# 365 Picture Today

# **AUGUST 2021**





# Summer's Finale

Roll out those lazy, hazy days of summer. You will wish that summer could always be here - Nat King Cole

The dog days of summer are upon us. In Ancient Greece the Dog Days were believed to be a time of drought, bad luck and unrest, when dogs and men alike would be driven mad by the extreme heat.

Don't go mad! Instead think of the Dog Days as your summer's finale and enjoy the peak of summer's temperatures and humidity before the days start getting shorter and the temperatures start dropping.

Savour the bounty of your garden, the warmth of your evenings, the laughter of children playing before they return to school. Enjoy your last chance to go camping, to BBQ and to go to farmer's markets and fairs. Take your last swim in the lakes, rivers and oceans. Rejoice in being shoeless and coatless and gathering with loved ones outdoors. Use this time to get out there and take some wonderful summer-time pictures for your memories because before we know it, the leaves will be falling and the cozy winter scarves will be making their appearance. (Which brings a whole new kind of awesomeness for photography!)

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

To quote Sylvia Plath, 'August rain: the best of the summer gone, and the new fall not yet born. The odd and uneven time"

# **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.



AUGUST 1
SCATTER

Picture COLOR

Blue

I can be scattered at the best of times so this clue is perfect for me!

It's colour week again and blue is my favourite colour. I was playing a Paw Patrol matching game with my grandson Charlie and I noticed that the cards scattered on the table were blue. Perfect!

What scattered items will you come across today? If you don't come across anything scattered in your travels, take things into your own hands and scatter away! Have some fun with it. Don't forget to include something blue.

Diane





Color week is such a fun week. This week we are photographing "blue" which is my favorite color.

Picture COLOR

Today's prompt is "facilitate." Facilitating is helping something along, making it easier. I chose these umbrellas because they would definitely be a help on a sunny day.

What can you find today that "facilitates?" Or... what can you find that helps you in taking your photo today.

Approach it with whatever makes sense to you! But make it BLUE!

Garnett



AUGUST 3 **GRAINY**Blue

Picture COLOR

The word "grainy" takes on new meaning to photographers. We tend to do whatever we can to avoid grainy photos. In a more general sense, grainy refers to texture...something not smooth or not fine.

With this photo, I converted the original image to black and white and then overlaid it with a blue filter. Doing this made the flower pop from the "grainy" (not smooth) background.

Think about what grainy means to you. Mix that with some blue and share your creative concoction with us.

Kris



AUGUST 4 **EDITED**Blue

Picture COLOR

My favourite colour happens to be blue! I have some love in the mist flowers in my garden. To make the blue stand out even more, I edit in Lightroom and make the greens more blue.

Show us how you edit your photo to be more blue!











Picture COLOR



## AUGUST 5 WORDS

#### Blue

## Picture COLOR

Today is the day to go out and find some words written in the colour BLUE! I didn't have to go far! The sign outside my cabin door reads "Welcome to the Barmby's Lake House". It is a welcoming sign and I will greet you with a glass of wine or a refreshing beverage of your choice.

Think graffiti, think store signage, think hand writing, think tattoos! What can you find in your world that is written in blue today!

Lysle

# AUGUST 6 COLLECTION

#### Blue

Today's color prompt can be taken literally or figuratively! You decide!

You could photograph a collection of blue items you may have; for example, a set of dishes, an array of yarns, a handful of seaglass, etc

Or

You could make a collection of the blues you find as you go through the day! Consider creating a collage or a flatlay to show them off.

I ended up having a very blue day! My collage included flowers along the sidewalk, a trip to the store, the rising moon, and a stroll on the beach.

What Blue's did you collect!

Amy

## AUGUST 7

## **INTERIOR**

#### Blue

This prompt is pretty wide open especially after I read the actual definition of interior, which is: being within; inside of anything; internal; inner; further toward a center... I could find so many blue things in my home. Then, as I was working late one evening, I noticed this pretty blue light glowing from the interior of my laptop cooling tray and decided this was the winner. Today, find ANYTHING blue inside of something and your photo of the day will be done!

Picture COLOR

Danette



AUGUST 8
BLISS

**Patterns** 

Today we begin Picture More week with our added challenge of "Patterns." There are patterns around us everywhere and I think we are going to have fun incorporating them into our photos this week. Patterns can be colorful, textural, repeating, scattered.... the possibilities are endless.

Today's prompt word is "bliss" which means "complete happiness."

As I was passing through the house one day, I saw the crepe myrtle colors showing through the door window. I grabbed my camera and loved how the colors worked through the patterns in the window. Noticing small things every day makes me very happy.

What makes you happy? Show it in patterns! It is going to be a beautiful week in the 365 Picture Today Gallery!

Garnett



AUGUST 9
NIGHT

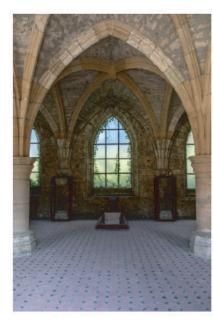
Picture MORE

Patterns - Macro Monday

Macro photography gives us the opportuity to make small details bigger than life. Photographing the moon is not macro photography, but it sure is a fantastic night time subject and allows us to see the amazing patterns on the moon's surface. Unfortunately, tonight only a tiny sliver of the moon will be visible. If you are feeling brave, and the weather cooperates where you are, try to capture some of the details of tonight's crescent Here are some helpful tips when photographing the moon: Use a tripod and a manual shutter release to minimize camera shake. Use the longest lens you have. This photo was taken at 400mm. Set your aperture to f11. Then, shutter speed and ISO will be the inverse of one another. Try an ISO of 200 with a shutter speed of 1/200. Keep in mind that this is a starting point. If the moon is not bright, you will have to make adjustments to these settings.

If shooting the moon isn't possible where you are, find an interesting light in the night sky, perhaps a sign or someone with a flashlight, and give it your best shot.

Kris



AUGUST 10 IMPRESSIVE

Picture MORE

**Patterns** 

After a couple of days of Pattern Week, are you seeing patterns everywhere? I know I am.

I love old buildings and often look at them and notice the pattern that was used to make the building pleasing to the eye. The window copies the pattern of the arches, which when standing in the right place you can see how the pattern works.

What is an impressive pattern to you?





## PictureMORE

#### Patterns

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!



AUGUST 12 **SHINY** 

PictureMORE

**Patterns** 

Are you noticing new patterns in familiar places? I sure am!

Today we are going to up the challenge by asking you to incorporate some shine into your hunt for patterns!

I promise that once you start looking, there are shimmery patterns everywhere! Maybe it's your journal cover, some car rims in the parking lot, the office building on the corner, a sparkly purse at the store, or the tile backsplash in your kitchen.

I can't wait to see all the shine you find today!

Amy



AUGUST 13

## **TREE**

Patterns



I tried guys! I tried to find trees that were growing in natural patterns. I had been looking for months and just could not find anything that made much sense. SO, I decided to collect leaves from some of our native trees and create my own pattern using the bark of a tree as my background. I think this was as close as I could get to using the word "tree" along with a pattern. Maybe you have some trees in your life that stand out as a perfect tree pattern; if not, try what I did and collect some leaves from your native trees and show us what they look like in your neck of the woods. From left to right, I believe I have a pattern of aspen, elm, maple, red oak, and repeat.

Danette



AUGUST 14

OBSERVANT



## Patterns - Scavenger Hunt

It's scavenger hunt time again! I love these prompts. Today's word is observant. As you go about your day today be on the lookout for something that fits for the words below and grab a photo of it. Once you've taken your photos arrange them in a collage. For tips on how to create a collage refer to the following blog post Photography Scavenger Hunt. How observant are you today?

colourful - heart - fuzzy wheel - fits in your hand - delicate with words - heatlhy - round

Diane



AUGUST 15

SPONTANEOUS



## Perfectly Imperfect

We are back to Picture You Week. Today, however, you get a break from taking a self portrait. Instead, someone else is going to show us how they see you. You likely will not end up with a photo that is perfectly exposed or composed, but you will see how others "picture you."

When we take photos of ourselves, we have the luxury of creating the image we want others to see, which may or may not be our perfectly imperfect true self. This photo was taken by one of my best friends and favorite travel companions on a trip to Iceland. He loves to capture me in odd positions trying to get just the right perspective on whatever my intended subject is. These photos make me laugh. And, more importantly, always stir wonderful memories of our travels together.

Spend some time with someone else. Ask them to take some spontaneous photos of you, with your camera or theirs. A phone photo is fine. Have them share their favorite image with you. That will be your picture of the day. Be sure to give the photographer credit when you share your image.

Kris



AUGUST 16

Picture YOU

## Perfectly Imperfect - Self Portrait

It is the self portrait day of the week, so let us get in front of the camera, and show ourselves as we are, everyone is perfectly imperfect, I do find it hard to get in front of the camera, even after all these years of taking a photo a day, some days are still easier than others.

I love this distorted view of myself with Jasper, the mirror is to help people see the traffic coming but it is convex, so can make for some fun images. I am sure that my hips aren't that big!

Show us a reflection of yourself that makes you smile.







## AUGUST 17 ASSISTANCE

Perfectly Imperfect

You've got a friend in me!

Today is all about assistance. Who do you have to help you out and give you a hand? Ron is very helpful around the house and garden and takes direction very well too! He is quite perfect whilst I am the imperfect one.

I'm not bossy, I'm organized.

Are you the assistant or the 'assistee'? Show us how you help assist others or how others assist you.

Lysle

## AUGUST 18



Picture YOU

Perfectly Imperfect - Where I Stand

It is the repeating prompt "Where I Stand" and our word for the day couldn't be more perfect...Feet!

Picture YOU

On Wednesday's, I get to start my workday off at the Outer Banks Arboretum & Teaching Garden. Here I stand in the middle of the Butterfly Garden hoping to spot a chrysalis.

Keep it simple! Where did you stand today!

Amy

#### AUGUST 19

### **LIGHT-HEARTED**

Perfectly Imperfect

So who among us isn't imperfect? Instead of being apologetic about our shortcomings, let's celebrate them! Maybe we don't always get that horizon straight, or we cut off the top of someone's head in a portrait, or—horrors!—we missed our intended focus. Or maybe there's something personal about us that isn't quite perfect—a broken fingernail, maybe, or a bruise that we earned on the trampoline with our children or grandchildren. Maybe even a "fix" that isn't exactly "by the book," but one that works anyway, in its own unique way!

**Guest PROMPT** 

Take some time today to show us your cheerful approach to the things in your world that are less than perfect, but way more interesting—and fun—because of that!

Daneen Roth









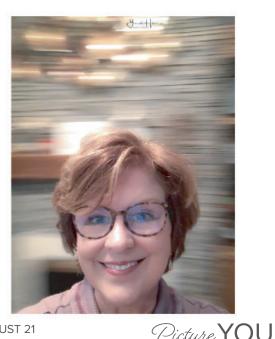
One of the things I've learned from this group is that buying yourself flowers is never a bad idea. I love having fresh flowers in the house. They lift my spirits. They also make good subjects for my photographs. Even as flowers age and dry out, they still make for beautiful photos.

Picture YOU

The petals in flowers present such lovely patterns. This faded rose from days gone by (and it's not even song lyrics day) is no exception. The leaves are a bit withered and crinkled but the pattern is still evident. It is an imperfect rose that is still perfectly beautiful.

What perfectly imperfect pattern can you find today?

Diane



AUGUST 21

Perfectly Imperfect

Today we finish up our Picture You week with the prompt "imagine."

I hope you have enjoyed capturing the imperfections that make you who you are.

You are perfectly designed to be you! What could be better? Each of us in this community is perfectly imperfect and together we make an absolutely perfect group!

For my example image, I used a panning technique. I feel like it gives the photo that "dream like" quality that I can identify with when imagining. How will you imagine yourself today?

Garnett



AUGUST 22 **WATER** 

Picture STYLE

**Double Exposure** 

This week we are pushing ourselves to try double exposure, it is relatively easy once you have done it a couple of times, but you can spend hours in the processing if you want to. But not to worry if that is too much for you. Take a photo using the prompt word or just go prompt free. We enjoy ALL of the photos that you post.

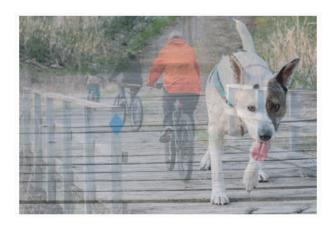
Double exposure can be done in the camera or in the processing using editing tools, like Photoshop. I have written a blog about it on the website so do go and have a look.

Today's prompt word is water, I think that water makes a good textured photo. You might still like to find a subject of which to take a photo. I went with Jasper and a photo of some water ripples.

Have fun, don't stress if it is too tedious for you; just take a photo. And if you have a question, do ask us.







AUGUST 23
8 O'CLOCK

Picture STYLE

Double Exposure - Picture Time

Double the pleasure! 8 am or 8 pm you chose and multiply it!

At 8:00 take a picture (or 2 or more)

I am lucky; my Canon R has multiple exposure built into the camera and I chose to use it for my photograph.

I photographed a setting sun over the lake and some of my beautiful white peonies. In this picture I chose two different f stops. By using f4 for the close up on my flower I was able to superimpose a macro shot over the landscape I shot at f11. I also chose a white flower as it seemed to show up best against the blues and oranges of my sunset at 8 pm!

Lysle

AUGUST 24

#### **PROMPT FREE**

**Double Exposure** 

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.

Picture STYI F

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!

AUGUST 25

#### **WALKWAY**

**Double Exposure** 

Have you heard about Blend Editor? It's the iPhone app that I used it to put these two photos together. This app is super easy to use and I highly recommend you try it for a double exposure photo edit!

Picture STYI F

Danette









AUGUST 26 **AWESOME** 

Double Exposure

I find double exposure difficult to get right. The placement of objects in the two photos has to be just so for the photo to make sense. The fact that I even attempted a double exposure is awesome as far as I'm concerned.

I took maternity photos for a friend of mine. The park and marina where I took the photos have special meaning for both my friend and her husband. I took a photo of her and placed it over a photo of the lighthouse at the marina to make it look like she was overlooking the park. I created the double exposure in editing rather than in camera. I think the final result is pretty awesome!

Today brings another opportunity for you to try your hand at double exposure. What awesome creation can you come up with today.

Diane

Picture STYLE AUGUST 27

BUILDING

**Double Exposure** 

Double exposure week has probably pushed your creativity really hard. You may be loving it but you also may be frustrated with it. I have to admit, it isn't something that I can usually visualize when I am creating an image. There are some members of this group that are amazing with their double exposure creations.

Picture STYI F

With the prompt word of "building" I immediately thought of the skyline in Chicago, a city I have visited many, many times. I decided to embed a sunset photo from my hometown to give the city a sunrise glow. I brought my photo into photoshop, and then I embedded my sunset image over and reduced the opacity to get the look I wanted. I rotated the embedded image to make a sunrise rather than sunset and I'm pretty happy with the result.

Whatever you decided to do today, please share your process with us!

Garnett

AUGUST 28 **SHARE** 

Double Exposure

It's the last day of double exposure photos. Let's have some fun! I decided I wanted to create an "artsy" photo using two things in which I share an interest - my garden and music. Beyond that, I had no clue what I was going to do.

I began by taking several photos of flowers in my garden and several of my guitar on a white background. I layered the two images in Photoshop, the guitar on top of the garden Then I started pushing buttons and playing with sliders. I first tried all of the blend modes. Since the outcomes are unpredictable, it is fun to see how each affects the image. Once I found one that I liked, I tweaked the contrast, saturation, and brightness a bit.

This is not my favorite technique, but since I had no concrete expectations, going through the process was kind of fun.

Takes some time to play and have fun today. Leave expectations behind. Please share your photos as well as your process used in creating them.

Kris







AUGUST 29 Picture COLOR ACCOMPLISHMENT

#### Brown

To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment - Ralph Waldo Emerson

It's brown week! It is going to be such a beautiful warm week in our galleries and I can't wait to see all the richness this colour gives us.

We can all be so proud of our many accomplishments! As we near the end of August, that means you have posted a picture a day for almost 8 months. That is an amazing accomplishment.

An accomplishment is something done admirably or creditably. It's any acquired ability or knowledge. It might be as simple as learning a new craft, sport or recipe. It might mean stretching yourself to physical limits, or sitting and enjoying the accomplishment of finishing a book.

What have you accomplished today? Remember to add some brown to your picture!

Lysle

AUGUST 30

GARDEN

#### Brown

Brown is described as an earthy, warm, and relaxing color, often associated with the great outdoors. So let's head outside to see what browns are in a garden or outdoor space that you enjoy. There is so much in nature that is the color brown - trees & dirt, birds & insects, buildings & statues.

Picture COLOR

I happened to find a few large animals at the botanical gardens...thankfully not of the furry variety!

What brown did you find today?

Amy

AUGUST 31 **GLAD** 

#### Brown

I am so glad that I live in such a wildlife-filled area. It brings me such joy finding little treasures like this while out hiking.

Picture COLOR

What is something brown you find in nature that makes you glad? If it's not something in nature, share with us something else that's brown that makes you glad.

Danette

# **AUGUST 2021**

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Perfectly Imperfect

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30 Garden

31 Glad

## 365 Picture Today CREATIVE TEAM



Amy amy@365picturetoday.com



*Danette*danette@365picturetoday.com



()iane diane@365picturetoday.com



Garnett
garnett@365picturetoday.com



Kris kris@365picturetoday.com



Lee lee@365picturetoday.com



*Lysle*lysle@365picturetoday.com