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Response Paper #3

In the world of photography many photographers always alter the image to depict a certain setting or message from the picture. As in the book "Believing is Seeing" by Errol Morris stated many photos from early war have turned out to be staged or tampered with. This is shocking since most views are lead to believe that what is seen in the picture is what happened. An example of this is the photographer Roger Fenton, in 1855 he was taking photos of what is known now as the "Valley of Death". Fenton had altered the photo by having people move the cannonballs onto the road and telling people where to move it. This may be upsetting to many views because many have been deceived to believe that in the picture that is what it looked like. This kind of acts can even discredit the photographer and wound not be taken seriously in their field, just like any field like science if a scientist have proposed a theory and then was proven wrong they might be discredited and ridiculed in their field. There is an importance in taking photos of the past and preserving them because we can see how the landscape and environment was back then and how it looks today, like the Valley of Death. Back in 1855 it looked like a dirt road, unclean and nothing was growing now it have some trees, and much cleaner. In every photo there is that small detail that can change or alter the story that is being showed. If the photo is untouched it is seen a certain way, id the setting of the photo have been tampered that can have the story seen a different way. That is why photographers choose to tamper with a setting or leave it untouched to convey a certain reality, meaning, and impact to the viewers

Photos are not the only way to depict the setting of message of an event, it can also be expressed in poems or writings. In the book the Errol Morris wrote that a man named Tennyson created a poem about the “Valley of Death” just like Fenton with this photos. In the poem Tennyson showed the setting of the event by using words and the readers imagination. He described the event with detail throughout the poem, showed how there were feeling, what they were seeing, and what were their actions. This shows that not only in pictures and videos you can see, feel, and connect, with other people that through writing such as poems others can connect with the people described it the event.