

Black & White Photography Changed How I See Reality

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

Today I want to share an idea about black and white photography—and how it's unlocked this ability for me to see *infinite possibility* in what I'm photographing.

Novelty & Curiosity

The idea is simple:

novelty and curiosity.

When I'm looking at life, I see in full color. I have two eyes. I'm noticing patterns, human behavior, light, moments...

But when I raise the camera and press the shutter—

I don't get back what I saw.

I get back what the camera saw.

And that difference?

That's everything.

The Camera's Interpretation

The way the camera and sensor interpret light, life, and reality...

...it continuously inspires me to go out and practice.

Because when I go home and review my photos, I'm not just looking at reality—

I'm looking at the camera's version of reality.

And that sparks this endless curiosity.

You Can't Make the Same Photo Twice

Even if I walk the same street every day...

Even if I see the same bridge every day...

I know:

I cannot make the same photograph twice.

Like a river flowing—

you can't step in the same river twice.

Everything is in flux.

Why Black & White Changes Everything

This idea really clicked when I started shooting black and white.

There's something *novel* about how light is rendered in monochrome.

It strips things down.

It abstracts reality.

And when you push it further—high contrast, maxed out—

reality starts to dissolve.

Infinite Possibility in the Mundane

Now when I'm out here:

- Same streets
- Same paths
- Same environments

...I see infinite possibilities.

Because I'm not looking at *what is*—

I'm looking at what it *could become* through the camera.

Removing Friction

This ties into how I shoot.

I strip everything back:

- Black and white
- Automatic mode (P mode)
- Point and shoot

Let the camera do the work.

Because again—

the camera is interpreting reality.

Why the Ricoh Makes This Effortless

Using a Ricoh makes this whole process frictionless.

- Small JPEGs
- Beautiful straight out of camera
- Fast imports
- Quick review

You can move through your photos daily in the **spirit of play**.

No overthinking.

Just flow.

Improvement Isn't Linear

Improvement in photography isn't:

"today I made a better photo than yesterday"

It's this shift:

your next photograph is your best photograph

That's the mindset.

Cultivating Instinct

When you remove friction...

When you show up daily...

You cultivate instinct.

And that instinct leads you to your own authentic expression.

That's the real goal.

Beyond Reality

Black and white photography changed everything for me.

Because now—

reality isn't what it seems.

Through abstraction, I'm not documenting the world.

I'm creating my own.

Final Thought

It's a rainy, gloomy day.

But I'm out here in the spirit of play.

Seeing deeply.

Feeling.

Responding.

Saying yes to life with the click of the shutter.

Black and white photography all the way.

Monochrome don't lie.

...or maybe it does.

And maybe that's why.