

dreamscapes

by Miah-Tya Nungheena Gowland



This folio explores the wonders and terrors of dreamscapes through the medium of photography. It delves into the fantastical worlds of magic, science fiction and hazy worlds, each photo presenting the randomness of dreams. Portraiture in dreams is the main thread through my work, containing both the 'dreamer' and their dream in the photo. Their somber, 'tired' expressions emphasize that they are all dreaming and that when they 'wake up' the viewer will be the only one to remember what they dreamt. Each character has a specific dream tailored to themselves and the meaning behind the visuals is left up to the viewer to understand.

Each photo uses Photoshop to bring the dreamscapes to life, but all elements contained in the photographs were first captured by a Canon 80D camera with a 10-15mm lens. Photoshop created the dreamscapes to come to life and without this photo manipulation, the surrealistic effect would not have translated as well as it was achieved practically. Two of the photographs were taken in a studio, making the scene very controlled and allowed a focus on the lighting, it ensured an easy and controlled image to work with in Photoshop. The other two photographs were taken outside, so lighting and composition was not as easily controlled, so shadows, lighting, etc had to be digitally fixed in post production.

A little bit of pixie dust explores the dreams one might imagine of a child, but with the mind of a 17 year old battling the idea of becoming an adult and feeling as if they might lose their imagination. The subject poses as a grumpy fairy, imitating the character of Tinkerbell, and looks down at the magic growing in her palm without any sense of wonder. This explores her fear of becoming scared of turning out like this, that she will look at something wonderful and have no reaction. But her outfit styling and the golden lighting reflecting of her suggests that she carries this sense of wonder during her waking life.

Domestic Living is the dreamscape of someone who feels as if they live the same day on repeat. But instead of her dream life leading the same course of her waking life, it takes on a surrealistic characteristic. She repeats the same tasks but in a weird manner. Her clothing suggests that in her waking life, she just wants to dress up and do something different every day. Her dream state replaces the mundane with fantastical.

Look Up is a dream that carries a lot of personal meaning for the subject, as a large moon surrounded by blue sky can "signifies happiness" and "a dream about a full moon signifies success. It simply implies that everything will go well in your life, especially in love matters." (Guild, 2021). The subject's stance mirrors her confident and happy current state of life. This image explores what a dream may symbolise and mean to the person who dreamt it.

Two Faced portrays that of a dream that aims to give a message to the conscious mind. It presents the dreamer as two versions of herself and asks her conscious to realise that in her waking life she doesn't present her true self.





a little bit of pixie dust



two faced



domestic living





look up