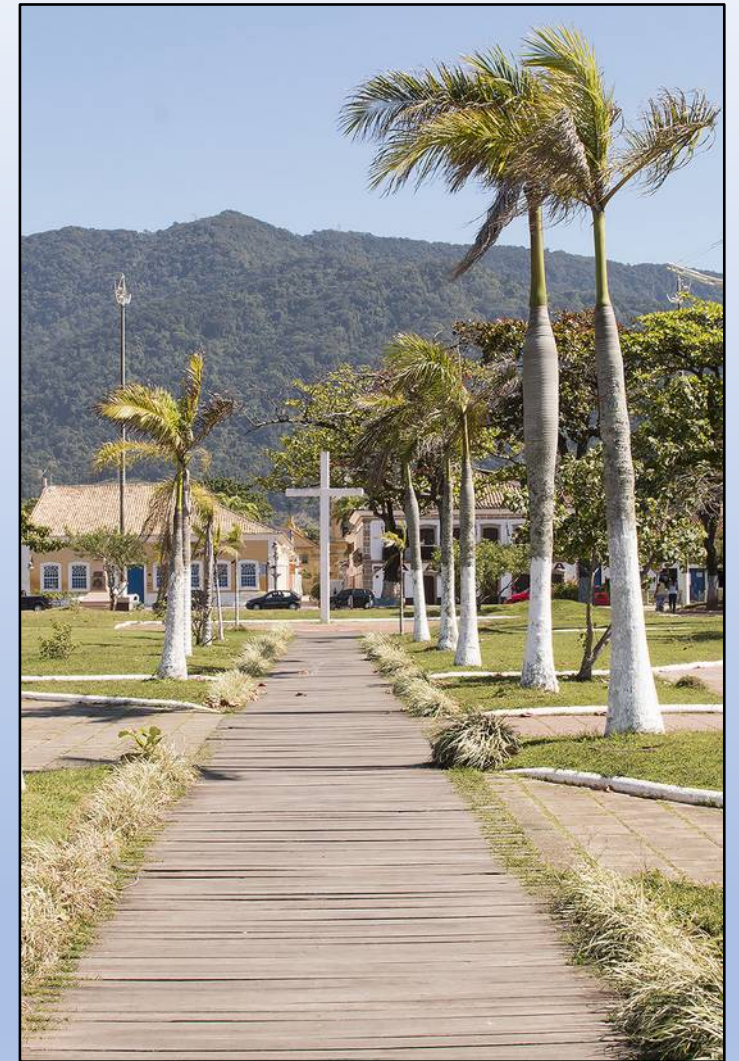
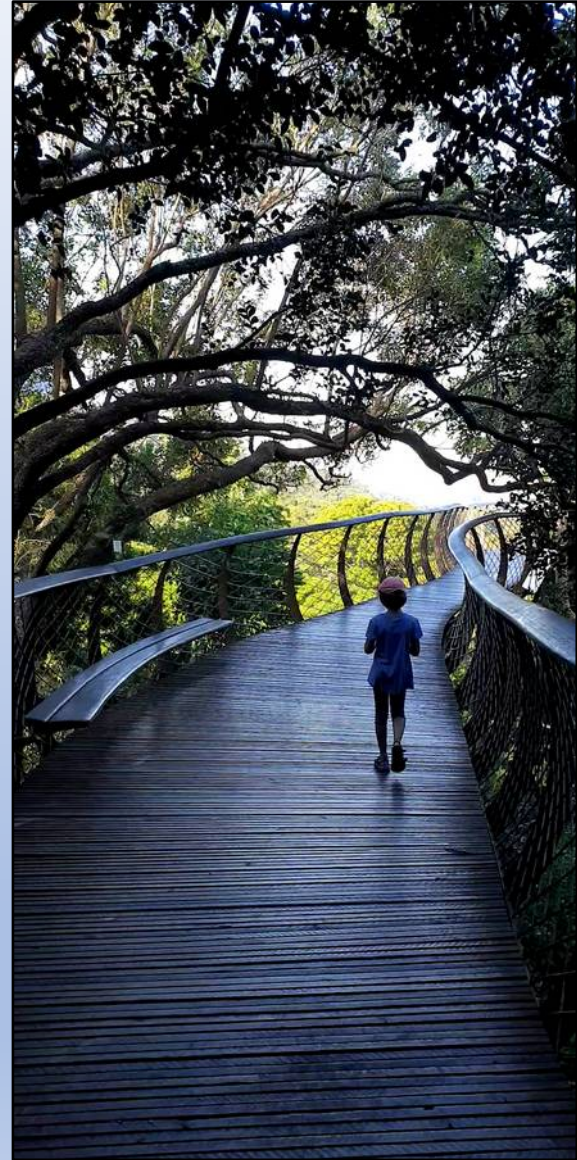
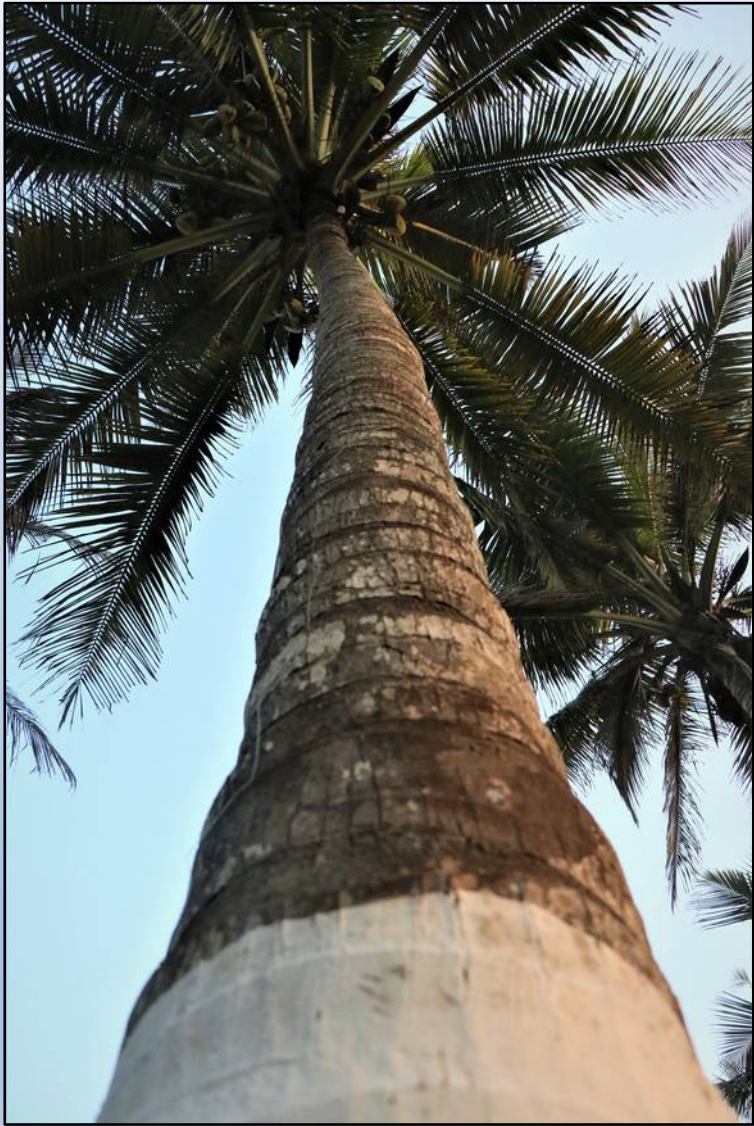


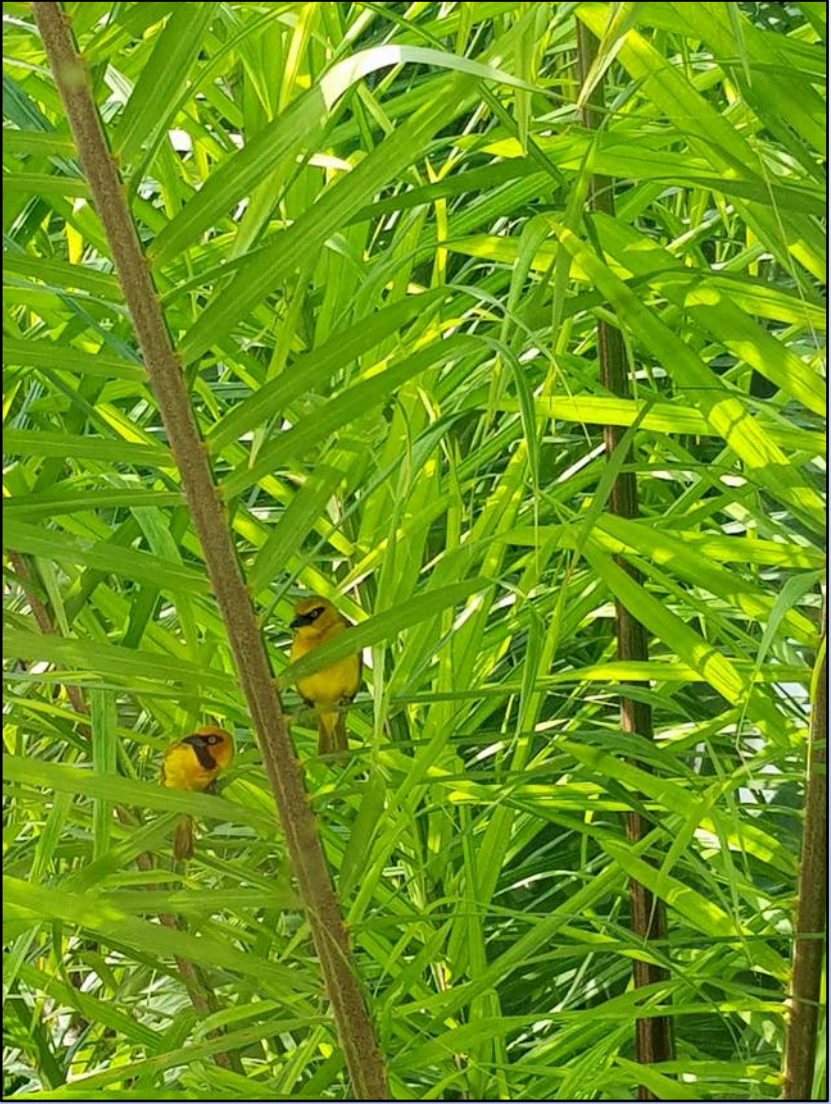
Leading Lines

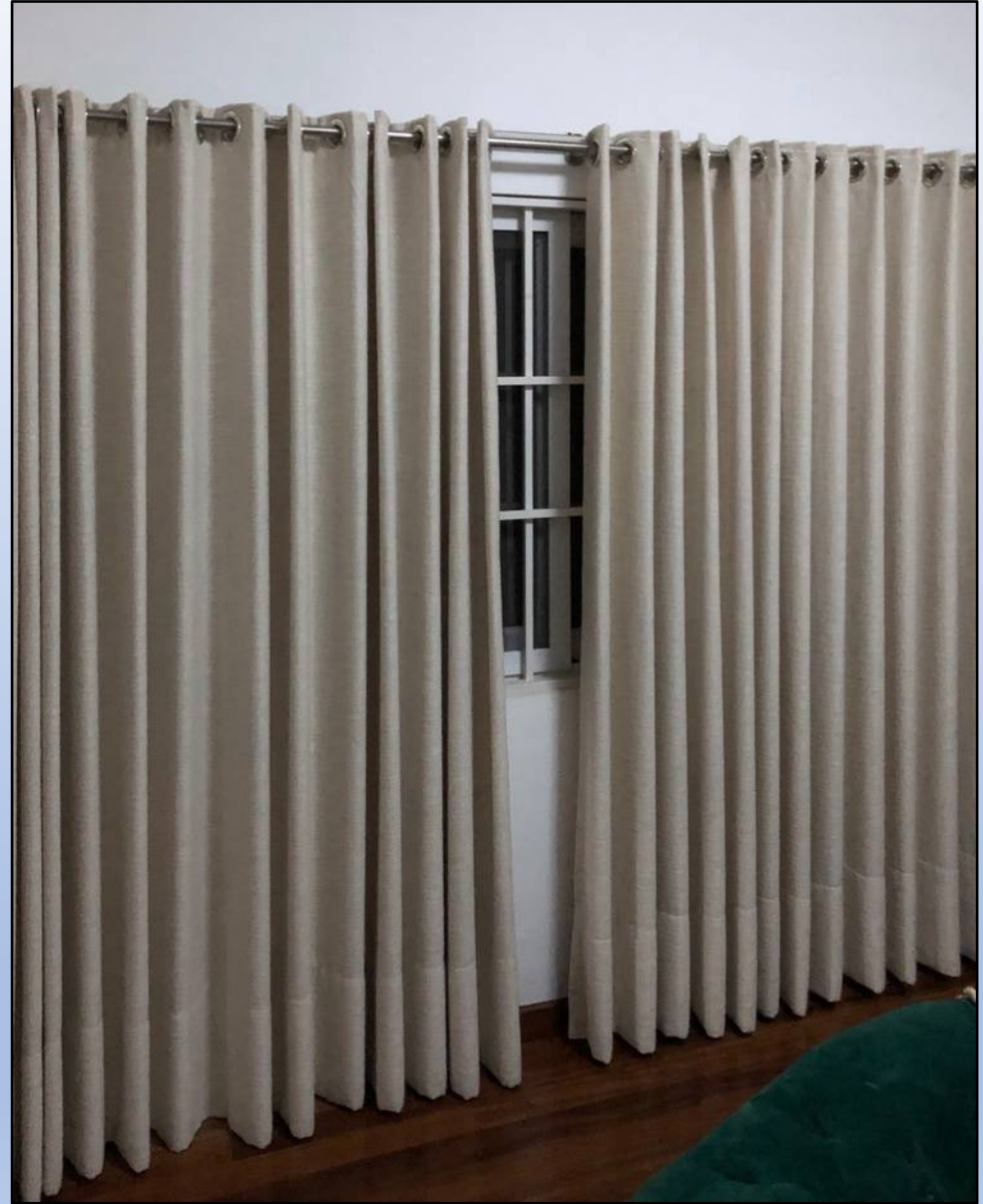
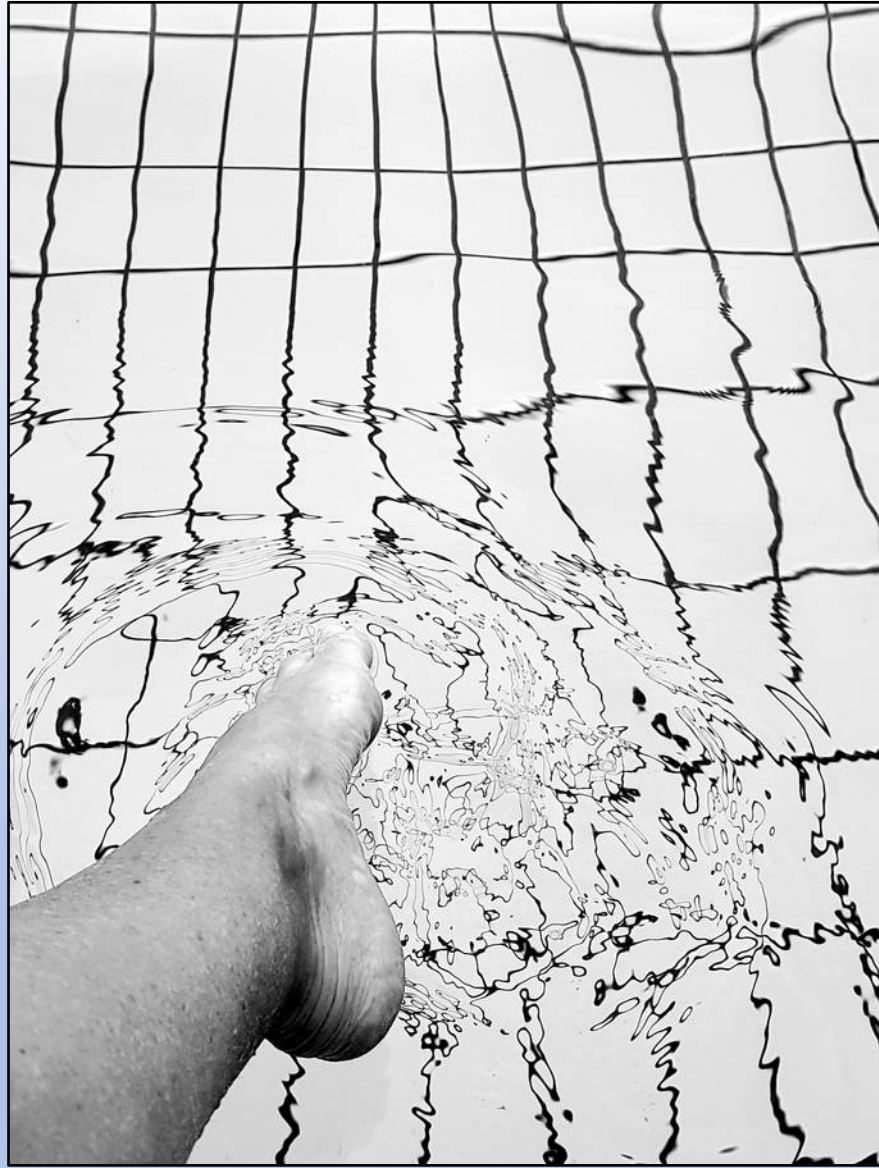




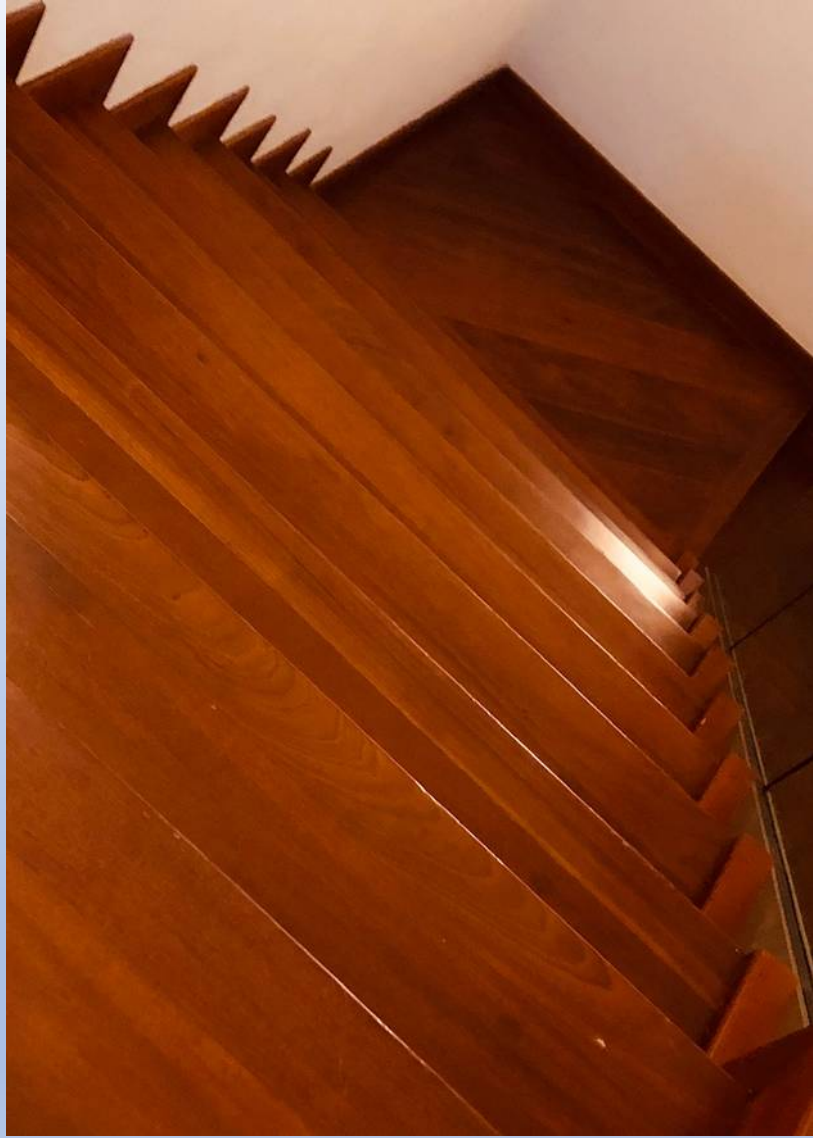




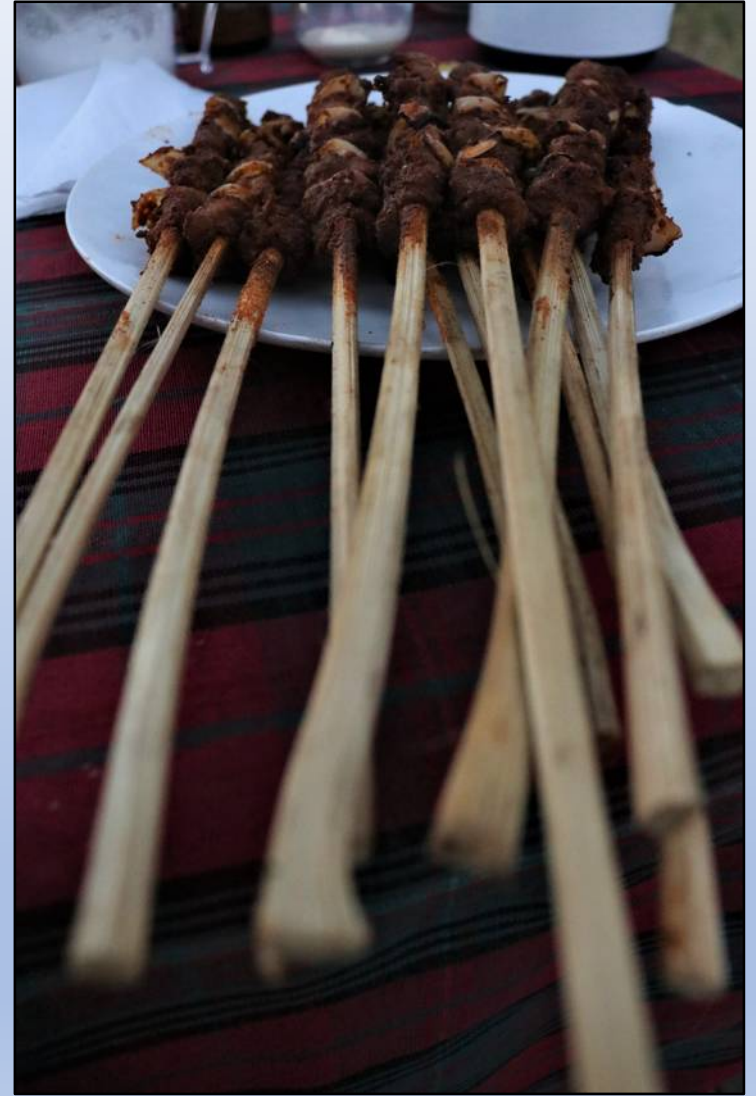


















Pause



*Black &
White
Photography*





Louis-Jacques-Mandé Daguerre (18 November 1787 – 10 July 1851), better known as Louis Daguerre, was a French artist and photographer, recognized for his invention of the [daguerreotype](#) process of photography.

He became known as one of the fathers of photography. Though he is most famous for his contributions to photography, he was also an accomplished painter and a developer of the [diorama](#) theatre

How Do I Shoot a B&W Photo?



Monochrome is not black and white. It is various shades of a single color. Shooting in RAW will give you the ability to convert to black and white but manipulate the underlying colors in editing. It gives you much more control.

Keep it simple

Black and white is an inherently minimalist approach to photography.

Highly detailed scenes, like a farmer's market with vibrant produce in an assortment of bins, don't serve as ideal black and white photographs, since the lack of color effectively eliminates the most interesting part of the shot. Instead, opt for austerity in styling and simplicity in setting.



Elements of Black and White Photos

Composition. In photography, composition refers to placement of objects and elements in an image. When selecting a black and white subject, examine the composition: how much is dark, and how much light? Are there interesting shapes to play with for maximal contrast?

Shadow. In black and white photography, shadows aren't just darker regions of a photo: they are key elements of your subject.

Contrast. Eliminating color from an image creates a stronger emphasis on tonal contrast, which is the difference in shades from light to dark and their relationship to each other in an image.

Shapes. In the absence of color, shapes determine how we identify and appreciate the objects and scenes in a photo. The best black and white photographs use interesting combinations of shapes and textures to help viewers experience their subjects.

Texture. Rough surfaces, say, a cobblestone road or a rocky mountain, make for good subjects because it accentuates the shadows and contrast.

Shadow

When you shoot black and white, you must convey the essence of your subject – including its colors and other characteristics – through shades of light and dark alone.

One of the first things to remember when shooting black and white is that shadows have an out-sized impact. They are no longer just darker regions of a photograph – they are major elements of composition, and sometimes your subject itself.





<https://lensvid.com/technique/using-soft-light-v-s-hard-light-diffusers-and-reflectors-for-photography/>

Contrast

Contrast matters in black and white photography because of the message it sends. A photo with high contrast, like the one on the right, conveys a sense of dynamic intensity – often because of the dark shadows. This is why photographers like adding contrast to monochromatic photos. It helps the images stand out.

Many people think that contrast is just the difference between the brightest and darkest portions of a photograph.

Instead, contrast also includes a component of proximity. The difference in brightness between two objects is exaggerated when they appear side by side. In this photograph, the bright Eiffel Tower is directly in front of a black background. This image has far more contrast than the gradient above.





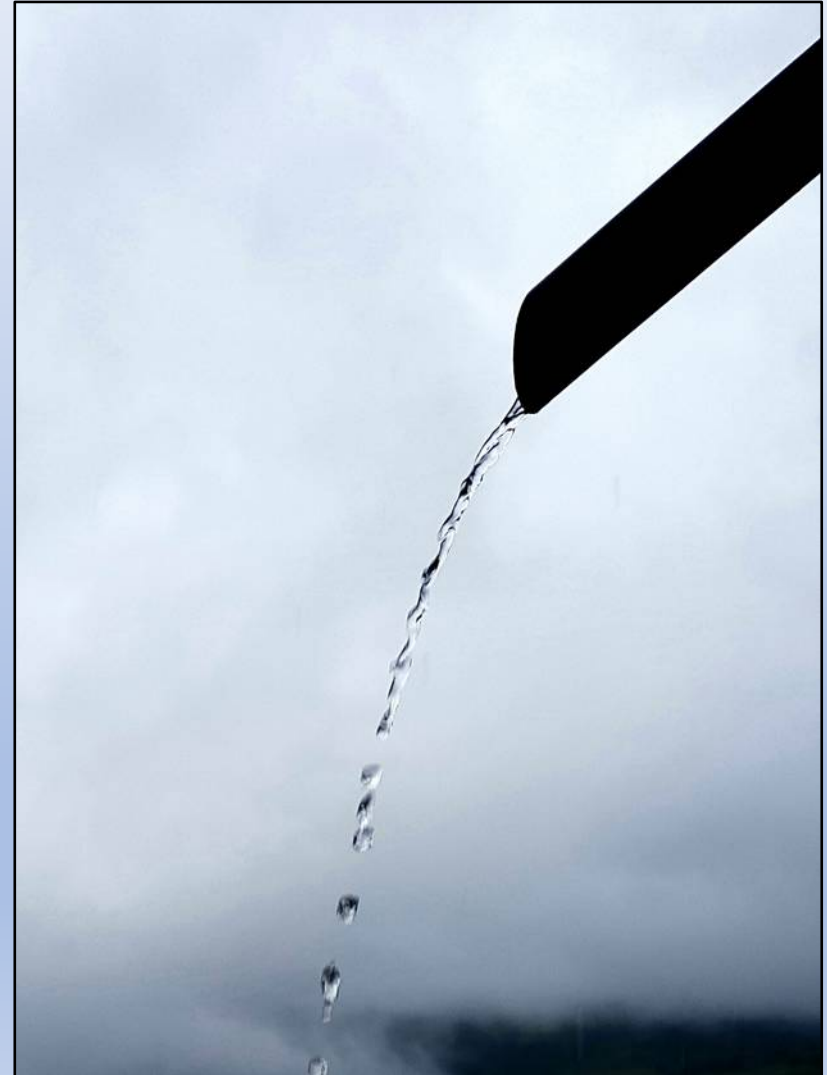
Low contrast photos don't attract as much attention, but their softer, muted quality can work equally well. Some attractive black and white photos have just a few silver mid-tones, and their subtlety is what makes them work so well.

How do the differences in contrast – high contrast versus low contrast – affect the mood of the two photos we have just looked at?

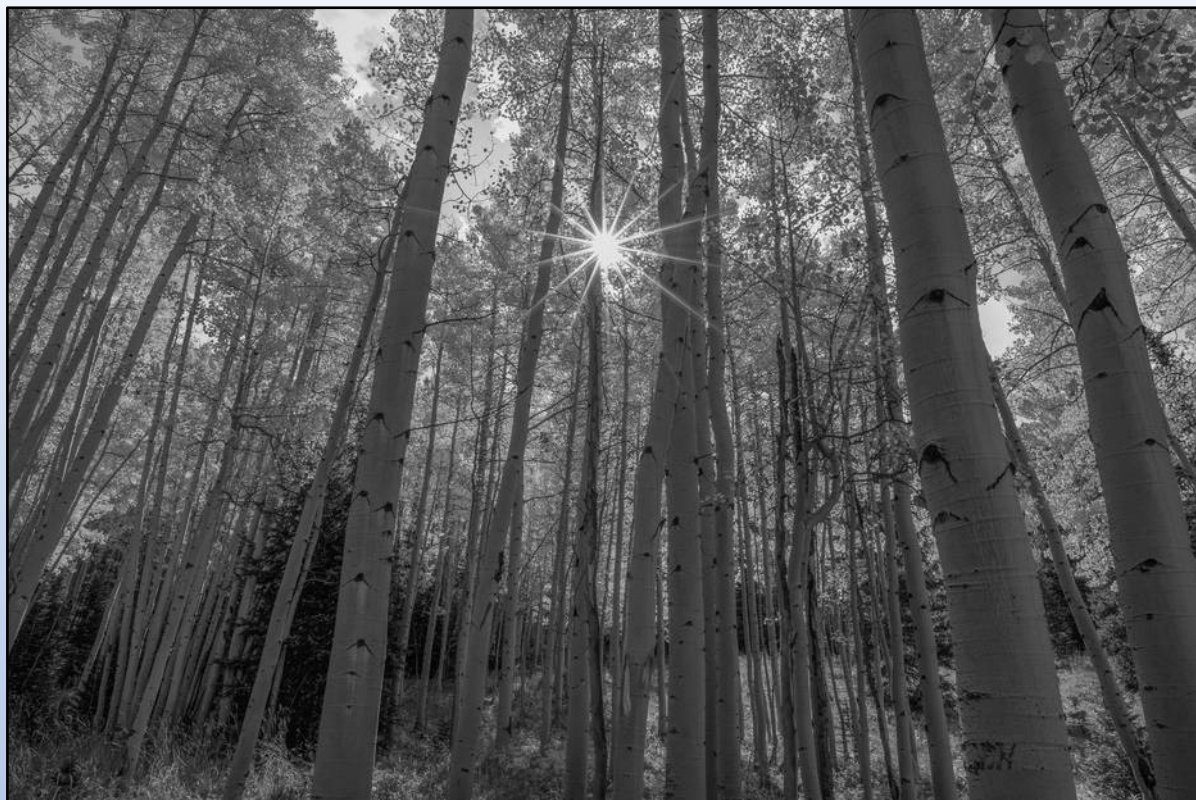


Low contrast

High contrast







Tones (Dark and Light)



just like contrast, tones can send a powerful message about your photo's mood. The darker image is more mysterious and foreboding. The lighter image is more ethereal and happy.

Shapes

Every photo is a collection of shapes, simple or complex. When you remove color from your photos, shapes become even more important as a part of the story you tell.

This photo depicts a waterfall with trees and rocks. But at a more abstract level, it is a series of shapes placed together on a canvas.

The waterfall is a rectangle surrounded by lines and polygons. The large tree, anchored in the river, resembles a music note.





Texture

While shapes create the “big picture” of an image, texture fills in the rest. And, like all the elements of black and white photography we have covered so far, the textures you capture have the power to affect a photo’s mood and emotions.

From smooth pebbles to coarse grass, texture is the foundation of an image’s personality.



Search For Texture. Texture is often easy to overlook. Fine details are not always the most apparent thing in subjects.

Once you get into a habit of looking for it, though, you will find that there are many more opportunities to include texture in black and white photography (and ordinary color photography) than you had previously realized.

Great textures often include repetition of some kind. Lines or curves that repeat into a pattern. Keep an eye out for dense bunches of forms such as wood grain, rock striations, bubbles, and foam, etc.



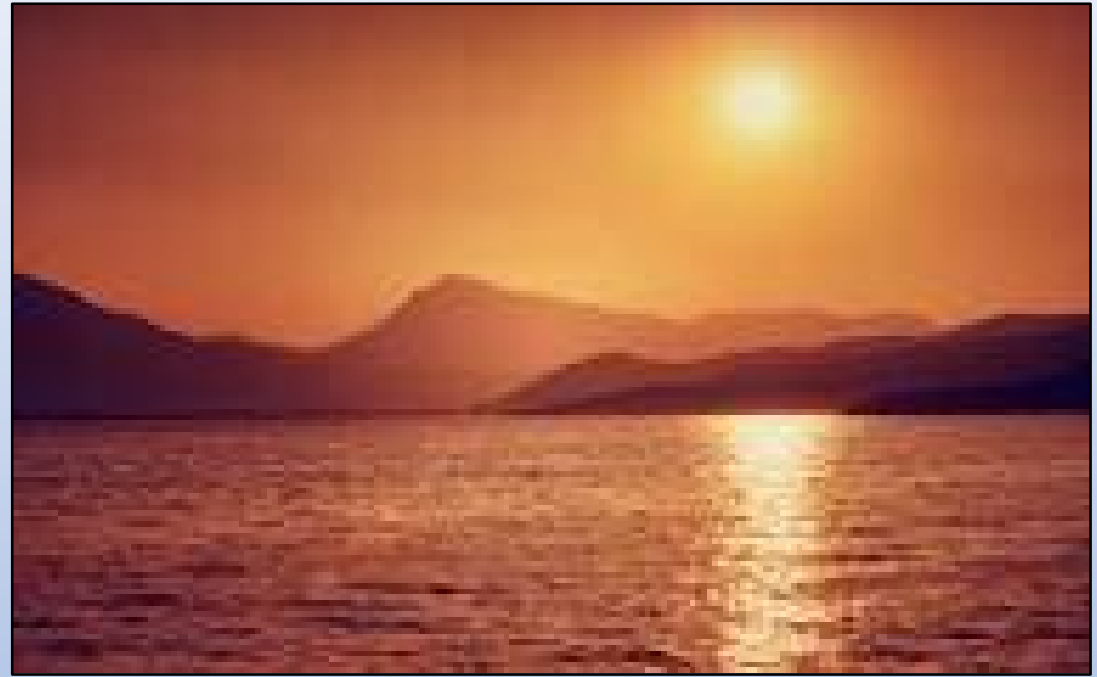
When to Shoot?

If you want to enhance texture, you will get the best results if you avoid direct light.

Outdoors, you'll want to avoid harsh midday sunlight. The light at this time of day illuminates everything strongly from above or in front of your subject.

This fills small cracks and irregularities surfaces, creating a flattening effect that prevents the texture from appearing as clearly.

For the best results with texture photography using [natural light](#), you should take your photos when the sun is low in the sky, during the [golden hour](#).



Homework

- § Practice taking black and white photos
- § Pay attention to contrast, shadows, texture, and shapes
- § Try taking photos early in the morning or shortly before sunset – shadows at that time help make photos more dramatic
- § Submit photos to John by Friday, October 7

Next Meeting

Wednesday, October 7, 2020

2 pm GMT