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ENG 1101

Photography Essay

Finding the Right Moment

Our eyes work in weird ways, it captures moments that we find memorable or worth the time seeing. Like Susan Sontag said “What do these people see? We don't know. And it doesn't matter. It is an Event; something worth seeing - and therefore worth photographing” (353).

Whenever our eyes see a unique image we automatically think I need to take a picture of this or to just sit and watch what captured your eye. For those who take a minute out of their day, they see what the world is giving us in a different perspective. The eye captures images that we don't see on a daily basis for example whenever the sky turns pinkish or the sunset has a brighter color than before. It's special when you capture the moment with your own eyes, you'll always remember it and it'll be something special to only you.

My first photo called “Come Back” was taken at Six Flags on March 31, 2018 around 7:36 pm, with my iPhone 7 plus right before I was about to leave the park. To restate what Susan Sontag said in “On Photography”, “This gives shape to experience: stop, take a photograph, and move on” (534). Which is basically what I did when I took this photo. I've passed this part of the park millions of times but that day and that moment told me go back and take a picture. The sky was bright and further down you could notice the sun was going down so we have a orangish

color as well. The studium of this picture seems to be the water fountain, they all have a different level of height, the middle one seems to be the highest and the rest surrounding it are average size. We could also notice it's not a rectangle or square fountain but actually round by the color of the walls of the "pool". Right where the Fountain is we see a trash can, which for me would be a weird place to put a trash can. We could also see is the Ferris wheel in the background, able to see the seats of the ride which is being covered by some trees. At the left side of this picture your able to see this fast food restaurant logo called Johnny Rockets. But what I believe captures everyone's eyes in this photo is the tall colorful Swing Tower on the left of the ferris wheel. Looking at this photo your in control on how you feel about it, whether it brings you calmness or excitement.

My second photo called " Background" was taken right outside my window on March 26, 2018 at 7:08 pm with my Canon T3. What caused me to take this picture was how bright the sunlight was going into my apartment. Since I have a perfect view of the city outside my window I thought this is the right moment to take a picture of. Before I took this picture I pretty much tried to take my Camera out as quick as possible. Which is familiar to what Susan Sontag said " To take a picture is to have an interest in things as they are, in the status quo remaining unchanged, to be in complicity with whatever makes a subject interesting, worth photographing" (536). As you can see this photo level looks like I took it from a high place, which is correct. I had to stand on my couch open my window and try to find the perfect lense zoom and focus to capture everything I wanted to. What we could see here is a sunset picture. The sun is a exposing a strong sunlight as we could see from the reflection or ray. It's giving the sky a more colorful look, on the top we see some blue fading away and in the middle from left to right is the orange

sunset spreading. What pops out is the city. You could clearly see the World Trade Center and as well as other buildings. You as well see a lot of trees but what pops out the most is the ray on the sky that was probably made by an airplane that flew by. It lands somewhere right in the middle of my photo.

Ultimately, every photo means something to you or to someone else. What I would recommend is try taking photos of moments you rarely see, try capturing them so you get to relive what you felt that moment. Be creative, play around with the editing, brightness, capture the moment the way you would want it to be. From what I learned in class, taking a photo now just don't mean open your phone and click. It has so much more meaning to it, you could describe your photo using studium, rule of thirds, Decisive moment, etc.

Word count: 823

Works Cited:

Sontag, Susan. "On Photography" *Essays of the 1960's & 70's*, edited by David Reiff, published by The Library of America, New York, 2013.