

Lake Superior Moods

By Kari Marks

She changes every day. Sometimes by the hour, sometimes by the minute. She can be soft-spoken and calm, and suddenly, without warning, become aggressive and erratic. She can give and she can take without any concern of the outcome. Her moods are influenced by the wind, the sun, the moon, and whatever season she finds herself in. She is both soft and strong. She will overcome everything in her path, even that which is hard and inflexible.

I observe her from a place called Chequamegon Bay. In the cold months, she is still and silent, yet continues to flow deep beneath the ice and snow. In the summer, she can be calm and welcoming in the morning and aggressive and unpredictable in the afternoon. Looking out onto her, we observe change constantly.

Spending many moments alone with her, I've learned important lessons about life. She's taught me that nothing is permanent, that all things change, and that the key to a happy life is accepting what is. By simply pausing to observe her, I am better able to accept what is; knowing that change is the very essence of life. When you pause to observe her, what can you learn?