

How Snapshot Photography Changed My Life

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

Today I want to talk about how snapshot photography has completely changed my life.

I believe snapshot photography is extremely liberating. And the simplest way I can explain it is this: I treat photography as a **visual diary of my day**.

I don't take my life—or my photography—so seriously. I treat everything as *play*.

I use a compact digital camera. I photograph loosely. LCD screen. Automatic settings. JPEGs straight out of camera. That's it.

By setting these creative constraints and working in this loose, liberating way, I'm discovering who I am as a person—as a human on this giant rock orbiting a ball of fire, floating into the void of space.

There's something about photography that lets you discover new things about the world—but even more so, about yourself.

Photography as Presence

Snapshotting my way through the day, no matter how mundane things may seem, no matter where I am or what I'm doing, I become more present in the eternal now.

I start cultivating a sense of presence just by being aware of patterns in nature and human behavior.

Watching the street.

The order and the chaos.

The crazy moments.

The mundane moments.
The beautiful moments.
The sad moments.

There's something about always having the camera on you—about recognizing life—that grounds you in embodied reality. It puts me into a perpetual flow state where I feel like a big kid forever, living in the spirit of play.

Detached From Outcome

I think this comes from a detached state.

I'm not caught up in the outcome of the photographs.
I'm not worried about what they mean.
I'm not trying to force anything.

What needs to be said will be shown in the photographs I make.

When you start to snapshot loosely, what begins is your **pursuit of authenticity**.

The things you choose to put within the four corners of the frame—this is where your authentic expression starts to reveal itself.

Style isn't technical.

Style isn't color vs black and white.
It's not film stocks.
It's not presets.

For me, style is photographing loosely and authentically—then cultivating your own world through the camera.

Photography Isn't About Photography

I don't believe photography has much to do with photography.

All the technical stuff—composition, synthesis, technique—that's secondary.

The primary focus of the photographer is:

- how they feel about life
- how they interact with the world

That's what reflects in the photograph.

This arises through intuition.

Snapshot photography lets me enter flow effortlessly. It puts me into that intuitive state where I recognize patterns—light falling, people moving, moments unfolding.

When your perception sharpens like that, you begin to understand who you are and how you feel about the world.

And that feeling shows up in the work.

Just Being

The snapshot gives me the ability to just **be**.

When I'm photographing, I'm not trying. I'm living my life. The camera just comes along for the ride.

I respond intuitively.
Something resonates.
I click the shutter.

It's primal.
It goes beyond seeing with your eyes.
It's somatic.
It's embodied.

Because I always have the camera with me, I'm always creating. I'm always in the flow state of making—from sunrise to sunset.

Life becomes richer.
Everything becomes photographable.

Movement Is Life

Life passes you by when you live on standby.

Staying inside all day—that's where the soul goes to die.

But when you're outside, moving your body through the world, photographing—you thrive.

You step outside of time.

We have a past.
We have a future.

But neither matters.

When you're present, photographing, you receive the ultimate gift of life.

By making the photograph, I'm affirming my life.

My next photo is my best photo.

No dwelling on yesterday.
No worrying about tomorrow.

Just grounding myself in the act of photographing.

Detached from outcome.

Committed to flow.

Effortless by Design

This mindset is priceless.

I owe everything to always having a camera with me.

The compact nature.

The simple workflow.

The creative constraints.

They allow me to play effortlessly—on the bus, going to work, at the grocery store, walking down the street.

You can use any camera.

But there's something special about a compact camera that integrates seamlessly into your life. Photography becomes effortless. Flow becomes inevitable.

Vitality and Will to Power

When everything becomes photographable, life fills with meaning.

My days are joyful.

And from that joy comes vitality.

That vitality flows outward through the act of snapshotting.

I think of the *will to power* as a creative act—your inner vitality expressed outwardly.

That energy in your body is what shows up in the photograph.

The photographer's responsibility is simple:

- to walk
- to see
- to observe
- to feel
- to respond

Curiosity, courage, and intuition matter far more than composition.

The goal isn't to make impressive photos.

The goal is to wake up enthusiastic—alive—curious.

Snapshot photography gave me infinite energy because everything is effortless.

I wake up.

Camera in my pocket.

I just be.

The photos come to me.

I listen to my intuition.

I obey it.

I move on.

That's the purest form of expression I know.

Raise the camera.

Press the shutter.

Keep living.

That's why snapshot photography changed my life.

Because through expression—through creation—you outwardly express your will to power.

And I believe that's what humans are ultimately seeking.