

Why You Should Photograph

What's poppin, people? It's Dante.

Today I wanted to make a very simple video with a simple message:

Why you should photograph.

Ultimately, I believe we all have our own individual reasons why we photograph. But in particular, I want to speak to two types of photographers:

- The one just getting started.
- The one who's been in the game for a while, but needs to re-center.

Because the truth is, asking the question *why*...
That unlocks something deep.

“He who has a why to live can bear almost any how.”

When you understand **why** you photograph, what it *means* to you, you can overcome so much—not just in your photo journey, but in life.

What Fuels the Fire

It could be anything:

- Enjoying your everyday life
- Making works of art
- Documenting your town
- Starting a long-term project

Whatever it is, *that reason* becomes the fuel. The battery. The motor. It keeps you going even when the world feels dull.

I can walk the same lane every single day and still find something to uplift in a photograph.

Why? Because I walk out the door with *no preconceived notions*. Just motion. Just flow.

And that **flow state**?

That's where the magic happens.

Curiosity Is the Compass

Every single day, I ask myself:

Why?

That's the real heartbeat of photography for me.

- Why is this light falling that way?
- Why is this tree blooming now?
- Why does this street feel different today?

I'm not just making pictures. I'm learning, observing, *living*. Through the lens.

You should photograph because it makes your life more meaningful.
You should photograph because you're curious.

Living in the Present Moment

When I'm photographing:

- The past doesn't matter.
- The future isn't real yet.
- **I'm fully here. Now.**

"I exist outside this passage of time where the present moment is what truly matters."

You enter a stream of *becoming*. Of *transformation*.
The world becomes your canvas.

The street. The park. The neighborhood.
All of it. Yours.

Photography = Drawing With Light

Let's break it down:

Photo = Light

Graphy = Writing / Drawing

You're literally writing with light.

And through that process, you're giving yourself a voice—even if you feel like you don't have one. The camera becomes your mouthpiece. Your language. Your expression.

For the Days When Curiosity Fades

We all have them—those days when curiosity feels like it ran out the back door.

But I've been thinking...

“The less curious you are, the less photographs you make.”

So how do we cultivate more curiosity?

Practical tips:

- Get good, deep **sleep**
- Build **muscle**
- Eat **satiating food**
- Stay **awake** in body = awake in spirit

“The more physically strong you become, the more curious you become.”

“And the more curious you become, the stronger your photographs will be.”

Meaning Is Found in the Mundane

You've seen a lot in life.

Maybe you're jaded. Numb.

But when you walk out the door with a camera—

Everything becomes meaningful again.

You slow down. You observe. You create. You frame.

That's not just photography.

That's living.

The Photograph as Soul Reflection

“You're photographing what life could be for.”

Your photos are reflections of your soul.

You're interpreting reality—your way.

And in doing so, you give life **meaning** and **purpose**.

Shoot Like It's Your Last Day

And maybe the most important part...

Treat each day like it's your last.

Treat each photograph like it's your last.

Because one day, it will be.

That urgency?

That mortality?

It's not depressing. It's empowering.

“If it is your last day, don't just go through the motions—stay present, aware, and engaged with life on the front lines of life.”

We're not gonna live forever.

But at least...

We can make a photograph.