

## The Novelty of Photography: Why the Medium Is Still So New

What's poppin, people? It's Dante. Walking underground here in Philadelphia — yeah, we're the kings of the underground. Today I've been thinking about something we often overlook: **the sheer novelty of photography**.

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### Photography Is Still in Its Infancy

Photography is only about **186 years old** — the first known photo was taken around **1826**.

Compare that to painting, which has existed for roughly **45,000 years**. That's mind-blowing. We sometimes act like photography has been around forever, but it's still a *baby* in the grand timeline of human creativity.

When you really think about that, it's exciting. We're living through the early stages of this art form. We're still discovering what it can do — still pushing its boundaries, both technically and artistically.

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### The Human Need to Remember

Even as AI begins to change the landscape of art, I believe **photography will remain deeply human**.

People will always want to take pictures — not for prestige or perfection, but to *remember*.

One of my favorite types of photography is the **amateur snapshot** — the family photos, the unposed moments, the pictures taken without any conscious thought about art. Those are sacred. They hold the raw beauty of being human — simple, honest memory.

Photography is, at its heart, **the art of remembering**.

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### **The Power of the Present Moment**

Even right now, I can turn on my camera, speak my thoughts freely, and share them instantly with someone across the world. That's *insane* when you think about it. This ability — to record, to express, to connect instantly — is still one of the most novel human experiences ever invented.

And yet, because we do it so often, we forget how miraculous it really is.

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### **There's Still So Much to Explore**

Sometimes people say, "*Everything's been done before.*"

But that couldn't be further from the truth. Photography still has infinite room to grow — infinite new ways to see, express, and feel.

As long as there's life, light, and curiosity, there's something new to photograph.

So yeah, that's the thought of the day — a little reminder that we're still living in the early dawn of this medium. And that's something worth celebrating.

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