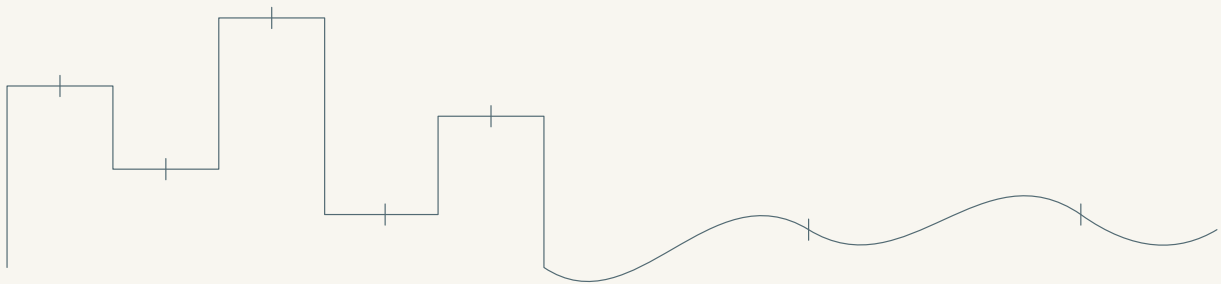


Between City and Sea

2018-2024



Zhilin Zhao



After living there for a while, the city was no longer just names and landmarks. What remained was a road walked again and again, a table, the evening light, and the sea appearing suddenly around a corner.

Before I Knew the Way









Circular















At first, even the direction of the wind felt unfamiliar.











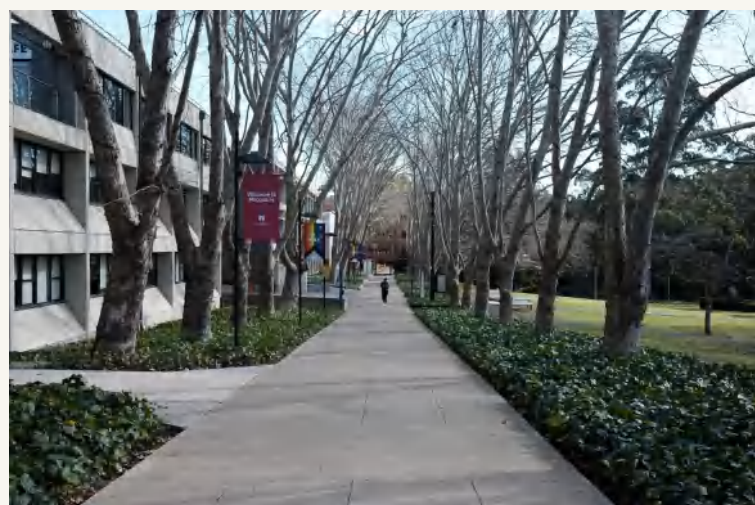




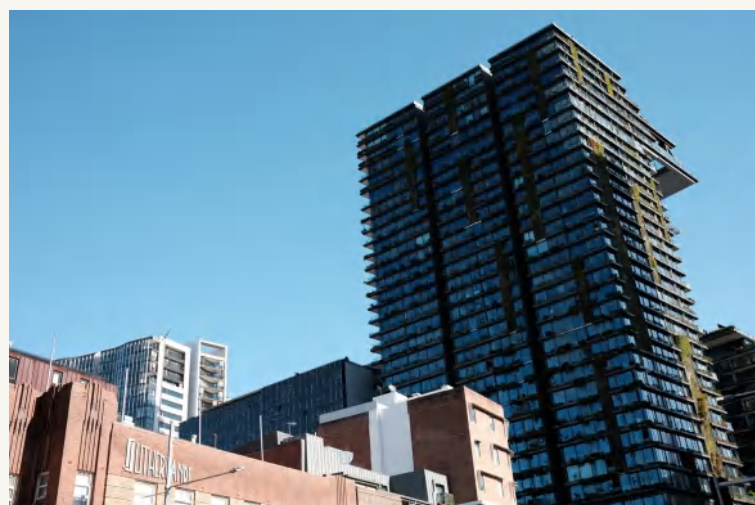






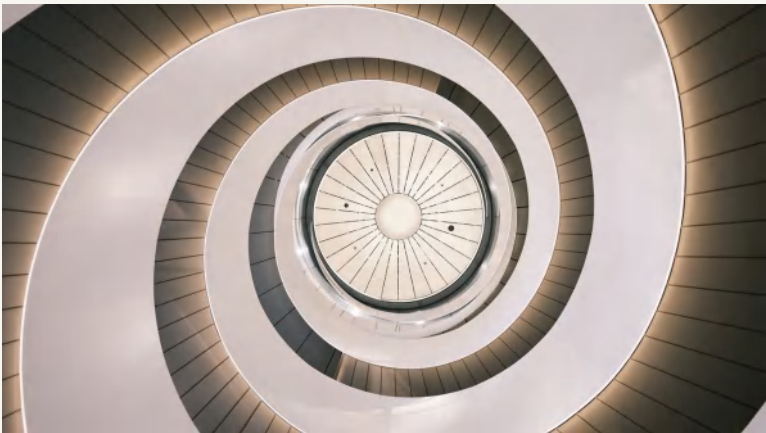






Learning the Streets





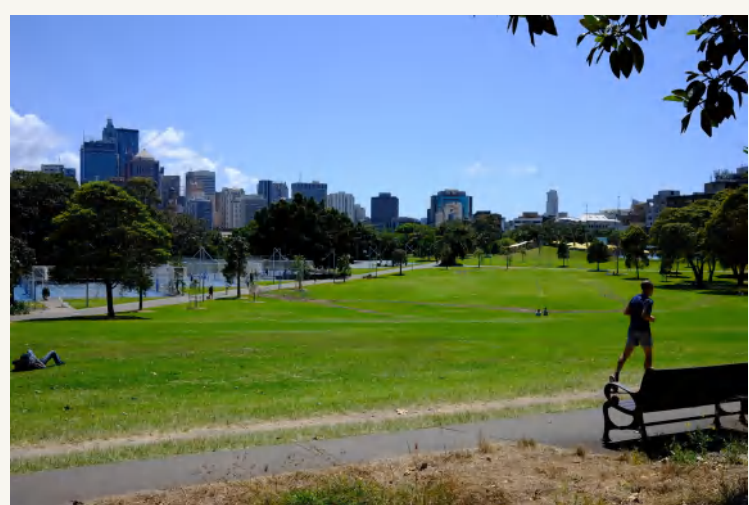


















After walking them often, even the pauses at intersections became familiar.





















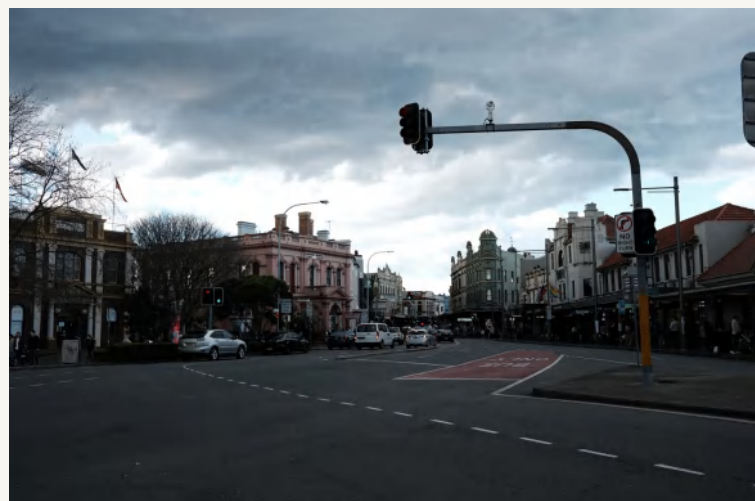








The city also lingered on walls, in tree shadows, and in the wait at a red light.





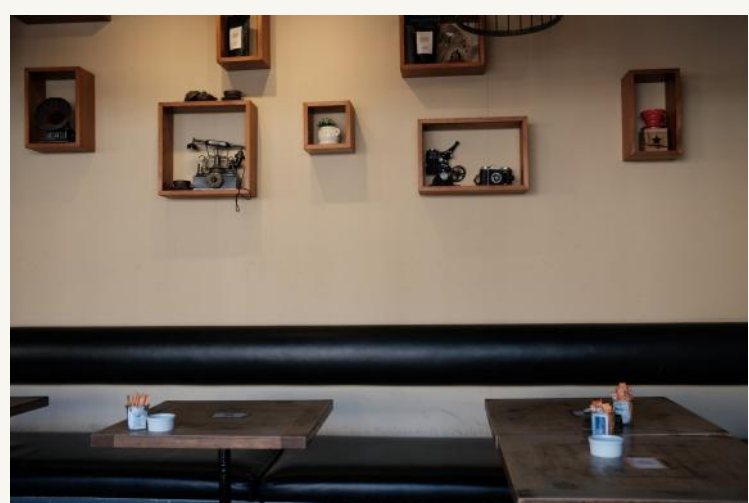


Days at the Table























Light from the street rested at the doorway; the tables and chairs stayed farther inside, in the dark.





































A table remembered the light of that afternoon.

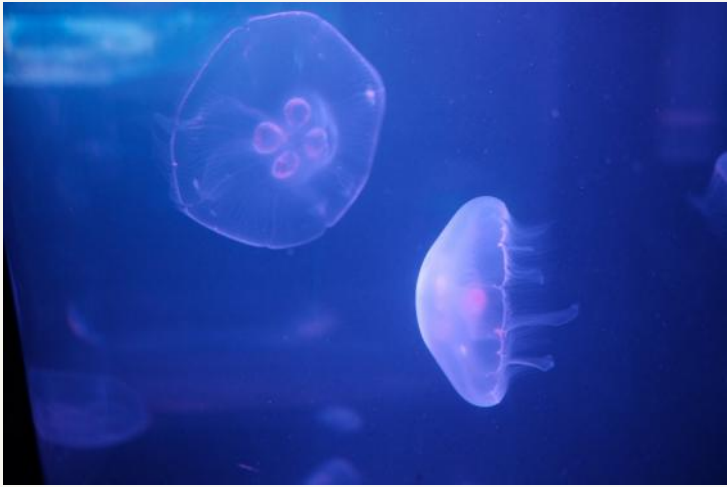


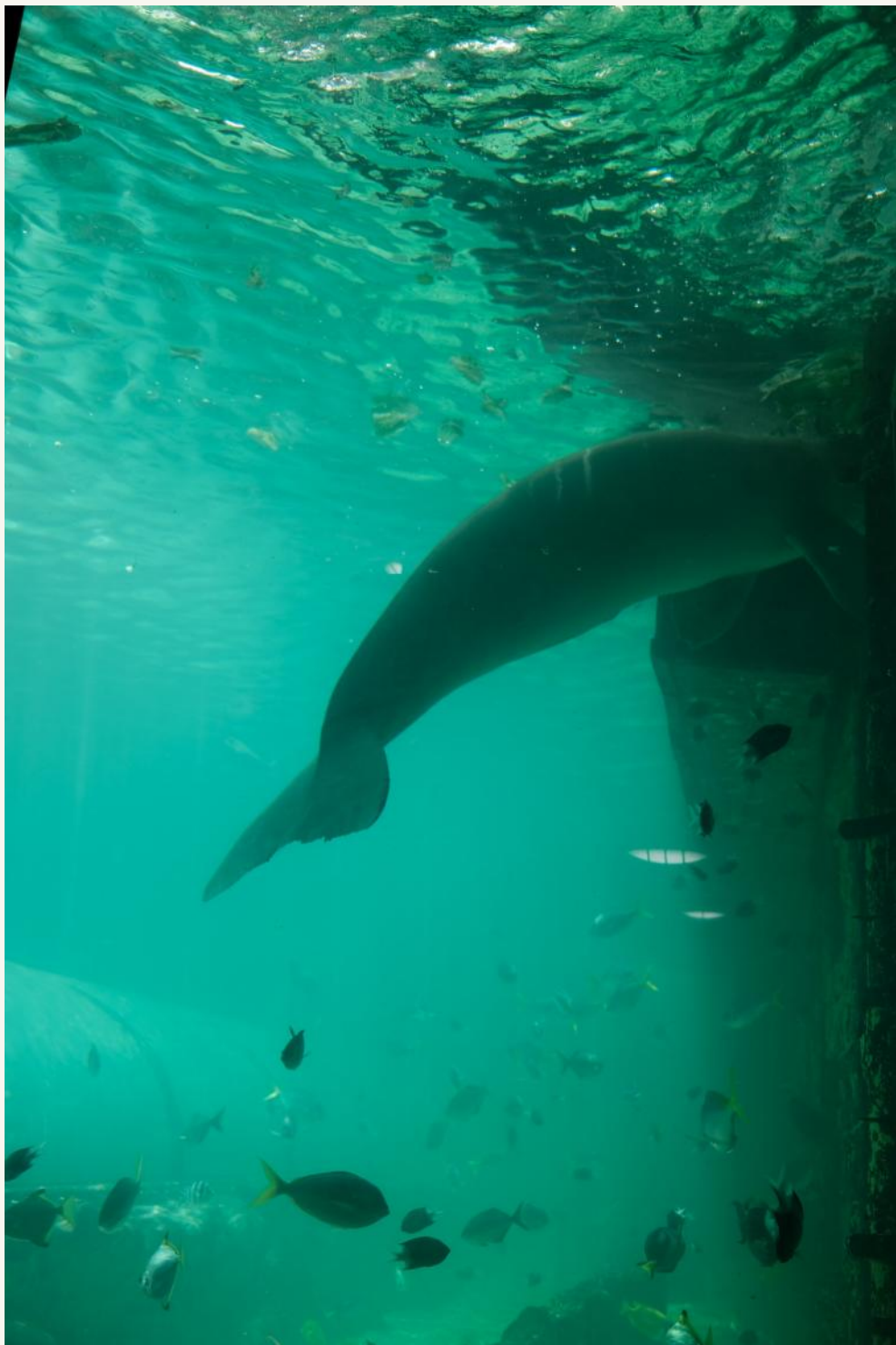


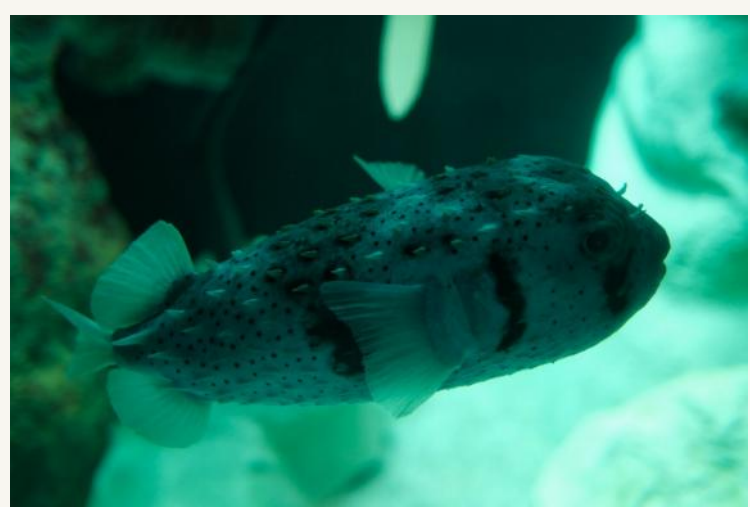


Encounters with Other Lives











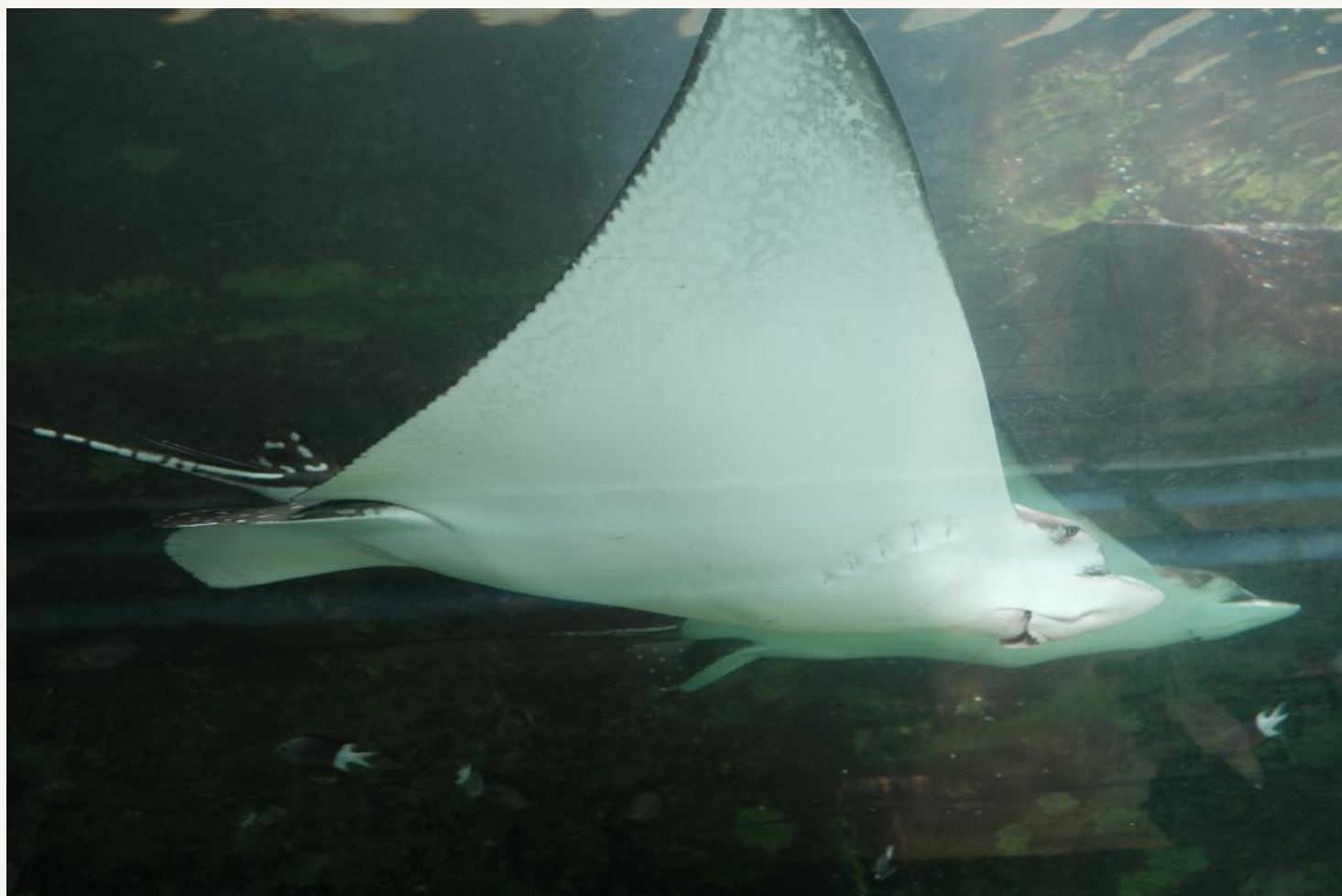




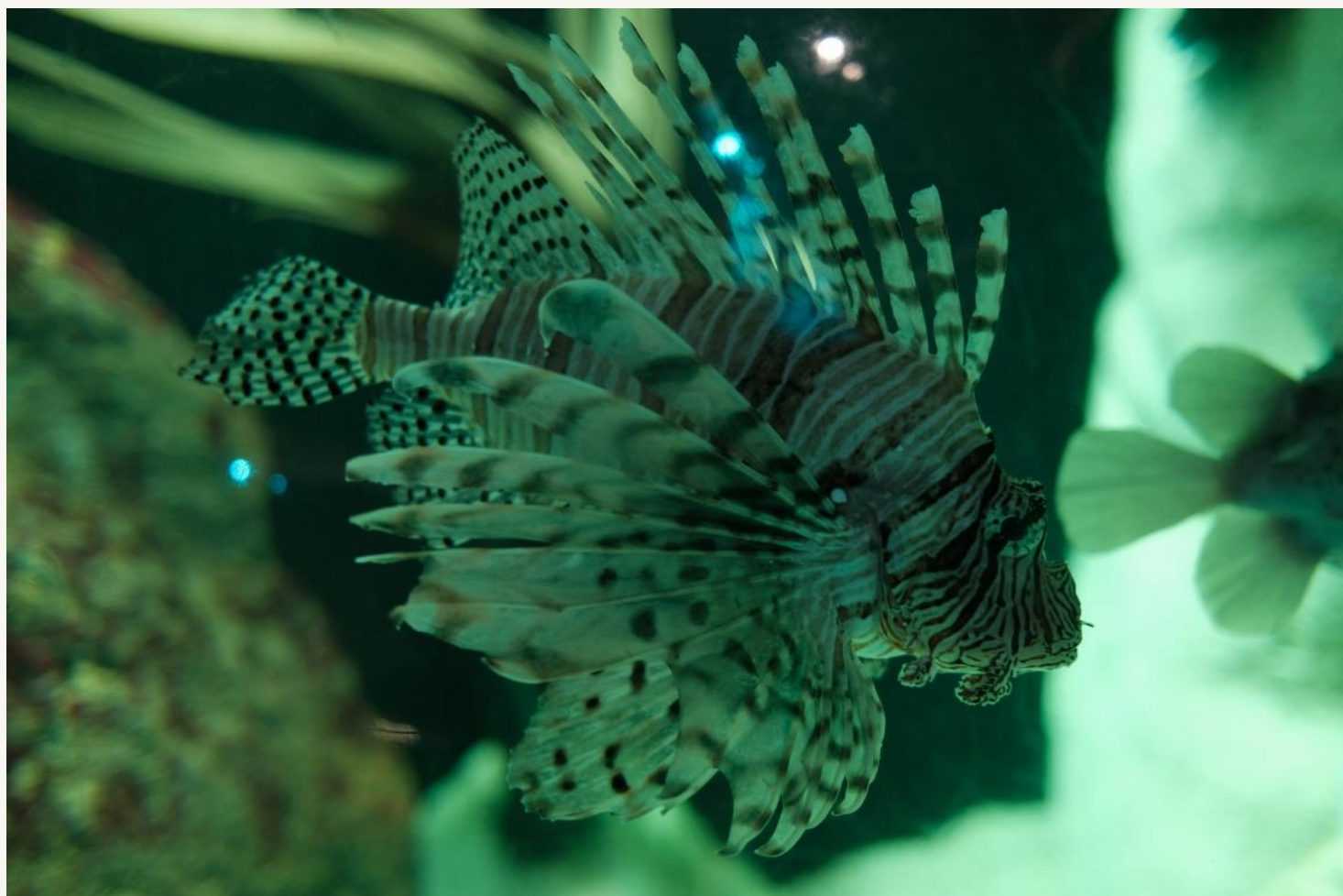














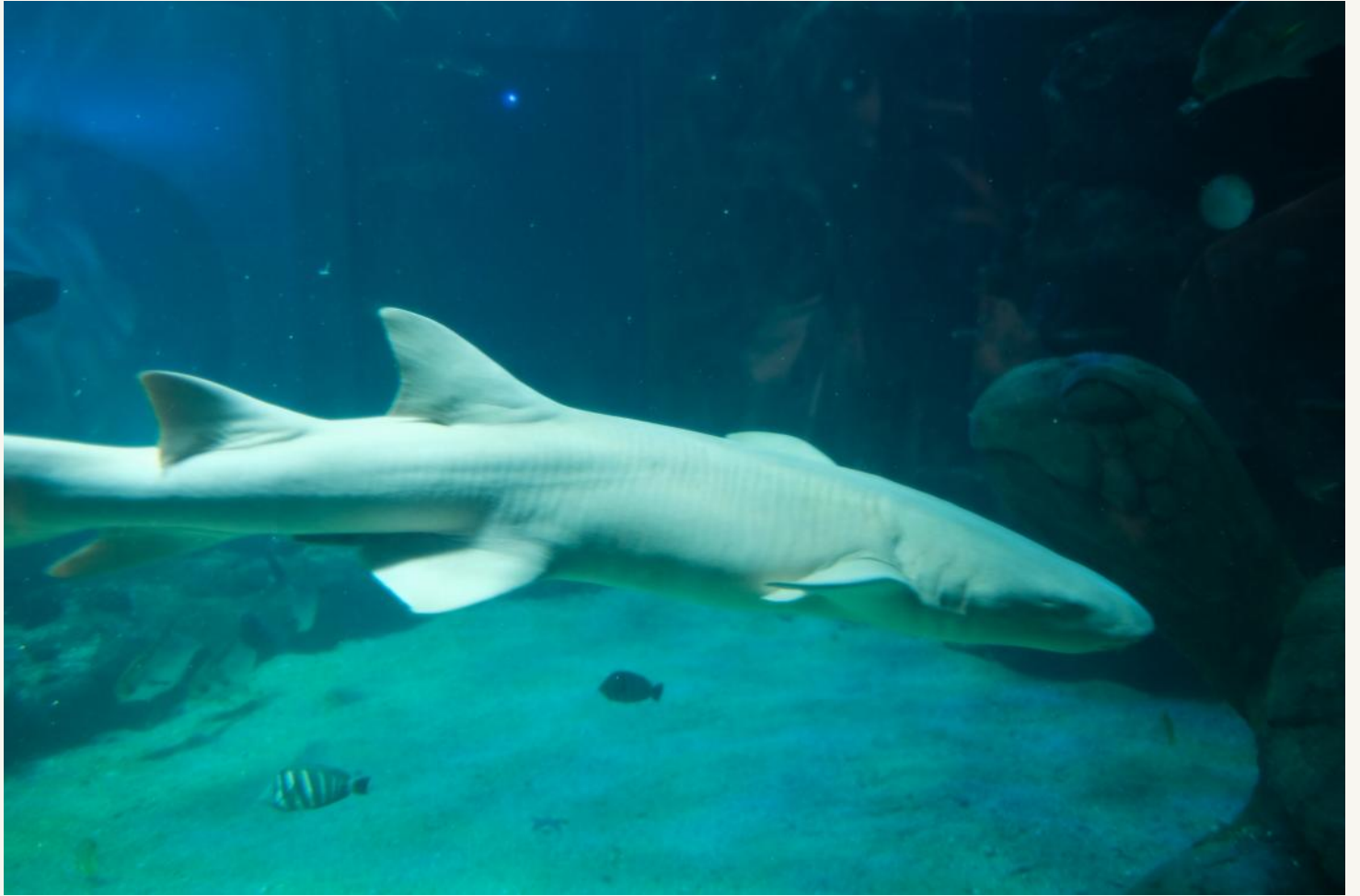






Beyond the glass, another kind of breathing passed quietly by.

















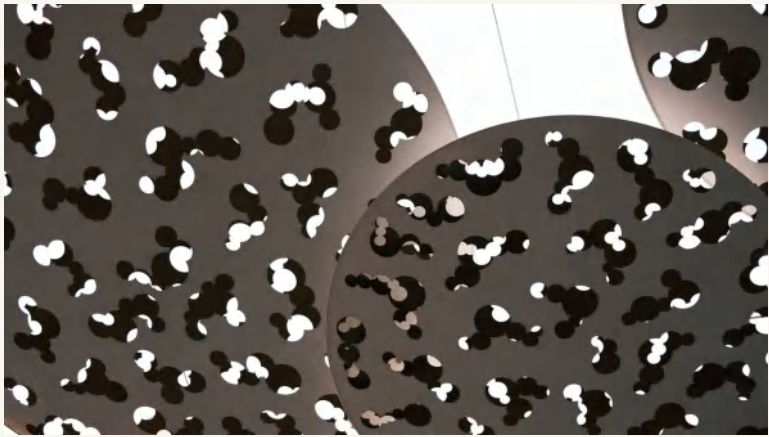


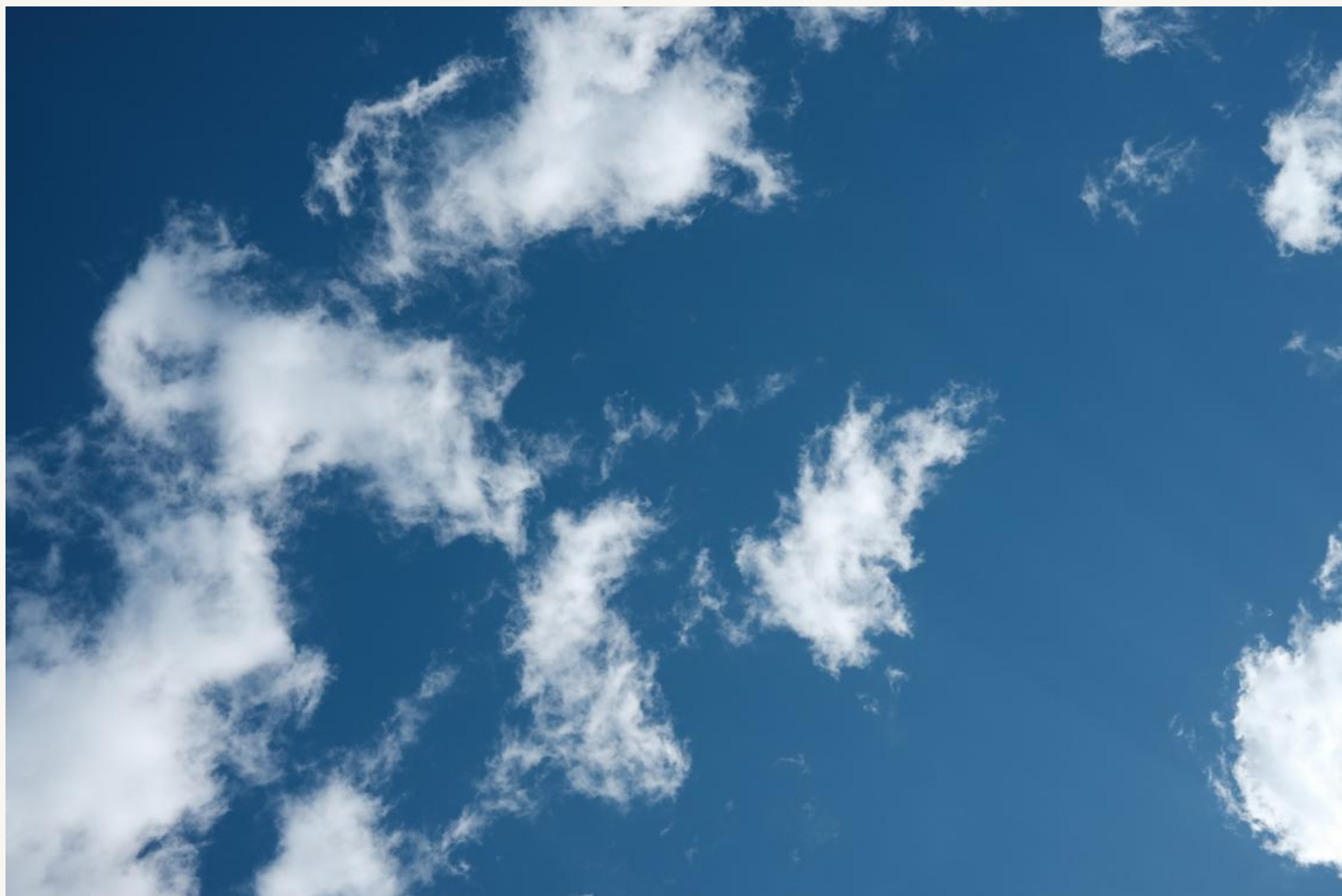




Where the Light Falls

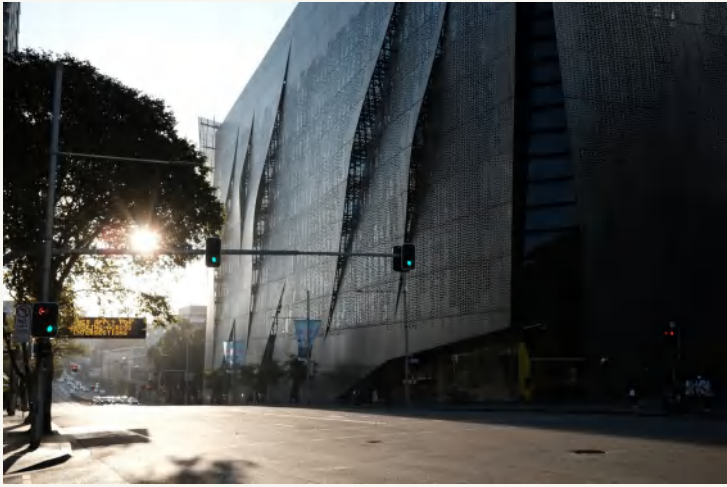




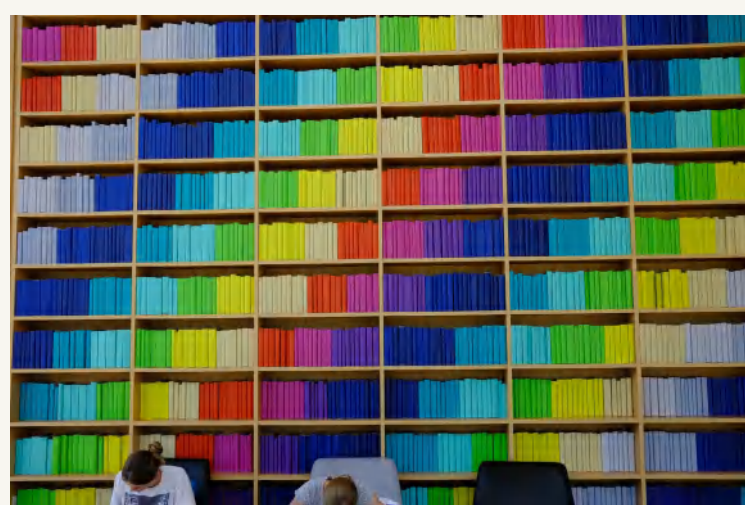
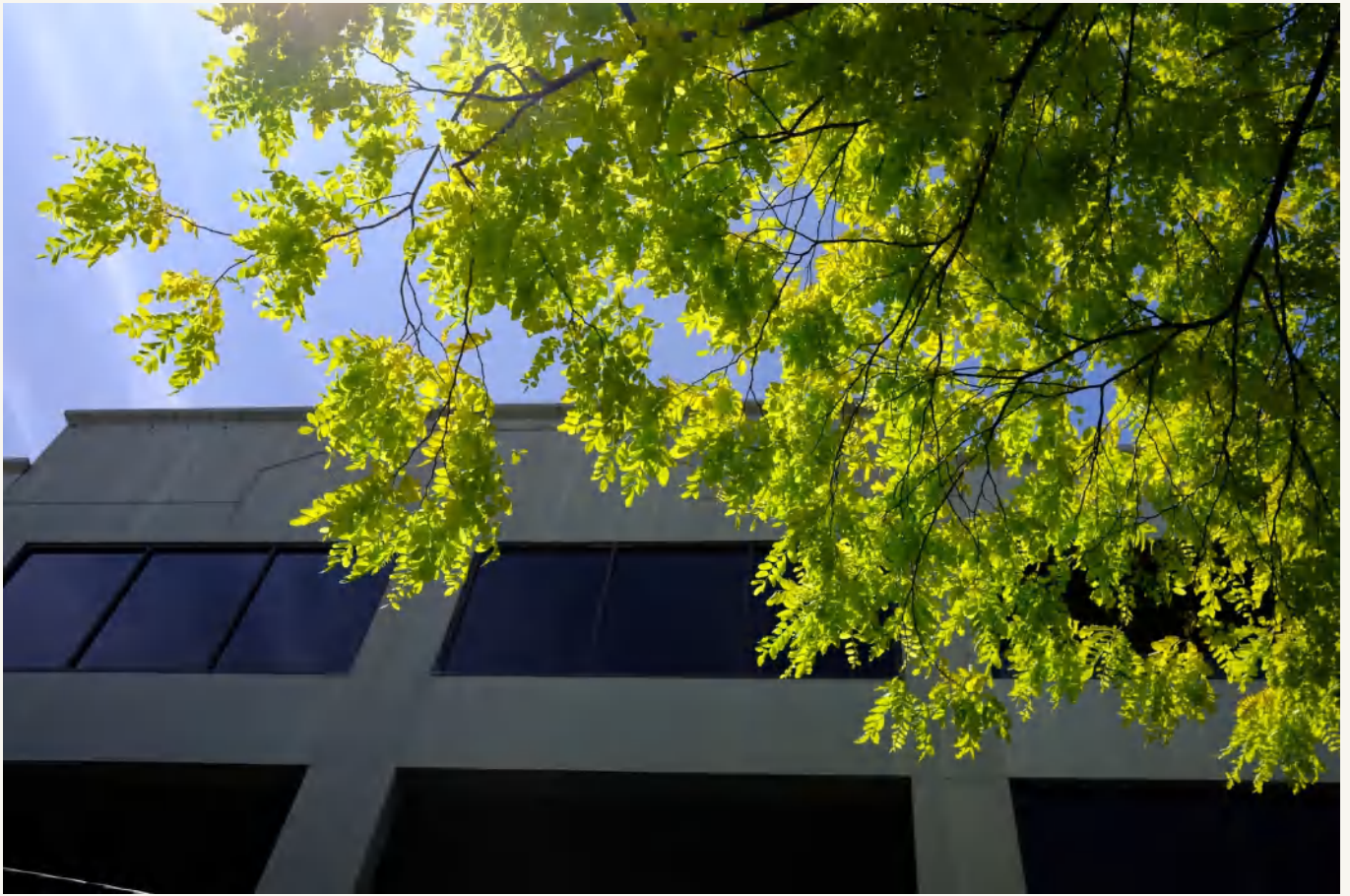














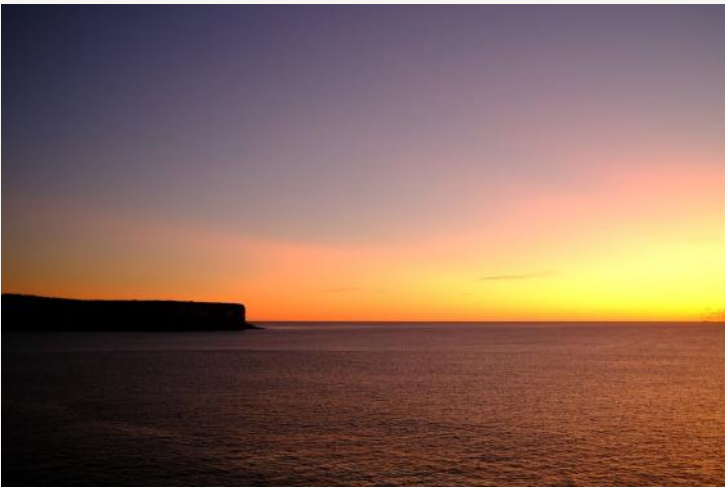
In the falling light, an ordinary place found a moment of order.





























The sky slowed; wires and tree shadows lingered in the last light.

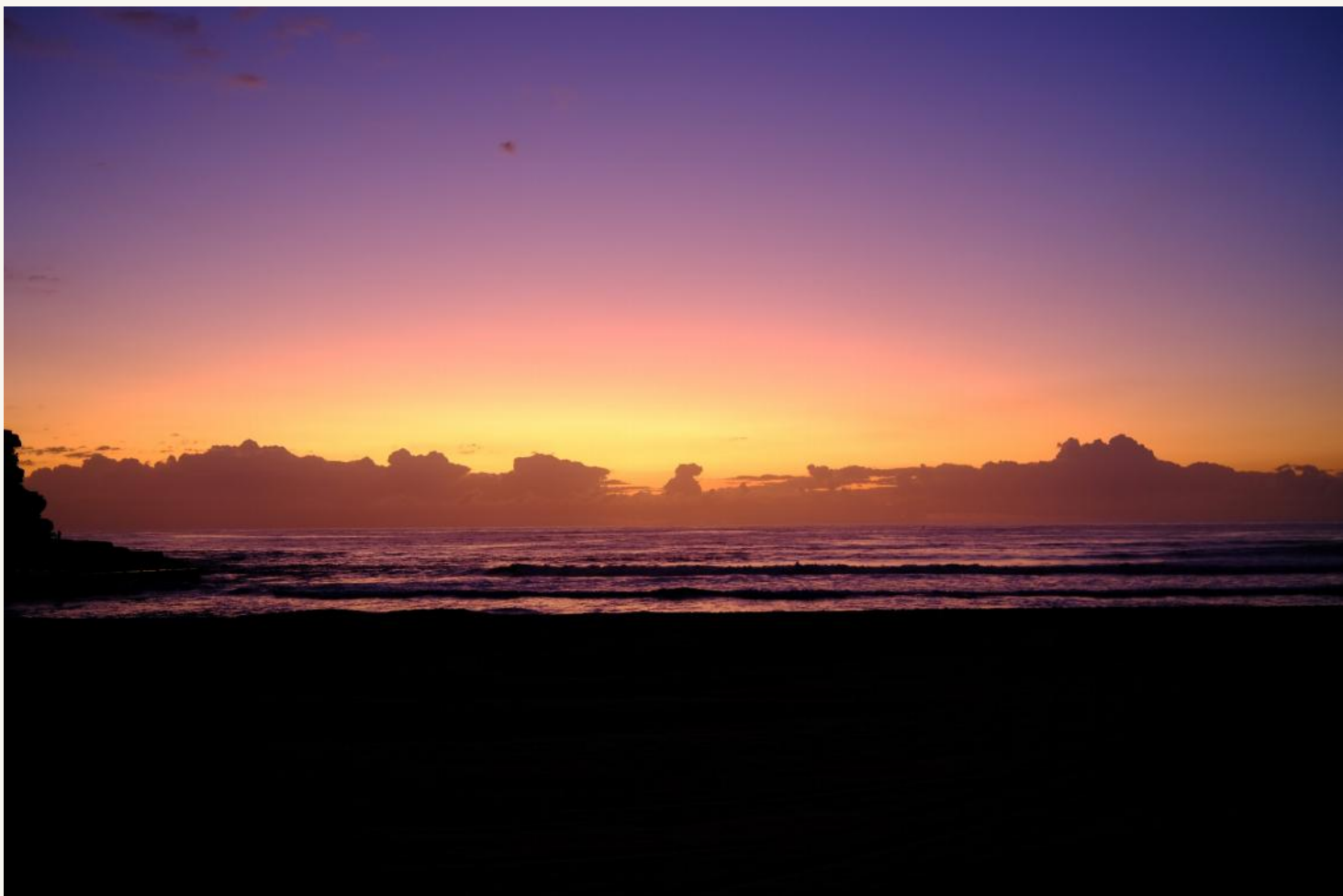


The Sea Pushes the City Away



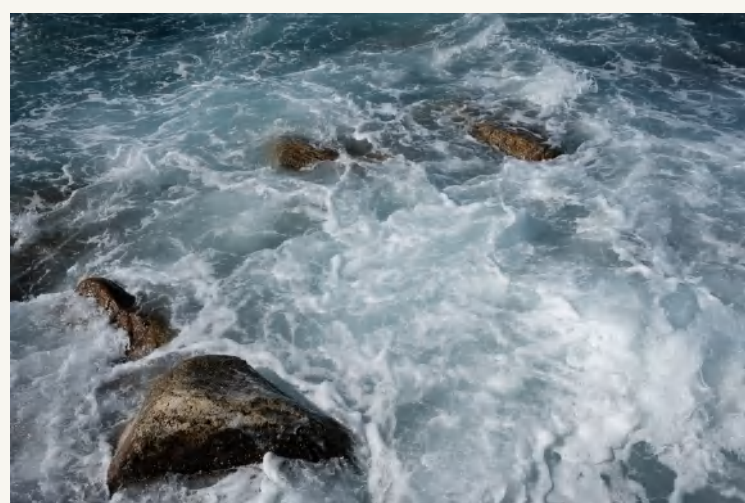




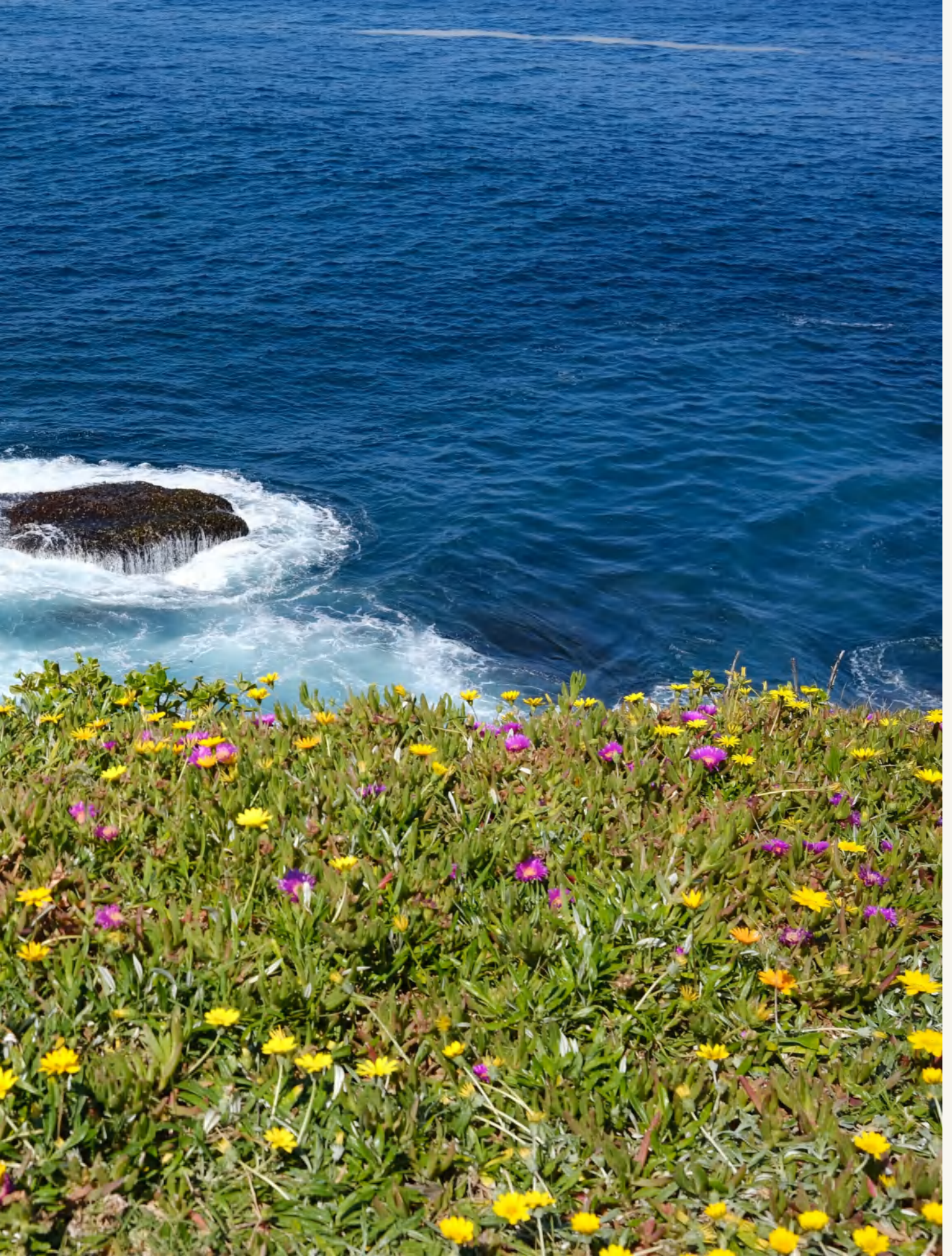








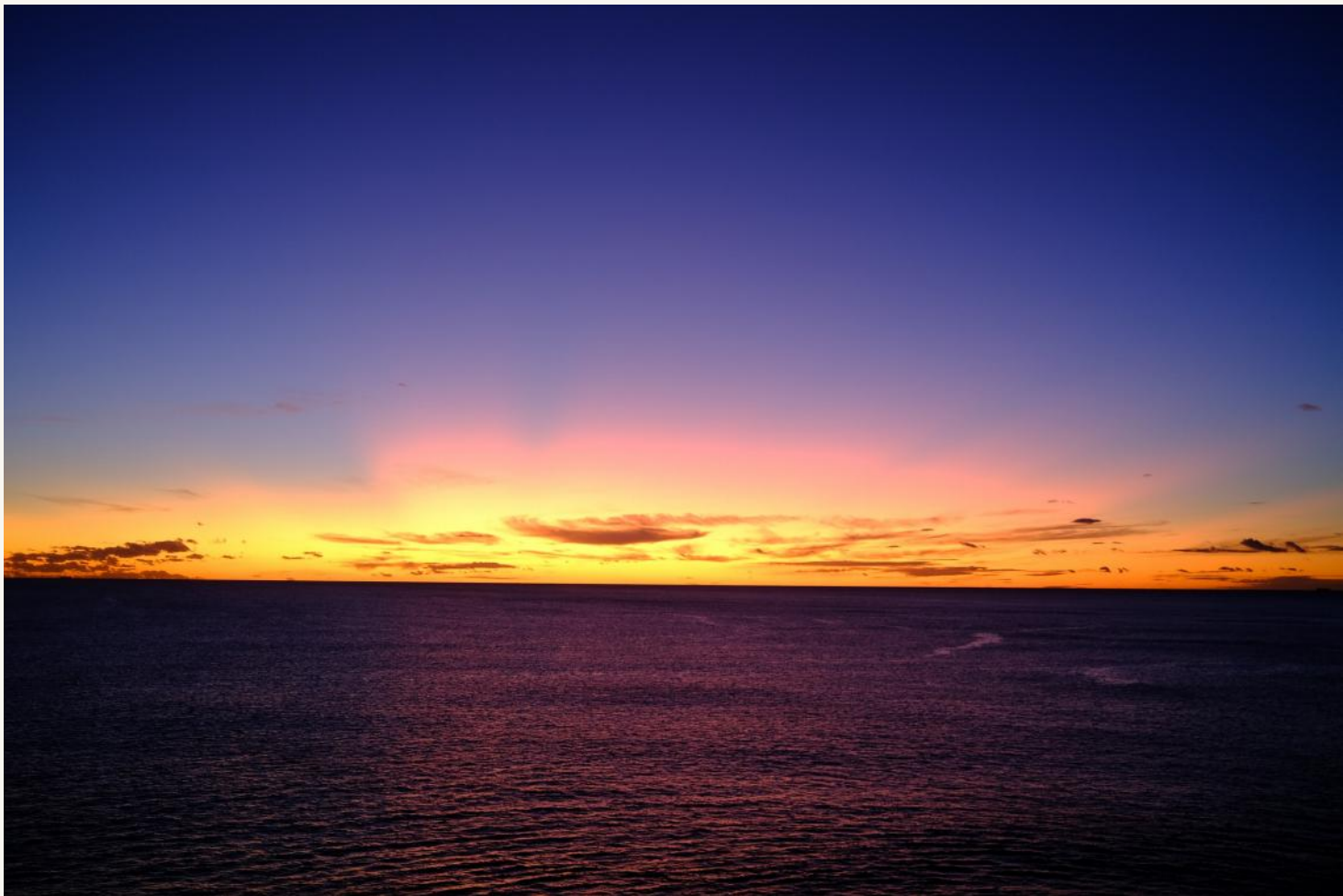












The sea was always there; I simply did not go to see it every day.







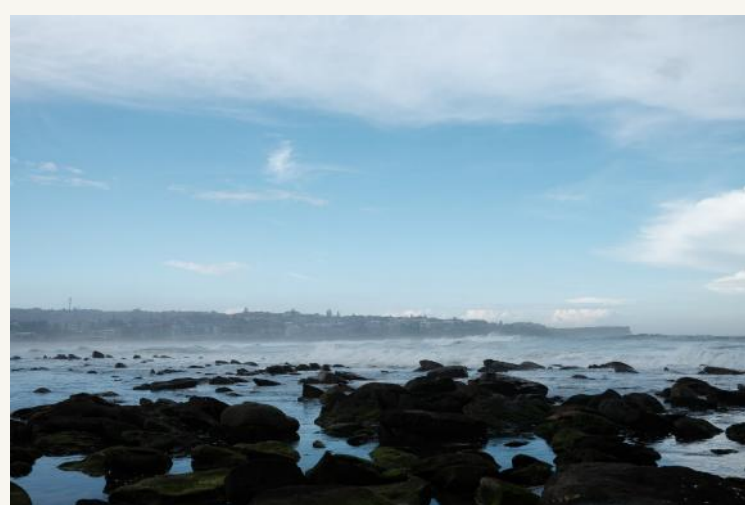












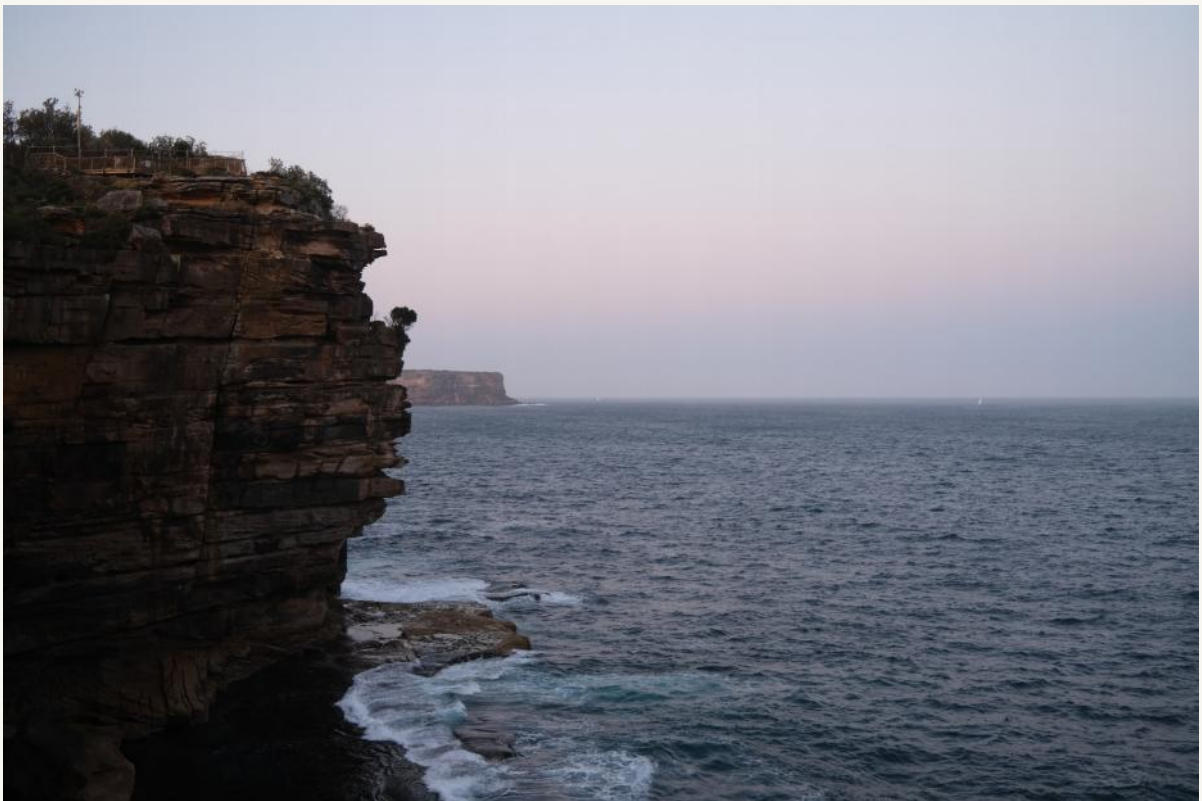




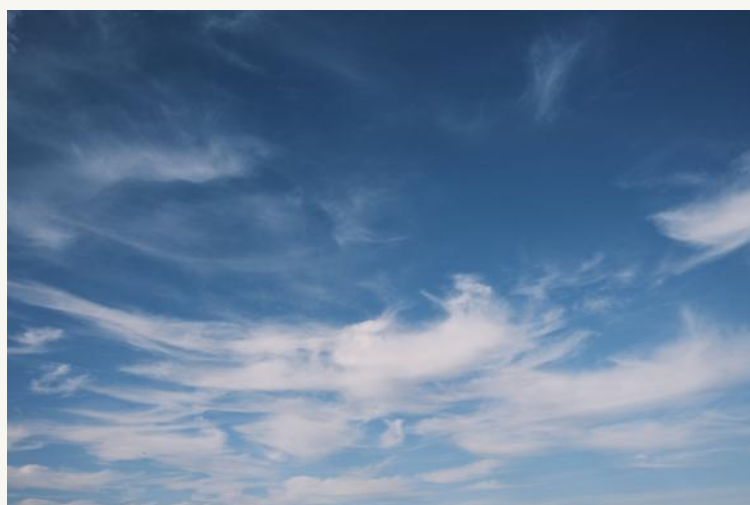
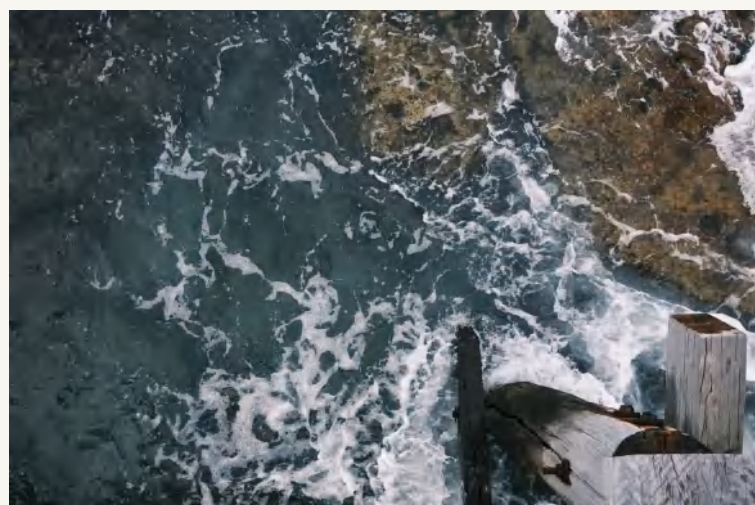
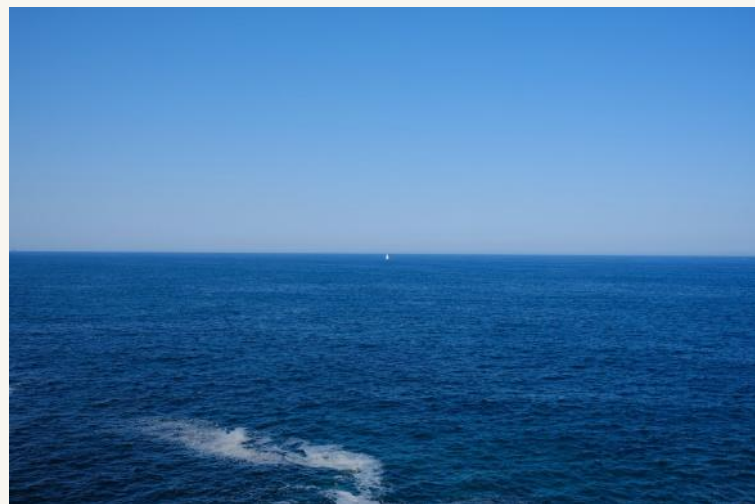






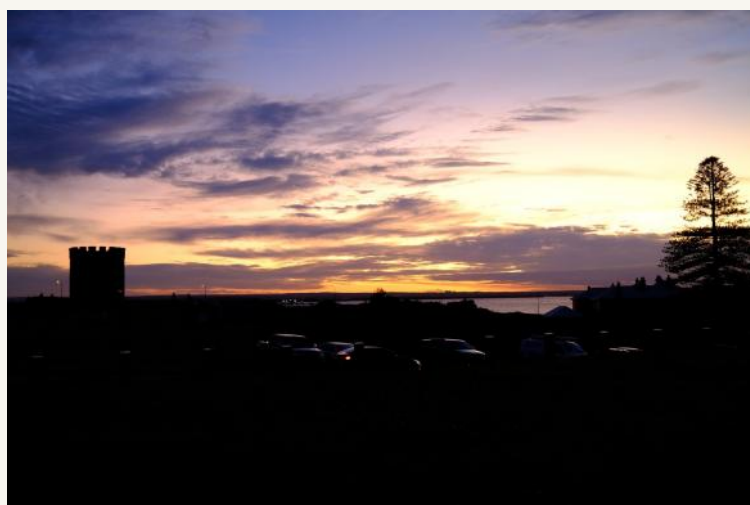
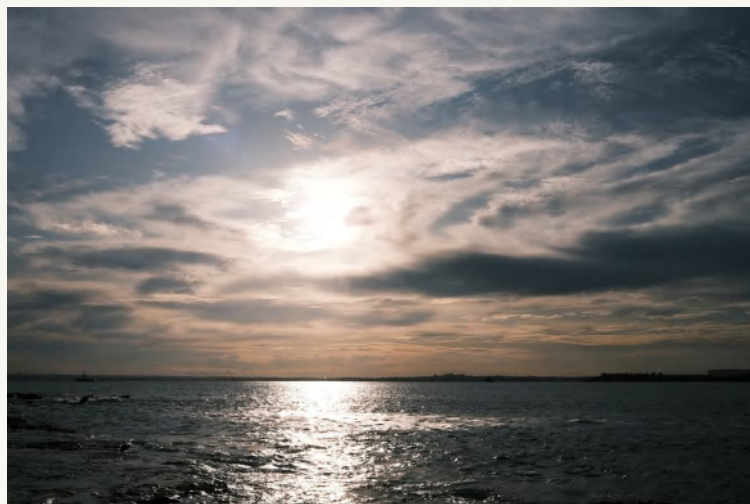








The sound of the tide pushed the distant outline farther away.



Lights On, Streets Empty







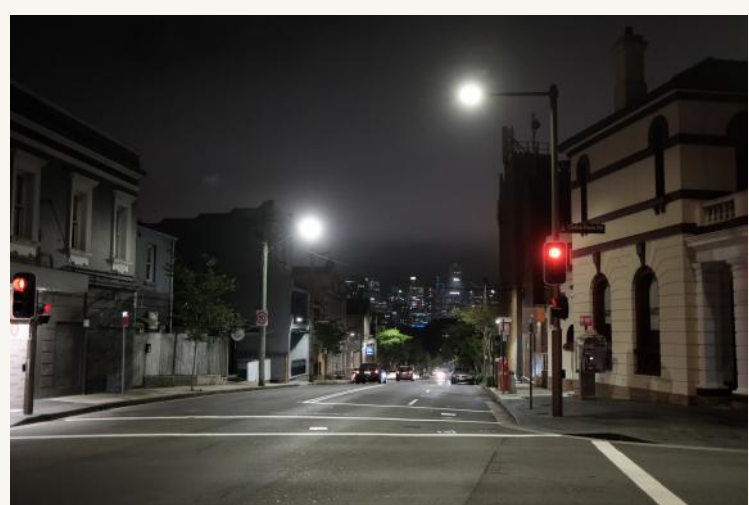
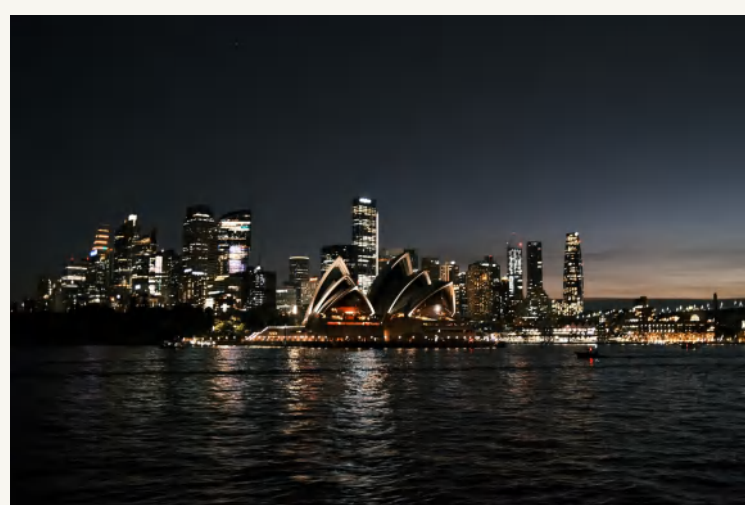






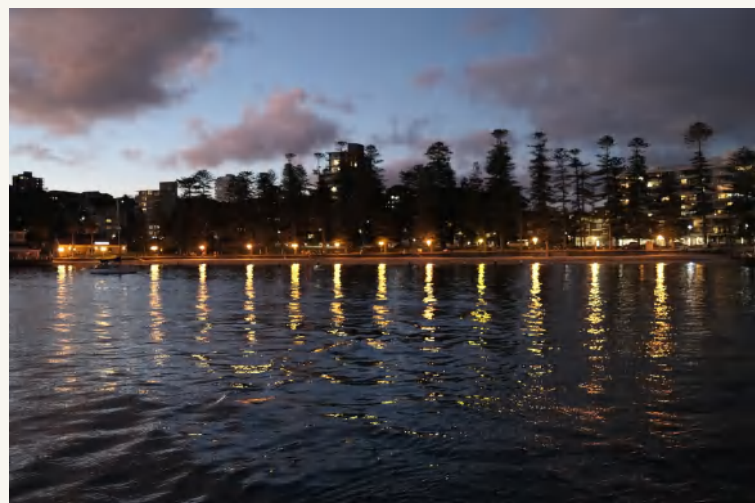






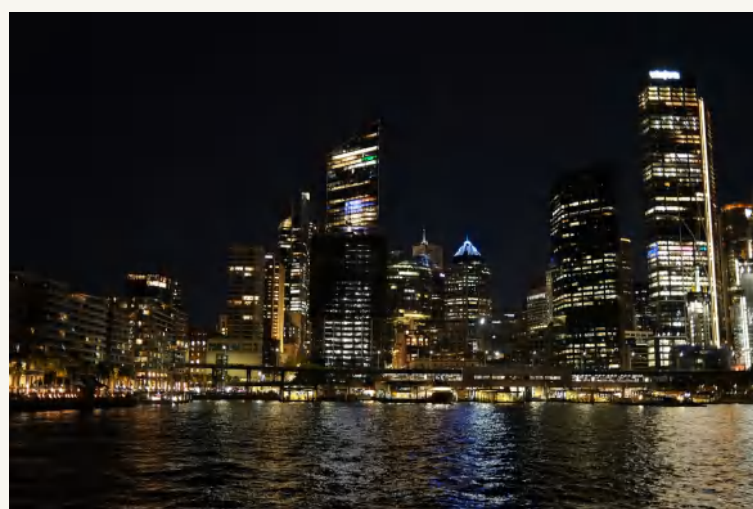






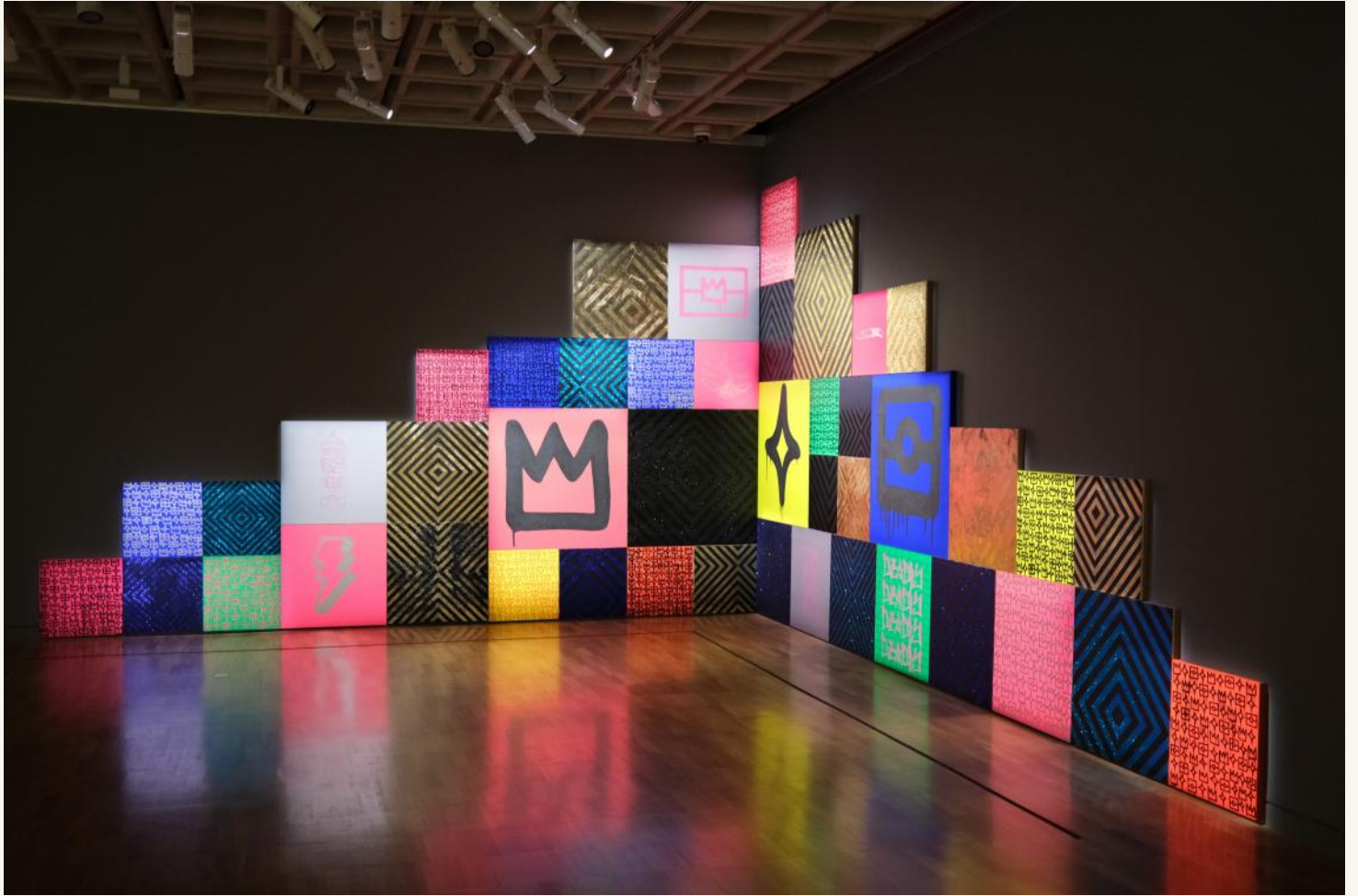


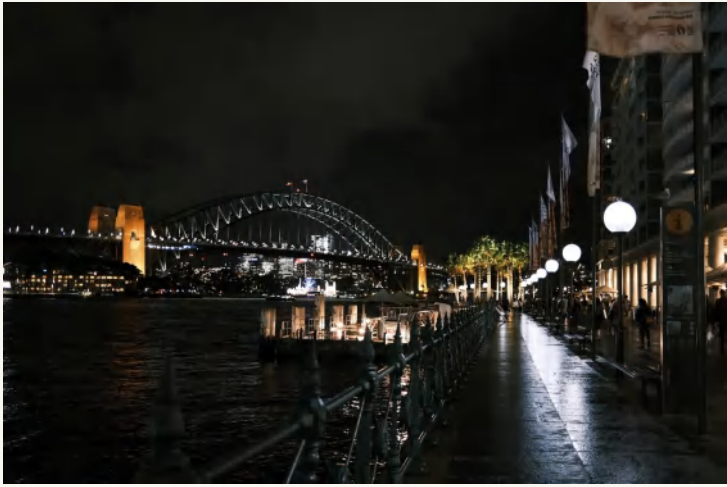
Once the lights came on, the street seemed quieter.

















17:14

Intercity services

Regional services

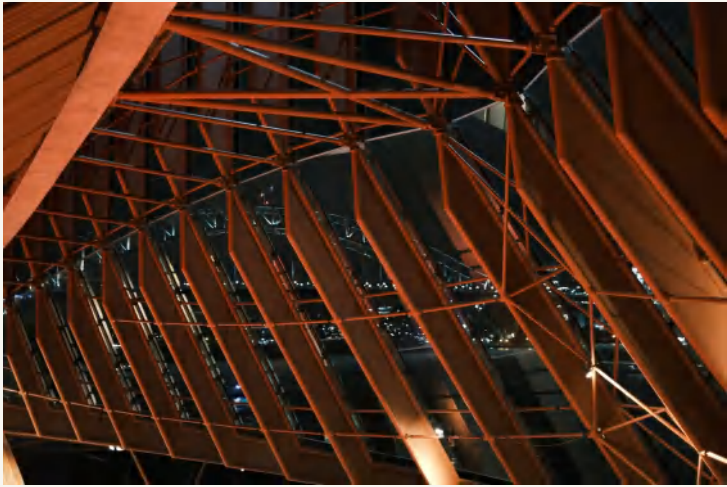
12 Lindfield 16 Tram to Wynyard Museum Point North Sydney Waverley Woolloomooloo 3 min	15 Hornsby 18 Bus services will replace train services from Sydenham through to Bankstown Trains to Erskineville and St Peters will depart from Platform 22 Trains to Sydenham depart platforms 22 and 25 4 min	17 Petersham 18 Bus services will replace train services from Sydenham through to Bankstown Trains to Erskineville and St Peters will depart from Platform 22 Trains to Sydenham depart platforms 22 and 25 12 min	18 Revesby 23 Revesby Hills Buckley Buckley Revesby 12 min	19 Liverpool 19 Liverpool Liverpool Liverpool Liverpool 3 min	Newcastle Intg 9 Newcastle Newcastle Newcastle Newcastle 4 min	10 Mt Victoria 10 Mt Victoria Mt Victoria Mt Victoria Mt Victoria 10 min			
12 Sydenham 22 Sydenham Sydenham Sydenham Sydenham 3 min	17:12 Bondi Jn 24 Bondi Jn Bondi Jn Bondi Jn Bondi Jn 1 min	14 Cronulla 25 Cronulla Cronulla Cronulla Cronulla 8 min	17 Olympic Park 6 Olympic Park Olympic Park Olympic Park Olympic Park 6 min	City via Museum 21 City via Museum City via Museum City via Museum City via Museum 3 min	City via Town Hall 17 City via Town Hall City via Town Hall City via Town Hall City via Town Hall 3 min	17:29 Wollongong 25 Wollongong Wollongong Wollongong Wollongong 15 min	17:36 Canberra 5 Canberra Canberra Canberra Canberra 22 min		



Transport Information





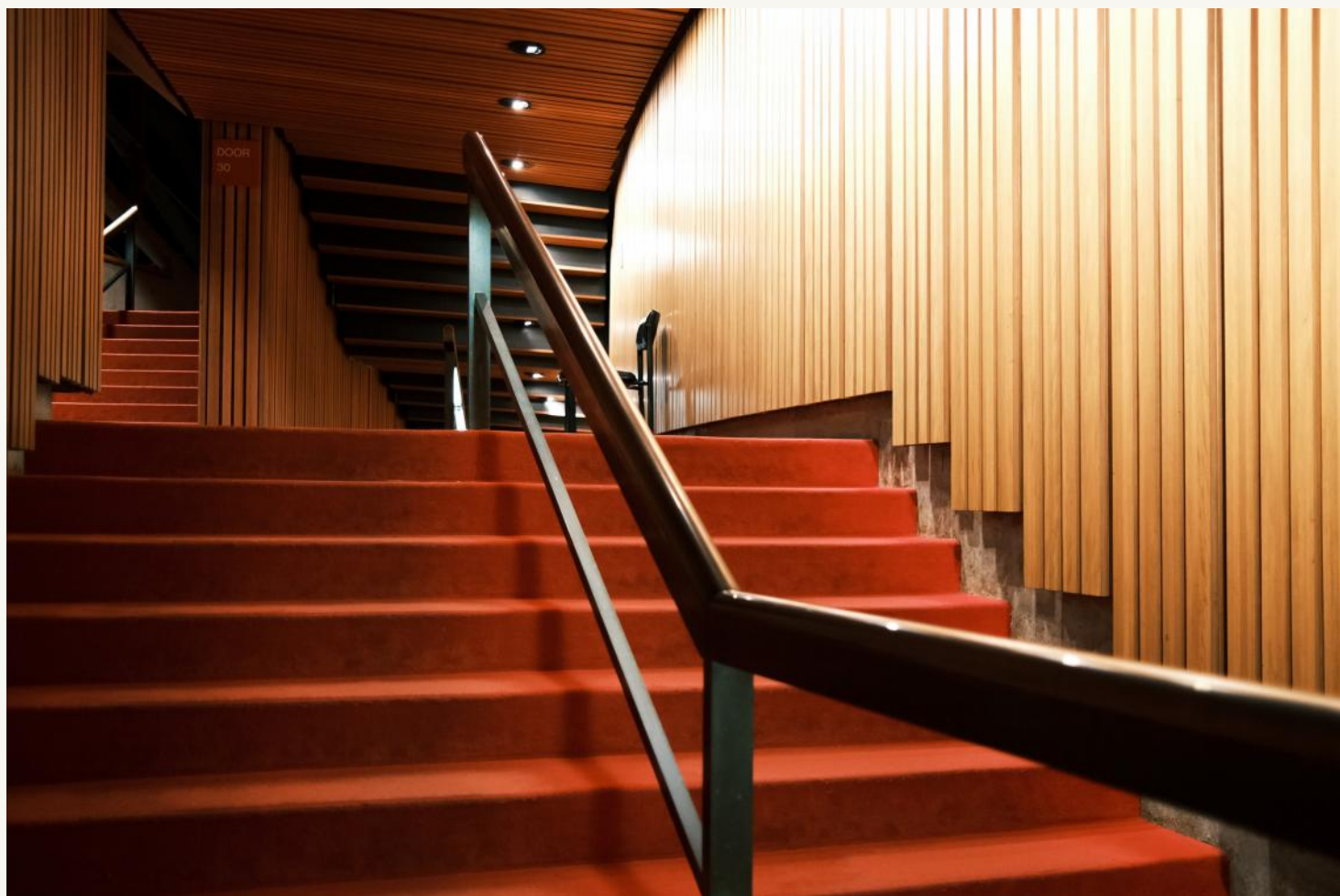




The double yellow lines ran into the distance; light broke the empty street into sections.



Looking Back, the City in Outline

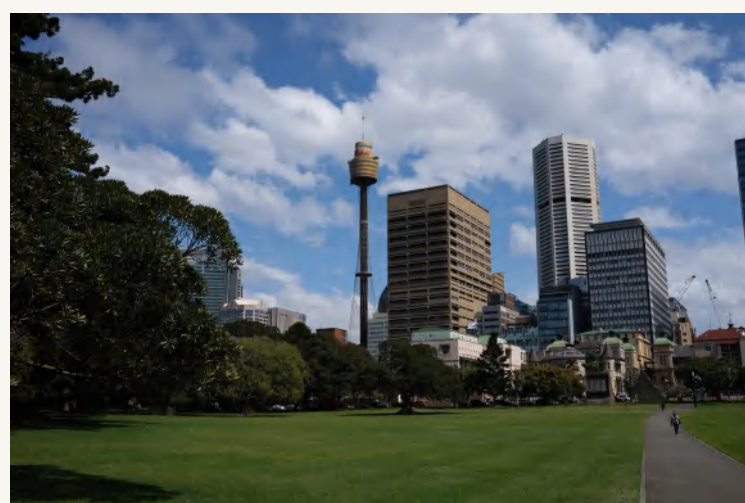




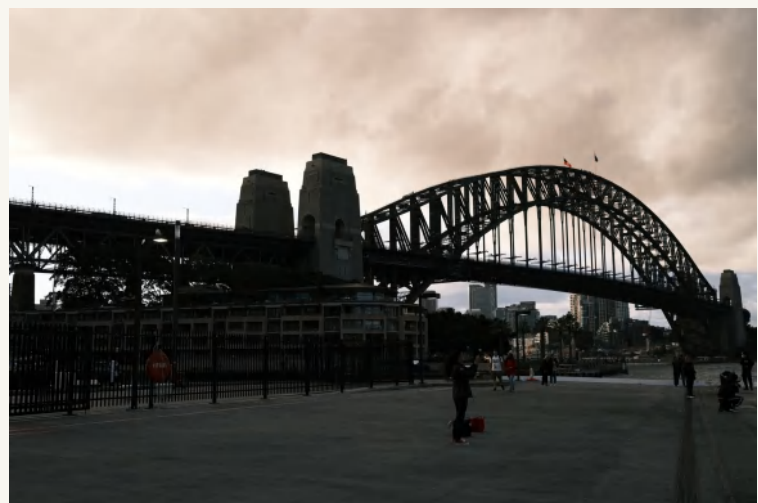
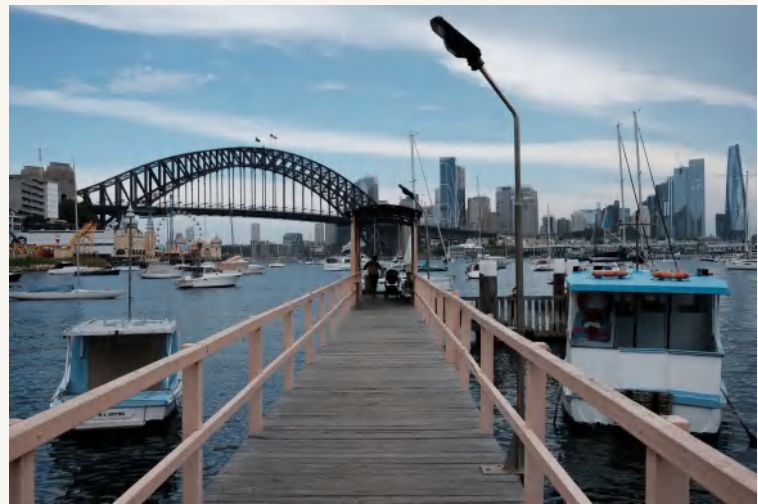


















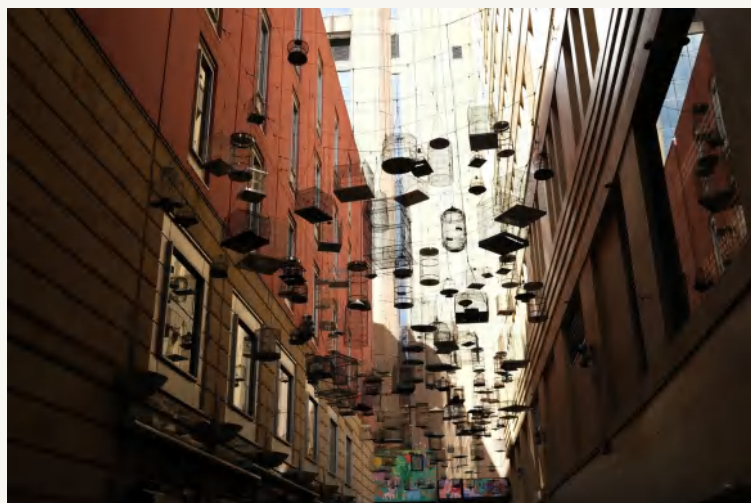




Looking back, only a few clear lines of the city remained.

























A long stretch of grass held the city at the far end.







Later, when I thought of Sydney, what I saw first was still that road between city and sea.