theme at hand.

So, there is basically enough material for a circle of, say, 12 serious students of any age to meet in an ***unconventional symposium / dialogue setting*** —either in the classroom, concert hall, local bar, or around a wilderness campfire—three times a week for an entire year.

The first most difficult thing of ***COLD SPRING MOUNTAIN*** is going inward and calling for a revolution of consciousness. The second most difficult aspect of ***CCSM*** is the necessity of bringing a ***dialogue circle*** into being, and what it demands of us. The third most difficult aspect is simply ***learning to* listen**—just to each other —but also ***to the trees.***



WHITEBARK PINE COLLAPSE—

the tragic story of
Climate Chaos
& the sudden
die-back of the PNW's
oldest Trees

On the web at **picture-poems.com/*whitebarks***















I'm too poor in this world, and yet not poor enough . . . *after Rilke*

I'm too poor in this world, and yet not poor enough

just to stand before you like a Buddha,

or naked, like a new-born babe;

I'm too clever in this world, and yet not clever enough,

just to vanish before your eyes

like a leaf, or blade of new spring grass.

I want my world to be shaped by meaning, by sense,

not by greed, or envy, or corporate gold.

I'm sick of war, of waste, of conflict,

of presidents who lie, and governments

who slaughter in my name and call it peace.

I want to walk with those who speak

a wholly different language;

I want to be with those who ask questions, real

I want to be with those who ask questions, real

questions, and who listen with a certain selfless fierceness

regardless of where the answers lead.

I would like to sing.

And I want my song to resonate with your whole being

and not just some narrow backwater of your soul.

I would like to pray, I would like to

pray that my song comes alive with energy,

like the sound of rushing water,

like the ecstatic counterpoint of ravens

after all the hunters have gone home,

like a bell ringing out on all its sides from a misty hill,

like the sound of falling snow beneath

the celestial dome that gives us both refuge

in this most mysterious, uncharted wildness of all.


#Sun2Sound


Thanks for caring about Climate
Breakdown in Whitebark Country,
Cliff Crego, WALLOWAS, OREGON


My three loves—**Music. Poetry. Philosophy**—
lie nested together like the three nuts
in the Chestnut's prickly husk.
Together as one, they are more than three.
Better, not to give this one,
a name.

*My three loves—**Music. Poetry. Philosophy**—*
lie nested together like the three nuts
in the Chestnut's prickly husk.

Together as one, they are more than three.
Better, not to give this one,
a name.