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Magic Light And The Dynamic Landscape





Synopsis

Moments of peak action are well-known in sports photography, but they also happen in nature photography. The light can change within seconds and the best light may occur only long enough for a single frame. To create dramatic images, landscape photographers must first recognize those moments of magic light that get the heart pumping and blood flowing. While the sunrise and sunset hours provide recognized opportunities, the keen photographer will soon see that magic light can also happen at other times of the day. (Have you ever noticed how dramatic the sky can be before or after storm? Or seen a shaft of light shimmering through a snow squall over the mountain ridge?) After identifying the light, capturing the moment requires fast action; often, you need to set up fast and shoot within seconds to get the shot. At every phase of the process, from finding magic light throughout the day to making best use of it when you do, this book arms you with the skills you need to succeed—and use magic light to transform everyday landscapes into ethereal visions.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I was not sure what to expect with a book such as this but was pleasantly surprised. Jeanine Leech takes a slightly different approach with not only an emphasis on twilight and golden hour shooting

but does an exceptional job of illustrating the value with many pictures taken of the same areas as the sun rises or sets to show how different the scene becomes in what is often a matter of minutes. The writing and illustrations and organization place this book above all others for the beginning or novice photographer and it also provides insights for even experienced photographers that provide a fresh perspective. I have a bookcase full of books on photography in general and landscape photography and none are as well written and illustrated as this one. Most photographers have very limited writing skills and Jeanine is a notable exception. There is also none of the fluff or page filler material found in so many books on photography and the image quality and printing quality are exceptionally good. Sad to see but many time the printing quality and paper used is so bad as to negate any value from them in illustrating a point by the author. Jeanine also is unusual in using the lowest possible ISO setting and the smallest possible aperture setting and then using a cable release to compensate for what are very long exposure times. Seeing this approach taken to the extreme is something I found very different and also very enlightening. I cannot take this extreme approach in all situations with my 36MP camera as diffraction is more pronounced with it but I will be nonetheless doing a lot more shooting at the smallest possible aperture as well as at f8 to f11 so I have images to evaluate later. With no film or processing costs it costs nothing to experiment.

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