

**READ THIS
IF YOU WANT
TO TAKE GREAT
PHOTOGRAPHS
OF PLACES.**

**HENRY
CARROLL**



*Simple Present #549,
Hong Kong*
Bert Danckaert
2011

Cream of the crop

COMPOSITION
The frame

There's nothing remarkable about Bert Danckaert's subject, yet the exactitude of his framing transforms this humdrum scene into a humdinger.

For other examples:
Tim Hetherington p.15
Yoshinori Mizutani p.28

Imagine if those lines were not exactly vertical and horizontal in relation to the edge of the frame. Imagine if that tiny section of green was not in the bottom left corner. Imagine if we could see more of the surrounding environment. It would all fall apart, wouldn't it?

You are a surgeon and your camera a scalpel.

A sloppy frame will render even the most striking subjects banal, while a precise frame can elevate nothing into everything. Danckaert's attention to every inch of his frame, and awareness of what should and shouldn't be included, lead to an image that holds its own alongside any abstract masterpiece.

The photographic frame requires you to have absolute confidence. This is your opportunity to show us what you find most important. Convince us with your cut.