

waterlog by roger deakin

Waterlog by Roger Deakin is a captivating exploration of the natural world, human connection to water, and the profound impact of aquatic landscapes on our lives. As a renowned writer and environmentalist, Roger Deakin's seminal work delves into his personal experiences, historical reflections, and ecological insights, making it a must-read for nature enthusiasts and literary lovers alike. This article provides an in-depth overview of *Waterlog*, highlighting its themes, significance, and why it continues to resonate with readers around the world.

Introduction to Waterlog by Roger Deakin

Waterlog is a beautifully written travel memoir published in 2000 that chronicles Roger Deakin's journey across the British Isles in search of swimming spots. Unlike typical travel books, it combines personal narrative, environmental advocacy, and cultural history to create a compelling read. Deakin's eloquent prose captures the essence of water as a vital force, a source of recreation, and a symbol of life.

The Central Themes of Waterlog

1. The Human Connection to Water

Deakin explores how water is intertwined with human existence—from ancient rituals to modern leisure. His reflections reveal water as a conduit for comfort, renewal, and community.

2. Environmental and Ecological Insights

Throughout the book, Deakin emphasizes the importance of preserving aquatic environments. His observations on pollution, conservation efforts, and the changing landscape underscore the ecological significance of clean, accessible water.

3. Cultural and Historical Perspectives

Water has played a vital role in shaping British history and culture. Deakin weaves stories of traditional swimming practices, historical sites, and folklore, enriching the narrative with a sense of time and place.

4. Personal Journey and Reflection

Deakin's personal anecdotes and philosophical musings lend a reflective depth to the book. His candid storytelling invites readers to consider their own relationship with water and

nature.

Major Highlights and Unique Aspects of Waterlog

1. The Spirit of Wild Swimming

Deakin champions “wild swimming” — swimming in natural bodies of water rather than pools or designated baths. He describes his adventures in lakes, rivers, and sea, emphasizing the invigorating and transformative power of these experiences.

2. A Celebration of British Waterways

The book vividly depicts various aquatic sites across Britain, from the lakes of the Lake District to secluded rivers and coastal waters. Deakin’s detailed descriptions transport readers to these serene and sometimes rugged locations.

3. A Literary and Artistic Tribute

Deakin’s poetic prose and keen eye for detail elevate *Waterlog* beyond mere travel writing. His lyrical style captures the beauty and mystery of water, inspiring readers to see the natural world through a poetic lens.

4. Personal Encounters and Anecdotes

Throughout his journey, Deakin shares memorable encounters with fellow swimmers, conservationists, and locals. These stories highlight community bonds and shared passions centered around water.

Why Waterlog Continues to Be Relevant Today

1. Environmental Awareness and Conservation

As concerns over climate change and pollution grow, *Waterlog* serves as a reminder of the importance of protecting our waterways. Deakin’s advocacy for preserving natural swimming spots resonates with contemporary environmental movements.

2. Promoting Mindfulness and Well-being

The book encourages embracing nature for mental health and well-being. Wild swimming can be a form of mindfulness, helping individuals reconnect with the environment and find solace in natural waters.

3. Cultural Preservation

Deakin's exploration of traditional water-based customs and practices underscores the value of cultural heritage. Recognizing and maintaining these traditions fosters a deeper appreciation of our collective history.

4. Inspiration for Outdoor Activities

For outdoor enthusiasts, *Waterlog* offers inspiration to explore local waterways, try wild swimming, or simply appreciate the aquatic landscapes in their regions.

Impact and Critical Reception

Waterlog has received widespread acclaim for its lyrical writing, ecological insights, and heartfelt storytelling. Critics have praised Deakin's ability to blend personal narrative with environmental advocacy, making the book both engaging and thought-provoking.

The book has also inspired a community of wild swimmers and environmental activists. Its influence can be seen in the growing popularity of wild swimming as a sustainable and healthful activity.

Practical Tips for Readers Inspired by *Waterlog*

- **Explore Local Waterways:** Discover nearby lakes, rivers, and beaches for a refreshing swim.
- **Practice Safety:** Always swim in designated areas, be aware of water conditions, and never swim alone.
- **Engage with Conservation Efforts:** Support local initiatives to clean and protect waterways.
- **Embrace the Mindfulness of Water:** Use swimming as a way to unwind, meditate, and reconnect with nature.
- **Learn About Water's Cultural Significance:** Read more about local water traditions and histories to deepen your appreciation.

Conclusion: The Enduring Legacy of *Waterlog* by

Roger Deakin

Waterlog stands as a testament to the enduring allure of water and its significance in our lives. Roger Deakin's eloquent storytelling, combined with his environmental passion, creates a compelling narrative that encourages us to cherish and protect our aquatic landscapes. Whether you are a seasoned wild swimmer, a nature lover, or someone seeking a poetic escape, *Waterlog* offers a profound invitation to explore the waters around us and reflect on our relationship with the natural world. As water continues to shape our environment and culture, Deakin's work remains a vital and inspiring reminder of its beauty, power, and importance.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the central theme of 'Waterlog' by Roger Deakin?

'Waterlog' explores humanity's deep connection with water, celebrating swimming, waterways, and aquatic environments across the UK and beyond, emphasizing their cultural, historical, and personal significance.

How does Roger Deakin's 'Waterlog' differ from traditional travel or nature writing?

'Waterlog' combines personal memoir, environmental commentary, and cultural history, offering an immersive and poetic exploration of water that blends storytelling with ecological awareness.

What impact has 'Waterlog' had on environmental and swimming communities?

'Waterlog' has inspired many to reconnect with natural water sources, promoting the importance of preserving waterways and encouraging wild swimming as a form of recreation and environmental activism.

Are there specific regions or waterways highlighted in 'Waterlog'?

Yes, Roger Deakin vividly describes various locations across the UK, including lakes, rivers, and coastal areas, showcasing their unique beauty and cultural significance.

Why is 'Waterlog' considered a contemporary classic in nature and travel literature?

'Waterlog' is praised for its lyrical prose, depth of insight, and personal passion for water,

making it a compelling and influential work that resonates with modern readers interested in nature, sustainability, and outdoor adventure.

Additional Resources

Waterlog by Roger Deakin: An In-Depth Exploration of a Classic Nature Memoir

Waterlog by Roger Deakin stands as a seminal work in the realm of nature writing, blending personal memoir, environmental reflection, and cultural history into a compelling narrative that celebrates the restorative power of water. Published in 2007, the book has since garnered critical acclaim for its lyrical prose, meticulous research, and heartfelt passion for the natural world. This article delves into the themes, structure, and significance of Waterlog, offering a comprehensive overview for readers keen to understand its enduring appeal.

Introduction: The Significance of Waterlog by Roger Deakin

In the pantheon of modern nature writing, few books manage to combine vivid storytelling with profound ecological insights as effectively as Waterlog. Roger Deakin, an English writer and environmentalist, embarks on a personal journey across Britain's waterways, exploring their history, ecology, and cultural significance. His narrative is both a celebration of water as a vital element and a call to recognize its fragile beauty amidst environmental challenges. Deakin's work transcends mere travelogue, serving as a meditative reflection on humanity's relationship with water and the natural world.

The Author: Who Was Roger Deakin?

Before exploring the book's content, understanding Roger Deakin's background provides context for his passionate approach. Deakin (1943–2006) was a founding member of the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust, a conservationist dedicated to protecting UK's wetlands and aquatic habitats. His career spanned journalism, environmental activism, and writing, making him a revered figure among nature enthusiasts and literary critics alike.

Deakin's personal life was deeply intertwined with his environmental philosophy. His love for water, in particular, informed much of his work and shaped the unique voice that permeates Waterlog. His approach is characterized by a poetic sensibility, meticulous attention to detail, and an unyielding commitment to ecological preservation.

The Structure and Content of Waterlog

Waterlog is organized as a series of interconnected chapters, each focusing on different aspects of Britain's waterways—rivers, lakes, ponds, and even bathing pools. The book is both chronological and thematic, moving from Deakin's personal explorations to broader reflections on water's cultural and ecological importance.

Key Themes Explored

- Personal Connection to Water: Deakin recounts his own experiences swimming in lakes, rivers, and pools, emphasizing water's sensory and emotional impact.
- Ecology and Conservation: The book discusses the ecological significance of wetlands and waterways, highlighting threats such as pollution and development.
- History and Culture: Deakin explores water's role in British history, literature, and cultural practices, from ancient rituals to modern leisure.
- Recreation and Ritual: The narrative celebrates swimming as a primal and restorative activity, emphasizing its spiritual and physical benefits.

Deep Dive into Major Sections

Exploring Britain's Waterways: A Personal Journey

Deakin's journey across Britain's waterways is both literal and metaphorical. He visits well-known sites like the lakes of the Lake District, the rivers of East Anglia, and the hidden ponds of rural England. His descriptions evoke a vivid sense of place, capturing not only the landscape but also the atmosphere, sounds, and smells.

For example, Deakin recounts swimming in the Norfolk Broads, describing the sensation of water on skin, the stillness of the marshes, and the wildlife teeming beneath the surface. His narrative emphasizes water's capacity to connect us physically and spiritually to the environment.

The Ecology of Water: Threats and Conservation

A significant portion of *Waterlog* is devoted to ecological concerns. Deakin discusses issues such as:

- Pollution: Industrial waste, agricultural runoff, and plastic debris threaten aquatic ecosystems.
- Habitat Destruction: Urbanization and drainage projects have led to the loss of wetlands.
- Climate Change: Altered rainfall patterns and rising sea levels impact water bodies' health.

Despite these challenges, Deakin advocates for conservation, citing successful projects and inspiring grassroots efforts. His detailed descriptions of wetland restoration projects serve as both educational and motivational tools for readers.

Cultural Significance and Historical Perspectives

Deakin's exploration extends into the cultural realm, examining how water features in British history and folklore. He reflects on:

- Ancient Rituals: Water as a sacred element in pagan and Christian traditions.
- Literature and Art: The portrayal of water in works by poets like Keats and artists like Turner.
- Leisure and Recreation: The rise of swimming pools, seaside resorts, and wild swimming

as expressions of freedom and community.

This cultural lens underscores water's multifaceted role in shaping societal values and identities.

Swimming as a Spiritual and Physical Practice

A recurring motif in *Waterlog* is swimming as a form of meditation, physical therapy, and spiritual renewal. Deakin champions "wild swimming"—immersing oneself in natural waters—as a way to reconnect with nature and oneself.

He advocates for the therapeutic benefits of cold water immersion, citing scientific studies and personal anecdotes. His descriptions evoke a visceral sense of liberation and mindfulness, encouraging readers to embrace water not only as an environmental resource but also as a source of well-being.

The Literary Style: Lyrical and Meticulous

Deakin's prose is characterized by poetic lyricism, detailed descriptions, and an infectious enthusiasm. His writing balances technical detail—such as water chemistry, ecology, and historical facts—with accessible storytelling. This combination makes *Waterlog* appealing to both nature lovers and general readers.

His vivid imagery captures the sensory experience of being in water: the coolness, the movement, the sounds of ripples and wildlife. The language often reads like a love letter to water, infused with reverence and awe.

Critical Reception and Cultural Impact

Waterlog has been widely praised for its lyrical style and ecological insights. Critics have lauded Deakin's ability to blend personal narrative with global environmental concerns, making complex issues relatable and urgent.

The book has inspired a movement of "wild swimmers" across the UK and beyond, fostering a renewed appreciation for natural water bodies and their preservation. It has also contributed to the broader genre of environmental literature, emphasizing the importance of reconnecting with nature in a rapidly urbanizing world.

Awards and Recognition

While *Waterlog* did not garner major literary awards, it achieved significant popularity and influence within environmental and literary circles. Its enduring relevance is reflected in ongoing discussions about water conservation and the cultural importance of swimming.

Legacy of *Waterlog* and Roger Deakin's Influence

Deakin's untimely death in 2006 left a void in the world of environmental writing. However, *Waterlog* continues to inspire and educate new generations about water's vital role in ecological health and human well-being.

His work has influenced other writers and activists, encouraging a more intimate and respectful relationship with natural water sources. The book's emphasis on experiential learning and cultural history has helped foster a holistic understanding of water's significance.

Conclusion: *Waterlog*'s Enduring Relevance

Waterlog by Roger Deakin remains a landmark in environmental literature, combining lyrical prose, ecological advocacy, and cultural reflection. It invites readers to see water not merely as a resource but as a vital, living part of our shared heritage and future.

In an era of environmental crisis, Deakin's celebration of water's beauty and importance serves as both inspiration and a call to action. His work reminds us that reconnecting with natural waters can be a transformative experience—one that nurtures both the planet and ourselves.

Whether you are a seasoned environmentalist, a casual swimmer, or simply a lover of nature's poetry, *Waterlog* offers a profound and accessible journey into the heart of Britain's waterways—and into the soul of what it means to be connected to the natural world.

[Waterlog By Roger Deakin](#)

waterlog by roger deakin: *Waterlog: A Swimmer's Journey Through Britain* Roger Deakin, 2022-04-26 A beautiful ode to the act of swimming outdoors.... Deakin's insistence on wild swimming for all is really an insistence on a better ecosystem for all. --The Atlantic

waterlog by roger deakin: *Waterlog* Roger Deakin, 2021-05-25 A Mother Jones' Best Book of the Year A beautiful ode to the act of swimming outdoors. . . . Deakin's insistence on wild swimming for all is really an insistence on a better ecosystem for all. —The Atlantic A masterpiece of nature writing, Roger Deakin's *Waterlog* is a fascinating and inspiring journey into the aquatic world that surrounds us. In an attempt to discover his island nation from a new perspective, Roger Deakin embarks from his home in Suffolk to swim Britain—the seas, rivers, lakes, ponds, pools, streams, lochs, moats, and quarries. Through the watery capillary network that braids itself throughout the country, Deakin immerses himself in the natural habitats of fish, amphibians, mammals, and birds. And as he navigates towns, private property, and sometimes dangerous waters and inclement weather, Deakin finds himself in precarious situations: he's detained by bailiffs in Winchester, intercepted by the coast guard at the mouth of a river, and mistaken for a dead body on a beach. The result of this surprising journey is a deep dive into modern Britain, especially its wild places. With enchanting descriptions of natural landscapes, and a deep well of humanity, boundless humor, and unbridled joy, Deakin beckons us to wilder waters and inspires us to connect to the larger world in a most unexpected way. Thrilling, vivid, and lyrical, *Waterlog* is a fully immersive adventure—a remarkable personal quest, a bold assertion of the swimmer's right to roam, and an unforgettable

celebration of the magic of water.

waterlog by roger deakin: Waterlog Roger Deakin, 2014 Inspired by John Cheever's classic short story, 'The Swimmer', Roger Deakin set out from his home in Suffolk to swim through the British Isles. The result of his journey is this personal view of an island race.

waterlog by roger deakin: Waterlog Roger Deakin, 2011-05-31 Waterlog celebrates the magic of water and the beauty of wild Britain. In 1996 Roger Deakin set out to swim the British Isles. He swam in the sea, in rivers, in streams, tarns, lakes, lochs, ponds, lidos, swimming pools, fens, dykes, moats, aqueducts, waterfalls, flooded quarries and even canals. This funny, wise, delightful book documents his journey. It inspired a movement, creating wild swimmers out of many readers. Detained by water bailiffs in Winchester, intercepted in the Fowey estuary by coastguards, mistaken for a suicide on Camber sands, confronting the Corryvreckan whirlpool in the Hebrides, Deakin discovered just how much of an outsider the native swimmer is to his landlocked, fully-dressed fellow citizens. Waterlog is a personal journey, a bold assertion of the native swimmer's right to roam, and an unforgettable celebration of the magic of water. INTRODUCED BY OLIVIA LAING 'A delicious, cleansing, funny, wise and joyful book, so wonderfully full of energy and life' Jane Gardam 'Roger Deakin is the perfect companion for an invigorating armchair swim' Daily Telegraph

waterlog by roger deakin: Floating Joe Minihane, 2017-06-20 The British journalist explores self-healing in wild waters across the UK—from Yorkshire to Jura and Wales—in this “genuine and refreshing nature memoir” (Kirkus Reviews). Following the example of naturalist Roger Deakin in his classic memoir Waterlog, journalist Joe Minihane becomes obsessed with wild swimming and its restorative qualities. Putting one arm over the other, sometimes resting on his back, he begins to confront his personal demons while rekindling old friendships and forging new ones. Through Minihane’s thoughtful description, the act of swimming becomes both strange and beautiful as the wild water puts him in touch with nature and himself. From Hampstead to Yorkshire, from Dorset to Jura, from the Isles of Scilly to Wales, Floating is a love letter to different wild stretches of water. But it also captures Minihane’s struggle to understand his life and move forward. Steeped in the anti-authoritarian and naturalistic spirit of Roger Deakin, Minihane celebrates the joy of taking time out to feel better.

waterlog by roger deakin: Floating Joe Minihane, 2018-04-05 'Lovely, lively, passionate... a celebration of nature's ability to inspire healing and joy' Robert MacFarlane In the breaststrokes of Roger Deakin's Waterlog, this is the story of one man's search for himself across the breadth of Britain's wild waters. Joe Minihane became obsessed with wild swimming and the way it soothed his anxiety, developing a new-found passion by following the example of naturalist Deakin in his own swimming memoir. While fighting the currents - sometimes treading water Minihane swims to explore, to forget, to find the path back to himself through nature, and in the water under an open sky he finally begins to find his peace. Floating is a remarkable memoir about a love of swimming and a deep appreciation for the British countryside: it captures Minihane's struggle to understand himself, and the healing properties of wild stretches of water. From Hampstead to Yorkshire, Dorset to Jura, the Isles of Scilly to Wales, Minihane uses Waterlog to trace his own path by diving right in.

waterlog by roger deakin: Take Me to the River Vicky Allan, Jackie Kemp, 2025-09-11 Immerse yourself in an ocean of great literature. Gasp at the cold with Amy Liptrot. Be transfixed by Iris Murdoch's monster rising from the waves. Learn how to swim like the frogs with John Muir. Come on, dive in. A selection of joyful, immersive and life-affirming writing about wild swimming. From gentle dips in calm waters to fights for survival in stormy seas. From the erotic charge of a streamlined body to moments of revelation amidst the waves . . . Take Me to the River is an anthology not just of wild swimming writing, but of stories of how a jump into deep waters can change us. Open water swimming plays a pivotal role in many great narratives, taking us on an immersive journey, from Homer's Odyssey to contemporary poetry and memoirs. There is adventure here and aquatic playfulness. Grief and anguish, too; heartbreaks displaced and healed by watery spaces. Love and desire spark between characters at the edge of the water, as does freedom from constraint and the glorious energy of possibility and hope. Take Me to the River entices with a dip

into the deep sea of words. Slide in.

waterlog by roger deakin: Wildwood Roger Deakin, 2009-01-06 Here, published for the first time in the United States, is the last book by Roger Deakin, famed British nature writer and icon of the environmentalist movement. In Deakin's glorious meditation on wood, the fifth element -- as it exists in nature, in our culture, and in our souls -- the reader accompanies Deakin through the woods of Britain, Europe, Kazakhstan, and Australia in search of what lies behind man's profound and enduring connection with trees. Deakin lives in forest shacks, goes coppicing in Suffolk, swims beneath the walnut trees of the Haut-Languedoc, and hunts bushplums with Aboriginal women in the outback. Along the way, he ferrets out the mysteries of woods, detailing the life stories of the timber beams composing his Elizabethan house and searching for the origin of the apple. As the world's forests are whittled away, Deakin's sparkling prose evokes woodlands anarchic with life, rendering each tree as an individual, living being. At once a traveler's tale and a splendid work of natural history, *Wildwood* reveals, amid the world's marvelous diversity, that which is universal in human experience.

waterlog by roger deakin: Swimming Roger Deakin, 2017-09-26 Is there anything quite so exhilarating as swimming in wild water? This is a joyful swimming tour of Britain, a frog's-eye view of the country's best bathing holes -- the rivers, rock pools, lakes, ponds, lochs and sea that define a watery island. Charming, funny, inspiring, an assertion of the native swimmer's right to roam, a celebration of the magic of water -- this book will indeed make you want to strip off and leap in. Selected from the book *Waterlog* by Roger Deakin VINTAGE MINIS: GREAT MINDS. BIG IDEAS. LITTLE BOOKS. A series of short books by the world's greatest writers on the experiences that make us human Also in the Vintage Minis series: *Eating* by Nigella Lawson *Liberty* by Virginia Woolf *Summer* by Laurie Lee *Desire* by Haruki Murakami

waterlog by roger deakin: The New Pastoral in Contemporary British Writing Deborah Lilley, 2019-10-10 This book identifies a major turn in contemporary British literature in response to environmental crisis. It argues that the pastoral is emerging as a new critical framework in which to explore the understanding of people and place in this context. *The New Pastoral in Contemporary British Writing* explores how the pastoral tradition has transformed as authors respond to our changing relationships with place in this period. Analysing the features common to new pastoral writing, it brings together a corpus of works from major authors including Ali Smith, Jim Crace, John Burnside, Kathleen Jamie, and Robert Macfarlane. This book argues that crises such as pollution and climate change have shifted our understandings of the key relationships of pastoral and the terms upon which they are based, giving new senses to its older oppositions between the human and the natural, the urban and the rural, and the past and the present. Furthermore, it shows that the versions of pastoral that ensue align with current ecocritical arguments produced by thinking through the individual, cultural, and ecological implications of environmental crisis. As a result, pastoral emerges as the crucial strategy in the re-imagining of the environment underway in contemporary British writing, the resurgence of interest in nature writing, the increasing attention towards place in literary fiction, and the development of ecological or 'climate' fiction. This book will be of great interest to students and scholars of English as well as those concerned with the interdisciplinary topics of the environmental humanities, including literary geographies, new nature writing, cultures of climate change and the Anthropocene, and ecologically-oriented theory.

waterlog by roger deakin: Drowning by Accident Elizabeth Meinhard, 2022-02-15 *Drowning By Accident* explains why it is so easy to drown, where accidents happen, and how to save lives by early rescue and resuscitation. More than 600 people die by drowning in Britain every year. Swimming is promoted as a particularly safe form of exercise, so that swimmers forget or ignore the dangers of frigid lakes, swollen rivers, incoming tides or outgoing rip currents. Drowning accidents take place because we don't recognise water as a hostile environment. We overestimate the strength and endurance of our bodies and underestimate the power and deceptiveness of water. Year after year, victims lose their lives in typical drowning accidents, often sinking so quickly and silently that nearby family, friends and onlookers fail to notice the tragedy taking place close beside them. Babies

drown in baths. Toddlers drown in garden ponds. School children fall off rafts. Teenagers strike too far from the shore. Pensioners wade into rivers to save their dogs. Victims often die within minutes of sinking beneath the surface. A quarter of those who reach hospital alive will also die, while others survive with severe permanent brain damage. This means that it is vitally important for parents, grandparents, teachers, lifeguards and lawmakers to recognise the risks and prevent drowning accidents before they take place.

waterlog by roger deakin: The New Nature Writing Jos Smith, 2017-05-04 In the last decade there has been a proliferation of landscape writing in Britain and Ireland, often referred to as 'The New Nature Writing'. Rooted in the work of an older generation of environment-focused authors and activists, this new form is both stylistically innovative and mindful of ecology and conservation practice. The New Nature Writing: Rethinking the Literature of Place connects these two generations to show that the contemporary energy around the cultures of landscape and place is the outcome of a long-standing relationship between environmentalism and the arts. Drawing on original interviews with authors, archival research, and scholarly work in the fields of literary geographies, ecocriticism and archipelagic criticism, the book covers the work of such writers as Robert Macfarlane, Richard Mabey, Tim Robinson and Alice Oswald. Examining the ways in which these authors have engaged with a wide range of different environments, from the edgelands to island spaces, Jos Smith reveals how they recreate a resourceful and dynamic sense of localism in rebellion against the homogenising growth of clone town Britain.†?

waterlog by roger deakin: The Cambridge History of Travel Writing Nandini Das, Tim Youngs, 2019-01-24 Bringing together original contributions from scholars across the world, this volume traces the history of travel writing from antiquity to the Internet age. It examines travel texts of several national or linguistic traditions, introducing readers to the global contexts of the genre. From wilderness to the urban, from Nigeria to the polar regions, from mountains to rivers and the desert, this book explores some of the key places and physical features represented in travel writing. Chapters also consider the employment in travel writing of the diary, the letter, visual images, maps and poetry, as well as the relationship of travel writing to fiction, science, translation and tourism. Gender-based and ecocritical approaches are among those surveyed. Together, the thirty-seven chapters here underline the richness and complexity of this genre.

waterlog by roger deakin: One Dog and His Man Gary Twynam, 2014-06-05 Aged 45 we moved from Tooting, South London to Shifnal, Shropshire, so that my wife could be closer to her parents. This book covers the five years that followed. It's a collage of silly stories, musings, observations and general nonsense as I try to adjust to small town life. At its heart is a rescue dog called Bobby and his attempts to make a Londoner love his world. Any readers who enjoyed my previous novel, Farewell Trip, will find stories in this book that lead directly to scenes in that novel.

waterlog by roger deakin: The Flow Amy-Jane Beer, 2022-08-04 WINNER OF THE 2023 JAMES CROPPER WAINWRIGHT PRIZE FOR NATURE WRITING 'Unparalleled.' THE WAINWRIGHT PRIZE 'A true masterpiece.' TIMES LITERARY SUPPLEMENT 'A tour de force.' GUY SHRUBSOLE 'Quietly courageous.' PATRICK BARKHAM 'Lyrical, wholehearted and wise.' LEE SCHOFIELD 'A knockout. I loved it.' MELISSA HARRISON 'Honest, raw and moving.' SOPHIE PAVELLE 'An extraordinary book by an extraordinary author.' CHRIS JONES 'A book of wit, wonder and of wisdom.' NICK ACHESON 'Beautiful.' NICOLA CHESTER A visit to the rapid where she lost a cherished friend unexpectedly reignites Amy-Jane Beer's love of rivers setting her on a journey of natural, cultural and emotional discovery. On New Year's Day 2012, Amy-Jane Beer's beloved friend Kate set out with a group of others to kayak the River Rawthey in Cumbria. Kate never came home, and her death left her devoted family and friends bereft and unmoored. Returning to visit the Rawthey years later, Amy realises how much she misses the connection to the natural world she always felt when on or close to rivers, and so begins a new phase of exploration. The Flow is a book about water, and, like water, it meanders, cascades and percolates through many lives, landscapes and stories. From West Country torrents to Levels and Fens, rocky Welsh canyons, the salmon highways of Scotland and the chalk rivers of the Yorkshire Wolds, Amy-Jane follows springs, streams

and rivers to explore tributary themes of wildness and wonder, loss and healing, mythology and history, cyclicity and transformation. Threading together places and voices from across Britain, *The Flow* is a profound, immersive exploration of our personal and ecological place in nature.

waterlog by roger deakin: *The Mindful Art of Wild Swimming* Tessa Wardley, 2017-09-15
“Turn your outdoor bathing into an enriching meditation with this exploration into the emotional benefits of swimming in nature.” —Health & Fitness
The Mindful Art of Wild Swimming explores how swimming in rivers, lakes, and seas is the very epitome of conscious living. Zen-seeker Tessa Wardley reconnects the physical and spiritual cycles of life to the changing seasons and flow of wild waters worldwide and leads the reader on to a mindful journey through the natural world. Combining expert insight and personal anecdote, she shares with sparkling clarity why our relationship with open water is so fundamental to pure wellbeing, and reveals how wild swimming can be the ultimate Zen meditation. “Tessa Wardley is a keen and knowledgeable guide” —Times Literary Supplement

waterlog by roger deakin: *How to Wild Swim* Ella Foote, 2023-11-07
Practical advice and instruction to get the very best out of wild swimming. The manual every amateur wild swimmer needs to read before diving in. Whether you want to explore remote beaches and mountain lochs, improve your confidence in open water, refine your swimming technique, or have a race or long-distance swim challenge coming up, *How to Wild Swim* offers the perfect practical foundation to help you find your perfect adventure and achieve your goal. This body conditioning sport is praised for not only making us stronger and healthier but also happier. Wetsuits are optional; in fact, no expensive gear is essential. Nailing the how-to, however, is key. Expert wild swimmer Ella Foote offers the ultimate guide to mastering the practicalities and techniques and answers your most frequently asked questions so that you can feel safe, have fun, and re-energize. So no matter what your goal—short wild swims and weekend breaks, to full adventure swimming expeditions and off-grid vacations—dive right in and submerge yourself in the wild, watery pages of this fearless book.

waterlog by roger deakin: *This Is for Everyone* Tim Berners-Lee, 2025-09-09
The inventor of the World Wide Web explores his vision’s promise—and how it can be redeemed for the future. Perhaps the most influential inventor of the modern world, Sir Tim Berners-Lee is a different kind of technologist. Born in the same year as Bill Gates and Steve Jobs, he famously distributed his invention, the World Wide Web, for no commercial reward. Its widespread adoption changed everything—transforming humanity into the first digital species. Through the web, we live, work, dream, quarrel, and connect. In this intimate memoir, Berners-Lee tells the story of his iconic invention, exploring how it launched a new era of creativity and collaboration while unleashing powerful forces that imperil truth and privacy and polarize public debate. With his trademark humor and candor, he recounts how he arrived at CERN, the European Laboratory for Particle Physics, as a young engineer, and soon came up with the astonishing idea of adding hyperlinks to the then-nascent Internet. His goal was to unleash a wave of creativity and collaboration for the benefit of all—a goal he’s pursued to this day. Peppered with rich anecdotes and amusing reflections, *This Is for Everyone* is a gripping, in-the-room account of the rise of the digital world. As the rapid development of artificial intelligence brings new risks and possibilities, Berners-Lee also offers a crucial guide to the decisions ahead—and shows how our digital lives can be reengineered for the sake of human flourishing rather than profit or for power.

waterlog by roger deakin: *Forests, Woods and Groves* Philippa Beale, 2024-11-07
A stunning collection of artwork from the Arborealists, a group of highly skilled artists who feature trees, forests and woodland as their most vital subjects. The Arborealists' diverse and influential work highlights protected woodland's history and changing landscapes, as well as illuminating the enchantment of ancient trees. Each member has developed their own artistic language, showcasing manifold applications in everything from scale, medium, style and philosophical approach. Featuring the artwork of Arborealist members including Tim Craven, Jemma Appleby, Alex Faulkner, Ann Blockley, Fiona McIntyre and many more, this beautiful book is a joyful celebration of the natural world. As well as showcasing the diverse work of 36 artists, the book includes: • An introduction to

the Arborealists by Philippa Beale, a founding member. • Information on some of the site-specific projects undertaken by the collective, written by the President of the Arborealists, Tim Craven. • An exploration of the woodland at Staverton Park in Suffolk, written by author and woodland ecologist George Peterken. In the last ten years, the Arborealists' many successful exhibitions have carved them a strong national profile and widespread critical acclaim. Forests, Woods and Groves is perfect for anyone with an interest in spectacular art or a passion for the natural world.

waterlog by roger deakin: Bloomsbury Good Reading Guide Nick Rennison, 2009-01-01
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