

V5.2

AI

Photography

with **Midjourney**

MAKING

the

PHOTO

MAKING

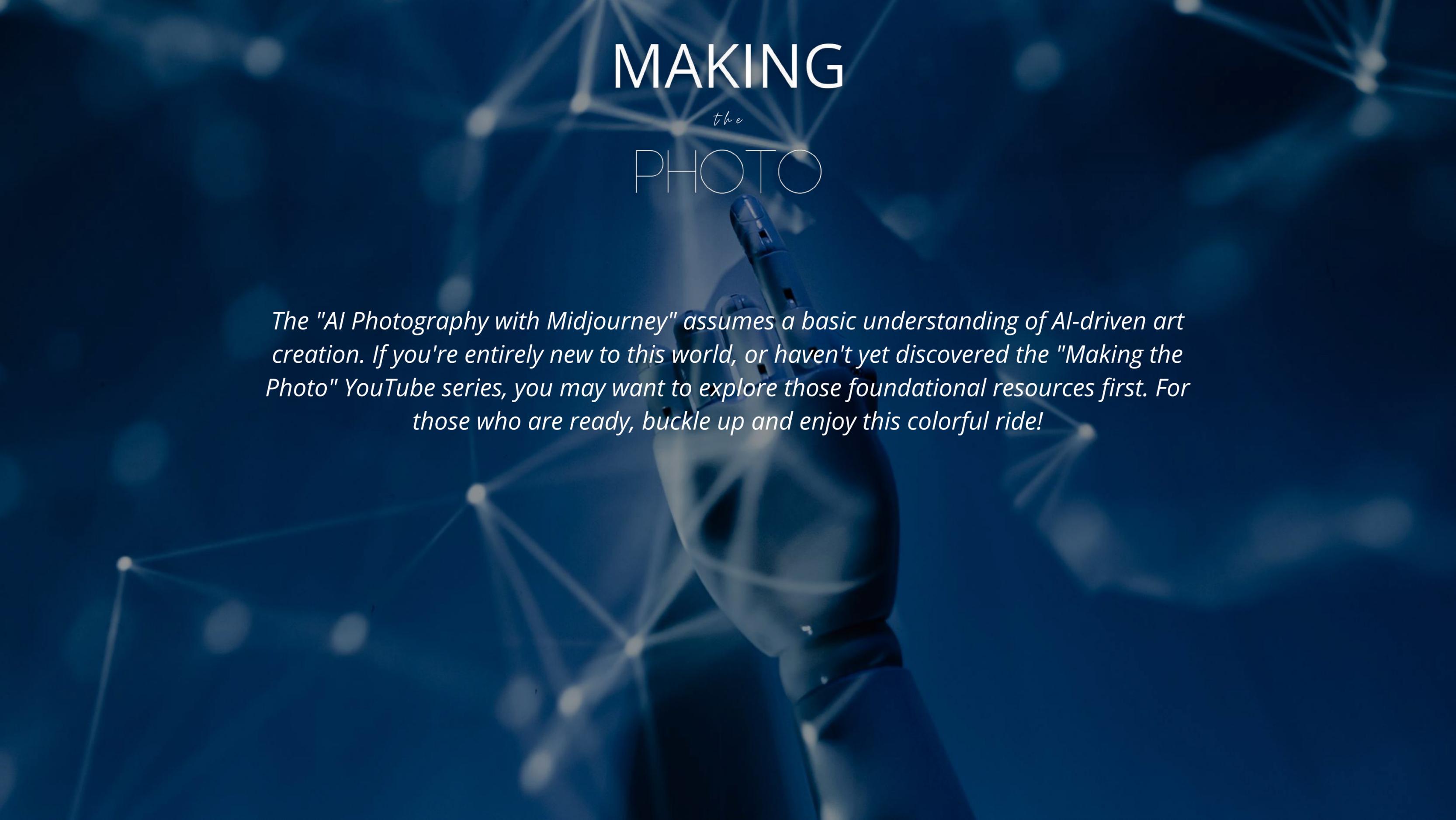
the

PHOTO

Hi! I'm Jenn from Making the Photo. My YouTube channel explores the magical world of AI-generated imagery and unlocking your creative potential!

This ebook is all about creating photography with Midjourney. We'll cover photographic terms that the AI recognizes. These powerful terms transform your AI images. I'll include a crash course in camera settings and high-end camera types you can prompt for in Midjourney. And I'll include a few tips for getting quality photographs from the AI. I'll also include my favorite photography prompts including a few of my favorite photographers. I'll finish with templates for stock photo. Change the prompts to fit your situation.

If you want to make photographs without a camera, this ebook will help you do it!



MAKING

the

PHOTO

The "AI Photography with Midjourney" assumes a basic understanding of AI-driven art creation. If you're entirely new to this world, or haven't yet discovered the "Making the Photo" YouTube series, you may want to explore those foundational resources first. For those who are ready, buckle up and enjoy this colorful ride!

Photography Prompts

Photographic styles and terminology are powerful ways to transform your AI images. The AI knows these photographic terms, but you might not! Adding 1 or 2 style words to your AI image prompts, will dramatically transform your photos. The terms tell the AI what *type* of photograph you want. From vintage styles to unique post-processing effects, these prompts will give your photos an eye-catching edge. Let's see what's possible!





Types of Photography

/imagine macro photography



Abstract Photography

Photography that emphasizes shapes, forms, or colors, rather than representing a traditional subject

Architectural Photography

The art of capturing buildings and other man-made structures



/imagine astrophotography, milky way galaxy, photography

Astrophotography

Milky Way. Capturing images of the night sky, especially the Milky Way galaxy, using long exposures

/imagine Automotive Photography, Lamborghini



Automotive Photography

Milky Way. Capturing images of the night sky, especially the Milky Way galaxy, using long exposures

A high-speed, high-contrast photograph of oranges and orange slices splashing in water. The scene is set against a dark blue background, with water droplets and splashes creating a sense of motion and freshness. The oranges are bright yellow-orange, and the slices show the internal segments. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the textures of the fruit and the water.

Commercial Photography

Images created for commercial purposes,
such as advertising or marketing

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a sleeveless blue patterned dress, is walking away from the camera down a flooded street. The street is filled with muddy water that reflects the overcast sky and the surrounding buildings. On the left, there is a large, dilapidated wooden structure, possibly a porch or a partially destroyed building. On the right, there are several houses, some of which appear to be on stilts or are partially submerged. The overall atmosphere is somber and desolate, suggesting a scene of aftermath or hardship.

Documentary Photography

photography aims to capture real-life events, situations, or people in a truthful and objective manner



Fashion Photography

Photographing clothing and fashion items.

Fine Art Photography

Photography created according to the vision of the artist



/imagine black and white fine art photography

Food Photography

Taking pictures of food in an attractive way



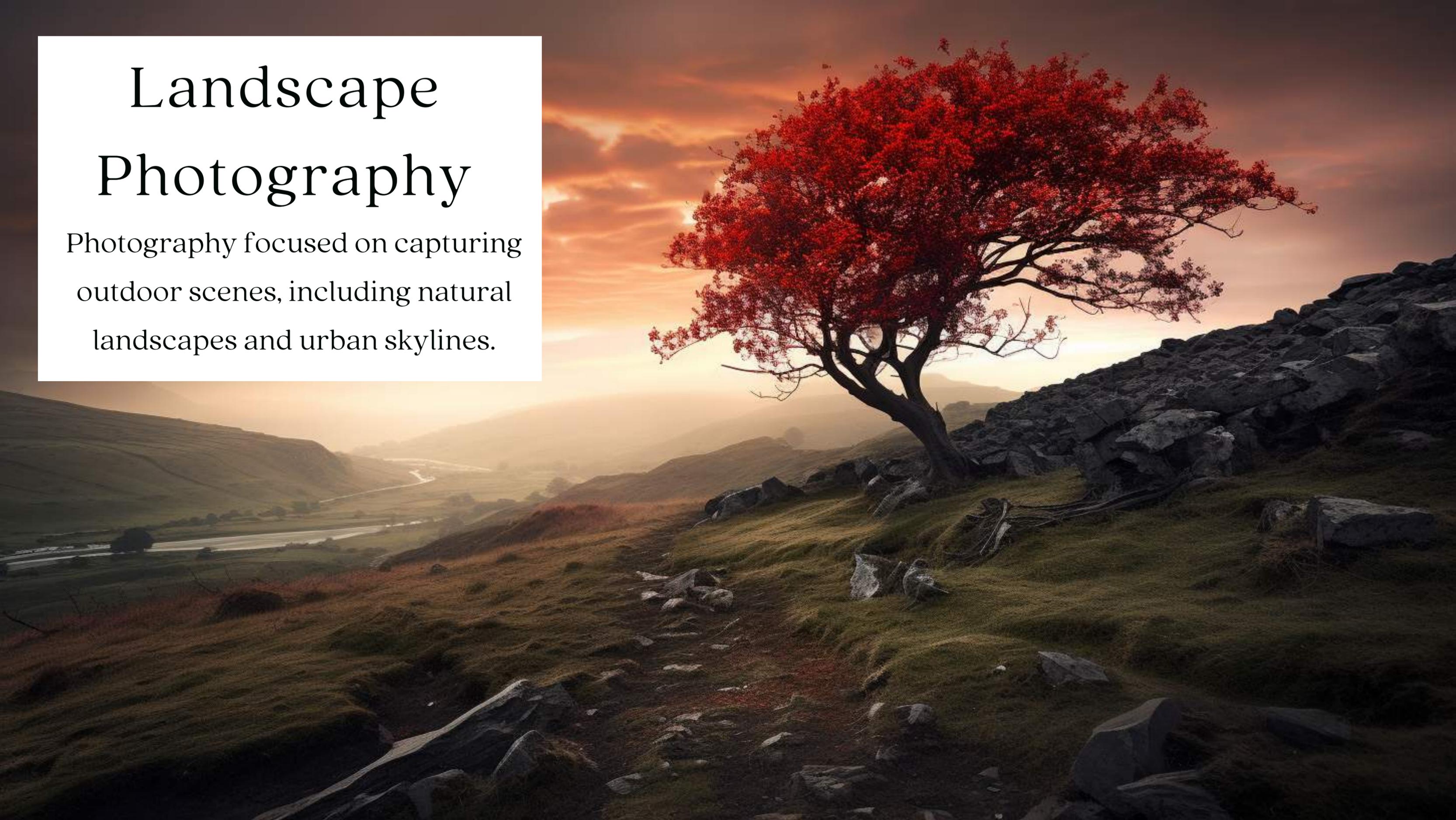


High Speed Photography

Capturing fast-moving objects
with high shutter speeds

Landscape Photography

Photography focused on capturing outdoor scenes, including natural landscapes and urban skylines.





Macro

Photography

Close-up photography that often captures small subjects



Pet

Photography

A niche focusing on capturing pets
and animals in a domestic setting



Photojournalism

Telling news stories through photographs

Portrait Photography

A photograph of a person,
typically focusing on their face

/imagine studio portrait photography



Product Photography

Specialized photography to
highlight the features of a product,
often used in advertising



/imagine product photography, whisky

A photograph of two glass spheres on a reflective surface. The sphere on the left is clear and reflects a colorful, abstract pattern of light. The sphere on the right is tinted orange and reflects a similar pattern. The background is a gradient of colors, from blue and green on the left to orange and red on the right. The spheres are reflected on the surface below them.

Refraction Photography

The art of capturing images through transparent objects, focusing on how light bends



Sports

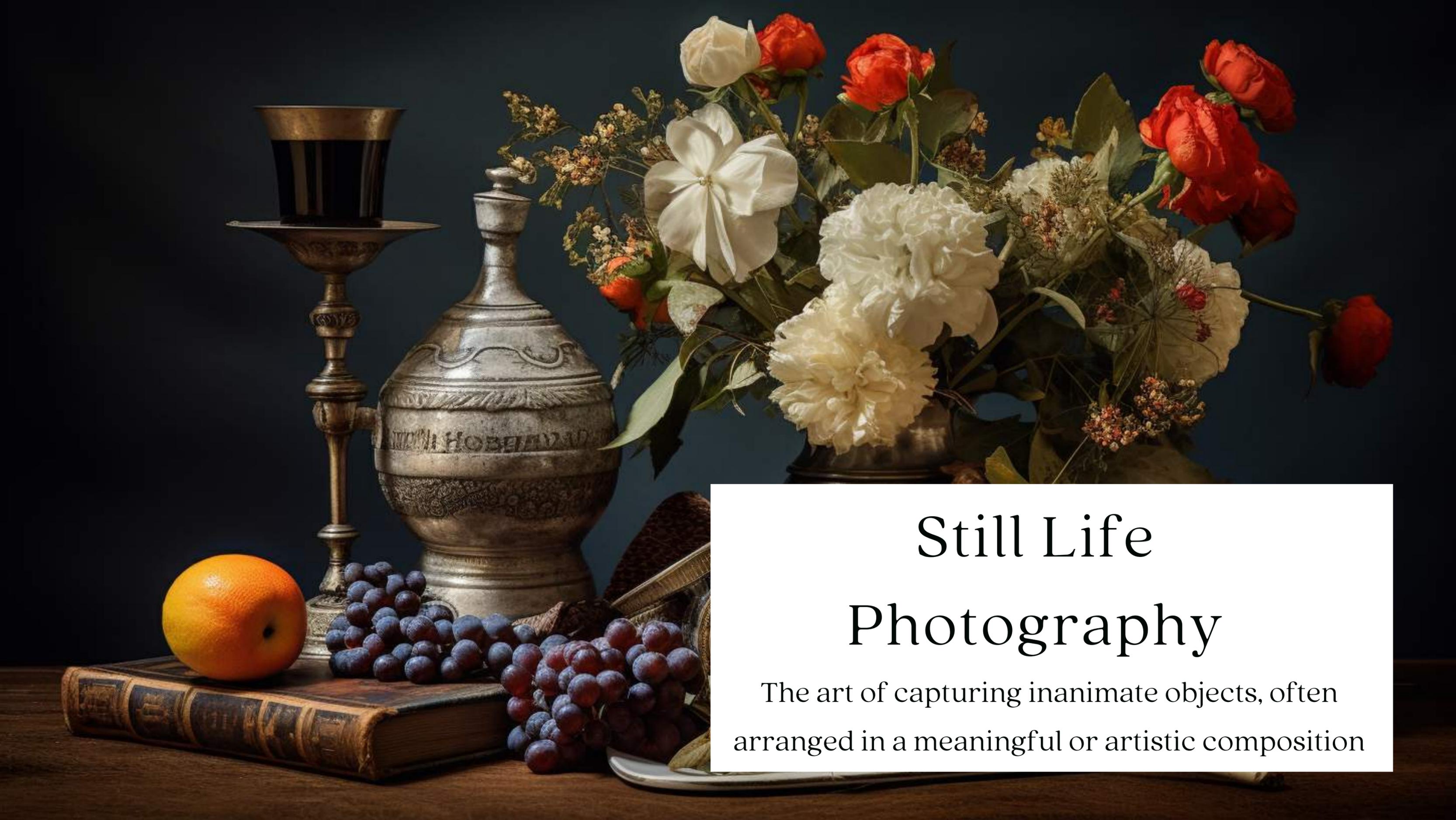
Photography

Focusing on capturing moments
in various sporting events.



Street Photography

Capturing everyday life, often candid
and unplanned, in public spaces.



Still Life

Photography

The art of capturing inanimate objects, often arranged in a meaningful or artistic composition

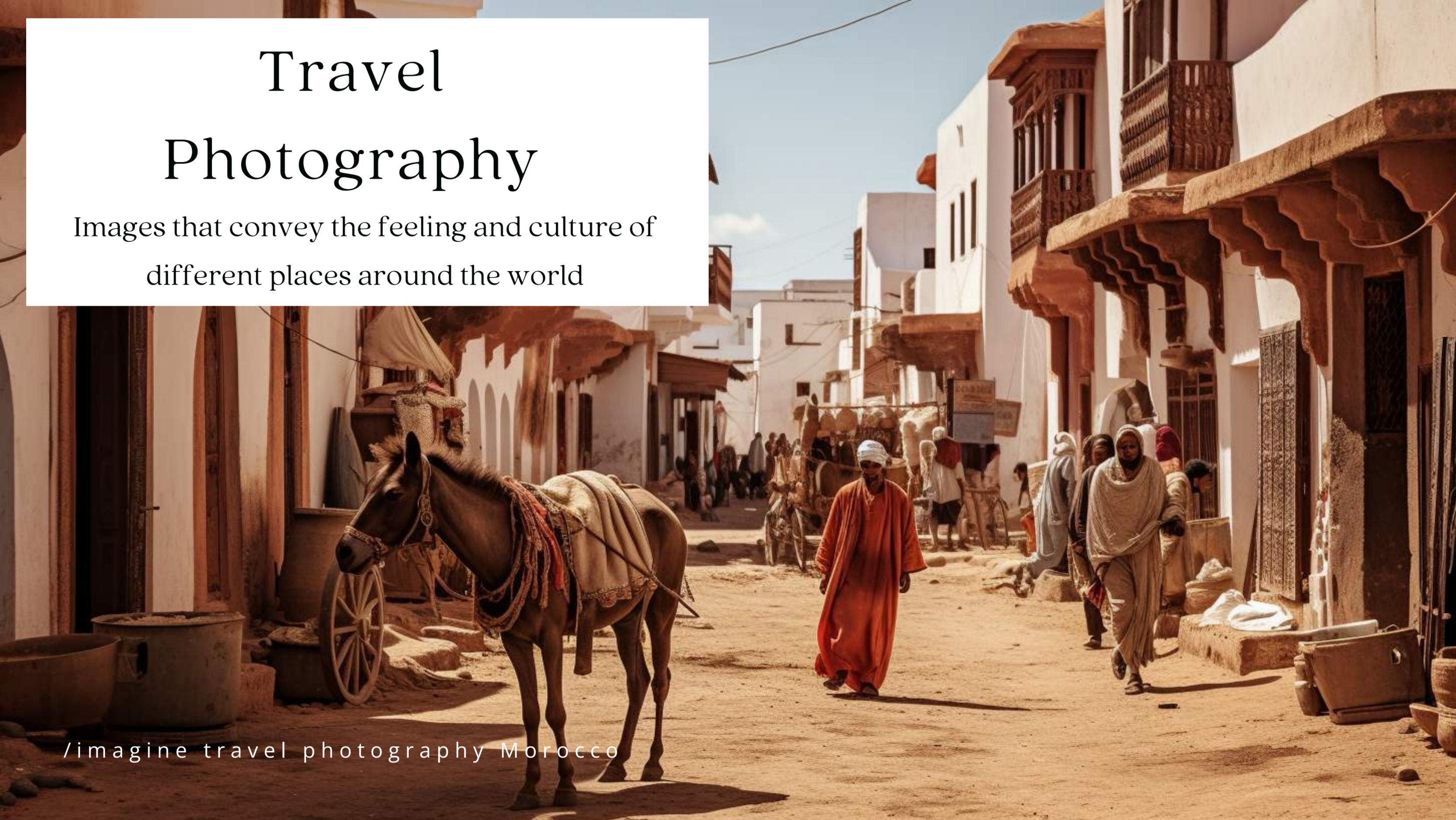


Thermal Imaging Photography

Capturing images based on the heat emitted by objects,
often used for scientific or industrial purposes

Travel Photography

Images that convey the feeling and culture of
different places around the world



/imagine travel photography Morocco



Water Drop Photography

Capturing the complex and often
beautiful patterns of falling or
splashing water drops.



Wildlife Photography

Photographs capturing animals in their natural habitats

/imagine lens distortion

Lenses & Equipment





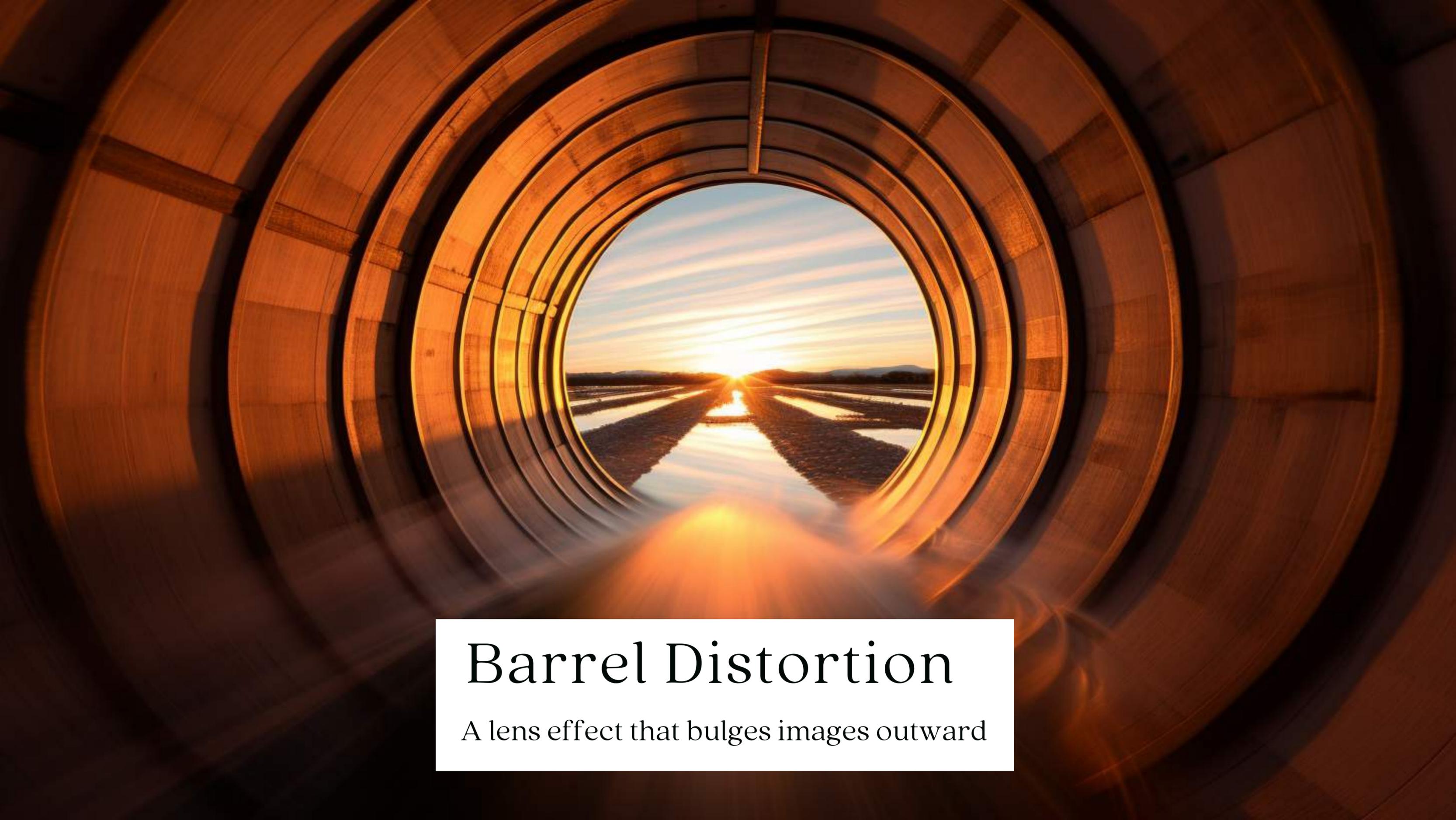
360-degree photograph

A photograph that captures a view in every direction. Super wide-angle

Fish-Eye Lens

A lens that creates a wide panoramic
or hemispherical image



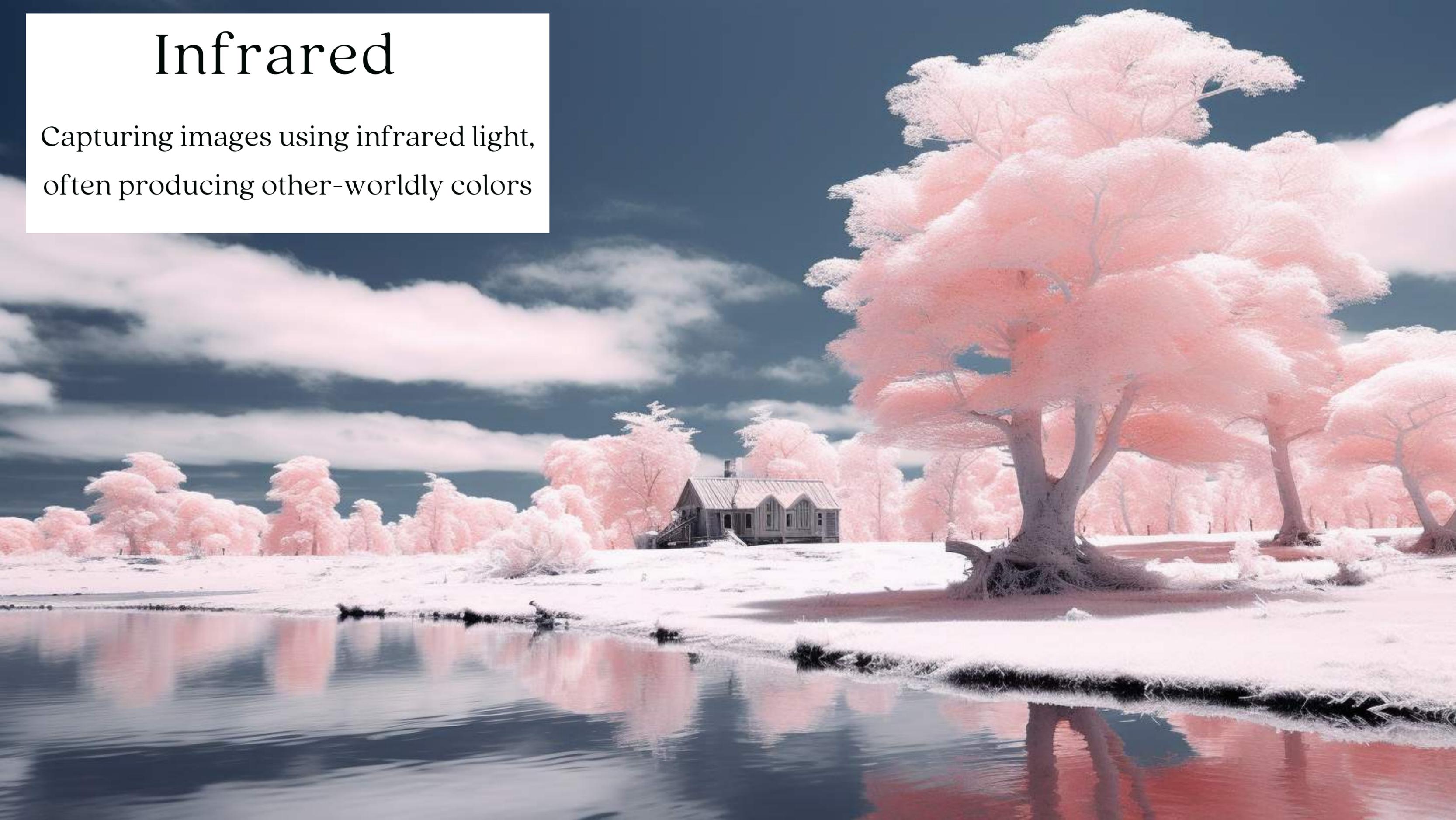


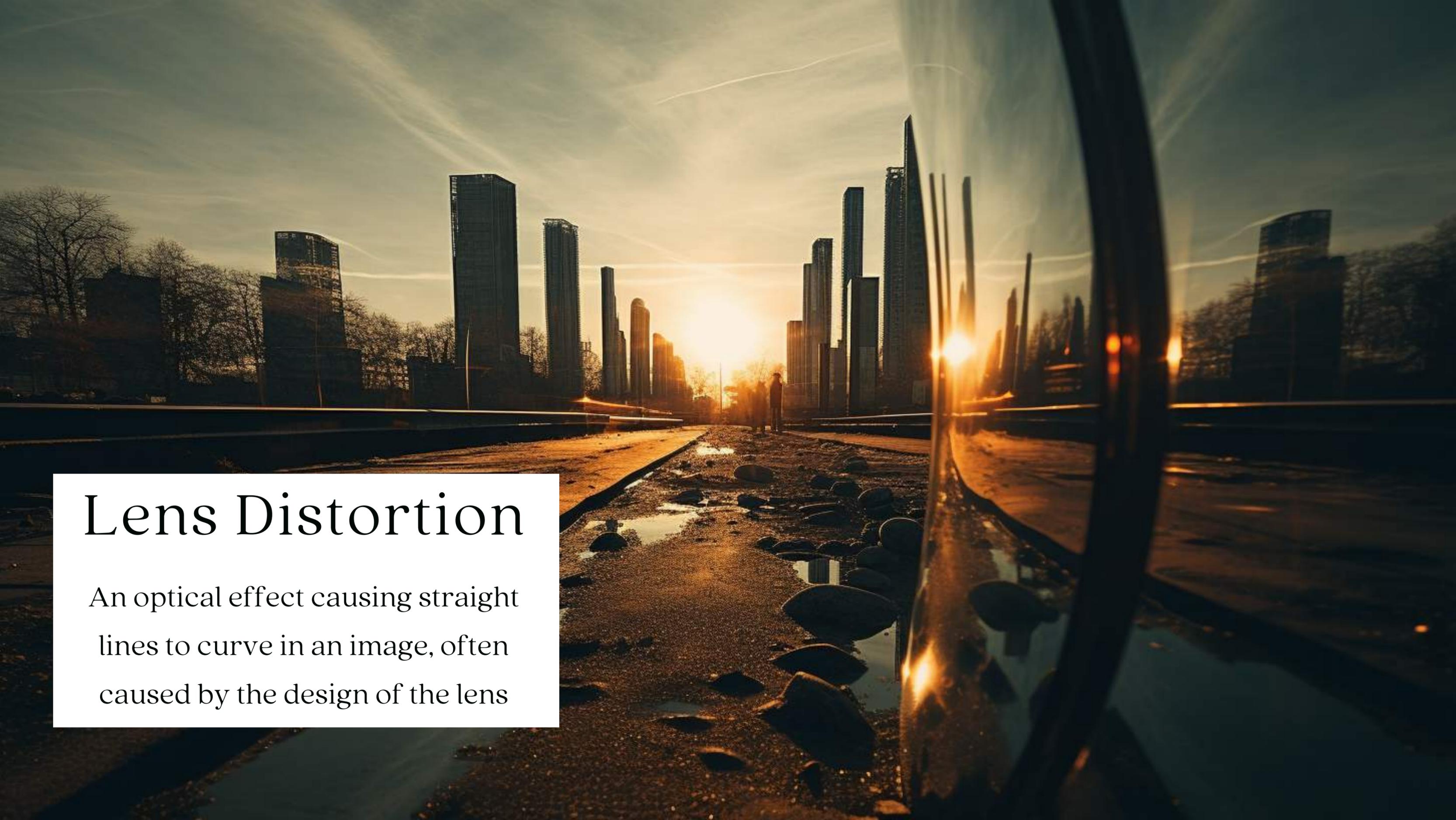
Barrel Distortion

A lens effect that bulges images outward

Infrared

Capturing images using infrared light,
often producing other-worldly colors



A photograph of a city skyline at sunset, viewed through a lens that causes significant barrel distortion. The buildings are tall and dark, silhouetted against the bright orange and yellow sky. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a strong lens flare and illuminating the scene. The foreground shows a wet, reflective surface, possibly a road or a pool, with some dark, rounded objects scattered on it. The overall mood is dramatic and artistic.

Lens Distortion

An optical effect causing straight lines to curve in an image, often caused by the design of the lens

Lensbaby

A type of lens that creates selective focus and unique visual effects

/imagine flower photograph taken with Lensbaby lens

Pinhole Camera

A simple camera without a lens,
using a small hole to project
light onto the film or sensor

/imagine image from a pinhole camera

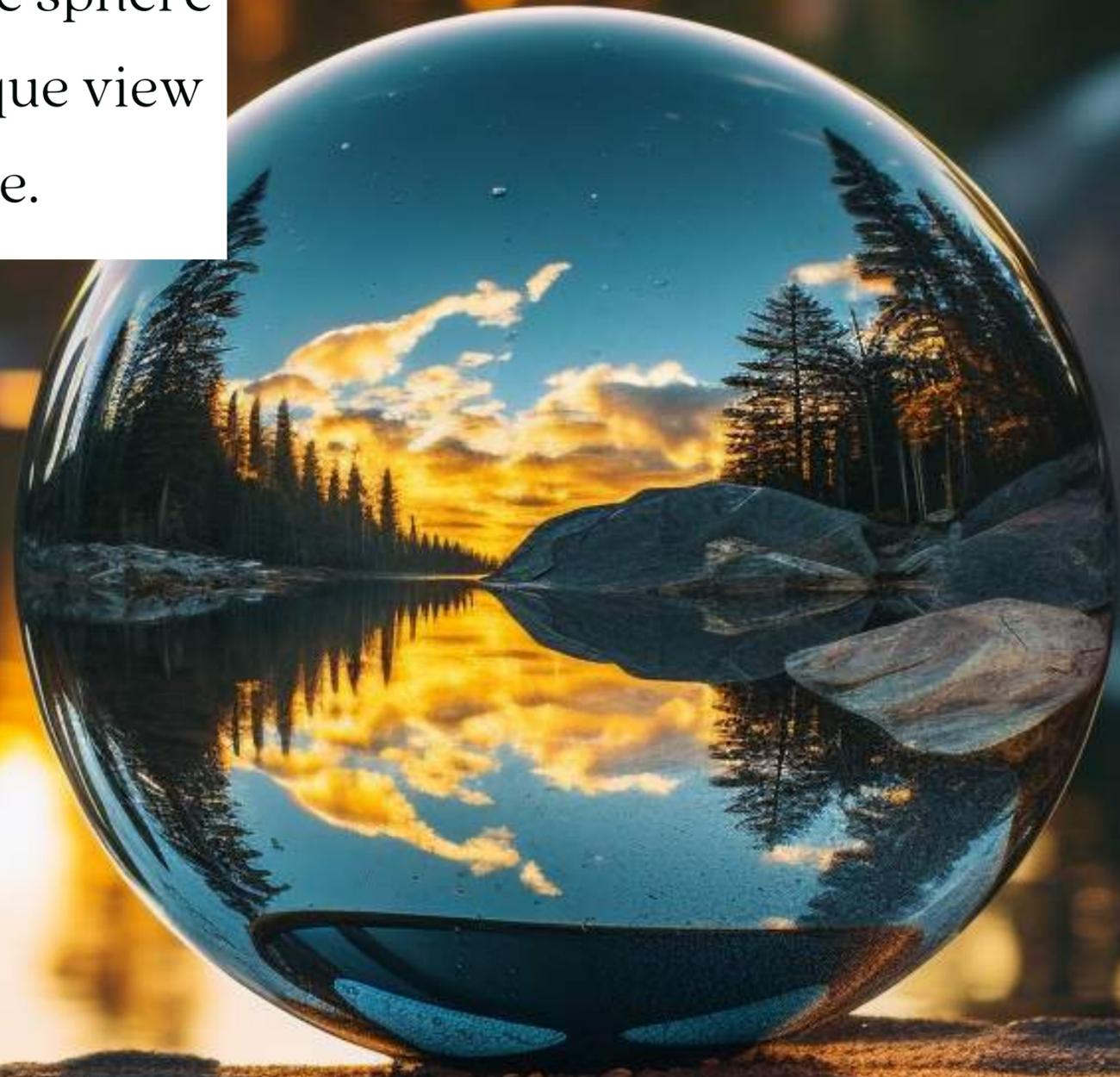
Polarizing Filter

Photo taken with filter that
reduces reflections and makes
the sky appear more saturated

/imagine photograph taken with polarizing filter

Reflecting Ball

A photograph using a reflective sphere to capture a distorted and unique view of the surrounding scene.



Tilt-Shift Photography

A technique that blurs certain parts of an image, giving it a miniature appearance.



Wide-Angle

A lens with a short focal length that captures more of the scene in front of it, often used for landscapes or interiors.



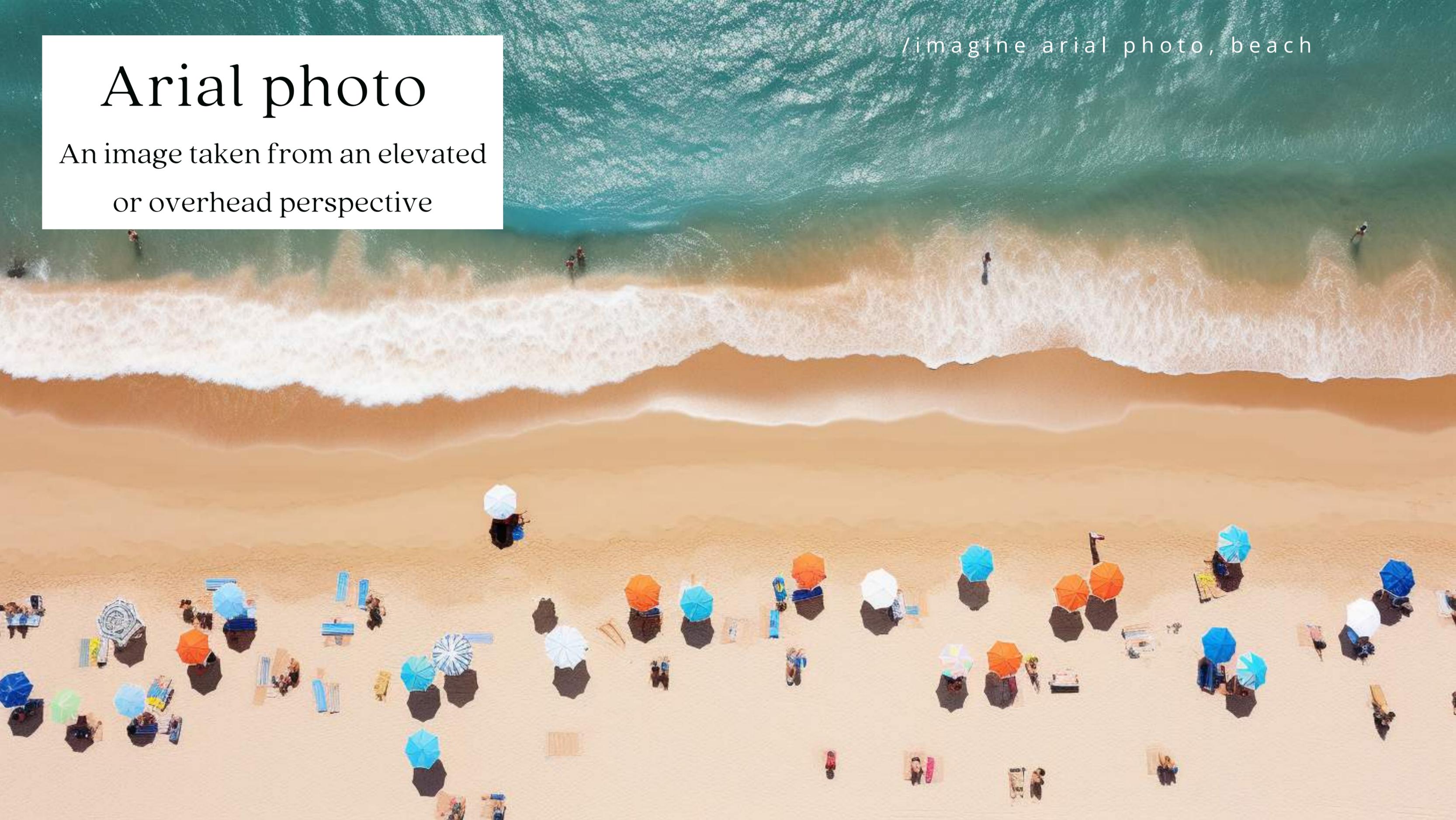


Composition

/imagine arial photo, beach

Arial photo

An image taken from an elevated
or overhead perspective



Foreground

Foreground, Midground, Background:
The three main parts of a scene's depth

/imagine landscape photograph with flowers in the foreground

Knolling

or flatlay. Arranging objects at 90-degree angles from each other, then photographing them from above, creating a structured, grid-like composition.



A photograph of a railway track stretching into the distance under a dramatic sky with clouds. The track is made of metal rails and wooden sleepers, and it leads the eye towards the horizon. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, with scattered white clouds. The ground is sandy and has some sparse vegetation.

Leading Line

Lines within an image that lead the eye to the main subject.

/imagine photograph with leading line

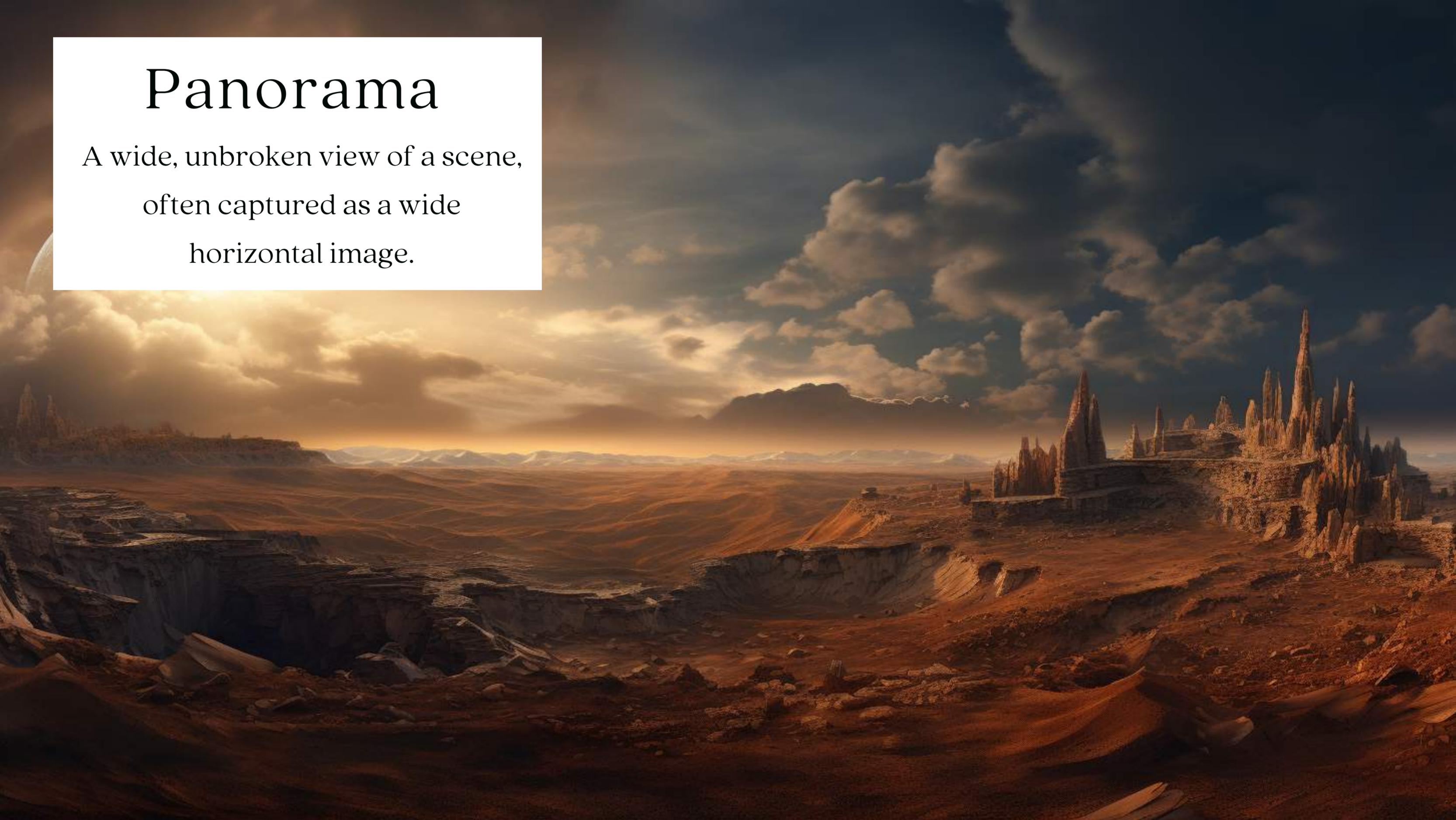
Negative Space

Leaving a lot of space around and between the main subjects in an image



Panorama

A wide, unbroken view of a scene,
often captured as a wide
horizontal image.



Symmetrical

A composition where elements are mirrored on either side of a central line, creating balance

/imagine symmetrical photo composition



Vanishing Point

The point in a photograph where parallel lines appear to converge, often used in perspective drawing





Lighting

/imagine chiaroscuro



/imagine photograph, back lighting

Back Lighting

Lighting from behind the subject, often creating a glowing effect or silhouette

Blue Hour

The period of twilight when the sky is deep blue





Chiaroscuro

Light - Dark. Strong contrasts between light and dark to create a sense of drama, depth and atmosphere

Golden Hour

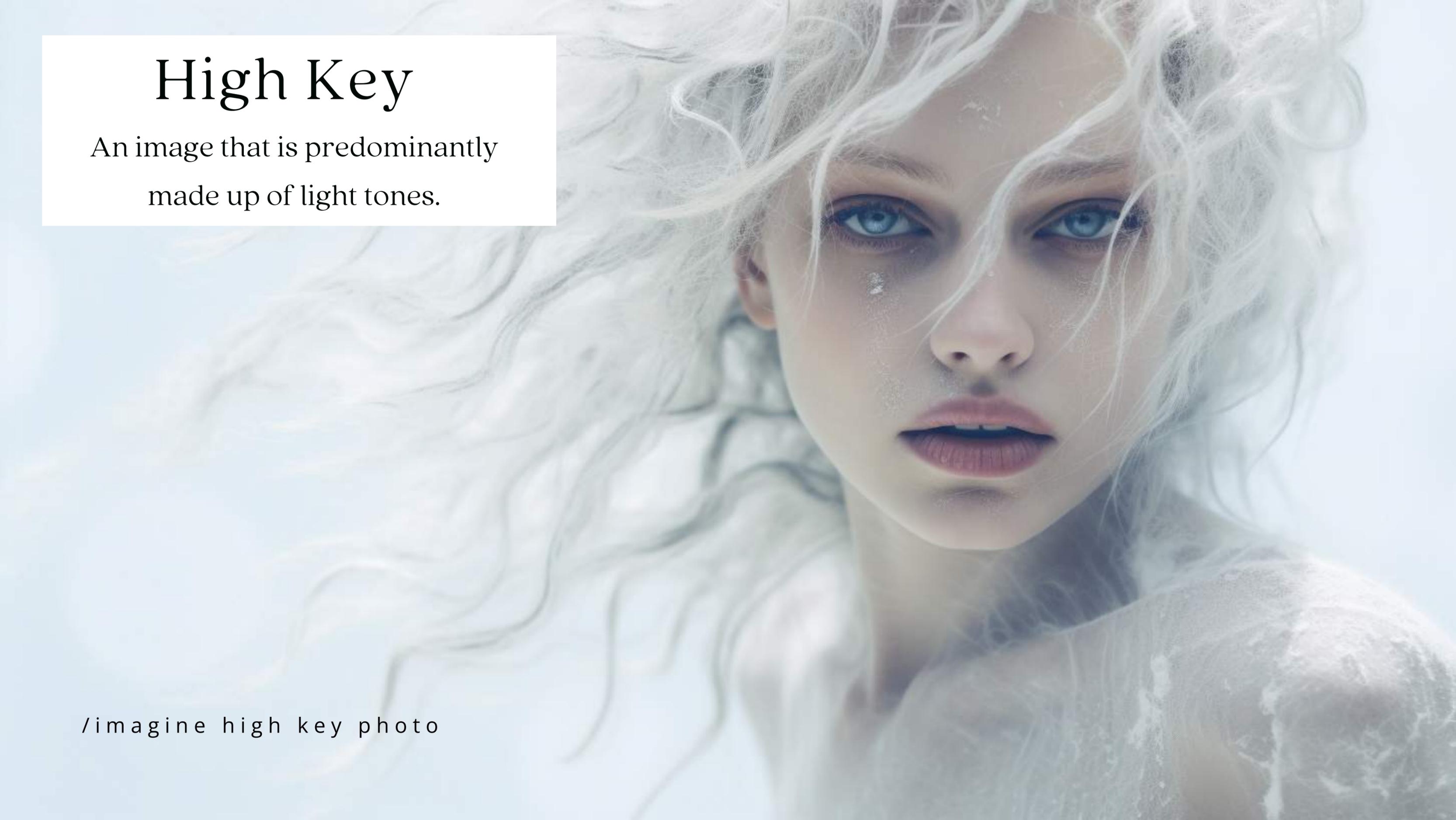
The period shortly after sunrise or before sunset with soft, warm light

/imagine photograph at golden hour

High Key

An image that is predominantly made up of light tones.

/imagine high key photo



Low Key

A photograph dominated by dark tones and shadows



/imagine low key photo

Natural Lighting

Using sunlight or ambient light instead of artificial light sources.





Rembrandt Lighting

A portrait-lighting technique that creates a small, triangular highlight on the subject's cheek, often associated with the painter Rembrandt

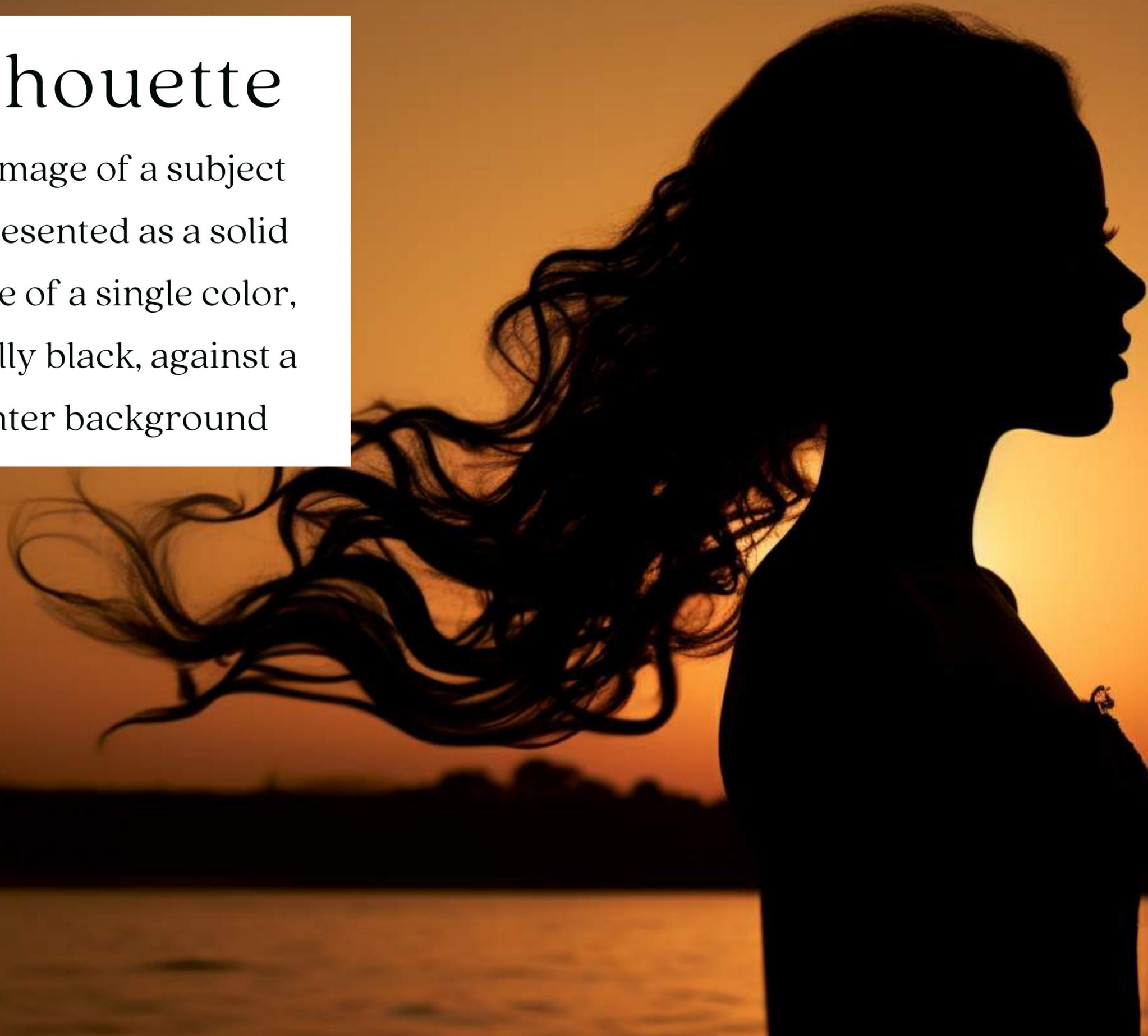


Short Lighting

lighting technique where the main light illuminates the side of the subject's face that is turned away from the camera

Silhouette

An image of a subject represented as a solid shape of a single color, usually black, against a lighter background



Softbox Lighting

A type of lighting device that diffuses light, often used in portrait photography to create soft, even illumination



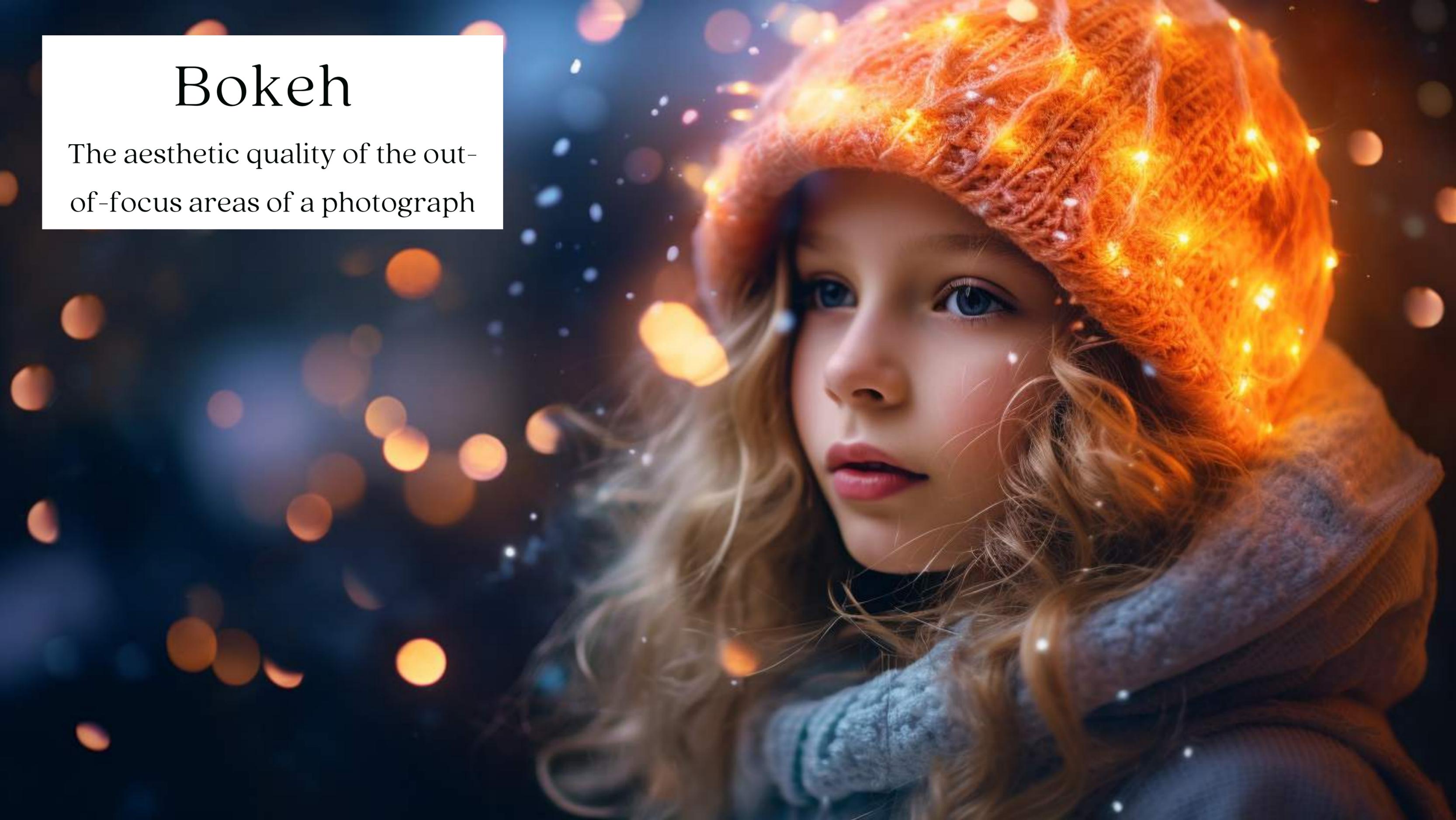
/imagine solarization effect

Special Effects



Bokeh

The aesthetic quality of the out-of-focus areas of a photograph



Cross Processing

Intentionally processing film in a
chemical solution intended for a
different type of film

/imagine photograph, cross processing





Double Exposure

Two images superimposed
into a single frame

Forced Perspective

Using optical illusion to make
objects appear larger or
smaller, Usually in juxtaposition





HDR (High Dynamic Range)

Merging different exposures for more detail. Balance out exposures



High Contrast

An image with stark differences
between the light and dark areas



ICM

A technique where the camera is moved during exposure for a creative effect



Kirlian Photography

Photography technique for creating contact print
photographs using high voltage



Lens Flare

A streak or circle of light that appears in photographs when light directly hits the lens.



Light Leaks

Creating streaks or overexposed areas adding a vintage or dreamy effect to a photograph

Light Painting

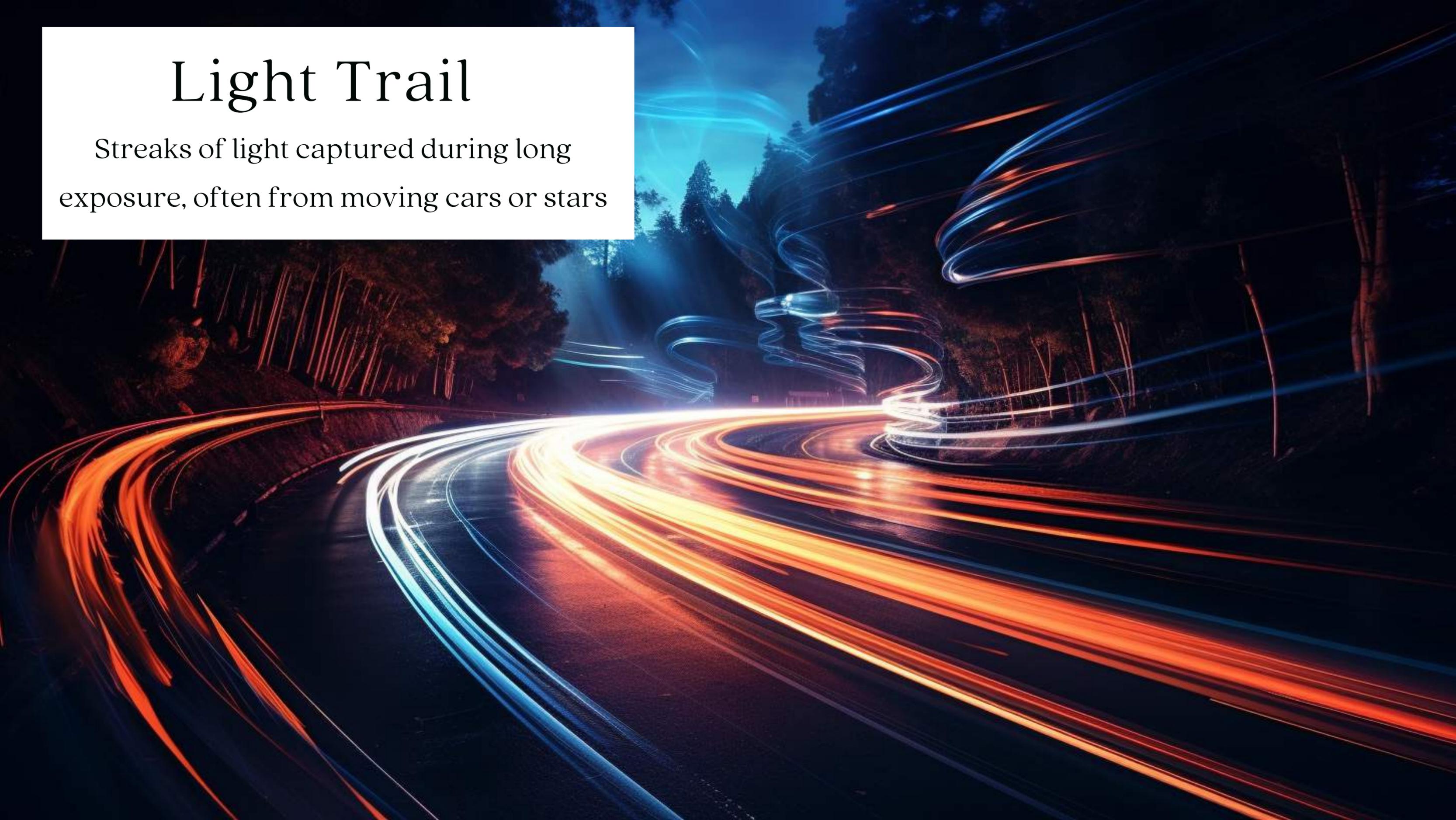
A photographic technique where exposures are made by moving a hand-held light source or by moving the camera



/imagine light painting with burning spinning steel wool

Light Trail

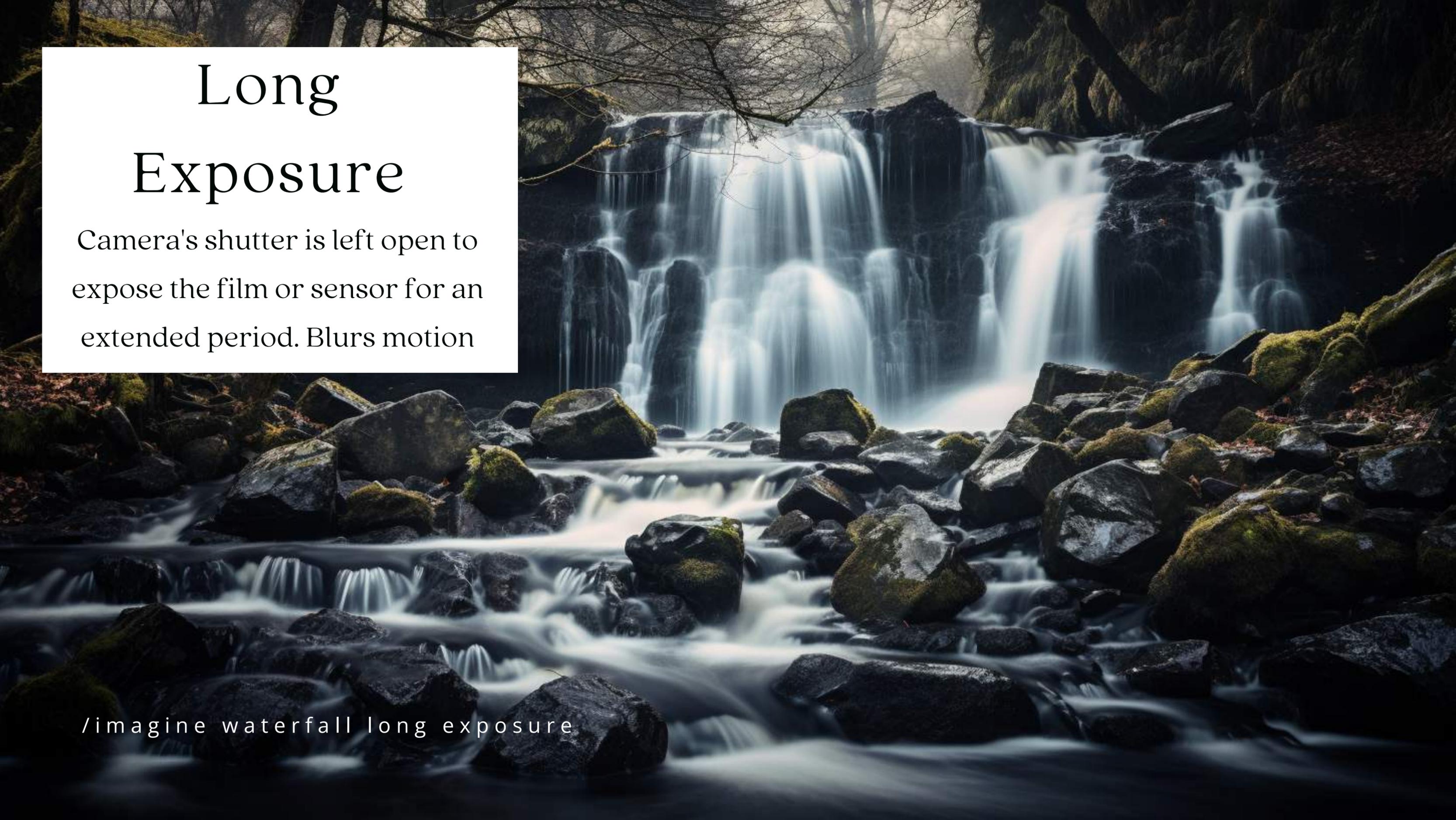
Streaks of light captured during long exposure, often from moving cars or stars



Long Exposure

Camera's shutter is left open to expose the film or sensor for an extended period. Blurs motion

/imagine waterfall long exposure



Monochrome

An image developed or executed
in black and white or in varying
tones of only one color



/imagine monochrome photography

Panning

Moving the camera to follow a moving subject during exposure.

Creates background blur

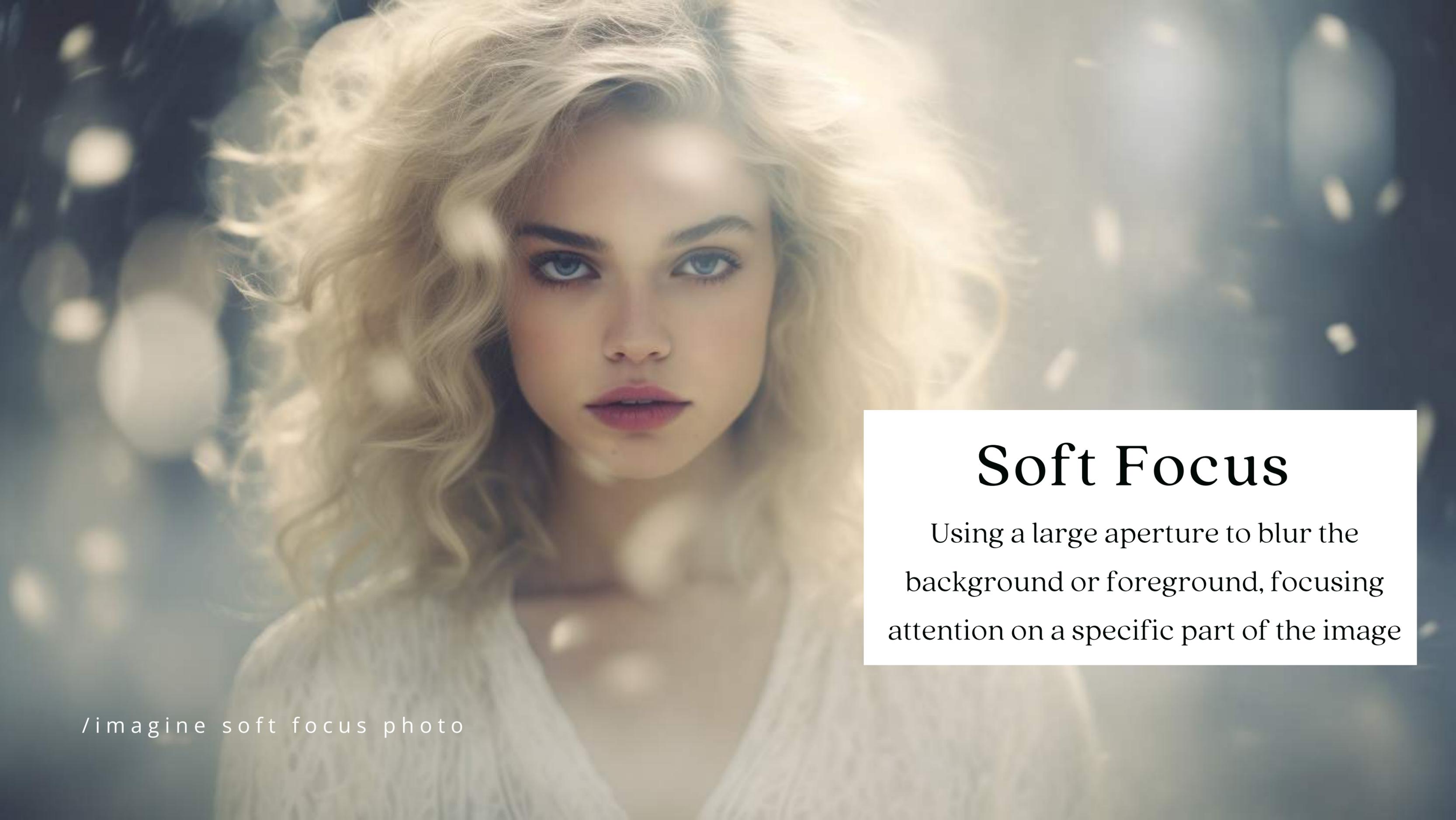


/imagine panning photography

Shallow Depth of Field

Using a large aperture to blur the background or foreground, focusing attention on a specific part of the image





Soft Focus

Using a large aperture to blur the background or foreground, focusing attention on a specific part of the image

/imagine soft focus photo

Solarization Effect

Image is wholly or partially reversed in tone. This results in dark areas appearing light and light areas appearing dark, giving the photo a surreal, dream-like quality



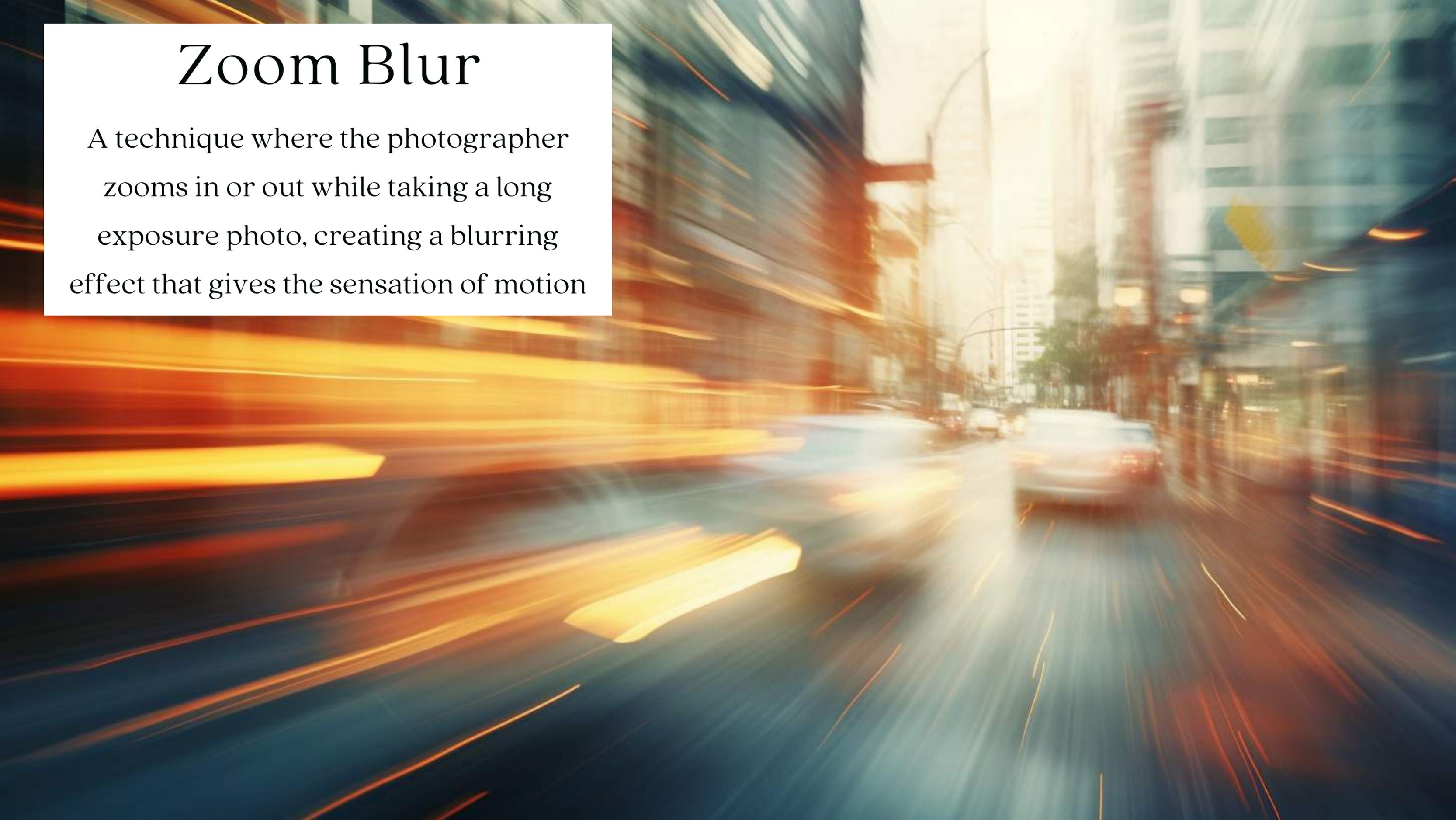
A long-exposure photograph of a night sky showing star trails. The trails are curved, indicating the Earth's rotation. The sky is a mix of orange, red, and blue, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. In the foreground, there are silhouettes of trees on the left and rolling hills or mountains in the distance.

Star Trails

A photographic technique that captures the apparent motion of stars in the night sky by using a long exposure

Zoom Blur

A technique where the photographer zooms in or out while taking a long exposure photo, creating a blurring effect that gives the sensation of motion





Vintage Photography

/imagine sepia-toned vintage photograph, busy 1920s city street, cobblestone, vintage cars, pedestrians, clothing, and buildings, grainy, soft edges, faded

Ambrotype

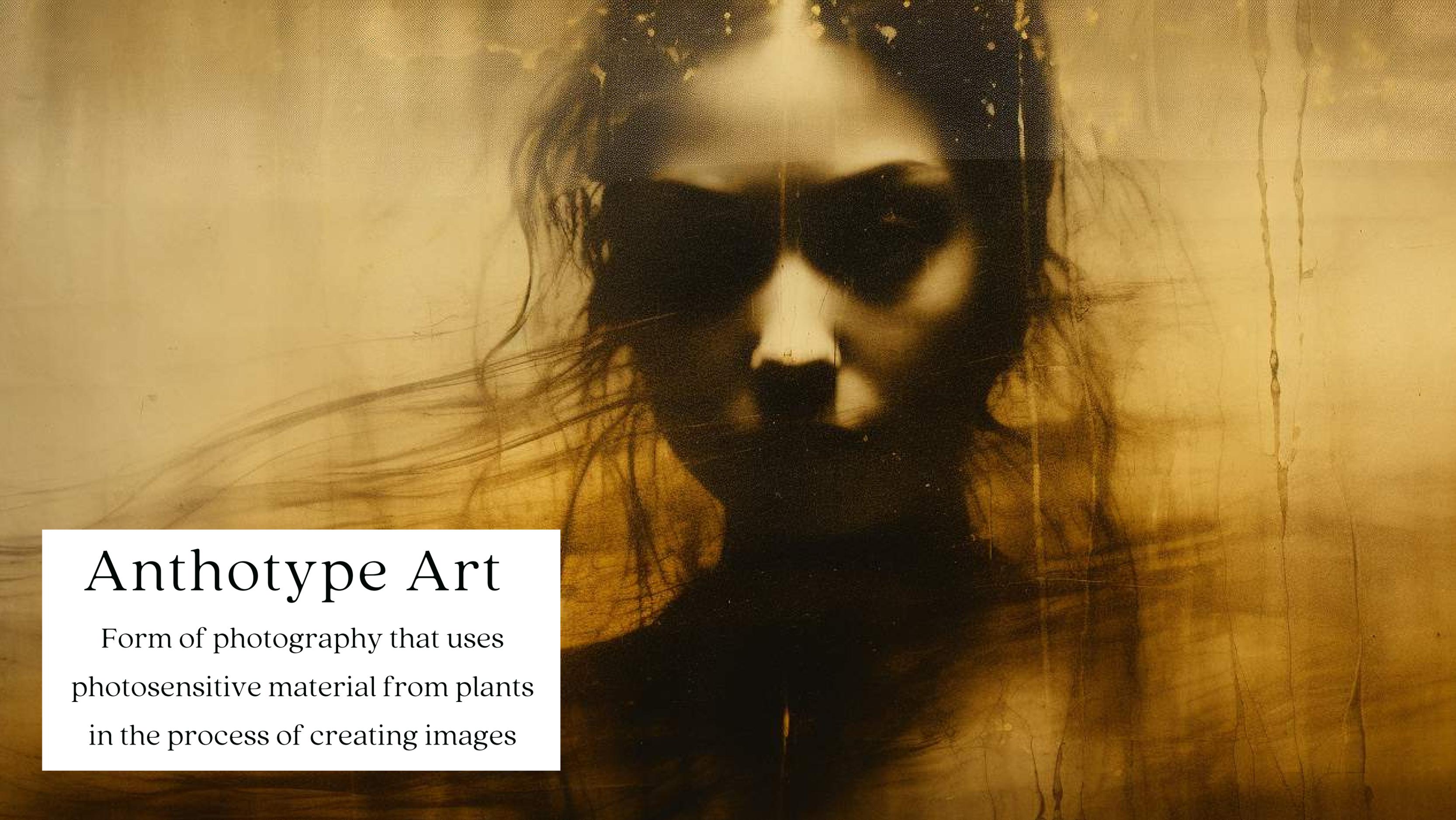
An early type of photograph
made on glass



Albumen Prints

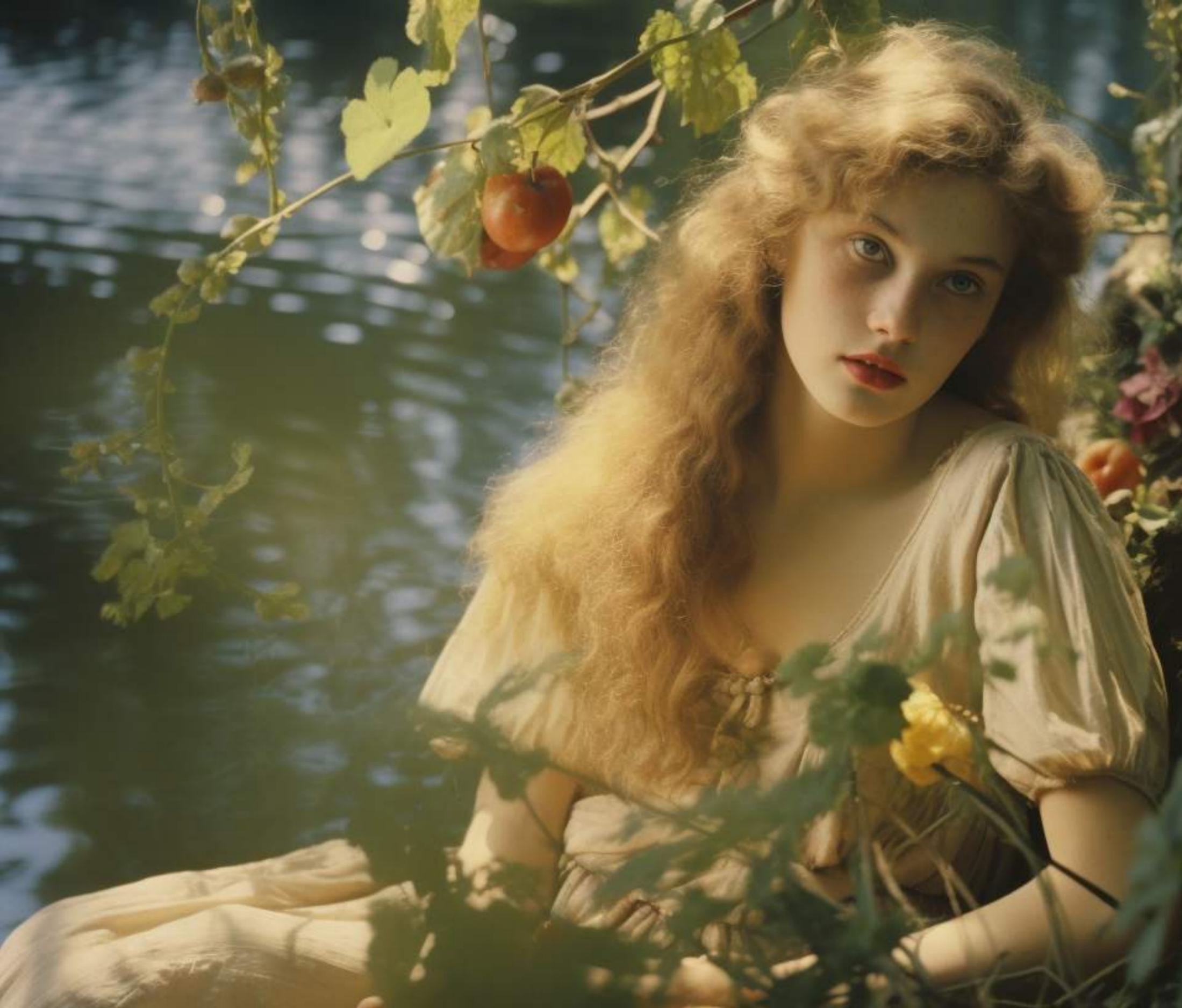
A type of print made by coating paper with egg white and chemicals, used in the 19th century





Anthotype Art

Form of photography that uses photosensitive material from plants in the process of creating images



Autochrome Lumière

Early color process using dyed
starches, it creates soft, grainy,
and dreamlike color images
quite different from modern
color processes



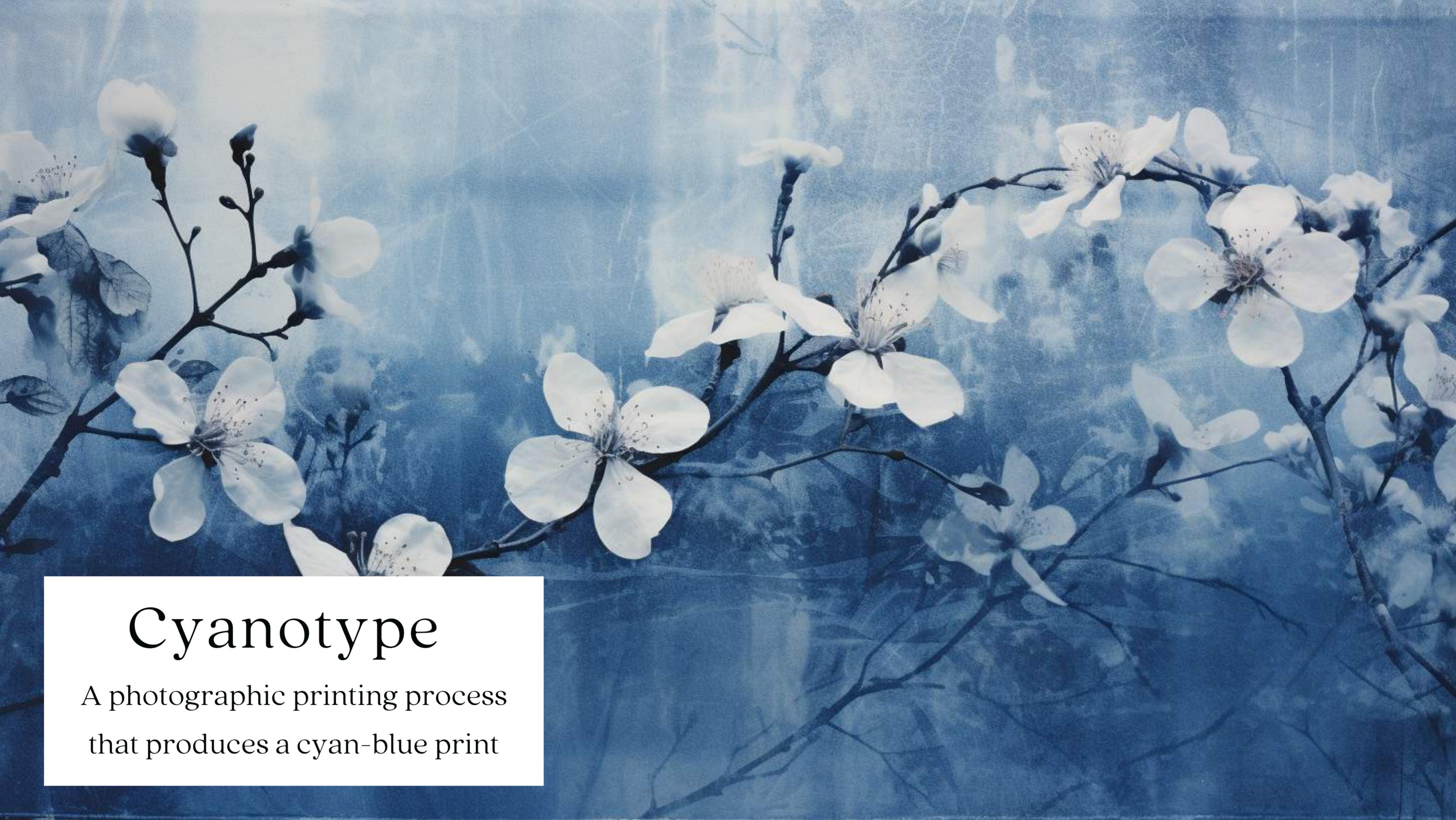
Carbon Print

Carbon prints have a three-dimensional appearance and unique coloration depending on the pigments used

Collodion Wet Plates

An early photographic process that used glass plates coated with collodion, a flammable liquid





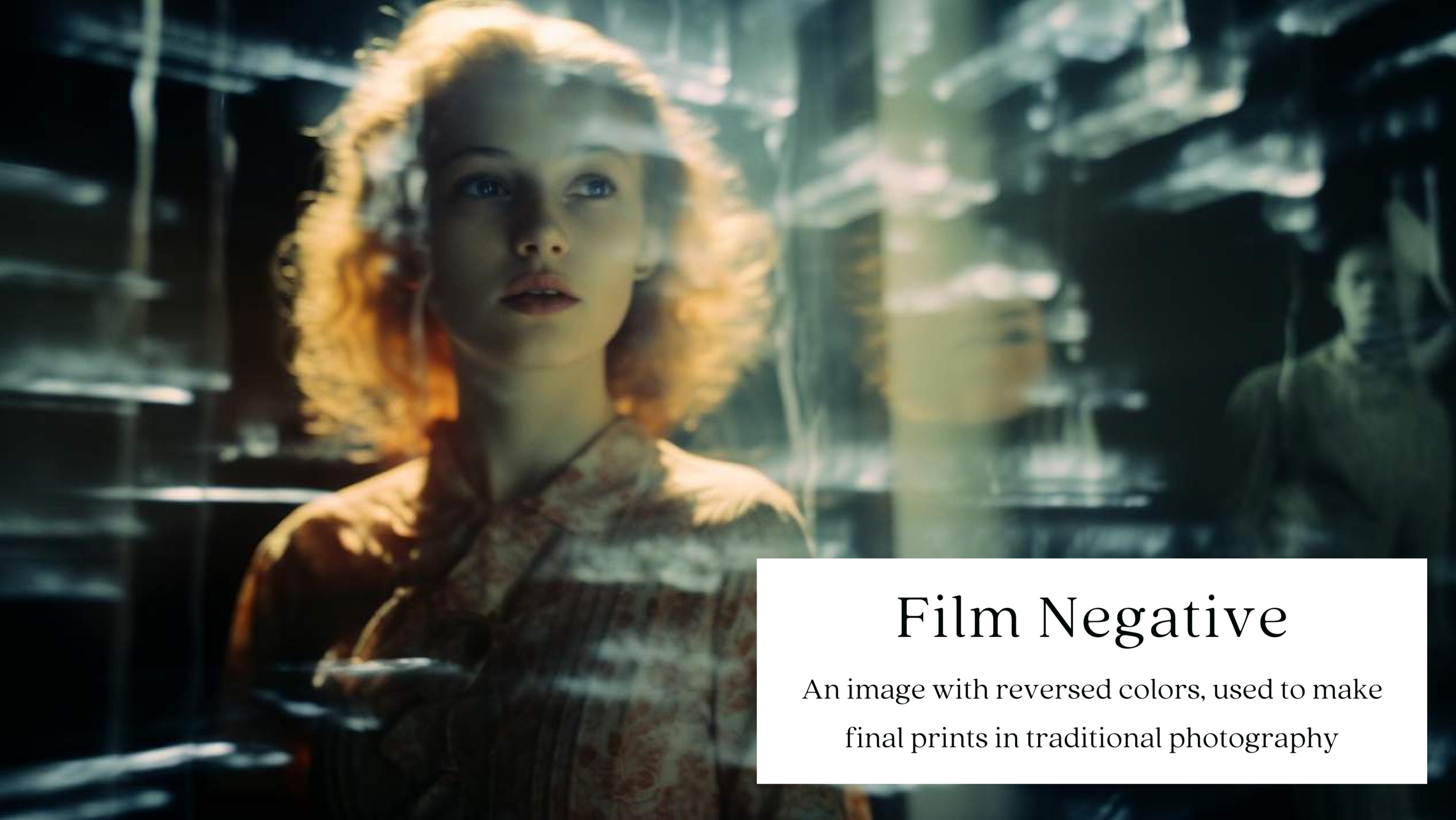
Cyanotype

A photographic printing process
that produces a cyan-blue print

Daguerreotype

An early photographic process that
used silver plates





Film Negative

An image with reversed colors, used to make final prints in traditional photography



Gelatin Silver Prints

A monochrome printing process used from the 1880s onwards, utilizing gelatin and silver salts



Gum Bichromate

Recognizable for its painterly appearance, it allows for layering and manipulation that can create complex, artistic images



Hand Colored Photograph

A photograph where colors
have been manually applied
over a black-and-white print

Lith Print

The method creates images with gritty shadows and soft, glowing highlights, a look that is difficult to achieve with other printing techniques



Platinum/ Palladium Print

Known for its rich tonal scale, it provides a different quality in grays and blacks compared to silver-based prints





Polaroid

A type of instant photograph or
the brand name of the company
famous for creating instant
cameras and film

Sepia

An image with a warm brown tone, reminiscent of photographs from the late 19th and early 20th centuries

/imagine sepia photograph





Tintype

A photograph made by creating a direct positive on a thin sheet of metal

Wetplate

A photographic technique using a glass plate coated with a wet emulsion, often used in the 19th century





Post-Processing

/imagine split toning film negative



Cool White Balance

Adjusting the color balance in an image to create a cooler, more bluish appearance

A woman with voluminous, wavy blonde hair is shown in profile, looking upwards. She is wearing large, reflective sunglasses with a blue and red tint. The background is a clear blue sky. The image has a duotone effect, with the left side being a warm orange and the right side being a cool blue.

/imagine Duotone effect photography

Duotone Effect

An image made up of two contrasting colors, often used for artistic or printing purposes



Film Grain

The appearance of graininess in a photograph, often due to the use of high-speed film or a digital effect

Lomo Effect

A style that emphasizes unconventional or experimental techniques, often associated with Lomography cameras



Orton Effect

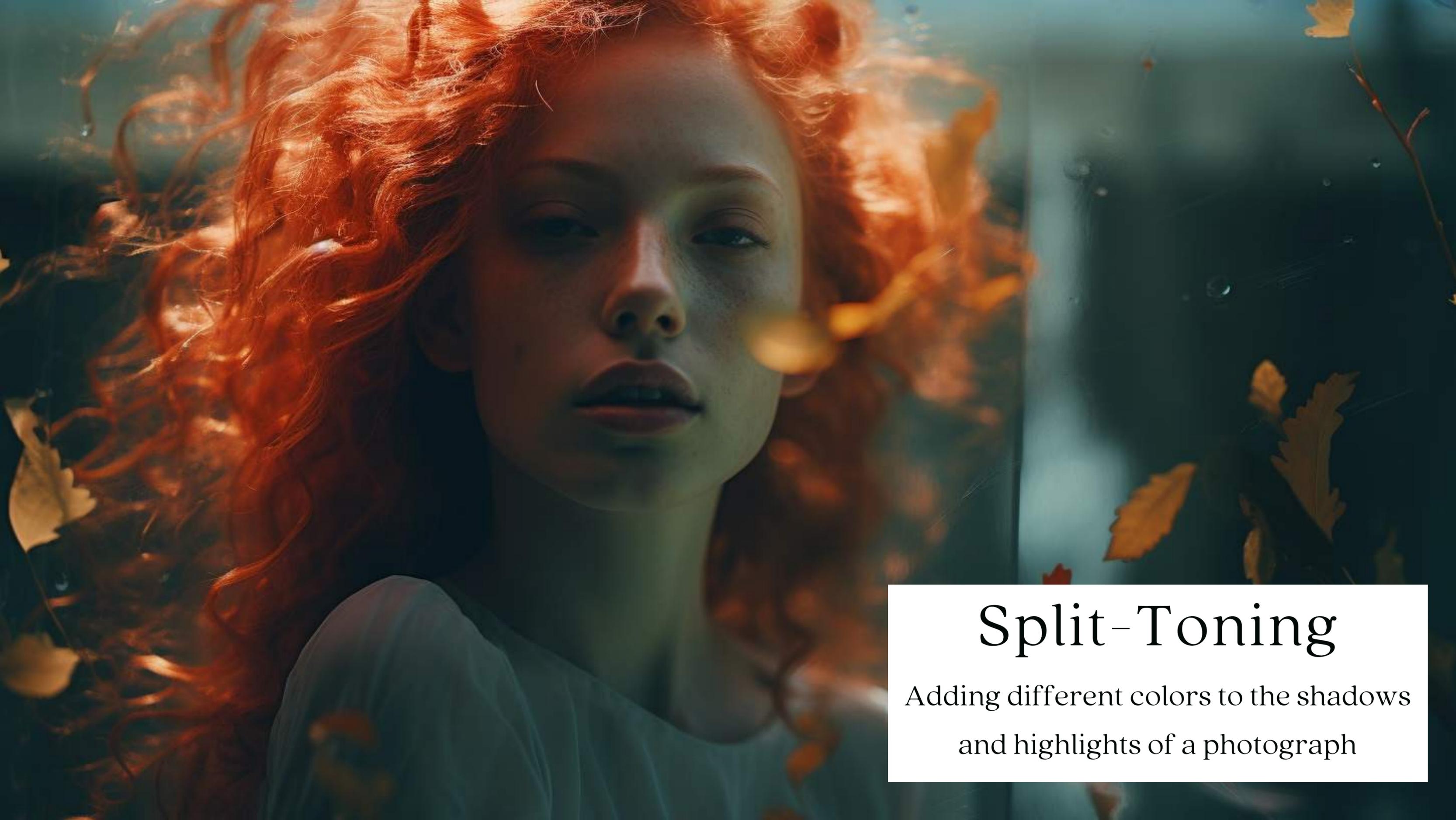
Blending two differently focused or exposed images for a dreamy effect





Selective Color

A photographic technique where most of a photo is converted to monochrome, but some parts are left in color for emphasis



Split-Toning

Adding different colors to the shadows
and highlights of a photograph



Tiny Planet

Transforming an image into a sphere, resembling a "tiny planet"

Warm White Balance

Adjusting the color balance in an image to create a warmer, more reddish or yellowish appearance



Cameras Settings

Camera settings can improve the look and realism of the AI's output. They amp up the beauty, tweak the realism, and let the AI know that you want a professional-level photograph. Let's break down the photography jargon so you'll know what all those numbers and symbols mean!



/imagine camera settings f/2.8, aperture



f-stop (aperture)

Aperture is the hole that lets light into a camera. The size of this hole can be adjusted: a bigger hole lets in more light, making the photo brighter, and a smaller hole lets in less light, making the photo darker. Also, a larger hole can blur the background.

f/1.8

Portraits. Blur background

/imagine studio portrait young girl in vintage clothing,
playing with a vintage toy horse, Sony Alpha 1, 50mm f/1.8
lens, ISO 100, 1/200, soft box lighting



f/2.8

Capture motion. Blur background

/imagine Magnificent humpback whale, Nikon Z9, 24-70mm
f/2.8 lens, ISO 400, 1/1000s, subtle underlighting
highlighting the whale's enormity

f/16

Landscapes. Sharp focus

/imagine snowy mountain landscape reflected in calm lake,
Sony Alpha 1, 100mm f/16 lens, ISO 100, 1/100

/imagine Waterfall landscape at golden hour in lush green forest, spring flowers in foreground, Sony Alpha 1, 100mm f/ 16 lens, ISO 100, 1/500 second shutter speed

Shutter Speed

How long the aperture is open. $1/500$ means the shutter opens for $1/500$ th of a second. The longer the shutter is open, the more light gets in. Fast shutter speeds freeze motion.

1/800

Capture fast motion

/imagine high speed photography, water drop in blue water,
studio lighting, Sony Alpha 1 with a 50mm f/1.8 lens, f/11
aperture, shutter speed 1/800s, ISO 100



1/250

Studio lighting, everyday motion

/imagine studio portrait f/1.8, shutter speed 1/250, iso 100

10 seconds

Long exposure, blurs motion.

Clouds & Blurred water

/imagine cloud photography, shutter speed 60 seconds





/imagine antelope canyon,
sun streaming in from
above, Sony Alpha 1 with
a 50mm f/1.8 lens, f/11
aperture, shutter speed
1/200s, ISO 100, focused,
sharp, wide-angle

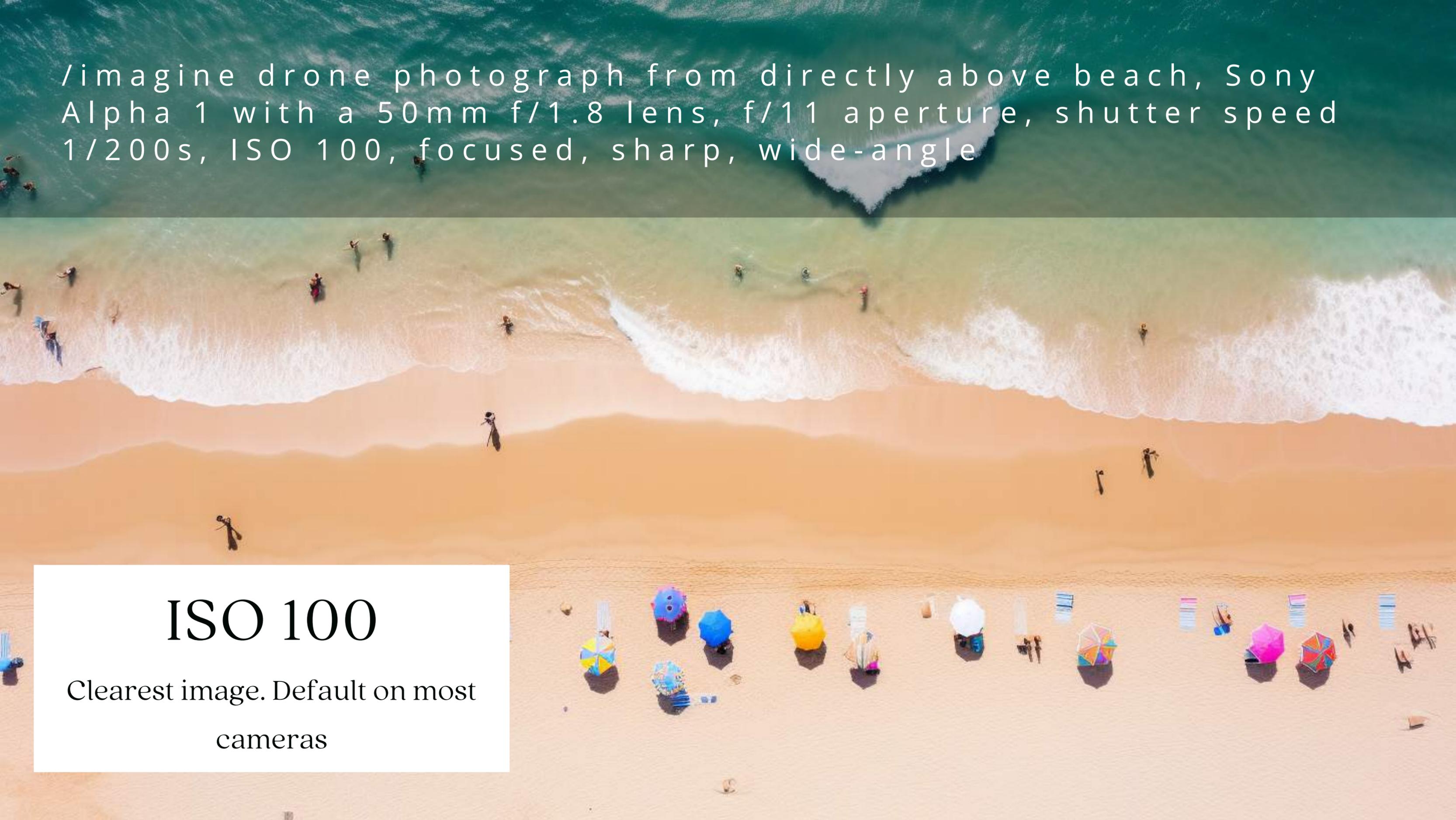
ISO

Sensor's sensitivity to light. Higher ISO let in more light, but also make the image grainy.

/i imagine drone photograph from directly above beach, Sony Alpha 1 with a 50mm f/1.8 lens, f/11 aperture, shutter speed 1/200s, ISO 100, focused, sharp, wide-angle

ISO 100

Clearest image. Default on most cameras



ISO 1000

Higher ISO to capture motion in
low-light conditions

/imagine Majestic snowy owl, soaring, in the harsh Arctic tundra at dawn, snow-dusted feathers, hypnotic golden eyes, barren snowscape, gnarled frost-bitten trees, captured in intricate detail, Canon EOS - 1D X Mark III, 400mm f/ 2.8 lens, ISO 1000, 1/800s, subtle backlight illuminating the owl's white feathers



/imagine frozen soap bubbles ice crystals, macro
photography, f/2.8, shutter speed 1/200, iso 100

/i imagine A young
woman in a black one
shoulder dress with
her arms in a
position where her,
soft focus, softbox
light, f/1.4, shutter
speed 200, ISO 100



Prompting Tips in v5

Starting with Midjourney version 5, photography is the default style. But there are some tips to creating realistic photographs in version 5. We'll talk about parameters and text prompts that tell the AI you want a high quality, realistic photograph.



Camera Brand Names

Canon EOS R5 * Canon DSLR *

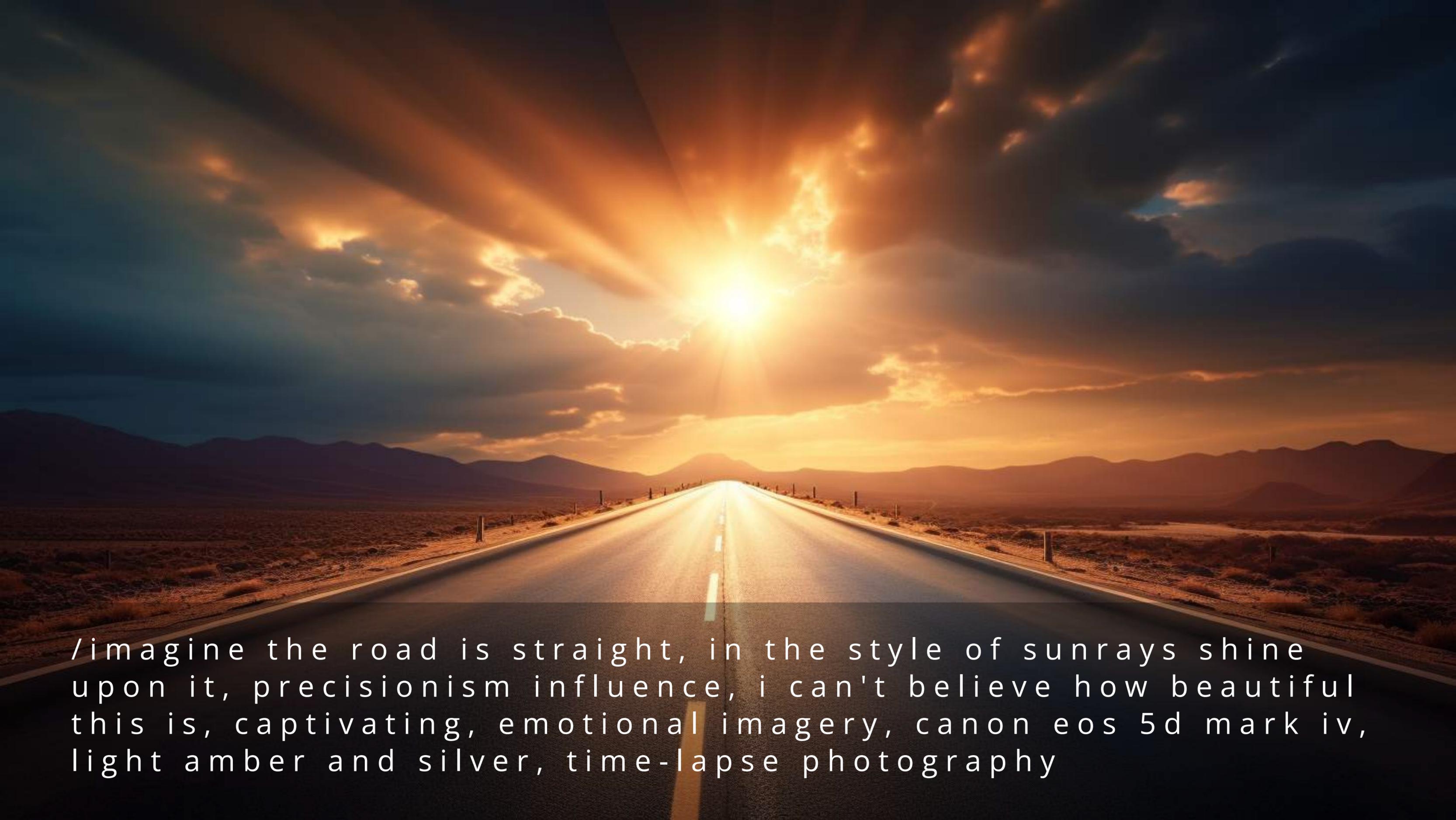
Nikon Z9 * Nikon D850 * Nikon D750

Sony Alpha 1 * Sony Alpha A7R IV

Leica * Hasselblad

/imagine photo taken with nikon d750

A vintage, rusted car is parked in a desolate, sandy landscape under a dramatic, cloudy sky. The car is the central focus, showing signs of age and wear. The background features sparse, dead trees and a horizon line under a sky with scattered clouds, suggesting a post-apocalyptic or abandoned setting.



/i imagine the road is straight, in the style of sunrays shine upon it, precisionism influence, i can't believe how beautiful this is, captivating, emotional imagery, canon eos 5d mark iv, light amber and silver, time-lapse photography



/imagine road trip through the mountains with friends, sony alpha 1, backlit, dramatic light, f/2.8 --style raw



/imagine Leica street photography, Paris



/imagine close-up portrait of a intricate Japanese woman,
emotionalcore, water, hyper realistic, hyper detail , shot with
hasselblad 6d



/imagine mobile phone photography, friends playing
on the beach



/imagine Landscape, medium format photography

Prompt Professional Quality

Publications * Award-Winning * Professional * High quality

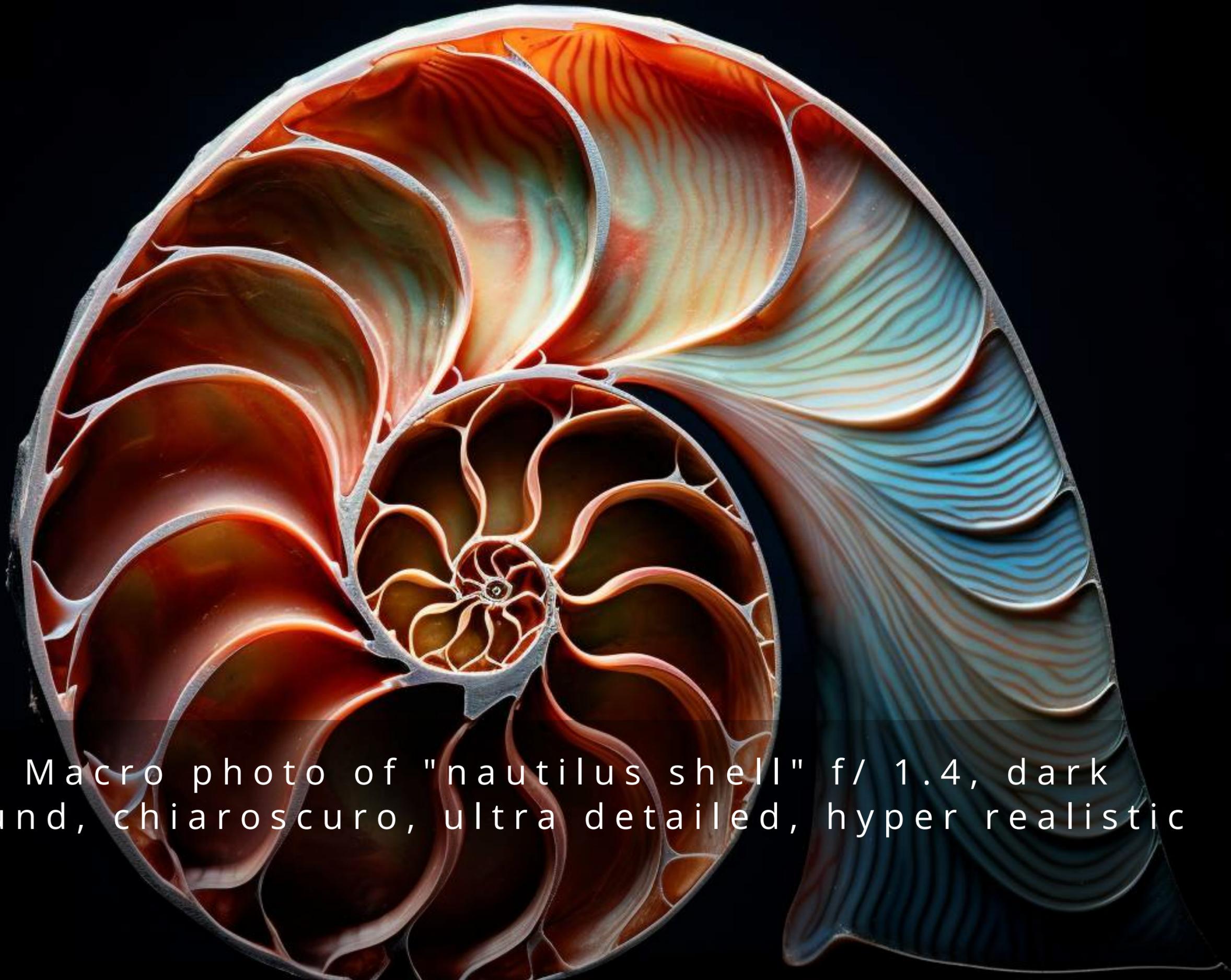
/imagine Portrait of a British man holding an umbrella, facial asymmetry, striking features, tack sharp, rainy weather, fine-art photography, 180mm f/1.8, in the style of Vogue



/imagine sand dunes Morocco Sahara desert sunset
camels backlit by sun, national geographic photo

/i imagine award winning National Geographic photo of busy Saigon street, realistic, documentary photo, 35mm lens, Fuji film velvia





/imagine Macro photo of "nautilus shell" f/ 1.4, dark background, chiaroscuro, ultra detailed, hyper realistic



/imagine two friends posing together, surrounded by a field of flowers, in a canon-photography style, 50 mm, no watermark, realistic photograph --v 5

Parameters

Try `--version 5` or `--style raw`

```
/imagine portrait  
of a striking  
Berber man in  
orange turban,  
Morocco, dramatic  
light, striking  
eyes --v 5
```



/imagine interior, living room, clean contemporary design
featuring gallery wall art, beautiful light --style raw





/imagine 100 hot air balloons flying over cappadocia turkey at sunrise :: motion, ultra detailed, realistic, 3D, dramatic lighting, warm lighting, detailed Canon DSLR --v 5

Prompt for Photographers

/imagine documentary photo of busy Chinese train station, chiaroscuro in the style of Fan Ho



/imagine Photograph girl with horse,
in the style of Annie Leibovitz

/imagine Award-winning photo by slim Aarons of Beautiful
instagram model dressed in Kate Spade fashion, sharp, magic
realism

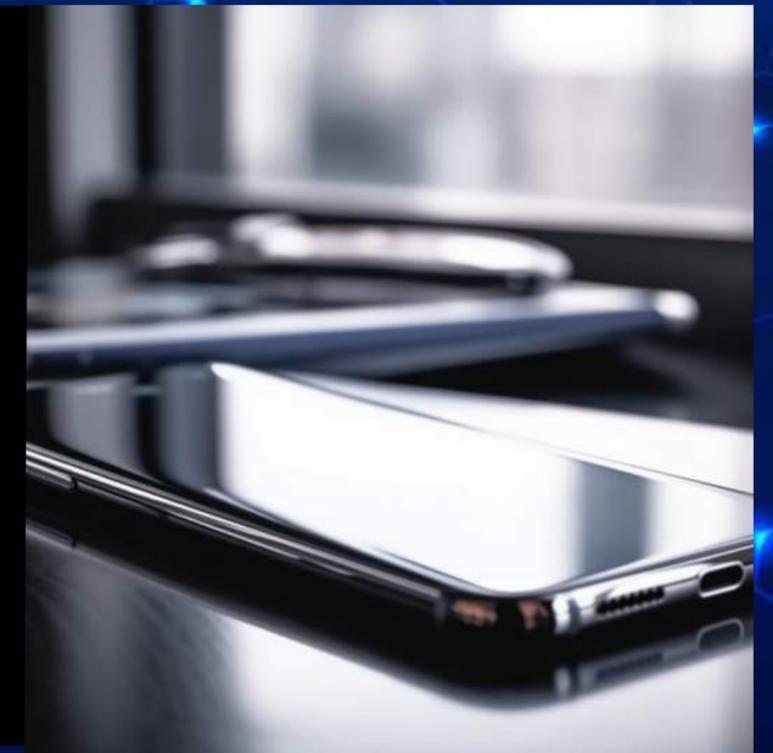




/imagine portrait by Lindsay Adler

Stock Photography Prompts

It's time-consuming and frustrating to find the perfect stock photo. Whether it's for a presentation, a website, or marketing materials, stock images have been our go-to solution. But now, AI image generators have entered the scene. No more searching for the right image—just create it yourself! These are templates for stock photo. Change the prompts to fit your situation.



Lifestyle Stock Photography



TEMPLATE

[man, woman] in a [setting], [action] beautiful light, detailed, lifestyle stock photography [optional photographic effects like shallow depth of field, arial photo, wide angle, close-up] --ar {3:2, 2:3}

Lifestyle Stock Photography



/imagine a woman in a kitchen, chopping vegetables, beautiful light, detailed, lifestyle stock photography, realistic photo --v 5

Business Stock Photography

TEMPLATE

[office workers, businesspeople] in a [modern office, conference room, coworking space], [discussing, presenting, brainstorming], well-lit, crisp details, business stock photography {optional photographic effects like shallow depth of field, aerial photo, wide angle, close-up} --ar {3:2, 2:3}

A man in a dark suit and tie stands at the head of a long conference table, presenting to a group of business people seated around the table. The room is modern with large windows and a whiteboard in the background. The lighting is soft and professional.

Business Stock Photography

/imagine office workers in a conference room having a meeting beautiful light, detailed, business stock photography arial photo, wide angle --v 5 --ar 3:2

Food Stock Photography



TEMPLATE

Tasty food photography, [type of food/cuisine], in a [setting] with a [style] style, beautiful lighting and composition, stock photography, mouth-watering, appetizing, detailed textures of sauce and pasta, beautiful presentation, featured on Bon Appétit -
-ar {3:2, 4:3}

Tech Stock Photography



Tasty food photography, italian, in an italian cafe with a rustic tradition style, beautiful lighting and composition, stock photography, mouth-watering, appetizing, detailed textures of sauce and pasta, beautiful presentation, featured on Bon Appétit

Tech Stock Photography

TEMPLATE

technology photography, [gadget or device] in a [setting: modern workspace, futuristic setting], with [specific features: sleek design, innovative features], vibrant lighting, stock photography



Tech Stock Photography



/imagine technology photography, macbook pro, in a modern workspace, with sleek design, innovative features, vibrant lighting, stock photography





Enjoy Creating!

MAKING
the
PHOTO