

## **Why I Practice Street Photography When Nothing Is Happening**

What's poppin people? It's Dante.

Today I want to talk about why I practice street photography when nothing is happening.

I'm no longer on the hunt for something *interesting* to photograph. When I'm out on the streets, I embrace the mundane. I recognize that this is the name of the game. The goal as a photographer is simple: do you have the ability to articulate the mundane nature of life?

### **Embracing the Mundane**

One of the ways I do this is through light.

The simplest gestures — faces moving in and out of light, shadow play, people walking through a space — can be elevated from something ordinary to something extraordinary in a photograph. I don't limit myself to only photographing when something is happening.

When you walk around the city, most of life is people moving from point A to point B.

If you're attached to the outcome of finding something interesting, you'll eventually hit stagnation and burnout. My goal is to be in an endless state of motivation — an endless state of making new frames.

### **Returning to Day One**

I do this by mentally returning to day one, every single day.

I go out with a blank slate. No preconceived notions. No checklist. No expectation of a book or a project. I'm simply responding to the mundane life in front of me through instinct.

***The present moment is the ultimate gift in life.***

That's what fuels my creative ability. It's cultivating curiosity. It's waking up with enthusiasm. From that state of being, photography becomes effortless, and the mundane becomes interesting.

## **Feeling More Deeply**

I believe that when nothing is happening, something is there — you're just not feeling deeply.

So when I'm out there, I look at the birds in flight. I look at the way light casts upon the world. A simple gesture. Someone reading a book in the park. A detail. Someone smoking. Reflections. All of it can be elevated.

But it requires you to be hyper-aware and present at the moment you press the shutter.

## **What Getting Close Really Means**

There's this idea of getting close in street photography that goes beyond physical proximity.

I believe closeness is an emotional quality you have about life. From that state of being, curiosity and photography become effortless and inevitable.

So don't limit yourself to hunting for interesting moments on the streets. Don't look at life as if it owes you something. Use photography as a way to say thank you — as a way to appreciate life with gratitude.

***From an abundant state, you enter the flow state.***

## **Thriving in the Everyday**

This is the goal for me — to be in a state of being where everything around you becomes infinitely fascinating, and the mundane nature of life doesn't become a burden. It becomes a game.

I love walking the same mundane lane every day. The goal isn't to find something new in the world, but to find something new to say.

Look at the light.

Look at the gestures.

Look at the way people move.

It's not about sensational moments or compact compositions. It's about you and your interpretation of the world around you.

When you're emotionally attached to outcomes, burnout is inevitable. But when you're detached and present, photographs become inevitable.

## **Stop Hunting. Start Being.**

Empty your mind. Enjoy the day. Respond to your gut.

Stop thinking. Just shoot.

Treat photography as a way of being — a way of staying present, a way of saying yes to life.

When you do that, photography becomes effortless and inevitable. It doesn't matter whether or not anything interesting is happening.

Life is mundane. But through photography, life can become a dream.

So go out there. Create your own world with a camera. Explore your subconscious.  
Return to day one. Photograph in the spirit of play.

That's the name of the game.

Go out there and play.