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A collaboration between artist Jamie Treadwell and writer Amin Kurani, for inspiration today.



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// What stirs us towards adventure?

For the solitary kayaker, it is a time to reflect, to drown out other voices that flood his everyday life and welcome new ones. The slap of the oars on the surface of the water, the rustle of his movements, the bird's cry in the distance. All are comfortingly strange. From his kayak, he comes to discover a whole new category of stillness.

Adventure offers us the lure of the unknown, even in familiar territory. Perhaps it is not the kayaker's first trip alongside this remote coastline. He may even know the Alaskan waters like the back of his hand. Every tilt of the stream, every current, may feel so smooth to him that it is like slipping into a well-loved, well-worn jacket. But when the rusty cliffs loom before him, beauty and terror still fill him.

He pauses before the next step, and the journey is suspended. Should he go on? A split second, and then resolve wins the day. Now his back is turned to us and his eyes are fixed ahead. He dips his paddle into the calm water, and sets off once again into a new adventure.

** "Into Adventure" is available as an original painting and limited-edition print. Visit www.jamietreadwell.com for the gallery and blog.*