FLUX — Weekly Witness #1

In motion. In flow.

What's poppin', people? Dante.

This is the **first Flux review for Week 1**. I pulled from the weekly submissions and included additional work to help **set the tone** for what we're building here.

> *Going forward:*
> ***Submit 10 photos by Friday night.***
> *Saturday I review.*
> *Sunday 10 AM EST we go live.*

This is a **visual diary practice**.
Let's get into it.

Miguel (Spain)

What's working

Strong use of light, shadow, and composition.
You clearly have an ability to *construct a frame*.

- Clean geometry in the background
- Foreground silhouette that anchors the image
- Full use of **foreground / midground / background**

> *The frame feels complete. Nothing is wasted.*

Key Idea — Geometry + Simplicity

- Clean lines simplify the chaos
- Geometry elevates the subject
- High contrast enhances readability

The Halo Frame (Mary)

This is striking.

- Heavy use of negative space
- Shadows crushed → highlights emphasized
- Creates **mystery and ambiguity**

There's something powerful about a small sliver of light in a sea of darkness.

Challenge

- Continue using this **light + shadow technique**
- But:
- **Bring in the human face**
- Add emotional connection

Mystery + human presence = next level

John (Australia → Japan, Kobe)

What's working

The "Imperfect" Frame

- Wonky composition
- Blur
- Slightly out of focus

*And it **still works.***

There's an **energy** here that can't be explained technically.

*Some photos just **hit.***

Problem Identified

You mentioned:

"I'm making the same photo repeatedly."

Why?

- Same distance to subject
- Repeating perspective
- Too much negative space

Core Issue

- Subjects too small in frame

- Large areas of **dead space**

Challenge

1. Get closer

- Physically move your body
- Fill the frame

2. Reduce, reduce, reduce

- Subtract chaos
- Simplify composition

Example Breakdown

Frame A (Booth Woman)

- Strong positioning
- Good subject placement
- Nice perspective

BUT:

- Still too much negative space

Frame B (Tighter Crop)

- Simpler
- More direct
- Focused on moment

Simplicity wins.

Additional Strength

Perspective Shift (Tarp Image)

- Interesting foreground separation
- Strong angle
- More complexity

Expanded Challenge

- Shoot **closer**
- Shoot **wider (landscape)**
- Change perspective constantly

Practical Ideas:

- Try **macro mode**
- Shoot textures
- Eliminate unnecessary space

Igor

Highlight — Double Rainbow

Beautiful image. Simple as that.

Cross + Gesture Frame

What works:

- Symbolism (cross)
- Human gesture

What doesn't:

- Too much negative space

Visual Diary Strength

Hand in Frame Images

These matter.

- Personal
- Subjective
- Real

This is **Flux**.

These can be more meaningful than "perfect" photos.

Strong Frame — Car + Girl

- Clean composition
- Two elements only
- Human presence elevates everything

Mannequin Comparison

Why one works:

- Emotional impact
- Expression
- Feeling

Emotion > subject matter

Landscapes

These are excellent.

- Strong light and shadow
- Emotional without obvious subject
- Mystery through simplicity

Favorite Frame

The empty path + light = powerful

- Ambiguity
- Mood
- Emotional resonance

Key Idea

*Photography is not about what something **is***
*but what it **feels like***

Challenge

- Lean into landscapes
- Explore emotional ambiguity
- Continue visual diary approach

Theo (UK)

Cat Frame

Insane.
Looks like a cartoon face.
Absolute banger.

Flash Work

You're doing something different.

- Faces pop
- Strong contrast
- Immediate impact

Push this further.

Screens / Images of Images

- Photographing screens
- Creating abstraction

Extremely liberating.

Reflection + Mystery

- Window reflections
- Hidden faces
- Layered reality

*These frames **punch hard***

Issue

Too spontaneous at times.

- Not enough structure
- Composition not always intentional

Challenge

Add order to spontaneity

- Be intentional with positioning
- Control your framing
- Maintain energy but guide it

Practical Advice

- Move your body deliberately
- Fill the frame with intention
- Keep pushing flash

Confrontation Advice

If approached:

- Stay calm
- Be kind
- Say you’re working on a project

Pro tip:

- Carry a sketchbook / prints
- Show your work

If needed:

- Delete and move on

Always be human first.

Dimitri

Aesthetic Strength

- Rust / decay / impermanence
- Wabi-sabi feeling

Emotionally and visually compelling

Strong Frame — Market Scene

- Simplified composition
- Human subject centered
- Background supports the subject

Everything works together.

Light Studies

- Reflection on surfaces
- Surprise from light behavior

Technical Tip — Exposure Lock

1. Half-press in shadows
2. Recompose
3. Full press in highlights

→ Blow out highlights, preserve shadow detail

Working the Scene

You did this well.

- Multiple angles
- Top-down
- Low angle
- Close / macro

This is how you improve.

Key Principle

Composition is physical.

- Move your body
- Change your relationship to the subject

Strongest Frame — Car

Why it works:

- Simplified
- Centered subject
- Small detail (fence) elevates it

Takeaway

Simplification wins.

Dawson (Indiana)

Lean Into Your Environment

Your location is an advantage.

- Unique
- Different from typical city photography

Strong Frame — Tattoo

- Raw
- Honest
- Character-driven

Issue — Photos of Text

- Weak visually
- Relies on reading, not seeing

Photography should go beyond language.

Strength — Portraits

- Your mother
- Strangers

Strong human connection
Emotional resonance

Strong Frame — Bird

- Visually striking
- Clean
- Direct

Abstract Work

You’re doing something unique:

- Screens
- Blur
- Distortion

This is powerful.

Dual Strength

You balance:

- **Humanist photography**
- **Abstract imagery**

Challenge

Combine both.

Documentary + abstraction = your lane

Final Thoughts

This is the **first pass**.

It’s raw. It’s in motion. It’s real.

*Submit **10 photos by Friday night***
I review Saturday
We go live Sunday 10 AM EST

This is about:

- Walking
- Seeing
- Living

Flux is not just photography.
It's a way of being.

Let's keep walking.