



*All men dream: but not equally. Those who dream by night in the dusty recesses of their minds wake in the day to find that it was vanity: but the dreamers of the day are dangerous men, for they may act their dreams with open eyes, to make it possible.*

T E LAWRENCE THE SEVEN PILLARS OF WISDOM 1926



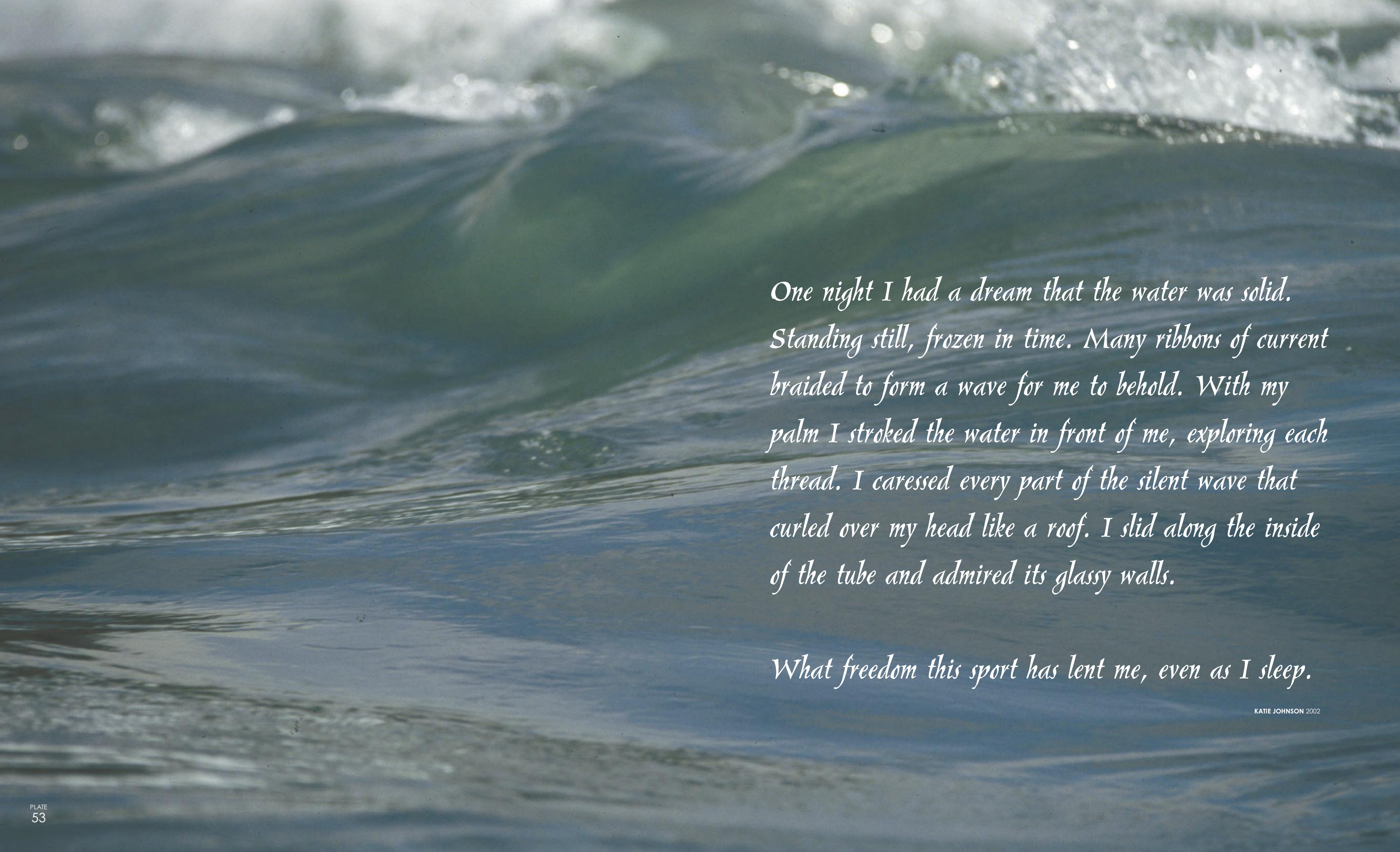
*Difficulties are just problems to overcome after all.*

ERNEST SHACKLETON 1914

PLATE  
50



DIEGO, PIERRO, MARTINO & GABRIEL | UPPER MENDOZA RIVER | ARGENTINA



*One night I had a dream that the water was solid.  
Standing still, frozen in time. Many ribbons of current  
braided to form a wave for me to behold. With my  
palm I stroked the water in front of me, exploring each  
thread. I caressed every part of the silent wave that  
curled over my head like a roof. I slid along the inside  
of the tube and admired its glassy walls.*

*What freedom this sport has lent me, even as I sleep.*

KATIE JOHNSON 2002

# Photographs



FRONT COVER  
Ingrid Schlott surfs in the last of the evening light on the Sjoa River, Norway.

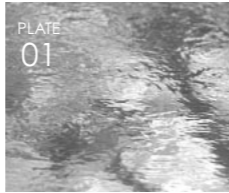


PLATE 01  
Clear water on the Raundalen River shows how pristine the rivers of Norway truly are.



PLATE 02  
The Andes in their full glory at dawn, Argentina.



PLATE 03  
Cheez enjoys some summer playtime on the top wave at Bremgarten on the Reuss River, Switzerland.

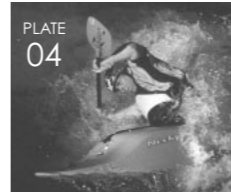


PLATE 04  
Olaf Obsommer catches the last surf of the day at his local wave in Bad Aibling on the Mangfall River, Germany.



PLATE 05  
Cheez launches back in for more sweet lines on another perfect day on the Lower Verzasca, Switzerland.



PLATE 06  
Andy Phillips, Dixie-Marree Prickett, Christie Dobson and Katie Johnson pick their way through the beauty of the Soča River, Slovenia.



PLATE 07  
French team selections underway on the Lot River, Estaingue, one of the most beautiful towns in France.



PLATE 08  
An artists' commune sits high on the hills of the Italian Mediterranean.



PLATE 09  
A Mediterranean house comes to life in the late afternoon sunlight in Taggia, Italy.



PLATE 10  
A rock buttress standing proud, high in Les Hautes Alps, France.



PLATE 11  
Cheez and Andy Phillips relax in a moment of stillness among the chaos of the San Giovanni River Gorge, Italy.

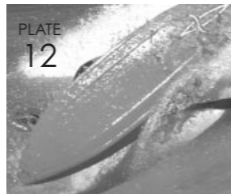


PLATE 12  
Tobias Bersch catches some airtime on his home wave, the Wittelsbacher on the Isar River, Munich. Photo © Olli Grau.



PLATE 13  
Gelati shop - Ice cream Italian style.



PLATE 14  
Andy Phillips rides the curler on the first rapid of the Lower Verzasca River. Located in the Swiss Ticino, the run is an absolute classic.



PLATE 15  
Simon Westgarth pops some air during the 2002 European Championships in Thun, Switzerland.



PLATE 16  
Hurley weir at its best. Three gates open - get ready to fly! River Thames, England.



PLATE 17  
Cheez going flat-out as he races a mountain biker down the granite slabs on the Allt A'Chaoruinn River, Scotland.



PLATE 18  
Cherhill Monument bathed in golden winter light, high on the Wiltshire Plains, England.



PLATE 19  
British heritage at its best - Avebury Stone Circle, Wiltshire, England.



PLATE 20  
Erik Martinsen descends into a void of white foam, on the second slide of the Ulvaa River, Norway.



PLATE 21  
Cheez goes for gold in his C1 on the Skjak Wave on the Otta River, Norway.



PLATE 22  
Norway - open valleys and flowing water everywhere.



PLATE 23  
Andy Phillips searches deep for the last stroke before he drops off the second fall on the Sogndalselva River, Norway.



PLATE 24  
The Skjak Wave on the Otta River, Norway. This is where all of those moves in your head become a reality.



PLATE 25  
Andy Phillips charges hard into the carve on a not-so-perfect day at the Skjak Wave, Norway.

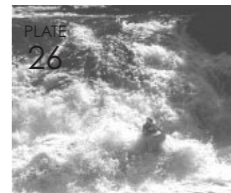


PLATE 26  
Cheez on the last drop of the Sogndalselva River, just before it flows into the Sognefjorden, Norway.



PLATE 27  
Norwegian traffic control slows down the convoy somewhere on the road.



PLATE 28  
Andy Phillips takes his cake and eats it on the Skjak Wave.



PLATE 29  
The fountain in the square at Esfahan shows just some of the beauty to be found in Iran.



PLATE 30  
The Bachrati River in the Iranian Zagros Mountains runs through one of the most impressive canyons in Asia.



PLATE 31  
Cape Point is South Africa's most southwestern headland. Its World Heritage status is not without reason.



PLATE 32  
The Zambezi as it drops over Victoria Falls into the Batoka Gorge. One of the best whitewater rivers in the world.



PLATE 33  
Nico Chassing shows the classic style that makes him the exceptional paddler he is. Rapid #3, Zambezi River, Africa.



PLATE 34  
Children from the village of Mukuni in Zambia are always happy to see visitors.



PLATE 35  
Birds high in the sky above the Chobe National Park, Botswana, Africa.

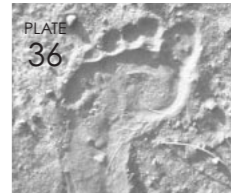


PLATE 36  
Another slow step in time on the banks of the Zambezi.



PLATE 37  
Nico Chassing taking a moment to breathe during a surf in rapid #3 on the Zambezi River.



PLATE 38  
The locals begin to move again in the cooler afternoon temperatures in the square at Essaouira, Morocco.

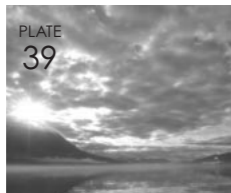


PLATE 39  
In Wrangell, Alaska the Stikine finishes its journey as a river and joins the waters of the Pacific Ocean.



PLATE 40  
Flying high above the Upper Stikine River plateau in the early morning, British Columbia, Canada.



PLATE 41  
The second floatplane of gear lands on Tauton Lake, the source of the Stikine.



PLATE 42  
The author enjoying the tranquility of Desolation Sound in British Columbia. Photo © Olaf Obsommer.



PLATE 43  
The Stikine cuts its way through the earth in northern British Columbia, forming one of the most hostile river canyons on the planet.



PLATE 44  
Anne Hoffman prepares another fine breakfast on the Lower Stikine.



PLATE 45  
Olaf Obsommer and the author pack up camp before heading out for another day on the Upper Stikine. Photo © Olli Grau.



PLATE 46  
Scouting by helicopter. Site Z rapid in the Grand Canyon of the Stikine.



PLATE 47  
Cheez catches an early morning ride under the Golden Gate Bridge, San Francisco Bay, California.



PLATE 48  
Halloween is a big affair in the USA, pumpkins for everybody at the Walmart supermarket.



PLATE 49  
Bryan Kirk surfing Geek Wave on the Upper Gauley, Summersville, West Virginia.



PLATE 50  
Diego, Piero, Martino and Gabriel search for a clean line through the canyon on the Upper Mendoza River, Argentina.



PLATE 51  
The tranquility of Lago Yelcho close to the Rio Futaleufu reflects the stunning beauty of this quiet Chilean valley.



PLATE 52  
Brenda playing on the exposed granite outcrops in southwestern Mexico.



PLATE 53  
Flowing water on the Rhone River in Lyon, France. Utterly mesmerising.



PORTRAIT  
The author on the way to Mexico. Taken in Texas, USA. Photo © Byron Lester.



The beauty and mystery of the river has quenched people's thirst for adventure since the dawning of time. From the kayaker that chooses to ride her waters to the artist that paints her, she provides a source of energy that nourishes the soul.

L'Eau Vive is a photographic journal of waters around the world; it will take you on a pictorial journey through Africa, Europe, Asia and the Americas. The photography and words will resonate deeply within the souls of paddlers and all those who appreciate the grace of the river.



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