

## Embrace Serendipity in Street Photography

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

Getting my morning started here in the most historic park in America —

**Welcome to the Centennial Arboretum**, where I just spent eight hours in paradise.

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### Immersed in Beauty

Oh man, I'm so excited for the day.

It doesn't even matter if the sun's not out — just the fact that I'm **immersing myself in a beautiful space**, yeah... that's enough to put a smile on my face.

And today I'm thinking about one thing:

**Serendipity.**

*Letting go.*

*Flowing with the moment.*

*What that means in street photography... and why it matters.*

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### The Myth of the Decisive Moment

When we're out on the street, it's easy to get caught in the mindset of *looking* for something — hunting for that "perfect" moment. You know, the decisive moment.

Shout out to Eli —

You told me they even reference the decisive moment in *Dexter* while someone's getting chopped up or something. 🤔

But real talk...

***The decisive moment is a myth.***

I'm not saying every photo should be an accident — obviously, we still have to look around and be aware of what's happening. But I think the real magic starts when we let go. When we **detach** from the outcome and open ourselves to the unknown.

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**Follow the Light**

When I go out to shoot, the only rule I have is:

***Follow the light.***

That's it.  
No plan.  
No map.  
No expectation.

If the sun is shining, I walk toward it.  
Even when it's cloudy — I just move, follow my instincts, and let the **surprises** come naturally. Sometimes, that walk leads me to something I never could've planned for.

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**Get Out of Your Head**

If you're stuck in your head, thinking you need to find something specific, that's where **decision fatigue** sets in.

That's what causes you to get stuck.  
We don't want to be stagnant.

*We want to be moving.*  
*We want to be seeing.*  
*We want to be photographing.*

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## **Your Vision Is Your Vision**

Look — even if two photographers walk side-by-side and shoot the same moment...  
**the photos will be different.**

Your eye is your eye.  
Your vibe is your vibe.  
There is no copying when you're being real.

When you let go, you let *yourself* shine through.  
You're not forcing a perfect composition — you're responding to what *feels* right.

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## **Photograph from the Gut**

***Not the rational mind... but the gut, the heart — that's where the shutter comes from.***

You don't need a Fibonacci spiral or rule-of-thirds grid in your head.  
**Things align when you're aligned.**

That's the art of serendipity —  
Creating something meaningful without trying to control every detail.

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## The Legend of Serendip

Did you know the word **serendipity** comes from a story?

Apparently, there were three princes from *Serendip* — what's now Sri Lanka — who kept making discoveries *by accident* on their journey.

One of them even discovered **honey** randomly, just by being out in the world.

***You'll find that sweetness, that honey, that nectar... when you let go.***

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## Be Ready for the Moment

Serendipity isn't just chance.

It favors the **prepared**.

- Have your camera on you.
- Charge your batteries.
- Be rested.
- Be sharp.
- Be present.

Because when that moment hits, **you want to be ready**.

***That quick flick of the wrist. That click of the shutter. That snap of the body's movement... That's the magic.***

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## Build the Foundation

If you feel like you're not improving, if your photography feels stuck — the solution starts *before* you hit the street.

You need:

- **Clarity.**
- **Energy.**
- **Stillness.**
- **Sharp instincts.**

Fasting helps me.

Being rested helps me.

Getting out of the fog helps me.

That's when your gut and your brain sync up — and you become this **laser-focused, intuitive machine.**

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## **Be Empty. Just Respond.**

*We're all in our head when we shoot.*

*But the most interesting photography happens when your mind goes blank.*

When you stop thinking and start **being**, that's when serendipity delivers.

It's not about going out and searching.

It's about accidentally *finding*.

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## **Final Thought**

*Kind of like those three princes from the story of Serendip...*

They weren't looking for treasure.  
They were just living, wandering, moving.

And in that movement, they found gold.

**Do the same.**

**Let go.**

**Walk.**

**Observe.**

**And photograph whatever the universe places in front of you.**