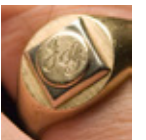


Rocks & Trees



Rocks & Trees

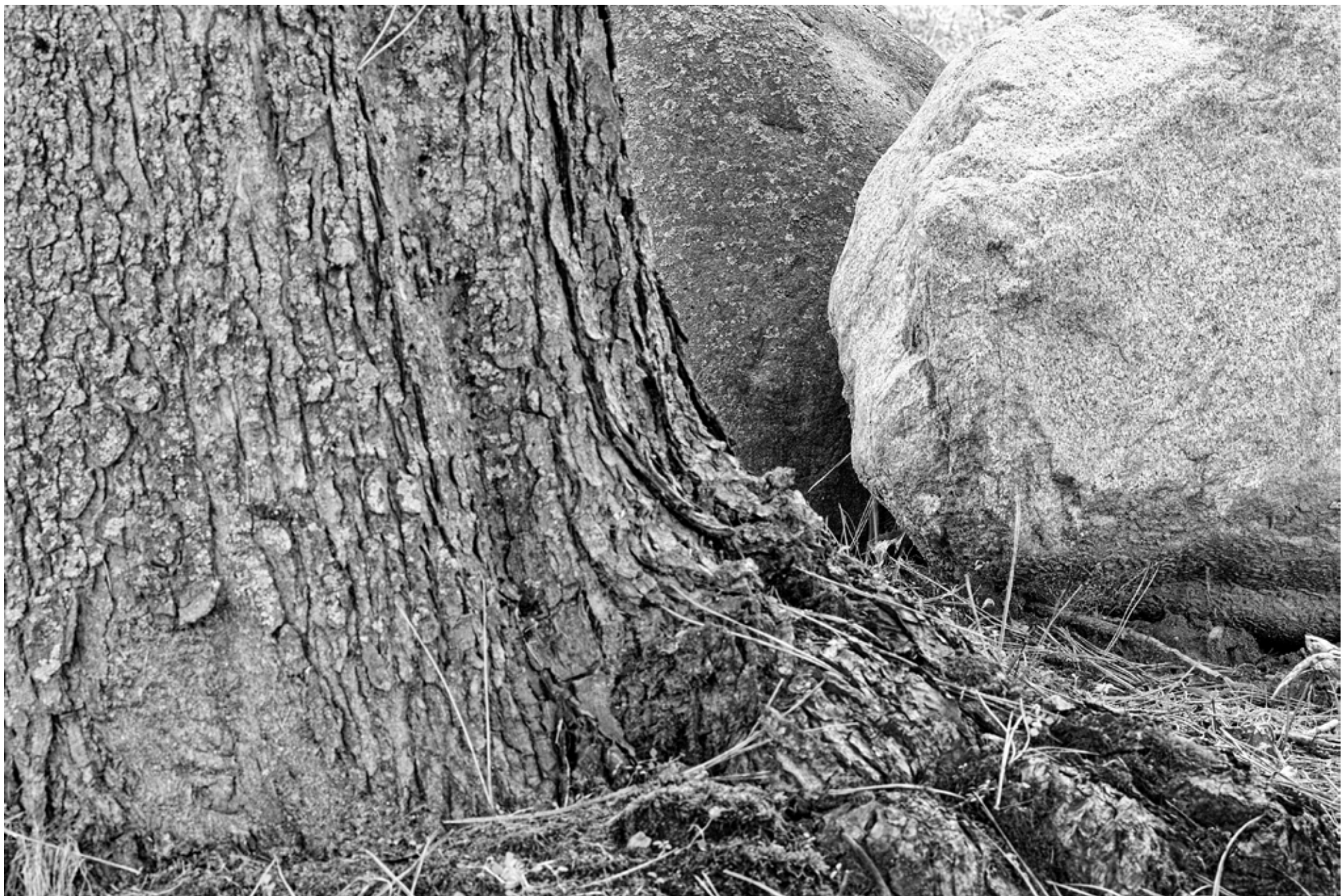
Joseph Gascho

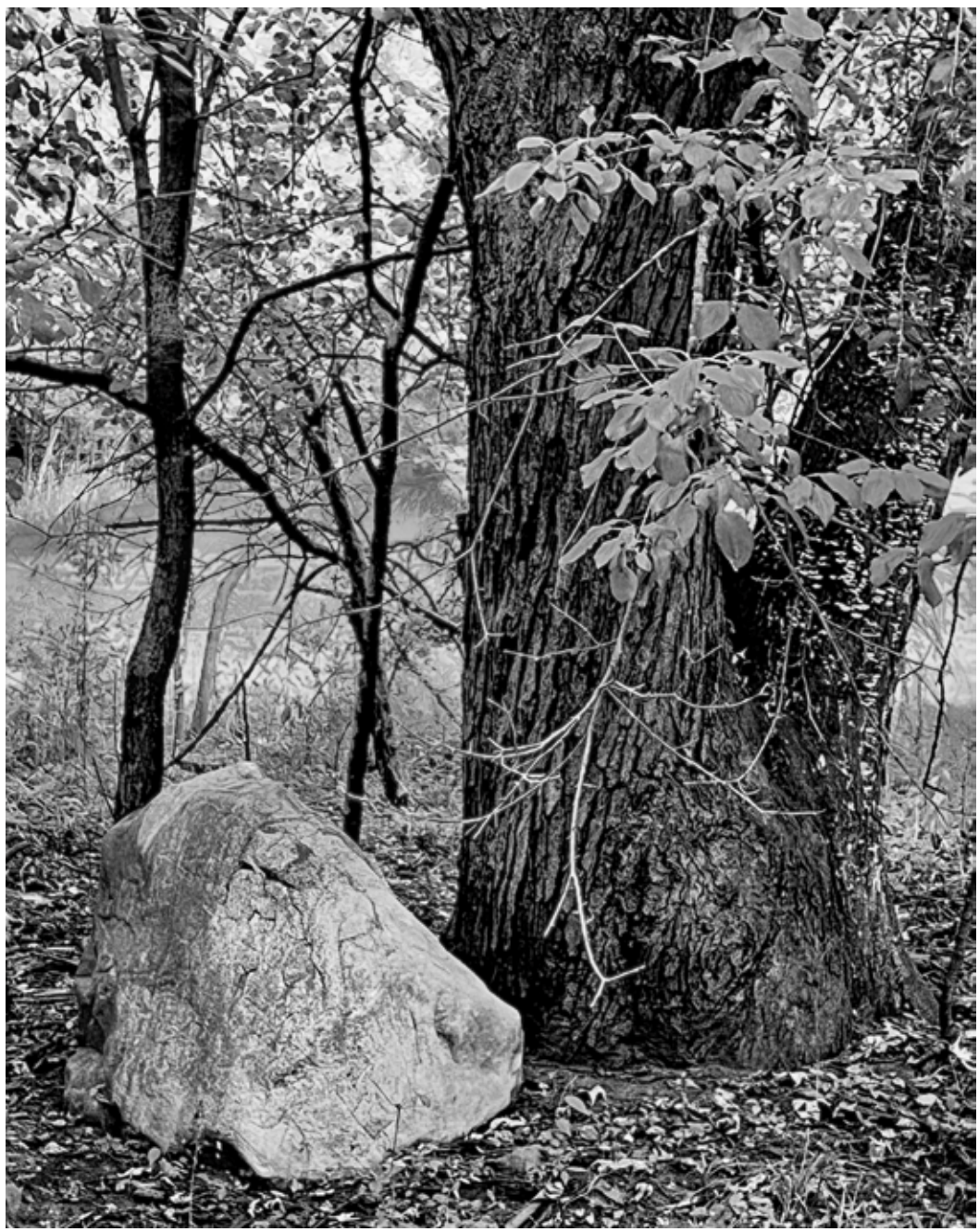


You stony silent blob,
you never say a word,
unmoving and unmoved.

The rock replies,
“But I don’t steal
minerals and water
from the underground.”

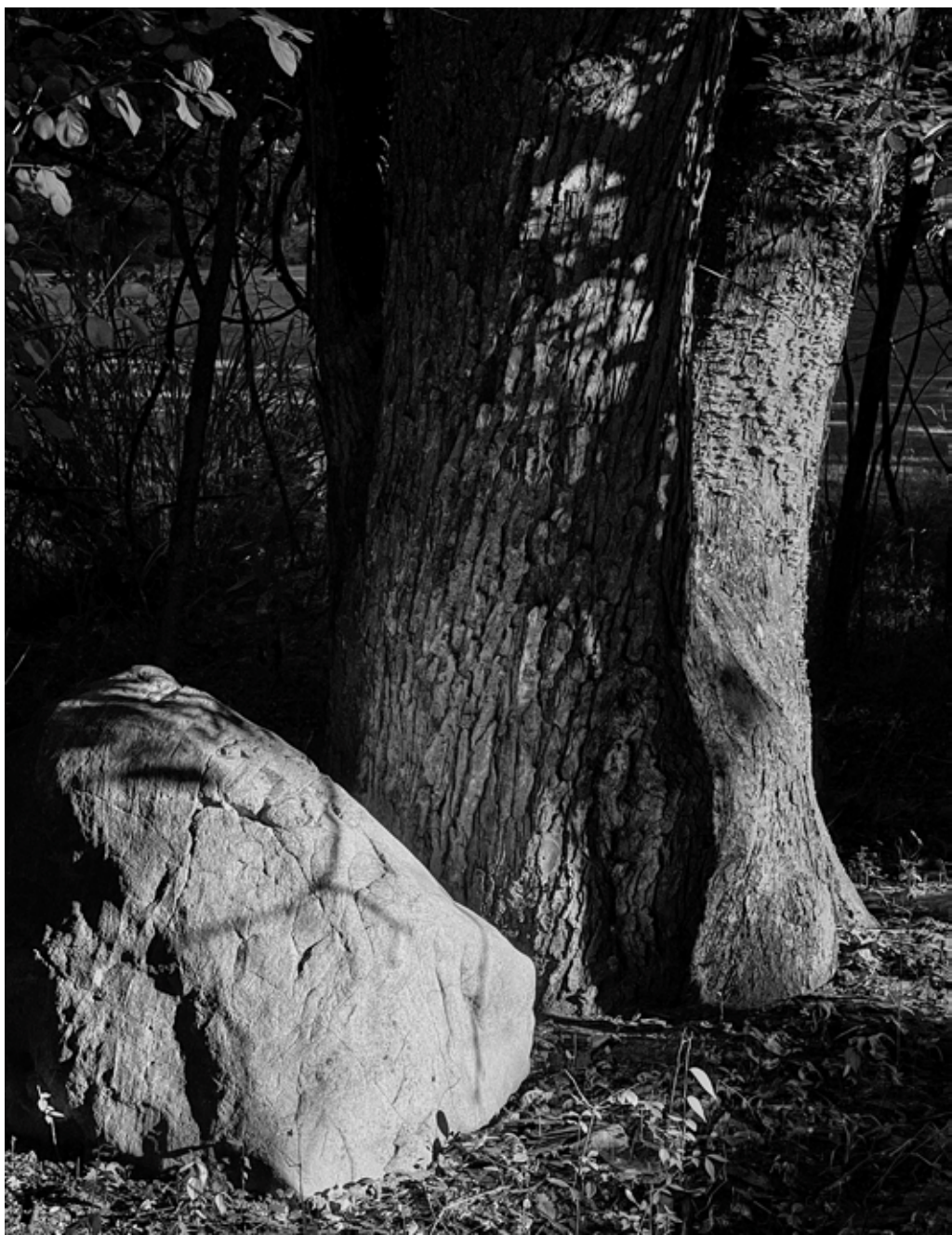






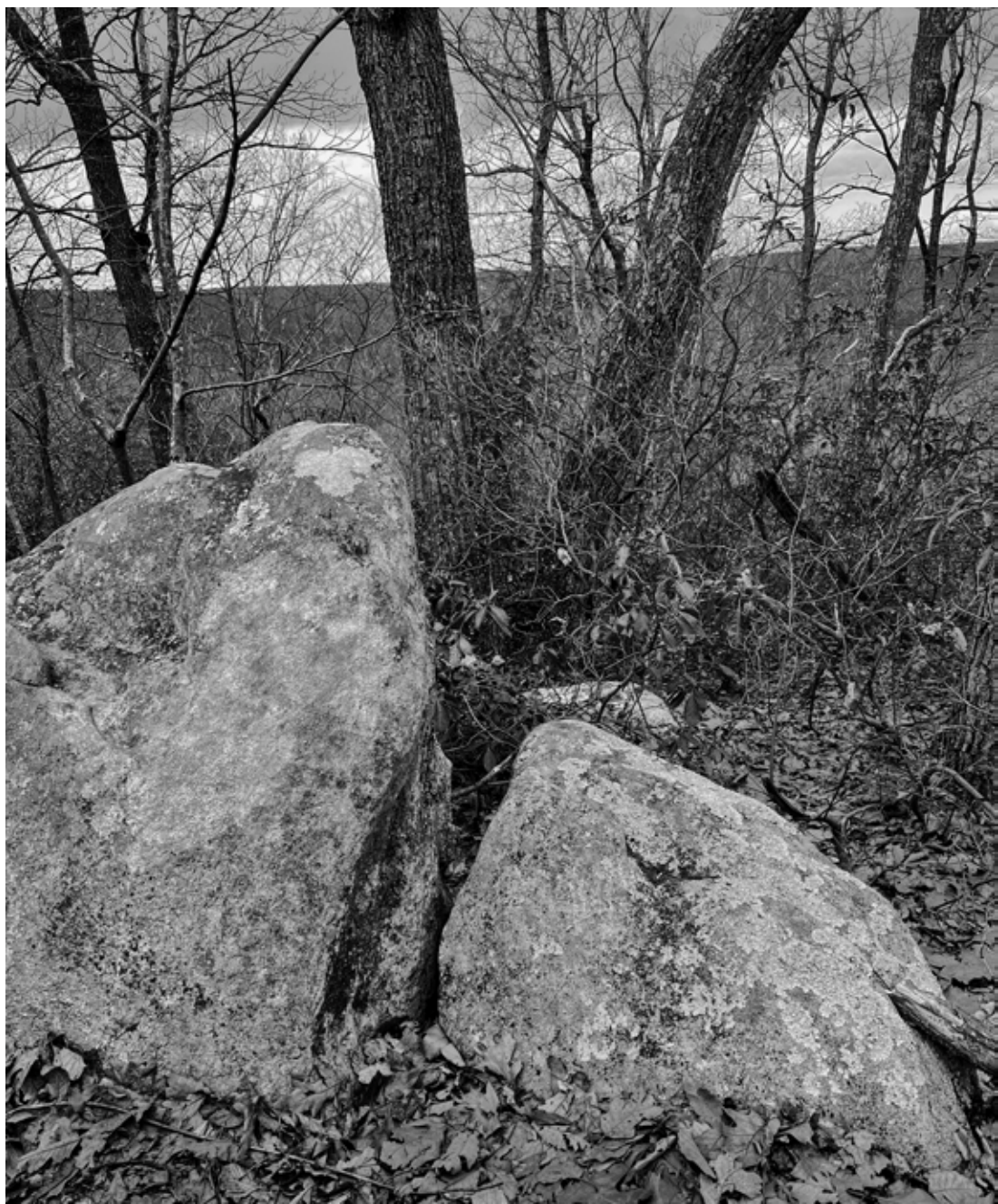






500 years ago
no one thought
trees could communicate
between themselves,
and in 500 more
who knows—
we'll say the same
of rocks.









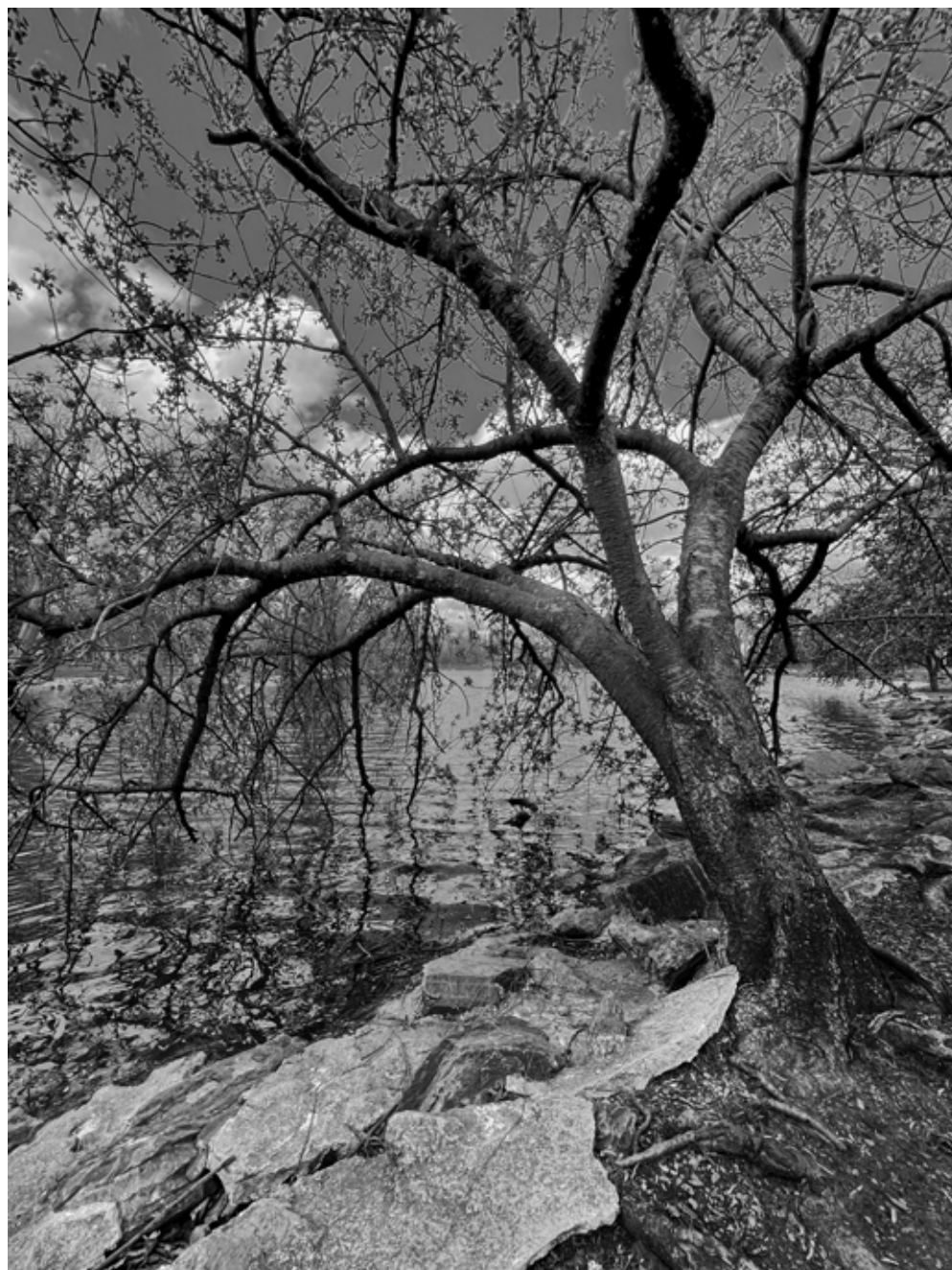
Sweden's Tjikko tree would brag,
if it could, about its age:
"I'm only half a millennium
short of 10,000 years."
"Ha, ha," the zircon mineral
of Australia would say,
if rocks had voice,
"You're just a babe.
I've been around for now
four billion years."

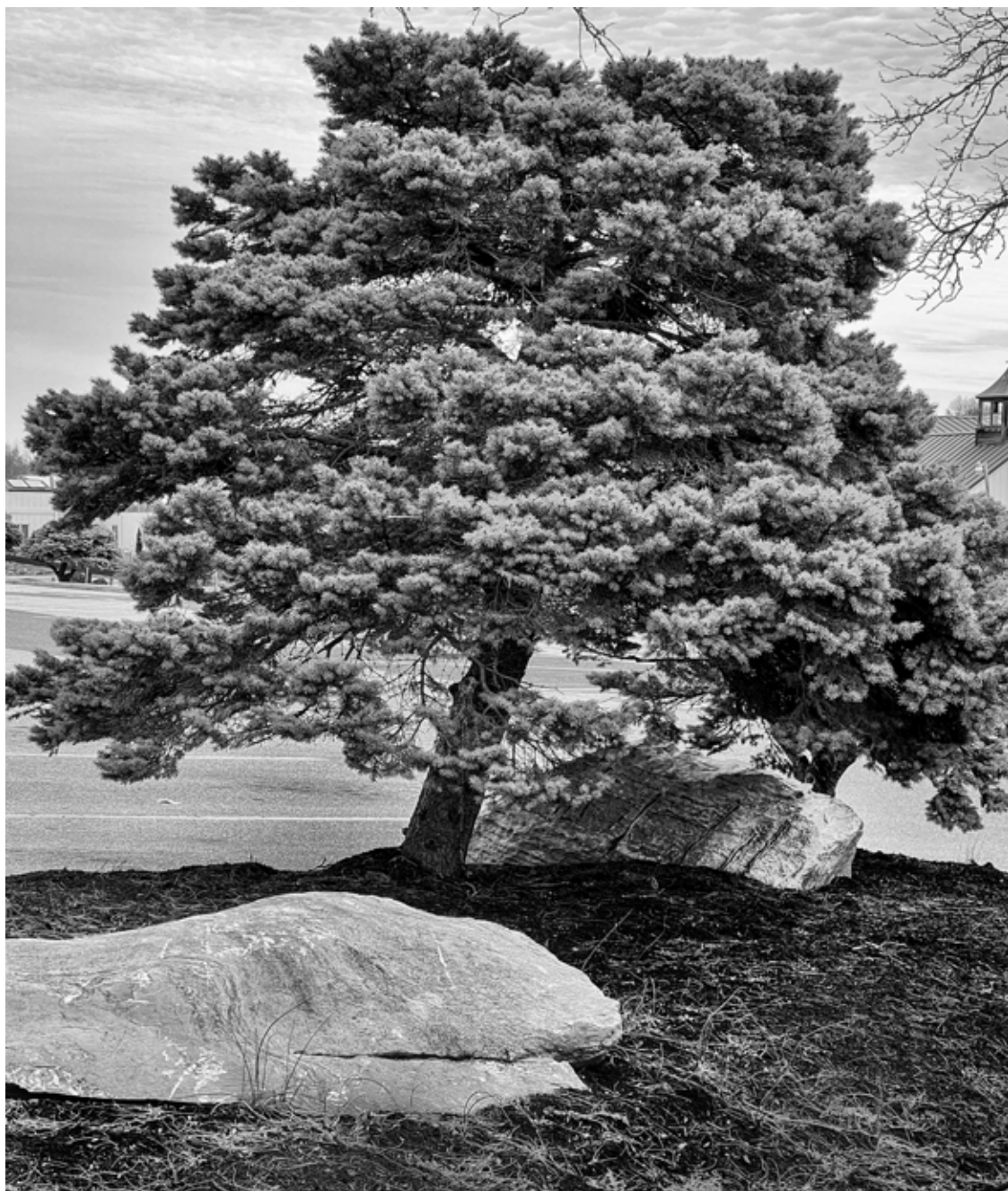


Who knows
the difference between
adakite and andesite,
let alone igneous
and sedimentary
rocks? But most can tell
a conifer
from a deciduous tree,
can differentiate
with blindfolds on,
a walnut from a fir.
It is not fair.









Rock or tree?
Rock and tree?
Which will it be?



