



*Nest Along River*

TEXT AND PAINTINGS BY  
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# Nests

*Observations distilled in another language*



ABOVE: *New Nest III*      OPPOSITE: *The Two Sirens*



I LOVE LITERATURE, but I don't want to illustrate Blake, don't want to illustrate Thoreau, don't want to do what Audubon did. I want to immerse myself in the experience of nature so that I'm not hunting for taxonomy; I'm not dissecting. I want simply to experience it.

I find great comfort and sanctuary just walking around in a state of awe in the woods. I have a need for a certain kind of intimacy and get sustenance from being close to nature. Sometimes when you're hiking you stop to ponder what's before you. Why? When I sit down outside, I may sit for an hour and think, there's something going on, there's something magical—why did I stop here? That's what I want to paint. I get rid of everything else and try to do just

that. Distilling it is sort of like a visual haiku.

We live in a photographic paradigm, which is like being a voyeur. People look at things through glass. The only things that most people really look at, and think about looking at, are the television screen, the computer monitor, and the windshields of their cars. That is a lot like looking through a camera. You've got this object between you and the experience.

I try to make the subject elemental enough that there's the beginning of recognizable form, in order to engage the viewer to look closer. I am trying to convey the sense of a shared moment that the viewer might not have seen. They might not even have noticed it. >>

*July Nest in Berry Thicket*





*Nest and Song*



*Nest Shadow Falling*



*Warbler Echo*