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Artist Statement: “Dragonfly Halo”

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I usually prefer to photograph with a high-quality camera of some sort, but I snapped this photo with my phone. It was all I had available when the moment came along, and I wasn't going to fiddle around looking for another camera; the moment was fleeting.

I captured this photo while sitting at my table one morning, a nearly empty white coffee mug to my right. The morning light had just started to creep in through the patio doors, and with it came a strikingly blue damselfly (like a dragonfly, just smaller). The damselfly flew right into the coffee mug and landed on the bottom, surrounded by a shallow ring of the remaining coffee. I managed to grab my phone and snap this picture, right before the visitor flew away. This is one of my favorite photos I have taken because it is both beautiful and unexpected; it makes me think. The sharpness, position and color of the damselfly starkly juxtapose with the perfectly circular and soft ring of coffee, while still managing to compliment it. I also realize that I will never again get a shot exactly like this one, which makes it all the more special to me.

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