

# The Water Planet

A Celebration of the Wonder of Water

By Lyall Watson

**Water**, the most common chemical compound on our planet, is also one of the strangest substances known to man. **Water** is the only substance that expands and grows less dense when it freezes; it also is the only substance that manifests itself in such a variety of beautiful forms—the delicacy and geometric precision of a snowflake; the brooding magnificence of a thunderstorm; the irresistible energy of pounding surf; the beauty of a rainbow; or the hypnotic quality of the limitless sea. **Water** is also a source of energy. **Water** means commerce and trade between nations; it also built empires. The absence of **water** kills thousands each year. **Water** is, quite literally, everything we are. Watson has collaborated with nature photographer Jerry Derbyshire to produce **The Water Planet**. It explains the mysteries of **water** in all its forms, why the world is organized the way it is because of **water** and how it has made living creatures possible.

— from the publisher



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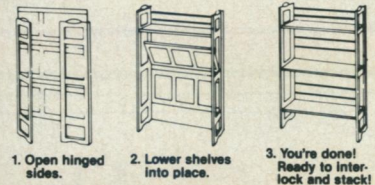


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