

A NEW FILM BY WERNER HERZOG, LEGENDARY DIRECTOR OF
GRIZZLY MAN AND *CAVE OF FORGOTTEN DREAMS*

N O M A D

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF BRUCE CHATWIN

"A POIGNANT TESTAMENT TO TWO FRIENDS'
SHARED CURIOSITY ABOUT THE WORLD."

THE
Hollywood
REPORTER

"CONVEYS A SENSE OF PROFOUND
BEAUTY AND PRIMORDIAL MYSTERY."

VARIETY

PRESS NOTES - 2020 - MUSIC BOX FILMS



LOGLINE

Werner Herzog travels the globe to reveal a deeply personal portrait of his friendship with the late travel writer Bruce Chatwin, a kindred spirit who dedicated his life to illuminating the mysteries of the world.

SYNOPSIS

Werner Herzog turns the camera on himself and his decades-long friendship with the late travel writer Bruce Chatwin, a kindred spirit whose quest for ecstatic truth carried him to all corners of the globe. Herzog's deeply personal portrait of Chatwin, illustrated with archival discoveries, film clips, and a mound of "brontosaurus skin," encompasses their shared interest in aboriginal cultures, ancient rituals, and the mysteries stitching together life on earth.





WERNER
HERZOG

Werner Herzog was born in Munich on September 5, 1942. He grew up in a remote mountain village in Bavaria and studied History and German Literature in Munich and Pittsburgh. He made his first film in 1961 at the age of 19. Since then he has produced, written, and directed more than sixty feature- and documentary films, such as Aguirre der Zorn Gottes (AGUIRRE, THE WRATH OF GOD, 1972), Nosferatu Phantom der Nacht (NOSFERATU, 1978), FITZCARRALDO (1982), Lektionen in Finsternis (LESSONS OF DARKNESS, 1992), LITTLE DIETER NEEDS TO FLY (1997), Mein liebster Feind (MY BEST FIEND, 1999), INVINCIBLE (2000), GRIZZLY MAN (2005), ENCOUNTERS AT THE END OF THE WORLD (2007), Die Höhle der vergessenen Träume (CAVE OF FORGOTTEN DREAMS, 2010). Werner Herzog has published more than a dozen books of prose, and directed as many operas. Werner Herzog lives in Munich and Los Angeles.

WERNER HERZOG

WERNER HERZOG – SELECT FILMOGRAPHY

Family Romance, LLC.
Nomad: In the Footsteps of Bruce Chatwin (Documentary)
Meeting Gorbachev (Documentary)
Into the Inferno (Documentary)
Salt and Fire
Lo and Behold: Reveries of the Connected World (Documentary)
Queen of the Desert
Into the Abyss (Documentary)
Happy People: A Year in the Taiga (Documentary)
Cave of Forgotten Dreams (Documentary)
My Son, My Son, What Have Ye Done
Bad Lieutenant: Port of Call New Orleans
Encounters at the End of the World (Documentary)
Rescue Dawn
The Wild Blue Yonder
Grizzly Man (Documentary)
The White Diamond (Documentary)
Wheel of Time (Documentary)
My Best Fiend (Documentary)
Little Dieter Needs to Fly (Documentary)
Bells from the Deep (Documentary)
Lessons of Darkness (Documentary)
Scream of Stone
Echoes From a Somber Empire (Documentary)
Herdsmen of the Sun (TV Movie documentary)
Cobra Verde
Where the Green Ants Dream
Fitzcarraldo
Woyzeck
Nosferatu the Vampyre
Stroszek
Heart of Glass
The Enigma of Kaspar Hauser
The Great Ecstasy of Woodcarver Steiner (Documentary)
Aguirre, the Wrath of God (a film by)
Land of Silence and Darkness (Documentary)
Fata Morgana (Documentary)
Even Dwarfs Started Small

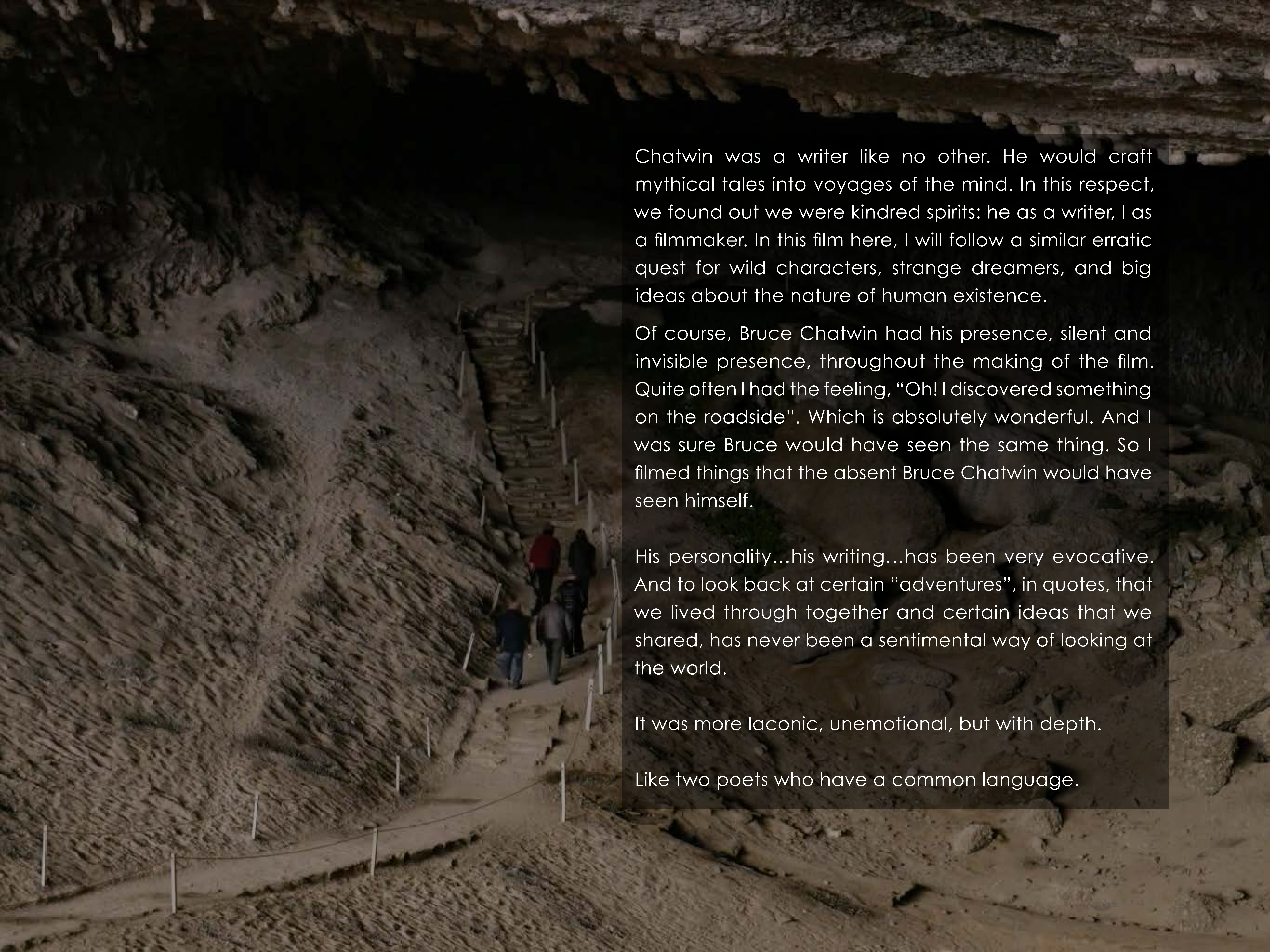
Making the film, today, 30 years after the death of Bruce Chatwin was not my idea it was the BBC. They approached me and they said that, and I said, "My god, has it really been 30 years since he died?" And they said, "Yes, it's true". The impulse came from them and they spotted the right person, because I said, "In a way, I carried that film in me without ever making it." So it came with great ease.

When you look at the film it's clear and it was clear from the very beginning. This is not going to be a biography; biographies are not good soil for movies to grow upon. I immediately had the feeling it should be much on the common worldview that we had. We had very similar ideas about fundamental things of life, like traveling on foot for example, nomadism.

And I said, "It has to do about the ideas of meetings about a worldview, about wild storytelling, and about poetry".

Werner Herzog

on
making NOMAD



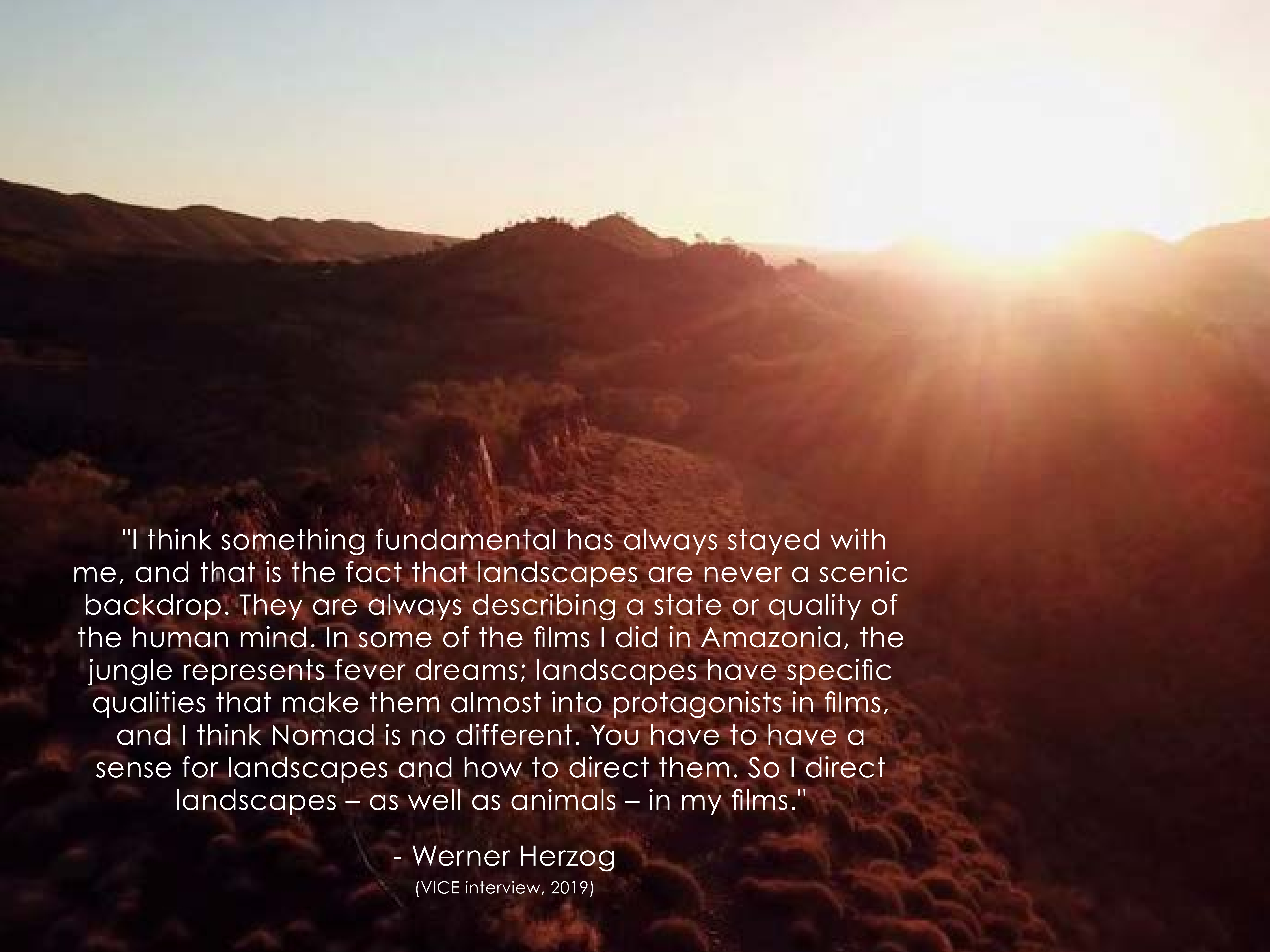
Chatwin was a writer like no other. He would craft mythical tales into voyages of the mind. In this respect, we found out we were kindred spirits: he as a writer, I as a filmmaker. In this film here, I will follow a similar erratic quest for wild characters, strange dreamers, and big ideas about the nature of human existence.

Of course, Bruce Chatwin had his presence, silent and invisible presence, throughout the making of the film. Quite often I had the feeling, "Oh! I discovered something on the roadside". Which is absolutely wonderful. And I was sure Bruce would have seen the same thing. So I filmed things that the absent Bruce Chatwin would have seen himself.

His personality...his writing...has been very evocative. And to look back at certain "adventures", in quotes, that we lived through together and certain ideas that we shared, has never been a sentimental way of looking at the world.

It was more laconic, unemotional, but with depth.

Like two poets who have a common language.



"I think something fundamental has always stayed with me, and that is the fact that landscapes are never a scenic backdrop. They are always describing a state or quality of the human mind. In some of the films I did in Amazonia, the jungle represents fever dreams; landscapes have specific qualities that make them almost into protagonists in films, and I think Nomad is no different. You have to have a sense for landscapes and how to direct them. So I direct landscapes – as well as animals – in my films."

- Werner Herzog
(VICE interview, 2019)

BRUCE CHATWIN - BIBLIOGRAPHY

In Patagonia (1977)
The Viceroy of Ouidah (1980)
On the Black Hill (1982)
The Songlines (1987)
Utz (1988)
What Am I Doing Here (1989)

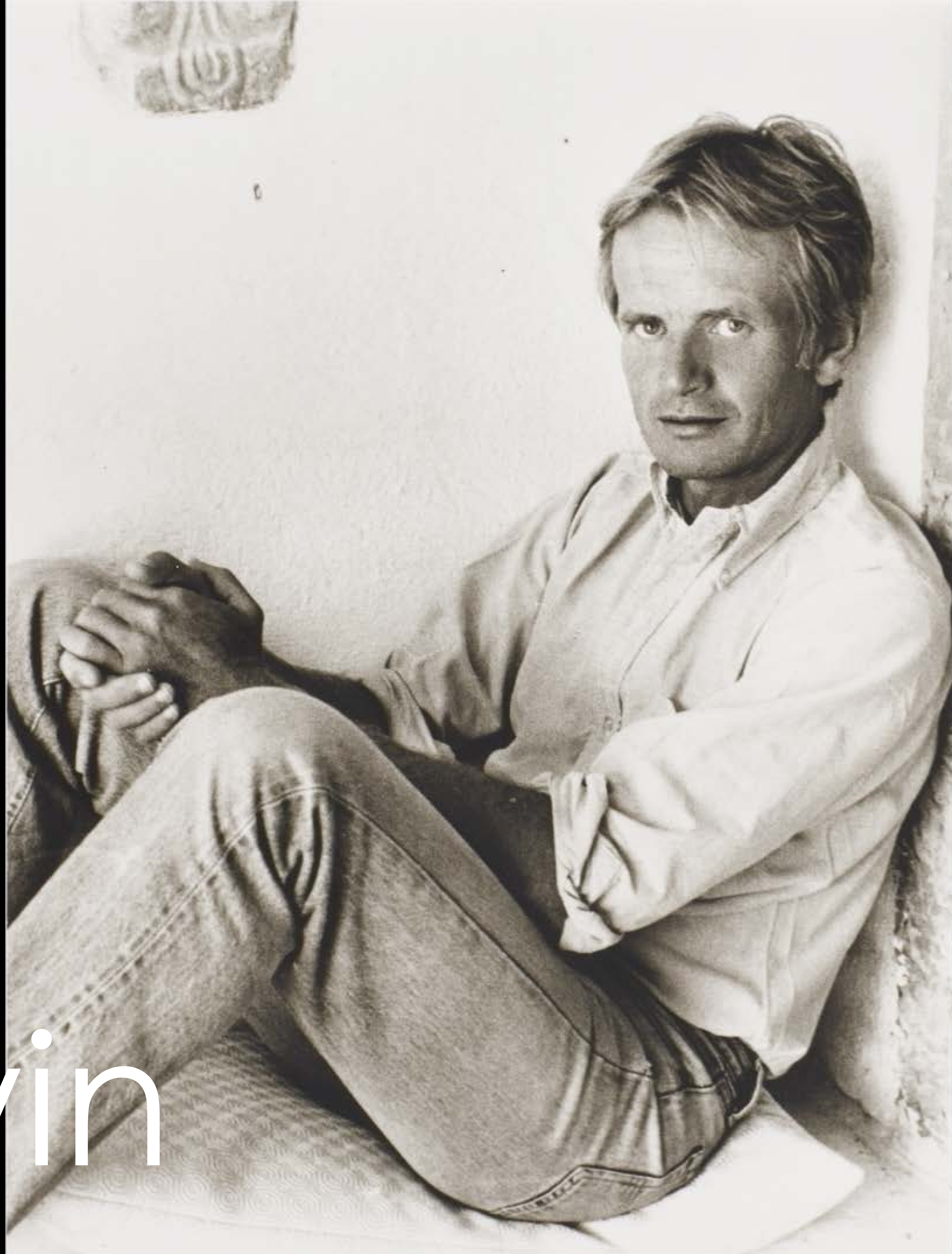
(Posthumously published)

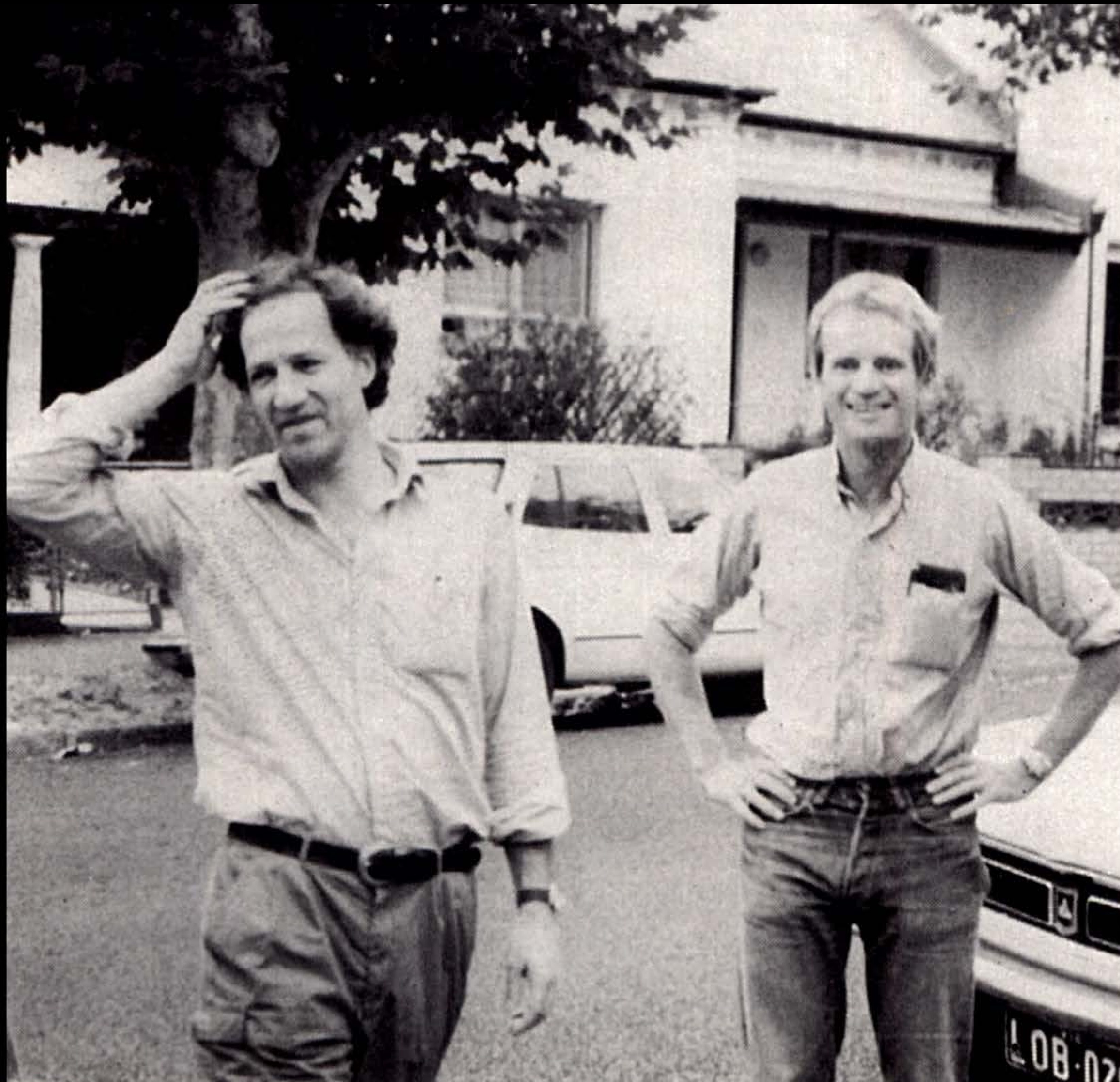
Photographs and Notebooks (1993)
Anatomy of Restlessness (1997)
Winding Paths (1998)



Bruce Chatwin (1940 – 1989), was British writer who won international acclaim for books based on his nomadic life. In 1966 Chatwin abandoned a promising career as a director of Impressionist art at the auction firm Sotheby's in London to study archaeology at the University of Edinburgh. From 1973 he worked for a time as a traveling correspondent for The Sunday Times (London), but he quit in 1976 to begin a pilgrimage through the Patagonia region of southern Argentina and Chile. The book *In Patagonia* (1977), based on his travels, won awards in Britain and the United States. *The Viceroy of Ouidah* (1980; filmed as *Cobra Verde*, 1987) is a fictionalized biography of a Brazilian slave trader in 19th-century Dahomey. In *On the Black Hill* (1982; filmed 1988), which won the Whitbread literary award, Chatwin explored the lives of twin brothers on an isolated 20th-century Welsh farm. Chatwin's most commercially successful work, *The Songlines* (1987), is both a study of Australian Aboriginal creation myths and a philosophical reverie on the nature of nomads. His last novel was *Utz* (1988; filmed 1992). *What Am I Doing Here?*, a collection of Chatwin's essays, was published posthumously.

Bruce Chatwin





“All my life, I have searched for the nature of human restlessness.”

- Bruce Chatwin

CREDITS

Directed by... Werner Herzog

Written by... Werner Herzog

Featuring... Werner Herzog, Bruce Chatwin,
Kerin Eberhard, Nicholas Shakespeare, Elizabeth Chatwin

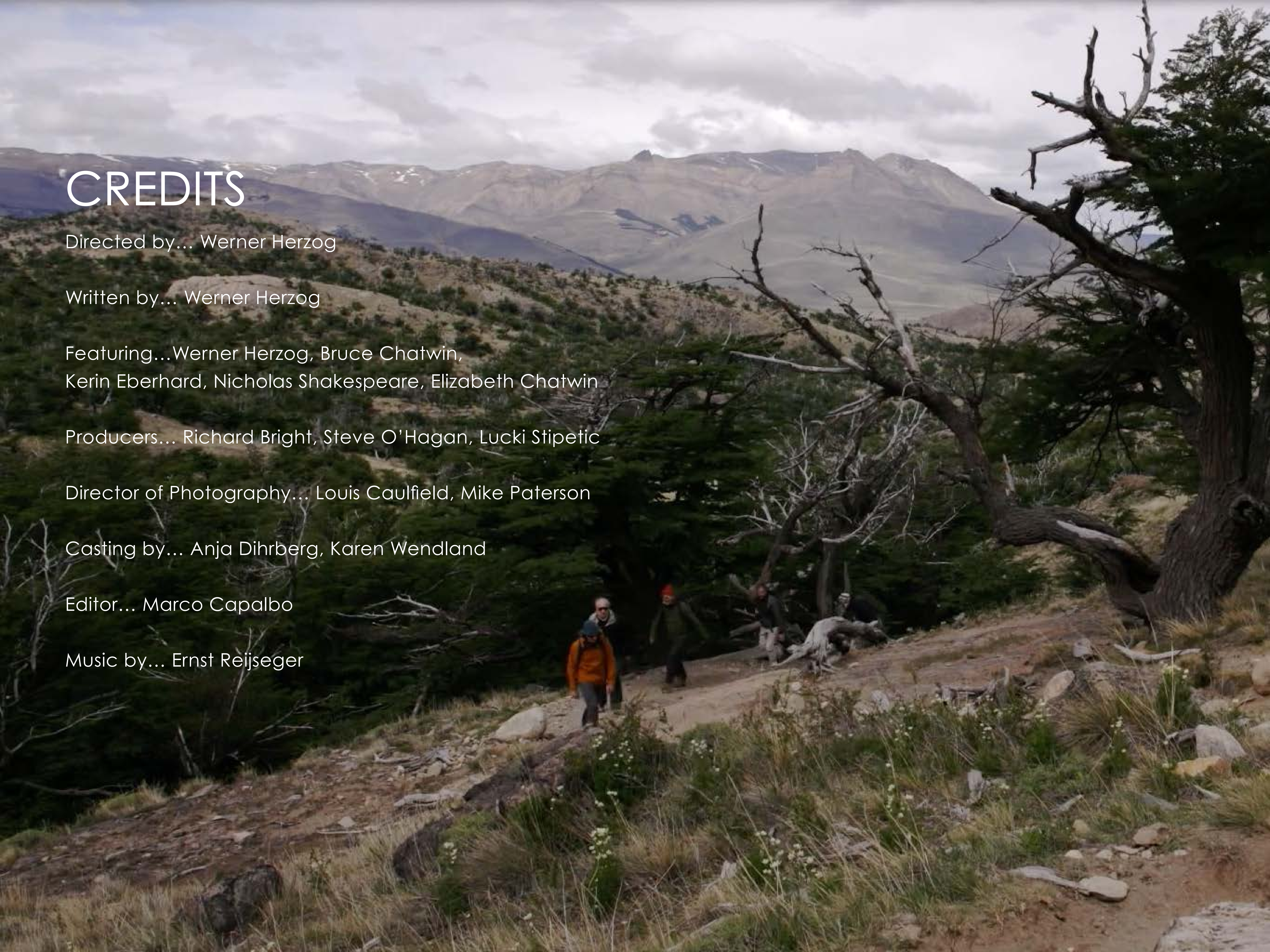
Producers... Richard Bright, Steve O'Hagan, Lucki Stipetic

Director of Photography... Louis Caulfield, Mike Paterson

Casting by... Anja Dührberg, Karen Wendland

Editor... Marco Capalbo

Music by... Ernst Reijseger





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