Joseph Floyd

Prof. Scanlan

D394

11/6/2015

Powers of Photography

Most people rely on what they see with their eyes rather than delve into the context of what they see and feel. Some may say that it's just a picture of nature and the other is of a building "wow nothing special", however, it's not the only thing that could be derived from the photos. In "On Photograph" by Susan Sontag she said, "Although there is a sense in which the camera does indeed capture reality, not just interpret it, photographs are as much an interpretation of the world as painting and drawing are ". I agree with that statement because my photos do not only capture reality there's a dominant impression in each one.The photographs I took could be interpreted in many ways as well.

In "Lost" by Joseph Floyd, in my photo you can see the emotions that I felt during that time frame. I really liked the atmosphere and scenery. You could see the colors of the fall trees and it has a black and white effect as some of the things in the photograph, such as the train tracks and a few trees are in color, while the clouds are in a gray tone. The studium is that the colors of "Lost" pop and caught my eye. The punctum is that there that extra element coming from the colors and effect of the photo.I was in the middle of nowhere and the mood describes how I felt being far away from the city. The river is in a black and white effect with little reflections of the clouds. It gives off a dark sad vibe.

"The Devil's building" by Joseph Floyd is a completely different perspective than the other photograph. It's of a building that looks like it's made of mirrors. There's is a huge reflection of the sky in the building. The dry prickling trees symbolizes life being absorbed. The odd thing about this building is its address number. The address number is "666", which I found kind of funny. Since it is an unlucky or even an evil number. You could see the highway sign and a couple reflections of cars in the building.

“Lost” and “The Devil’s Building” both are similar at some point, but they have huge differences that can be seen. In "The Devil's building” by "Joseph Floyd" the first thing that sticks out to me is the clouds reflection on the building. Then when I looked around you can see subtle things being hidden by the scenery.

In both photographs, they have clouds that reflect off of a surface. The tree’s in the photo’s are losing life due to the seasonal change. They were taken in locations that I don't really go to that often. The day I took the photograph of "lost" I was at a friend's college upstate visiting. While as to the other "The Devil's building" I was going to the mall to shop with family. When most people see my photos they'd most likely be drawn to the effect of "lost" and the meaning behind "the Devils Building". It was strange seeing a mirrored building in Long Island when I'm usually used to seeing that in the city. This building really stood out to me because it was reflecting the clouds and it looked like nobody was in it working. I found very odd that I barely seen people considering it was located next to a huge mall. The colors of both photos are very different but very alike. The clouds and trees are similar as you can tell they were taken in the same season. On the other hand, there's still many differences that could be compared.

In contrast, “The Devil’s Building” and “Lost” give off different moods. “Lost” vibe is very confused and empty yet somewhere there is life, which is where the color comes into the picture. Although, “The Devil’s Building” does not have a contrast of colors it has a completely different mood. While “Lost” gives off of some sort of hope “The Devil’s Building” by Joseph Floyd seems lifeless. The trees are dried up while the clouds are stuck in the building. There is no hope in the photo just life being taken away. The color difference is very out there as well. There in two different locations separated by five hundred miles. How I was able to take photos in the same time frame is kind of cool cause I was in two different location in a week.

Like Susan Sontag said, "photography has become one of the principal devices for experiencing something", which I could relate to with my photos. I see what she means by how photography has become a principal device for experiencing something. It amazes me how much these photos stood out to me. Every single detail of both photos were unique in its own way. Everything I've experienced taking these photos has been a trip worth remembering.

Citations

1.Trachtenberg, Alan. *Classic Essays on Photography*. New Haven, CT: Leete's Island, 1980. Print.

2.Floyd, Joseph Eddy, .Jr. *Lost*. Digital image. *Openlab*. Self, 19 Oct. 2015. Web. 1 Nov. 2015. <<https://openlab.citytech.cuny.edu/scanlan-eng1101-d394-pm-f2015/files/2015/10/IMG_3771.jpg>>

3.Floyd, Joseph Eddy, .Jr. *The Devil's Building*. Digital image. N.p., 26 Oct. 2015. Web. 1 Nov. 2015.JPEG

4.Sontag, Susan. On Photography. The Library of America. New York, 2013. Print

