

The Dahlia



Cole Thompson

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by Cole Thompson

I was photographing flowers in a greenhouse when I came across a discarded Dahlia. It had been thrown on the floor, apparently imperfect but in a way that I could not discern.

It looked perfect to me, and I wondered why it was not perfect enough?

That was the first time I had seen a Dahlia and I was drawn to the red and yellow colors, especially how they contrasted when portrayed in black and white.

I took the Dahlia home and photographed it through the remainder of its life; including my daughter, wife and an elderly woman in each image.

Since then, we have grown Dahlia's around our yard, but I've yet to see one as beautiful as this discarded Dahlia.

And I still wonder: why was it not good enough?



Mason and the Dahlia No. 1



Mason and the Dahlia No. 2



Mason and the Dahlia, Hidden Face



Dahlia Petals



Dahlia and Old Hands