

# THE LIPKA JOURNAL

PHOTOGRAPHS / STORIES / OBSERVATIONS

JOE LIPKA

OCTOBER 2023



# WELCOME TO THE JOURNAL OCTOBER 2023



Visual Souvenirs



Storm's Comin'



A Grey World

This month we're staying outside and experiencing the world and weather. We start on the Oregon Coast at low tide and see what souvenirs we can find - with a camera. Next, we play tag with some summer thunderstorms on the high plains of Wyoming. Finally, we get a preview of the grey world of winter vineyards on the banks of the Rhine River.



Visual Souvenirs

## Visual Souvenirs

The Tide goes out twice a day. The beachcombers know this is the time to come out and explore the beach and see what the tides have left behind. One could get lucky and find a glass float from a Japanese fishing net, a nice piece of driftwood, or maybe even a shell or two. There's always the opportunity to look at the pools and find an anemone or maybe a starfish patiently clinging to a rock, waiting for the next high tide.

Me, I'm happy to see what compositions the tide has left behind. I go beachcombing with my camera to bring back the visual souvenirs at today's low tide.



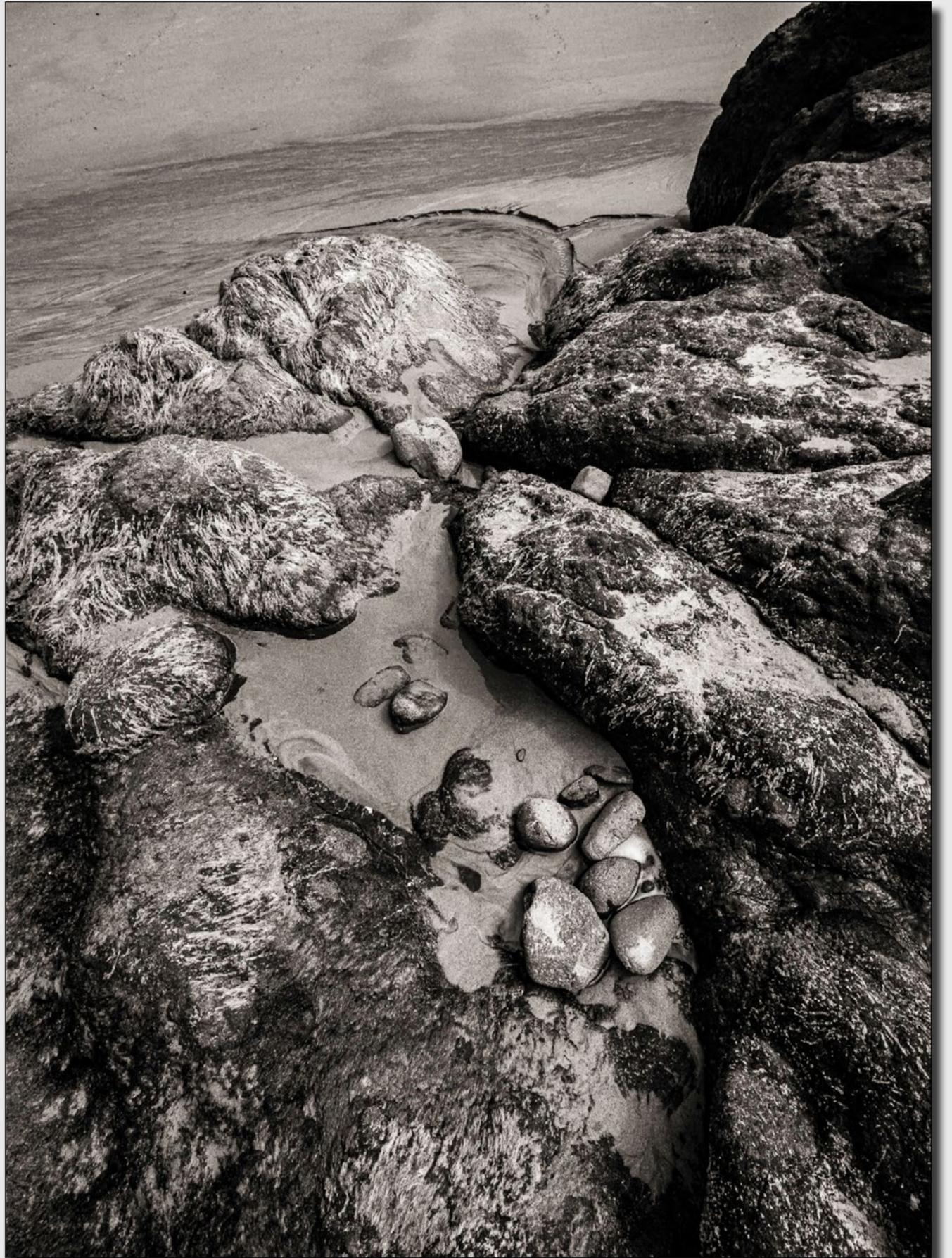
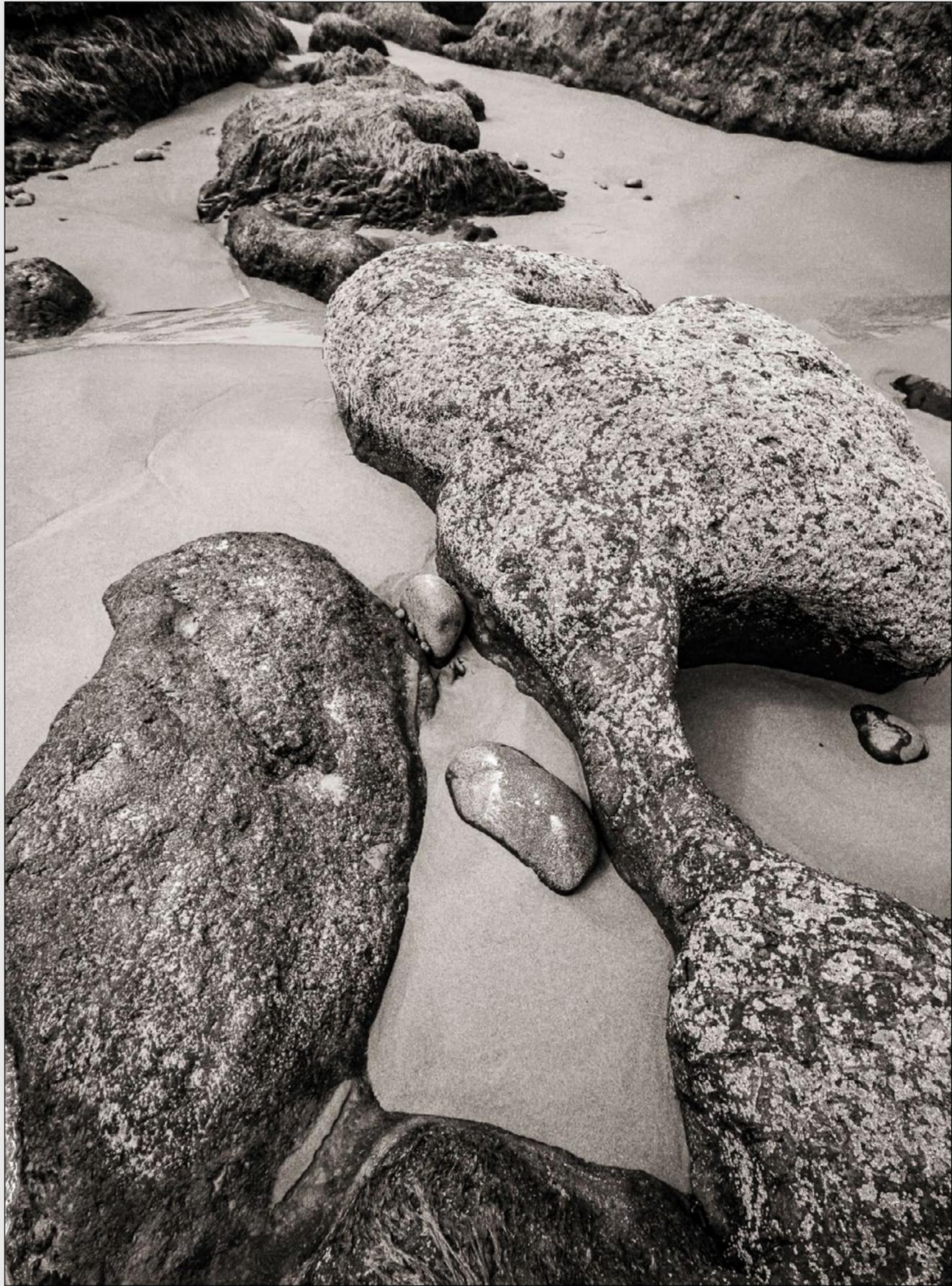














## Single Image Project

No one could tell me the last time there was a movie on the screen of Cinema Normandie.

Storm's Comin'

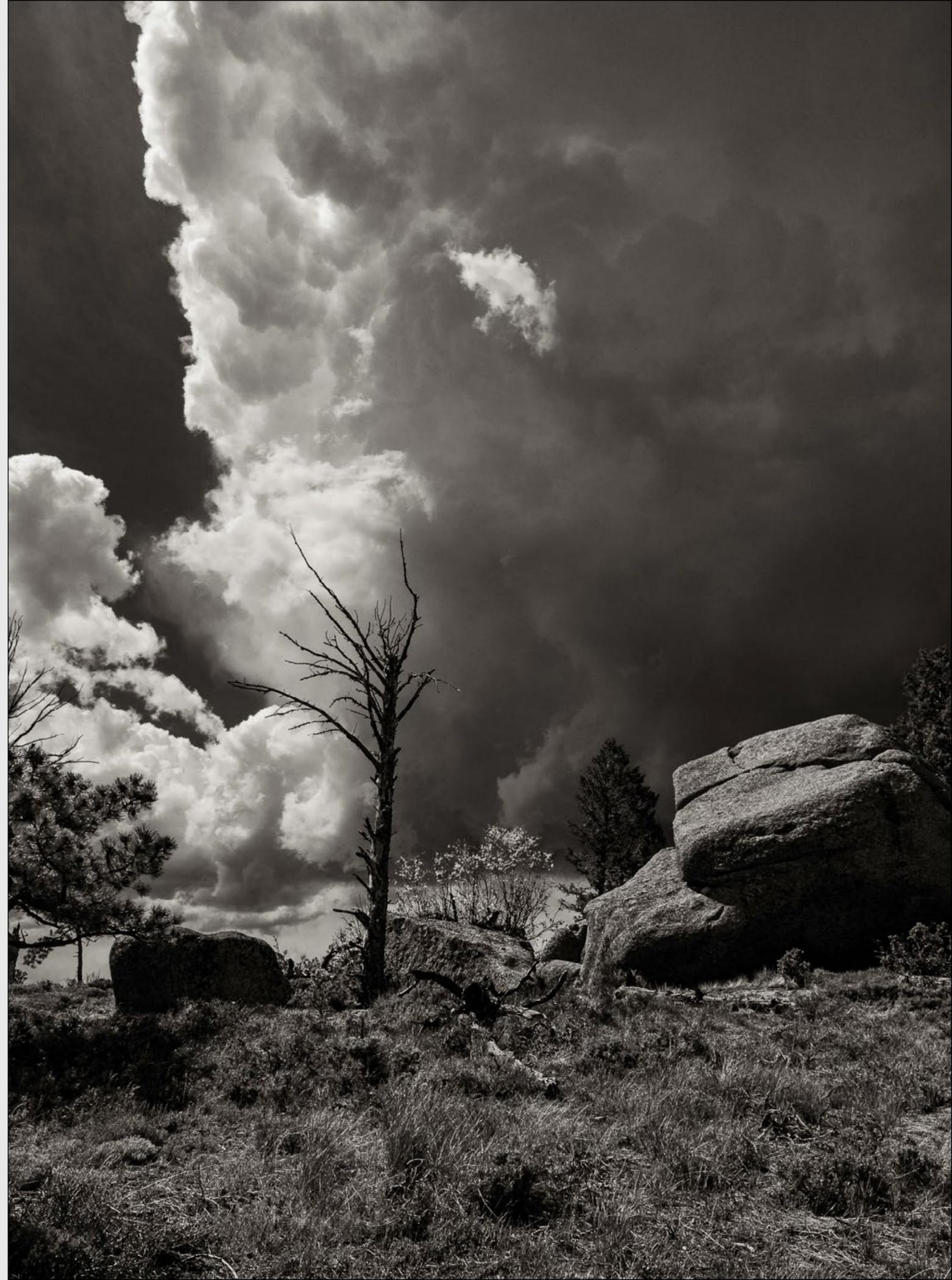


## Storm's Comin'

I was out photographing spectacular cloud formations off a dirt road. As I was returning to the truck, I waited for an old pickup truck to pass. The truck stopped next to me and an old timer (you know, someone my age) said, "Storm's Comin'. Be here in about an hour. Best you get off this dirt road before it rains." I thanked him for the local knowledge and asked him how he knew bad weather was that close.

"My knees been killin' me since early this mornin'. It's gonna storm for sure, and real soon, too.."

About an hour later it did.

















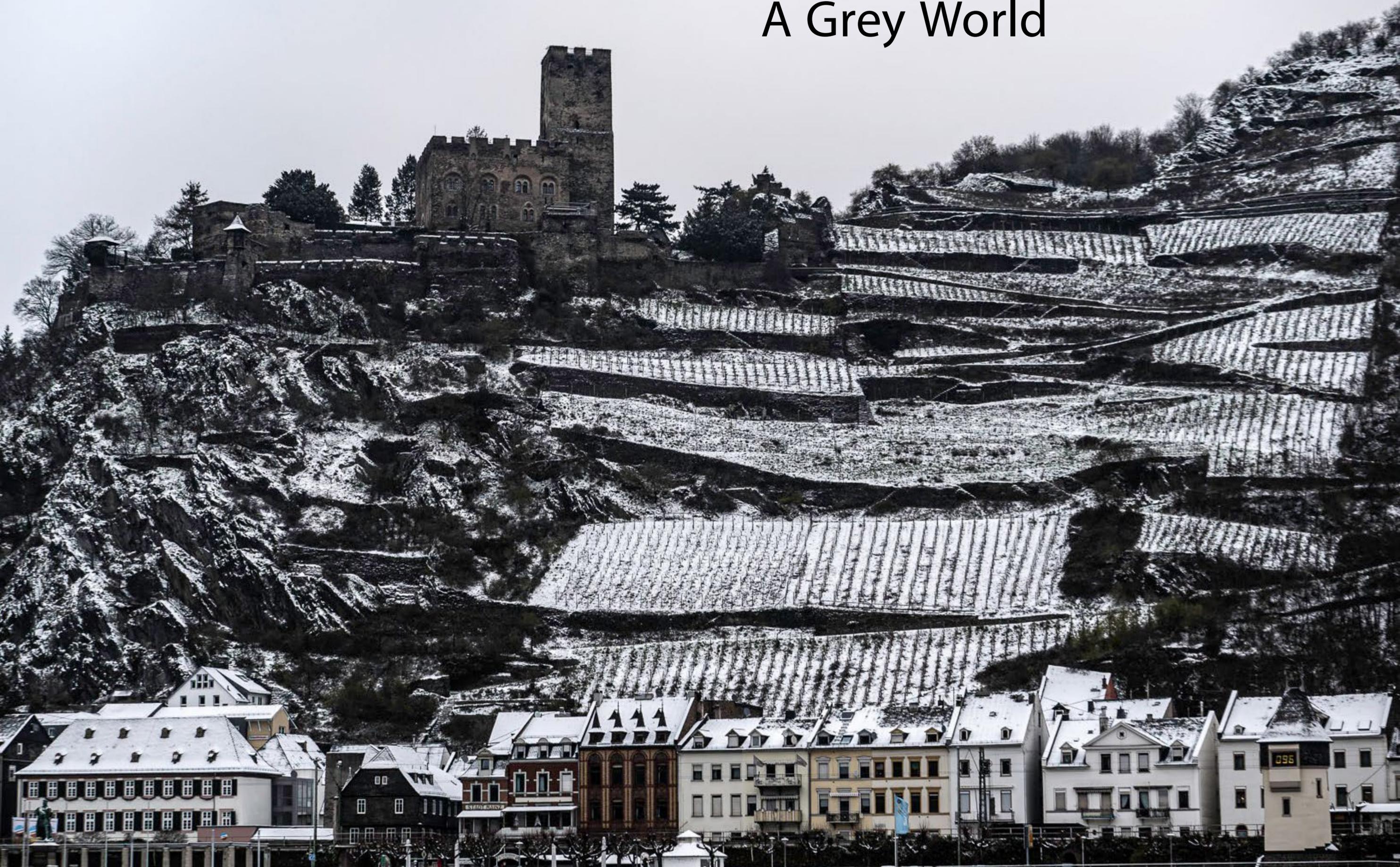




## Six Word Project

Just deal with it all later.

# A Grey World



## A Grey World

Grey days are similar. There's no real incentive to go outside because there is no sunshine. One ventures into the grey only because they are required to attend to outdoor chores, or there is a "must do" trip or errand. It's not a voluntary journey.

Unless you look at the thermometer it's tough to know the temperature on those days. Eighty-degree grey days don't look that much different than a thirty-degree grey day until you either remember it's August and not December, look at the thermometer or venture out into that grey day.

Snow on the ground convinced me to stay indoors and only venture out to make these photographs.





















# Postcards from the Creative Journey

August 2, 2020

## Do as I say because I don't do

When I was learning photography (so long ago I don't want to think about it) the instruction came from other photographers; people that had a lot of experience with the creation of photographic prints from film negatives. They showed us their photographs, examples of their art created through technology. Their profession was making images and they shared their knowledge of photography.

Look at the current crop of photographic teachers. Pleasant people, very good at explaining the arcane functions of increasingly complex electronic contraptions and how software works. Have you seen anything other than "example photographs" in a book?

We have reached a point where photography is so sophisticated we separate the instruction on camera operation, software and photography. We worry so much about hardware and software we have little time left for the aesthetics of photography.



# A FEW CLOSING WORDS



## Visual Souvenirs

This is from the second trip to Cape Cove Beach on the Oregon Coast during May 2022 Photo Safari. The first trip to the Beach was not very successful, but I found my mojo the second time. I came up with enough good images for two projects. The first, entitled, "The Big Picture," was included in this year's [February issue](#) of The Lipka Journal.



## Storm's Comin'

Summer on the high plains of Wyoming creates strong storms. They spin up quickly and are incredibly dramatic and dangerous. Our proximity to the clouds is helped by Wyoming's elevation. We are closer to the weather. Modern humans tend to think of themselves as powerful. Storms such as those we find on the high plains of Wyoming quickly destroy that hubris.



## A Grey World

Yes, these are color photographs. No desaturating, converting or other digital chicanery was visited upon these pixels. It was a misty grey day during a gray season around the winter solstice. My world that day was a deep grey with little hints of shadow blue.

These images are grey, not gray, because they were made on the Rhine River. I think they should be described in European English.



Joe Lipka has shared his vision since he began photographing.

In the last forty years, his photographs have appeared in over one hundred twenty juried exhibitions, more than twenty solo exhibitions and his images have been published in *LensWork*, *Black & White Photography* (UK) and *F-Stop* Magazines.

His website [www.joelipkaphoto.com](http://www.joelipkaphoto.com) has continuously evolved since it was launched in 2004. His blog *Postcards from the Creative Journey*, published weekly since 2010, feature a photograph and a little bit of writing.

His newest blog, *The Daily Photograph*, is simply that. A new and interesting image posted every morning at 8:00 AM.

## The Lipka Journal, October, 2023

*Joe Lipka*

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Web site: [www.joelipkaphoto.com](http://www.joelipkaphoto.com)

Blog: <http://blog.joelipkaphoto.com/>

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