

Writing Prompt: (picture of a lake)

Water is amazing. It's literally the one thing we can't live without. It refreshes, nourishes, cleanses. It provides countless ways to play, relax, and re-create. It is powerful enough to carve deep crevices and canyons in rocks and landscapes. It can also destroy, of course, but to me that's just another reason it's amazing and should demand our respect.

Water also connects us.



I remember standing ankle deep on the coast of The Gambia in west Africa several years ago and angling my body to face what I imagined was the latitude/longitude point of Baltimore. I intentionally reminded myself that even though it was many, MANY miles away—a literal ocean separated us!—I was connected with the Inner Harbor of Baltimore through that water I was standing in. I was also connected with all *other* coastlines of every continent, island, and land mass. And through the earth's many rivers, tributaries, and creeks, I was connected to much of the inland areas of the world as well.

Something we can't live without—water—connects us to massive numbers of something else we perhaps can't live without—people.

Hm ... not a bad concept to ponder in this time of divisive disconnection.