

AT HOME IN THE ROCKS



Brooks Jensen

A Brooks Jensen Arts Publication

It's natural, on occasion, to despair of life's turmoil. But at least we don't live our life on the edge of a precipice! I get queasy near the void at the edge of a height. But then again, I don't have roots that burrow deep into the rock and hold tight for dear life.





Sitting here, gazing out across the canyon at the opposite wall, I wonder: *How many trees are there? What determines how close they grow to one another? How many living creatures are within this view?* I try to still the chatter of such questions and **just breathe**. Not always, but from time to time, the quiet descends and I am enveloped in the living space.







A slight breeze ambles past me; the sun warms my back. An unseen crow floats right to left through the space between the walls as if chasing his own echo, as a *caw-caw* fills the canyon from one end to the other. The buzz of a bee fades in and out of the soundscape, then a chipmunk squeaks, then the breeze again. The sounds of my own breathing mix with waves of sound approaching from the quiet void behind me, fading into the quiet void between me and the trees on the far side of the canyon.





Visually, nothing moves; aurally it never stops. Here, there is space for living — space for living *things*. Nothing is crowded, but no crevice is left empty that could be home.



Brooks Jensen is a fine-art photographer, publisher, workshop teacher, and writer. In his personal work he specializes in small prints, hand-made artist's books, and digital media publications.

He and his wife (Maureen Gallagher) are the owners, co-founders, editors, and publishers of the award winning *LensWork*, one of today's most respected and important periodicals in fine art photography. With subscribers in 73 countries, Brooks' impact on fine art photography is truly world-wide. His long-running podcasts on art and photography are heard over the Internet by thousands every day. All 900+ podcasts are available at [LensWork Online](http://lensworkonline.com), the LensWork membership website. LensWork Publishing is also at the leading edge in multimedia and digital media publishing with *LensWork Extended* — a PDF based, media-rich expanded version of the magazine.

Brooks is the author of seven best-selling books about photography and creativity: *Letting Go of the Camera* (2004); *The Creative Life in Photography* (2013); *Single Exposures* (4 books in a series, random observations on art, photography and creativity); and *Looking at Images* (2014); as well as a photography monograph, *Made of Steel* (2012). His next book will be *Those Who Inspire Me (And Why)*. A free monthly compilation of of this image journal, [Kokoro](http://kokoro.com), is available for download.

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