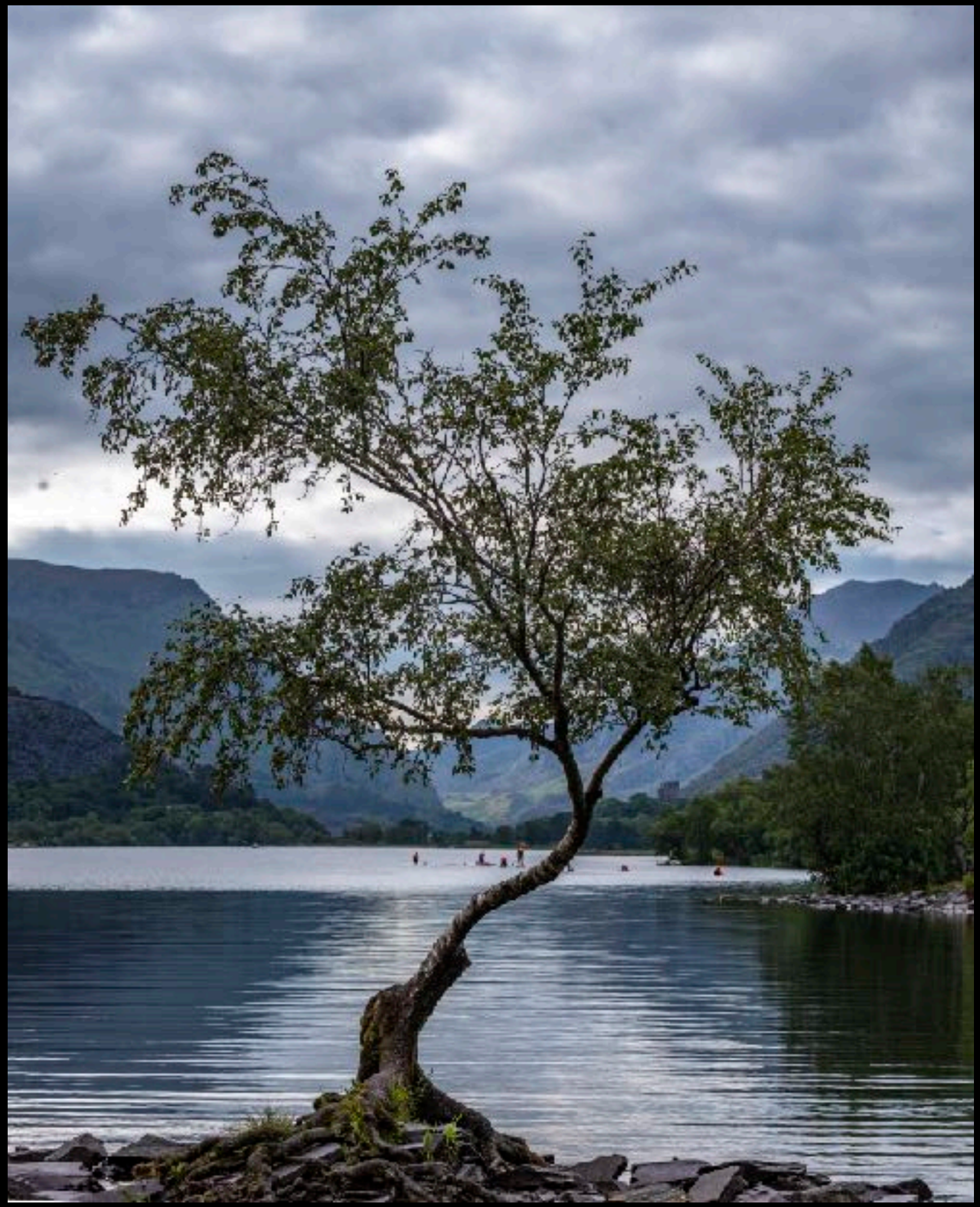
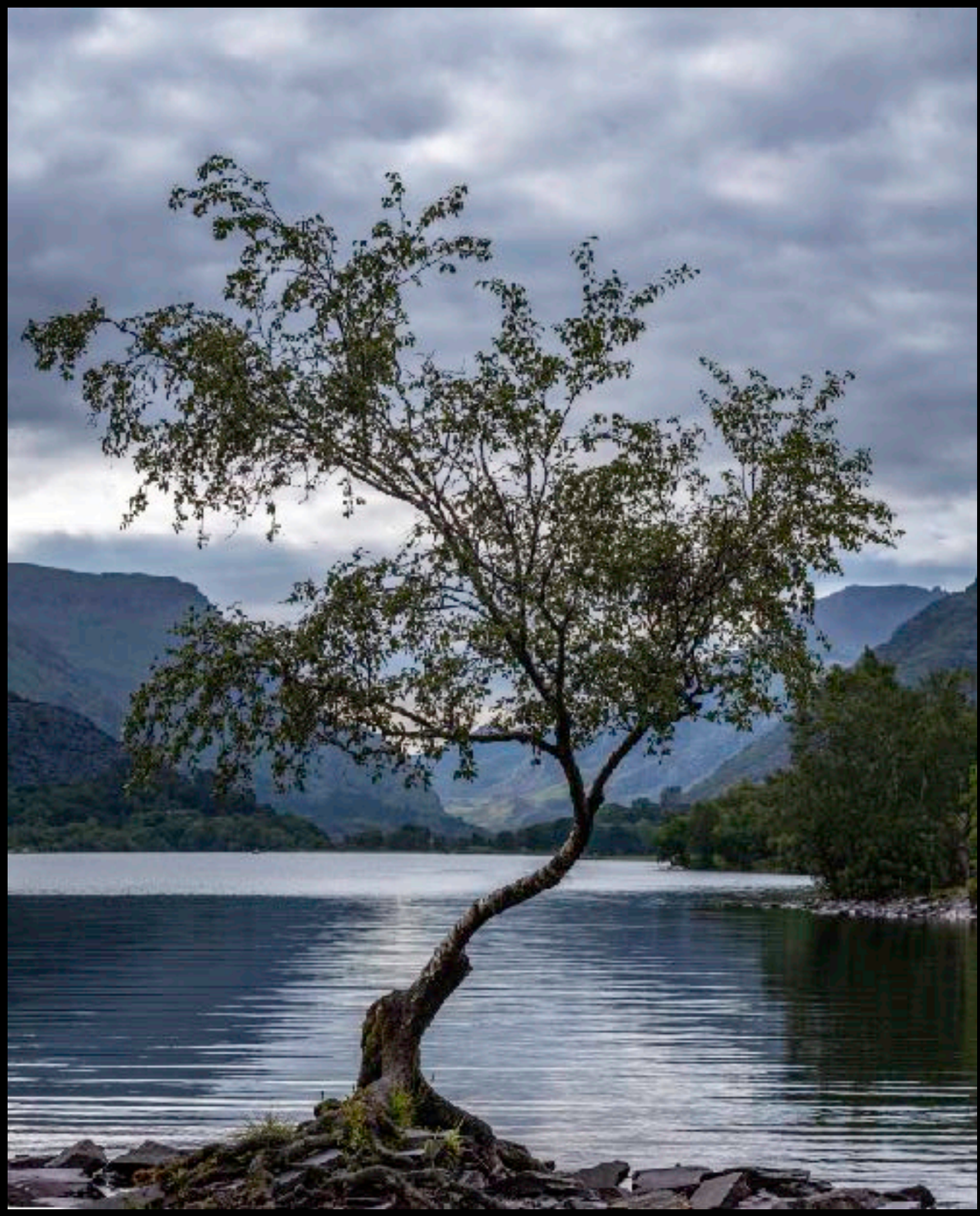
Removing Blemishes

Sources of blemishes

- Dirty computer screen!
- Water droplets on lens
- Dust on lens
- Fingerprint on lens
- Dust on sensor
- Greasy spot on sensor
- People/birds in my landscape!





Identifying blemishes

- Dirty screen
  Spot in same place when no image on screen!

- Water droplets on lens
  Large area blurry

- Dust on lens
  Small area darker & blurry

- Fingerprint on lens
  May not show up at all but can ruin coating - may add blurriness if other grease present

Identifying blemishes

- Dust on sensor
  Shows up more at small aperture (larger F stop) mostly as well defined dark spots in sky

- Greasy spot on sensor
  Shows up more at small aperture (larger F stop) mostly as well larger slightly darker spots in sky

- People/birds in my landscape!
  Distant birds in the sky can be a distraction

Identifying blemishes

- Image processing can highlight spots - especially clarity and dehaze

Lightroom Tools

Complete all other image processing before removing spots

- Spot removal Tool (Keyboard short cut **Q**)
- Adjustment brush (Keyboard short cut **K**)
- Radial filter (Keyboard short cut ***shift*** **M**)

Spot Removal Tool

For spots! and birds, small people & other distractions

- In Develop Module’s Basic menu click on tool or press Q
  - Options
    - Set size
      - Clone
      - Heal

Spot Removal Tool

For sensor dust the spot will be in the same place in all un-cropped images of the same orientation,

Use the copy and paste tool to deal with a batch of images.

Adjustment brush
& Radial filter

Useful for areas that are brighter or darker than surroundings - may not remove - but can diminish impact - eg for lens flare or water drops

When these don’t work

For larger areas/objects Photoshop can work well

- Heal
- Clone heal
- Patch
- Delete with “content aware” fill