

The Things We Almost Miss



A QUIET INVITATION TO NOTICE
THE BEAUTY, COURAGE, AND HUMANITY
THAT SURROUND US EVERY DAY.

JEFF HITZLER

THE THINGS WE ALMOST MISS

*A quiet invitation to notice
the beauty, courage, and humanity
that surround us every day.*

This book is an invitation to return
to the moments we pass too quickly.

Not to find what is hidden,
but to notice what was there all along.

Life is like art.

The more we look,
the more we see.



What did you notice first?

Stay a little longer.

There was something about the little tree that made Brian stop.

It wasn't large. It wasn't where a tree should have had an easy time growing. It had somehow found its place among the rocks.

Across the water, Brian noticed something else: a larger island of trees seemed to echo its shape.

He could see the photograph he wanted.

But he couldn't make it.

Not yet.

There was too much happening behind the little tree. Too much competing for attention.

So Brian left.

And came back.

The scene still wasn't right.

He came back again.

Then one day, the fog arrived.



*Some things become easier to see
when everything around them grows quiet.*

*Perhaps they were never difficult to see.
We were simply looking at too much at once.*

Nature's Tranquil Embrace

Photography by Brian Taylor

"What initially stopped me was this persistent little tree finding a way to grow right out of the rocks. Its shape was almost a mirror image of the larger island of trees in the background.

It took a few visits to get it right. The scene was usually too busy, so I waited for a layer of fog to soften the background. That natural separation finally allowed the little tree to stand out without all the surrounding distraction."

— Brian Taylor



Look again.

Has anything changed?

*We don't always need to understand something
to be changed by it.*



What caught your eye?

What did you notice next?

Jessica was driving home from an art fair in La Crosse
when she glanced to her left.

Something caught her eye.

She could have kept driving.

Instead, she turned around.

Jessica pulled over and took the photograph as the clouds
converged around sunset.

Only then could she really take in the scene.

The flowers and grasses close by.

The fields.

The small red barn.

The trees.

The landscape stretching into the distance.

Layer after layer.

*All of it had been there as she drove past.
She just needed a reason to stop.*

There is more to notice.

And more moments waiting to be discovered.

You have experienced the beginning of the book.

Six more artworks and their stories await.

The Things We Almost Miss

A quiet invitation to notice more.

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