

# BEAUTY: CITIES AND NATURE

*“Beauty.” What do you imagine when you hear the word? Perhaps the first thought in your mind is a scenic view of nature or maybe you think of people walking around in a bustling city. There’s a good chance you were drawn to either the left or right image first, but, more than likely, you were also able to find beauty in both – the urbane and the natural. The leftmost image is gives a glimpse to the city, dominated by oranges and browns; tracing back the steps of the car, one can find the inner city of towering, blue buildings and skyscrapers from which they came. The rightmost image shows what seems to be a more peaceful scene, a cool overcast granted by the shade of all the foliage and greenery; just outside the frame, one would find many birds and squirrels roaming about. At first glance, these two photos may seem worlds apart, but they’re actually more similar than you might think. For starters, in terms of proximity, these places are less than a mile away from each other: the right is located inside the Boston Commons while the left is located just outside it. Additionally, both images contain splashes of the other: the bustling city of the left is broken up by the scattered greenery and beautiful sky, while, on the right, our eyes are drawn to the small doses of the manmade – the figure in the foreground, the bridge in the background, etc. These two pictures prove not only that beauty can exist in two vastly different environments, but that the two can coexist together and flourish.*

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