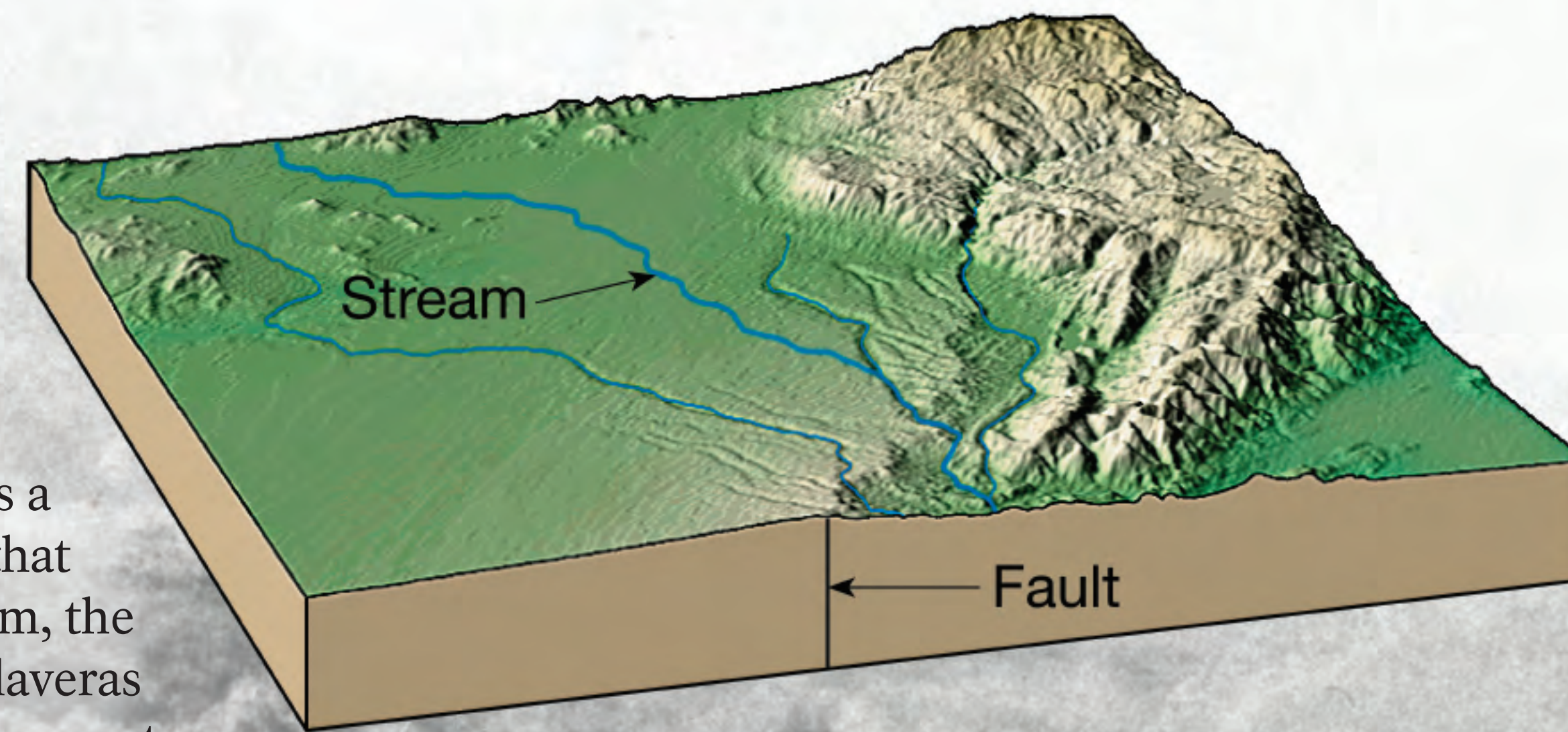


# Anatomy of an Earthquake

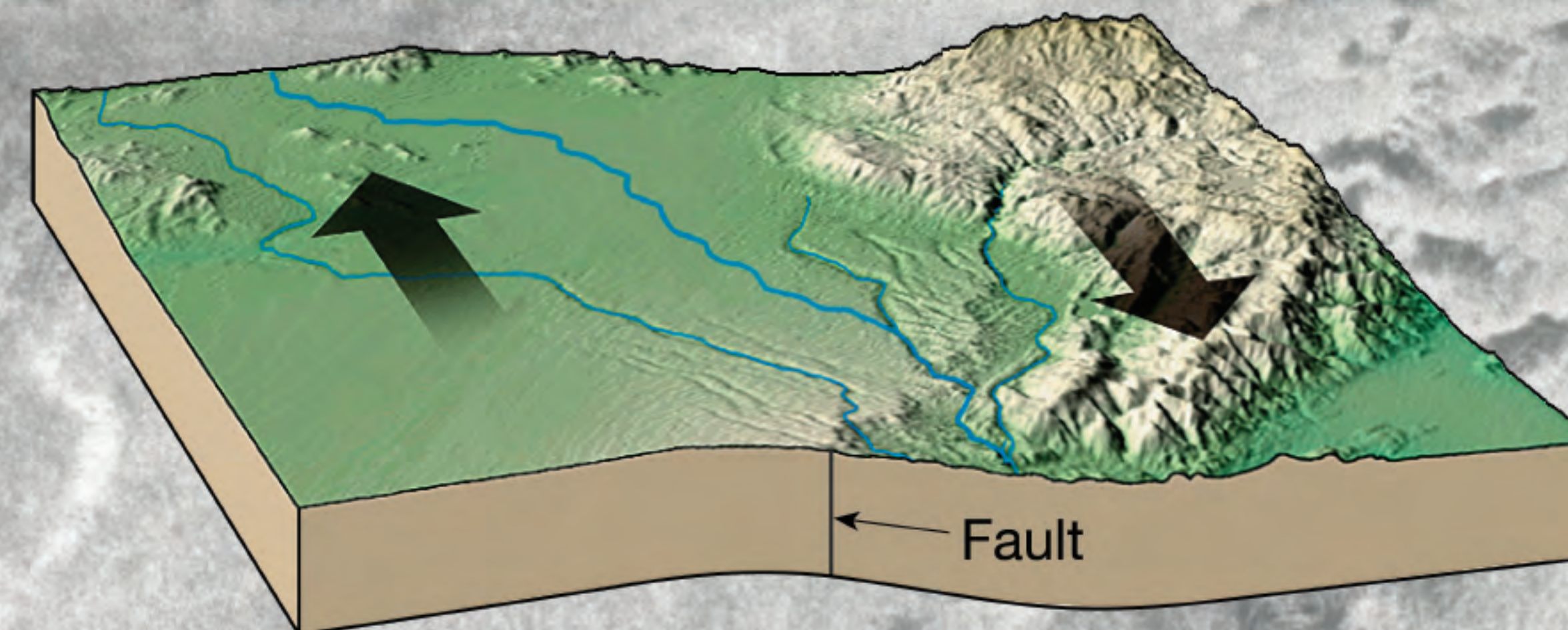


## A System of Faults

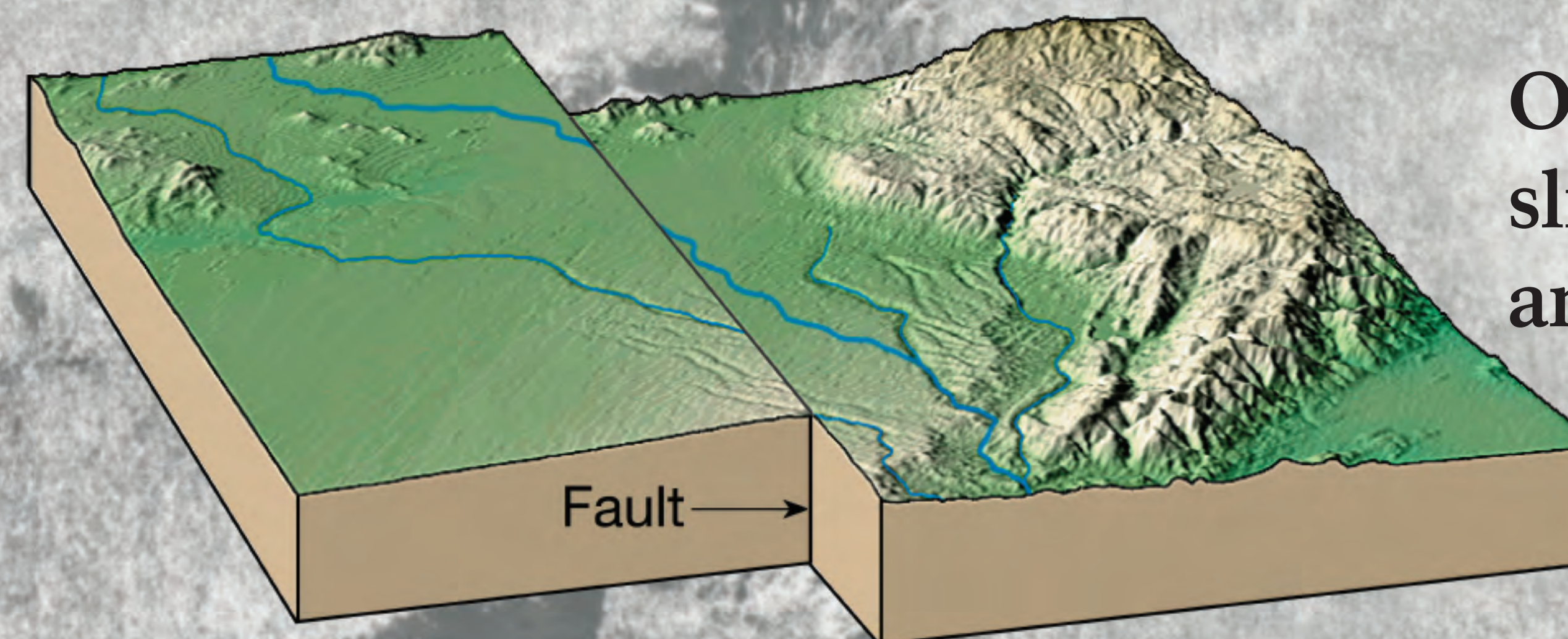
The San Andreas fault system is a complex series of many faults that extends 780 miles. In this system, the San Andreas, Hayward and Calaveras faults, among others, allow movement between the North American and Pacific plates.



Beneath us where the North American and Pacific plates meet, friction binds the fractured rock along the fault.



As decades turn to centuries, stress causes strain to build until rocks reach their breaking point.



Overcoming friction, the fault slips releasing seismic energy and causing earthquakes.

Earthquakes are forces of unpredictable change that rupture our world.