

Photoweeek Northwest
CALENDAR 2016/17—
24 Miniatures,
photos & texts
by *Cliff Crego*

*The “Devil’s Bridge”
on the road over
the Gotthard Pass
between Germany
and Italy,
the Alps*

On the web at . . .
www.picture-poems.com/100



ALL RELIGIONS ARE TRUE / ALL RELIGIONS ARE FALSE

*All religions are true, insofar
as they attempt to attune
and align the spiritual being
of humankind with something greater
than itself, with something divine;
And all religions are false,
insofar as the very thing they
attempt to do they make to
varying degrees impossible.
Clearly, we need to transcend
this contradiction with
something totally new.*

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FREEDOM & LIMIT

■ In *limit*, there is freedom; in *freedom*, limit.
Even the wildest of rivers creates itself
the boundaries of the bed that order its flow.

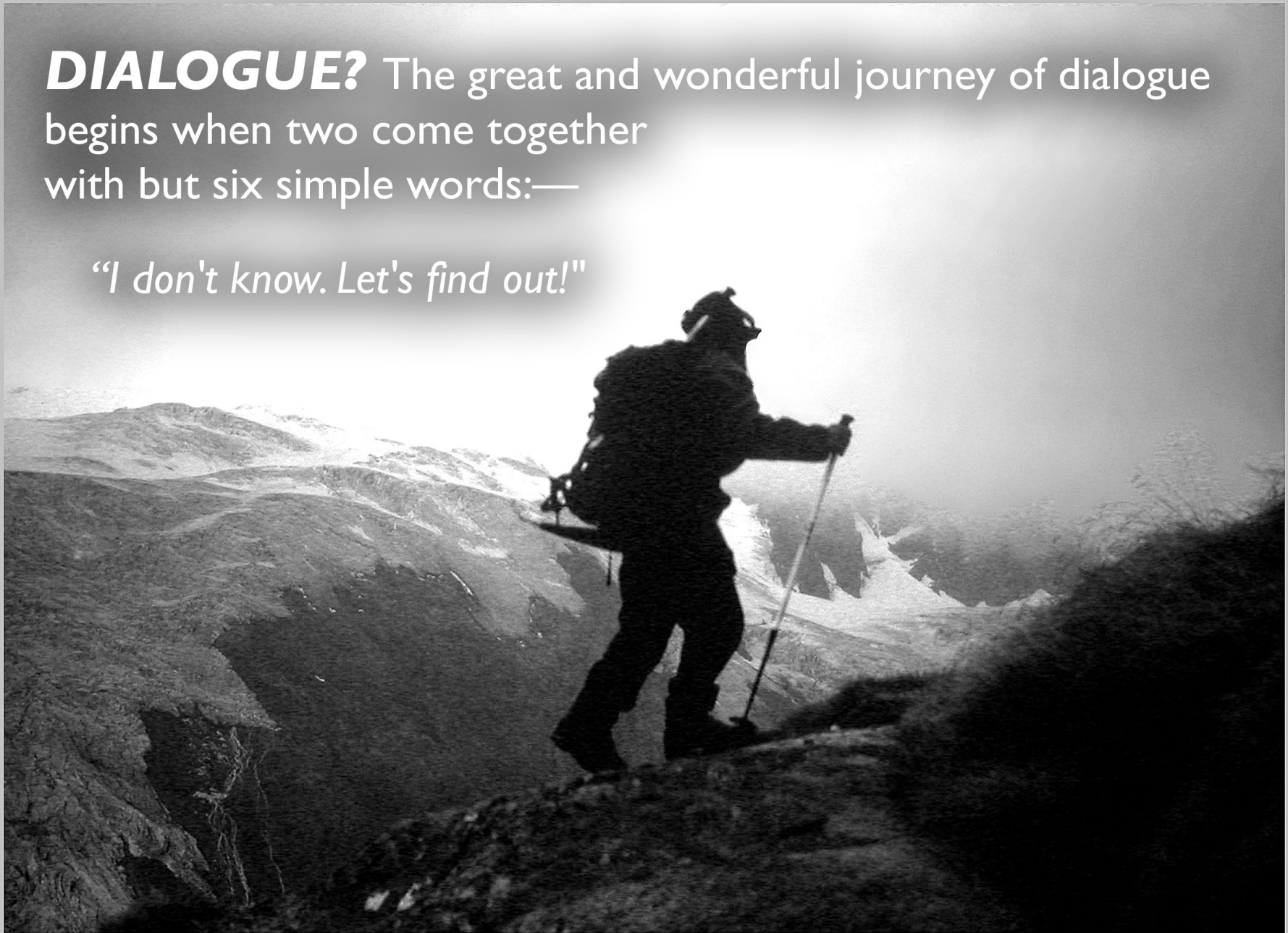


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DIALOGUE? The great and wonderful journey of dialogue begins when two come together with but six simple words:—

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

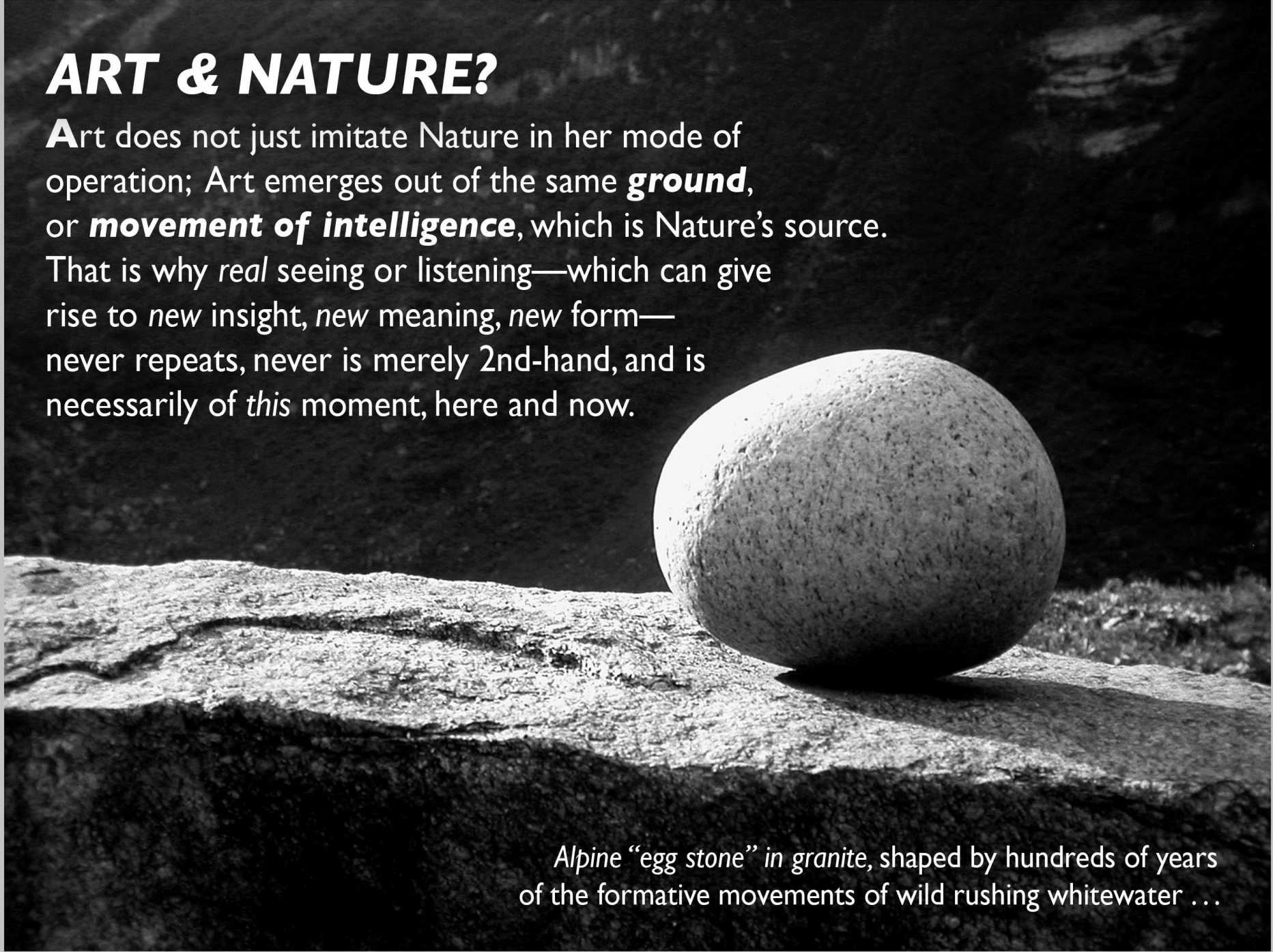


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ART & NATURE?

Art does not just imitate Nature in her mode of operation; Art emerges out of the same **ground**, or **movement of intelligence**, which is Nature's source. That is why *real* seeing or listening—which can give rise to *new* insight, *new* meaning, *new* form—never repeats, never is merely 2nd-hand, and is necessarily of *this* moment, here and now.

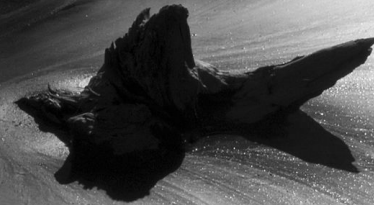


Alpine “egg stone” in granite, shaped by hundreds of years of the formative movements of wild rushing whitewater ...

MEDITATION—*a way of looking*

"Clear water sparkles like crystal, you can see through right to the bottom. Mind free from all thoughts." ~ Han-Shan

Meditation might well be entirely **a movement of taking away**, might well be something like a great watershed of the mind in need of restoration:—remove all the sources of pollution and disturbance, remove all the pits and dams, and we might once again drink freely from the clear flowing waters, once again see something of the mystery waiting for us at the bottom of the pool.



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SEEING NATURAL LIMIT?

In **EXTREMES**, is clarity.

In **EXCEPTIONS**, the new rule.

In **EXCESS**, the contradiction
that portends collapse.



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CULTURE OF COLLUSION?

Part **Disneyland of Make-believe**, part **Church of Money** blessing every form of excess, so long the Devil's ambrosia flows in our veins, we'll gladly assume any assigned role in this game **of playing false**, sanctioning happily even the most obvious of lies. For **to play true**, to ask questions, is to turn off the eye at the top of the pyramid's mesmerizing display.

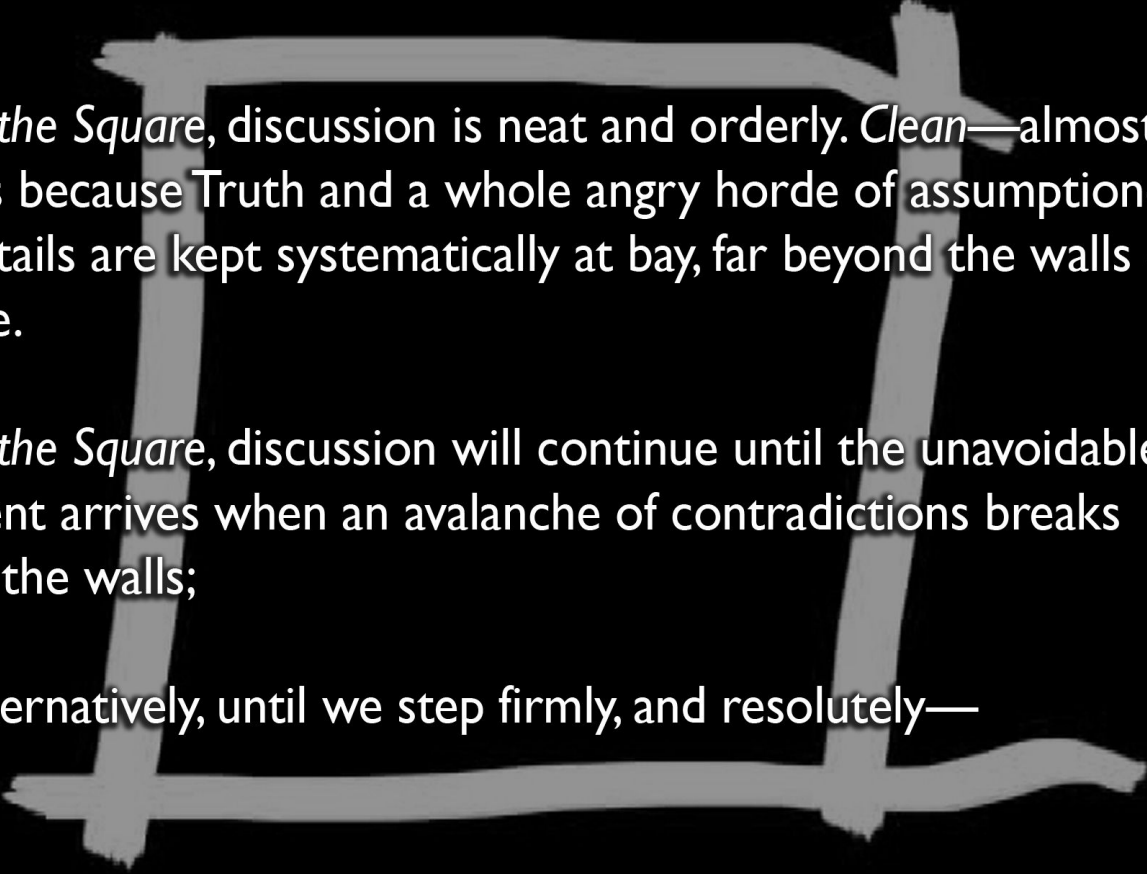
Suddenly, you're out of the game, alone in the cold, and for one terrifyingly long moment, **DEAFENED** by the sound of whirling stars.

CORNUCOPIA RIDGE, above *HALFWAY*, OR, July aspect. In the **mountains**, the fact of Climate Crisis is self-evident, obvious, with disappearing glaciers, and loss of keystone species like Whitebark pines. In the **valleys**, however, thought and thinking are still very much conditioned—held captive—by this **CULTURE OF COLLUSION**

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THE SQUARE OF FALSE RATIONALITY



Inside the Square, discussion is neat and orderly. *Clean*—almost. This is because Truth and a whole angry horde of assumption-threatening details are kept systematically at bay, far beyond the walls of the Square.

Inside the Square, discussion will continue until the unavoidable moment arrives when an avalanche of contradictions breaks down the walls;

Or, alternatively, until we step firmly, and resolutely—

out of the Square.

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Nature knows no *contradiction, no conflict, no waste.*

A religious or spiritual life, therefore, has nothing to do with scripture, or belief, or “gods” of any name or kind, but rather is simply the deeply held intention to live a life without:—



IMAGE: **sonogram** of a **wolf tone** on a cello, natural model of what happens when two tones “*speak against,*” or **contra-dict** each other. In acoustics, this offers a striking and singular example of incipient conflict in uniquely human terms—that is, a contradiction held indefinitely without resolution by our thought and thinking— but now in the physical world.

contradiction, conflict, or waste.

S E P T E M B E R 2 0 1 6

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In *Complementarity*, movement strives naturally not so much to the opposite extreme, but to the balance of the dynamic mean. In balance is the transcendence of duality.



The way of masculine *force* and *control* always moves in a straight line. For it, the slow, feminine curves of the meadow meander are just a waste of time.

O C T O B E R 2 0 1 6

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DIALOGUE & THE UNKNOWN ...

Dialogue is like a journey we make together on foot. Where we do not move as one, we simply stop and start over again. Thus, dialogue, like science, is essentially **self-correcting**, as we watch together our attachments, watch how we identify with our opinions and ideas, and watch how this holding onto the mere past—**the known**—makes us trip, makes us fight, makes us head off in totally mistaken directions, missing altogether, the great and marvelous adventure of the wild, the uncharted, **the wholly unknown**.

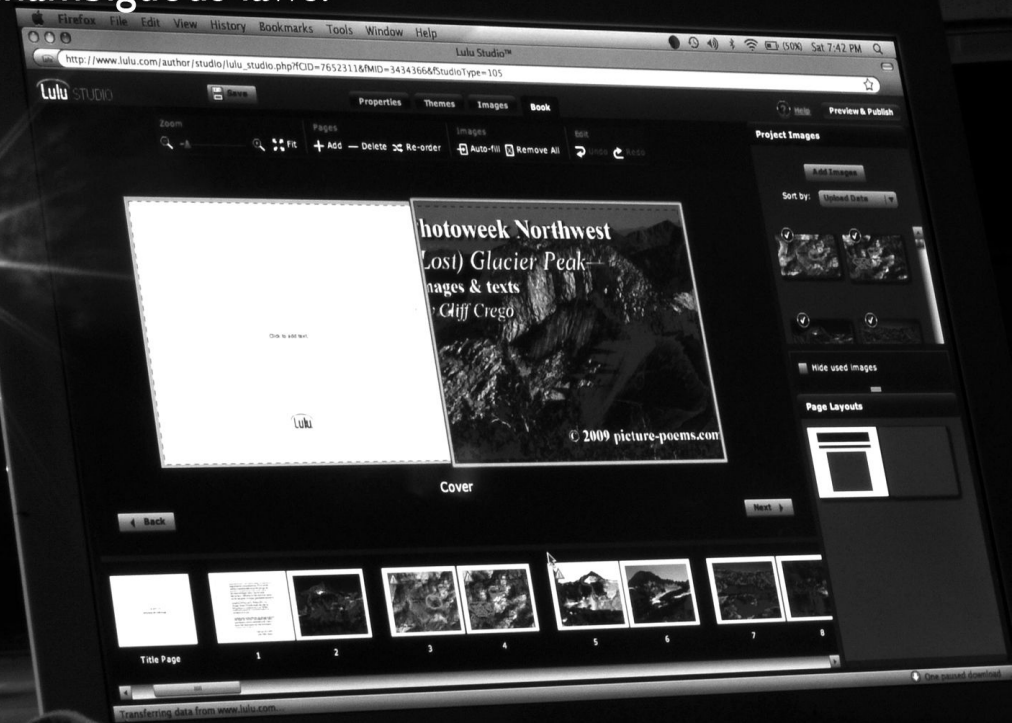
Alpine Tarn in URNERLAND, "*The Eye of the Moor*,"
sacred heart & center of Europe & the European Alps

N O V E M B E R 2 0 1 6

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FREEDOM & LIMITS—*Highways* exist to move traffic, as *Internets* exist to move bits, and *Economies* to move goods. All three are paths of movement, of exchange, of communication. And with all three, freedom flourishes only when it is *strictly limited* by simple, universal, clear, unambiguous laws.

Without clear limits, the worst and most brutish of our natural tendencies shall come to rule the many roads that run between us.



The **Internet & Worldwide Web** are the great and revolutionary common ground of the 21st century. Open, free access—both **free of charge**, and **free from arbitrary restriction**—should be guaranteed constitutionally, and paid for in the same way as the roads are paid for pictured here.

D E C E M B E R 2 0 1 6

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NATURAL JUSTICE?

Just as we can say that *sympathetic resonance* is the beginning of **Love** and **Compassion** in the physical world, we might also say that there are physical principles which are the beginnings of a kind of **natural justice**, as a way of fair and equitable distribution, not merely of resources, but more importantly, of living space and creative life potential. Three key features of natural justice we already see present in the environment generally are the *freedoms of movement, a place to be, and equitable, non-centralized, distribution.* These three freedoms taken together might be seen as a species' **basic rights**, for without them, it is impossible for the natural intelligence of adaptation to work.



Solo ARNICA
(*Arnica mollis*)
The Wallowas

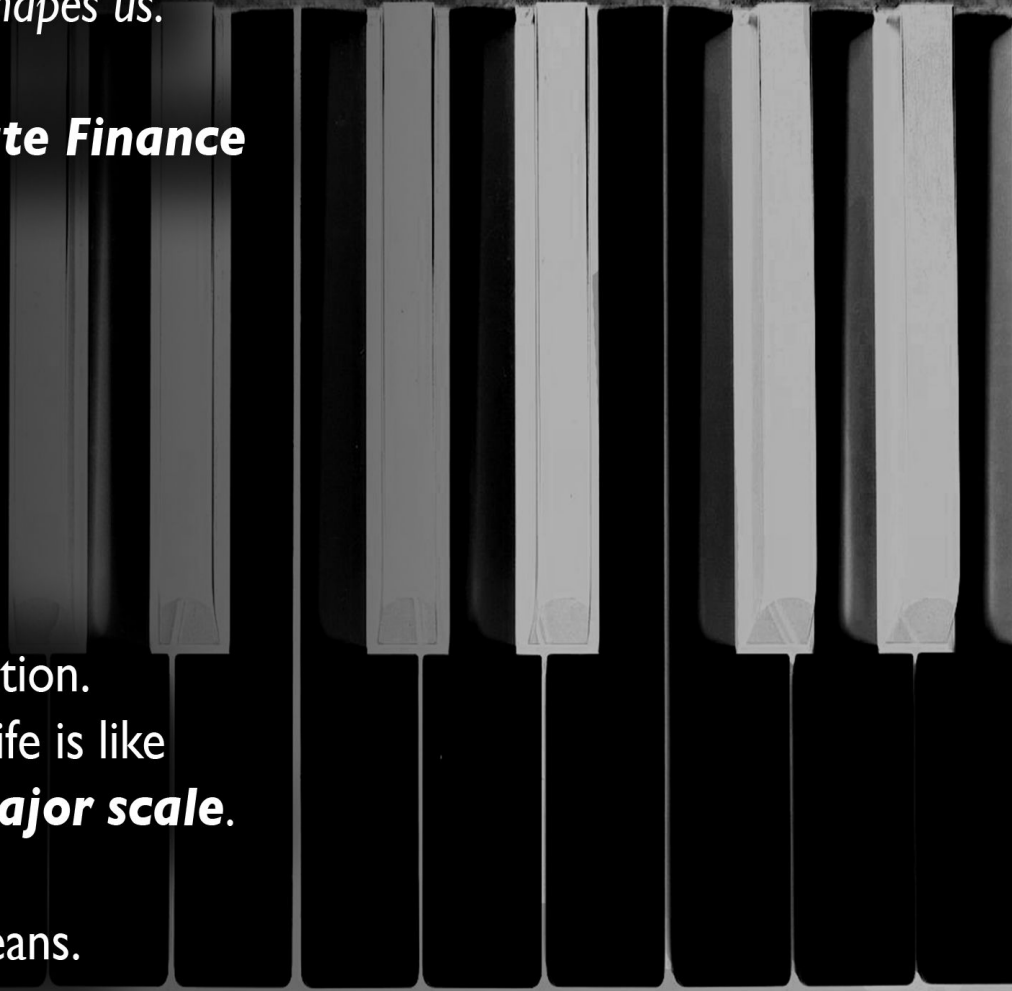
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WHO OWNS THE SCALES OF CREATION?

We shape the world and the world shapes us.

GMO's are to *Life* what **Corporate Finance** is to *Natural Wealth*:—but a front for the control of natural resources by a very few, paid for by the exploitation and persistent poverty of the many, but now expanded to include the whole circle of creation. Patenting the 'building blocks' of Life is like copyrighting the notes of the **C major scale**. It's wrong. It's anti-democratic; It's potentially, slavery by other means.



F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 7

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The privatization of Necessity?

Once the flow of water is in corporate hands, the damming of Freedom cannot be much further down stream.



'Chief Joseph Dam,'
a 1,000,000-dollar-a-day mistake
on the Columbia River...

M A R C H 2 0 1 7

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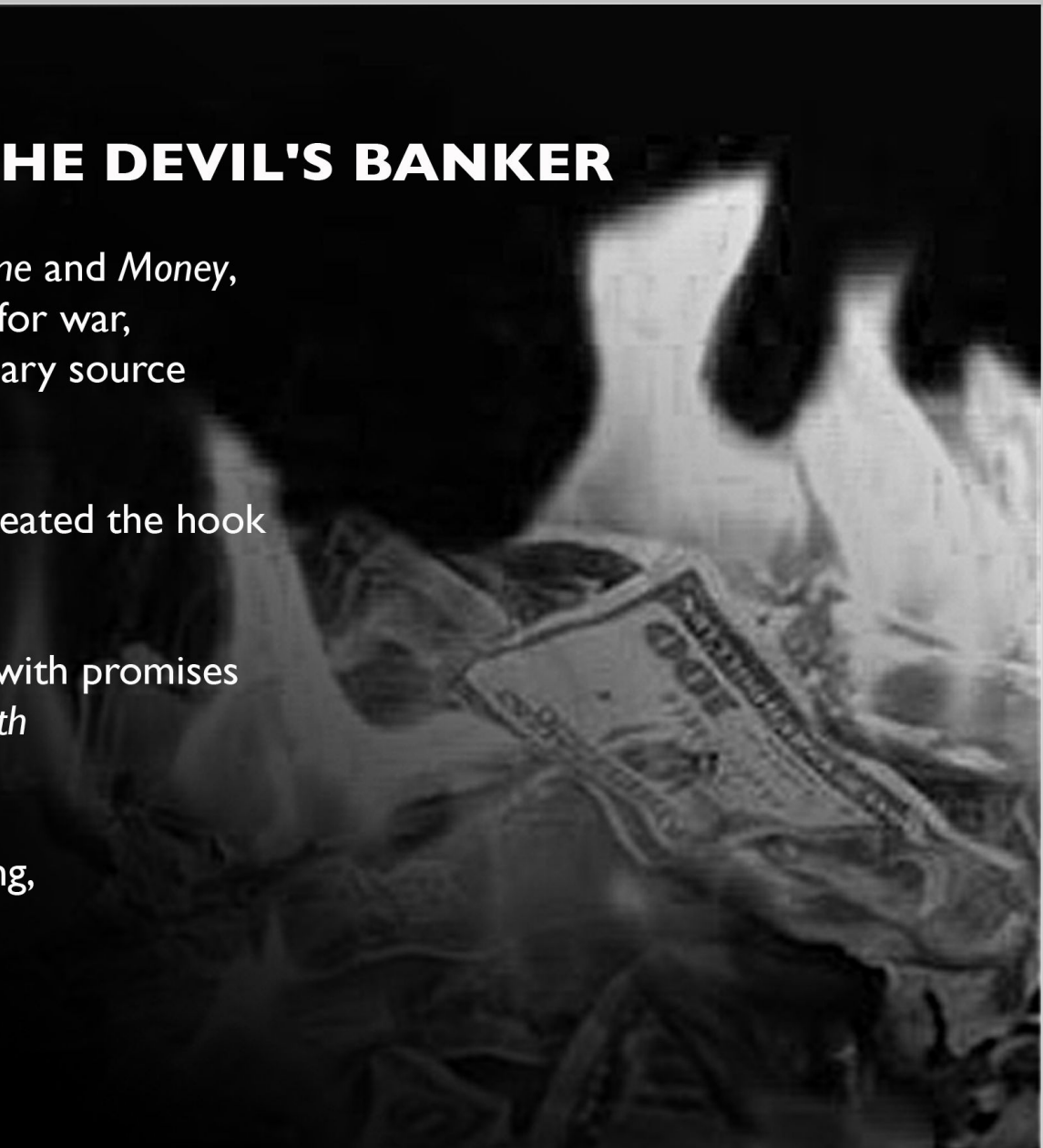
DEBT, WAR & THE DEVIL'S BANKER

Since the beginnings of *Time* and *Money*, war, and the preparations for war, have always been the primary source of government debt.

First, the Devil's banker created the hook of compound interest.

Then, he baited the hook with promises of unlimited loans for *Death* and *Destruction*.

He's been making a killing, ever since.

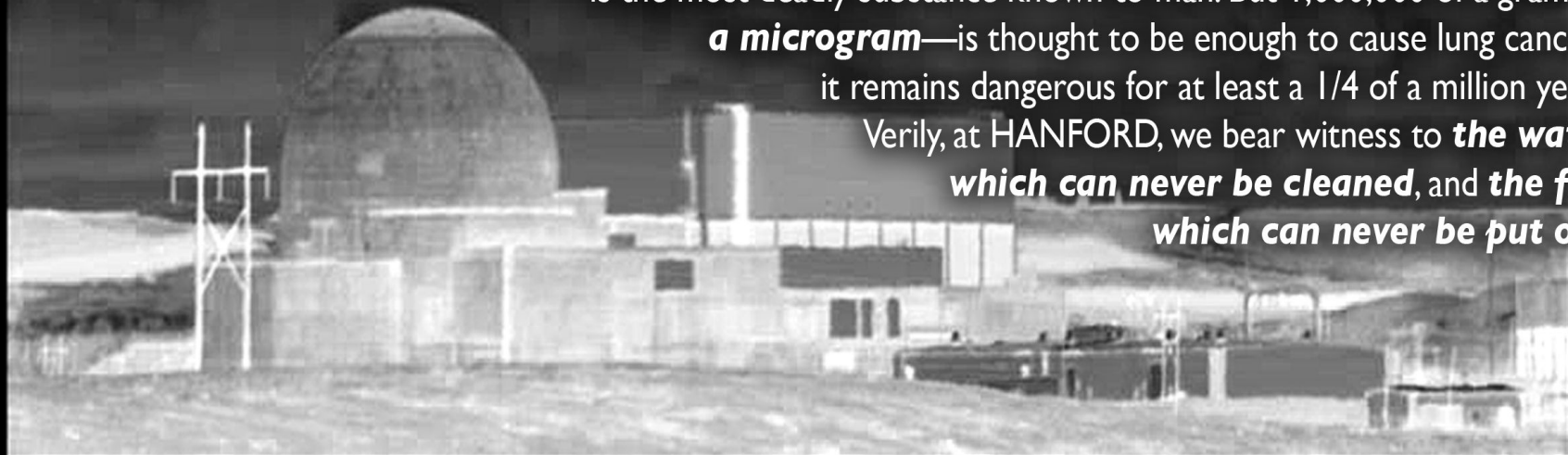


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Deficit wasting? All agree that spending more than we earn is a bad thing. Why then allow wasting more than we clean up? Who shall deal with the **debt of alien artifacts** we leave behind?

HANFORD—This is being written 220 km Southeast and downwind of the so-called **Hanford Superfund Site**. On the great **Columbia River**, it's one of the largest areas of nuclear contamination anywhere in the world. While still in use, HANFORD produced the plutonium for 60,000 weapons, leaving 200,000 m³ of waste in its wake. **Plutonium**, named for the **God of Hell**, is the most deadly substance known to man. But 1,000,000 of a gram—**a microgram**—is thought to be enough to cause lung cancer; it remains dangerous for at least a 1/4 of a million years. Verily, at HANFORD, we bear witness to **the water which can never be cleaned**, and **the fire which can never be put out**.



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How *confused* the ways we wander
once truth is lost,

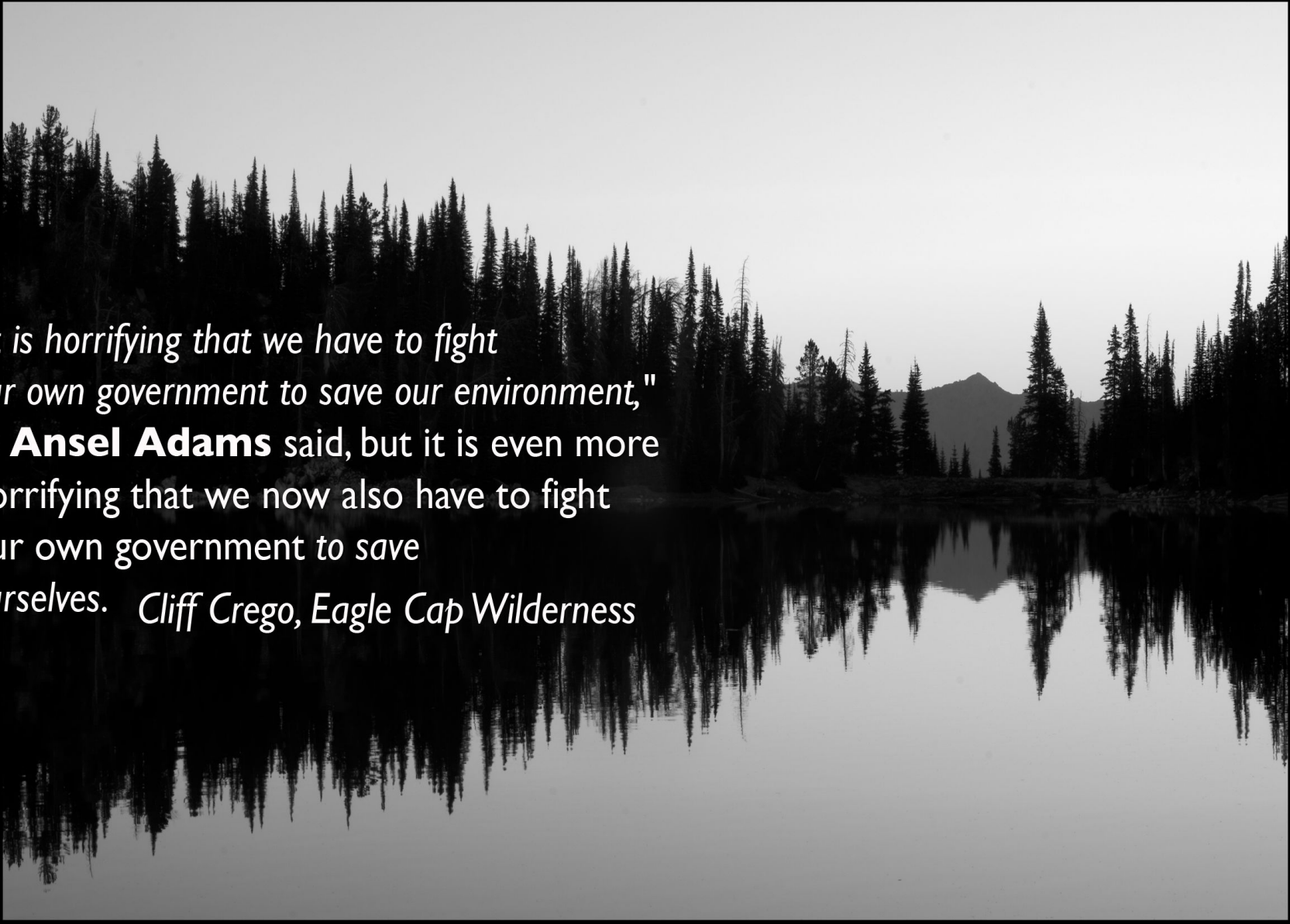
how *needless* the wars,
how *unnecessary*,
the waste.



The horrifying techno-determinism of the weaponized DRONE, the coward's weapon of choice
& new terror of the cult of ***Hear-No-Evil_See-No-Evil's Death-at-a-Distance . . .***

J U N E 2 0 1 7

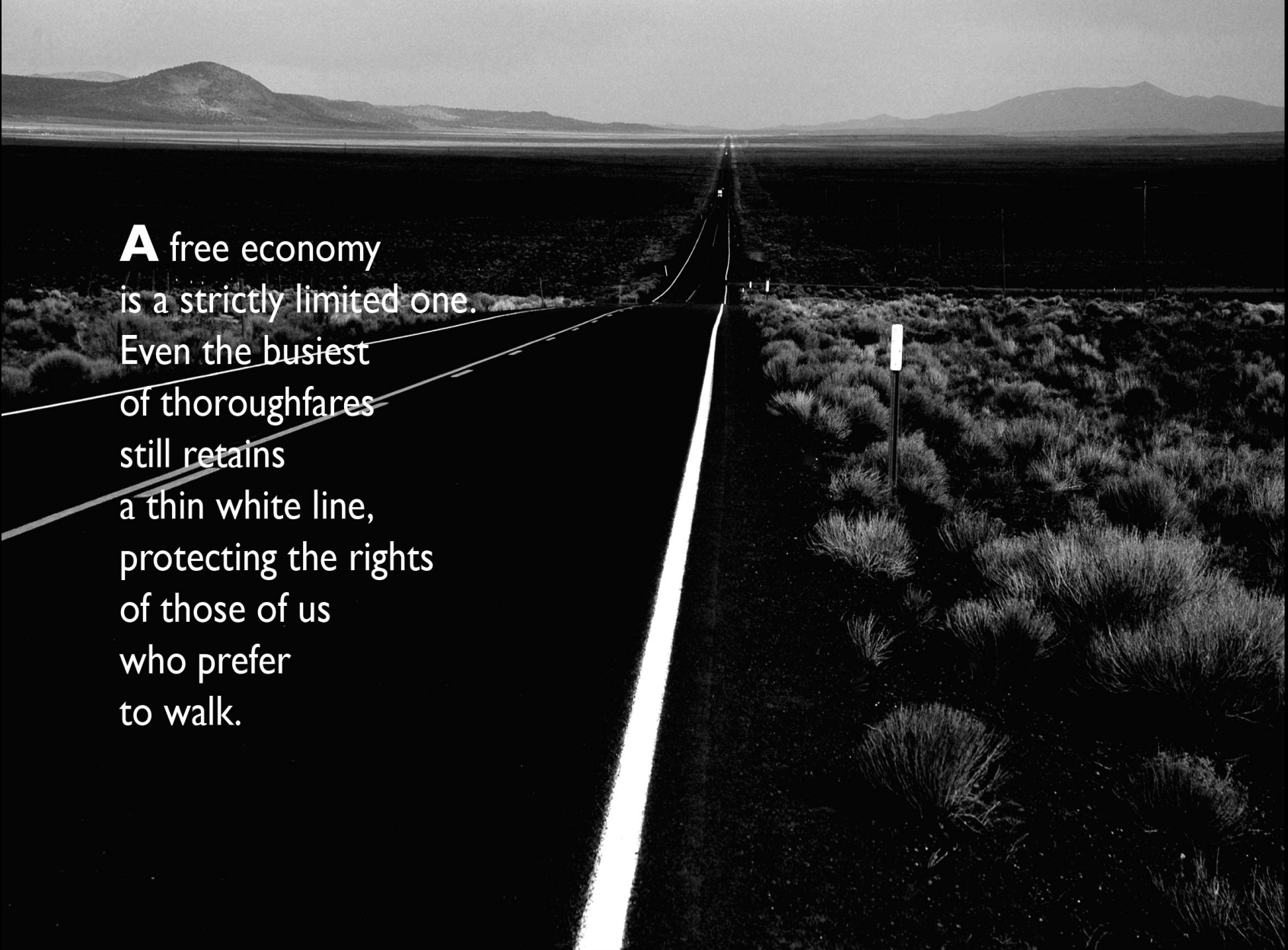
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*"It is horrifying that we have to fight
our own government to save our environment,"
as **Ansel Adams** said, but it is even more
horrifying that we now also have to fight
our own government to save
ourselves. *Cliff Crego, Eagle Cap Wilderness**

J U L Y 2 0 1 7

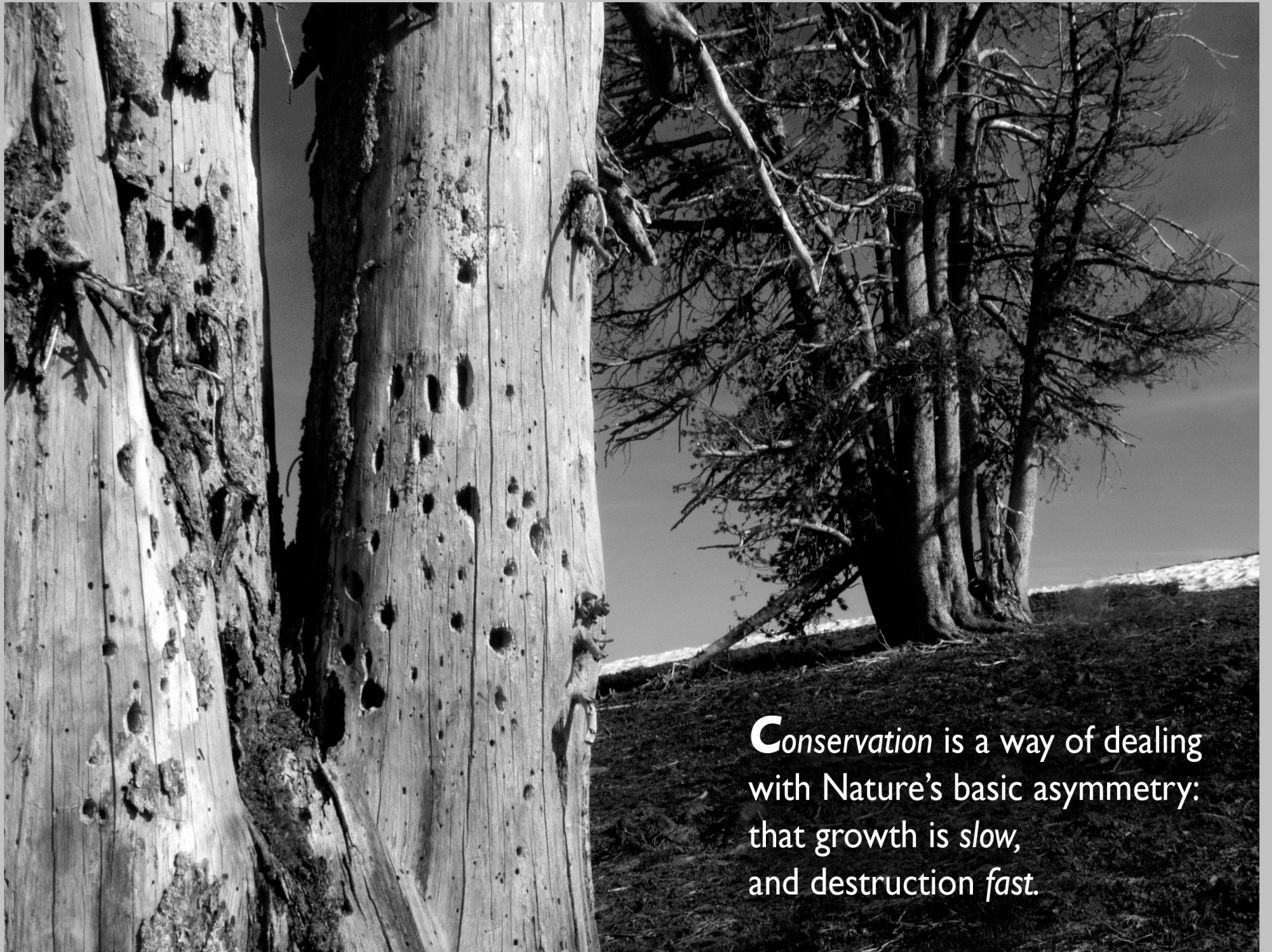
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A free economy
is a strictly limited one.
Even the busiest
of thoroughfares
still retains
a thin white line,
protecting the rights
of those of us
who prefer
to walk.

AUGUST 2017

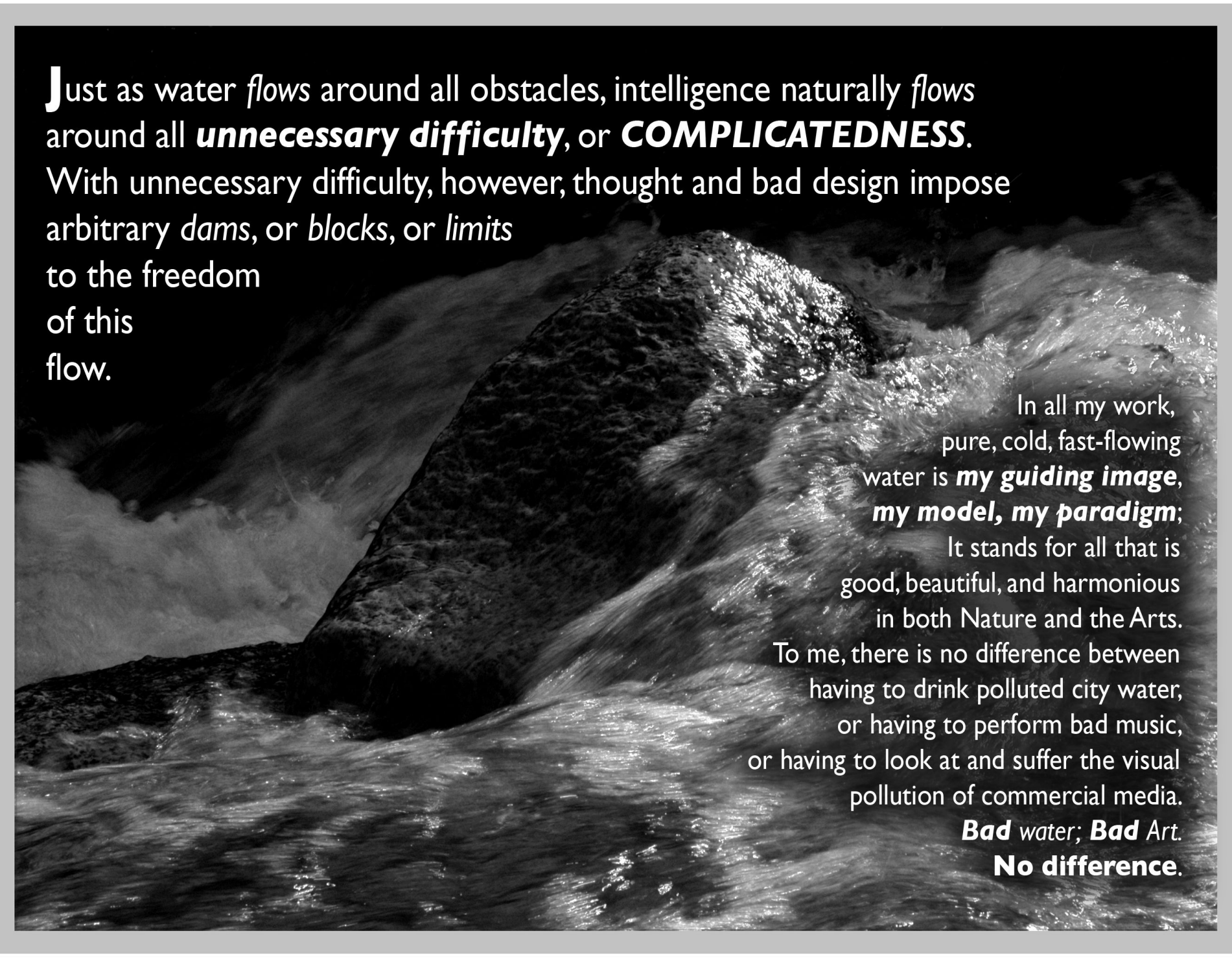
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Conservation is a way of dealing with Nature's basic asymmetry: that growth is *slow*, and destruction *fast*.

S E P T E M B E R 2 0 1 7

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Just as water *flows* around all obstacles, intelligence naturally *flows* around all ***unnecessary difficulty***, or **COMPLICATEDNESS**.
With unnecessary difficulty, however, thought and bad design impose arbitrary *dams, or blocks, or limits* to the freedom of this flow.

In all my work,
pure, cold, fast-flowing
water is ***my guiding image,***
my model, my paradigm;

It stands for all that is
good, beautiful, and harmonious
in both Nature and the Arts.
To me, there is no difference between
having to drink polluted city water,
or having to perform bad music,
or having to look at and suffer the visual
pollution of commercial media.

Bad water; ***Bad*** Art.
No difference.

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ART IN AN AGE OF SPIRITUAL CORRUPTION, *a manifesto*

Art is not its content. Art is *a way of being* that attunes itself to *the good, the beautiful, the harmonious*. Militant resistance to all ugliness, to all violence, to all that dehumanizes the cultural landscape, is how Art like Science, is self-correcting, is self-purifying

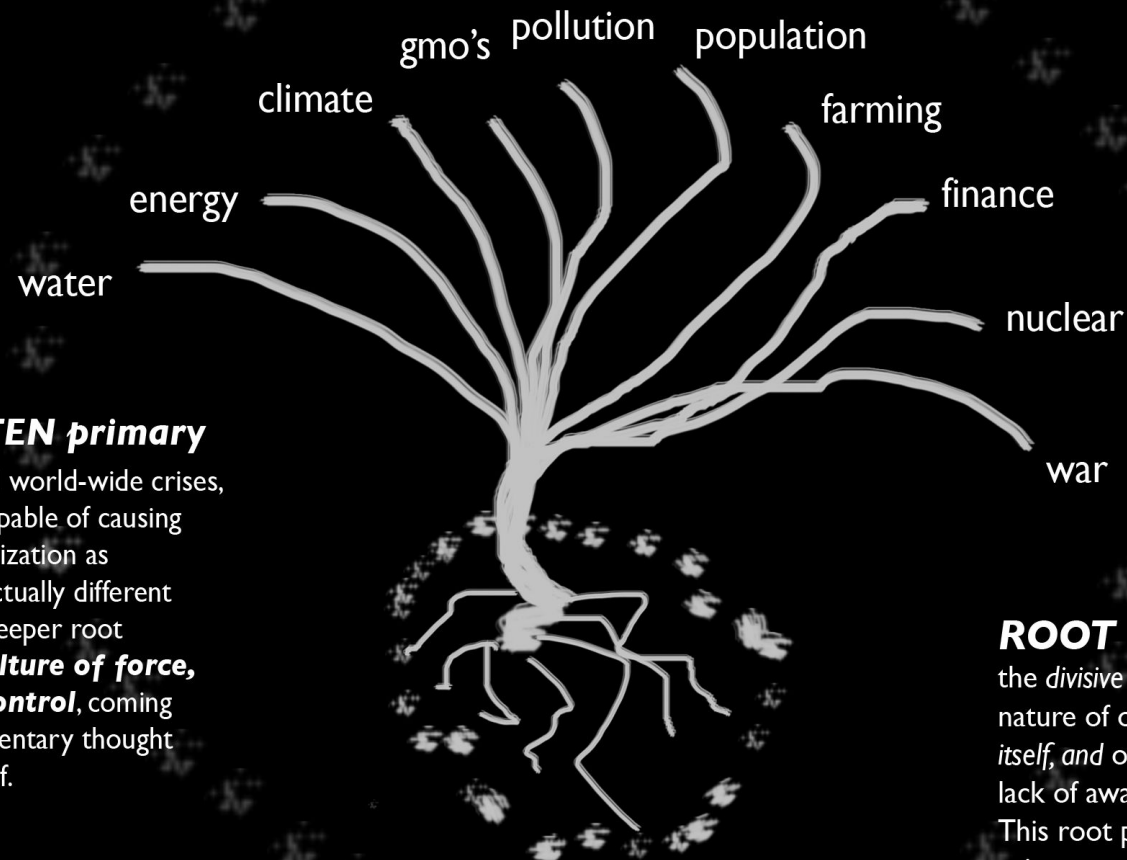
Mountain farming community in the central Alps, under threat by *Climate Change, Forest dieback, Neo-con landgrabs*, and most especially, a more general ***crisis of meaning***.

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PRIMARY PROBLEMS: If we think of **problems as circles**, then *primary problems* are the largest circles we can think about, with a circumference that expands out from the single individual to embrace the whole Earth.

"There are a thousand hacking at the branches of evil to one who is striking at the root."
Henry David Thoreau



THE TOP TEN primary problems, all world-wide crises, all individually capable of causing a collapse of civilization as we know it, all actually different aspects of one deeper root problem: **the culture of force, violence and control**, coming out of our fragmentary thought and thinking itself.

ROOT PROBLEM, the *divisive & destructive* nature of our *thought & thinking itself*, and our general lack of awareness of thereof. This root problem is seen as the primary cause of all the others.

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