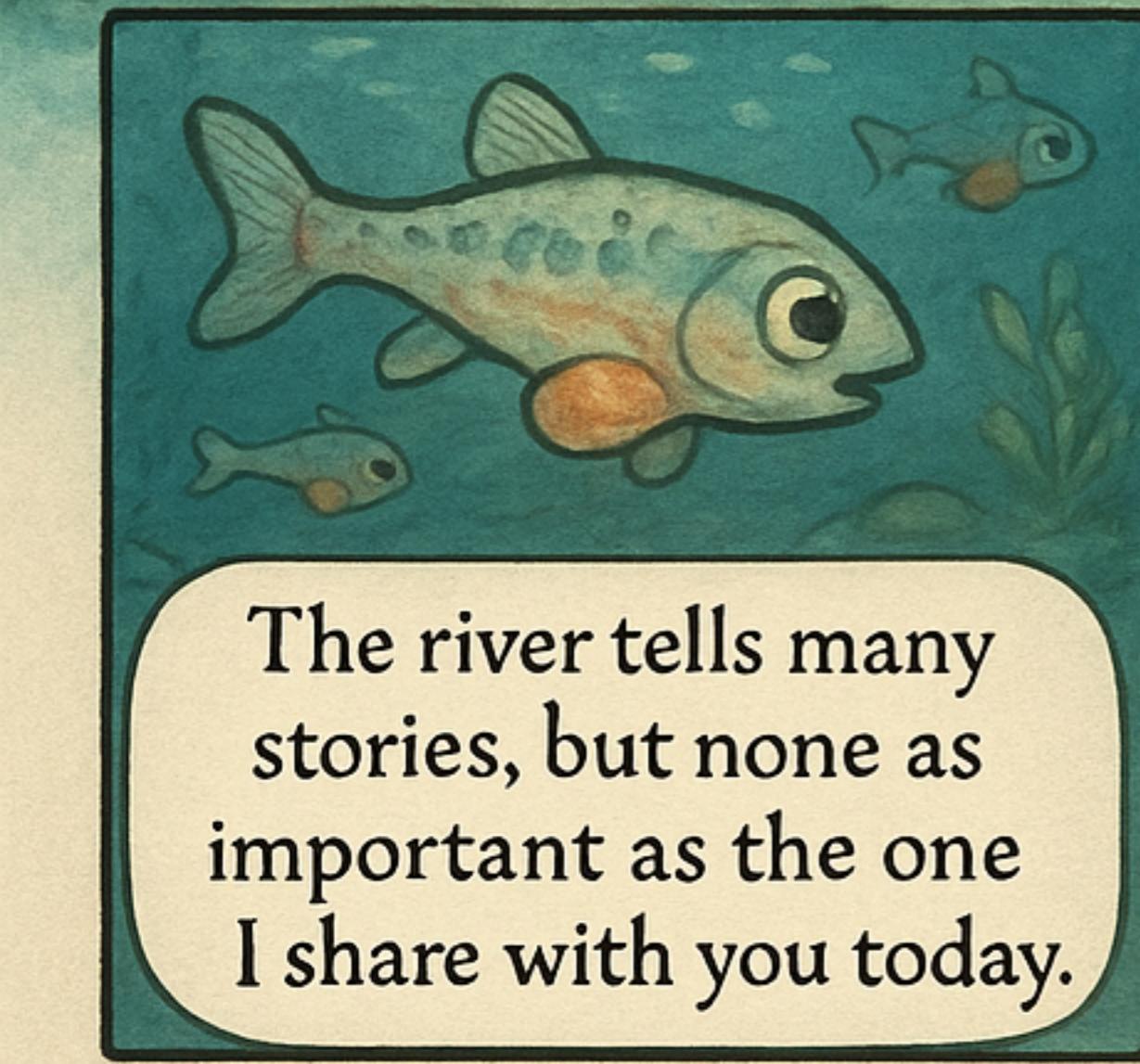


# The Legend of the Upstream Dreamer:

As told by Elder Redgill to the alevin during the First Fin Gathering



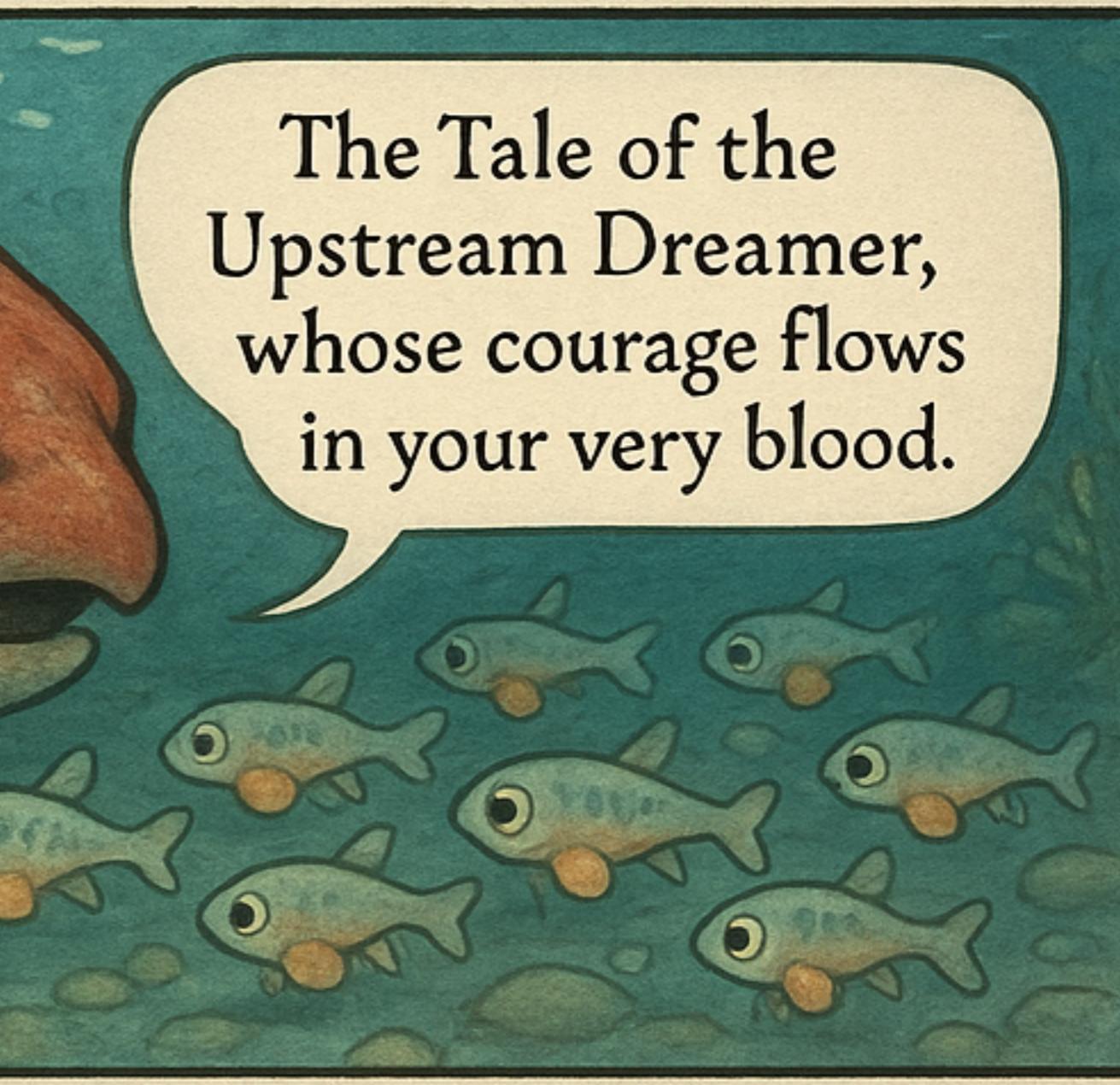
Huddle close, little ones,  
still your tails in the  
calm of our eddy.



Yes, even you, speckled-back,  
cease your darting.



The river tells many  
stories, but none as  
important as the one  
I share with you today.

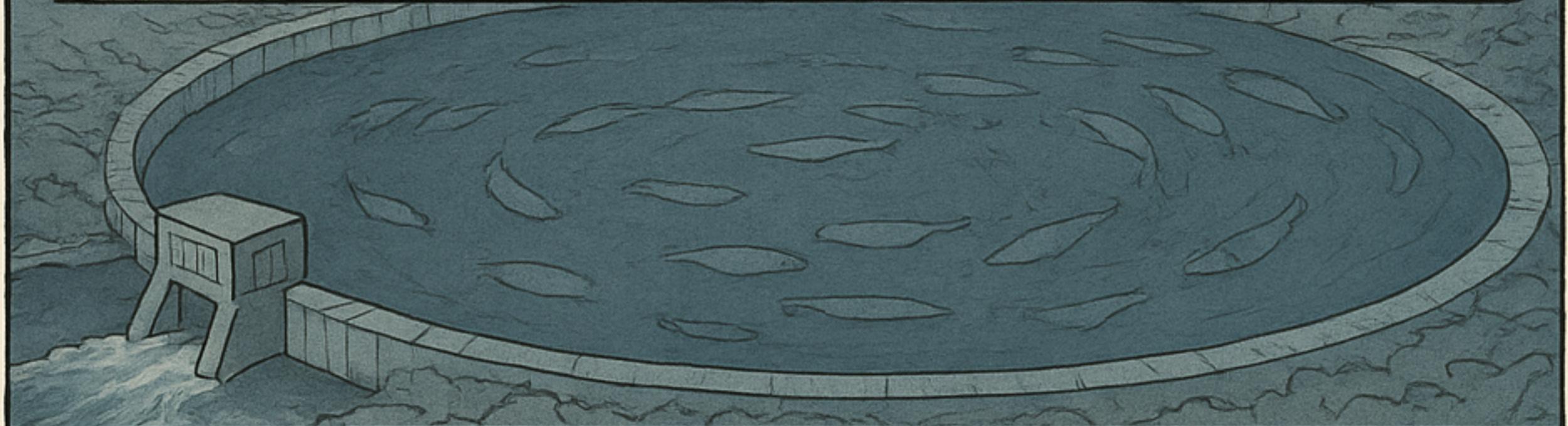


The Tale of the  
Upstream Dreamer,  
whose courage flows  
in your very blood.

# THE LEGEND OF THE UPSTREAM DREAMER

## Page 2: The Circle of Forgetting

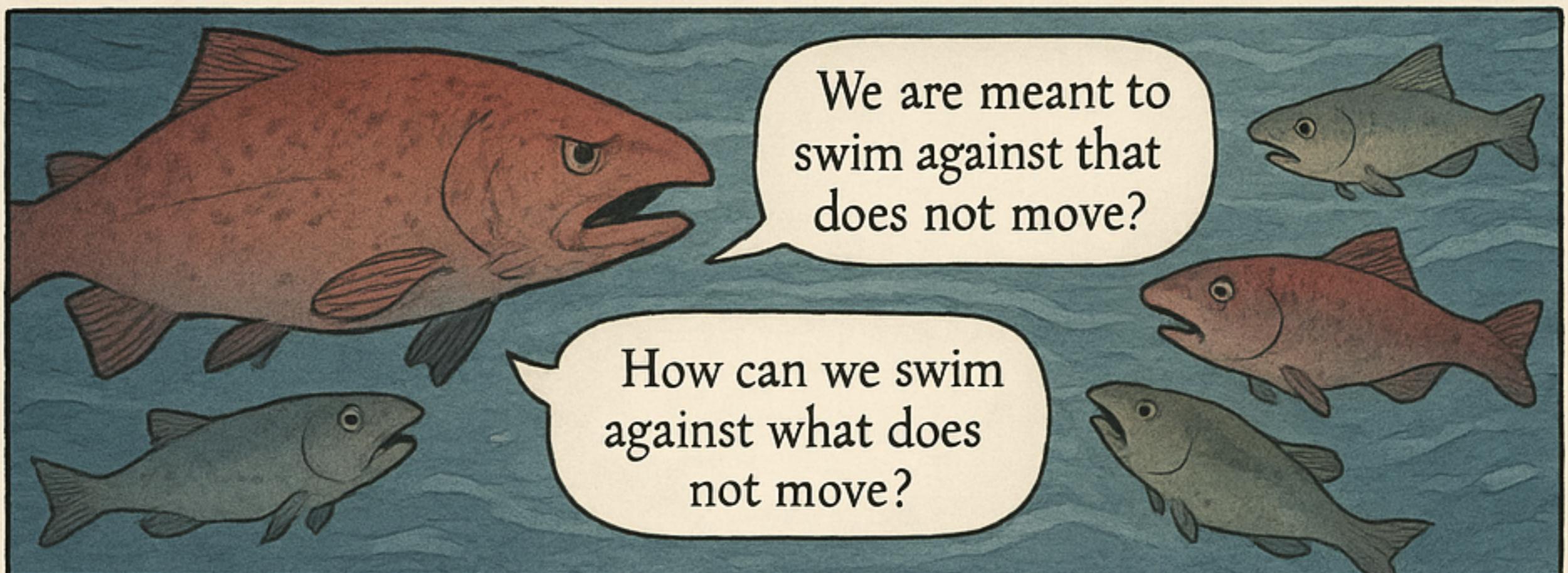
Unlike mivens ago, there lived many of our kin in what we call the *Circle of Forgetting*—a vast, still water created by Two-Legs.



Our ancestors were swept there through the Thunder Tube, a powerful tunnel where water rushed with such force that even the strongest swimmers were helpless against it.



Wir ancestors were swept there through the Thunder Tube, a powerful tunnel where water rushed with no surrents swimmers were helpless.



How can we swim against what does not move?

We are meant to swim against that does not move?

# THE LEGEND OF THE UPSTREAM DREAMER

## PAGE 3 Riversoul Appears

Among them lived a salmon named Riversoul, whose silver-red scales flashed like fire when the sun touched the water.



While others circled endlessly in the still waters,



Even if you could enter the Thunder Tube, no fish can fight such a current. It would crush your gills and break your spine.



There is a rhythm to the Thunder. And where there is rhythm, there is weakness.

Have you forgotten who we are? We are salmon.



# THE LEGEND OF THE UPSTREAM DREAMER

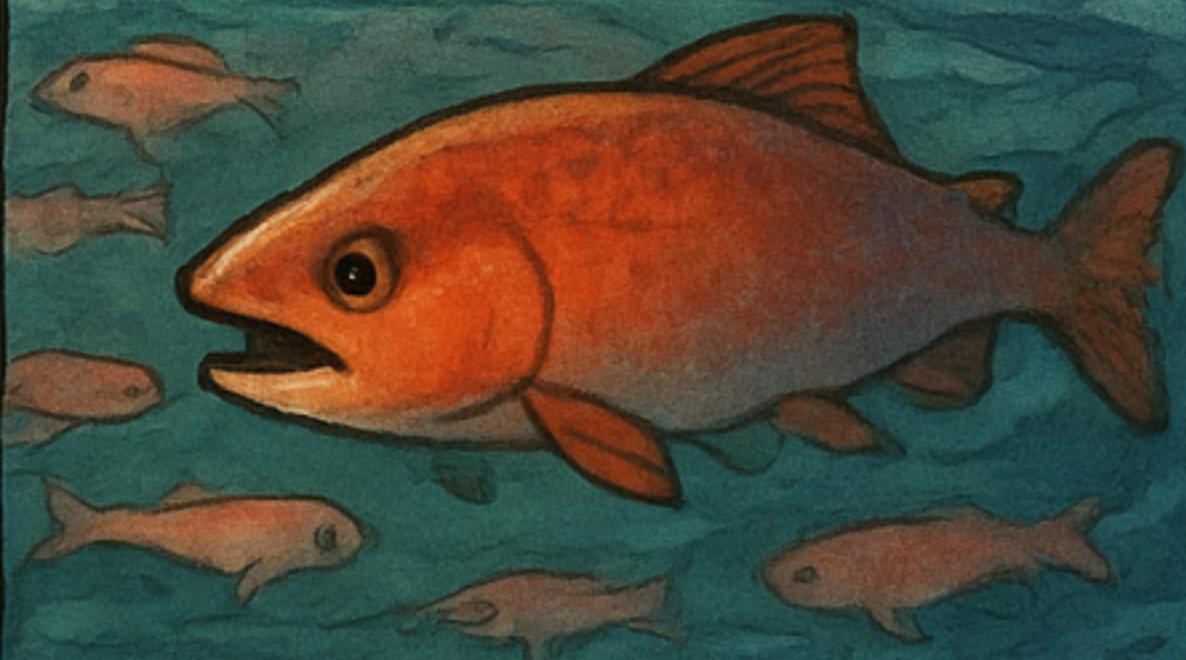
## PAGE 4: THE PREPARATION

For a full moon cycle.  
Riversoul ate nothing, saying  
every ounce of strength.



Watclch closely, little ones.  
Remember what you see.  
Tell the others, Keep  
this knowledge in your scles.

When the moment came—  
when Two Legs adjusted  
something that made thun-  
der Tube gurgle differently—  
Riversoul knew it was time,



Watch closely,  
little ones.  
Remember what  
you see, Tell  
the others.  
Keep this  
knowledge in  
your scales.



Then, Riversoul began to swim in tight circles,  
each loop faster than the last, building  
power with every turn.

# THE LEAP

The other salmon gathered, curious about this strange



With a mighty thrust of tail and fin, Riversoul shot upward at precisely the angle where the Thunder Tube opened, hanging suspended between captivity and possibility.



With a mighty thrust of tail and fin, Riversoul shot upward at precisely the angle where Thunder Tube opened, hanging suspended between captivity and possibility.



And with that cry still echoing across the Circle of Forgetting, Riversoul plunged into the

# THE LEGEND of the UPSTREAM DREAMER

## THE BATTLE



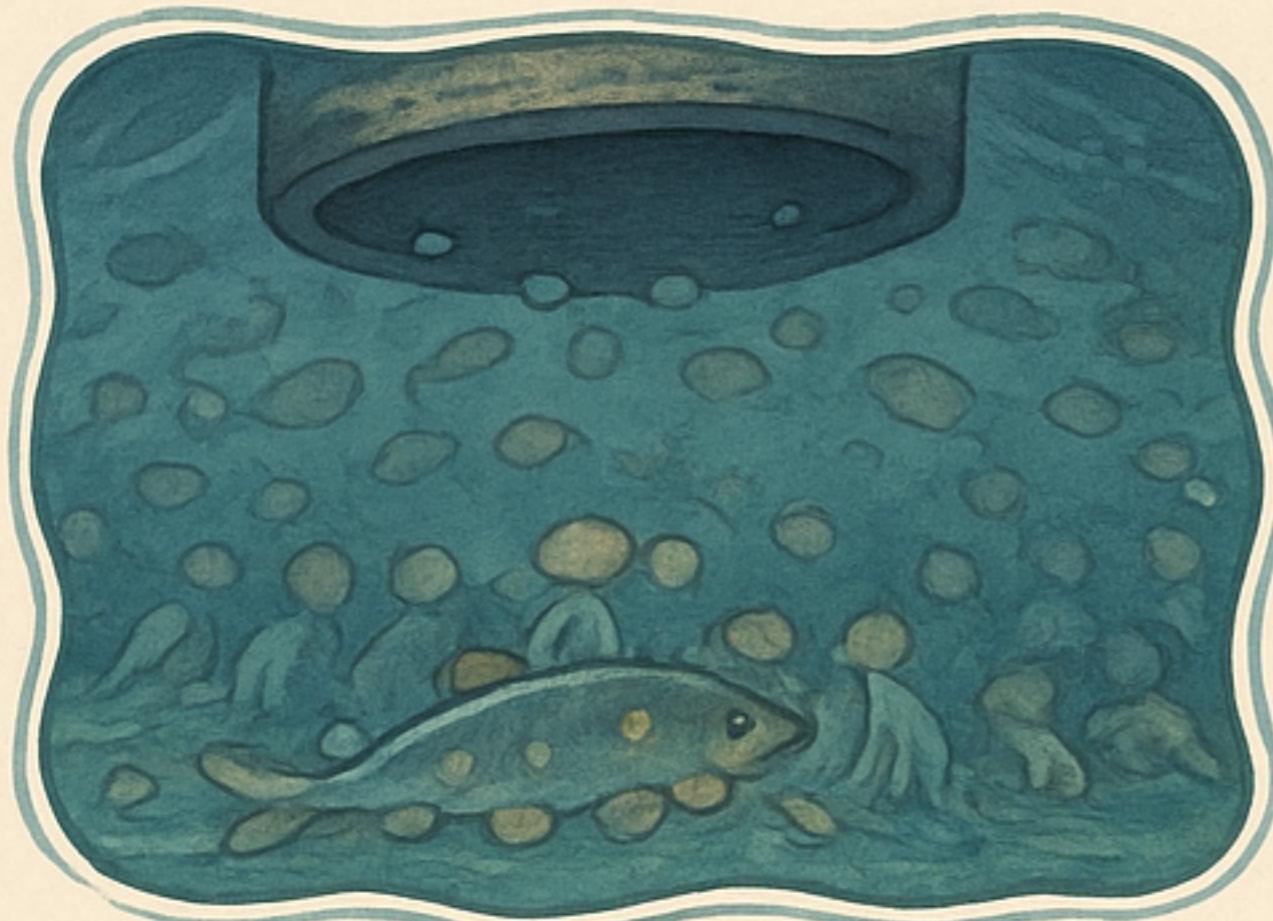
Instead of being swept away and crushed, Riversoul turned directly into thundering current and began to swim.

# THE LEGEND of the UPSTREAM DREAMER

## FREEDOM AND LEGACY



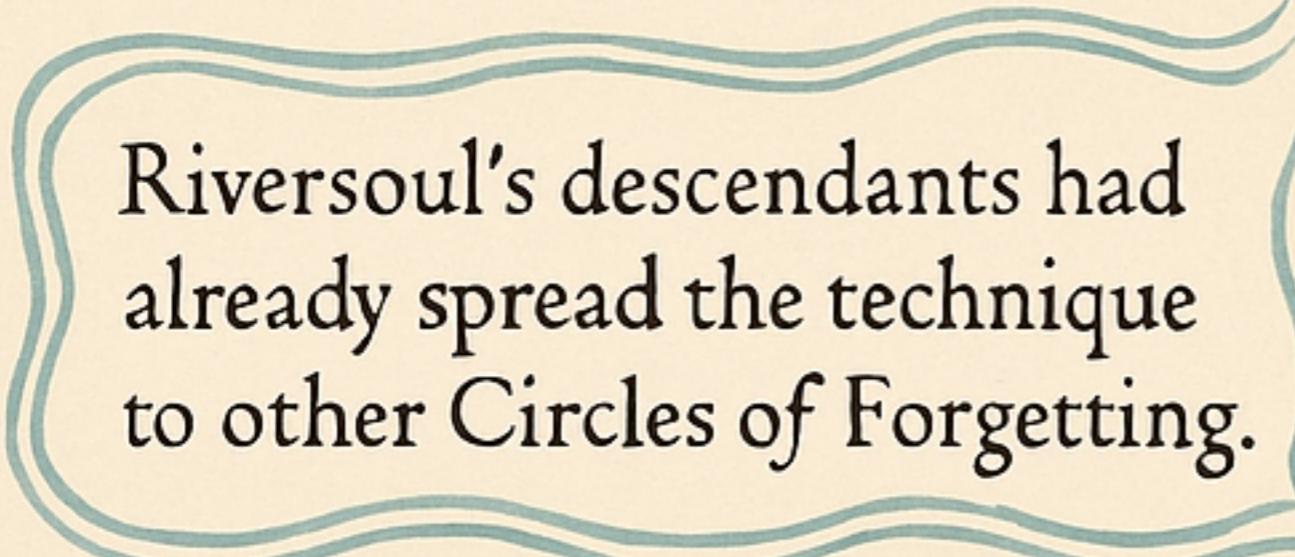
The Thunder Tube ended, opening into wild river - a river with currents that spoke of distant mountains and the sea. A river that led ho.



One by one, more salmon escaped, until the Two-Legs noticed and changed their Thunder Tube. But it was too late. The knowledge had returned to our kind.



Riversoul's descendants had already spread the technique to other Circles of Forgetting.



And so, little ones, when you feel the pull in your bodies that calls you to swim against the flow, know that it is no mere instinct. It is the echo of Riversoul's courage.

