Photography Basics

Snapshot vs. Photograph

A *snapshot* can be taken of anything and of varying quality. Usually a snapshot is a quick rough capture to document a scene or an event.

A *photograph* on the other hand, is a well thought out, composed, exposed, and executed art form

Photography is all about
Light & ***Composition***

What does *Light* have to do with it…?

Light: Film vs. Digital

-Film Cameras use film that gets exposed to certain amounts and types of light to create an image

-Digital Cameras have Light Sensors built-in that determines the amounts and types of light to create an image

What is Composition?

Composition is...

… how subject matter is arranged within the frame of a photograph.

What is Subject Matter?

Subject Matter is...

… the subject of your photograph is whatever you are taking a photograph of (ie: person, place, thing, etc.)

Photographic Composition 101

Composition 101:
Simplicity

Composition 101: Simplicity

-Keeping it simple is usually a good thing in photography

-Too much visual distraction in your photograph can take away from your subject and make it look more like a snapshot

Composition 101:
Focal Point

Composition 101: Focal Point

-Where the viewer's eye goes directly upon looking at a photograph (the first thing you see)

-Try to establish a focal point or center of interest in your photographs

Composition 101:
Rule of Thirds

Composition 101: Rule of Thirds…?

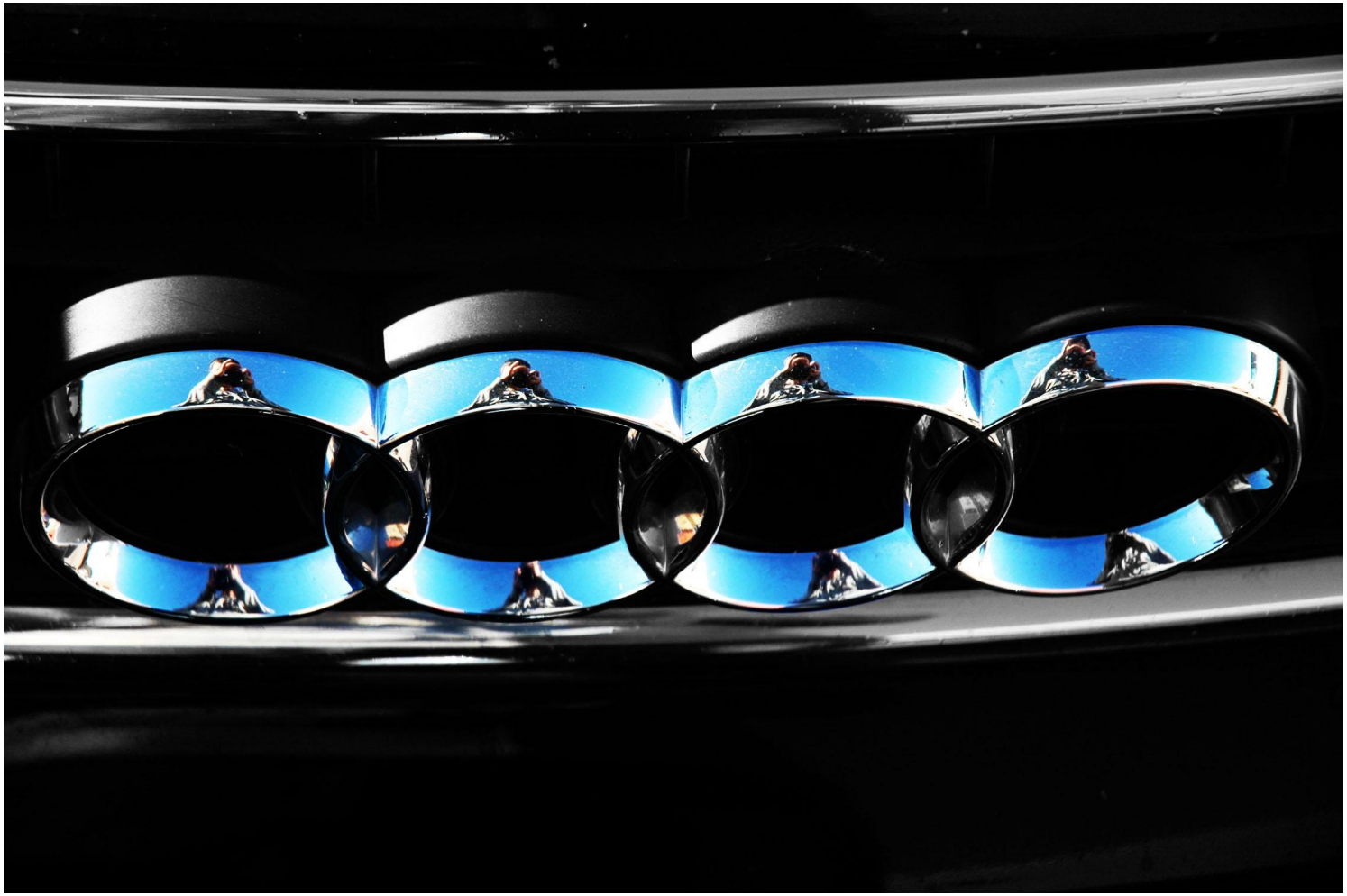
… The placement of your main subject and/or horizon line into ⅓ of your photographs frame, rather than the center/middle.

...A “rule of thumb” in the visual arts that creates a more interesting artwork through added visual tension

Examples of
Rule of Thirds
Portraits

UNITED STATES

REV



My tired eyes
won't sleep,
I keep them open
'til we meet again.

Did you notice anything else about portraits…?

Did you notice…?

Tips & Tricks for Portraits:

-Can be black and white or in color

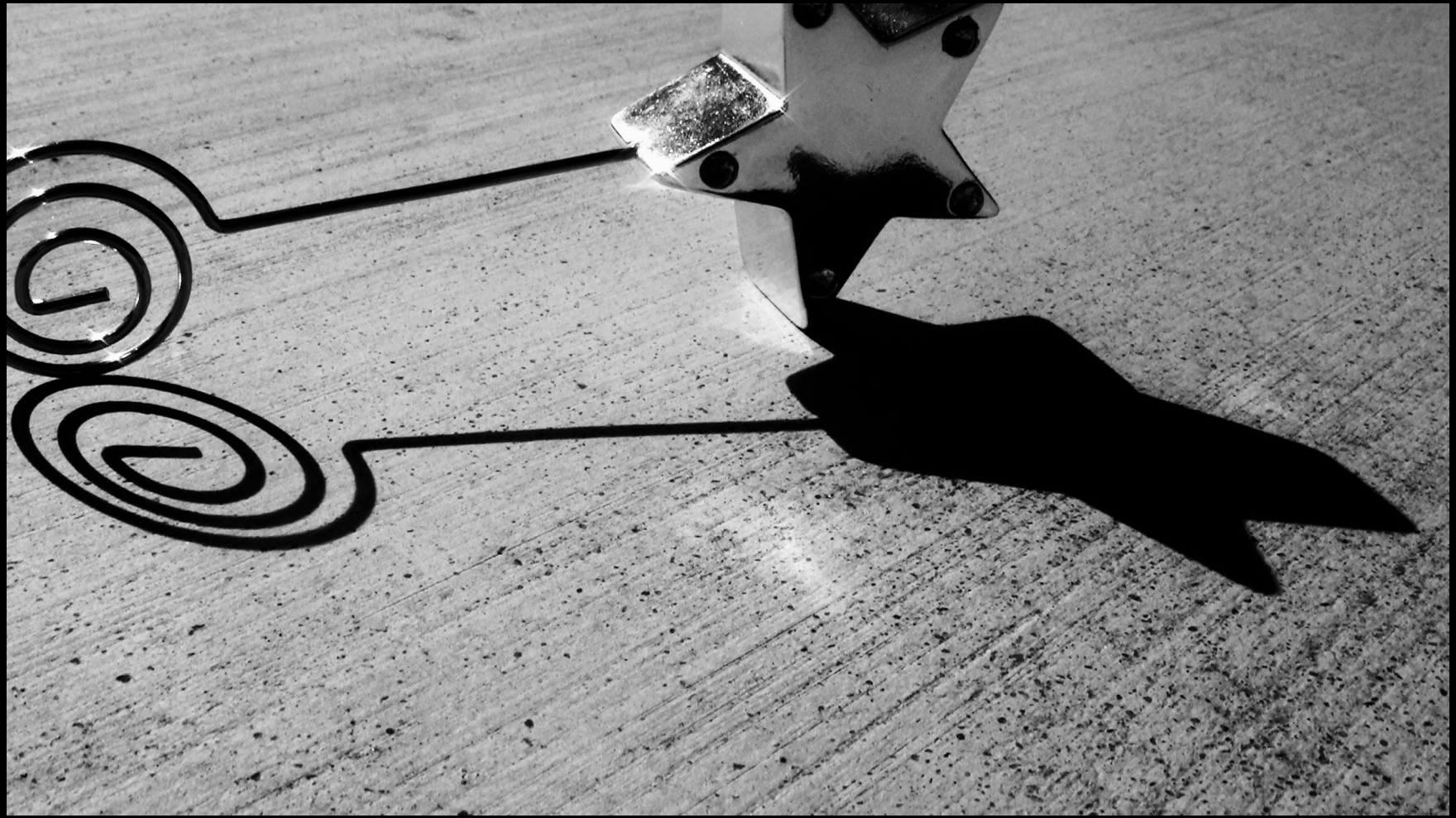
-Can be very simple yet powerful

-Reveal a side of a person's personality (directly and/or more creatively)

-Subject does not need to be looking at the camera

-Up close shots should have eyes be the sharpest point of focus.

Examples of
Rule of Thirds
Objects



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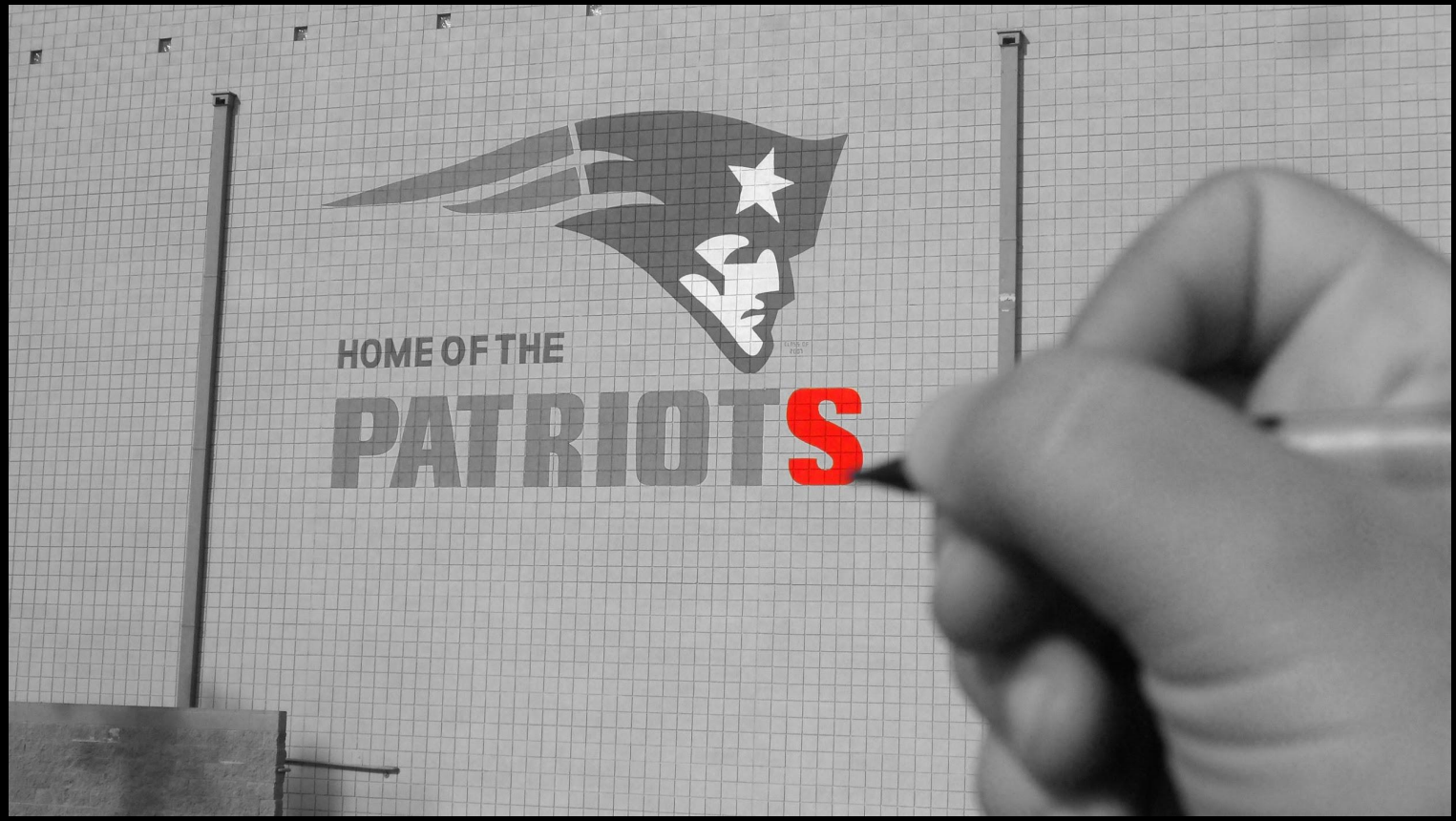
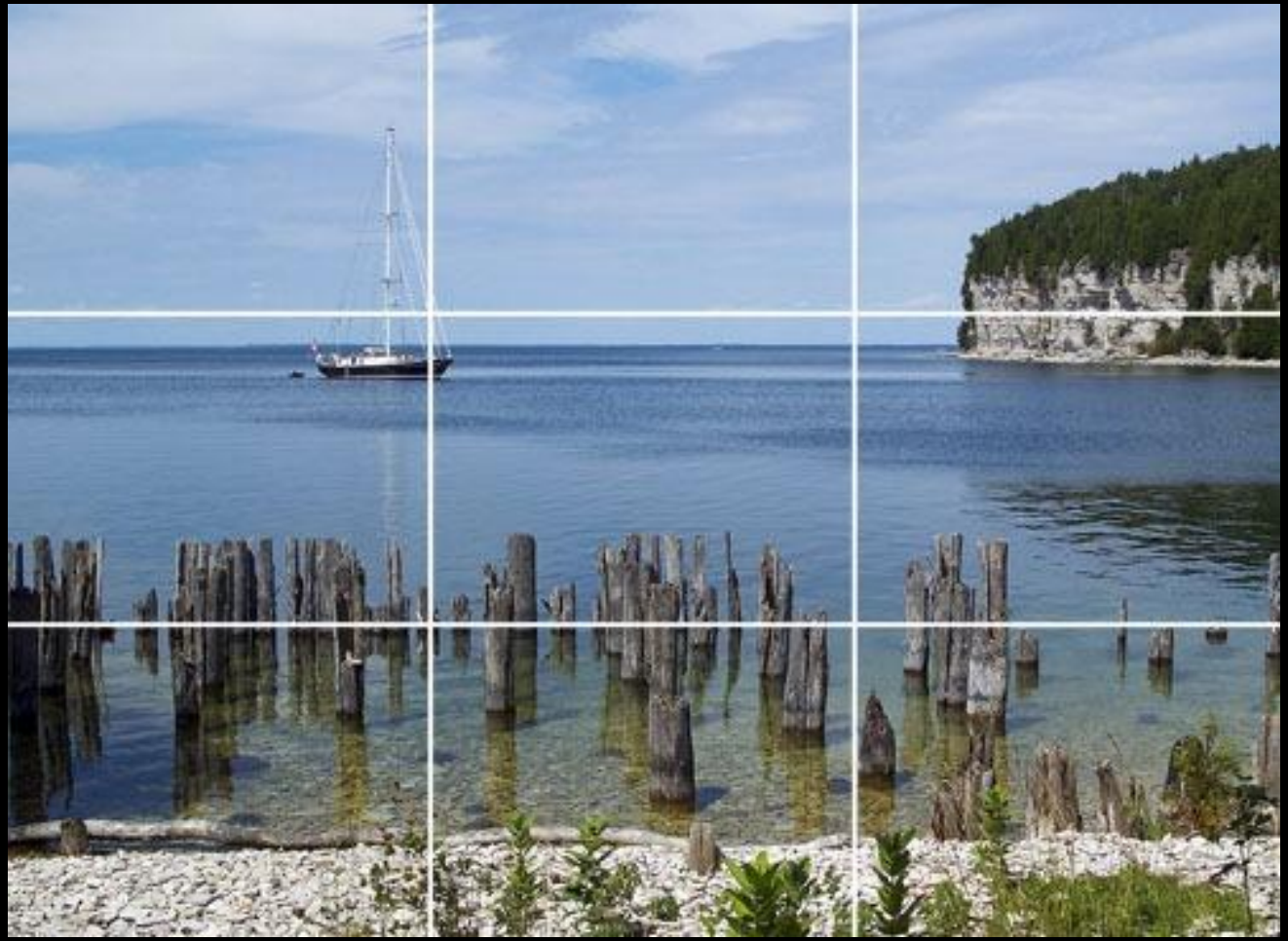

HOME OF THE
PATRIOTS

Examples of
Rule of Thirds
Horizon Line



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Mia Cisp

Rule of Thirds, More Tips & Tricks:

-Leave more room in front of a moving subject rather than behind

-Keep the overall composition simple

-Don’t be afraid to get close to your subject with your camera

Your turn to try it...!

Day 4 Photo Shoot:

1) Take a Portrait of someone (traditional or a symbolic object)
2) Choose a plain background for your photo
3) Get close to your subject so that they (or object representing them) comfortably fits the frame of the viewfinder
4) Apply the Rule of Thirds in your photo
5) If time, take as many other photos as you can using the Rule of Thirds!!!!

Other Reminders:

-Don’t stand too far from your subject

-Of subject is standing in front of a wall, have them stand away from it to avoid shadows, or have them get close and capture the cast shadow at an interesting angle.

-Kneel or sit if your subject is lower to the ground

Composition 101:
Lines

Composition 101: Lines

There are 5 main types of Lines we can look for and photograph:

-Horizontal Line

-Vertical Line

-Diagonal Line

-S-Curve Line

-Leading Line

Composition 101: Lines

Lines can…

-Add visual interest in a photograph by creating a sense of movement

-Lead a viewers' eye to a focal point or main subject

-Can become the subject matter themselves, and become abstract when viewed close-up

Horizontal Lines: *side to side*

Vertical Lines: *Up & Down*

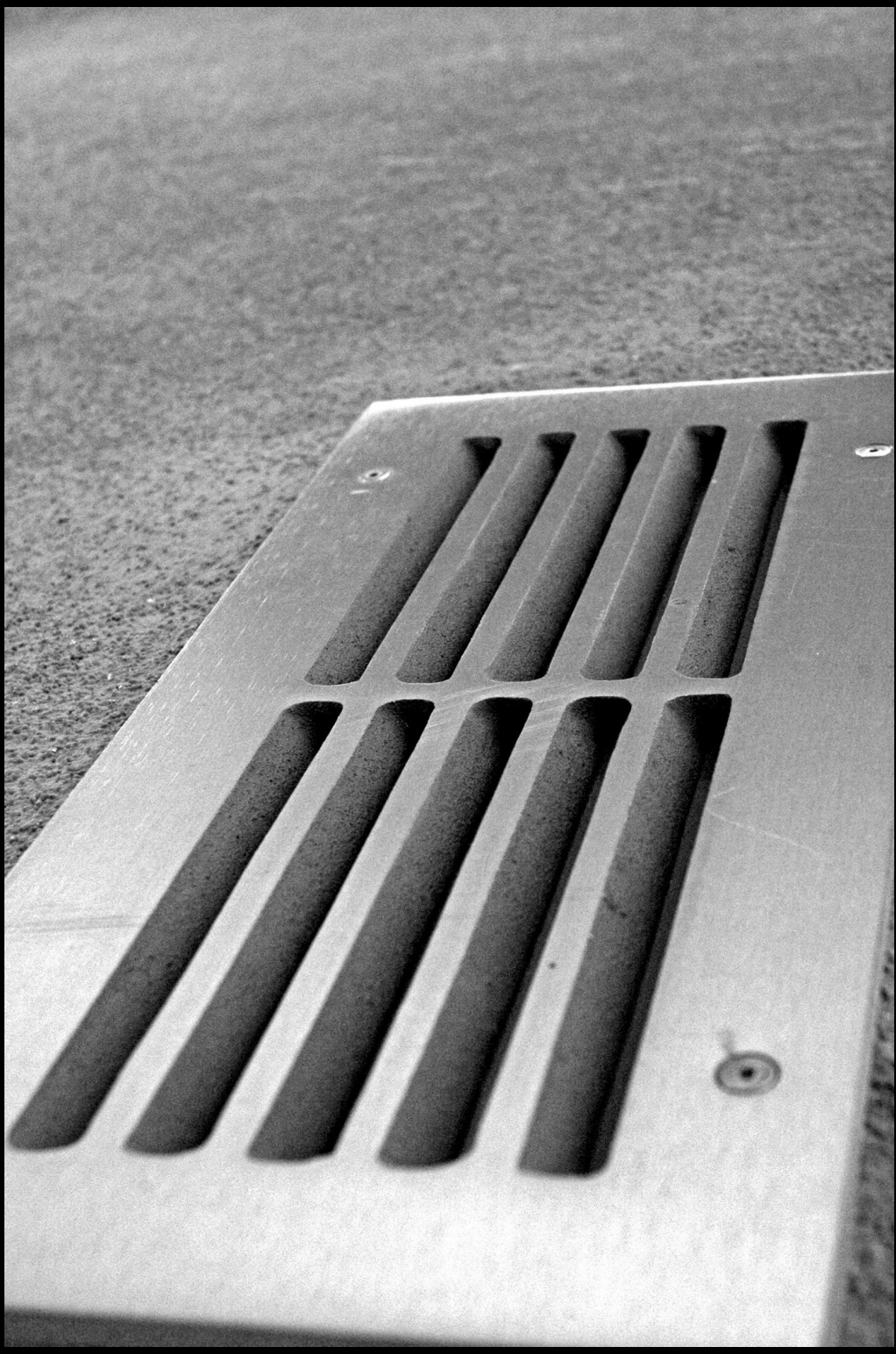
S-Curve: *Curved, moves eye through photo*

Diagonal: *Angled*

Leading: Moves your eye through a photograph and leads you to a focal point or main subject. Can be any of the previous other types of line

Examples of Lines

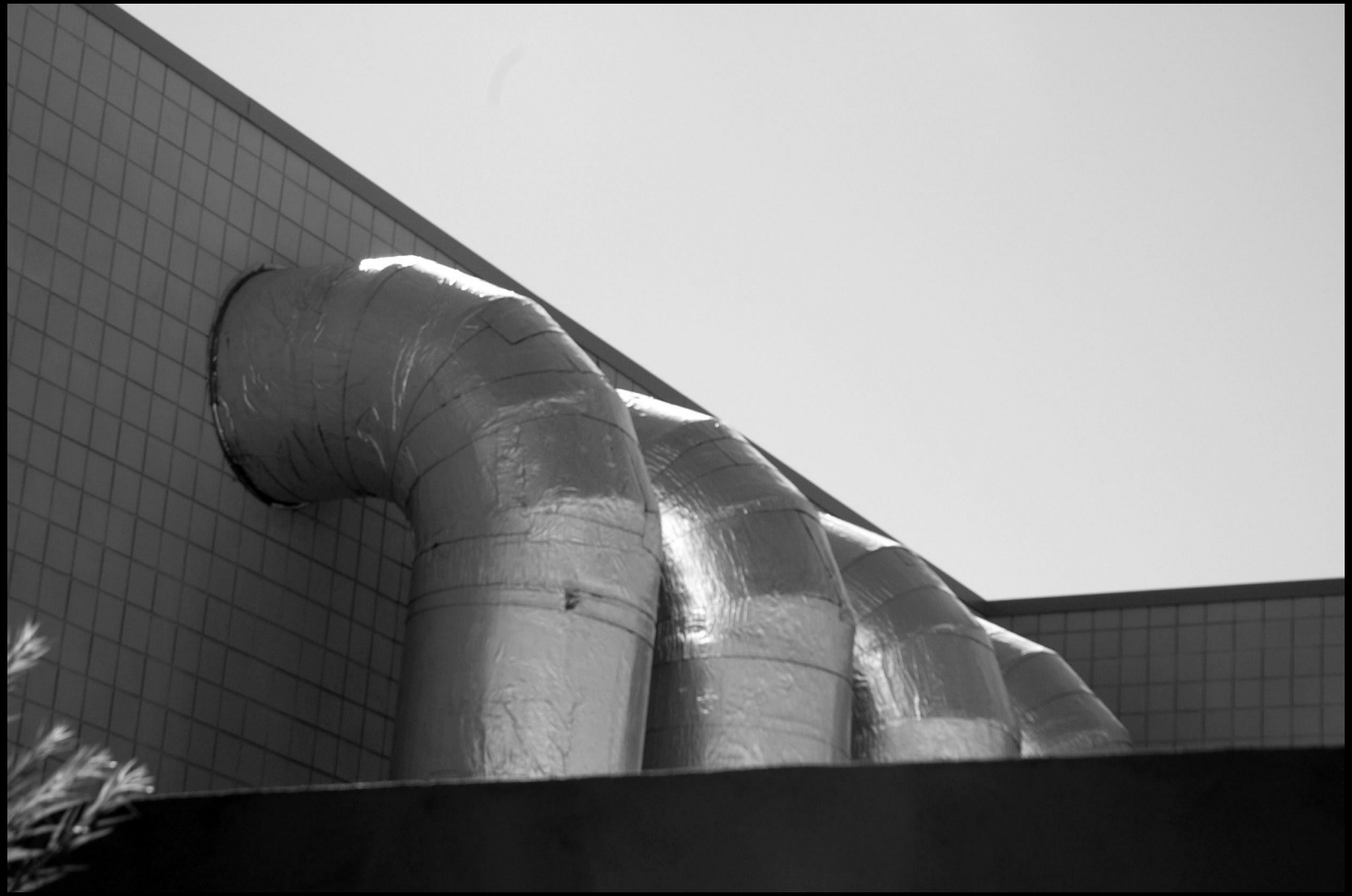
Horizontal, Vertical, Diagonal, S-Curve, & Leading

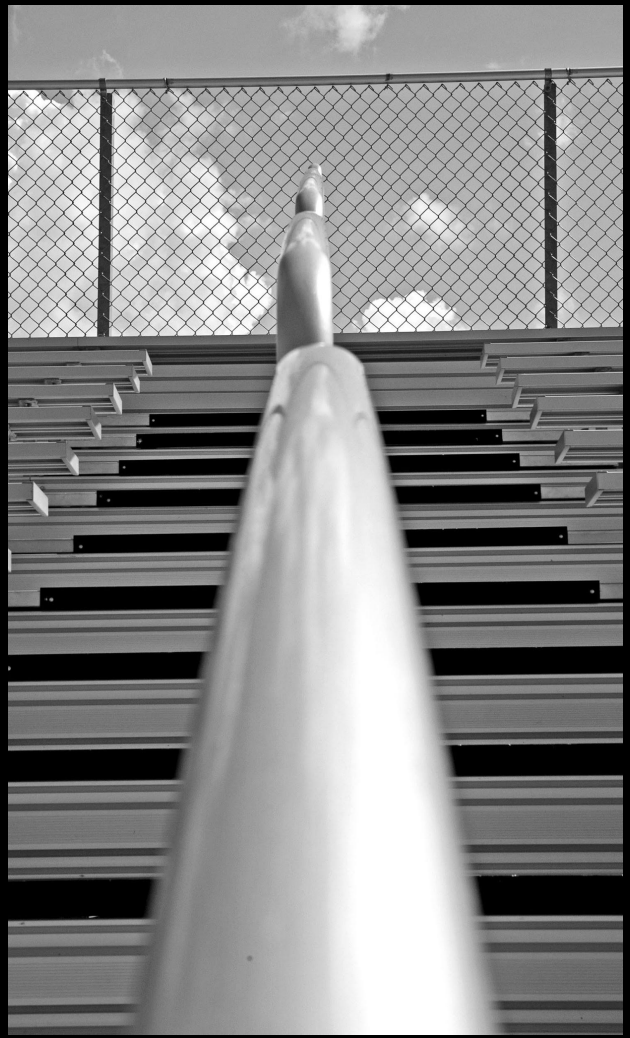


HONDA

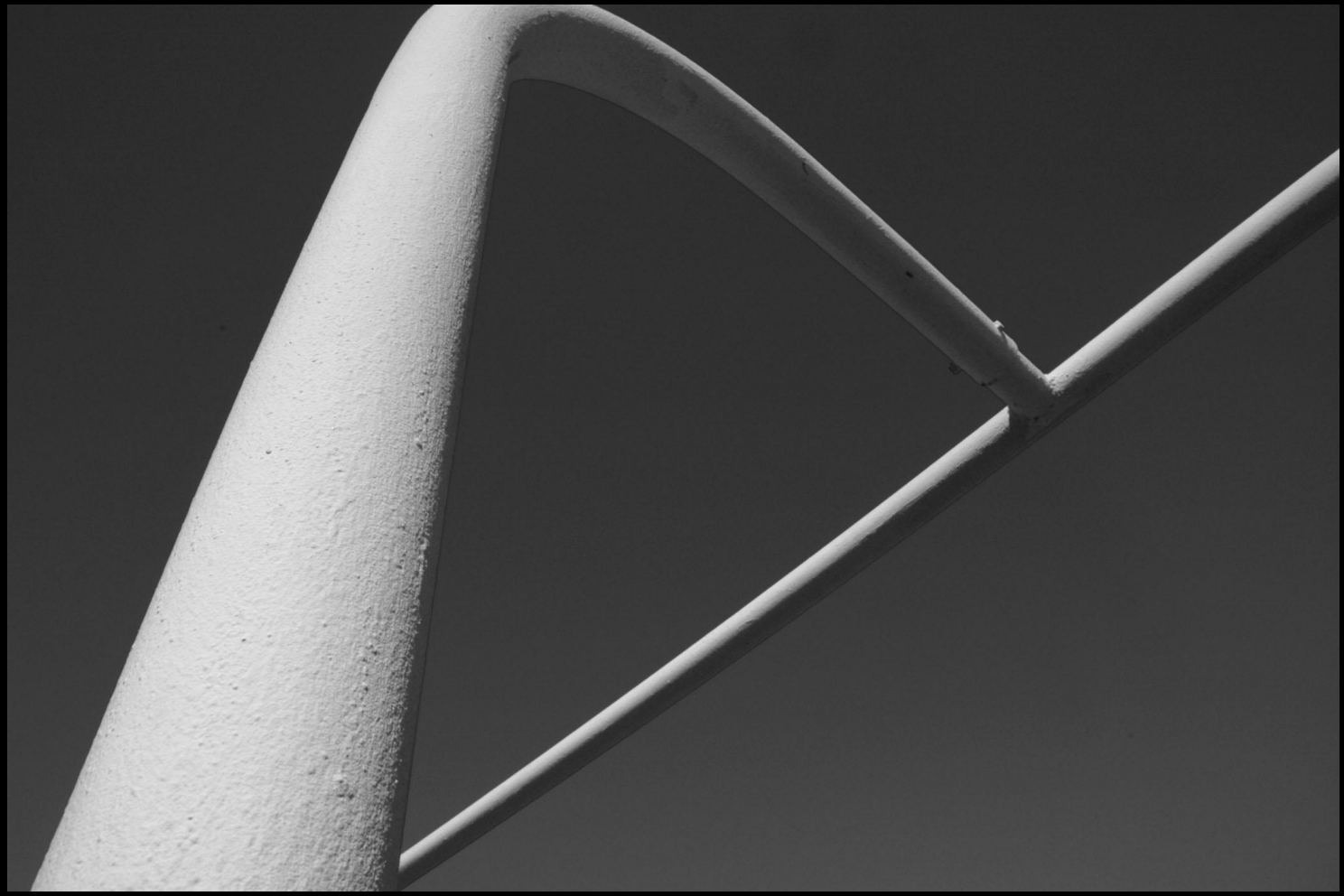
CAUTION
Empire

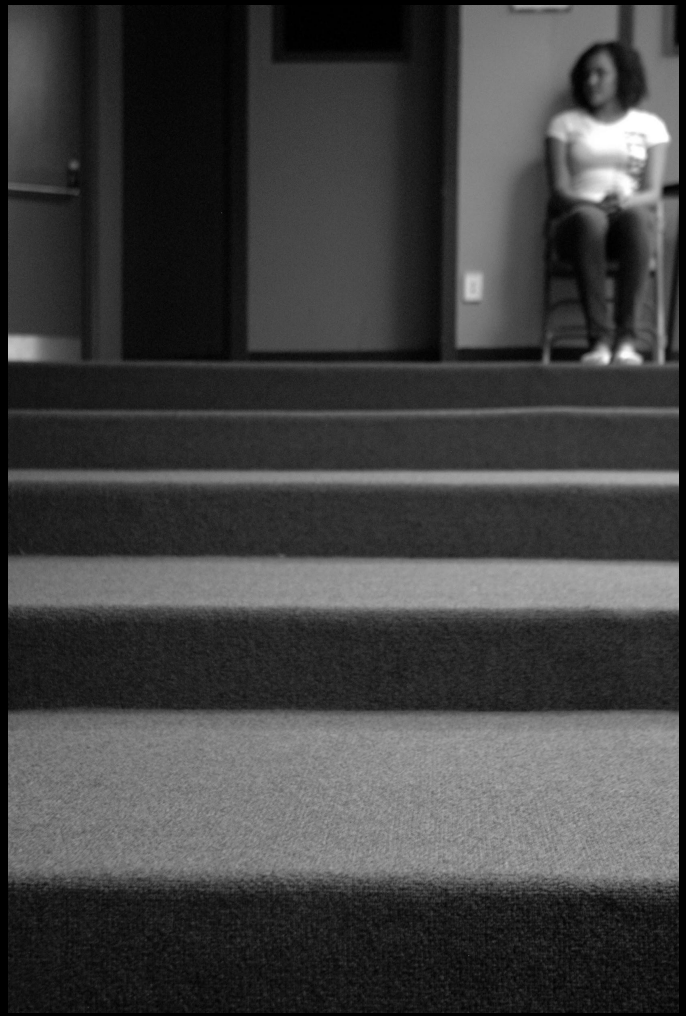
PATRIOTS





Master





Composition 101:
Framing

Composition 101: Framing

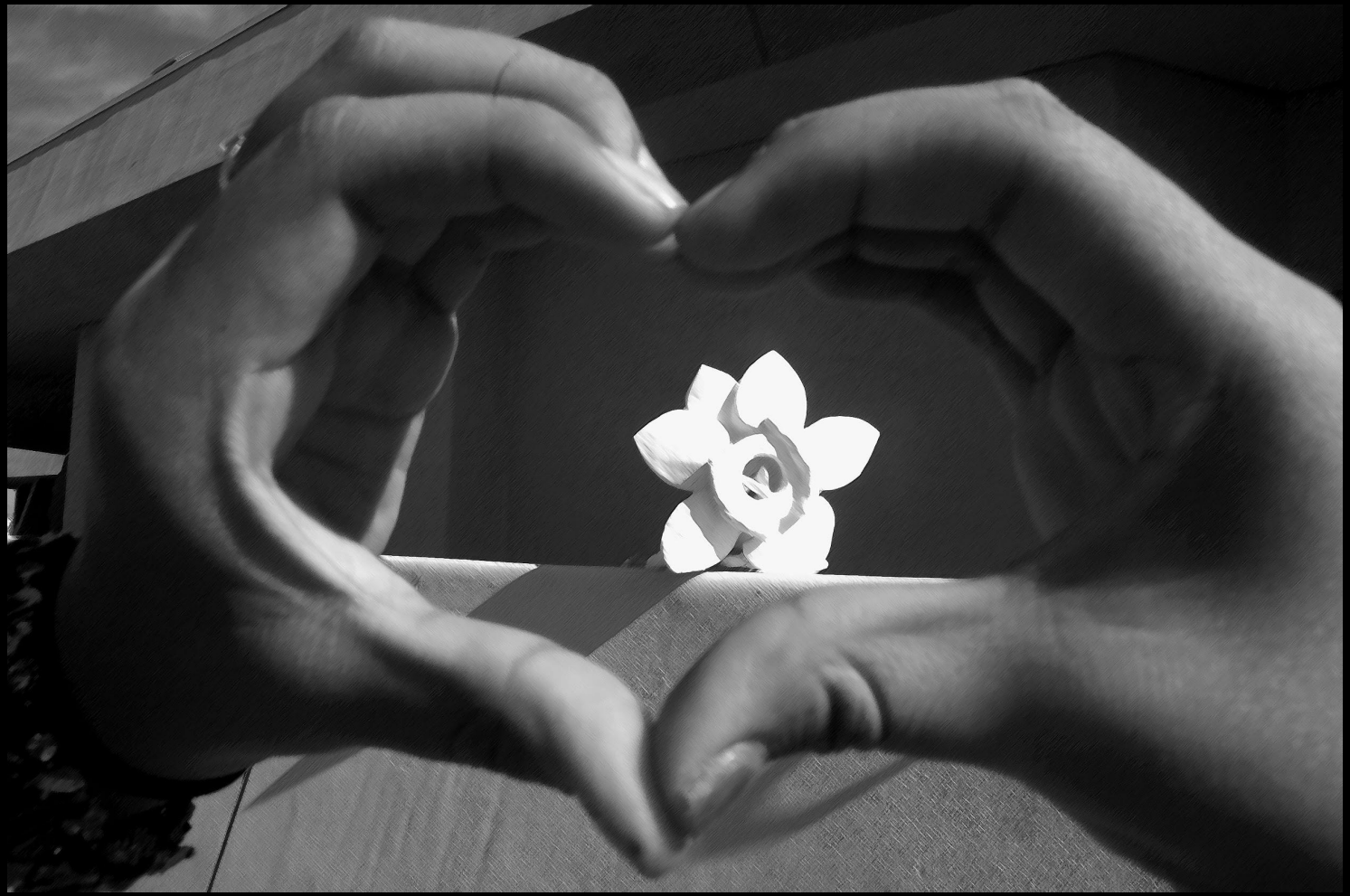
-Use elements in the foreground of your photograph to frame a focal point or main subject that is further from you

-This can add visual interest by creating stronger sense of depth in a photograph

FIRE LANE
CITY OF GLENDALE
CODE SEC. 24-58

FIRE LANE
CITY OF GLENDALE
CODE SEC. 24-58

101



SCHOOL BUS
BLUE BIRD
820