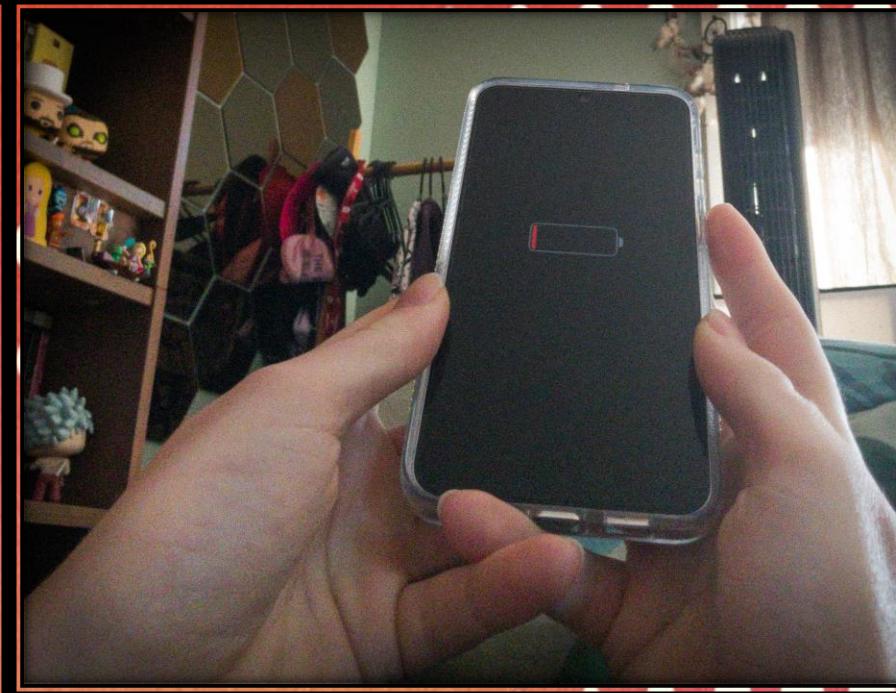
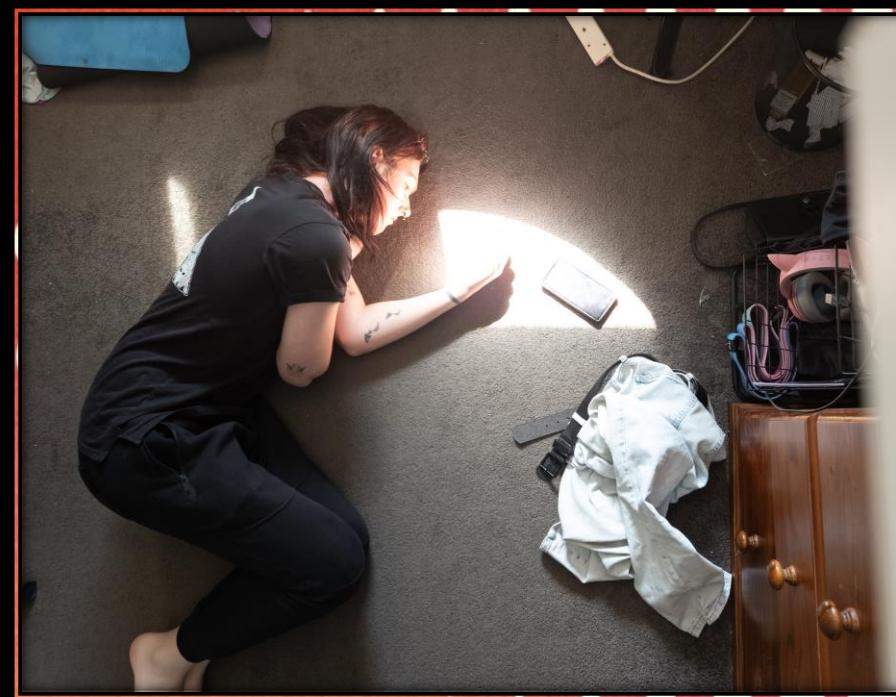
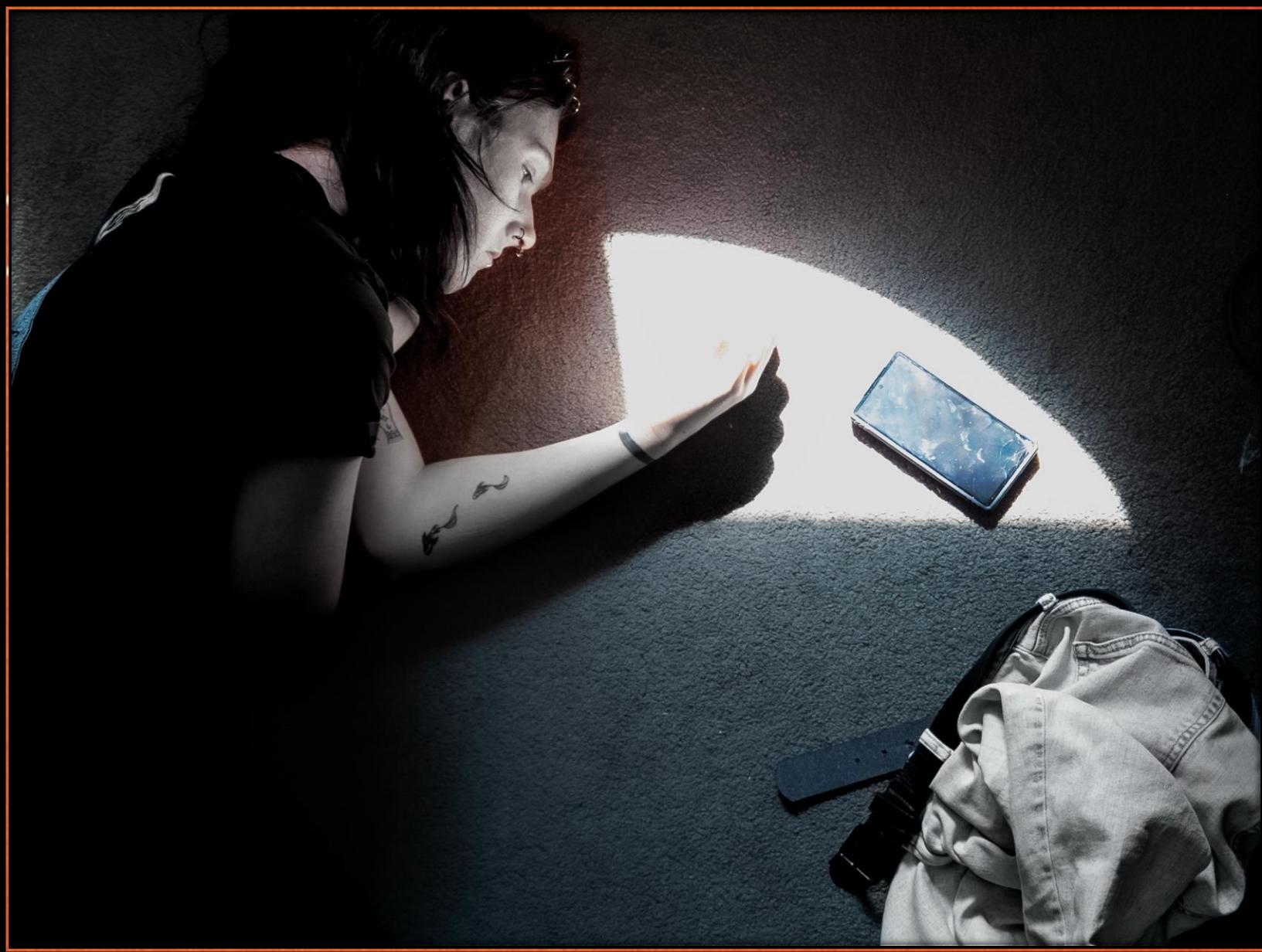


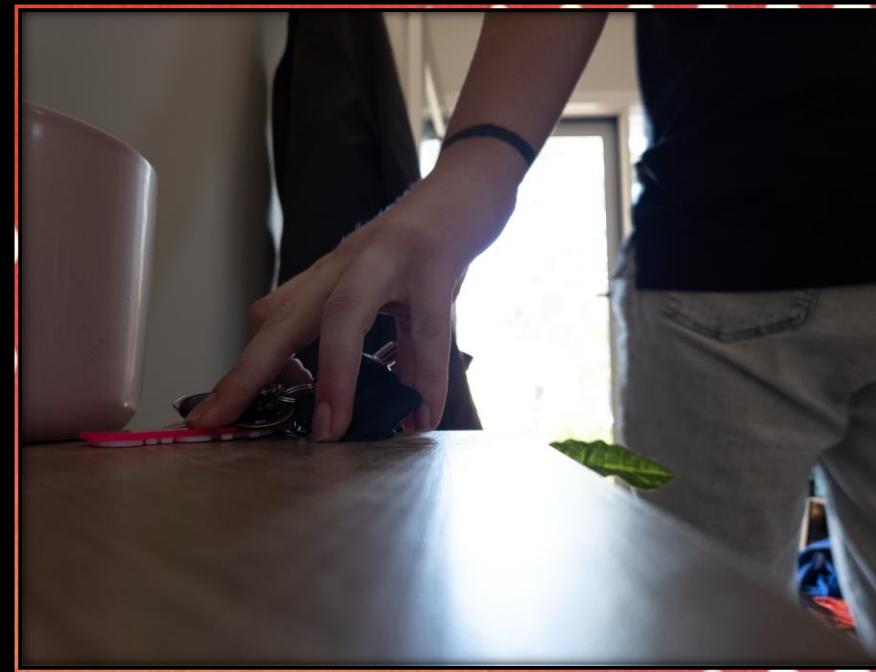
DESN1023 Visual Media Design

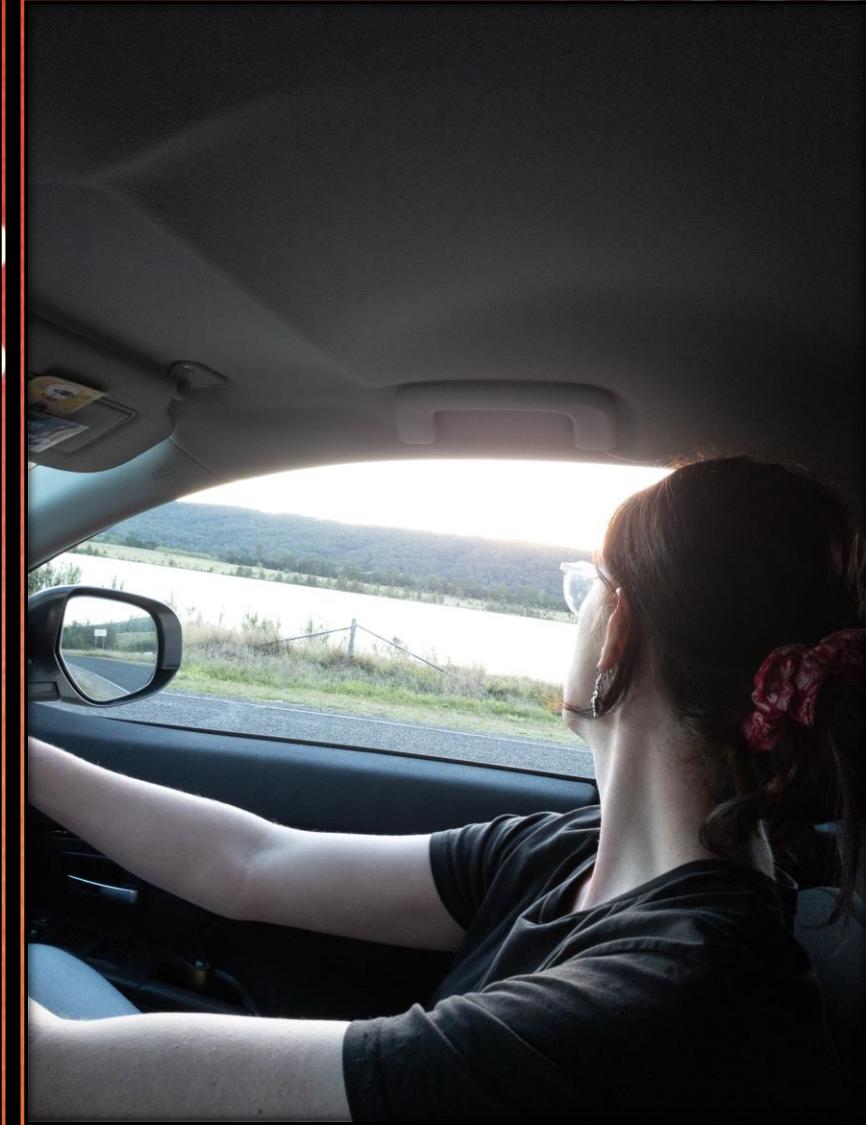
Assessment task 2: Portfolio draft action plan (reflection)

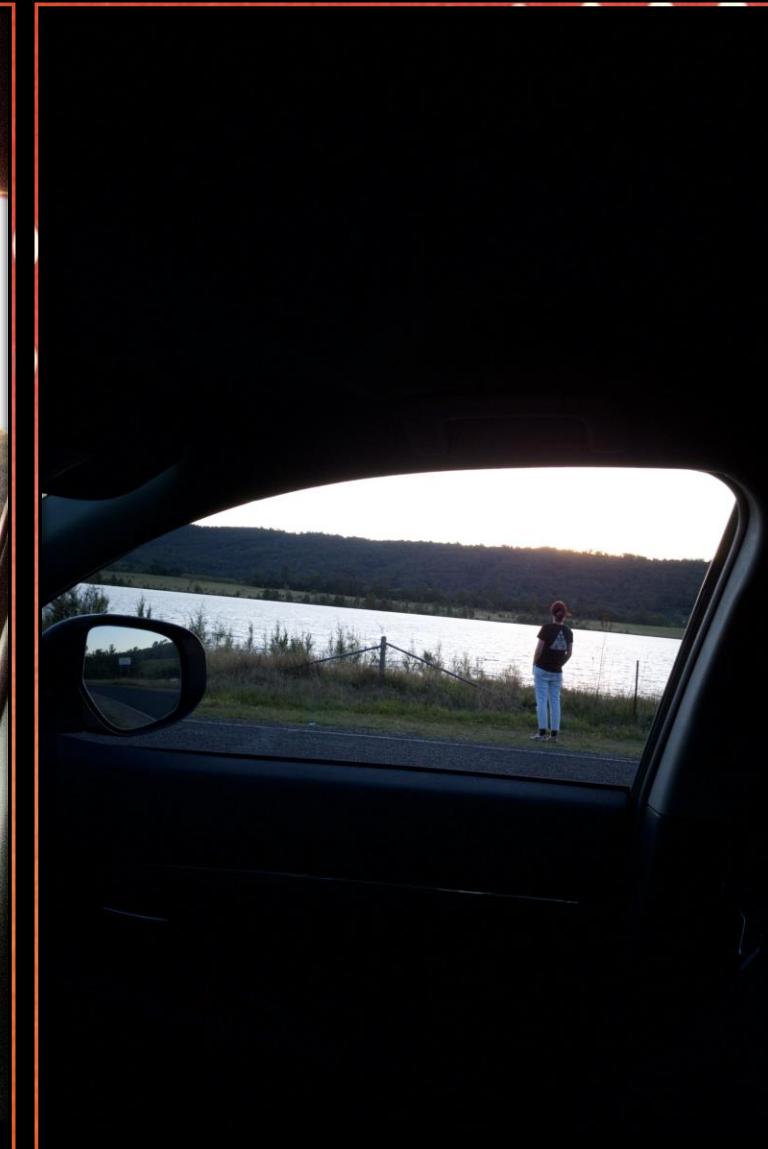
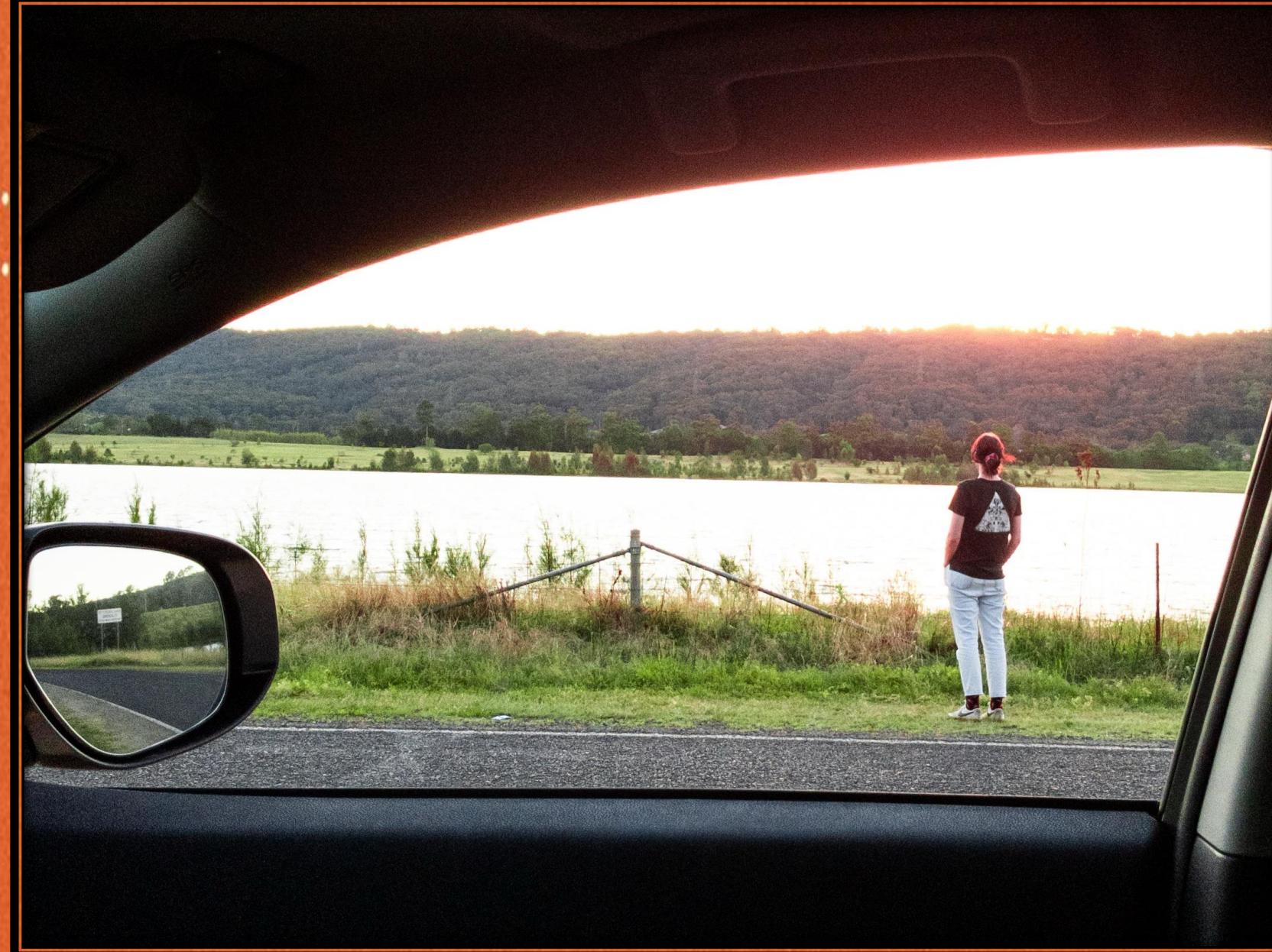
Holly Bennett 22158649











1. Analyse the feedback provided on your portfolio draft and highlight areas of agreement and disagreement, and exploring the relevance of this feedback to your work (200-250 words).

As per the feedback I received from my colleagues, the narrative I chose shone clearly through my photography. Their advice on potential changes has opened my eyes further, unlocking new perspectives and considerations to refine my work.

The gradual introduction of colour throughout the series and my application of the rule of thirds was well received and complimented. However, I recognise that small adjustments to the placement of visual elements could strengthen cohesion and enhance the overall impact of the imagery.

I agree with an observation made regarding the heavy use of grain within my first image. This outcome was partly the result of my devices photographic limitations, which restricted my ability to capture the scene as intended. Earlier preparation and the utilisation of alternate resources in the future will improve my technical execution. Conversely, another colleague suggested that the grain in the second image should be increased to compliment the first, creating a consistent “fuzzy” aesthetic alongside the desaturated tones. This contrast in feedback highlights how a production mishap can inspire experimentation, encouraging me to explore grain as a thematic device rather than dismiss it as an error.

One point of disagreement stands out: a suggestion to reduce the colour in my final image. I maintain that the chosen colour grading is central to the narratives resolution and reducing it will undermine the symbolic weight and significance.

Overall, the feedback illuminated new possibilities for exploration while affirming the emotive strength shown in my series.

2. Structured action plan

List specific areas for improvement (e.g., composition, storytelling, use of symbolism)

Composition: Subject distance, balance of foreground/midground/background.

Contrast: underutilised tonal range in some images.

Tint and colour: alignment with the theme of gradual emergence.

Framing: avoiding unintended symbolism and visual clutter.

Symbolism and Narrative Flow: ensuring each image contributes clearly to the overall story arc.

2. Structured action plan

List proposed changes (e.g., techniques to experiment with, elements to refine, lighting and camera effects).

Increase colour saturation and shadow depth intensify mood in later images and align with the emerging theme, strengthening continuity and tonal transition.

Crop/adjust framing to create space and reduce feelings of confinement.

Adjust focus and subject placement to emphasise key visual and narrative elements, namely, my hands and keys.

Refine grain levels by minimising through editing or use deliberately as a thematic device.

2. Structured action plan

List the steps required to implement these changes (e.g., editing, re-shooting, research).

Research and trial editing techniques for grain management, shadow control and colour grading.

Re-shoot selected images to experiment and vary subject distance, placement, and depth of field.

Apply consistent colour grading across the series to support continuity and symbolism.

Explore different crops and compare narrative impact to find the most effective framing.

Reflect earnestly after each adjustment to track learning and refine creative decision-making.

Conduct peer review sessions during post-production to test clarity of storytelling and photographic practice.

3. What are your personal goals for refining your portfolio? (100 words)

My primary goal for refining my portfolio is to strengthen the theme of colour emergence, using it as a narrative tool to symbolise growth in spirit and mental wellbeing.

Furthermore, I also aim to develop my photographic acuity by exploring the full range of my abilities and the practices in this field, to continually progress as a creative professional. This will involve experimenting with different and unexplored art forms to broaden my perspective and technical skills.

Ultimately, my focus is on composing images that maximise their narrative potential and grounding my practice in real-world application.

My objective in this series was to create a narrative to inspire disconnection from our internalised and outward anguish, and furthered connection with the New South Wales landscapes, a sort of mental rags-to-riches journey. As such, I wanted to slowly introduce colour as the subject ventured further into the world.



Image 1

My intent was to create a sense of dissociation through black and white tones, reinforced by the symbolic death of a phone battery. As this image was captured on an iPad with limited capabilities, reshooting with improved equipment would enhance clarity and better realise my vision, strengthening its narrative impact and the viewers connection.



Image 2

The subject, freed from the tormenting device, catches the sun in her hand, symbolising her readiness and realisation to venture into the world. Subtle colour grading within the black and white frame connects the viewer to the subjects' perspective and emotional state.



Image 3

Stronger colour emergence accompanied by natural elements, (the plant) to signify the start of the subjects' journey. Based on feedback, emphasising the plant and bringing the keys into clearer focus will strengthen the narrative and correct potential misinterpretations of the image's storyline.



Image 4

Framing the natural environment through the window, with the subject gazing outward, furthers the narrative and connects her to the world beyond. Increased colour grading provides continuity and sets a strong visual foundation for the following image.



Image 5

This image aligns with the narrative, through framing the natural environment through the car window creates a sense of confinement. Reducing the frame will enhance the connection with the surroundings and foster a more open, immersive, and connective mood.

In hindsight, my series and the narrative I aimed to convey were received positively and clearly; however with small adjustments and edits, its overall impact could be enhanced. Altering the colour, framing, and thematic introduction of visual elements, will assist me in bringing this series to its optimal form.

This mood-board reinforces my overall objective: to depict feelings of confinement and dissociation, while also illustrating that by moving beyond escapism and stepping into the unknown, we can experience the beauty of the New South Wales landscape.

