



Olof Alexandersson

LIVING WATER

Viktor Schauberger and the Secrets of Natural Energy

CONTENTS

	Page
Publisher's Note	8
List of illustrations	9
Foreword by Kai Curry-Lindahl	11
Introduction	13
Chapter	
1. Who Was Viktor Schaubberger?	17
2. New Techniques of Water Management	39
3. Schaubberger's Teachings on Water	50
4. The Life and Death of a Forest	66
5. Perpetual Motion	76
6. Implosion and Biosynthesis	83
7. A Meeting With Hitler	88
8. Wartime Experiences	92
9. Biological Techniques in Agriculture	96
10 Schaubberger's Criticism of Science and Society	111
11 The Final Years	116
12 Schaubberger's Heritage	124
13 The Spreading Scientific Search	129
Appendix I Contemporary Applications of Vortex Research	141
Appendix II Physics and The Vortex	150
Notes	152
Bibliography	158
Index	161

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

The first English language publication of this title in 1982 attracted much curiosity, but there were not, at that time, many projects in vortex research. Awareness of the world ecological crisis has stimulated much creative thought, so we considered it relevant to add some new material. The appendices therefore contribute information on new research projects and on the links of vortex theory to fundamental physics.

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

1. Viktor Schauburger	16
2. Grass Snake Swimming	26
3. Log Flumes at Neuberg	30
4. Water Disturbance Patterns	35
5. Natural River Profiles	38
6. Flood Control Scheme	42
7. The Dying Rhine	46
8. 'Energy Bodies' placed in a Stream	48
9. Motion Within a Water Droplet	51
10. A Mountain Stream	57
11. 'Living Water' Machine, Mk. I	60
12. 'Living Water' Machine, Mk. II	62
13. Swedish Biological Synthesising Machine	63
14. Double Spiral Pipe	64
15. Ground Preparation after Tree Felling	70
16. A Polluted River	78
17. Pipes for Liquids and Gas	86
18. The Nurnberg Experiment	90
19. The Domestic Power Station	91
20. Models of Flying Saucers	95
21. Heart of a Cockchafer	99
22. The Spiral Plow	104
23. 'Noble' Compost Heap	108
24. Kudu Antelope Spiral	118
25. Graph of Stuttgart Tests	119
26. Water Vortex	126
27. Walter Schauburger	130
28. Pythagoras-Kepler School	132
29. Virbela Flow Forms	135
30. Apparatus for Oxegeating Water	136

31	Accelerators for Nuclear Fusion	137
32	Nebula Spiral	138
33	A Cycloid Curve	151
34	Schauberger's adapted Cycloidal Curve	151
35	Hyperbolic Spiral	152

FOREWORD

Viktor Schauberger's early appreciation of the intimate relationship between water and forest, and their dual influence upon water resource management, the landscape's health within particular precipitation areas - is undoubtedly correct. His perception of these complex and important questions of human existence was rooted in his experiences within the natural environment of temperate Austria. Here the natural processes of destruction are slow in reaction to human environmental mistakes. In the tropics, where the landscape is more vulnerable, the rapid consequences of human forest clearance are more obvious and extensive. This often leads to the collapse of the drainage system, serious erosion, the destruction of productive land, the disappearance of vegetation and fauna, aridity, and even negative repercussions far out to sea, because of the river's unnatural sedimentary outflow reducing the light intensity of coastal waters, thus killing coral reefs which had provided living and breeding grounds for commercially important fish species living in the open sea.

Schauberger's theories about Europe are, in the tropics, thus verified in a convincing and shocking way. We, in the temperate regions will, in the long run, experience similar damage to our renewable natural resources if harmful ecological measures are allowed to continue within the productive environment.

Man has a propensity to plan and execute the exploitation of natural resources with sights set on immediate or the earliest possible returns, without regard to the long-term perspectives or ecological relationships. Modern forestry illustrates this. To survive, we shall have to think and plan within an ecosystematic dimension, which demands that we

respect and protect the ecological and genetic processes that are the basis for our existence; in other words, the inter-relationship between water-soil-vegetation and animals. Nature's plan is that they should coexist in perfect harmony.

Kai Curry-Lindahl,
Senior Advisor, United Nations Environment Programme

INTRODUCTION

Many people suggested that I write a book on Viktor Schauberger, the extraordinary natural scientist, inventor and philosopher. Already in the 1920s he forewarned us, in speeches and articles, of the environmental crisis in which we are now caught and from which we seem to have little hope of escaping. In his lifetime he met mostly resistance and scorn, but now interest in his life and work is increasing in many parts of the world. People are impressed by this powerful character who had such a tragic destiny, and by the audacious theories with which he wanted to transform the world.

Viktor Schauberger was not a learned man in the conventional scientific sense. He had, however, seen right into the depths of the workings of Nature, and his theories are based on his own understanding of Nature's life and functions. He was, of course, an outsider, an individualist; but history teaches us that, even within natural science, such people have frequently produced epoch-making discoveries, while in their own lifetimes being considered ignorant laymen by the learned world. Seldom achieving recognition themselves, following generations have often had cause to bless their work. It is possible that Viktor Schauberger will one day be included in this category of scientist

Until now there has existed no English language literature on Viktor Schauberger, except for some articles in that important but little known magazine *The Men of the Trees*. This book is a modest attempt to present some material on his life and work that I have collected since 1956, when I first became aware of him. I did not meet him personally but a long friendship with his son, Walter Schauberger, and with several of Viktor Schauberger's old friends and colleagues have made

me feel close to him and his work.

This is not a biography, and even less a detailed exposition of his theories. In the main I have allowed Schauberger himself and his close associates to do the explaining, and have tried to restrict my own commentary as much as possible.

I am aware that the information for the basis of this book is fragile. Part of what he himself wrote was lost during his fateful trip to the United States, the trip that undoubtedly led indirectly to his death. For practical reasons I have not been able to use further special sources; so it is possible that there are omissions and possibly some mistakes in the text. On the whole, however, the story is true.

I have thought it unnecessary to quote all my sources in the text. For those interested, the main sources are listed at the end. I hope the reader will not be exasperated by complex wording that appears, sometimes without explanation, in the quotations. Viktor Schauberger's language is sometimes difficult to understand and to translate. He was often forced to use prevailing technical terms which he redefined in order to explain his theories, as the old definitions did not express what he wanted to say. Occasionally, he created new concepts which can be very difficult to understand. He was aware of the problems this could lead to, but he saw no alternative. The words of one of his colleagues, Professor Wilhelm Baiters comes to mind: 'How can it be easy to understand Father Schauberger's language - his work belongs to the future'.

This is not the place to discuss the validity of his theories. Up until now, only a small number of them have been able to be tested. He may have been wrong in some, and misunderstood other things he observed in Nature; but nevertheless, what remains clear is that, if his central theme is correct, then this embodies a revolutionary discovery of crucial importance. Viktor Schauberger's central theme was: 'Prevailing technology uses the wrong forms of motion. Our machines and processes channel such agents as air, water and other liquids and gases into the type of motion which Nature only uses to decompose and dissolve matter. Nature uses another form of motion for rebuilding. When our technology only uses the decomposing motion, it becomes a dead technology, a destructive one, dangerously affecting all of Nature.'

Instead, Viktor Schauberger wished to make practical use of nature's reconstituting principle of 'cycloid spiral motion'. In

this he succeeded in some way, though not in others. His description of what he experienced in Nature can sometimes sound like pure fantasy. However, it should be remembered that much of what Viktor Schauberger studied for so many years cannot now be seen, for the natural environment in which he lived is now no more. Nothing alters the fact that the phenomena he describes could have naturally occurred in the unspoiled surroundings of his younger days, and that they have now disappeared through the environmental destruction that has broken down Nature's interconnectedness. His attitudes towards economic development in the world may seem exaggerated. Those around him in the 1920s and 1930s often found cause to be amused by his prophecies of doom; for example, that a botde of water would soon become more expensive than a botde of wine. Now, fifty years later, both this and other of his prophecies have become a reality in many parts of the world.

Viktor Schauberger can be criticized in many ways; but however his theories are regarded, it would be difficult to deny that he was a great friend of Nature and a man with original, grandiose and often revolutionary ideas. Many have been moved by his ideas about Nature and his philosophies of life, and would agree with Wilhelm Baiters: 'You may have lived a calm and contented life- but from the moment you come face to face with the ideas of Viktor Schauberger, you will never again have peace in your soul'.

I trust that this book, despite its incompleteness, imparts something of the gripping and inspiring personality and ideas of Viktor Schauberger. This meeting with such a passionate defender of water, forest and fertile soil may, it is hoped, give the reader a nagging anxiety born from a feeling of responsibility- a responsibility stemming from the awareness that the plundered and raped Mother Earth shall recover her health and dignity, the basis also for man's own health and dignity.

Finally, I wish to thank warmly all those who have in their different ways greatly helped in the writing of this book.



Victor Schauberg.

1

WHO WAS VIKTOR SCHAUBERGER?

They call me deranged. The hope is that they are right. It is of no greater or lesser import for another fool to wander the earth. But if I am right and science is wrong- then may the Lord God have mercy on mankind.

Viktor Schauberger

A Meeting

A scene in the German Reich Chancellery in Berlin one day in 1934. Hitler, reclining in his chair, fixes his unerring gaze on the man sitting opposite him across the massive desk. There is another person in the room - ministerial director Wiluhn, a powerful man, but now just a bystander. The one who dominates the scene is not even Hitler himself, but the man opposite him. This is a tall, powerful man of fifty years old, with a lighdy grey flecked beard, hooked nose and steady eyes - a man known in wide circles in Austria and neighbouring countries, and a man about whom there have been many controversies; a man with many enemies, but also many admirers. It is the legendary 'water magician' from Linz on the Danube - Viktor Schauberger.

Hider has requested his presence. He now directed a question to him: 'You are involved with a lot of things that interest me. But now you have come up with the curious idea of defining our technology as the greatest ever deceiver of mankind?'

Schauberger: 'Herr Reich Chancellor, do you really want to hear the truth?'

Hitler (surprised): 'Yes, of course, say what you wish.'

Schauberger: 'Herr Reich Chancellor, present-day science is following a wrong and dangerous path. First and foremost it concerns the treatment of water - the principal agent of life. The existing methods of water control, power stations and forestry are ruining water - the earth's blood. It becomes diseased, and so affects all its surroundings. Instead of progress, the future promises catastrophe. With your four-year plan, and the technological methods employed, you are demolishing Germany, instead of building her up. In this way, Germany will sink within ten years ...'
But let us not anticipate.

A Son of Water and Forests

Viktor Schauburger came from ancient Bavarian aristocracy who had lost their privileges and family residence, Schauburg, around 1230, after a feud with the powerful prelate, the Bishop of Passau. Around 1650, one Stephan Schauburger moved to Austria and settled down by Lake Plockenstein at the foot of the Dreisesselberg. He started a branch of the family whose members almost exclusively interested themselves in the husbandry of the forests and their wild life. In time their motto became 'Fidus in silvis silentibus' (Faithful to the quiet forests), and the family crest displayed a tree trunk garlanded with wild roses.

One of Stephan's descendants became the last leader of the hunt at Bad Ischl during the time of Franz Joseph. At the end of the nineteenth century, one of his brothers was master woodsman in Holzschlag, beside Lake Plockenstein. He had nine children, the fifth child being Viktor, born on 30 June, 1885.

Viktor was a true 'son of the forest', both from his heritage and his environment. There was never any doubt that he would follow in his father's footsteps. He wrote once, 'From my earliest childhood it was my greatest ambition to become a forest warden like my father, grandfather, great-grandfather and his father before him'.

Early on the boy showed great interest in everything to do with Nature. He could roam around the whole day alone in almost virgin forest (compared to today) around Lake Plockenstein, studying animal and plant life, or following the numerous wild mountain streams. He soon learned a lot not to be found

in books about the life of the forest and about water from his father and elder relations. He says of them: 'They relied upon what they saw with their own eyes and what they felt intuitively. Above all, they recognized the inner healing power of water, and understood that water, directed through irrigation canals at night can yield a significantly greater harvest than that of the neighbouring meadows and fields.³⁴ Their chief interest, however, lay in the care of the forest and the wild regions.'

His mother was also close to Nature, and he related how she often told him: 'If occasionally life is really hard, and you don't know where to turn, go to a stream and listen to its music. Then everything will be alright again.'

Viktor's father wanted his son to be academically trained as an arboriculturist, but this path had little interest for him. He soon broke off his studies, and began instead at the practical forest school, from which he duly graduated with the state forest warden's exam.

The First Discoveries

His apprenticeship began under an older forest warden, and he has lyrically described how happy he felt as his dream was beginning to be realized. After the end of the First World War, he was given his own district, and, though remote, it had many advantages. He was employed by Prince Adolf Schaumburg-Lippe, who gave him responsibility over 21,000 hectares of almost untouched forest in Bernerau in Steyerling.

And so Schauberger's real period of learning started. In this large wilderness area, almost untouched by human hand because of its remoteness, he was provided with the opportunity of studying how Nature works when left undisturbed. There were many fine species of trees in this area that have since disappeared, a wealth of wildlife, and in the many fine streams a profusion of salmon, trout and other fish.

What Schauberger was able to study in this wilderness was often in sharp contrast to what was taught in academic forestry studies and it complemented the more traditional knowledge that he had absorbed at home.

Water was his consuming interest. He set out to discover its laws and characteristics and the connection between its temperature and its motion. He noticed how water running

from a mountain spring was at its greatest density, the so-called 'anomaly point' of $+4^{\circ}\text{C}$, and apparently at its highest quality. Salmon and trout, during spawning, drive themselves towards these sources, and he found the richest and most beautiful vegetation in these spots. During this early period as a forest warden, he experienced something that was to influence his understanding of water for the rest of his life. In the company of some old hunters, he had visited a remote district up in the mountains. Here there was a spring that had earlier been covered by a stone hut. This had subsequently been pulled down to expose the spring to light and sun. After a while, the spring had dried up, which surprised those who knew of it, as it had never done so before. Explanations for this were considered, and someone suggested rebuilding the stone structure. This was done, and after a while the spring returned.

It was now quite clear to Schauburger that water responded to forest and shade, and later he was supplied with much more evidence to confirm his theory. He began to perceive water as 'the earth's blood', and guessed that it must be allowed to flow along natural courses, if it was not to be spoiled. An untouched water course is shaped by winding curves and shaded banks covered with trees and bushes, not by accident. The water wants to flow in this way, and builds up these shaded banks to protect itself from direct sunlight'.

He meant that low temperature and natural flow was the condition necessary for water to preserve its supportive and carrying strength. He had seen how water could carry the greatest load on cold, clear nights, and he made early practical use of this observation. As a result of the war, the town of Linz suffered a serious shortage of fuel. This was during the winter of 1918. Up on the neighbouring Priel-Gebirge hills a lot of timber lay felled by fierce storms, but there were no draught animals- the war had taken those - and no large watercourses on which to float down the logs. Though Schauburger was merely a junior forest warden he felt confident enough to suggest to the town's magistrate that he be allowed to try to solve the fuel problem. The magistrate agreed.

In the district there flowed a stream thought unsuitable by the forestry experts for floating logs, but which Schauburger now decided to use. It was small and ran through narrow gorges, as he describes:

From my observations I noted how an increased water level resulting from a thaw builds up mud banks, which are then partially dispersed during clear cool nights when the water temperature drops. I then waited for an increase in the strength of the water current. This takes place in the early hours of the morning, when it is coolest, and particularly during full moon, in spite of the fact that the actual volume of the water is then apparently less, because of its contraction through cooling. I arranged for the timber to enter the water at the right moment, and in one single night 1600 cubic metres of timber were all brought down to a temporarily constructed pond in the valley.

He also became very interested in the behaviour of trout and salmon in the mountain streams. The large mountain trout could lie motionless for any amount of time in the strongest current. They made the odd movement with fin and tail, but otherwise appeared anchored in the rushing flow. If alarmed, on the other hand, they darted at lightning speed against the current instead of allowing themselves to be carried downstream by it, which would seem to be more natural.

Schauberger could find no explanation for the trout's behaviour in existing literature. However, he knew a mountain stream was colder near its source and became warmer farther from the source. Could this have some connection with the trout's struggle to escape against the current? He undertook several experiments to investigate this. As his observation point he chose a stretch of strong rapids along a stream where a large trout liked to lie. He had his woodsmen to warm up about one hundred litres of water and pour this in 500 metres upstream at a given signal. The stream was large, with a flow volume of several cubic metres of water per second. The meagre 100 litres of heated water did not noticeably warm up the stream. However, soon after the warm water was added, the trout - which until then had remained motionless - became greatly agitated. It flexed its tail, and was only with considerable effort able to maintain its position with vigorous movement of its fins. Soon its efforts were to no avail, and it was swept downstream, out of sight only much later to return to its old position. This convinced Schauburger that his theory was correct that there was indeed a connection between the

water's temperature and the trout's behaviour.

Schauberger also studied the trout's ability to jump up high waterfalls with little apparent effort. Within this phenomenon he saw evidence for his theory that the trout exploited some hitherto unknown source of energy within the water. He can himself describe such an observation:

It was spawning time one early spring moonlight night I was sitting beside a waterfall waiting to catch a dangerous fish poacher. What then occurred took place so quickly that I was hardly able to comprehend. In the moonlight falling directly onto the crystal clear water, every movement of the fish, garnered in large numbers, could be observed. Suddenly the trout dispersed, due to the appearance of a particularly large fish which swam up from below to confront the waterfall. It seemed as if it wished to disturb me other trout and danced in great twisting movements in the undulating water, as it swam quickly to and fro. Then, as suddenly, the large trout disappeared in the jet of the waterfall which glistened like falling metal. I saw it fleetingly under a conically-shaped stream of water, dancing in a wild spinning movement the reason for which was at first not clear to me. It then came out of this spinning movement and floated motionlessly upwards. On reaching the lower curve of the waterfall, it tumbled over and with a strong push reached behind the upper curve of the waterfall. There, in the fast-flowing water, with a vigorous tail movement it disappeared. Deep in thought I filled my pipe, and as I wended my way homewards, smoked it to the end. I often subsequently saw the same sequence of play of a trout jumping a high waterfall. After decades of similar observations, like rows of pearls on a chain, I should be able to come to some conclusion. But no scientist has been able to explain this phenomenon to me.

Schauberger, in another connection, suggests that a natural watercourse allowing natural motion, builds up an energy that flows in the opposite direction to the water. It is this energy that is used by the trout. In a suitably formed waterfall this energy flow can be distinguished as a channel of light within the streaming water. The trout seeks out this energy flow, and is sucked upwards as if in a whirlwind.

It was not only the trout, however, that he saw move in such an unusual way in these undisturbed waters. On a clear late winter night, in brilliant moonlight, he stood by a mountain pool formed within a rushing stream. The water in the pool was several metres deep, but so clear that he could easily see the bottom. Here lay stones, some as large as a man's head. As he stood studying these, he was surprised to see that a few of the stones were moving here and there, colliding with each other as if pulled together, only to be forced apart as if electrically charged. He explains:

I did not trust my generally observant eyes any more, when suddenly an almost head-size stone began to move in a circular path in the same way as a trout before leaping over a waterfall. The stone was egg-shaped.

In the next instance the stone was on the surface of the water, around which a circle of ice quickly formed. It appeared to float on the water surface, lit by the full moon.

Then a second, a third, followed by other stones in sequence went through the same movements. Eventually nearly all the stones of the same egg shape were on the surface. Other stones of irregular or angular shape remained below and did not move. At the time I naturally had no idea that it was a case of a synchronicity of events, leading to a unique form of movement. This movement overcomes the force of gravity and allows the stones of regular shape to come to the surface of the water.'

Schauberger says later that all the 'dancing stones' contained metals. It was such observations as these in his wilderness that caused him to ponder over the meaning of 'motion'.

He asked himself: 'What, in fact, is 'motion'?' Are there perhaps different types of motion? Might there possibly exist a form of motion as yet unknown to science? Out of his ponderings and observations there slowly grew a theory of the different forms of motion. He dearly wanted to put forward this theory, to discuss it with technical experts and scientists, but how was he to show that he had discovered something new?

Log Flumes That Were Technological Mysteries

Prince Adolf von Schaumburg-Lippe had problems. War and inflation, post-war crises and, not least, a young and financially demanding wife, forced the ageing prince to investigate all possibilities of propping up his ever diminishing treasury. He had fully worked his other forest domains, and now there remained Schauburger's own district, where the Prince often wandered, complaining of his bad luck. For here lay large stands of mature timber, so ill-placed for transportation, that the costs of moving it would eat up all the profits.

Eventually Prince Adolf announced a competition for the best solution to this problem, which would release his frozen assets in the Bernerau region.

Suggestions flowed in from forest engineers, hydrologists and other experts, but none of them caught the Prince's eye. There was one suggestion that he never even saw - the competition committee sifted it out at the preliminary stage. A junior forest warden had had the cheek to compete with experts and, even worse, had presented an idea which was complete fantasy - a bad joke. They had returned it to him with a stiff reprimand for not taking the competition seriously - and that presumably closed the issue.

But fate had decided otherwise. After an unsuccessful competition Prince Adolf was still seeking large sums of money, particularly in view of the young princess's approaching annual visit to Monte Carlo. The Princess herself came to Schauburger's district to hunt deer, accompanied by a young forest warden. During the hunt she confided in Schauburger that the Prince must soon leave his estate as he was bankrupt. The conversation turned to Schauburger's entry to the competition, which had so angered the committee. He presented the plan to the Princess, who asked him how much could be saved in transport costs. Schauburger answered that if the costs up until now had been 12 schillings per cubic metre transported to the sawmill, the costs with this method would lower this to one schilling plus installation costs for construction.

The Princess succeeded in persuading her husband to try out Schauburger's idea, but the construction had to be built with the latter's own funds, on the understanding that if these lived up to expectation, the Prince would reimburse him. After considerable trouble Schauburger managed to find a

businessman to back him and the building commenced.

Schauberger's ideas had already been thrown out at the planning stage by all the experts on timber flotation, and criticism increased as the building proceeded. No one had ever seen such a construction. Schauburger built a wooden chute, fifty kilometres long, which in itself might have been acceptable, but this particular chute had an idiotic shape; it was not straight, but zigzagged alongside valley sides and ravines, instead of following the shortest route. Finally, and most crazy of all, this apparently dumb-witted forester meant to let out water from the chute here and there, and then replenish with fresh water from streams and water courses along the route. He must fill up with cold water, he said, otherwise the larger logs would not float in the chute. Cold water! Who had ever heard such nonsense! Water is water- but he would presumably discover this. Anyone could predict the result. Nothing could float in such a chute. But these malicious prophecies were unfulfilled, as Schauburger describes.

After about four months the construction was complete. The massive timbers lay ready in place. One day I conducted a simple experiment A log of average weight was fed into the trough. It floated down for about 100 metres and then suddenly grounded on the bottom of the trough, causing the water behind the log to rise and eventually to flow over the sides of the trough. I saw the scornful looks on the faces of the workers. I immediately recognized that I had miscalculated and felt disconcerted. The log was removed from the trough. My diagnosis was too little water and too sharp a fall. I was helpless. My first act was to send my fellow workers home so I might consider the problem quietly.

The curves of the trough were correct On that score there was no doubt What was wrong? Slowly I walked alongside the trough and came to the trap and sorting dams, to which was connected a further length of trough. The dams were full. I sat on a rock above the water in the warm sun.

Suddenly I felt something moving underneath my leather trousers. In springing up I saw a snake in a coiled position. I slung the snake away and it fell into the dam where it swam quickly to the far side and tried to get onto dry land. It was unsuccessful because the bank was too steep. It then swam