

Date 2 / 14 PV Log: (circle one) Poem / Movie / Picture / LyricTitle Man Holding the SunAuthor / Director / Nessa

Context (Where Found / Viewed / Read?)

I found this picture via Google Images on a woman's photography blog while searching for images depicting the theme of perspective.

Content / CD / Summary / Precis (Say? "Plot? Setting/Situation? Key lines/phrases scenes, etc?)

In this picture, a man is standing alone on a beach with his hands raised up in the air and surrounding the Sun as if he is holding it like a ball in midair. Though the picture is relatively dark, the man is apparently in a swimsuit, and there is a city with buildings of a variety of shapes and sizes in the background. Because the Sun is so far off in the distance, the man's relative location to the Sun forces the viewer to perceive as if he himself is actually grasping the Sun between his two hands.

Content / CM / Meaning? / Theme(s)?

The main themes in this picture are perception and the discernment of reality. This particular photo is called a "forced perspective" photograph because it uses various optical tools and tricks to make the viewer perceive that the person in the picture is carrying out a task that can obviously not physically be accomplished. It is up to the viewer under any circumstances, whether it be a graphic arts display such as this picture or simply a life experience, to discern whether or not a particular instance represents an accurate portrayal of reality. Of course, everyone possesses a unique and distinguished perception of what constitutes reality, based on personal experience and exposure to life, and so perception itself significantly influences the way someone acts or makes decisions, a huge factor in determining how and where a person will end up in his life. Perception obviously changes over time, but its influence remains forever constant.

Form (Diction? Construction Terms? Symbolism?)

Specifically, this picture is called a "forced perspective" photograph. This is a way of changing the size of an object, the location or the context of an environment by utilizing perspective and optical illusion tricks. Using angle, proximity, position and props, a person can set up a very interesting and inspiring picture, such as the man holding the sun, that can be sure to change the way that people view things.

Commentary (What do you want to say? Why like? Questions? Synthesis / Allusions-Connections / Relevance to personal experience, to literature, 20Q's? etc.)? "Poetic" Traits?

This picture of a man holding the Sun is probably one of the more humorous and light-hearted pictures that I have logged for the poetic vision project. Because the photographer utilized such interesting angles and positions when she took the photo, the viewer is forced to perceive something that could never physically ever happen, bringing a sense of amusement and absurdity to the photo. Nevertheless, working with perspective in such a way allows an individual to stretch his or her creativity to new levels and to start imagining the world around him or her in different and new ways. Moreover, this particular type of perspective photo and the way it is created bases its establishment off the simple idea that the human imagination is limitless, and that is what makes the photo so poetic. The photographer who took this photo must strongly believe in the expansive nature of the human mind and the cultivation and growth of human perspective. The photo poetically urges people to broaden their perspectives so that they can be better aware of their surroundings and the reality that they live in. This picture also clearly relates to Annie Dillard's essay "Seeing," in which she argues her point on the ambiguity of nature and reality, and the importance and significance of perspective in understanding it all. Perspective is so important because it ultimately determines the decisions and actions that a person employs.

over (do not mix logs; e.g., no poem log in front, and movie log on back)