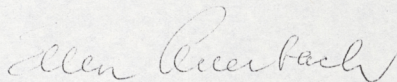


TO BARBARA KLEMM  
IN PLACE OF AN INTRODUCTION

I am wondering what it is that lends your photos their special and unique quality? You are a newspaper photographer and that provides a frame or reference, but also a limitation. You fulfill the requirements of your job and - again and again - you transcend them. How is that possible? Probably some of your assignments are not especially congenial. But, being an excellent photographer, you produce many excellent photographs that do not have the special quality of which I want to speak - they show whatever it is they were supposed to show. You have a marvellous sense of composition and an uncanny feeling for exactly the right moment. Fortunately, you never sacrifice the essence to mere technique. I do not mean to suggest that you never feel pangs of envy about the Ansel Adams' and the Westons of this world, I do myself. What is it about your pictures that so powerfully moves me and many others as well. I know that often you work under very difficult circumstances. At times you may be so overwhelmed by excitement, anxiety and doubt that you are forced to rely upon that inner and unerring third eye which sees the quintessential beneath the visible. The inward quality of being that makes a single tree stand for all of tree-dom; the divine spark within a street urchin.

Inevitably, photographers reveal themselves through their creation. There are so many pictures that fairly ooze conceit, or dark pessimism, or moralistic judgment. Such photos lack respect for what they portray; they lack forgetfulness of self and love for their subject matter. Your pictures do not suffer from such faults. In photographing misery and terror you never rob even the poorest of their dignity. Nor do you point a finger at the beholder so as to make him or her feel guilty. Instead, through your pictures, you make us see a world for which we feel tolerance, hope, love and responsibility.

Your,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ellen Auerbach". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Ellen Auerbach

BARBARA KLEMM  
BILDER

S. FISCHER