

365 Picture Today

MARCH 2021



March comes in like a Lion...

... and out like a Lamb. Have you heard that expression? It is definitely true where I live in Southeast Virginia. For some of you, winter may still be hanging around in April.

Seasons can certainly define our photography. Snow can be beautiful and Summer fun is great to capture, but there is something about Spring and Fall that really inspire us creatively.

Spring: Capturing the new buds and blooms. The droplets after rain showers. The green grass. The still waters. Warmth of the sunshine.

Fall: Capturing the changing colors. The textures of the dying leaves. The colors of the holidays. The fading light.

Let's see where March takes us. Will your photography change as the month progresses? Will you be more creative or inspired? Will your photography blossom with the buds?

We lost all of our seasons in 2020 when our world turned upside down in March. I am hoping and praying that this March sees us coming out of our cocoon transformed. Will we look at things differently? Will we appreciate freedom and new growth. If 2020 was a metaphor for slowing down and noticing more, maybe 2021 will be a metaphor for transformation, appreciation and gratitude. Maybe we will appreciate the things we do have and grumble less?

Something you might consider doing this year, if this is not your first 365 adventure, would be to compare monthly photographs from last year to this year and see if you notice a change in creativity or attitude. There may be a pattern, or not. You might actually find that your photographs were more creative when there was little else to do.

Let's see what our photography says about us this month. I believe it will be wonderful!

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

EXPLAINING THE PROMPTS

The weekly themes designed to fire up your imagination, increase your skill level, learn new techniques and share your joy of the photography world!

PICTURE YOU week just might challenge you the most! Getting in front of the camera is important in so many ways. It teaches us how others feel when the camera is pointed at them and it allows us to be more comfortable in our own skin. When we include ourselves in a picture, it documents our days, but you don't HAVE to be in the photo at all if it does not fit your style. There is freedom in this week, but we do challenge you to turn the lens around and get in front of it! (You have a million pictures of your family, but none of yourself, right?) Each PICTURE YOU week will have a GUEST PROMPT where a member from our community will be given the opportunity to write a prompt for us to follow! The guest prompt is designed for you as valuable members to stretch your creative abilities and show us what you've got!

PICTURE MORE is 'technical week'. The prompts will let you explore your creativity with a technical agenda. This is the week to try new skills, revisit old ones and maybe learn some really interesting tricks. You might just surprise yourself with your technical genius! One of the greatest things about photography is its diversity. We will be exploring camera angles, symmetry, breaking the rules, negative space and other tricks to make your photography evolve! During this week we will be stretching ourselves with skills that may range from techniques such as light trails, long exposure, lens zooming and panning, or we may switch things up and add some processing fun!

PICTURE COLOR is all about color, a specific color on a Sunday chosen by one of the creative team that will be featured exclusively! Sometimes you will easily find these colors and other times these colours may be more difficult to find. Be patient - sometimes the color will just 'pop' out at you in the most unpredictable way! The color prompt week will most definitely make our galleries look lovely!

PICTURE STYLE is all about your style within different styles! Landscape, street, night, travel, portraiture, still-life, wildlife photography and other picture modes are going to be stylized to create some amazing photographs. We will also be playing around with shutter speed and double exposure to give your photos a different "pop".

EXTRA CHALLENGES: Each month we are including SELF PORTRAIT, WHERE I STAND and MACRO MONDAY challenges. We also have the new QUARTERLY CHALLENGES. First up is PICTURE YOUR WORLD, where you hopefully will return to the same place each quarter to take the same photo (see the seasonal changes), second is the SCAVENGER HUNT that went down so well last year and finally we thought that SONG LYRICS will give us all a bit of a challenge, all totally up to you, if you want to incorporate this into your daily photo.



MARCH 1
DELIGHT

Picture My Reflection - Where I Stand

Today you are encouraged to share a glimpse of your day with this month's "Where I Stand" prompt. How can you be creative with your POV to show us where you stand today? Don't forget to try include this week's theme of reflection.

Picture YOU

Nothing delights me more than spending a Sunday afternoon under a blanket reading a good book and enjoying a cup of tea. It's such a luxury. Our bedroom closet doors are full length mirrors so I took this photo of my pink slippers reflected in the mirrors. That's where I was standing (or sitting) for much of this afternoon.

What delightful place are you standing in today?
Show us your world today!

Diane



MARCH 2
BUTTON

Picture My Reflection - Self Portait

Personal Week. Reflection.

Figuratively? Button. Button Up. Button your lip.
Button your mouth?

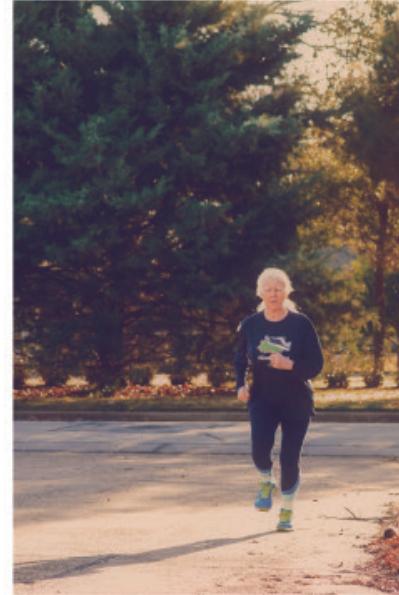
Or...

Literally? Buttons on your coat? Buttons on your pillows? A collection of buttons?

I am working on buttoning my lip. Sometimes it's more important to retain relationships than to speak your mind.

Garnett

Picture YOU



MARCH 3
EXHILARATION

Picture My Reflection

Exhilaration is defined as "a feeling of excitement, happiness, or elation."

As we continue thinking about reflection during this Picture You week, we can also approach reflection in the sense of how we see ourselves, i.e. personal reflection. What makes you feel excited or happy deep down inside?

This is not the most flattering picture of me, but it does exhibit exhilaration...tired exhilaration, but exhilaration nonetheless. Setting and achieving running goals is important to me this year. Each small goal accomplished brings with it a feeling of elation.

Look inside yourself today. Reflect on what brings you a feeling of excitement and happiness. Photograph what exhilaration looks like for you.

Kris

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MARCH 4
STREET

Picture My Reflection

It's amazing how the simple name of a street can be a reflection of who you are, where you've been, and even where you are headed. Street names remind me of my childhood, my first apartment, my days as a newlywed, and vacations in the sun. There have been lots of streets in my life with and lots of different meanings.

The most significant one is Oak View. This is the street that my family has lived on for the last 20 years. This is the street where my husband and I raised our children. We spent many days watching them play with the neighbors on the street with "no outlet". A lot of laughter and a fair set of tears have happened on this little court and I wouldn't trade the years for anything.

Some of us have lived on too many streets to count, while others just a few. How is a street in your life a reflection of you? I'm looking forward to seeing the streets from around the world today!

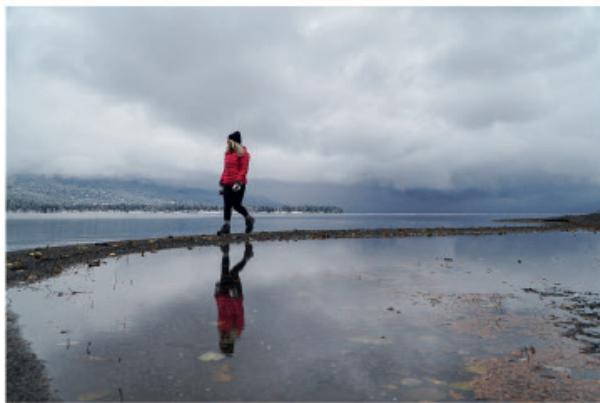
Lori Sullivan



Guest PROMPT

Picture My Reflection

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MARCH 5
POSITIVE

Picture YOU

Picture My Reflection

As water reflects the face, so one's life reflects the heart - proverb

Positive thinking is when we consciously cultivate positivity in our minds so that we think we can get through anything. It's been scientifically proven to improve your work life, physical and mental health, and relationships.

The covid 19 pandemic has certainly caused us all to reflect. Sometimes it is hard to not choose negativity. I try to stay positive by getting outdoors every single day. I find that nature, exercise, and taking the time to think has greatly helped me to stay positive, find joy, and, most importantly, find myself!

Get outside today and see if you can find yourself in a reflection. Look at yourself in that reflection and find yourself. If you can't get outside, find yourself in a mirror or a window. Have a look and make a positive comment to yourself because you are awesome!

Lysle



MARCH 6
HOBBY

Picture YOU

Picture My Reflection

Do you have a hobby? A favorite pastime?

Something that you enjoy in your downtime? Something that helps you relax? A diversion just for fun?

I have to say photography is still my favorite pastime and tens of thousands of photos later, I still find it's a great way to destress!

As we reflect on Picture You Week, show us what piques your interest when you have a little extra time to spare.

Amy

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MARCH 7
CHOICE

Picture STYLE

Street Photography

Street photography records everyday life in a public place and usually involves the taking of candid photographs of strangers. This week our goal is to include street photography in our daily photos. Challenge yourself this week to get out there with your camera and snap a photo of an unsuspecting stranger or two that you find interesting.

I chose this photo because I think it tells a story. Doesn't it make you wonder what all these folks are looking at? I took my photo opposite from the crowd and captured them all looking up with their phones and cameras in their hands. So what do you think is going on? I took this last year in Prague (you know, when we could travel!) The crowd is looking up at the astronomical clock in the town square. At the top of each hour the procession of the Twelve Apostles sets in motion. You'll always find a crowd there taking in the scene.

As you're out and about today, photograph a stranger or scene that you think tells a story.

Diane

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MARCH 8
SIGNAL

Picture **STYLE**

Street Photography - Macro Monday

We are in Street Photography week and it's Macro Monday.

This is going to be a challenge.

See if you can notice people signaling to each other. Or a sign that serves as a signal or warning. A traffic signal. A turn signal. Get creative.

You can also stay back and crop in close to get your macro effect.

The reason we take macro photos is to notice details. Look for details in your street photography. Get in close.

Garnett



MARCH 9
INTERESTING

Picture **STYLE**

Street Photography

These days, I am not out and about taking photos where there is much of interest going on. The streets I see are limited to those in my neighborhood that I travel on my morning runs. Though I do encounter quite a few others out for morning exercise, I am not comfortable taking photos of them. I am, however, quite comfortable photographing people's trash piles!

I find it interesting to see what people have either lost in the street or discarded on the side of the road. As I looked at this poor guitar waiting to be gathered up by the trash truck, all I could hear in my head was, "Thank you for the music." Of course, I have no idea what its story really is, but it sure was fun to imagine one.

As you are out and about, look for an interesting object on the street. Photograph it such that we want to know its story, its history. You may be surprised by the interesting things you find.

Kris



MARCH 10
DULL

Picture **STYLE**

Street Photography

The meaning of the word dull is either:

- lacking interest or excitement
- lacking brightness, vividness, or sheen.

So, let us go with the second meaning. As you know, street photography is meant to have candid photos of people. This can't always happen. If this is where you find yourself today, use who you have around; but, do include a person as this gives the photo an interest.

Converting it to black and white for today's prompt word will help, to not make it bright but dull looking!

Lee



MARCH 11
SIMPLICITY

Street Photography

Street (candid) photography is an art that features chance encounters and random incidents within public places. Though people are usually featured directly, a photograph can also be taken that is absent of people and can be that of an object.

I focused on some derelict chairs in a back lane behind a restaurant. It shows a trace of humanity that says something about life. Although there are no people in the frame, their presence is suggested by the subject matter. I can imagine the short order cooks sitting here while on their break. Can you?

Simplicity is shown in the isolation of the chairs. I further simplified it by using selective colour to emphasize the red chair against a very stark environment.

Take a walk and find a simple street scene of objects that tell a story.

Lysle



MARCH 12
COIN

Street Photography

Find a penny, pick it up and all day you'll have good luck!

You might be hard pressed to find a coin since change has become a novelty. So as we continue on with Street Photography lets also be on the look out for circle shapes. You might find that lucky penny but if not maybe an architectural feature, some colorful street art or a cool manhole cover?

For me it was a reminder to protect the environment - being near the water these cute little crab circles dot all along the streets.

Show us your lucky street find today!

Amy



MARCH 13
ENOUGH

Street Photography - Song Lyrics

Lysle helped me with the song lyrics today using our prompt word of "enough." Now you'll have this song stuck in your head all day long I'm sure! Unfortunately, we don't have any mountains where I live, but just down the road, there is a steep hill that allows you to overlook the entire little town – population 419. Way in the distance, if you can make it out, there is a water tower which is near my house.

If you find that you have no mountains high enough to climb in your neck of the woods, maybe take a drive and see if you have a road or bridge that brings you high enough to look over a beautiful view. If you feel inclined, add some song lyrics to your photo. It'll be like we are taking a road trip with an awesome playlist to listen to all day.

Danette



MARCH 14
TRIANGLE

Yellow

It's color week again. My favorite week in 365PictureToday. This week, we are on the hunt for the color yellow.

Yellow can represent freshness, happiness, positivity, clarity, energy, optimism, enlightenment, remembrance, intellect, honor, loyalty, and joy. It is also associated with Spring and fresh yellow flowers.

Today be on the lookout for yellow triangles. I am standing in a parking lot next to a yellow arrow. Where else might you find yellow triangles. You could also choose to create a yellow triangle using items you have around the house.

Have fun!

I am looking forward to all of the happy yellow images that you will create this week!

Garnett



MARCH 15
SAFE

Yellow

This sign reminds me of the children's book Make Way for Ducklings, the story of a family of mallard ducks who take up residence in a park in downtown Boston. Whether it be ducks in Boston or here in Texas, deer on a mountain highway, or children on a neighborhood street, these diamond-shaped yellow signs are used to help keep everyone safe. Road crews and runners also wear yellow vests helping to keep them safe by making them more visible to motorists on the streets.

Where do you see yellow being used as a safety measure? Photograph it today.

Kris



MARCH 16
WHEEL

Yellow

You will find yellow everywhere once you start looking. As I was looking through my catalogue of photos, I was surprised to find a lot of photos that have yellow in them, but only a couple with a wheel as well!

This bicycle was outside a shop and used to catch your eye. Well, it worked! I found it whilst out and about and couldn't resist taking a photo.

See if you can find a wheel on a bicycle, a yellow car, a yellow bus, a yellow truck or anything else...you get the idea! Just include a wheel in the photo.

Lee



MARCH 17
BRILLIANT

Yellow

Yellow is my favourite colour! To me it symbolizes sunshine and light, happiness and joy. It is indeed the most brilliant of colours.

Yellow is a 'stand out' colour. It simply glows.

In my sample picture, my friend Mimi really stands out in the environment in which I captured her. Her yellow coat, brilliant smile and the added bonus of the sunburst all say BRILLIANT YELLOW to me.

What brilliant yellow can you find in your world today!
Let us see the sunshine in your life.

Lysle

PictureCOLOR

MARCH 18
SIGN

Yellow

There is no shortage of signs that are yellow after all it is a cautionary color!

All along the road there are signals and alerts, with warnings of hazards and dangers. There are markers to guide us as well as to deter us; this battered sign is giving us a warning that you are about to go over the cliff!

So your challenge is to share the yellow sign that helped you out today!

Amy

PictureCOLOR



MARCH 19
INSPIRATION

Yellow

This beautiful display has a really cool story and is just one piece of a large trail of 'quilt' blocks that are part of the official Barn Quilts of Central Minnesota trail. The trail of quilts started in 2015 and has over 100 squares that cover four large central MN counties. There are brochures that give a list of all addresses where these blocks are displayed so you can take a drive and find them all. I haven't taken a drive specifically on the trails but I am lucky to live in an area where a very large number of these are displayed – like this one, "Weathervane Pinwheel," right in the middle of my hometown.

One day I'll get on the road to find all the quilt squares. The talent and time taken making these squares is extremely inspirational as are the stories behind the designs. I think this is similar to our 365 photography journey.

We can find so much that's inspirational in our life.
What inspires you today?

Danette





MARCH 20
CLOTH

Yellow

If you are not already familiar with this little man, this is Charlie, my grandson. Charlie shows up in my photos quite frequently, at least once a month. I've watched him grow up through my daily photos over the past three years.

Yellow is not one of my favourite colours, but when it's worn by this guy, how can I not like it? He makes anything look good! Cloth and material can be found virtually everywhere and I'm sure it won't be hard for you to find some yellow cloth to include in your photo today.

Diane

*Picture***COLOR**



MARCH 21

PERCEPTIVE

A Different Angle

This week we will be exploring the many angles from which we can photograph the same subject.

The angle we choose depends on which details of the story we want to be most prominent in our image. What do we want the viewer to notice first? What feeling do we want to evoke? Are there details we wish to downplay? Do we want to tell the whole story? Do we want the viewer to figure out what is going on?

I took several images of my daughter in this same position lifting weights. I tried shooting from her feet, from her head, from above, and finally from below. To me, this image shot from below conveys the story the way I saw it. The details are subtle, but there are many of them.

As you choose the subject of your photo today, think about the story you wish to tell. Shoot from several different angles. Which angle best conveys your perception of the scene?

Kris



MARCH 22
SIDEWALK

A Different Angle

I had to look up the word 'sidewalk' to make sure I understood what it was, as we don't have sidewalks here in Europe. We have pavements.

Finding a different angle can be hard, but as you can see I looked down on the 'sidewalk' and managed to get the reflection of the building in the puddle.

Whilst out and about today, try to look down and see what you find. You will be surprised by what you can find to photograph.

Lee

*Picture***MORE**

SIDEWALK

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Lee

365 Picture Today

MARCH 23

PROMPT FREE

A Different Angle

Prompt Free Days often bring to mind the saying, "The grass is always greener on the other side." Some days, we feel restricted by the prompt, but on other days, no specific prompt makes us feel lost by having no point of departure.

Think about these prompt free days as a check-in as to how this project is changing you. What do you notice that you would have overlooked previously? What small moments in your day now feel bigger and call to be documented?

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

Keep our eyes open and have fun!



MARCH 24

MARBLE

A Different Angle

I once read that to boost your creativity, instead of buying new equipment you should buy a step ladder and knee pads...reminding us sometimes it is not about the equipment but the placement of it.

So today, let's place our camera on the ground and take a photograph from the Ant's Point of View!

I promise you will gain a whole new perspective from this angle!

p.s. this is where those kneepads come into play!

Amy

MARCH 25

3 O'CLOCK

A Different Angle - Picture Time

We are going to use a "normal" angle today because most of us find ourselves in a sitting position around 3:00 in the afternoon. For me, I am outside waiting to pick up my munchkins from school. Luna is much less patient than I am and sits in the passenger seat whining the whole time as kids she doesn't know keep walking by. Where are you sitting at 3:00 today? Or, if you prefer super late at night or super early in the morning (depending on how you would look at the hour of 3:00 AM) show us what that looks like for you. If it helps you to remember to take a photo at this time, set an alarm in your phone when you read your email. It doesn't have to be exactly 3:00 on the dot - capturing your 3:00 could be anytime within the 3:00 hour. If you have a clock to show the time, that's even better. I was happy to capture the direction and temperature on my rearview mirror to show a bit of detail of the day also.

Danette



MARCH 26
DEPTH

A Different Angle

Depth can be defined as the distance from top to bottom or the quality of being intense or extreme. We use depth a lot in our photos. It makes them come to life and adds interest to them. Using a different angle when you shoot is also a great way to add interest to your photo.

The tree in this photo branches out from the bottom and there is an open area in the middle. I climbed right in there, leaned back, looked up and took my photo. Looking up leads your eye from the bottom of the trees to the top. It can also make you dizzy!

Depth can be interpreted in many ways; the depth of a colour; the depth of an emotion or depth through distance. Show us how you choose to interpret depth in your photo today. Remember to look up, you never know what you might find!

Diane

*Picture***MORE**



MARCH 27
VIBRANT

A Different Angle

When I think of vibrant, I think of bright and striking color. Color with a lot of depth. This week has been about angles and perspective.

This vibrant Black-Eyed Susan was gorgeous from the front, but from the back made a really interesting photo. Think about what you can photograph from the back that might make it more interesting. When you photograph a subject, think about exercising your creative muscle.

How can you photograph something from the back that will really make it interesting. What details do you want to capture. Don't forget to look for vibrant colors.

Garnett

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MARCH 28
NEW

*Picture***YOU**

Currently - Where I Stand

Where I Stand is a monthly prompt that we repeat throughout the year. The idea is to include your feet, either taking the photo looking down or putting your camera on a tripod and taking a photo of just your lower half.

I got myself some new boots, and so I thought that the first time I put them on I would take a photo. This was easy because I had new boots! What do you have that is new in your life, that you should include in your photo? Put it next to where you stand and show us.

Lee

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MARCH 29
APPAREL

Currently

Don't be into trends. Don't make fashion own you. You decide what you are, what you want to express by the way you dress and the way you live - Gianni Versace

I like an eclectic, bohemian style when I am not dressed for fitness. When my husband bought his Harley I was very excited by the potential for shopping for the clothes I needed in order to be his passenger. I am in love with my Harley Davidson protective gear. I feel really fierce in it! It is almost as fun to wear the leathers as it is to ride on the bike.

Fashion is instant language. Show us your style and let us get to know you better.

Lysle

Picture YOU

MARCH 30
REMEMBER

Currently

As we continue on with our Picture You Week show us something that is currently part of your day.

I love the things I spot when strolling on my lunch breaks - like this pretty little dogwood bloom it was the first I had seen and a sure sign spring is in the air!

When you look back on this day next year what will your photo remind you of?

Amy

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MARCH 31
DINNER

Currently - Self Portrait

Picture You week is my favorite week and I am always so willing to be in the photos. Today, however, I was more excited to eat our yummy, colorful dinner and didn't take the time to get myself in the photo. That's ok! We definitely want to remind YOU of that as well.

Tonight, my family is victim to a craving I've been having for ages – fondue. I remember having fondue around the stove with my family when I was growing up. Now, we actually have a nice fondue set that was a wedding gift that we've used maybe 3 times in 14 years. My daughter and I have the colorful foods on our side of the table, while my boys and hubby keep it pretty dull on their side. They don't know what they are missing out on. That's for sure!

What does dinner (or supper) look like for you tonight?

Danette

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MARCH 2021

Picture YOU

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- 2 Button
- 3 Exhilaration
- 4 Street
- 5 Positive
- 6 Hobby

Picture STYLE

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- 8 Signal
- 9 Interesting
- 10 Dull
- 11 Simplicity
- 12 Coin
- 13 Enough

Picture COLOR

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- 15 Safe
- 16 Wheel

Street Photography

My Reflection

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- 18 Sign
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- 20 Cloth

Picture MORE

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- 26 Depth
- 27 Vibrant

Picture YOU

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- 28 New
- 29 Apparel
- 30 Remember
- 31 Dinner

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