

365 Picture Today

MAY 2021



All Things Seem Possible in May

We have entered our 5th month of taking a picture a day and I am sure you have all seen your photography skills blossom and grow!

The month of May is named after Maia who just happens to be the Goddess of Spring and growth! If you live in the northern hemisphere, the spring flowers are blooming, birds are singing and everything seems to come a little bit more alive every day. If you are down-under then it is a time for a cool change before the coziness of winter sets in.

May is the month of transition. It is a time of change no matter where you live in the world. It causes us to change our internal 'lenses' and see the world in a little different light. How does this effect our photography? Well, in every way! It rejuvenates our joy, it allows us to take pictures of different things in different ways! New life may be captured in the macro of a tree bud, or in the wide angle of a field of flowers, or in the zoom of a nesting bird.

A change of season can be just the push you need creatively! The change in light, temperature, vegetation and what people are wearing and doing just might be exactly what you need to push your creativity to greater things. The only way you can do this is by pressing that shutter button over and over again! All things seem possible in May.

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.



MAY 1

JOYFUL

Harmony

Picture **YOU**

Ending our harmonious week with the word joyful is a nice way to wrap it up, I think. The definition of harmony says, "forming a pleasing or consistent whole." When thinking of a way to capture joyful in an image, I didn't have to look far as I have this lovely JOY tag hanging on what I call our command center. This is the corner where all of our lives come together in a very joyful and harmonious way for me (as full and as busy as this calendar starts to become as the month gets filled more and more). It is a joyful thing for me to see the activities that keep us busy and active—the birthdays we have to celebrate, the little vacations we get to take. Yes, my calendar is a space of joy for me. Plus, I make these every year and it's fun to look back on the same month from last year to see what we were doing. What comes to mind for you when you think of a pleasing or consistent whole? How can you share with us what "joyful" looks like to you?

Danette



MAY 2
HIDDEN
Portrait

*Picture***STYLE**

This week we will be working on Portrait Photography for our Picture Style Week. Portrait photography is all about capturing the essence of someone. If you know the person, it makes it a lot easier. But what do you do if you don't know the person?

Today's prompt is "Hidden".... if you do not know your subject well or at all, it is important to interact with them during the session to bring their personality to the forefront. You can ask questions and get them talking about themselves, this normally opens them up and relaxes them, allowing you to snap a photo that captures their personality.

For my example, I have placed my granddaughter behind the Goldenrod instead of in front of it. The light is reflecting off of the gold and onto her. You don't have to completely "hide" your subject but often placing something in front of them creates a great depth in the photo.

If you don't have any willing subjects this week, take portraits of yourself.

Garnett



MAY 3
GENEROUS
Portrait

*Picture***STYLE**

Technically this is not a portrait, which is a posed photo of a person most often from the shoulders up. I don't take true portraits because I don't enjoy the process and most of the time I don't appreciate the product even when the result is a "good portrait." I much prefer candid shots. In the case of today's sub-prompt of generous, I'm not even sure how one would go about capturing that idea in a traditional portrait. So instead, I give you a photo of my husband being generous with dog treats while we were dog sitting for our best friends' pups.

As you look through your lens today, capture a "portrait" of someone being generous; or, focus on your idea of what generous looks like.

Kris



MAY 4
ROUND
Portrait

*Picture***STYLE**

Let us not forget Pet Portraits, you knew that was coming didn't you!

As I have no available victims, I mean volunteers, to get in front of the camera, I can always call on Jasper and his best friend, Kaya, to sit for me for a treat.

Using the old pipes that are lying around in the forest, makes for good props. I also like taking my photos in the forest because I love using dappled light.

Find a prop that is round and use it in taking your photo today.

Lee



MAY 5
ACTION

Portrait

READY SET GO

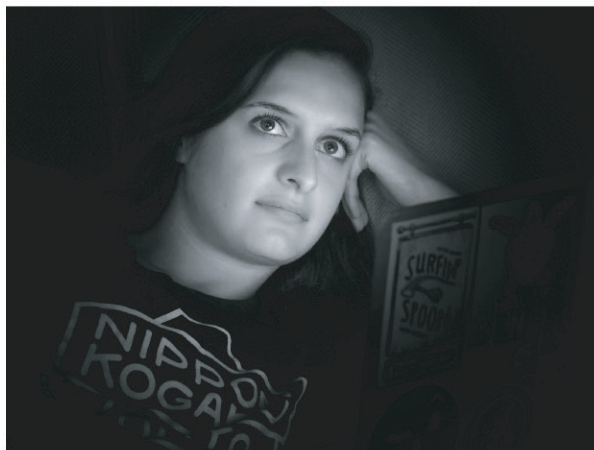
Take action! It is portrait week! Today take a portrait of someone 'in action' or doing an activity they love! If you cannot find a willing subject or model, use yourself! I love almost all outdoor activities. I chose to show myself in hiking mode.

If you so choose, you can also jazz it up a bit by using Rembrandt Lighting for added drama.

Rembrandt Lighting takes its name from the famous Dutch Painter Rembrandt van Rijn. It is a dramatic lighting technique using sharp contrast between light and dark. It can be achieved using one light source. It doesn't have to be fancy! I shot this photograph in my garage using a single light source from the open garage door and a black back drop!

Lysle

*Picture*STYLE



MAY 6
ILLUMINATE

Portrait

As we work our way through Portrait week lets give Low-Key Photography a try. Low-Key is a way of manipulating the light to illuminate a particular part of a subject.

The use of light and darkness creates a dramatic portrait with little equipment. All you need is a single light source and the shadows will help do the rest. The mood and tone will depend on the lights intensity.

Here's how: Position your light source (natural or artificial) so that it falls on part of your subject. Light the part of your subject closest to the camera so that the shadows will fall towards the back of your image. Use a low ISO (less than 400) and a low aperture (f/4 or lower). You can also process in B&W to increase the dramatic effect.

Portrait lighting can take a bit of practice so be patient, have fun, and enjoy the process!

Amy

*Picture*STYLE



MAY 7
UPBEAT

Portrait

Today, while capturing your "upbeat" photo, play around with rim lighting! This was MUCH easier than I had thought it would be. We did this in our dark basement where I hung a black sheet behind my subject and propped up a flashlight. Then I put my little girl in front of the flashlight and voila, I captured my upbeat girl with rim lighting! I was pleasantly surprised to see how easy this technique can be and I can't wait to see how creative you all get with this idea today too! My only frustration with my photo is that I didn't get as much of a profile of her face as I had imagined but, maybe next time, I'll play around with a couple (or three) flashlights to help with that lovely rim lighting behind her.

Danette

*Picture*STYLE



MAY 8
BACKGROUND
Portrait

Picture **STYLE**

It's the end of portrait week. I bet nobody will be surprised that my prompt photo today includes my grandson, Charlie! In an attempt to enhance the photo and give it some context, I used the playground as my background. Perfect for a child at play! I used natural light for this photo and, given the time of day, there are some harsh shadows as a result. A diffuser or flash could have helped minimize these shadows but I didn't have one with me. Lesson learned.

Today, see if you can take your portrait using natural light. Window light, doorway light, shade and direct sunlight are just some of the options. How does placement of your subject effect the light falling on them? What modifiers, if any (flash, diffuser, white board) could you use to eliminate or minimize these shadows if you needed to? Also be aware of the background of your photo. What do you want it to say about your subject?

Diane



MAY 9
ALL-ENCOMPASSING
Picture **COLOR**
Orange

Welcome to orange week! Orange is an all-encompassing word...it is both a noun and an adjective! As we continue through this week, you will have opportunities to explore orange in many different ways. Because I am terrible at making choices, I give you both the noun and the adjective here. And, citrus, with its color variations and textures, is quite photogenic!

So today, photograph orange, an orange, or both! You choose! Most importantly, have fun with this all-encompassing color!

Kris



MAY 10
JEWEL
Picture **COLOR**
Orange - Macro Monday

Jewel - a precious stone. As I don't actually have any precious stones hanging around, especially no orange ones, I thought of a slice of orange with bubbles to be a jewel of a shot!

You will need a camera, a tripod, light, a large orange, a knife, some fizzy water or cheap soda, and a clear glass bowl.

To set up, slice your orange and put the water into the bowl. You may need to weight down your slice or clip it to the side of the bowl so that it stays under the water. It is best to backlight your fruit. I put white paper between the light and the bowl. I find it easier to shoot from above, but you can do it from the side as well.

Have some fun and see what you can do!

Lee



MAY 11
KINSHIP
Orange

*Picture***COLOR**

I feel a kinship with my roots! I simply love my home. My cabin on the lake is my happy place. It is where I feel the most like myself. I feel a connection with the water, the sky, the forest, the animals and the people who surround me in this happiest of places.

The colour orange is associated with joy, warmth, heat, sunshine and happiness. My home, glows 'orange' for me. (It is a log home so it also actually literally has an orange glow!) I like to sit on the deck and take in the view and be reminded daily of my connection, my bond and my kinship to my home and the environment in which it is located.

Whom or what do you have a kinship with? Remember to add the colour orange to your photograph because it is orange week!

Lysle



MAY 12
KNOT
Orange

*Picture***COLOR**

Are you seeing Orange everywhere you look? I sure hope so as we have some Orange fun planned later this week and you will need a keen eye!

To help get you primed and ready you are going in search of knots. And remember, since it is color week, make sure to incorporate the color orange with those knots!

You might be surprised by what you find today!

Amy



MAY 13
ANTICIPATION
Orange

*Picture***COLOR**

Cool springtime evenings = backyard fires = gooey (or burnt) marshmallows. I anticipate a full season of even more backyard fires and even more gooey (or burnt) marshmallows. The crackle of a fire is very relaxing to me and it reminds me of countless hours spent visiting with loved ones while we stay cozy by the fire. I decided to share just a small amount of our backyard fire while it stuck to Blake's marshmallow. Maybe it's the anticipation of a delicious meal from the grill, or the anticipation of a cozy night in by the fireplace in your home. How do you enjoy the orange glow of a fire?

Danette



MAY 14
INSECT
Yellow

Picture**COLOR**

It's definitely the time of year when insects are easy to find. Maybe too easy! I'm not a huge bug fan like my grandson, but I realize they have their purpose!

I spend a lot of time at the Ornamental Gardens when the flowers are blooming and I love to see the bees buzzing around the flowers while searching for nectar. Finding a bee on a flower with an orange center turned out to be just perfect for this week's orange theme.

Getting crisp photos of an insect is not always easy as they love to move fast. If you're photographing a fast moving bug today try to use as high of a shutter speed as possible, above 500. This will help freeze the movement and give you a sharper photo.

Diane

365 ABSTRACT	Picture Today SOMETHING SMALL	PRETTY
PATTERN	SOMETHING THAT MOVES	DOUBLE
SIMPLE	FILL THE FRAME	TEXTURES

MAY 15
CONNECT
Yellow

Picture**COLOR**

Are you ready for some extra fun? It is scavenger hunt day! Today's challenge is to hunt for the items on the list below and photograph them! Once your hunt is complete, you will compile those images into a collage. If you need some help, please refer to the scavenger hunt blog.

Today is about connection and it's orange week. Let your imagination do the rest!

Excited to see what orange items you find for the challenge.

Let's play!

abstract - something small - pretty
pattern - something that moves - double
simple - fill the frame - texture

Garnett



MAY 16
Modern

Picture**MORE**

Negative Space

What is negative space? Negative space is the space between, within and surrounding an object in an image. It will often form a secondary image or symbol. The positive space is the focus of the image, the object itself, but the negative space is just as important.

You can have a lot of negative space or just a little, that is up to you. This week, however, we are thinking about negative space so let's make it bigger.

I think that the stormtroopers are modern and using black and white photography is regarded as modern as well.

So what are you going to photograph that is modern? Think portrait, art, urban...just remember that negative space!

Lee



MAY 17
HARMONY

*Picture***MORE**

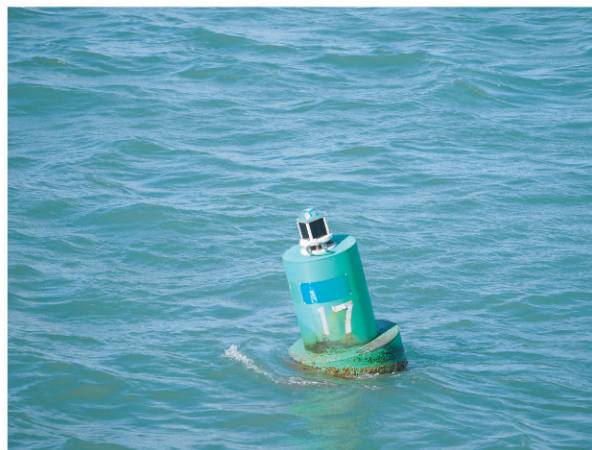
Negative Space

Simply put, negative space is the space surrounding the positive space! Okay.... how simple is that? The negative space acts as the 'breathing room' for your eyes. But today you are also going to photograph something harmonious in that negative space. That's the complex part! Or is it?

Harmony can refer to the pleasing arrangement of parts. It can also be an interweaving of different accounts into a single narrative. I thought about how harmonious my country life and my city life are and photographed myself in socks and overalls putting on stilettos. The two things certainly add up in my life.

Find some items in your life that are harmonious and photograph them using negative space. You might want to try a flat lay, or a still life or find something in nature! Find the negative space and the items will find you! All that space will draw your eye right to where it is supposed to go! Have fun with this today! I sure did.

Lysle



MAY 18
NUMBER

*Picture***MORE**

Negative Space

Today we combine Numbers and Negative Space!

Be on the look out for numbers as you go through your day! You might be surprised where you find them... in my case I found a few floating by!

Remember to give your image plenty of space for the subject to stand out and catch the viewers attention.

Happy searching today!

Amy

MAY 19
PROMPT FREE

*Picture***MORE**

Negative Space

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 your eyes open and have fun!



MAY 20
SHADE

*Picture***MORE**

Negative Space

Using negative space in photography can be such a great way to isolate your subject and put your focus exactly where you want it to be. Today's prompt is shade. I decided to create my own shade and use my shadow as my subject. I set my camera up outside on a sunny day and positioned myself so that my shadow, holding a bouquet of tulips was at the edge of the frame creating shade on the driveway. The negative space of the driveway on the right of the photo makes your eye immediately go towards the darker part, the shadow.

You can create your own shade as I've done or you can take your photo in the shade. Shade can provide nice even light for your photo, especially on a bright sunny day. If it's not sunny in your part of the world, you can use any number of light sources to create shade for your photo. How can you use negative space in your shade to draw your eye to the subject of the photo? Have fun in the shade!

Diane



MAY 21
GROUND

*Picture***MORE**

Negative Space

Have you noticed this week that putting negative space around your subject really makes it stand out.

Today's prompt is "grounded"

I put my subject on the ground and composed used leading lines as well as negative space to draw you to it.

You can place your subject on the ground, look for something that is ground level, or just show us what keeps you grounded.

Whatever you decide, make sure you have negative space around it!

Garnett



MAY 22
POSE

*Picture***MORE**

Negative Space

When we think about the word pose, we usually think about how we can best place people in the frame. And usually when we are positioning people in the frame, our intent is to fill the frame with the beautiful faces that we are photographing. But, does this have to be the case?

In this photo, my daughter and her husband occupy just a tiny portion of the frame and the focus on them is soft. And, the negative space around them is not completely negative. Why? Because that was the best way to tell the story they wanted told. The "negative space" is the wall of one of their favorite coffee shops and the words speak to them. Most of us, however, are drawn to the human element of a photo first. (My son-in-law's red shirt helps with this.) They are posed exactly where they should be for this story.

As you take today's photo, try to use negative space around your posed subject to add a subtle layer of detail to your photo's story.

Kris



MAY 23
VERSATILE
Skill

Picture **YOU**

'Jock' of All Trades - It is PICTURE YOU Week and that means it is all about you. This week we are celebrating and featuring our skills!

Skill

- a) : the ability to use one's knowledge effectively and readily in execution or performance
- b) : dexterity or coordination especially in the execution of learned physical tasks
- c) : a learned power of doing something competently: a developed aptitude or ability

I don't know about you but I do a variety of activities (none of them that well) and therefore have acquired a skill or two along the way. I am quite versatile in the number of physical activities I do...cross country and alpine skiing, water skiing, kayaking, cycling, swimming, backpacking, running, and snowshoeing. For me, versatility is the spice of life! I like changing things up and keeping things fun!

Show us a skill or two that you have! Even better, show us a picture of yourself multitasking!

Lysle



MAY 24
MARBLE
Work

Picture **YOU**

I enjoy strolling the beach looking for treasures. It takes a bit of skill to know where to look and it can also sometimes be hard work... especially if you're in a race against the incoming tide. I can be a picky sheller so only a select few make it back home with me. I'm always on the hunt for my favorites - sharks eye, baby ears, and conch shells.

Is there something you enjoy that also takes a bit of work? maybe it's a hobby or activity? Give us a glimpse of it today!

Amy



MAY 25
PLEASURE
Skill - Where I Stand

Picture **YOU**

I may not look like I am finding much pleasure while pruning my spider plant, but I really am. My mom first received a baby spider from her mother's spider plant when she got married in 1982. In 2006, my mom gave me a baby from her plant when I got married. I would love to know when my grandma got hers to get an idea of how old it is. This one is 15 years old and my mom still has hers too. I have to keep it pruned in order for it to stay a reasonable size because it comes in every winter and I just have no space for a larger pot. I am excited to get it back outside now that the days/nights are warm enough. It thrives going in and out each year and I take much pleasure knowing that I have been successful at keeping it alive. I do not have a natural green thumb so I am thankful that it's such a hearty plant.

What is something that you take pleasure in doing? Show us what it is!

Danette



MAY 26
5 O'CLOCK

Picture **YOU**

Skill - Picture Time

know this is picture you week and although this isn't a photo of me, it is a photo of my better (?) half! Brian has mad skills when it comes to the bbq. He is the master griller, in my opinion. We usually eat our dinner around 5:30 - 6:00 so 5 o'clock usually marks the time we get underway with meal prep. This day at 5 o'clock, Brian was putting his bbq skills to the test. I guarantee we ate well that night!

What is happening in your life at 5 o'clock? Is it the end of your work day? Your work out time? Dinner time? Family time? Or something else altogether? Maybe, 5 o'clock in the morning is more your thing! Whatever 5 o'clock you go with, show off a bit and give us a glimpse into whatever mad skills you have!

Diane



MAY 27
ENGAGING
Skill

Guest **PROMPT**

What a great word, one with so many interpretations! My first thoughts about engaging make me think about participating in some type of activity or becoming involved with some type of object such as a musical instrument. There is also the perspective of an engaging your personality. My granddaughter has a delightful laugh that is so engaging I want to hear it every day.

Being an outdoor kind of gal, I prefer engaging in any outdoor activity that holds my interest. This is our favorite lake to go fishing and its not too far away. My husband is an avid fisherman and everything I know about fishing I have learned from him. Sometimes I wonder if catching fish is skill or luck!

Show us what skill you have, that you are engaging in today.

(Picture for the prompt is of me in a boat on Jackson Lake – with my fish, of course... heehee)

Sue Griffin



MAY 28
CRAVING

Picture **YOU**

Skill - Self Portrait

A craving is a longing or a desire for something. We often associate it with food, but we can have these feelings for almost anything. I crave calm and stillness...but most days both elude me. Maybe it's all those other skills that we have celebrated this week that overpower this desire.

We often think that portraits are about showcasing beauty and hiding imperfections. For me, the most powerful portraits illustrate realness and connection - connection to another person, a place, a thing...or yourself. Your face is not necessary to show this kind of connection. In this image, standing still in the greenhouse, a place that slows me down, tells the story of finding calm much better than seeing my face would have.

What do you crave? Illustrate it in today's **self portrait**.

Kris



MAY 29
SPLENDID
Skill

So where does my skill come into this photo, you may ask!

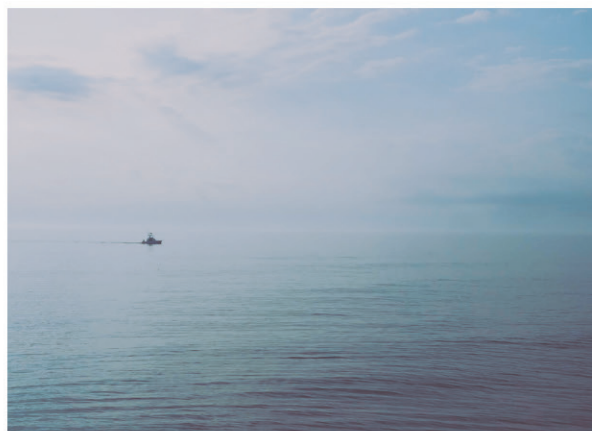
These are alliums in my garden, which I planted years ago, and every year they pop up. Just so that I can take photos of them.

The skill is choosing the fabulous bulbs to plant, deciding where to plant them, and then enjoying the pleasure of having them show up every May so that I can photograph them.

What is splendid in your life that you have skilfully managed to grow, look after, or just admired!

Lee

Picture **YOU**



MAY 30
OPPOSITES
Minimalist

Small Boat Big Ocean

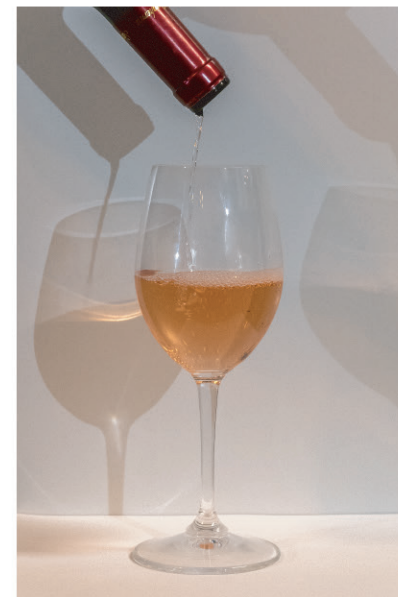
It's Picture Your Style week and we are giving Minimalist photography a try!

The minimalist style uses extreme simplicity for maximum impact. It emphasizes sparseness by using the smallest number of objects in your image. Patterns, lines, shapes, and color can be the the main focus or another way to further highlight your subject. Now is a good time to follow the Rule of Thirds. When you place your subject on the third it will have all the space it needs to shine!

So remember as you go through Minimalist week... keep it simple and only include what you need! Less is More!

Amy

Picture **STYLE**



MAY 31
GUILT-FREE
Minimalist

My guilty pleasure is a nice glass of wine in the evenings.

I can't wait to see what you all have to share - and remember, less is more.

Danette

Picture **STYLE**

MAY 2021

Picture YOU

1 Joyful

Picture STYLE

Portrait

- 2 Hidden
- 3 Generous
- 4 Round
- 5 Action
- 6 Illuminate
- 7 Upbeat
- 8 Background

Picture COLOR

Orange

- 9 All-Encompassing
- 10 Jewel
- 11 Kinship
- 12 Knot
- 13 Anticipation
- 14 Insect
- 15 Connect

Picture MORE

Negative Space

- 16 Modern
- 17 Harmony
- 18 Number
- 19 Prompt Free
- 20 Shade
- 21 Grounded
- 22 Pose

Picture YOU

Style

- 23 Versatile
- 24 Work
- 25 Pleasure
- 26 5 O'Clock
- 27 Engaging
- 28 Craving
- 29 Splendid

Picture STYLE

- 30 Opposites
- 31 Guilt-Free

365 *Picture Today* CREATIVE TEAM



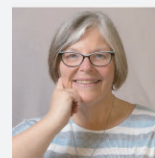
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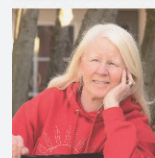
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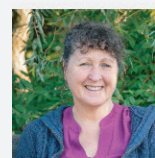
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