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The flow of time and it's effects on Nature

The season fall and winter represent the flow of time. As time goes on, people experience new things which create new memories. Photographs are one way to capture those memories. The first photo "A beautiful day" of fall brings the memory of my home country while the second photo "After the Storm" of snow brings the memory of my first experience of snow in New York. Just like everything else, season changes suggesting that flow of time brings new experiences in life. The Comparison of two photos will reveal, the connection between seasons and how each season changes the setting of the picture and the part of the nature that is present within them by using terms such as punctum, studium, and dominant impression.

These particular photos of fall and winter have a similar setting, but the moment and time of both images are different. The photos are representative of two separate seasons, and the effects that they have on the setting of each and the nature that is present within them. In his essay, John Berger stated that " A photograph is useful when the chosen moment which it records contains a quantum of truth which is applicable, which is as revealing about what is absent from the photo as about what is present in it (293-294)." This statement is relevant to these pictures of fall and winter because they both represent the moment that is present in one photograph but is absent from the other. It shows both setting changes over time and become very different than each other. The first photo "A beautiful day" takes place in Central Park during the fall season, on a sunny day. It is a group of trees that give off a vibrant green, and red

color, the green color associated with a healthy life, love, harmony, and positivity; whereas the second photo represents winter season. In the second photo, "After the storm" a sheet of snow covers the trees, the Leafs do not have the green color which they normally do due to change in the weather, and the trees have fallen apart due to the recent snow storm. The first and second photo also show the elements of land and sky.

Susan Sontag argues that pictures can bring nostalgic feelings. According to Susan Sontag essay " On Photography," "photographs actively promote nostalgia (538)." this is true because both photos have a punctum which may relate to every individual but, the feelings that are evoked by these photographs for each person may be different. The Imagery in the first photo "A beautiful day" reminds me of my native country, and of my childhood. It reminds me of the time I used to spend with my cousins on weekends at my grandparent's place and the cherished moments we spent together. The second photo of winter reminds me of the time when I first came to New York and saw the first snow of my life. It reminds me the first touch of snow on my skin and the cold feeling of my body. Also, the snowball fights with siblings. A photo captures an event that is occurring at particular moment and time, but it does not show feelings that are within it. However, a photograph can make an individual feel a certain way due to what is present in the photo, just as John Berger stated in his essay "What a photo shows invokes what is not shown (293)."

The dominant impression of the first photo " A beautiful day," is happiness and comfort. The calm environment present in the photograph puts my mind to ease and makes me feel as if there was nothing to worry about in the world; whereas the second photo " After the storm,"

makes me feel as if everything around me is dying slowly, and cannot be stopped. It makes me feel suffocated and stuck.

Ultimately, life is a journey and as the flow of time goes on we experience different moments, and learn. Photography is a way to capture these moments because, unlike our memories that become clouded as time goes on, photos stay the same. Photographs are immortal objects that capture a moment which can be cherished and looked upon later in life. They can be of our distant relatives or our loved ones who are no longer with us. Photos bring back old emotions filling up our heart with joy and sorrow. Even though photography has no language, an individual can interpret it by looking at the moments captured within a photo. All photographs have a punctum, studium, and dominant impression that can relate to a person and could be used to find the message in them.

Work Cited

Sontag, Susan. *On Photography*. New York: The Library of America, 2013. Print. Ed. Rieff, David.

Berger, John. "Understanding a Photograph." *Classic Essays on Photography*. Ed. Alan