Photo Narrative:
This picture depicts the two aspects of the desert. It shows the contrasts of rocks/minerals, which represents the sand dunes and rocky pits, and the life bearing plants and animals, which are represented by the shadow that’s being casted on the rocks by a plant. The rock covers the majority of the photograph much like the sand covers most of the desert. The shadow plays the role of the second aspect of the photo because many people see the desert as a barren wasteland and the life that inhabits it as a second thought.

Peers’ Reactions:
I feel like this picture shows the simplicity and beauty of nature. The plant casts a shadow against the rocks showing only a slim silhouette. The image makes me feel the splendor of the outdoors and evokes a peaceful emotion. It is calming to look at even though the picture itself is technical in nature.

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I think this picture represents survival in a harsh terrain. The rock symbolizes an un-nurturing landscape, but the plant’s shadow proves that it is possible to defy the odds. The black and white, to me, always seems to make a photograph seem more melancholy. For this photograph in particular, the black and white makes the flower seem like it has gone through even more to survive; an ongoing battle every day.
Photo Narrative:
Depicted in this picture is a giraffe in its environment eating thorns at the Etosha National Park. This picture truly represents this location because it shows the true Etosha experience. Weaving through the dirt roads of the park while keeping your eyes peeled for an encounter that may only last a moment or may be blocked by an obstacle. To me it shows the true value in the privilege of this experience.

Peers’ Reactions:
I like the perspective of this picture. Your eye wants to focus on the giraffe but the branches are the focal point and I feel like that is not a view people normally think about. It helps you to realize that these are wild animals and that they are hidden most of the time and not at a zoo where you can find them anytime you want. This picture represents the game of hide-and-seek that you have to play with the animals here.

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My first thoughts about this picture are that the giraffe is trying to hide behind this dead bush. Then I think more about the giraffe and how it must be so hard for the giraffe to survive in general. They run awkwardly and are so tall, that it must be impossible to hide. I feel a sense of fear in this image. The blurry face resembles a scared or concerned look. My guess is that he is just alarmed by the bus nearby. I really enjoy the depth of field of this image, the detailed bush and blurred background. Though you can easily tell what is in the background, because of the animal’s colors varying so much from the landscape.
Photo Narrative:
Johanna is an 83 year-old Oshikati women who spends day-in and day-out cooking, weaving and caring for her grandchildren. In this picture I tried to entangle the viewer into the story of the lack of modernism in the scene with a black and white color scheme. I feel that it illuminates a feeling of strength and willpower that is inside this woman and demands respect from all that see it.

Peer’s Reaction:
I can’t decide if this is the most beautiful or most heartbreaking photograph I have seen. The woman is beautiful with wisdom, age, and experience shining through her appearance and movement. However, seeing and hearing how she has lived this way for 83 years causes me to sympathize for her. It is both a blessing and a misfortune that this is all she has known. She is not constantly reminded of how other people live with more than what she grew up on, which prevents her from comparing her life with others’ and dwelling on what she doesn’t have. Instead, she can focus on what she does have and what she can make with it. Obviously it has done well for her when you look at how well she is still able to move around and be more productive than a lot of 20-year-olds that I know.