



Mile 266.3 - A bee collects pollen from a wild daisy south of Fox on Highway 395.



Mile 267.8 - An old barn south of Fox on Highway 395.

TRIP

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Visions of impending doom haunted my nightly slumber. And in my waking hours the voices in my head were telling me that I will find a way to screw this up. My subconscious doesn't always seem like it is an active partner in my artistic journey.

But, through all of the stress I seemed to have heaped upon myself, I pushed through. Making preparations for the trip. Learning how to use a Go-Pro. Scouring over the route

in Google Maps Street View to see what I might find on my journey. Making calculations about drive time, total hours of daylight, how long I could stop based on how many total stops I made... math, basically. I did math. A challenge to all art majors.

And then the day came, June 20, 2016. I woke up before dawn (a fact that might startle my co-workers, who have had to deal with my protests about waking up for early-morning assignments), and headed down the highway. But I never made it to Umatilla. The sun set as I was driving about 15 miles from Pilot Rock.



Mile 249.8 - A canyon north of Mt. Vernon.



Mile 279.5 - An old farm south of Long Creek on Highway 395.

So, did I fail my challenge? I guess that depends on how you look at it. In a black and white world I did fail to meet the goals I had set out for myself. I did, however, drive for 370 miles, through some really beautiful country. I stopped over 60 times (that is an average of one stop every six miles) taking more than

1,000 photos. I petted two dogs and got paid for all of it. The most important thing about my challenge is that I learned something about myself driving down that lonely highway: that success isn't always measured by crossing the finish line, and true failure is never challenging yourself at all.

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