The Year 2023
A PORTFOLIO BY TRISTAN TODD

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Opening Thoughts

By all objective measures and metrics, 2023 should be considered a terrible year for me. It proved to be a very difficult year to build my landscape photography business: my workshop with Blake Randall didn't sell as many seats as we'd hoped; I had several expensive dental emergencies and spent too much time on antibiotics; I had horrible food poisoning during a photography trip/vacation; I was sick multiple times and dealt with crushing stress, in the literal sense of the word. I came extremely close to giving up.

Yet somehow I firewalled my love of photography from all of the above and was even quite productive in terms of number of photographs made. I didn't get out quite as much as I would have liked, but I did make the most of when I was able to get out, for the most part. On the business side of things, I managed to push through the weeds in autumn and feel quite optimistic going into 2024, which is a first! I could not have done this alone.

If it weren't for my incredible friends and family, this year truly would have been a terrible one. Whether it be a nice phone call catching up; a friend telling me how much they love my work; helping me learn advertising and marketing; making a trip possible or any number of other things, I am incredibly grateful for their support and friendship.

As I look back at the year, one thing that has remained constant is this feeling of hitting a wall with my forest photography. Other people might call it a plateau, but to me it feels like a solid wall. Over the last couple months I've finally felt like I've made progress on breaking through as I try to see the forest in different ways and take different approaches, both in composing and in editing. Time will tell if this is actually the case or if I was just imagining it!

With that out of the way, you might be wondering why I've made an ebook instead of just posting on my website! My original plan was to put together a blog showcasing my favorite works of the year, but I thought about it a bit and changed my mind. The ebook portfolio is an approach more photographers have been taking because it allows for a higher quality viewing experience with no distractions.

The photographs in this ebook are grouped by location type, with the "Mountains" and "Delta" chapters further subdivided by region or park. The "Forest" chapter is not subdivided, as I felt it would be detrimental to how I wanted to arrange the photos in relation to one another. I truly hope you enjoy browsing through these photographs.

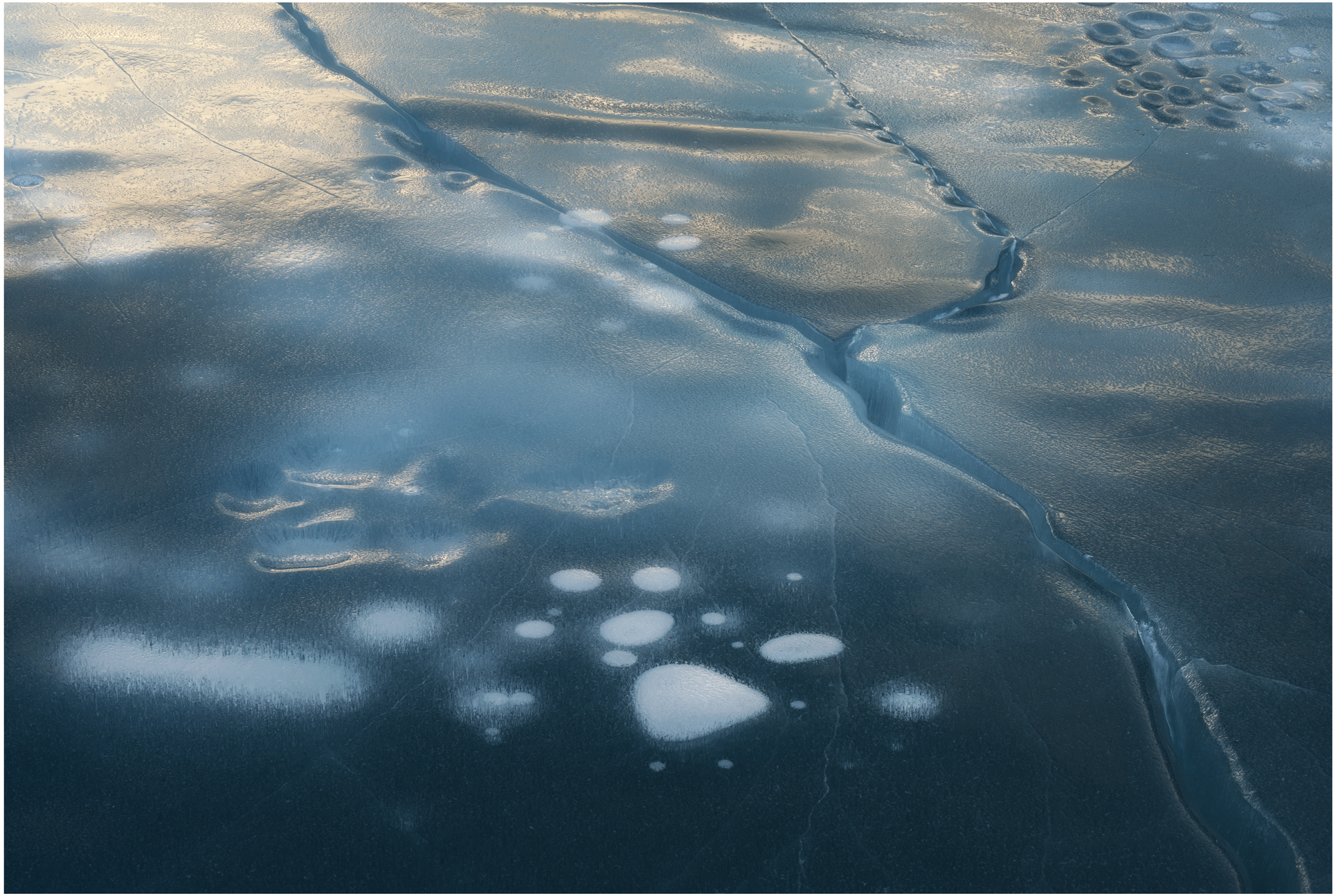
Happy new year,
Tristan

Photo credit: Matt Jackisch

MOUNTAINS

ROCKY MOUNTAINS.....5-10
COAST MOUNTAINS.....11-46

CRYSTAL HEART



FRACTURE

NOW OR NEVER

VELVET

FROZEN EYE

GLACIAL KISS

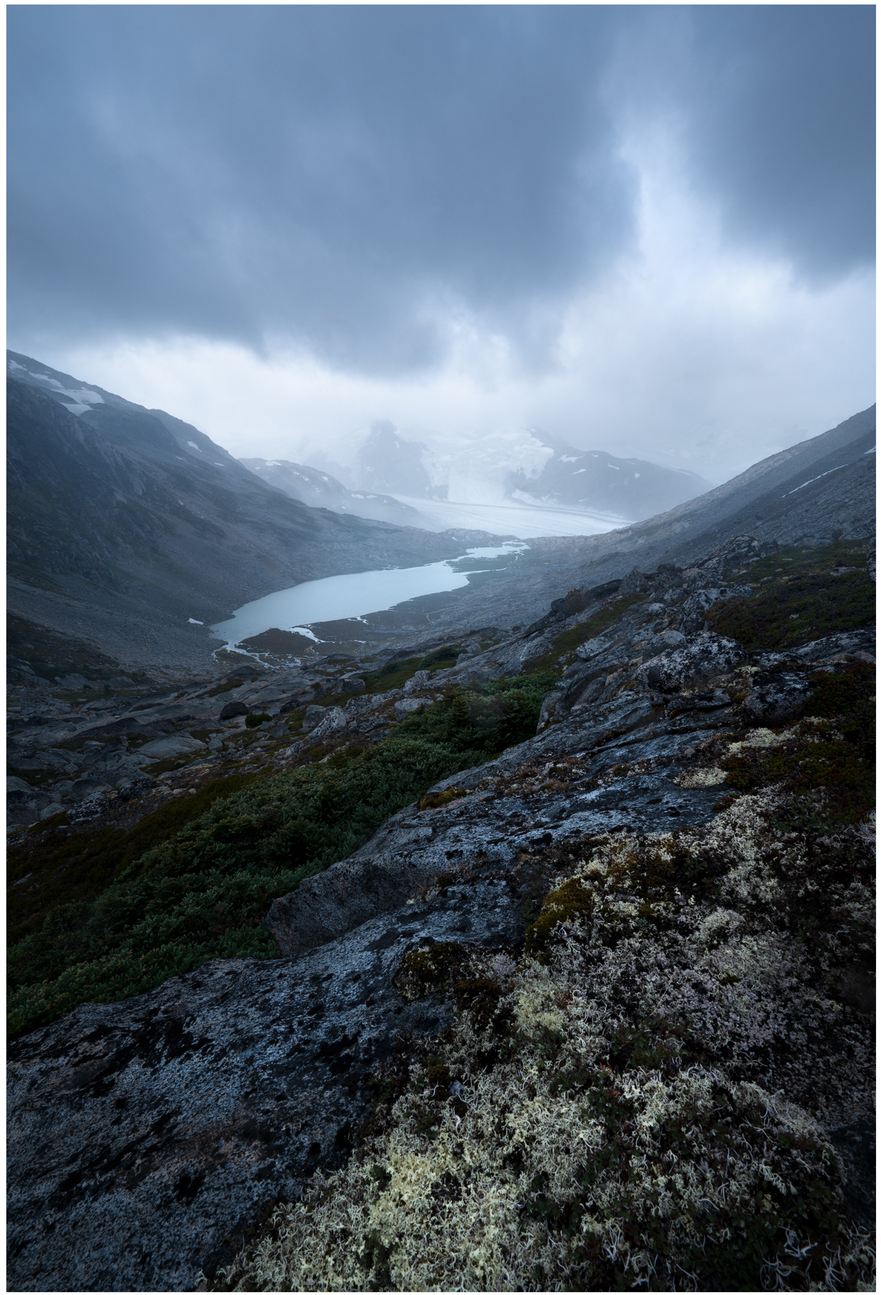
THE FINAL COUNTDOWN

FROST NOVA

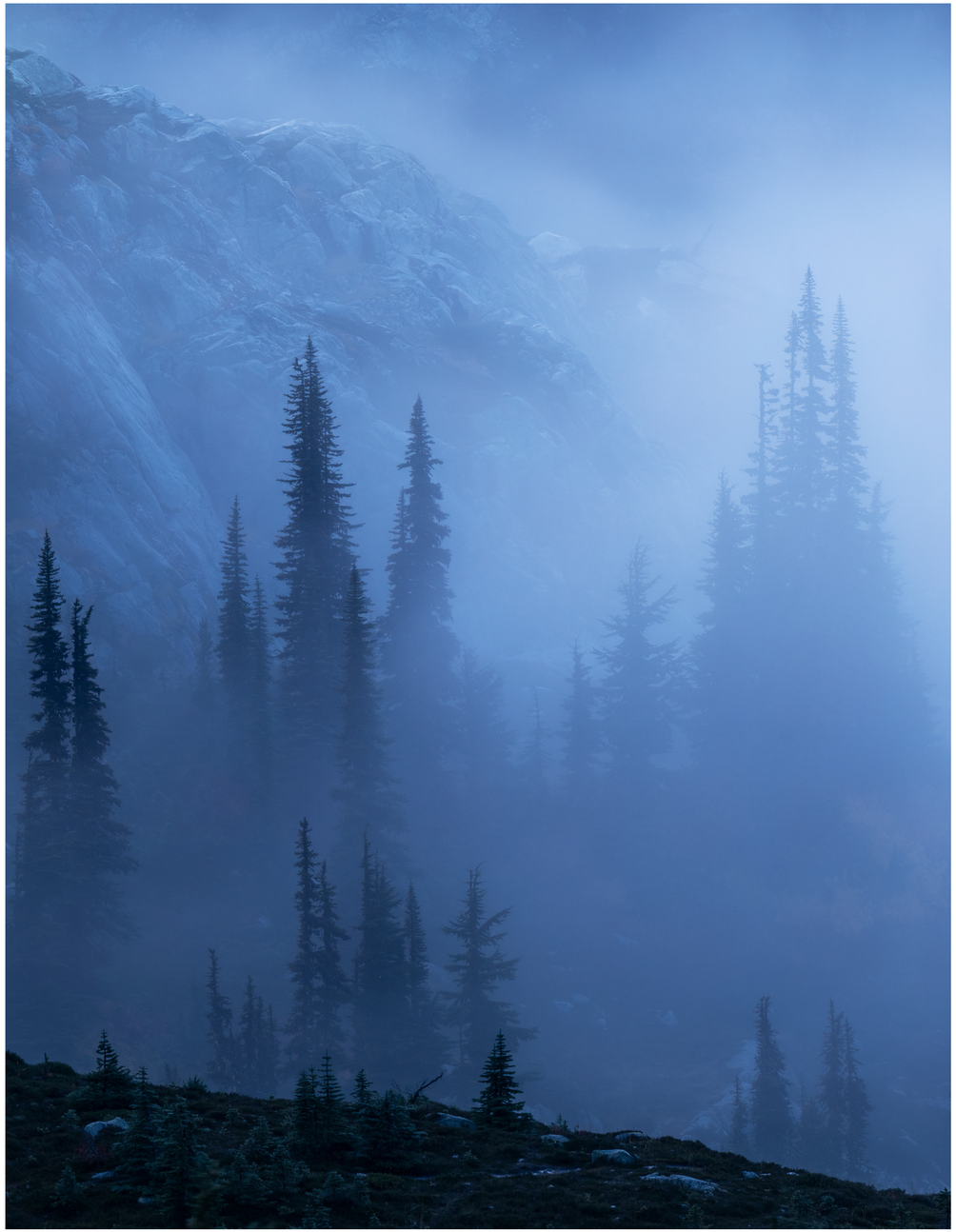
THE ICE TOMB

VOID OF HOPE

ICEFIELD'S EDGE



TRUTH REVEALED



PHANTOM OF THE MORAINE

STONE OF TEARS

BIERSTADT LIGHT

OCTOBER TIDE

DELTA

NORTH 40 PARK 47-52
BOUNDARY BAY PARK 53-62

SILENT DEVOTION

WEEPING WILLOW

WEATHER THE STORM

DANCE IN THE AIR

LONELY DAY

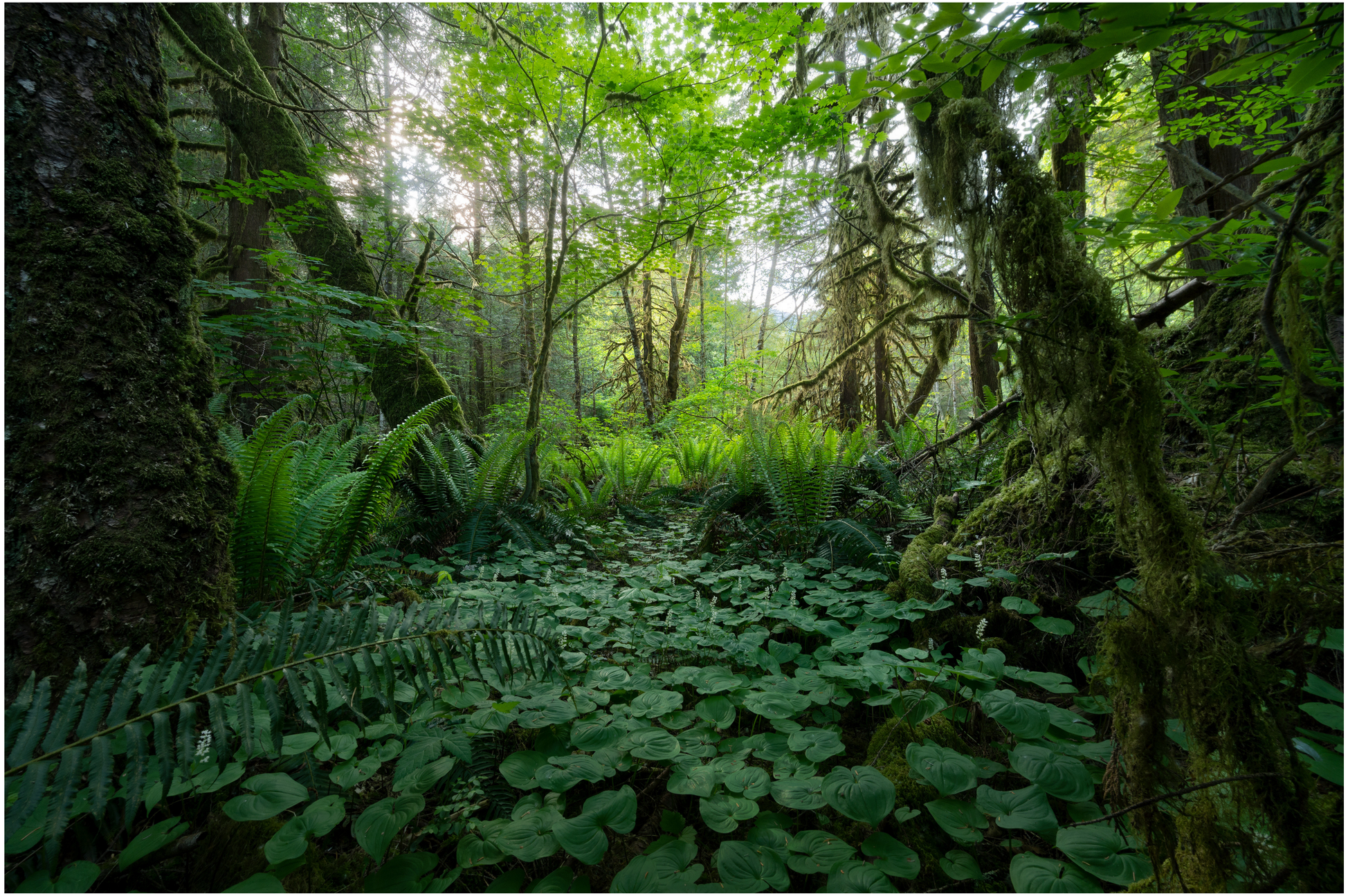
A STRANDED SOUL

INSOMNIE

MORNING COMFORT

RAINFOREST

NORTH SHORE MOUNTAINS & GOLDEN EARS RANGES



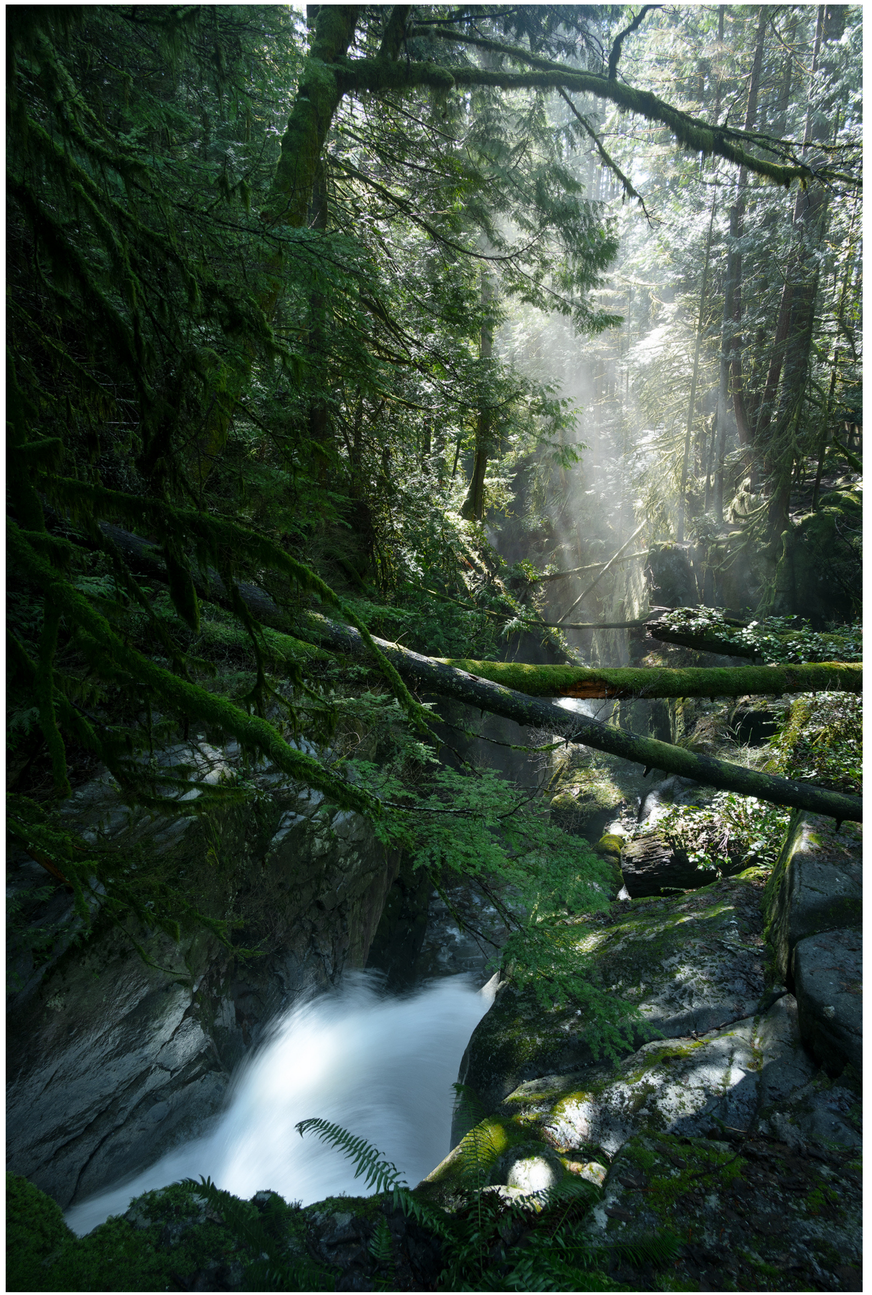
SPRINGTIME BLISS

THE NORTH SHORE GIANT

GREEN FOREST

OVERGROWTH

MOSSY FINGERS



THE MIND FLAYER

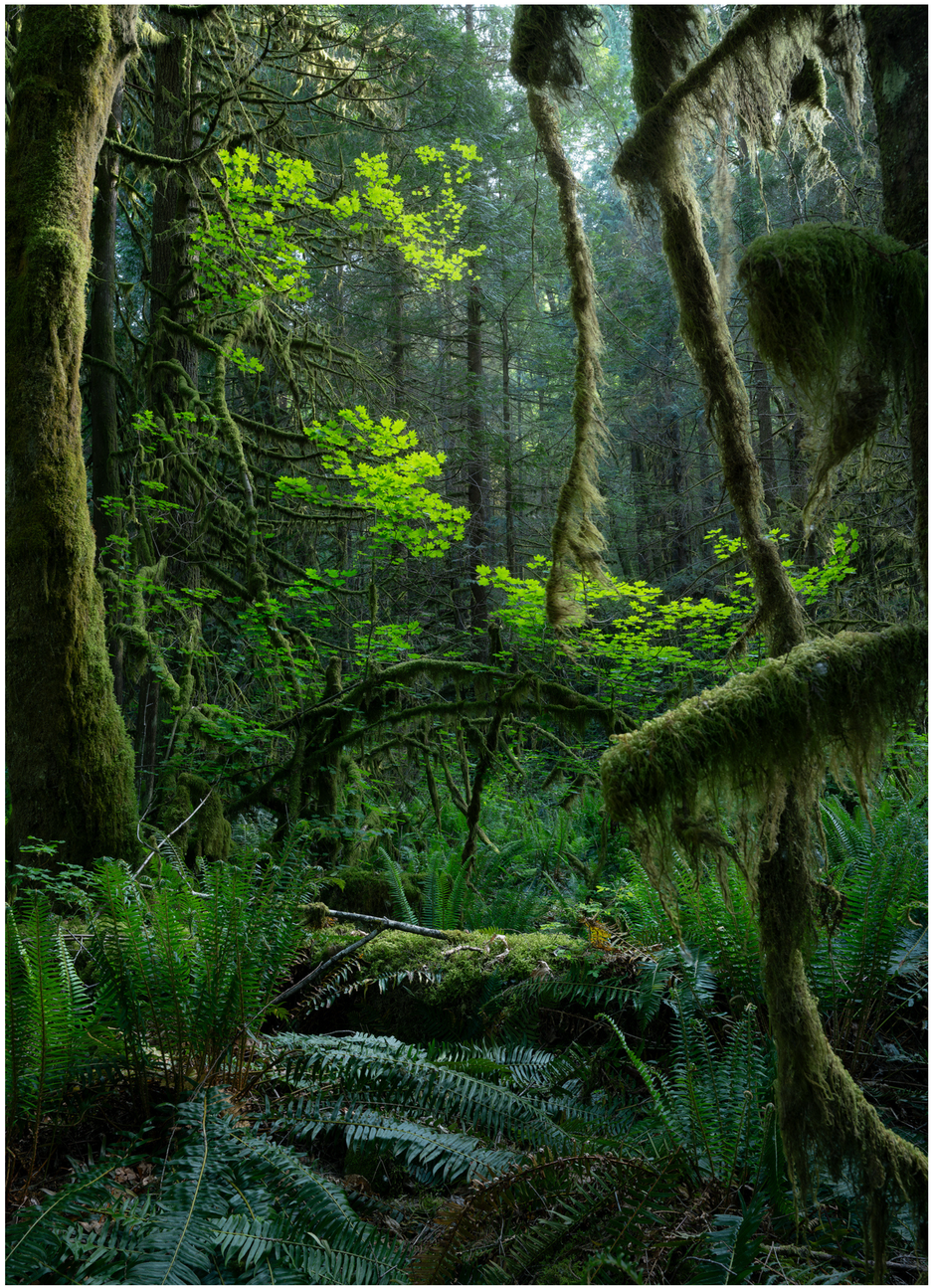
GENTLE GUARDIAN

SACRED REALM

HIGH FLOW

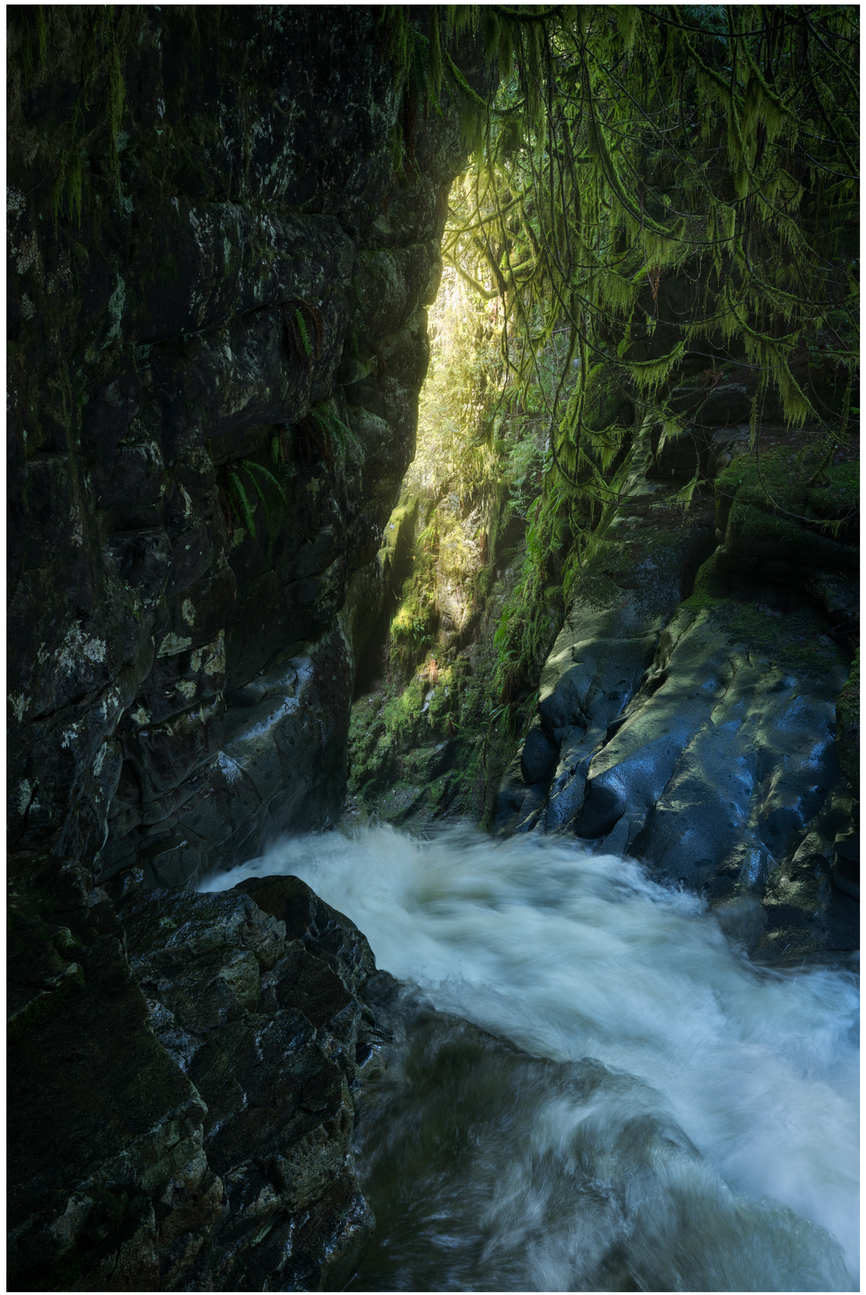
RIVER OF LIFE

TEEMING WITH LIFE

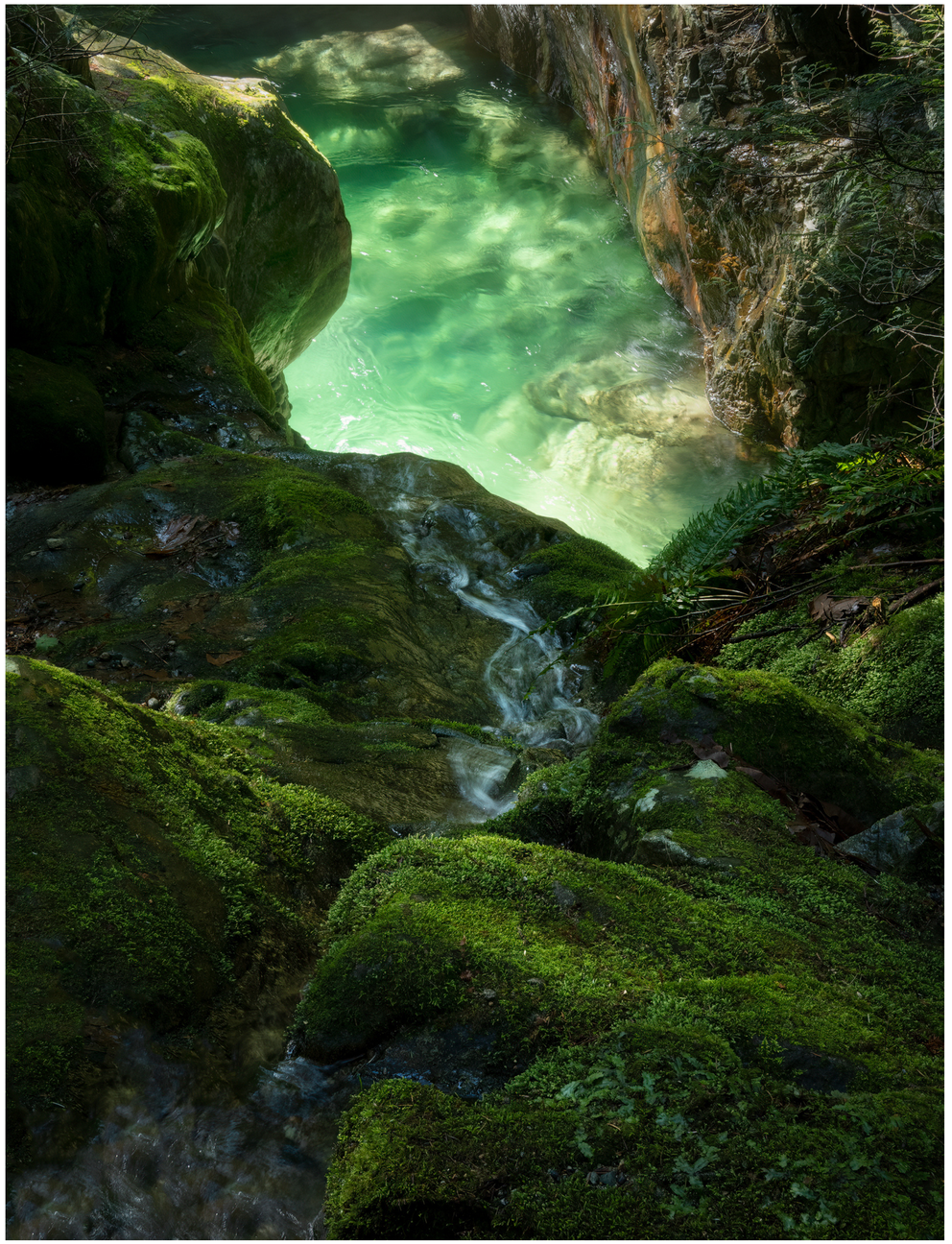


WILDWOOD SYMPHONY

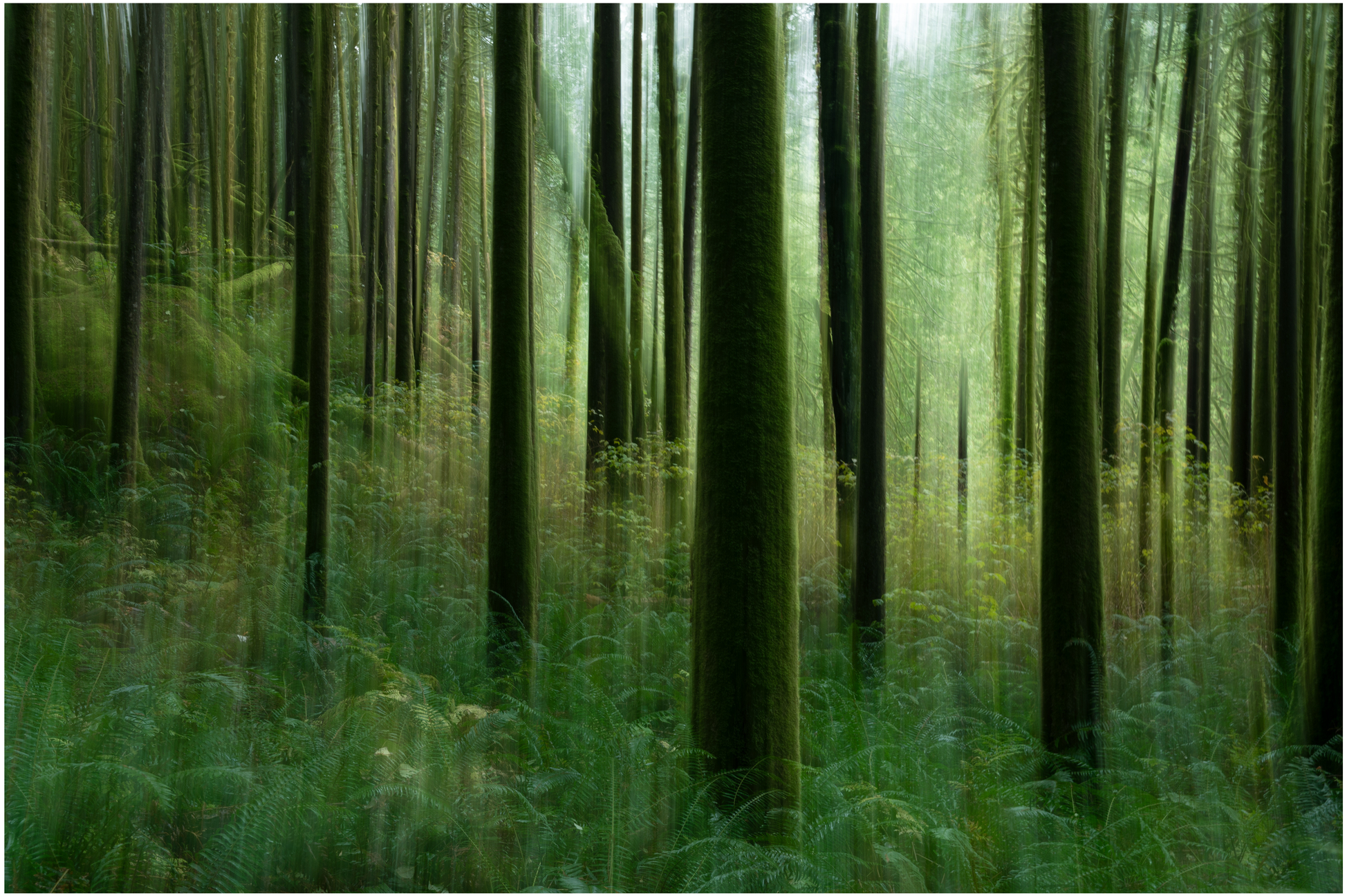
WEEPING WALL



NEPHALEM RIFT



THE CAULDRON



MIRROR OF MADNESS

Looking Forward

My goals for 2024 are simple ones. If I make too many goals and make them too complicated, I'll struggle to accomplish anything.

I want to finally do my first solo backpacking trip. I'd intended to do this in the summer of 2023 but I ran out of time and money. I want (and need) this to finally be the year that my business is able to sustain itself, and I'm going to take better care of my body and mind. Although I'm not old, I'm beginning to discover that I'm no longer at the age where I can just eat whatever I want and slack off and still expect to be able to do all the things I want to do! Taking care of the body will also in turn take care of the mind.

In terms of landscape photography, I'm going to continue visiting my local haunts while also dedicating significant time to exploring new places. Locally, I really want to build a stronger portfolio of canyon photos. Outside of that, many of the ideas I have are for environments and places that BC and Canada are not known for, which is exciting because I've been feeling like I need some truly fresh landscapes to shake up my creative palette. Some of these new spots are easy in terms of physical effort, others not so much.

The biggest objectives in terms of cost and/or effort will likely happen in 2025, but 2024 will see me fleshing out the various plans I've got in my head and on spreadsheets.

And perhaps I'll finally get myself some snowshoes and waders!

Thank you for taking the time to view my work in this format. And thank you in general to anyone that has supported me, whether it be through purchasing my tutorials, buying prints, coming along on workshops or even just engaging on social media. Your support means the world!

Sincerely,

Tristan Todd

Photo credit: Morgan Carmont

Enjoyed the ebook?

Feel free to share the ebook link with friends:

https://tristantodd.photography/the-year-2023-ebook

An Extra Special Thanks

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