

Black & White

What's the big deal?

... Neil Miller

Dedicated to David Blumenthal

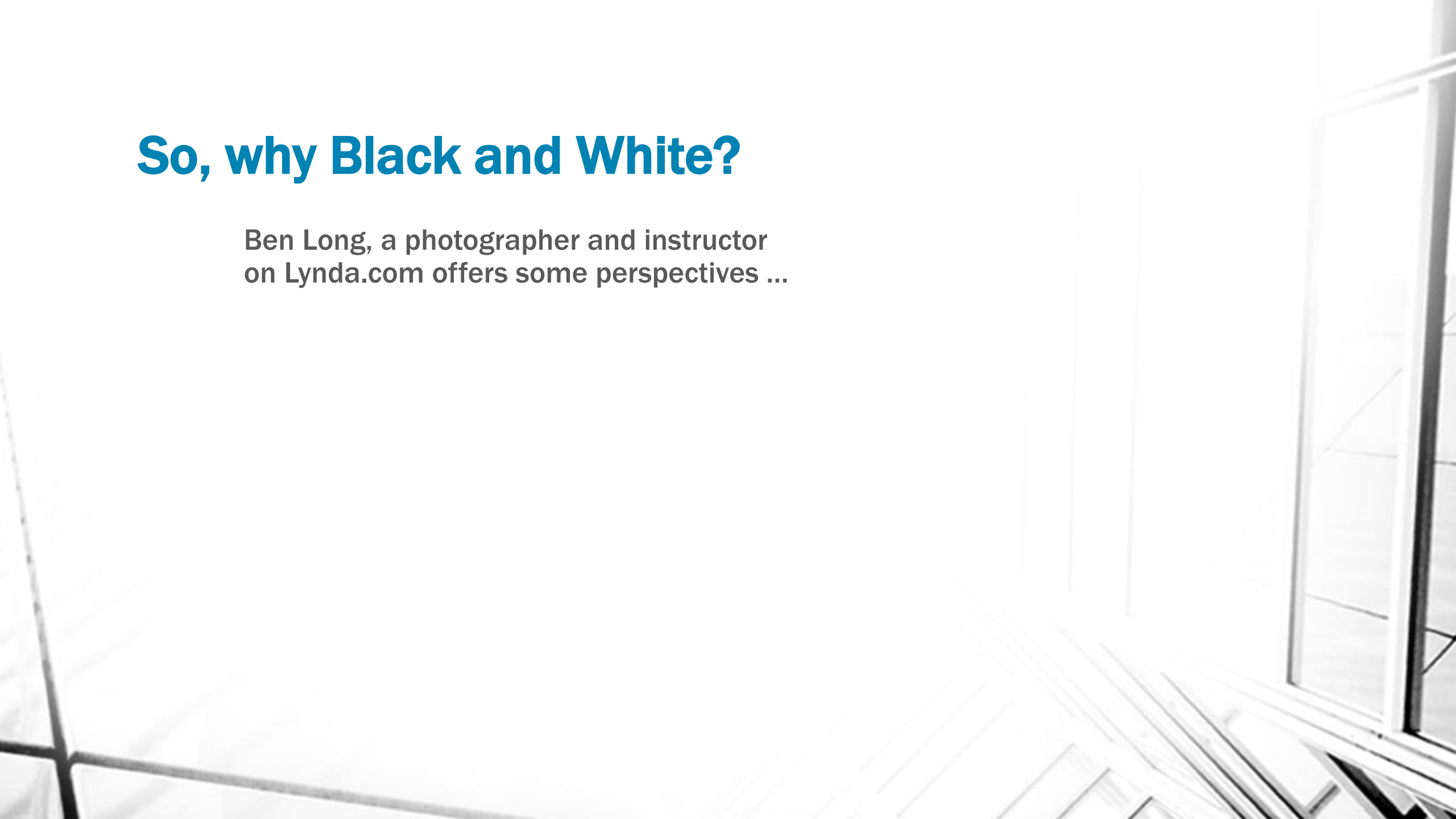
First ... some inspiration ...





So, why Black and White?

Ben Long, a photographer and instructor on [Lynda.com](https://www.lynda.com) offers some perspectives ...



Reasons to convert to B&W

- Background is colorful and distracting
- Colors in the photo or subject's clothing do not enhance the image
- For artistic purposes like exaggerating contrasts and silhouettes
- When black and white has more impact than color
- When the image is too noisy in color
- To emphasize texture
- The image has strong contrast – i.e. strong lighting and shadows

Some examples





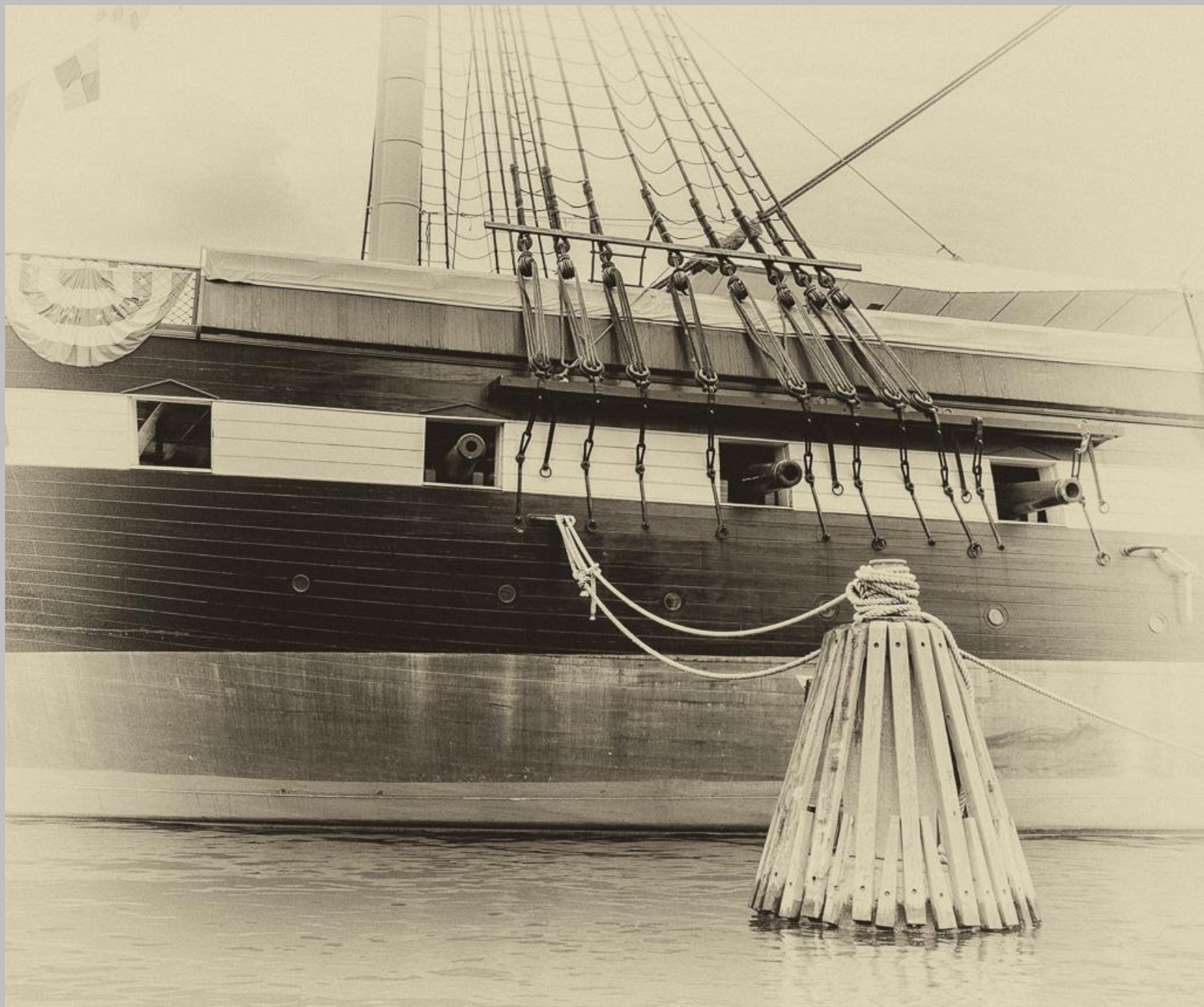










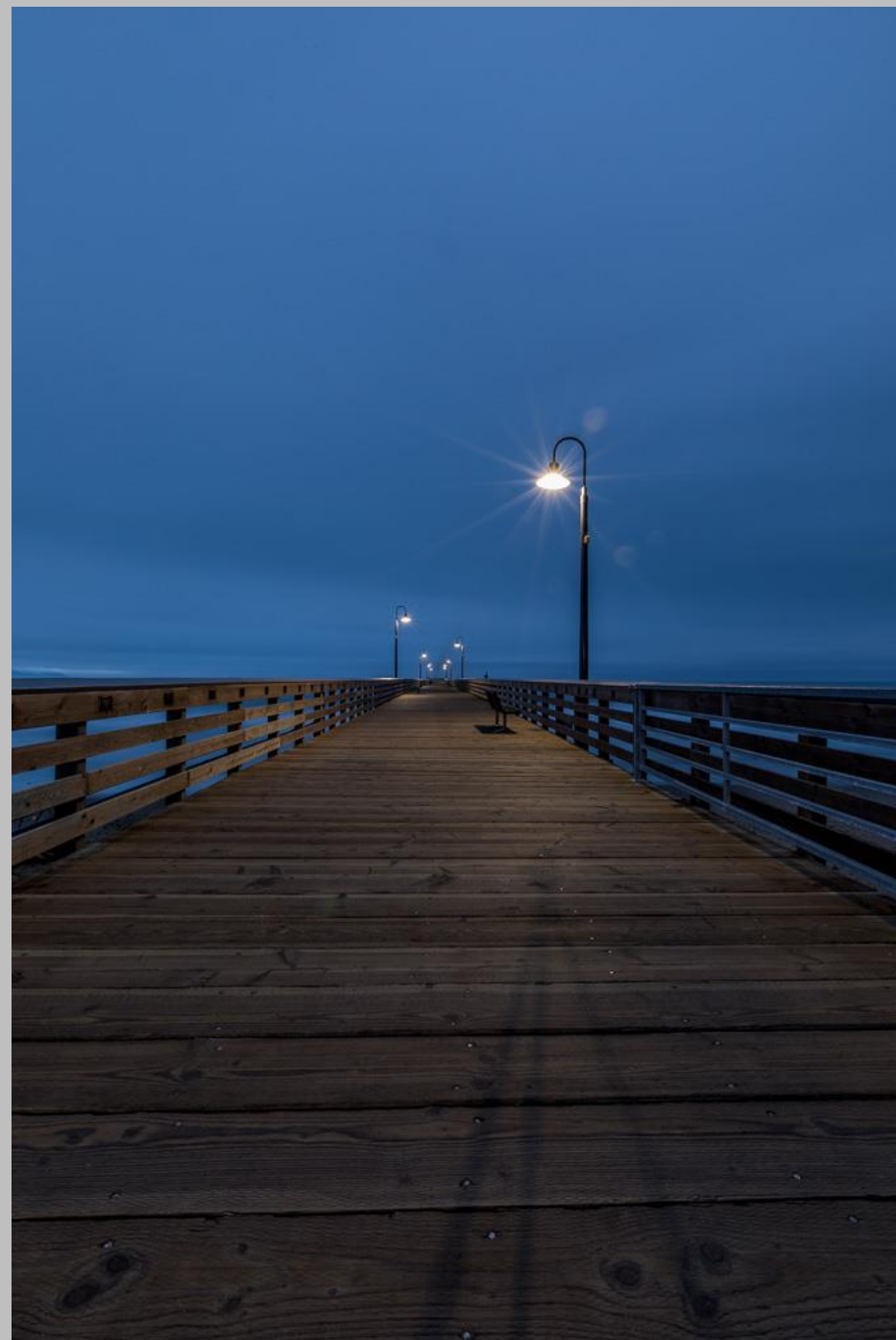












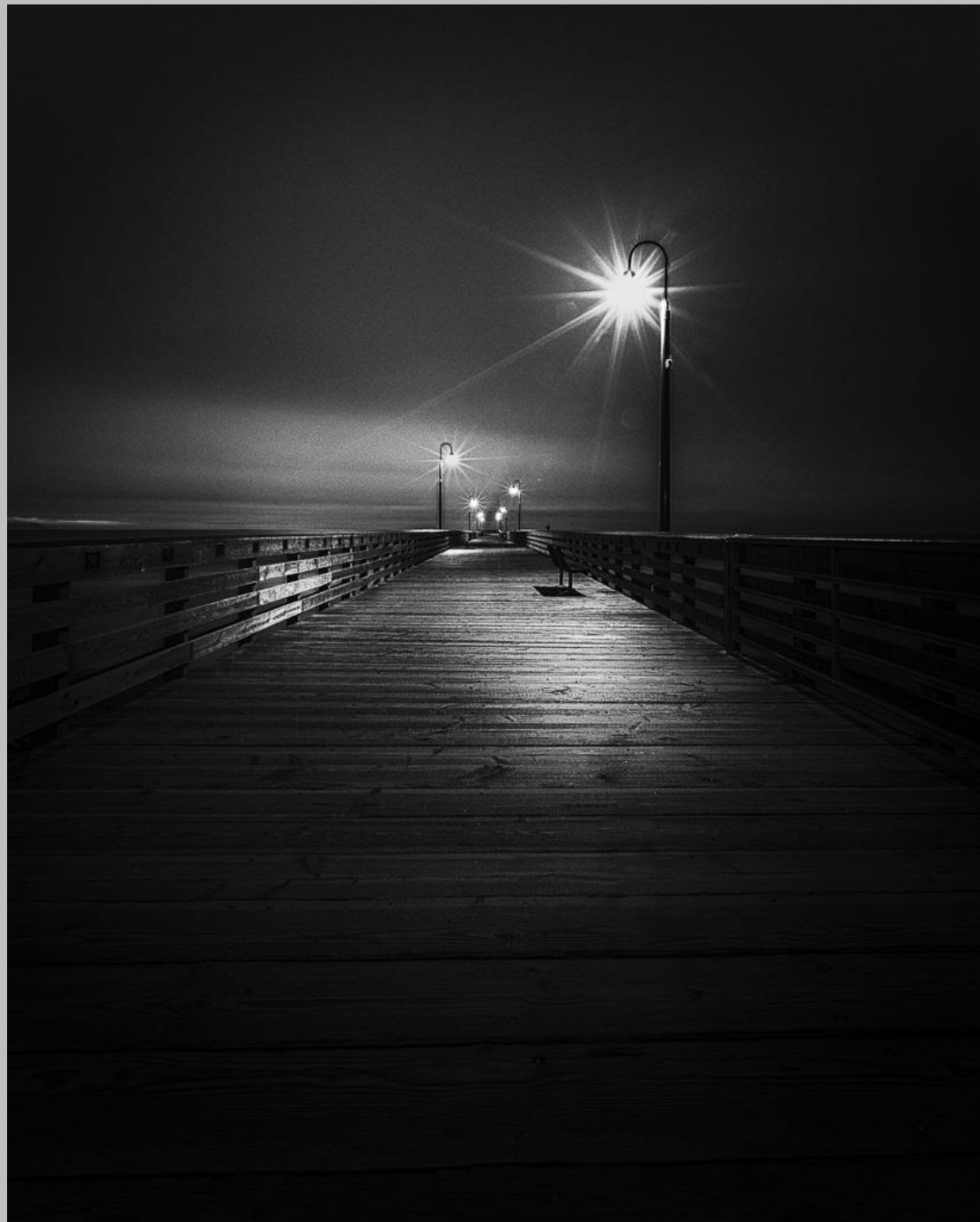




Photo by Lestlie Prokosch



Photo by Leslie Prokosch

Converting to B&W in Lightroom



Converting to B&W in Photoshop



Feather: 0 px Anti-alias Style: Normal Width: Height: Select and Mask...

Photography

MLR_4524-2 @ 16.7% (Photo Filter 1, Layer Mask/16) * MLR_4475.CR2 3M4A4832.CR2 3M4A4909.CR2 3M4A4924.CR2 3M4A4764.psd Joel Tutorial.psd



Histogram Navigator



Libraries Adjustments

12

Search Adobe Stock

Colors



Layers Channels Paths

Kind

Normal

Opacity: 100%

Lock:

Fill: 100%

Photo Filter 1

Layer 2

Curves 1

Channel Mixer 1

Layer 1

Channel Mixer 2

Background copy

Some Masters of Black and White

- Yousuf Karsh





Some Masters of Black and White

- Yousuf Karsh
- Ansel Adams



Video Sources

- *Top 30 Black and White Photos*
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8TaVoILL5kk>
- *Why Black and White* – Ben Long
 - Lynda.com course (subscription)
- *Lightroom CC - Converting Photographs to Black and White* – Julieanne Kost
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g1avniKzEvQ>
- *Better Black and White Conversion in Photoshop* – Mark Richardson
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4lIt7lgqJok>
- *Profile of Photographer Yousef Karsh* – excerpt from WCBV-TV (Boston) *Chronicles* episode
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gCkHLqNSAvQ>
- *Ansel Adams – Art of Photography*, Ted Forbes
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gCkHLqNSAvQ>