



Signs of change

Full Clarity

This project started off as many things. At its very beginnings it was a cheesy portrait project with the American flag. Deep inside I knew that wasn't the direction I wanted to go, there just wasn't any substance. Next it was about documenting my extremely diverse family... then Trayvon Martin was killed.

It hit me pretty hard, as a black man, you know the do's and don'ts of being black (whether you want to admit that they are real or not). When you can be killed by a civilian and that person is charged with no crime of taking a young man's life because of how "he" perceived him to be, your perspective changes. There was a slow shift in what being American meant to me. I've always seen things as fairly as I could, "be the source of logic" I'd tell myself. Then Mike Brown was killed. I noticed a difference in my work it went from documenting people to documenting social change and interaction. Then Sandra Bland, Tamir Rice and Eric Green was killed. I continued to feel the ache in my stomach, the urge to go out and document what was happening became stronger and stronger.

This isn't all about social inequality, it is about the people who make America who she is... everyday people. Unfortunately inequality, racism and poverty are huge pieces to America's puzzle.

America the Bold will be ongoing, hopefully it will shed even a smidge of light on the problems that plague our beloved nation.



In hindsight



Some images

don't have stories, they are just reactions to a action. This one is different... the gentleman's man is "Powder". I don't know much about him, I've seen him a couple times and spoke to him on the street. This particular day it was raining when a bus pulled up and Powder spilled out. I can only assume he just left the hospital since he had two fresh tags on him. I helped move him to the side by the Aztec store front, shortly after he had a short seizure then crawled to the edge of the street. After about 15 minutes EMT and police arrived and took him back to the hospital. This series of images document his ordeal.



All in a day's



Unsee



Lulu's Shirt



Not all bad



Hopeful thinking



Clothed in blue and blood