



The tendency of a solvent to pass through a semi-permeable membrane, like the wall of a living cell, into a solution of higher concentration, so as to equalize concentration on both sides.

Water proves the porous quality of life. Our geometric thinking sorely needs water in order to make sense of nature. You and I, dear reader, are just another body of water. The earth is crawling with billions of us pondlets, and somehow, when we swim on two feet across our habitats, our skin keeps us from flowing altogether back out to sea and cloud. Maybe we should replace Emerson's word *Nature* with *Waterworld* so we fully appreciate its universal and ecological force.

Water is a soft jackhammer. As Vergil put it in his epical dactyls: *gutta cavat lapidem non vi sed saepe cadendo*. To put it in the musical motion of a gorge, the stressed syllables go on top with the unstressed as undercurrent:

gut vat dem vi, sae den

\ta ca/ la-pi/ non sed \pe ca/ \do.

The literal translation would be: a drop of water (as in GUTTural) hollows out (exCAVATes) a stone (LAPIDary) not by force (VIolence), but by frequently falling (CADENce). Getting away from the English cognates and preserving the dactylic rhythm of the line, i

trust you can feel the waterfall itself in my translation: waterdrops / hollow not / rock by force, / but by frequently falling.

The first step into the new age is to see that boundaries in human minds are almost all permeable. Between every two seemingly opposing concepts there is an equilibrial force. Thus, races mix like water, dissolving all purities into combinations with new and greater force so that biologically there is no such thing as race--only the impositions of cultural feudalisms.

Water flows, embraces, soaks in, seeps out, and dissolves us. The whole table of the elements is the essential cipher of our universe. Our chemistry is our US-ALL, the ultimate common ground of being, a mathematical mystery like the proportions of $C_6H_{12}O_6$ in glucose. What are the chances in a starburst of that proportion, that fitness by which our planet is be-leaved? The attractions of negative ions of oxygen for positive ions of hydrogen brings the water molecule together, causes the coherence of us all, sets the stage for the rollercoaster ride of water in our cellular world. Water is the original internet.

The river within: falling, raining, rising, steaming; breaking as spring ice, hailing, drizzling; snoring and sneezing, hissing, pissing, whipping and slurping; sloshing and drinking, crying, sweating, flowing, or bleeding; sipping and kissing, washing, loving, freezing, bathing while spraying, tumbling, thundering, squabbling, splashing or condensing; then finally, discharging, snaking, reflecting, circulating, and more so.

How can we be so hard, so stuck in our thoughts, when 70-75% of our cells are water and surrounded by water? With the river below and the river above and the river around and down to the sea, the river within flows through it all by the fitness of the body electric. Thanks to Walt Whitman for starting up the music of our waterflowing world.

Sometimes when words on the page encourage objectivity and atomism, they can dam up our thoughts and cut off systemic or cyclical thinking. There's a weed in my grass or a spider in my closet, so zap it. A road through here will improve our traffic patterns, so build it. A dam right here will harness cheap and clean water power, so let's plug that valley.

O	<i>The force that drives the water through the rocks</i>
S	<i>Drives my red blood; that dries the mouthing streams</i>
M	<i>Turns mine to wax.</i>
O	<i>And I am dumb to tell the hanging man</i>
S	<i>How of my clay is made the hangman's lime.</i>
I	Dylan Thomas
S	from "The Force That Through the Green Fuse Drives the Flower"