# EFFECTIVE STORYTELLING PHOTOGRAPHY CHECKLIST



GET STARTED Do I have time to reflect on the storytelling aspect of this shot?			
	Yes! Examine the scene. Determine as specifically as possible the story that you wish to tell with this image.	<ul><li>No!</li><li>Shoot your picture and then move to the next step.</li><li>Attempt a 2nd shot with a story.</li></ul>	
$\bigotimes$	What camera position will best convey your story?		
	Explore  Raise the camera position  Lower the camera position.  Examine the scene from all possible sides and angles  Pick the camera position		
$\bigcirc$	What lens should you use? Ask yourself: Can you change your lens?		
	<ul> <li>Yes!</li> <li>Consider these possibilities.</li> <li>Compressing the scene – telephoto</li> <li>Expanding the scene – wide angle</li> <li>Normal field of view</li> <li>Depth of field</li> <li>Including or excluding background elements</li> </ul>	□ <b>No!</b> Re-evaluate the camera position, and then move to the next step.	
$\bigcirc$	What camera settings should you use?		
	☐ ISO: Is your story better told with a super crisp imade. ☐ Shutter Speed: Is your story better told with some. ☐ Aperture: You have already considered depth-of-fied. How does your choice of aperture affect the shutter. ☐ Color Balance: Could a color balance adjustment experience.	blur or should it be tack sharp? eld ter speed and ISO options?	

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What composition considerations can you employ?	
<ul> <li>Have you directed the viewer's eyes right toward your subject?</li> <li>Is the subject placement within the frame the best it can be?</li> <li>Can you make use of leading lines, frames, or contrast to further highlight your subject?</li> <li>Is the story surrounding your subject clear and concise?</li> <li>Is the story surrounding your subject simple- so that the vast majority of viewers will understand your story?</li> </ul>	
Do you have storytelling concepts in your image?	
<ul> <li>□ Does my shot include a dramatic element?</li> <li>□ Am I addressing one of the storytelling needs of humanity?</li> <li>• Entertainment</li> <li>• Explain the physical world</li> <li>• Belief in a higher power or supernatural forces</li> <li>• Communicate an experience</li> <li>• Fulfill an aesthetic need for beauty, regularity, and self-expression</li> <li>• Record history</li> </ul>	
How can I use post-production to enhance my story?	
<ul> <li>☐ Have I employed localized selective focus?</li> <li>☐ Does increasing or decreasing color saturation help reveal my story?</li> <li>☐ Could I crop my image to better place my subject for the story?</li> <li>☐ Does the contrast in my image support my subject, composition, and story?</li> <li>☐ Could advanced photo editing such as grunge effects or compositing increase the story value of my shot?</li> </ul>	
Have all of decisions above produced the simplest story possible?	
☐ Yes! ☐ No You rock! Don't worry. Start over!	



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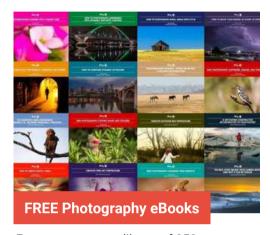
This guide will show you how to use "story" to make your photographs stand out and be memorable.

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Let's get real for a minute... Learning photography can be super challenging! But we're here to help you every step of the way!

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- 2. Download these <u>3 Free Photography Cheat Sheets</u> to help you understand the basics.
- 3. Access our <u>Free Photography eBook Library</u>, with 250+ downloadable (.pdf) tutorials on Photo Fundamentals, Post-Processing, Composition, Low-light, and much more!

**Always remember:** Momentum is the key to exploring and developing your creative talents...

So get out there and take some more pictures!



### We're so glad you're here!

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