

RUNNING
TOWARD
STILLNESS

STEPHEN LEGAULT







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UNNING
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ILLNESS

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BRITISH COLUMBIA
ARTS COUNCIL

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For Jenn

For Rio and Silas



For Dan, J and James

For the Buddha within us all

For Jenn

For Rio and Silas



For Dan, J and James

For the Buddha within us all





“Believe nothing, no matter where you read
it, or who said it, no matter if I have said it,
unless it agrees with your own reason and
your own common sense”

—BUDDHA

“The day you let go is the day you are forgiven.”

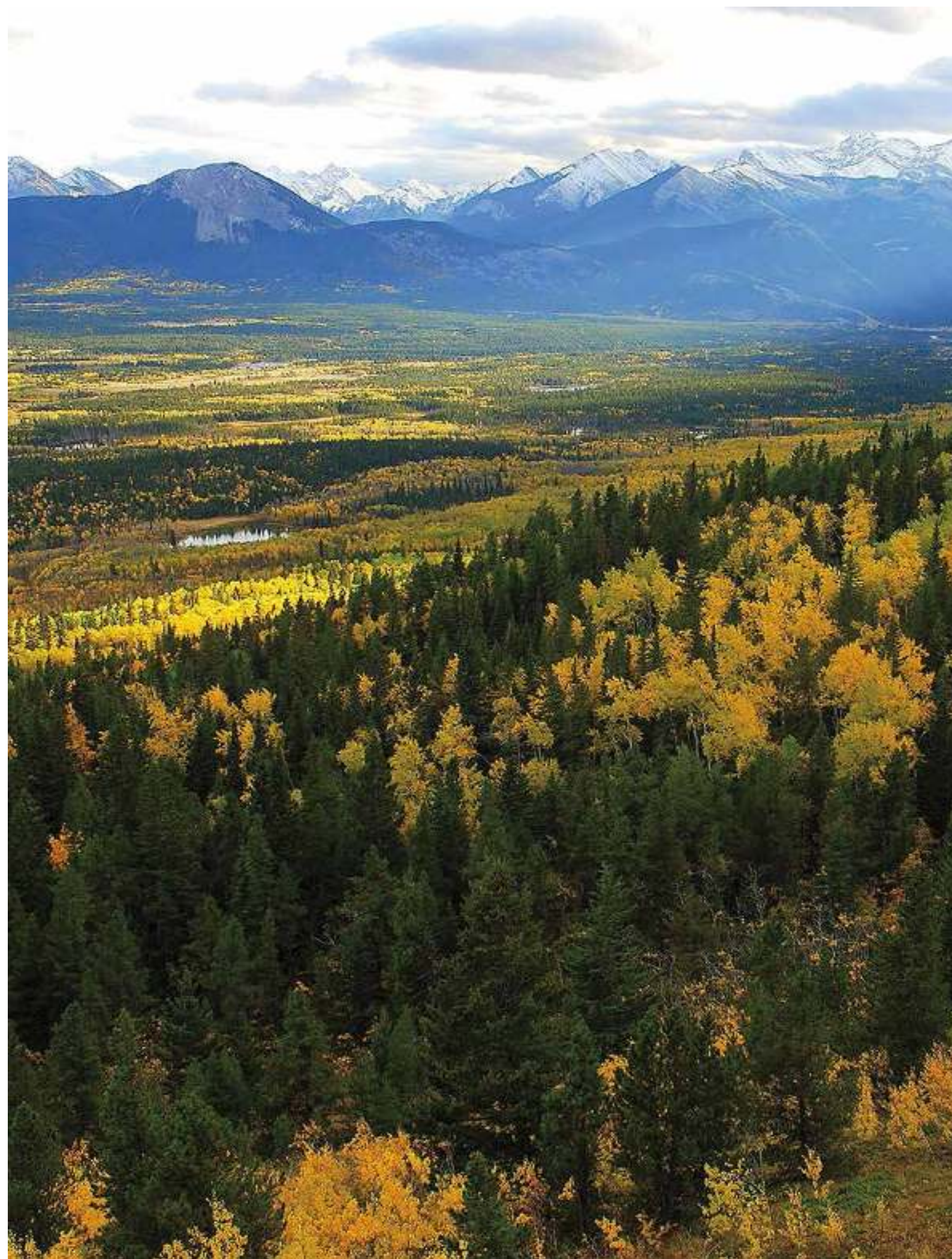
—MICHAEL
FRANTI

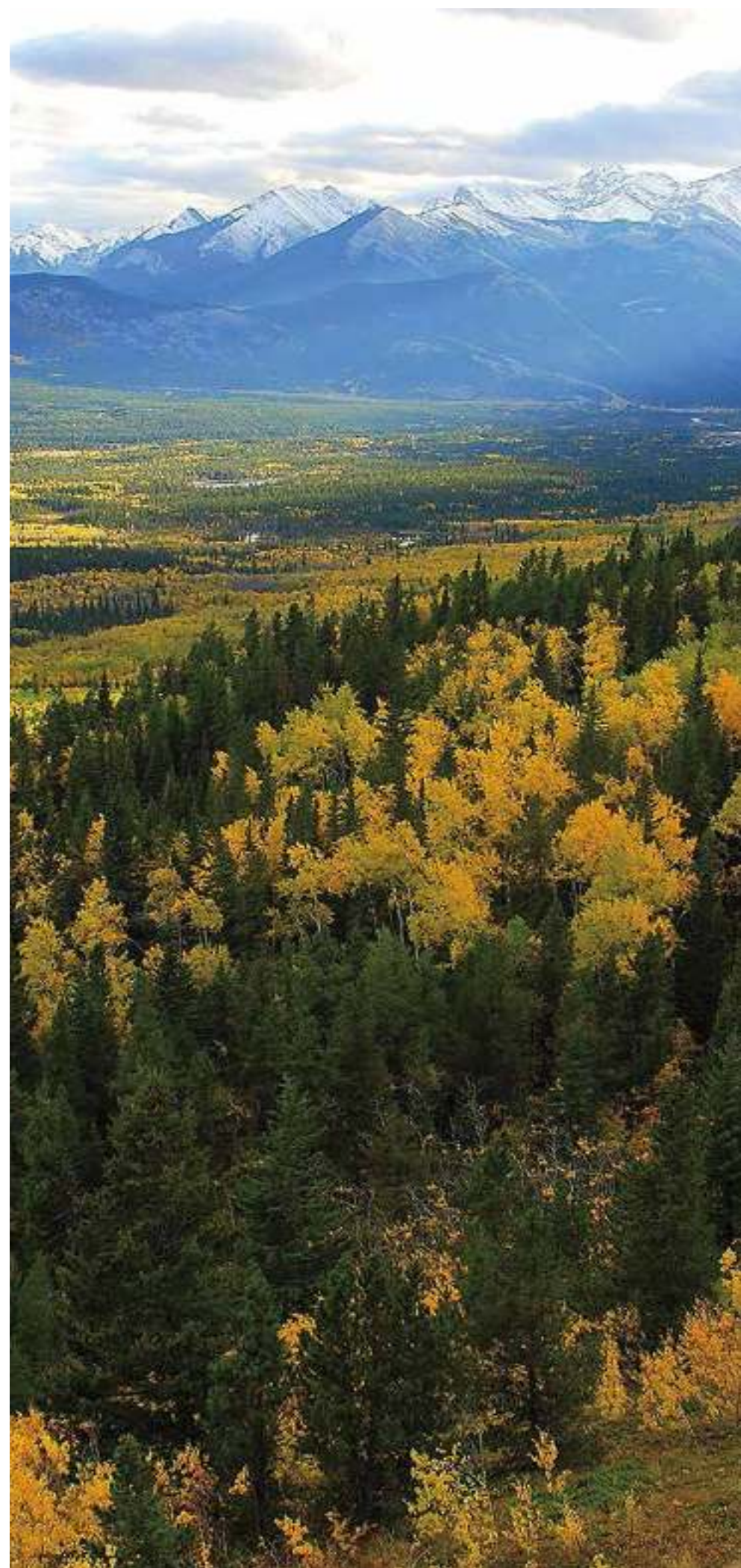
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Or who said it, no matter if I have said it,
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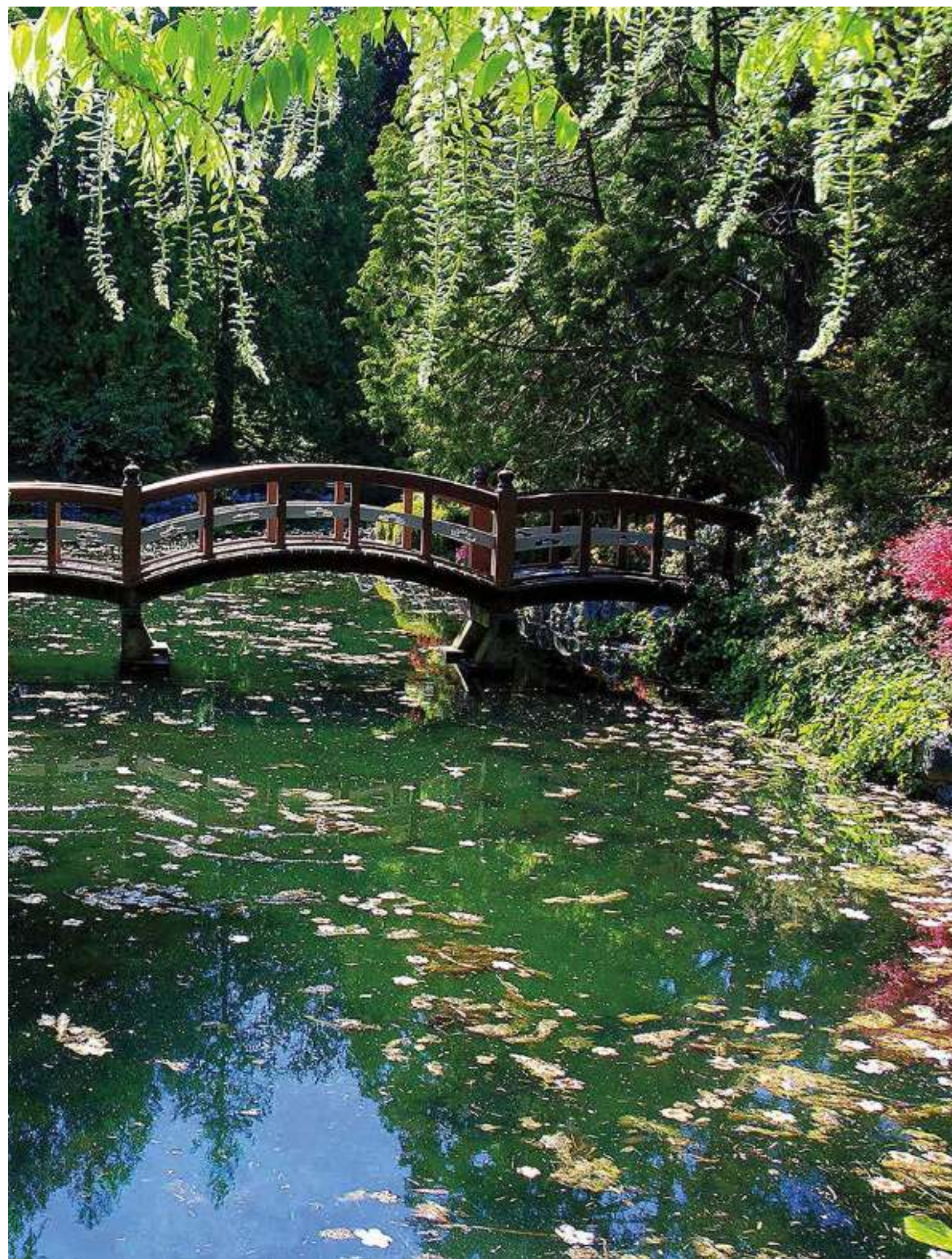
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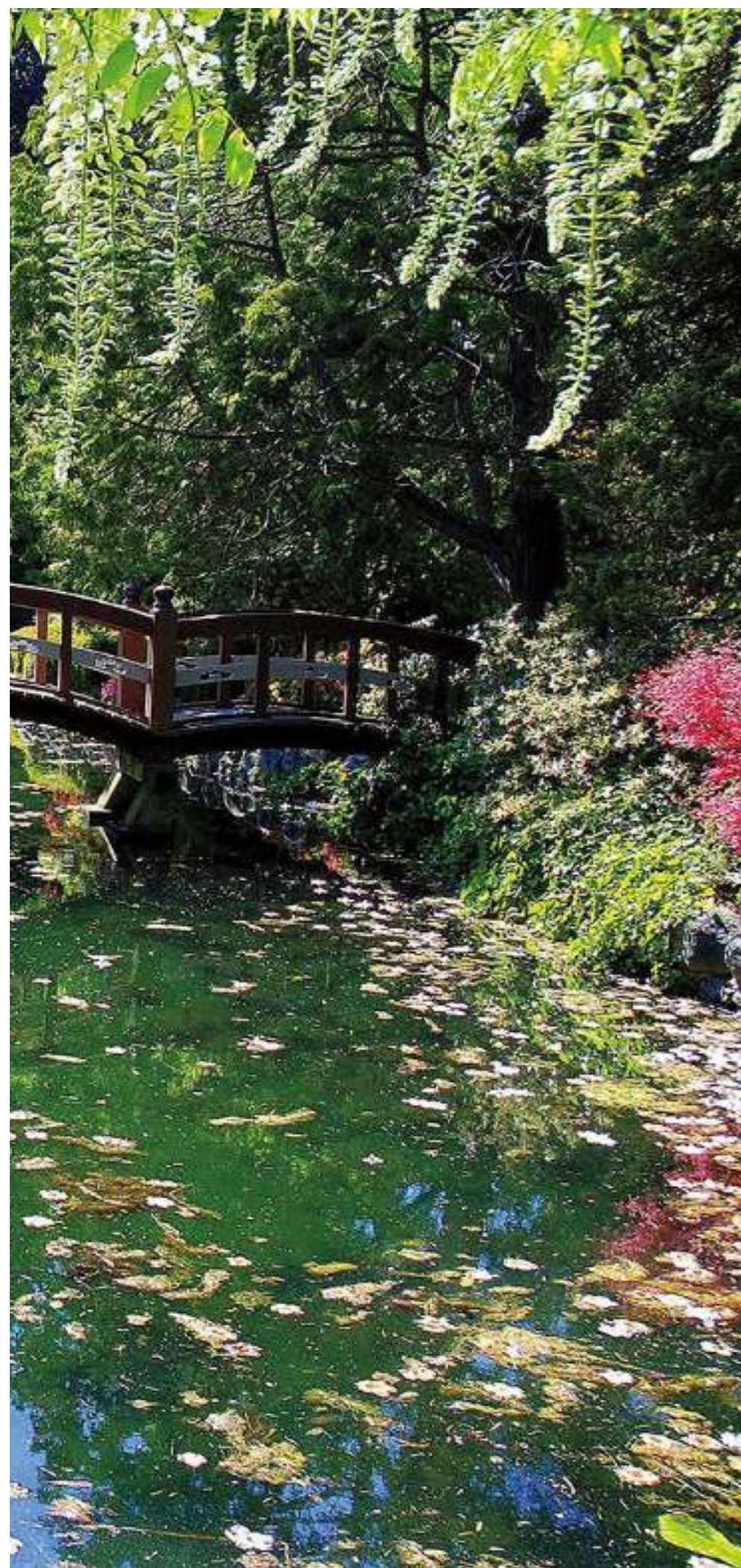
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PREFACE



Start Again

There is motion in stillness and stillness in motion.

I'm always a little nervous before a long run, often it hurts. I'm an enthusiastic but not particularly talented runner. Nor am I a particularly good Buddhist. Sometimes Buddhism is uncomfortable to follow any particular doctrine or school of Buddhism, sometimes days pass and I forget to meditate, sometimes I don't remember half the steps of the Eightfold Path.

Nevertheless, this book is the result of the combination of two important things in my life – running and meditation – and what they have taught me. Running and meditation have been the two principal

PREFACE



Start Again

motion in stillness and stillness in motion.

I'm always a little nervous before a long run, because

my knees hurt. I'm an enthusiastic but not particularly

endurance runner. Nor am I a particularly good Buddhist.

Buddhism is uncomfortable too. I don't

follow any particular doctrine or school of Buddhism;

but every few days pass and I forget to meditate, and I can't

keep up more than half the steps of the Eightfold Path.

Consequently, this book is the result of the intersec-

tion of two important things in my life – running and

– and what they have taught me. Running

and meditation have been the two principal means by

2007 and completes its narrative arc in the a
2012. My karma is to share this story.

A year before the first essay in this volume,
relationship of eleven years. I had been unfaithf
deeply depressed, and had briefly considered su
solution. I made bad decisions and people I lo
were hurt, and from this darkness I was able to

This book's purpose is to help you learn one
path to end suffering. I will try to be honest
and I hope that you will be honest with yourself
read this book. We all suffer; we feel pain an
that we can't often explain. We also feel joy and
that provides us with an opportunity to understa
true nature of life and bring an end to our own

A note about style: because these posts were
as blog entries, and not as a concise book of sho
they vary in structure. Some were penned in th
tense and others in the past. I've chosen to maint
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This book is a snapshot of my life over a si
riod, and because it has a beginning and an en
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completes its narrative arc in the autumn of
karma is to share this story.

before the first essay in this volume, I left a
of eleven years. I had been unfaithful, and
pressed, and had briefly considered suicide as a
I made bad decisions and people I love dearly
and from this darkness I was able to start again.

book's purpose is to help you learn one possible
and suffering. I will try to be honest with you,
that you will be honest with yourself as you
book. We all suffer; we feel pain and despair
n't often explain. We also feel joy and bliss, and
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of life and bring an end to our own distress.

about style: because these posts were written
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in structure. Some were penned in the present
others in the past. I've chosen to maintain that
to preserve the original tone of each piece.

book is a snapshot of my life over a six-year pe-
because it has a beginning and an end, it may
the journey is somehow complete. It isn't. Even

and sometimes we feel as if we're standing still
in stillness; stillness in motion. Both are part of
ney. Let's begin.

– Canmore,

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