



# *FREE SPIRIT*

## **MESSAGES**



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*... An Uplifting Wind Beneath Your Wings To Carry You Through These Challenging Times*

**JUNE 2013**

**"SIMPLICITY"**

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## *Life Can Be This Simple...*

**Thanks to my father,** I've stood knee-deep in rivers since I could walk. The peace and solace of fly fishing has taught me far more about Life than "formal education" could ever impart. Allow me to share a little piece of my soul's watery journey...

## IT TAKES A RIVER

Sometimes it takes a river  
to unwrap the odd gift  
of a human life,  
yet ribbon by ribbon  
by river's sliding silver rift,  
the precious package comes untied.

In the soft fog of an endless becoming,  
some find it hard to know when  
the slippery path is finally underfoot,  
except in watery reflection.

Beneath the shadow of a sky-bound pine  
one easily forgets— *all* grandeur springs  
from a tenacious tangle of tiny roots  
far beneath the surface of things.  
Only when a river swallows half of me,  
can I, at last, remember...

There are many ways to find our face  
and learn our truest name,  
but the purest, surest way perhaps  
is to stand alone in fluid silence.

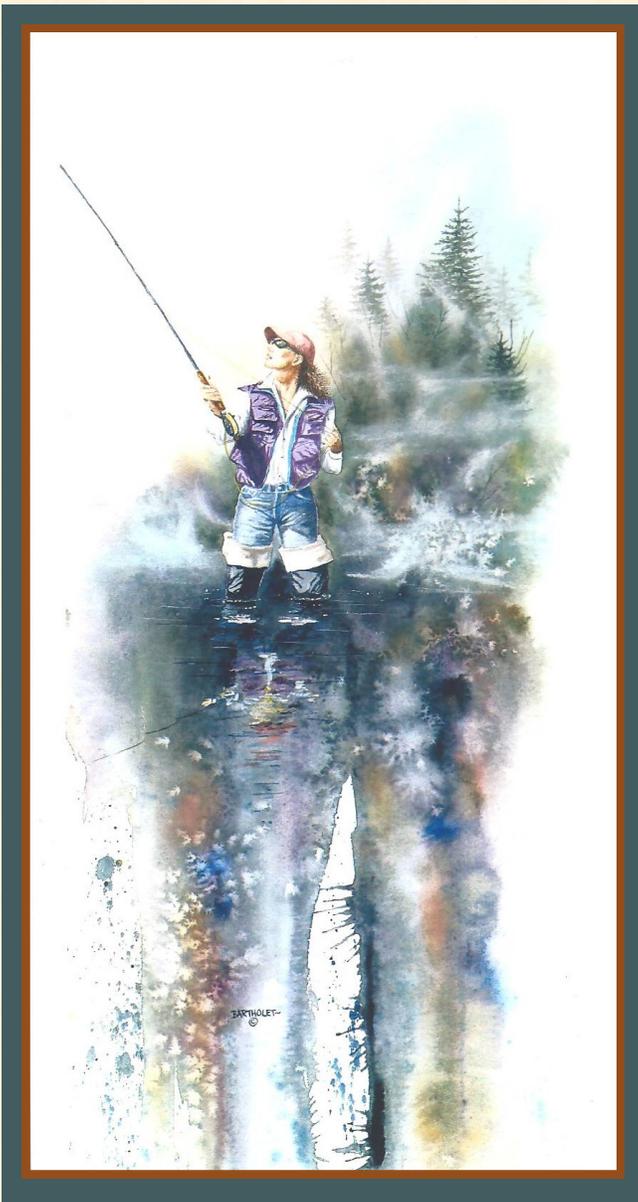
How much has been retrieved  
on wisp of feather riding breeze,  
settled still on morning glass!

How many breathless hours  
bequeathed to rising trout,  
but keen excuse for wading farther out  
toward shadowy realms  
in search of *me!*

If ever I knew a soulful friend,  
it surely was the wily Brown  
who pulled me deep and held me there  
long enough to finally drown  
all I was *supposed to be...*

Oh, sacred gift of primal gill and fin,  
loan me just one borrowed hour  
to swim beyond these mortal shores,  
set a weary spirit free!

God knows it takes a river...



— Artist, Dave Bartholet



May this humble offering inspire  
The Extraordinary Being  
You *already* are...

Many Blessings,  
*Teryl "T" Johansson*

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