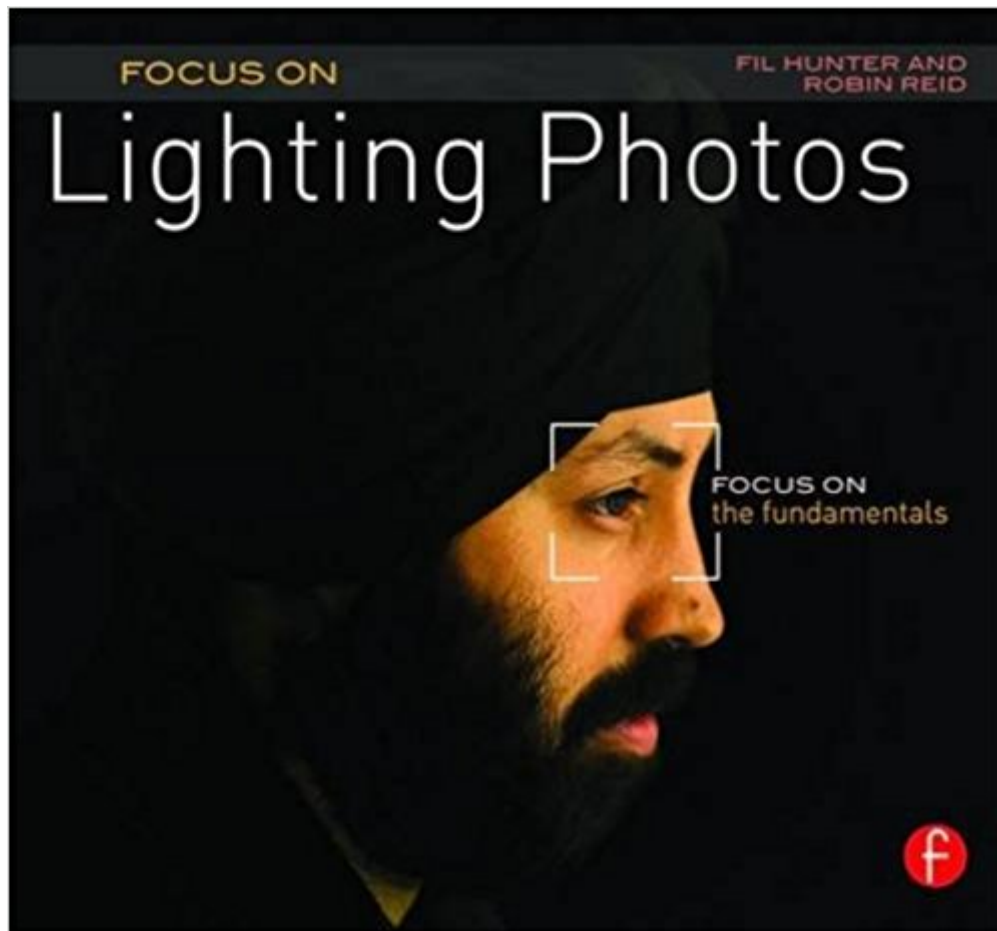




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Focus On Lighting Photos: Focus On The Fundamentals (Focus On Series)



Synopsis

Have you ever wondered if you need to use a flash in sunlight? What the best lighting is for a macro shot? How long your exposure should be in low lighting? If you have, this book is for you! Lighting affects composition, focus, exposure decisions, and pretty much everything about taking a picture. Further, the mood of the photograph is totally dependent on the lighting - and can make or break the image. It is also one of the hardest things for a budding photographer to grasp. The existing lighting books tend to require expensive equipment and extensive knowledge on how to light photos. For those who aren't at that level yet, this guide shows how to take shots in certain settings and times, such as lighting for specific seasons, back-lighting, water lighting, available light at mid-day, and more. Loaded with photos, tips, tricks, and inspiration, you can't help but walk away from this book with the critical knowledge you need to know to take the perfect picture.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"The explanations are easy to understand. Concepts are demonstrated by series of photos of the same subject with different lighting. Diagrams supplement the written explanations. I find the use of progressively more intriguingly lighted pictures, of the same subject, very helpful. That technique enabled me to understand concepts better. Focus on Lighting Photos seems to be geared for readers who are somewhat familiar with photography in general. I would say intermediate level. However, there is a very good glossary of the photo terms

used.Ã Å If you have not taken a photo class, it is fairly easy to follow along. The writing style is informal, clear and precise.Ã Å I really enjoyed Focus on Lighting Photos.Ã Å The techniques it presents are exciting and inspiring.Ã Å It is a fairly easy read."--Big Bear Computer Club

Fil Hunter is a highly respected commercial photographer specializing in still life and special effects photographs for advertising and editorial illustration. During a career spanning over three decades, he has worked for such clients as America Online, US News, Time-Life Books, Life Magazine (27 covers), the National Science Foundation, and National Geographic. He has taught photography at the university level and has served as technical consultant on a number of photographic publications. Mr. Hunter has won the Virginia Professional Photographer's Grand Photographic Award three times. He lives in Alexandria, VA. edding studio, starting as a custom color printer and progressing to photographer and retouching expert. At that time, she also participated in competitions for Virginia Professional Photographers, winning various awards, including Best Portrait of Children. After opening her own studio, she has gone on to shoot portraits, not only for local families, but also for various businesses and government entities (including, but not limited to the US Supreme Court, the US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, the US Tax Court, Time-Life Books, McGraw-Hill, American Management Systems, and HSI). Her work also includes product photography for the US Supreme Court (gift catalog), American Diabetes Forecast, Network Marketing, and others. She has taught studio portraiture in her studio for years for the Alexandria Art League. She continues to do all her own photographic printing (both traditional darkroom and digital). She is also a graphic designer, with a special interest in book layout.

This book feels like a digest ofÃ Å Light-Science & Magic (Paperback). If you've read LS&M and experimented with theory and techniques presented in it, Focus on Lighting Photos will not be as exciting. However, if you haven't read (or do not intend to read or found) LS&M (too technical for your taste/needs) or do not want to learn from the Flickr group dedicated to LS&M, this is a good book to get an introduction to lighting (including off-camera lighting with a flash or two or more). This book will quickly put one on track to better lighting quickly. It gives one confidence that good pictures can be made with gear (that includes a camera with flash) one already has. The book has good number of pictures, pictures of setups used to shoot those pictures, and explanation on how each picture was made. Covers portrait, landscape, still life, etc. Focus on Lighting Photos also has few useful DIY and common sense tricks to better lighting/pictures.

As an introductory read on lighting in photos, this book is a good buy. However there are some aspects of the book that keep it from being "5-stars" in my opinion. The book is written in a casual tone, which is much appreciated and makes the book accessible to photographers of all levels. There is a decent amount of information on DIY (do-it-yourself) lighting, and the author encourages the idea of doing things yourself/cheaply before dropping some serious cash on "real" equipment. The book briefly touches upon various aspects of lighting in different types of photography (landscape, portraits, etc). There are some good examples of portrait lighting (rembrandt, broad, etc) however the examples are just the photos themselves. I wish the author would have backed up from the scene, and showed the reader the actual set up of the lights. He does do this sometimes, but I personally wish it was more often. It's great to see "before and after" pictures, and in the narrative he tells you what he changed to get the "after" shot, but it could have been much easier to digest/visualize with a picture of the "before and after" set up as well. A glossary is included and is pretty good if you are unfamiliar with basic photography terms. As a side note, I found my copy (purchased from directly) had a lot of weird printing errors (missing pages, missing pictures, etc). As an introductory read in lighting, I would recommend this book. However, if you have an interest in lighting, you may find this book will leave you wanting more (more in depth explanations, more in depth lighting diagrams, etc).

The narrative of the book is annoying. The author wants to sound cool and connected with the reader, but tries way too hard. The advice on hard light and soft light is repeated to death throughout the book. The book doesn't encourage the reader to try the examples, the diagrams are poor and the solutions given are very simplistic.

This was a textbook for my intro. photo class and it was very helpful, providing clear illustrations and examples, and the layout was great-text broken up with pictures, diagrams, etc. for visual interest and better learning experience.

This is a wonderful book. I love the little side notes. I read magazines, but this book is full of the info I need. I had many questions about lighting and this is the book for me. It is full of answers and examples. light and shadows, split lighting portrait lighting, even glat metal, as i like to take pics of very old things like hand held wood saws.

Great book

Great book I use it all the time. Got me through a studio lighting class with an "A" and I give you guys an "A" too.

Haven't read it yet, but paging through, It looks very good.

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