

The sea and I

By Tom Kelly

It comes a beautiful blue, rolling and crashing, curling and frothing, calm and violent, all at the same time, a diversity of movements. Waves, rise up from the water, a wall of power, racing towards the hapless shore. It starts to falter, folding over itself, curling in to a fury of white foam, before smashing into the shore, disintegrating to nothing. It makes a final crusade, trying to claw the sand before slipping back into the sea with a crying hiss.

The golden sand runs between my toes as I walk, slowly down to the shoreline. I take in the scene for a moment, it's beautiful. I continue to wade into the cool water, before diving under, gliding under the waves. I surface. I now feel clean, clean like no shower can give, it cleans both my mind and my body, I feel fresh, I feel alive. A wave charges towards me, I see through it to the other side, as if it were a wall of tinted green glass. I feel it raise me up and I jump, for a moment I fly, gliding in the air like a bird, almost in slow motion, before plummeting down the other side.

The sea is toying with me, tossing whatever it has to give now, huge curling waves crash in front of me, shooting a whitewash shockwave across the calm surface. I dive under, only to come up to a towering wall of water, looming up above me. It glares down and strikes, but I am too fast. I dive under yet again and cling to the sand. For a moment everything is silent, until an almighty boom crashes above me, chaos is millimetres above my head. I can feel it, ripping and twisting in a thousand different directions at once, yet I'm at peace. I sway, drift peacefully underneath the storm, everything is silent. I let go, I am completely at peace for a moment, swaying gently, away from everything. I open my eyes, so see, the sun twinkling at me through the clear water, beckoning me to the surface.

I sit on the shore, watching the sun kiss the sea goodnight, listening to the quiet lapping of waves against the shore, sounds caressing my ears and wonder if I am the only person on earth. I could be on another planet when I am with the sea - it's a mystical, exciting and dangerous place. Many creatures live beneath its surface, and I know, it holds as many mysteries as sunken ships, a huge wonderful swirling world of chaos and disorder, diversity and beauty. It is the most important place on the planet, and it is all around us, waiting for us to dive in and delve among its treasures.