

JULY 2023

365
*Picture
Today*



365 *Picture Today*

CELEBRATE YOUR CREATIVITY

You've finished your first half of the year! How are you feeling about it? Proud that you made it this far? Encouraged that you are learning and improving? Maybe even frustrated that this is a little harder than you thought? Whatever you're feeling, we have some great new ideas to help keep you motivated. And we have a great group that cheers each other on.

We're kicking off July with the color sepia. Sepia is a soft, warm shade of brown that is often associated with vintage photographic images. But we'll be approaching it from the point-of-view of the color itself, although no one will fault you if you'd like to create a vintage-looking picture!

For Picture Style Week, we're getting sporty! There's lots going on outdoors at this time of year, so you'll have no trouble finding subject matter whether it's about you, your family, or your favorite team even if you're spectating.

We want you to share more about yourself, of course, and this time it's by showing us what is 100 steps from where you are--whether your front door, back door, workplace door, or however you want to interpret it. We can't wait to see what you see on a regular basis!

Winding up July's weekly themes we'll practice wide aperture, that f-stop thing that blurs the background. It's a great basic technique that can enhance the mood of your photo or clarify your subject. Fortunately, even most phones have adjustments to give this look, so no one will have to feel left out!

July will also give an opportunity for another special photo challenge. This time it will be about creating silhouettes. Silhouetting part of your image, either the subject or the space around it, is a device that brings big impact with little special equipment or photo experience. We hope you'll give it a try.

In July, members in the States will celebrate independence and freedom. But wherever you are, celebrate the creative freedom that photography gives you to explore the world through your lens. Happy Creative Independence!

Amy, Diane, Garnett, Kris, Lee Leslie and Lysle

EXPLAINING THE PROMPTS

JULY 1
SIMPLES
Leading Lines

*Picture***BASIC**

Each month is broken into 4 weekly themes: Picture Life, Picture Basic, Picture Color and Picture Style. These are meant to fuel your imagination, keep you engaged, and challenge your creativity. They give you the opportunity to see the same things in different ways.

PICTURE LIFE

Picture Life is where you will be challenged to chronicle your life. Each Picture Life week will have a theme which will give us a glimpse into your day to day life. This is where we all will have the opportunity to get to know one another a little more. We encourage you to show us all aspects of your life, including your beautiful self! In Picture Life week there will be a Where I Stand prompt coupled with a time of day prompt. Here we encourage you once a month to show us what you are doing at a certain time of the day by showing us where you are standing.

PICTURE BASIC

Let's get technical! This will challenge your creativity with a technical agenda. In these weeks of your year you will look at leading lines, flat lays, lights and shadows, (to name a few!). Don't be shy to ask for clarification, camera settings or any tips and tricks. We aren't magicians here, we share our secrets!

PICTURE COLOR

We will focus on a specific color chosen by the Creative Team for these weeks. This year our colour choices will be a little beyond just the basics. You can include a little of the color, go completely monochrome or anything in between. You will likely find that this is one of your favourite weeks.

PICTURE STYLE

Lifestyle, architecture, landscape, sports, golden hour, are just some of the styles you will be encouraged to play around with to try out something new. Some of these might be a little out of your comfort zone. Our hope is that by the end of the week you may have discovered something you love. You might find style in your original photo or add some style in post-processing.

EXTRA CHALLENGES

Along the way you'll notice a few added monthly challenges sprinkled in to give you extra inspiration.

Macro Monday - For this prompt we encourage you to get in close. Grab your macro lens, macro filters or just crop your photo in post-processing. This is where we can focus on the little details.

Scavenger Hunt - A quarterly challenge where instead of one prompt, you have 4 . Take the 4 photos and make a collage. Make it work for you and your day.

Picture My World - This is a quarterly challenge. We are hoping you can return to the same spot 4 times on these days to document the changing seasons in your world or in your life.

Extra Seasonal Challenge

We are introducing something new this year... Seasonal challenges. Seasonal challenges are extra technical challenges to help you learn or practice technical skills. The challenge is separate from daily prompts and is there to give you that extra boost if you want to take it on. The extra challenge will occur 4 times a year and will come with technical instruction. Once the challenge is offered, you will have a week to think about it, practice, and then take and post your image.



Life doesn't get much more simple than spending a day out in the sunshine picking strawberries. And, finding leading lines in this situation was also simple! Normally our subject is not placed in the center of a photo, but the lines and the red in which his mama dressed him made this work. I am a fan of capturing a simple photo opportunity - being in the right place at the right time, where the only thing required of me is to be present and notice.

Keep it simple as you look for leading lines today. Try placing your subject in the center of the frame.

Kris

JULY 2
TRIUMPH
Sepia

*Picture***COLOR**



I'm always looking for plants or wildlife while biking through the woods.

This day in July when I thought that all the plant life out there would be colorful, I found these thistles. Look at the variety of textures and subtle shades of brown! I felt a bit triumphant with my find.

Today, look past all the bright colors in nature that you associate with July. Can you find something sepia-toned? Congratulations! You triumphed!

Leslie

JULY 3
VISUALIZE
Sepia

*Picture***COLOR**



To visualize is to form a mental image of something. Let's get dreamy!

Sepia is a dark reddish-brown pigment. It is an interesting colour to find and you will be amazed by how prevalent it is!

Today, tell a visual story with your photography. What is the story behind these stacked chairs? Why are they stacked outdoors behind a chain link fence? In actuality, they were behind an old church! I can visualize them at one time being in the church and being used at wedding receptions, memorial services, baptisms and Sunday school sessions. They have many stories to tell I bet. I suspect they were replaced by something much more comfortable and modern. I gave my photo a more dreamy quality by adding a slight vignette.

Photograph something today in sepia, that makes us wonder what the story is behind the picture. Tell us the truth or let us guess.

Dream on!

Lysle

JULY 4
MULTITUDE
Sepia

*Picture***COLOR**



As you go through your day look for something that comes in a multitude of browns. Like these wine barrels that a local restaurant is repurposing for tables. You might be surprised at the sepia that is part of your everyday!

Amy

JULY 5
JUICY
Sepia

PictureCOLOR



Olives are juicy, right? I'm not a fan of them but I liked this display that we found in the market in Madrid.

I played with this in post processing to make it a bit more sepia looking. I muted the greens a little bit and increased the reds. I think, overall, it's rather sepia looking.

Can you find something juicy today? If it contains a little sepia colour in it, even better.

Diane

JULY 6
BY-GONE
Sepia

PictureCOLOR



The colour sepia lends itself nicely to landscape! When I came upon this scene I immediately anticipated seeing John Wayne ride by! What can you find in your landscape today that has the colour sepia in it?

Garnett

JULY 7
SOUL
Sepia

PictureCOLOR



Whatever we create is an outward expression of something that rests deep within our soul. Creativity has many faces and is made manifest in many forms - visual art, writing, sewing, fiber arts, cooking, making of any kind, and, of course, photography.

Show us something from within your soul that can be expressed by the warmth of sepia.

Kris

JULY 8
NATURE
Sepia

PictureCOLOR



A whole week of Sepia colour - black/brown colour with a reddish tinge.

I think that the butterfly covers that colour, and the wheat enhances the colour. I used a shallow depth of field and put the butterfly on the third to draw your eye to the subject.

What can you find in nature in your area that is sepia in colour?

Lee

JULY 9
BOISTEROUS
Sports

PictureSTYLE



Game on!

It's "sports" week and in mid July there should be plenty of sports going on to photograph! I predict it will be a super fun week of activity and action.

boisterous

noisy, energetic, and cheerful: *a group of boisterous lads*

What a perfect and easy word for "sports" week! What sport isn't boisterous?

Get out to the parks today and find some boisterous activities!

Lysle

JULY 10
EUPHORIC
Sports

PictureSTYLE



It's all about the sporty details today!

So grab your macro lens, zoom in close, or crop your photo post-processing.

At the beach, fishing can be both calming and exhilarating. The fishing poles were all lined up at the pier just waiting for the next big catch!

Share just a bit of something from an activity or hobby that leaves you feeling euphoric!

Amy

JULY 11
OPEN
Sports

*Picture*STYLE



I love photographing all sorts of sports. Especially those with lots of movement. I like the challenge of capturing a clear shot when something is moving.

This young lad was on his seadoo with the throttle wide open. He was doing all kinds of tricks on the open water and he was fun to watch.

See if you can capture movement today in your sports photo. Are you open to the challenge? If so, remember to keep your shutter speed as high as possible. That will help freeze the motion.

Diane

JULY 12
PROMPT FREE
Sports

*Picture*STYLE

365
Picture
Today

Today is a blank canvas for which all of the other prompts have prepared you.

Keep your eyes open and have fun!

Prompt Free

JULY 13
ORGANIZED
Sports

*Picture*STYLE



I spent MANY years watching my girls play organized sports. Now, when I need a photo, one is hard to come by. This one was a soccer goalie from age seven through high school. She then played rugby for The University of Chicago. Now she lifts weights in our garage gym. She is not a terribly organized person with many things, but is quite disciplined and organized with her lifting training.

Do you have little(r) ones who play organized sports? Or, are you organized in playing your own sport and/or with a training schedule? What do sports and organization look like to you?

Kris

JULY 14
LAVISH
Sports

PictureSTYLE



I think that windsurfing is a fabulous sport to photograph, especially if the windsurfers come close to land. It is a sport lavish in colour, and some of the moves are sumptuously rich!

All sports are lavish in some way or another. If you don't have windsurfers in sight, try finding a runner with a lavish shirt, or even just someone just walking in outlandish clothes.

What sport can you find today that catches your eye?

Lee

JULY 15
LUMINOUS
Sports

PictureSTYLE



"Luminous" : emitting or reflecting steady, suffused, or glowing light.

The Golden Hour--those special hours around sunrise or sundown--is a beautiful time to capture your subject with luminous light.

Sports teams and golfers often play in the late afternoon when temps moderate. For my daughter, riding lessons are much more pleasant this time of year as the sun is lowering giving me the opportunity to capture her at a golden moment.

Look for people enjoying some luminous light today. And enjoy it yourself with your camera!

Leslie

JULY 16
NEARBY
A 100 Steps - Picture Me

PictureLIFE



This might be our easiest Picture Life yet! All of your photos will be within a 100 steps of each other!

Throughout the week you will be exploring and rediscovering your world! Pick a different direction with each prompt just to see what you find! 100 steps after you wake up, 100 steps from your front door, 100 steps upstairs, 100 steps around your backyard, or even the side yard!

Are you starting to see the potential? The possibilities are endless!

My kitchen is 100 steps from the driveway and after a long walk, it's my first stop!

Amy

JULY 17
NEW

*Picture***LIFE**

A 100 Steps - Where I Stand - 7 O'Clock



This week we're picturing life within 100 steps of our home. Today, capture where you are standing at 7 o'clock. AM or PM, your choice.

I watch Coronation Street every evening at 7pm. It's a British soap opera that I've been addicted to for almost 30 years. Every evening is a new episode and I catch it as often as I can.

Show us where you're standing at 7 o'clock today. Are you able to stay within 100 steps of your home?

Diane

JULY 18
LIVELY

*Picture***LIFE**

A 100 Steps



This week we are staying close to home. Sometimes we don't appreciate what we have in our own backyard. I hope this week is helping you see things in a different way. We have a resident fox on our little lane. He is hard to catch but it is so thrilling when I get a glimpse. I probably walked 100 steps to get to the side yard for my stake-out. I had to hide myself and be very still. Are there lively things happening around you?

Garnett

JULY 19
MYRAID

*Guest***PROMPT**

A 100 Steps



When you take a photo every day, it is easy to overlook the obvious, those things that are literally right outside your door. There are a myriad possibilities for interesting photos if we take the time to open our eyes and look.

How does taking 100 steps look to you today? Show us the possibilities within those steps.

Lorraine Formica

JULY 20
LOGICAL
A 100 Steps



100 steps from where? Well these were a hundred steps from my front door. I just love the colour of these flowers and it always makes me stop in my tracks when I see flowers this beautiful.

Logical means that you might not find flowers at 100 paces from where you started, but if you aren't happy with what you find at a hundred steps, then just do another 100...

Find something that is logical to you to stop and take a photo of!

Lee

JULY 21
KINDRED
A 100 Steps



"Kindred." People or things that are related, or share a common belief or feeling.

One hundred-ish steps from my door I have solved my gardening challenge of a steep embankment just like my resourceful, departed mother did-- by transplanting dozens of daylilies. Looking at them and remembering the hard work we both took on strengthens my kindred ties with her.

Is there someone or something close to your door that you feel kindred with? Share it with your kindred photographers.

Leslie

*Picture***LIFE**

JULY 22
JUMPSTART
A 100 Steps



Today is all about jumping! Walk 100 feet from your front door and go ahead and jump! You will like it! It is exhilarating.

Photographer Philippe Halsman asked every famous person he photographed to jump in the air! When they jumped for him, he suspended them in mid air. He said it brought out their true character. It is very simple to do! Find yourself a willing jumper or a human tripod to photograph you jumping. Select multiple high speed on your camera drive mode. If you go the selfie jumper route, crouch down and JUMP for all you are worth while your human tripod releases the shutter button! If at first you don't succeed, keep jumping! Not a jumper? Find a jumper... human or otherwise! Or have some fun and fake a jump!

Lysle

*Picture***LIFE**

JULY 23

JIBE

Wide Aperture

PictureBASIC



This week we will be focussing on utilizing a wide aperture in our photos. Using a wide aperture is what gives the beautiful blurriness of your background while your subject remains in focus. If you're using a DSLR, use the lowest f stop on your lens. A low f stop (1.8, 2.0, etc) is what is meant by a wide aperture. If you use a phone for your photos try using portrait mode on your phone. Leave some distance between your subject and the background and you should be able to create the same effect.

I shot this leaf with a f stop of 3.2. The leaf is in focus but the background is blurry. The circles of light showing through is what is known as Bokeh. In this photo the colours in the subject and the background jibe together nicely.

If you need further clarification you can find lots of articles on the internet about using a wide aperture and the bokeh effect. I'm looking forward to seeing your results.

Diane

JULY 24

DEVOTION

Wide Aperture

PictureBASIC



As we work our way through wide aperture week, think about your images and the stories you want to convey. In my example image, I wanted the focus to be on the letter. You can see the other details but they hovering in the background making you want to see more. I like to think that the viewer is captivated in trying to work out the complete story of the image. What story of devotion can you share today while keeping us guessing.

Garnett

JULY 25

JOURNEY

Wide Aperture

PictureBASIC



Often when we think of a journey, we think vastness - time and distance covered between here and there. We also tend to photograph "the big picture" - landscapes and architecture - while we are on that journey. Sometimes, however, it is the small details that we need to capture because they are the things easily forgotten once our journey is over.

Our church choir did a two-week concert tour and was the choir-in-residence at Bristol Cathedral, UK. I remember vividly the awe-inspiring architecture and the sounds of our voices echoing, seeming never to stop. But, I likely would have forgotten this small light that stood before me every afternoon as we sang Evensong. This little light speaks wonders to those two weeks. Journeys happen within as well.

Wherever you journey today, far away or into your own backyard, focus on a small but meaningful detail of today's journey that would likely be forgotten.

Kris

JULY 26
KISSED
Wide Aperture

PictureBASIC



Kissed by the rain!

This gladiolus is in my garden. I just love the raindrops on the flower.

Get in close. Make sure that you have the widest aperture that your lens has, f4 or lower if possible, as this helps you to get what you want in focus while the rest is blurred out.

What will you find that has been kissed today?

Lee

JULY 27
MAKE
Wide Aperture

PictureBASIC



Ansel Adams said we don't take a photograph; we "make" a photograph. In other words, we make deliberate decisions to create the best shot. Using a wide aperture (low f-stop) for making portraits softens the background, allowing us to focus on the subject. This is especially useful for candid shots where we have less control over the background.

Greg sits downtown making unique walking sticks that he then gives away. (We have one!) I asked for a few quick shots, setting my camera to Aperture Priority mode to reduce the distractions behind him. It makes him the star.

What photo will you "make" today? If you have a willing portrait subject (human or animal), widen your aperture and see the difference it "makes."

Leslie

JULY 28
LIFT
Wide Aperture

PictureBASIC



Wide aperture means your lens is more open, letting more light reach the sensor. By using a low f-stop you open your aperture wider. My favourite apertures are at the 2.5 to 4.0 range so this is going to be a fun week for me! I can't wait to see what you photograph as well.

There is nothing to fear but fear itself.....and spiders!

A low aperture is perfect for insect photography! Grab your camera, set it at your lowest aperture and let's go on a bug hunt. You might want to also reduce your exposure by a stop or two to isolate that critter when you get in close. Maybe you will even find one 'lifting off'! You might want to set your camera to high speed multiple shots in order to get an insect in flight! I like to think my lazy butterfly was ready for lift off.

If bugs make you squeamish, use your lowest apertures to capture flowers, birds or even a still life.

Lysle

JULY 29
LUXURY
Wide Aperture

*Picture***BASIC**



Luxury ~ something adding to pleasure or comfort but not absolutely necessary.

Hope you have enjoyed wide aperture week as much as I have! Blurry backgrounds, dreamy bokeh, selective focus, portraits, and isolating subjects. Photograph something luxurious from your day using a tip from the week.

Amy

JULY 30
LAND
Emerald

*Picture***COLOR**



We are starting a new color week. Color week is my favorite week of prompts. This week we are going to be looking for emerald. Emerald, of course, is a gemstone. The color emerald, however, can be found everywhere! It not only signifies royalty but also wit, eloquence, and foresight. The challenge this week will be narrowing down your many variety of subjects. This pine branch I found on the ground has the more gorgeous and rich color. When you look around today, think of the "land" and what it produces. Where does your creativity land you?

Garnett

JULY 31
FRUITFUL
Emerald

*Picture***COLOR**



Watermelon green and emerald green are synonymous, right? Whatever this green is called, it is my favorite fruitful summertime green!

What is your favorite fruitful emerald green?

Kris

JULY 2023

Picture **BASIC**

Leading Lines

1 Simple

Picture **COLOR**

Sepia

- 2 Triumph
- 3 Visualize
- 4 Multitude
- 5 Juicy
- 6 By-Gone
- 7 Soul
- 8 Nature

Picture **STYLE**

Sports

- 9 Euphoric
- 10 Open
- 11 Prompt Free
- 12 Organize
- 13 Lavish
- 14 Luminous
- 15 Lively

Picture **LIFE**

A 100 Steps

- 16 Nearby
- 17 New
- 18 Lively
- 19 Myriad
- 20 Logical
- 21 Kindred
- 22 Jumpstart

Picture **BASIC**

Wide Aperture

- 23 Jibe
- 24 Devotion
- 25 Journey
- 26 Kissed
- 27 Make
- 28 Lift
- 29 Luxury

Picture **BASIC**

Leading Lines

- 30 Land
- 31 Fruitful

365 *Picture Today* CREATIVE TEAM



Amy
amy@365picturetoday.com



Diane
diane@365picturetoday.com



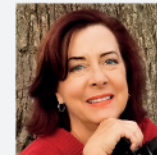
Garnett
garnett@365picturetoday.com



Kris
kris@365picturetoday.com



Lee
lee@365picturetoday.com



Leslie
leslie@365picturetoday.com



Lysle
lysle@365picturetoday.com