

# In their own words...

## What Readers Whisper

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“stunning!”—Virginie B

“I love photography. I love good photography. I love inspiring and insightful photography. Therefore, I love *Stillness: Whispers From Nature*...when you view these images and your mind takes you on its own journey, you are given the opportunity to BE on that journey with the photographer. That is a very different experience...”

—Bill R (photographer)

“*Stillness* has the power to transport readers to their happy place. For me, the image of sky and palm trees on page 72, along with the poem *Awakening*, had me daydreaming about my annual vacation to Palm Springs. This feel good book is a fantastic gift idea for the holidays. Why not add a note about your happy place for the recipient to ponder? What a great way to connect during this oddly disconnected year of 2020.”—Leanne P

“More than a book and more than a group of pictures. The beautiful images captured in nature with restful, thoughtful words make this work a must for one coffee table. Not only is it presented with artistic character, it is done with wonderful class. I highly recommend it!”

—Kevin B

“wonderful, wonderful art!!! [The] writing is so thought inducing.”

—Shelley L

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“I find *Stillness*, Kent Burkhardtsmeier’s breathtaking volume of poetry and photography, so elevating and worth recommending—because it captures the power of nature to quiet the mind. It’s a spiritual experience in itself to see joy arise from stillness—and that’s what happens to me as I page through the book.”

—from the foreword by Melinda French Gates

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“...a collection of photographs that calm the soul and enhance quiet reflection. The images are beautiful and moving. Through his photographs, he conveys a sense of calmness and stillness. The combination of photos with poetry is unique, and brings a new dimension to Kent’s artistry...”—Paul S

“Kent’s photography mixed with his subtle and honest poems is something to behold. I felt as if I was with him when he snapped each exposure. I am so very happy to have his book on the shelf so that I can share it with others.”

—Shane B (photographer, author)

“The book “*Stillness: Whispers From Nature*” feels like the author has gently taken your hand and is leading you through the landscapes. You can see them through his eyes and feel them with his words. The book is a wonderful escape into nature.”—Paula G

“Kent is a fabulous photographer and poet—this book is a work of art and has brought us lots of joy!”

—Jennifer G

“Your book is impressive. I really enjoy your poetry!!! And your photos are wonderful!!!”—Joan K

“a gorgeous compilation”—Liz O

‘we join the world’s chorus / jubilation in awe’

“These are the last two lines of Kent’s poem entitled ‘first blue’. When we first open his book, *Stillness: Whispers From Nature*, we are greeted with “jubilation in awe”; and the book continues to evoke imagery and word-songs until the very end. What makes it so remarkable for me is...the ability to translate the language of shadow and light into the language of sound and harmony. ...what a gift he has made available for all of us to savor and cherish.”

—Neal W (photographer, author)

**"Kent's photographs and poetry in *Stillness*" are a treasure and a balm!** Flipping through, the images take my breath away. But I am going to enjoy one each day, after waking, when my mind is quiet and free. Amidst pandemic and political upheaval, it will be a gift to be transported every day to a peaceful place in the wilds."—Paula B

**"It's fantastic!"**—Jeanelle S

**"WOW! What a masterpiece! The** compilation of images and poems are exquisite. Thank you, for sharing some of your special insight into nature's stillness and calmness, it's just what I needed."—Bill S

**"It's so relaxing and really takes me to a different place."**—Debbie K

**"Your book, *Stillness, Whispers from Nature*, is wonderful...**As the sun set last night, [we] relaxed on our patio with a glass of wine and your book. Your book reminds us that God speaks to us through nature and we could hear His "holy whispers" coming through your photos and poetry."—Jay S

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*"The yin and yang of Kent's poem and images are a refuge and light during these otherwise tempestuous times—offering solace with nature."*—David Borlaug, Director, The Capital Gallery

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**"Gorgeous!!"**—Sheila S

**"Wow! It's lovely! I will be placing this** in a spot where I can pick it up and take it in image by image and poem by poem."—Alyson S

**"[Kent]** couldn't have published this book and its message at a more important time. In the middle of this pandemic, so many are zooming, phoning, 'electronicing' obsessively. More peace would be found pausing and being still...Weaving through your poetry is the whisper to be present in our own lives at each moment..."—Rebecca D

**"Beautifully rendered. The openness,** the purpose of which you describe and so appropriate. The breaks in rhythm and pattern in terms of each two page spread (image one side, poem the other but then reversed). Aristotle all to himself...you have rendered your concept beautifully, with the design perfectly supporting the purpose and tone of the book."—Roger R (photographer, author)

**"The book is absolutely beautiful! The** images and poems, and the paper that it is printed on."—Bob R (photographer)

**"Great book. Very impressive. Far** more enjoyable than the many other books coming out these days!"—Gregory R

**"It couldn't have come at a better** moment in time. Since I am physically alone 75% of the time these days, it was a good reminder that I'm not really ever along in God's creations. Kent's book is a journey of just that. Adding the creative poems are like icing on the cake.

**The minute I opened Kent's book; I** couldn't put it down. To me it is a book for all "seasons", not just in "months" but in the seasons of our "lives" ...To receive this gift during this pandemic, when all the seasons of our lives have changed, makes this moment even more special. What an opportunity to rise above the storms. It was midnight before I realized the time, as I pondered the quite peacefulness and reflections of God's creations. "*Stillness*" will remain on my coffee table for a long time."—Kathy D

**"What a beautiful work of art!"**—Barbara C

**"WOW!!! It's so beautiful and so** special to me on many levels!"—Claudia J (photographer)

**"...absolutely gorgeous book...What** an absolute treat! Kent's photos are incredibly beautiful— the deserts, mountains, coastlines, and vistas are all perfectly captured. He is clearly a very talented landscape photographer, but the addition of his poetry really brings his photos to life and makes paging through his book a much more spiritual experience. The photo/poem combinations truly highlight the joyful and soothing power of stillness and nature. Each one brought special memories flooding back or made me contemplate the wonder of the Earth in some way..."—Claire D

**"WOW! It is amazing."**—Janel S

**"*Stillness: Whispers of Nature* is filled** with gorgeous photography combined with insightful poetry. It offers a calming respite from the world. I enjoy reading it often and highly recommend it to others."—Georgia C

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*"Kent, congratulations on the quiet vastness of your beautiful book. The poems are reminiscent, as Melinda says, of John O' Donohue and, for me, also of Basho...And your photographs are so opening, worlds to enter, reminiscent to me of Ed Weston and Ansel Adams."*—Mark Nepo (Author)

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