

# BASIC EDITING NORTHERN LIGHT PHOTOS

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# BASIC EDITING What we will be covering

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## RAW VS JPEG

A Properly Exposed Photo in Camera

### Editing Terminology:

#### Light:

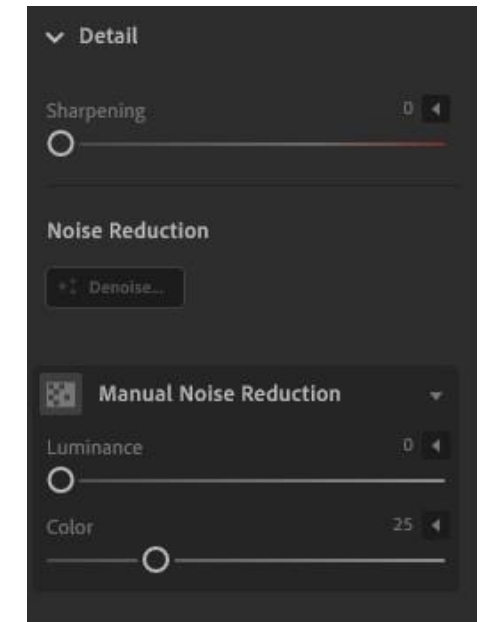
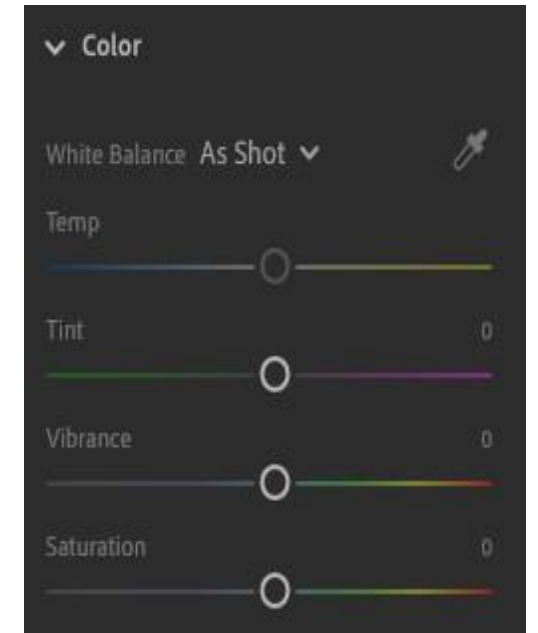
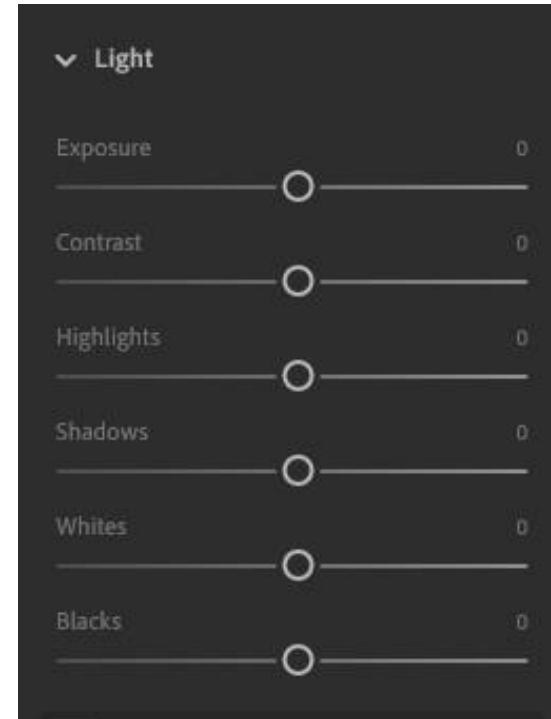
Exposure, Contrast, Highlights, Shadows, Whites and Blacks

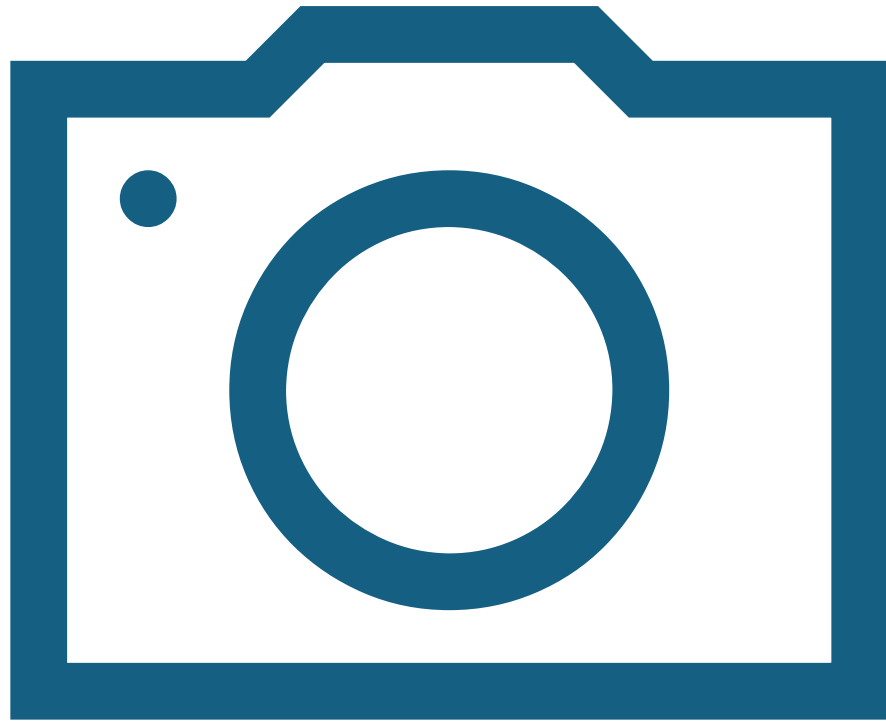
#### Color:

Temp, Tint, Vibrance and Saturation

#### Detail and Noise Reduction:

Sharpening, Manual Noise Reduction





# RAW

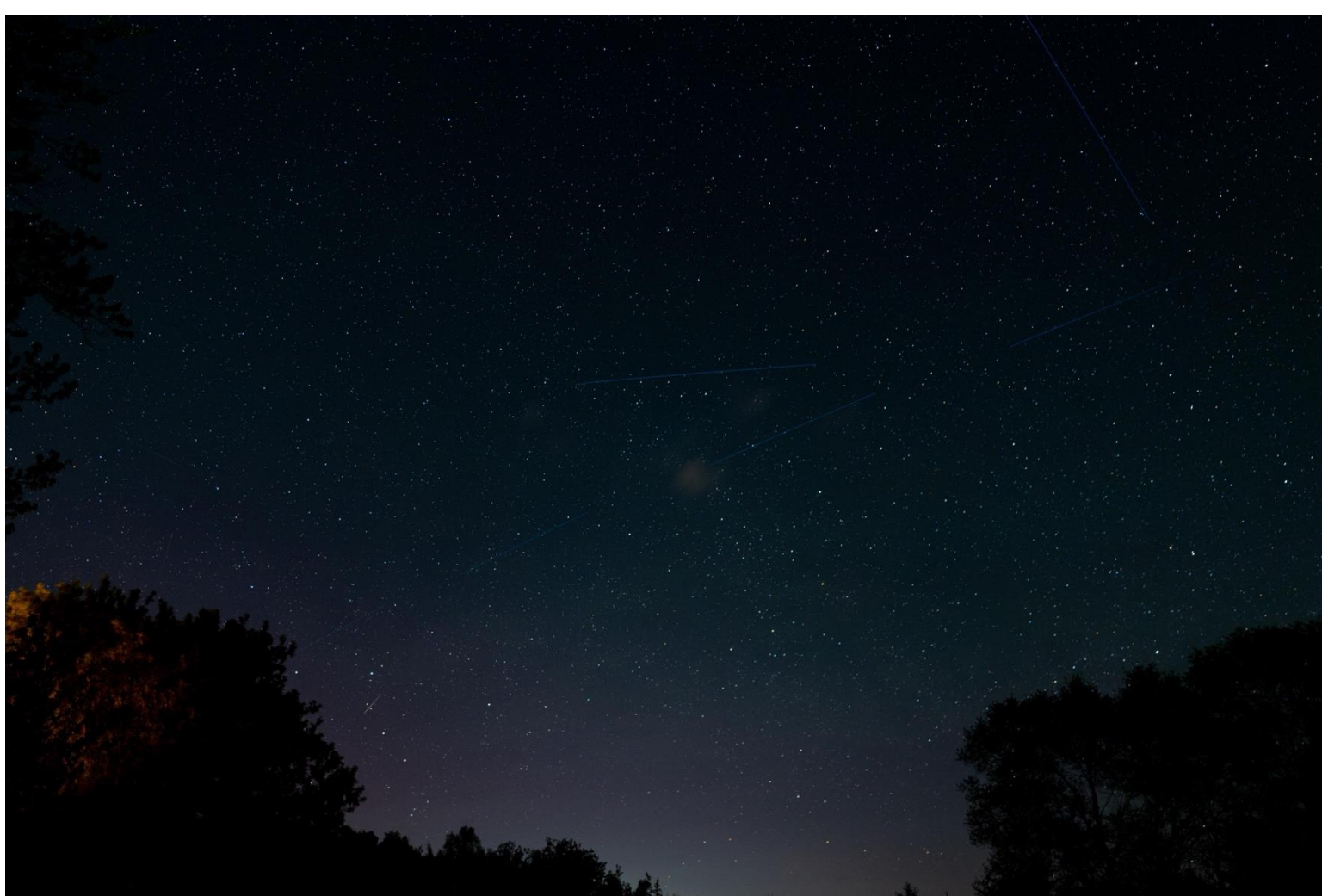
- It's Uncompressed Pixels
- Unprocessed Image Data
- It retains the highest quality and detail
- Provides greater flexibility for post processing adjustments
  - Exposure
  - Color correction



# JPEG

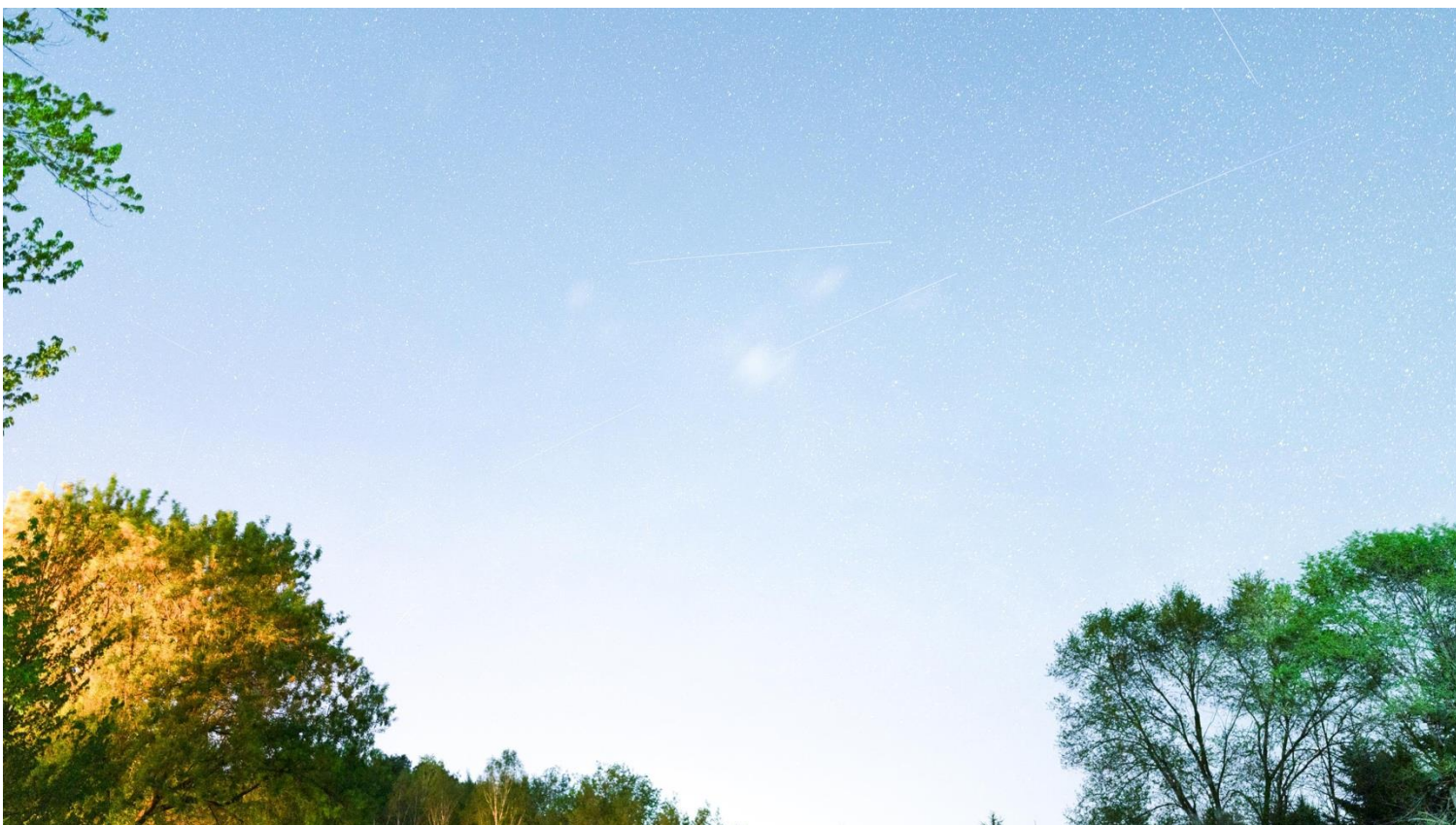
- Pixels are compressed
- Files are smaller
- Loses quality
- Self adjusting the Saturation, Contrast and sharpness of the image
- You lose control over the color
- If you shoot a over or underexposed photo fixing it is impossible to have a good image.





- A properly exposed photo in camera is one that allows you the freedom to edit the photo to your preferences without losing detail or getting color bleed and graining.

What is a properly Exposed  
Photo in Camera

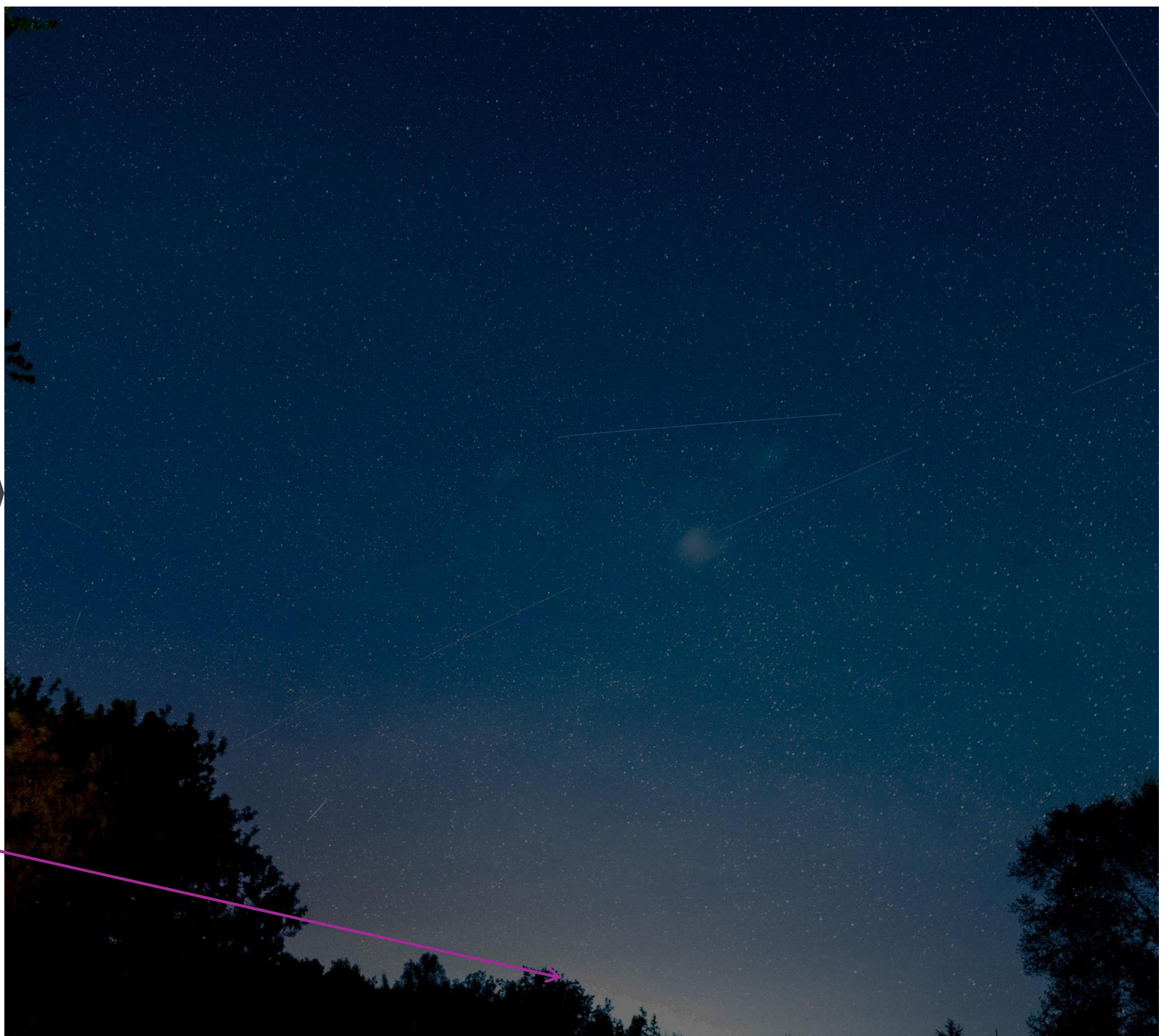


## OVEREXPOSURE

- Is when the photo in camera or when editing is so light you cannot see all the detail.
- Depending on how overexposed an image is you can not bring back detail even shooting in RAW will not save these photos.
- In JPEG bring back in detail is even harder.



After editing  
as a JPEG



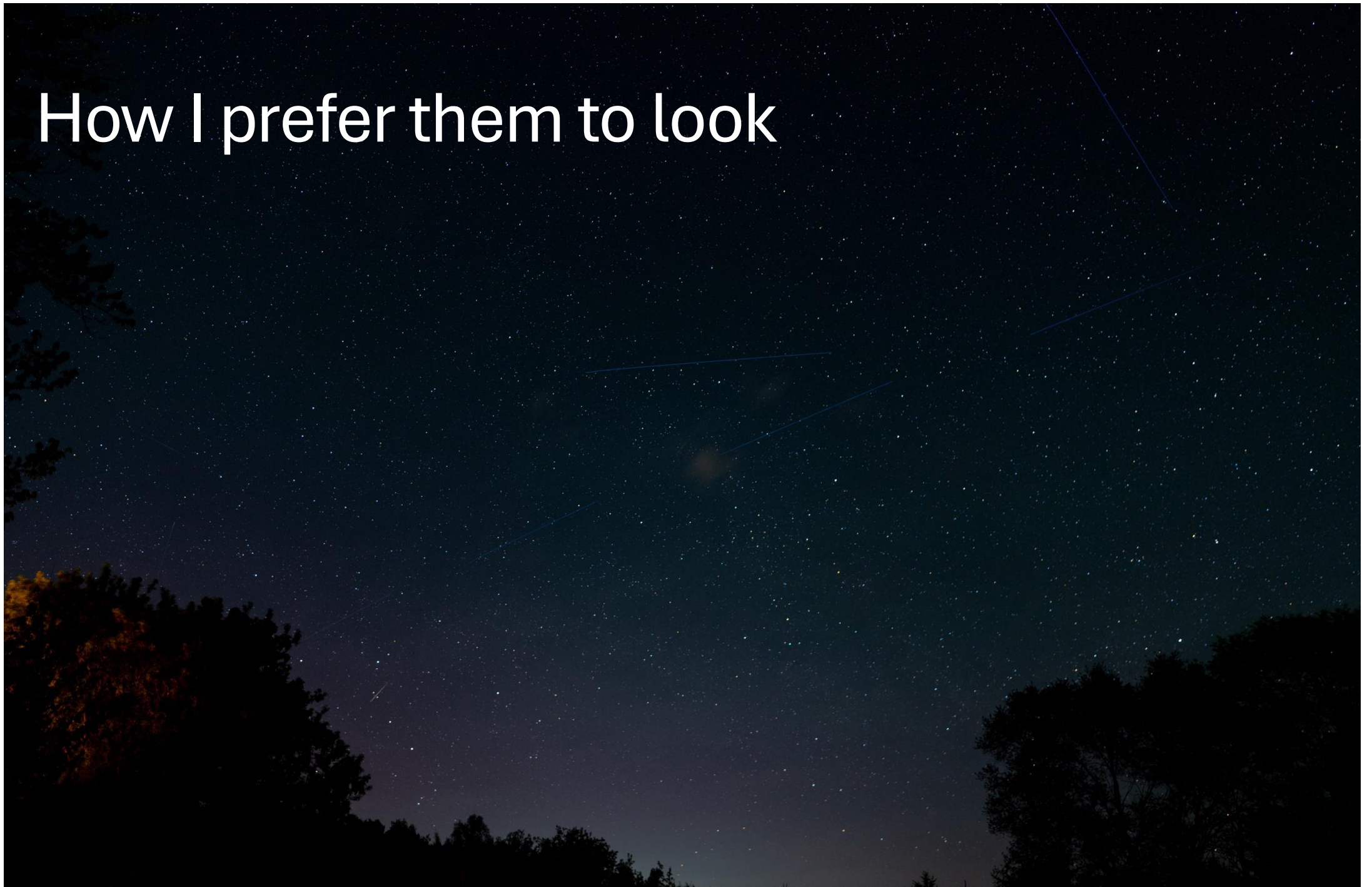




This is the original image unchanged



How I prefer them to look



# Editing

- Everything we will discuss applies to all editing programs
- All editing programs use the same basic principles
- Its just a mater of finding the location in the program and importing the photo
- The most important thing when processing a photo is its exposer



# White Balance

- In your camera you need go to manual white balance or Kelvin
- Each camera system is different
- In an Android phone go to pro mode, scroll to WB
- You want your white balance set around 3500 to 5000 kelvin
- This can very slightly depend on the camera/phone
- It can also very when the moon is out



# Editing White Balance in Lightroom

In all editing programs the white balance is under Color.

In Photoshop Bridge you can adjust it by numbers not a slider.

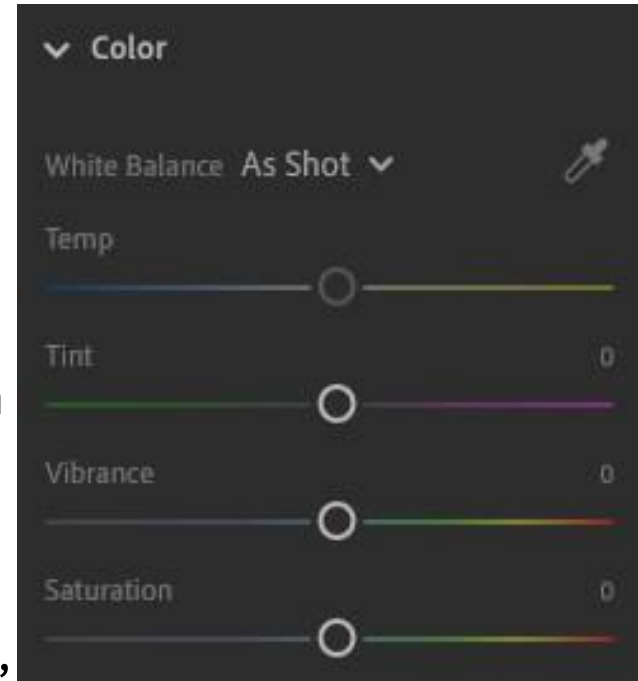
Temperature adjusts Blues to Yellows

Tint adjusts Greens to Magenta

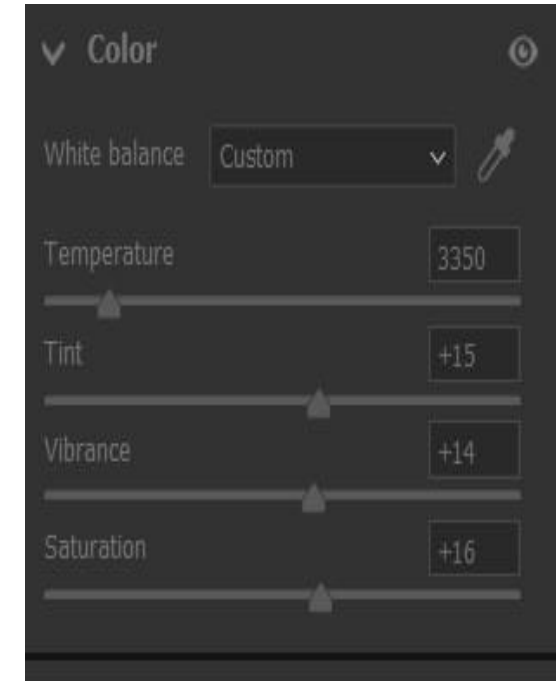
If shooting in RAW the drop down gives you the option To Select: As shot, Auto, Daylight, Cloudy, Tungsten, Florescent, Flash and custom

JPEG images you are only given the option for As Shot, Auto and Custom

Lightroom



Bridge







# Exposure

Always take test shot

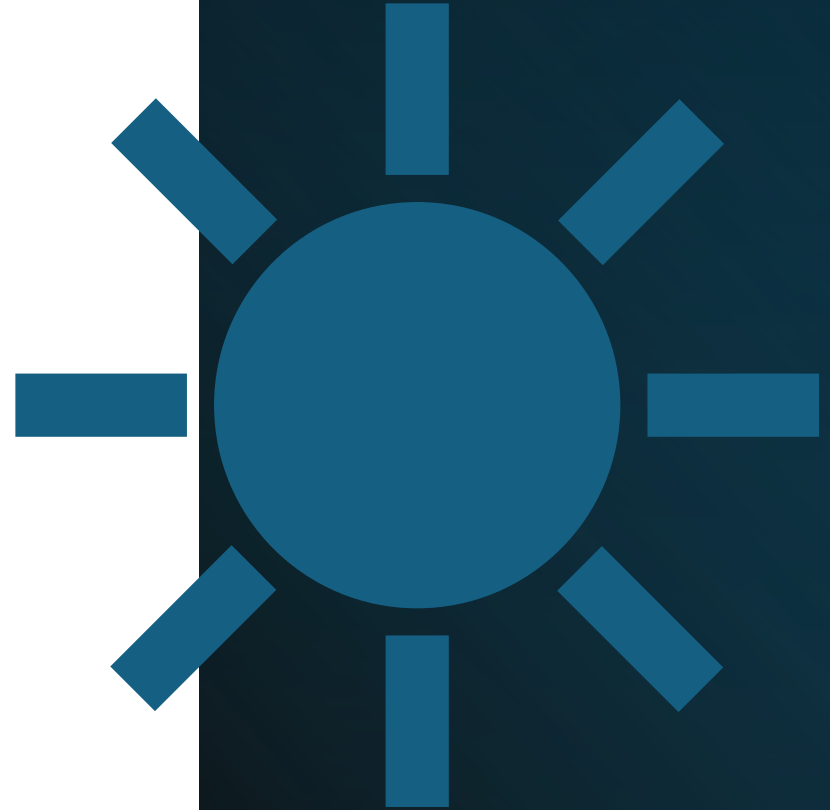
With digital its OK to be a little on the dark side

Trees look like black shadows, but you can see the sky and stars

If it looks like the sun is shining and daylight out, you run the risk of it being too light.

# Contrast

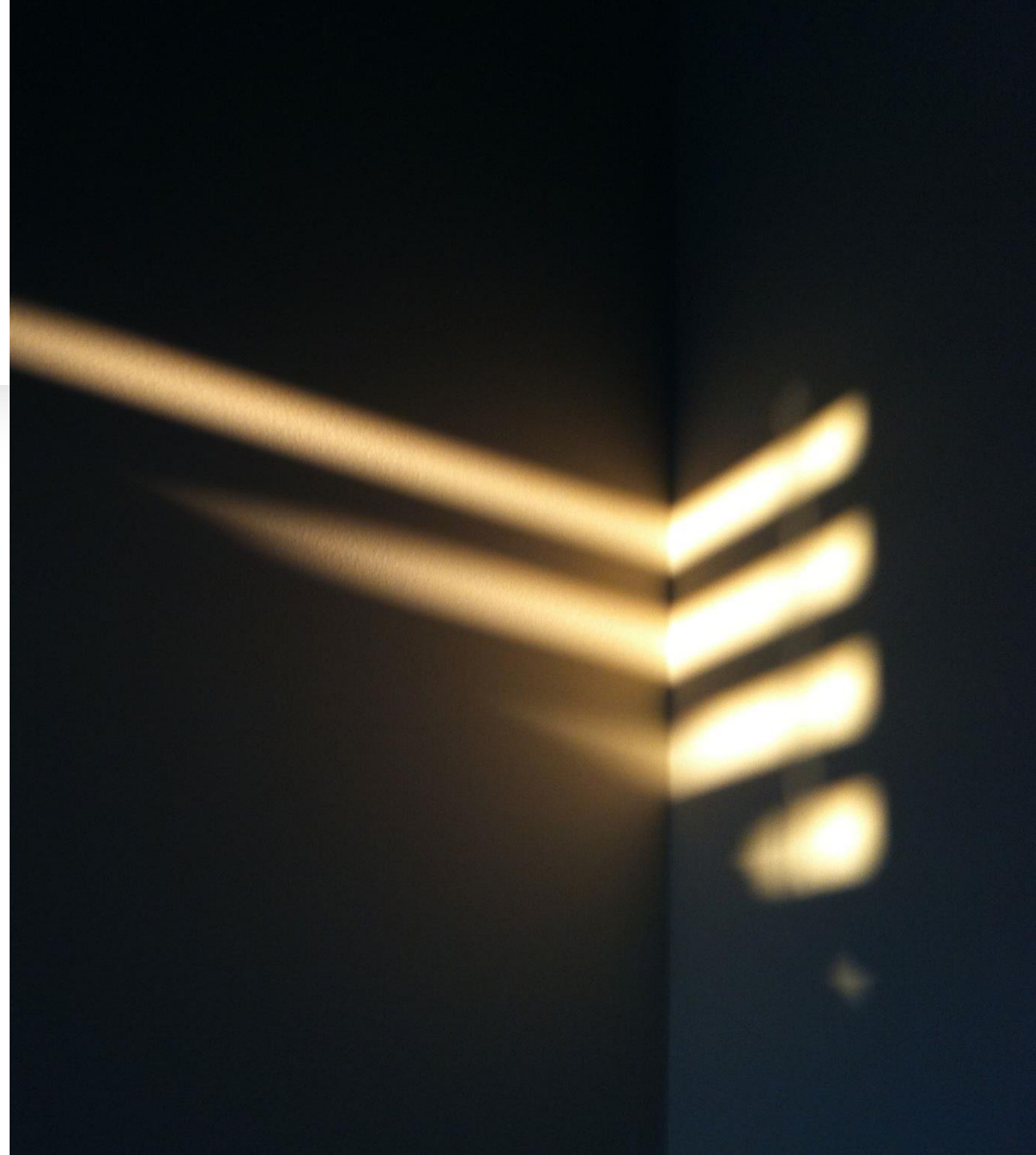
- The difference in brightness between light and dark areas of an image.
- Contrast determines the number of shades in the image.
- A low-contrast image retains detail but tends to lack dimension and look soft.
- An image with normal contrast retains detail and dimension, and looks crisp





# Highlights

- Highlights are the lightest elements in an image, whereas shadows are the darkest areas. Dynamic range is the ratio between those vivid highlights and dark shadows, from bright white to pure black



# Shadows

- Dark areas in photos
- In night photography they do still exist
- The more moon the more shadows or you can get shadows from small amounts of light pollution.





# Whites

The Whites slider changes the overall brightness of an image and also adjusts the white point

Having a true white point – a pure white – in your image gives it a strong pop and ensures that you have maximized the dynamic range of your image

# Blacks

Blacks control the darkest areas and pixels of an image, are essentially devoid of detail, and the slider covers a much wider range of tonal values than shadows.

If your image is underexposed the blacks will distort when you try to lift them just like they do when you try to give an image more exposure.

# Adjusting Light

- The image to the right shows all the things that are found under the Light Drop down on Both photoshop Bridge and Lightroom
- When you open a new image, it will read zero and be in the center.
- Pull it to the right [positive] to give the image more of the selected slider so if you want a image to have more contrast pull the slider to the right.
- Pull it to the left [Negative] to give it less, If you have to many shadows or to much black you can reduce it by pulling the slider to the left.





# Clarity

Clarity adjusts the contrast within the details of your image, without affecting the overall tone of the image.

As you adjust Clarity, the details are either clarified or smoothened, but the whites and blacks remain unaffected, and sharp edges remain sharp



# Vibrance

Vibrance is another photography tool used to enhance an image's color intensity. It's known as smart saturation because it works differently than saturation.

Instead of increasing the intensity of all colors in the image equally, vibrance increases the saturation in the midtones and protects the highlights and shadows

However, be careful too much vibrance can make an image look fake.

# Saturation

This is the depth of the colors in the image.



The higher the saturation, the more vivid the colors will be.



Again, to much saturation is not a good thing.

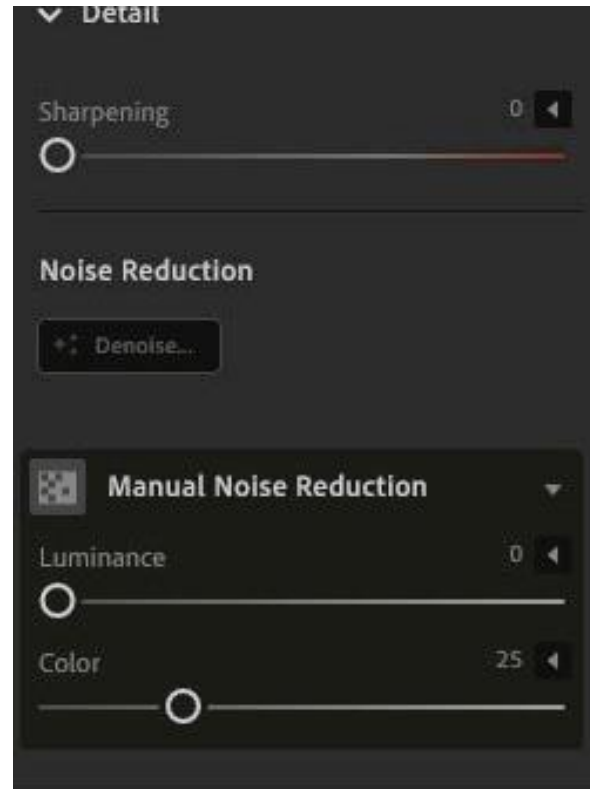




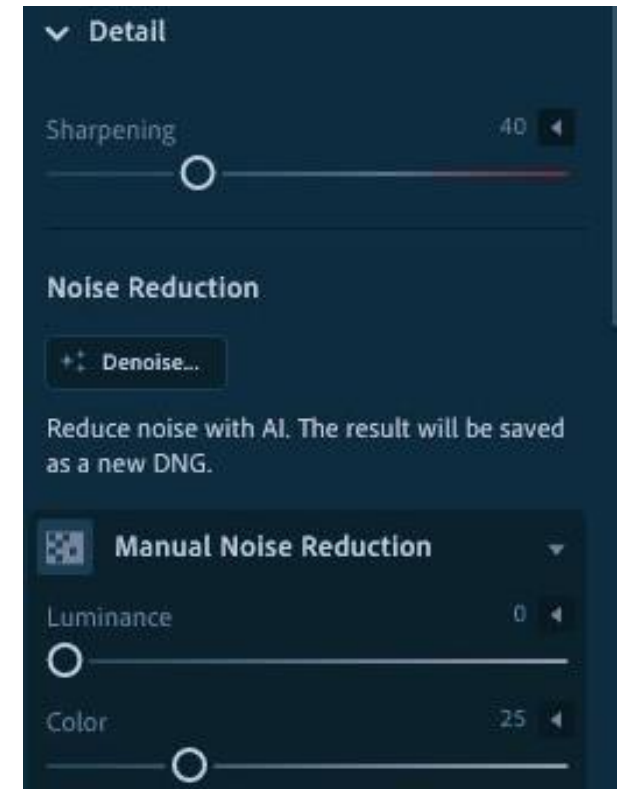
# Sharpening or Detail

- Image sharpening is an effect applied to digital images to give them a sharper appearance.
- Almost all lenses can benefit from at least a small amount of sharpening.
- With a JPEG upon opening it will start at Zero. You want to make small changes.
- With a raw file it starts at 40 moving it to 50 is my standard practice more because that's what I was taught to do.

Opening a Raw File in Lightroom



Opening a JPEG In Lightroom



# Examples too short of an Exposure (under exposure)



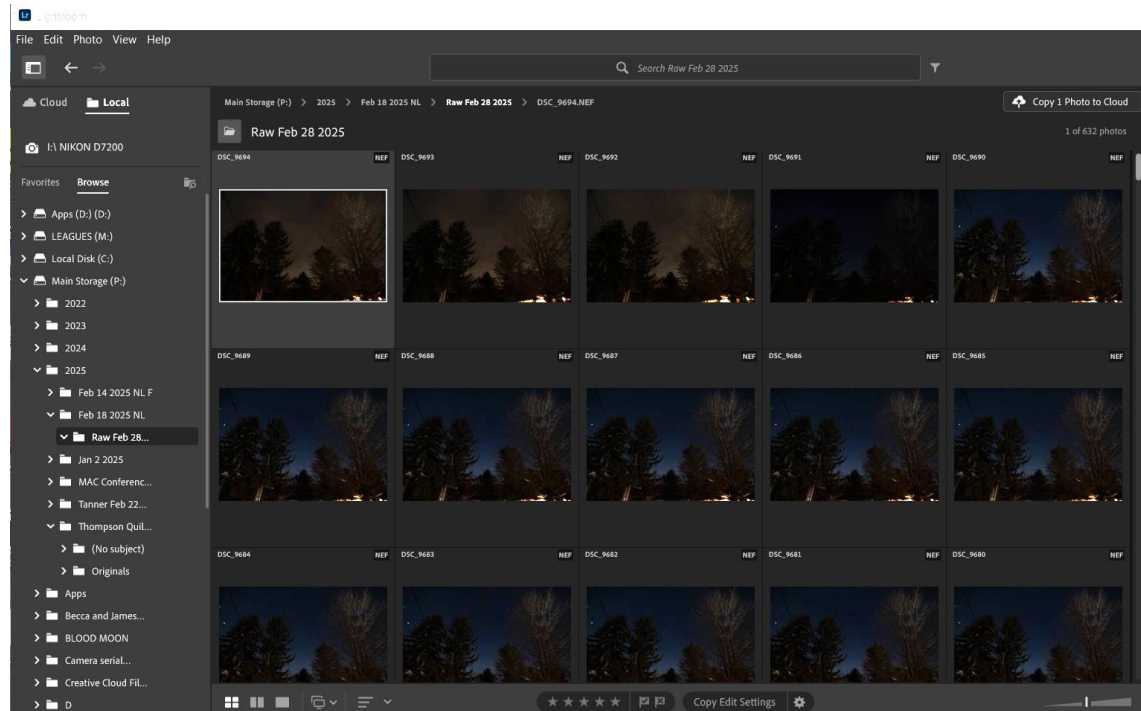
# Examples of too long of an exposure (over exposure)





Example of a  
properly  
exposed  
photo





- We will now move to Lightroom and Lightroom Classic
- While there we will walk through all the editing functions and steps



- QUESTIONS?

Thank you for your Time and attention