

Marc Rassel – November 7, 2025



# Photographing the Aurora: A Full-Day Workshop

From In-Field Capture to Final Timelapse



Get Started



About Me

# Welcome to Bootcamp 2025

I'm a photographer who focuses on the night sky and the wild landscapes that sit beneath it. Whether it's an aurora storm over the Arctic, the Milky Way stretched across desert rock, a moonlit ridge line in the mountains, or the fleeting drama of a total solar eclipse, I'm drawn to moments where natural light and land meet in powerful, often unpredictable ways.

Let's Go

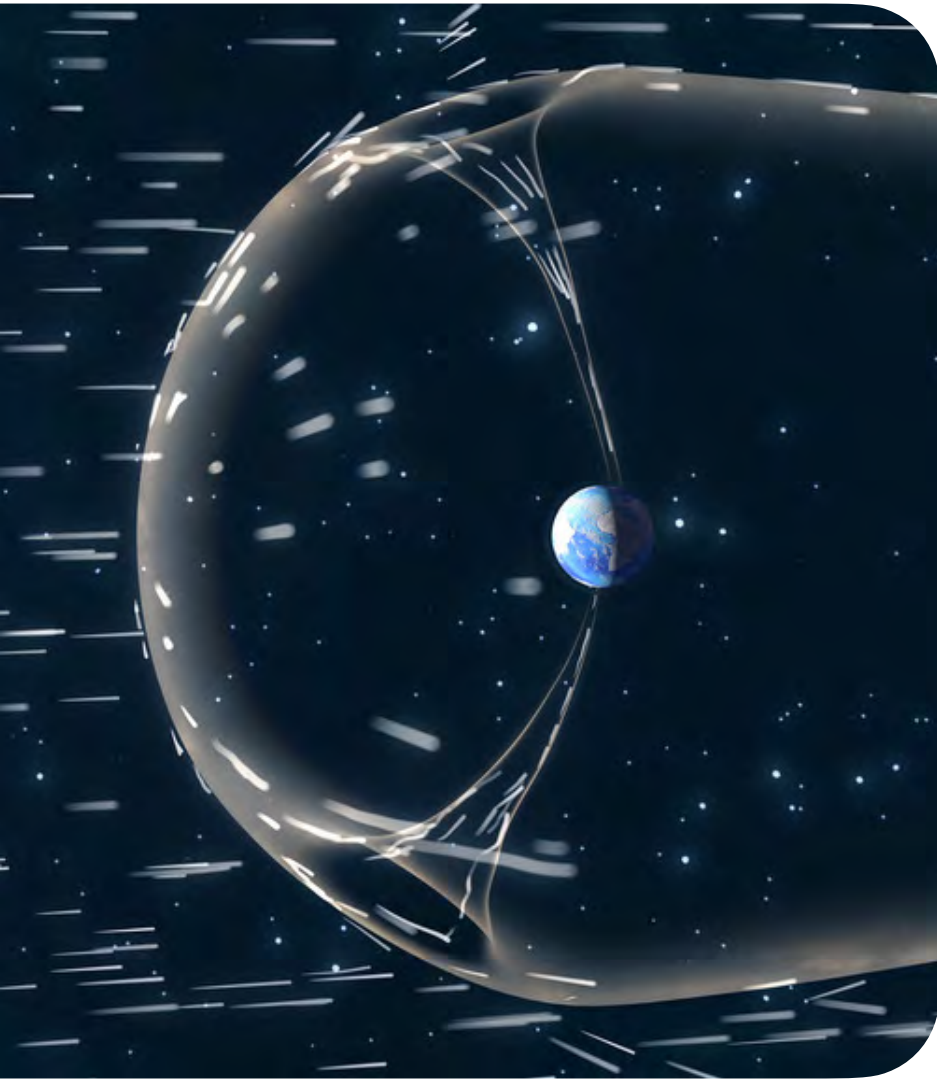


What we will cover

# Our Goals for Today's Bootcamp

- To master a repeatable process for stunning aurora photos.
- Morning Session: Master In-Field Capture (The "Get It Right" Part).
- Afternoon Session: Master Post-Processing (The "Make It Beautiful" Part).

Next →



A Brief Science Primer

# What is the Aurora?

**Source:** The Sun (Solar Wind / CMEs)

**Interaction:** Particles hit Earth's magnetosphere

**The “Glow”:** Solar particles exciting atoms in our atmosphere





Why the Science Matters

# Colors Tell a Story

- **Green (Most Common):** Oxygen.
- **Red/Pink (Rarer):** High-Altitude Oxygen.
- **Blue/Purple (Very Rare):** Nitrogen (sign of a very strong storm).
- **Key Takeaway:** The speed (slow blobs vs. fast pillars) will dictate our camera settings.







What to Expect

# A Bit of Housekeeping

## Today's Agenda

- **Breaks:** 10:00 AM & 2:45 PM (or as needed).
- **Lunch:** 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM.
- **Restrooms:** Where are they located?
- **The #1 Rule: Ask questions!** This is a workshop, not a lecture.





MARC RASSEL  
PHOTOGRAPHY

# Gear, Equipment & Safety

What to Buy, What to Pack



Let's Go





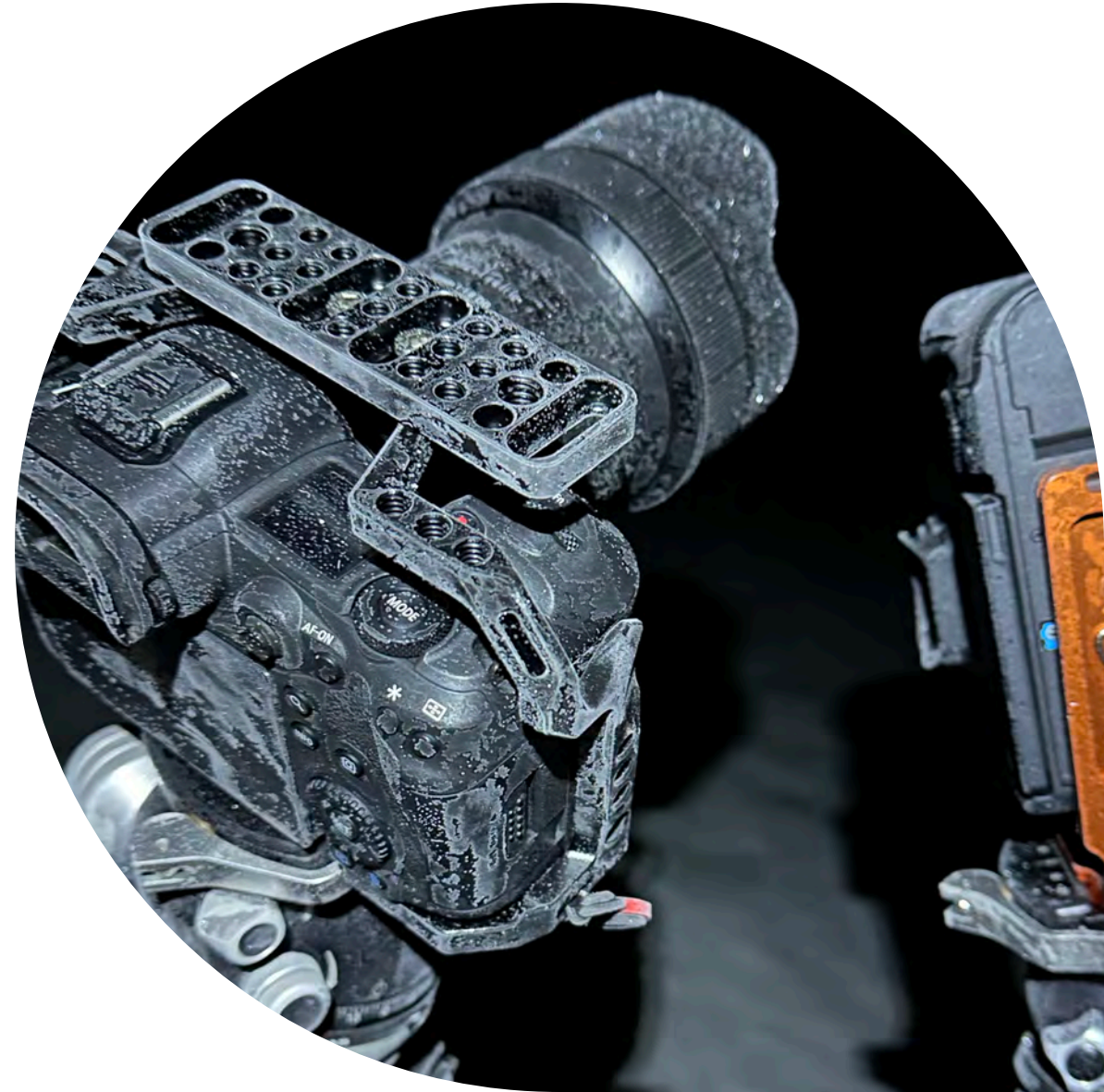
Field Safety

# Your Best Photo Isn't Worth Frostbite

## The Basic Rules

- **Dress in Layers:** Base (Merino/Synthetic), Mid (Fleece/Down), Shell (Windproof).
- **NO COTTON!** (It holds moisture and freezes).
- **Extremities:** Insulated boots, hand/toe warmers (put them with batteries!), hat, balaclava.

Next →





## Field Safety

# Your Most Important Gear

## Essentials

- **Headlamp:** Must have a RED LIGHT mode.
- **Why Red Light?** It preserves your night vision (and everyone else's).
- **Situational Awareness:** Watch for wildlife, thin ice, and private property.

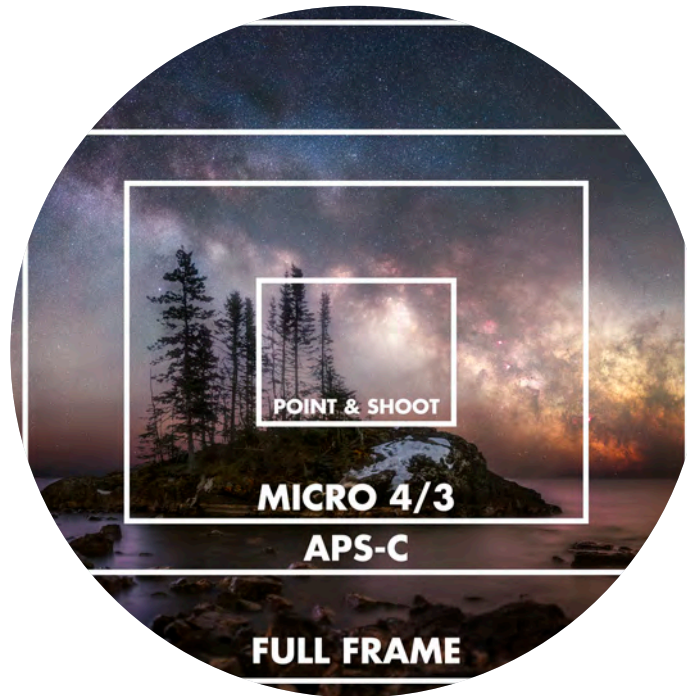


The Big Three

# The Core Kit:

## 1. The Camera

- **Requirement:** Manual (M) Mode & RAW shooting.
- **Full-Frame:** Better in low light, less noise (but heavier, more expensive).
- **Crop-Sensor (APS-C):** Perfectly capable! (Just need to manage noise).
- **Mirrorless vs. DSLR:** Mirrorless wins for night work (Live View EVF, Focus Peaking).



The Big Three

# The Core Kit:

## 2. The Lens

The most critical piece

- **This is your "Light Bucket."** You want the biggest one possible.
- **Focal Length:** Go WIDE (14mm - 24mm) to capture the scale of the sky.
- **Aperture:** Go FAST (f/1.4, f/1.8, f/2.8).
- A **"fast" f-stop** (like f/1.8) lets in dramatically more light than f/4.





The Big Three

# The Core Kit:

## 3. Tripod & Head

- "Do not trust a \$3000 camera to a \$50 tripod."
- **Tripod:** Sturdiness > Weight. (Carbon Fiber is best for cold/weight).
- **Head:** Ball-Head is fast and flexible. (Avoid clunky 3-way heads).
- **Pro-Tip:** An "L-Bracket" keeps your camera centered for vertical shots.



## Essential Accessories

# The "Must-Haves"

- **Remote Shutter / Intervalometer**
  - **Why?** Pressing the shutter button will shake your camera and blur your shot.
  - Can be a wired remote, a wireless app, or built-in to your camera.
- **Extra Batteries** (ideally brand-name)
- **Headlamp** with red light options
- **Memory Cards:** High quality "pro" grade

Next →

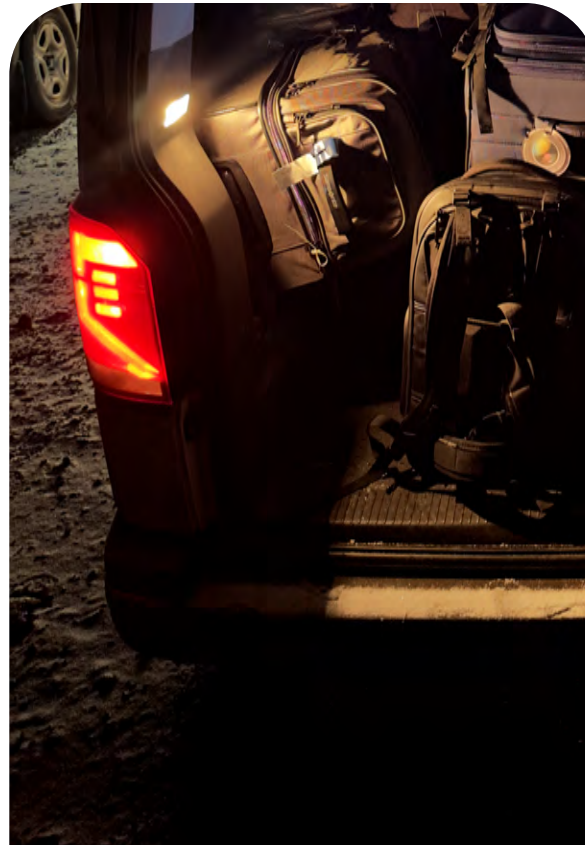


## Non-Essential Accessories

# The “Nice-to-Have” Gear

- **Lens Heater / Dew Strip:** Prevents frost/dew from forming on your lens.
- **Hand and Foot Warmers:** I’m certain I don’t need to explain this one...
- **Power Banks**

Next →



Don't Forget!

# The “Don’t Make This Mistake” Gear

- **Filters: REMOVE THEM!**
  - **UV/Clear filters** cause "ghosting" (internal reflections) on bright stars/aurora.
  - **NEVER use Polarizers** (CPL) or ND filters at night.
- **Electric** socks, gloves, vest, etc.

Next →



## Essential Gear

# Example Kits



### Budget

Crop-sensor body + Rokinon  
14mm f/2.8 + Aluminum tripod



### Intermediate

Full-frame (Sony a7iii) + 20mm  
f/1.8 + Carbon fiber tripod



### Advanced

Low-light body (a7Siii/Z8) +  
14mm f/1.8 + Lens Heater

Night Shooting Etiquette

# How to Not Ruin Everyone's Night

## RED LIGHTS ONLY

(No, really. Only red.)

- **Dim** your camera's LCD screen.
- **Turn off** all camera "BEEP" sounds.
- **Don't "light paint"** or use flash if others are shooting.
- **Our Responsibility:** Leave No Trace.





## Leave No Trace

# The “Leave No Trace” Seven Principles

## The Basics

- Plan Ahead and Prepare
- Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
- Dispose of Waste Properly
- Leave What You Find
- Minimize Campfire Impacts
- Respect Wildlife
- Be Considerate of Other Visitors

Next →





# Setting Up for Success

The Pre-Flight Checklist



Let's Go



## Pre-Flight Checklist

# The "At Home" Checklist

## The Basics

- Format memory card (after you download your files!)
- Charge ALL batteries and headlamps
- Gather all your essential gear (camera, lens, tripod)
- Lens clean (microfiber cloth)
- Red headlamp charged
- Cell phone charged

Next →



## Pre-Flight Checklist

# The “In-Field” Checklist

## Don't Forget

- Set to Manual (M) Mode.
- Set to shoot RAW. (NOT JPEG).
- Turn OFF Long Exposure Noise Reduction (LENR).
  - Why? Doubles your wait time, creates gaps in a timelapse.
- Turn OFF Image Stabilization (IBIS/IS/VR).
  - Why? On a tripod, it "hunts" for motion and causes blur.
- Turn OFF High ISO Noise Reduction
- Set LCD brightness to Manual and turn it down.
- Make sure your lens is set to Manual Focus

Next →







Focusing in the Dark

# Nailing Focus: The MOST Important Step

## Set your lens to Manual Focus (MF)

- Open your aperture to its widest setting (e.g., f/1.8).
- Find a bright star or very distant light near the center of the frame.
- Use Live View.
- Digitally Zoom In (5x, 10x) on the star.
- Slowly rock the focus ring with both hands until the star is a small, sharp pinprick.

Focusing in the Dark

# Focussing: Pro Tips

## The Real Pro-Tip: Check Your Focus Every 30 Minutes

- **Mirrorless Pro-Tip:** Use the EVF (electronic view finder) if external factors are distracting, such as cars, other lights, etc.
- **Advanced Pro-Tip:** Use a "Bahtinov Mask."
- **The "Taping Your Lens" Myth: Don't do it.** True infinity shifts with temperature.





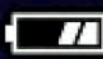

STANDARD FOCUS





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STARRY FOCUS - LONG

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 F2.0

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 ISO 3200



STARRY FOCUS - WIDE



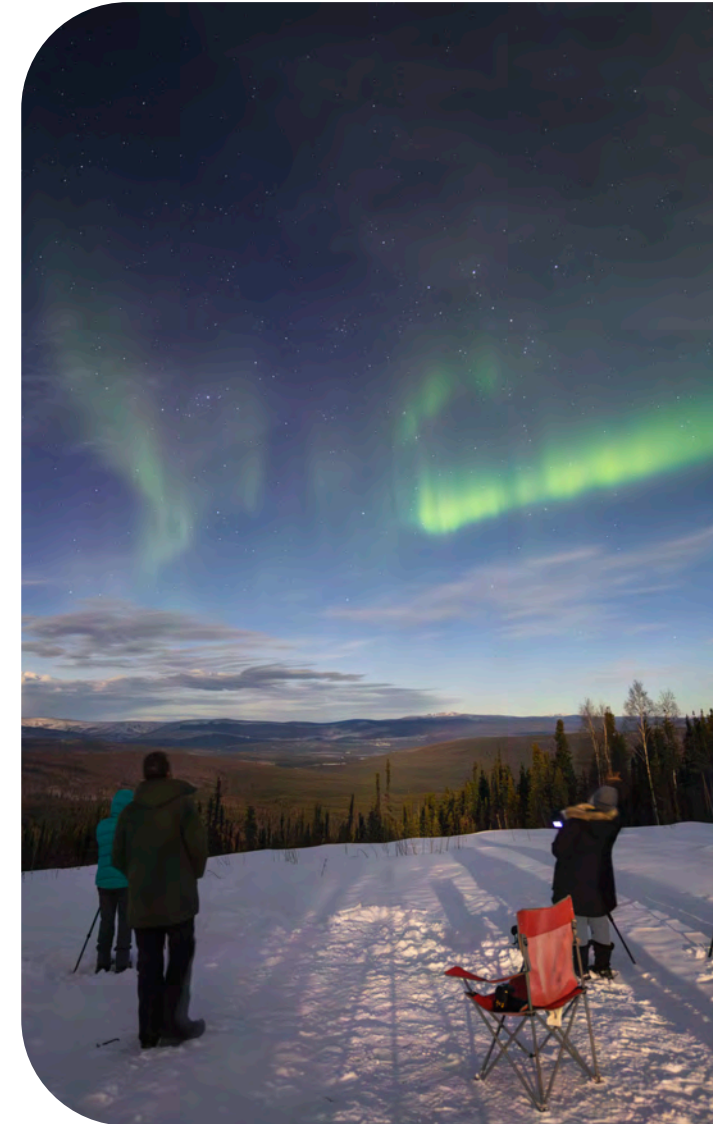


Everyone, get your cameras out

# Your Turn, Then Break Time

We will now do our "Pre-Flight Checklist" together

- **Your Mission (Find these 5):**
  - **Long Exposure Noise Reduction (LENR)** → Turn OFF.
  - **Image Stabilization (IS/IBIS/VR)** → Turn OFF.
  - **Image Quality** → Set to RAW.
  - **Shooting Mode** → Set to Manual (M).
  - **LCD Brightness** → Turn it DOWN.
- Ambassadors will be roaming to help.
- **Once you've got all five**, you're on break! See you at 10:15.





Coffee In → Coffee Out

# See you at 10:15

Grab some coffee, grab a snack, and get ready for the fun parts.



Continue







Night Settings

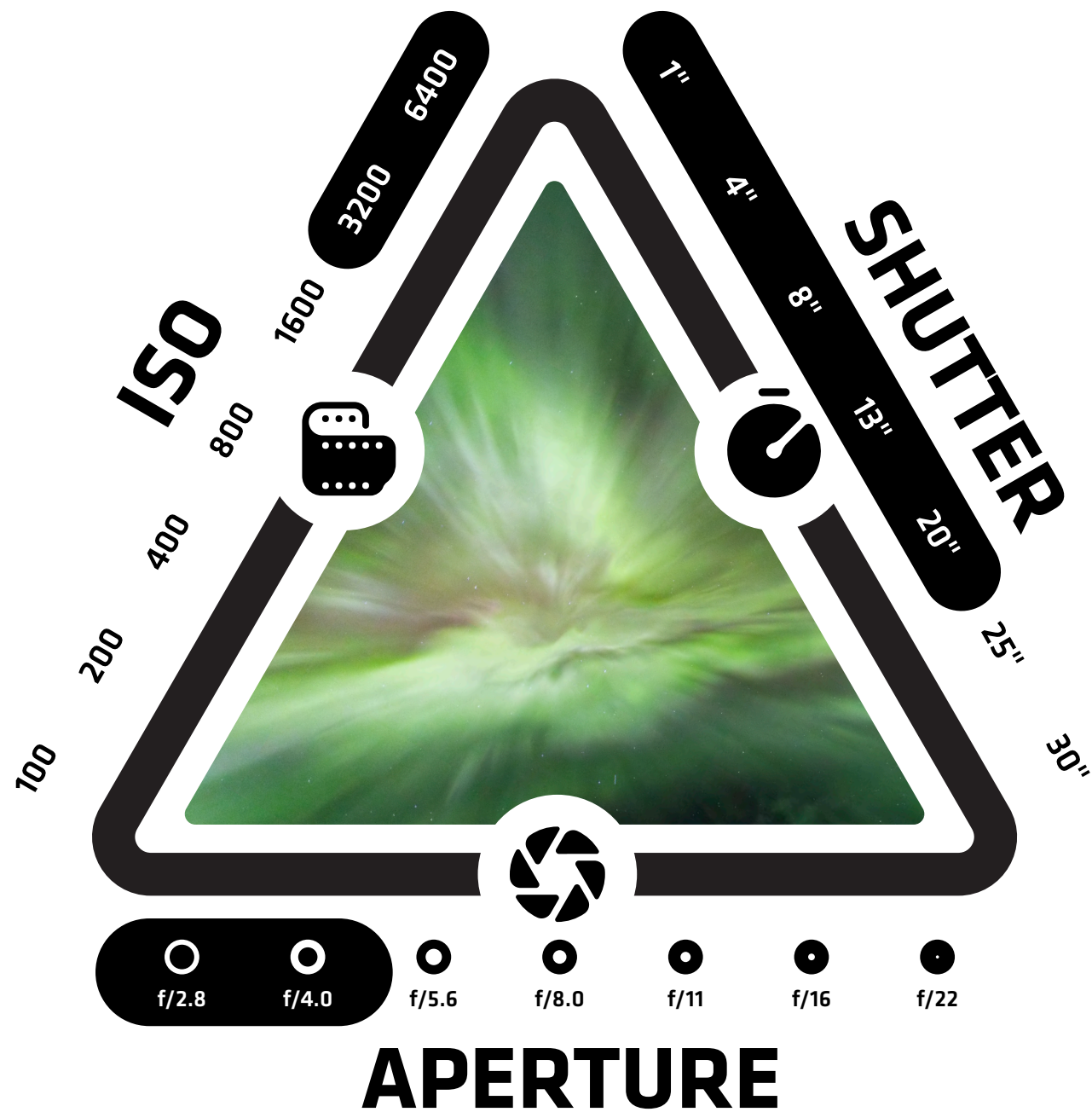
# The Aurora Exposure Pyramid

## The Secrets to Manual Shooting

Everything you need to know about choosing the correct settings in photography comes down to these basic principles of the Exposure Triangle.

Next →







## Night Settings

# The Goal vs. The "Enemy"

- **Our Goal:** Capture a sharp, bright, detailed photo.
- **The Enemy:**
  - Lack of Light (It's dark!)
  - Digital "Noise" (Grain)
  - Motion Blur (From subject or camera)
- **We control this with 3 settings:** Aperture, Shutter Speed, ISO.





## The Exposure Pyramid

# Aperture (The "Light Funnel")

## Setting the Aperture

- **What it is:** The opening in your lens. (e.g., f/1.8, f/2.8, f/4.0).
- **Low Number (f/1.8)** = Wide open = More light!
- **Your Goal:** Set it to the lowest number your lens has (f/1.8, f/2.8) and leave it there.
- **This is Priority #1.** Set it and forget it.







## The Exposure Pyramid

# Shutter Speed (The "Time" Element)

## Choosing the Right Shutter Speed

- **What it is:** How long the camera's sensor is exposed to light.
- **Longer time (15s)** = More light, but more motion blur.
- **Shorter time (3s)** = Less light, but freezes motion.
- **The "500 Rule" is outdated.** Star trails appear much faster on modern cameras.
- **A good starting point:** 15 seconds.





Shutter Speed vs. Aurora Motion

# Shutter Speed is Your Creative Control

This is how you control the texture of the aurora

- **Scenario A: Slow, Faint Aurora**

- Use a long shutter (15-25s).
- This gathers more light and smooths the aurora into a soft, glassy ribbon.



Shutter Speed vs. Aurora Motion

# Shutter Speed is Your Creative Control

This is how you control the texture of the aurora

- **Scenario B: Fast, Dancing Aurora**

- Use a short shutter (2-8s).
- This freezes the motion and captures the sharp, distinct "pillars" and "curtains."

But wait... less time = less light. How do we fix this?





The Exposure Pyramid

# ISO (The "Amplifier")

This is the answer. ISO amplifies the signal (the light)

- **Low ISO (100)** = Low amplification (needs lots of light).
- **High ISO (3200)** = High amplification (good for dark scenes).
- **The "Cost"**: High ISO = more digital "noise" (grain).
- **Don't be afraid of ISO!** Noise is better than a blurry or dark photo.
- **Use your HISTOGRAM**, *NOT* your LCD to judge brightness!

Cheat-Sheet

# The Starting Recipe

Use this as a baseline

**Mode:** M, **Focus:** MF

**Additional Settings:** RAW, IS/LENR: OFF.

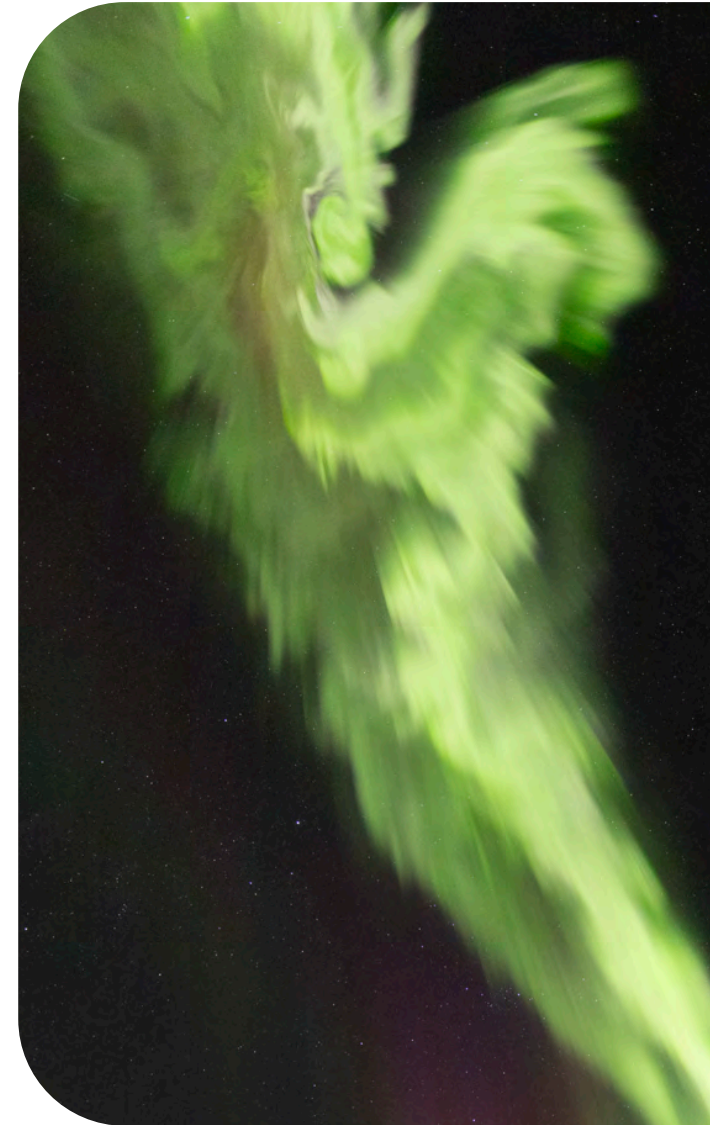
**Focus** perfectly on a star.

**Aperture:** f/1.8 (or widest).

**Shutter Speed:** 15 seconds.

**ISO:** 3200.

**Take test shot.** Review & Adjust.





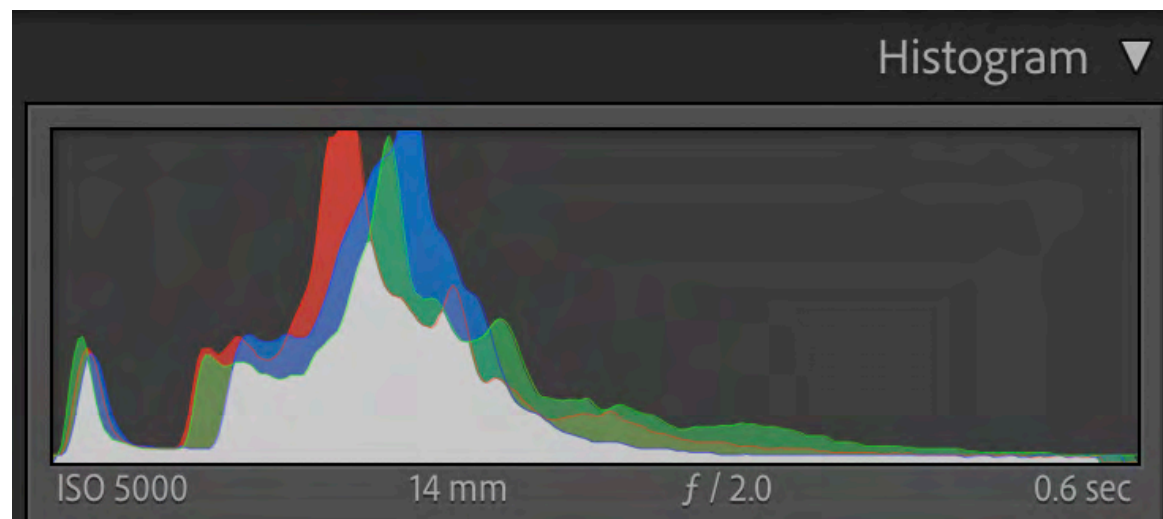


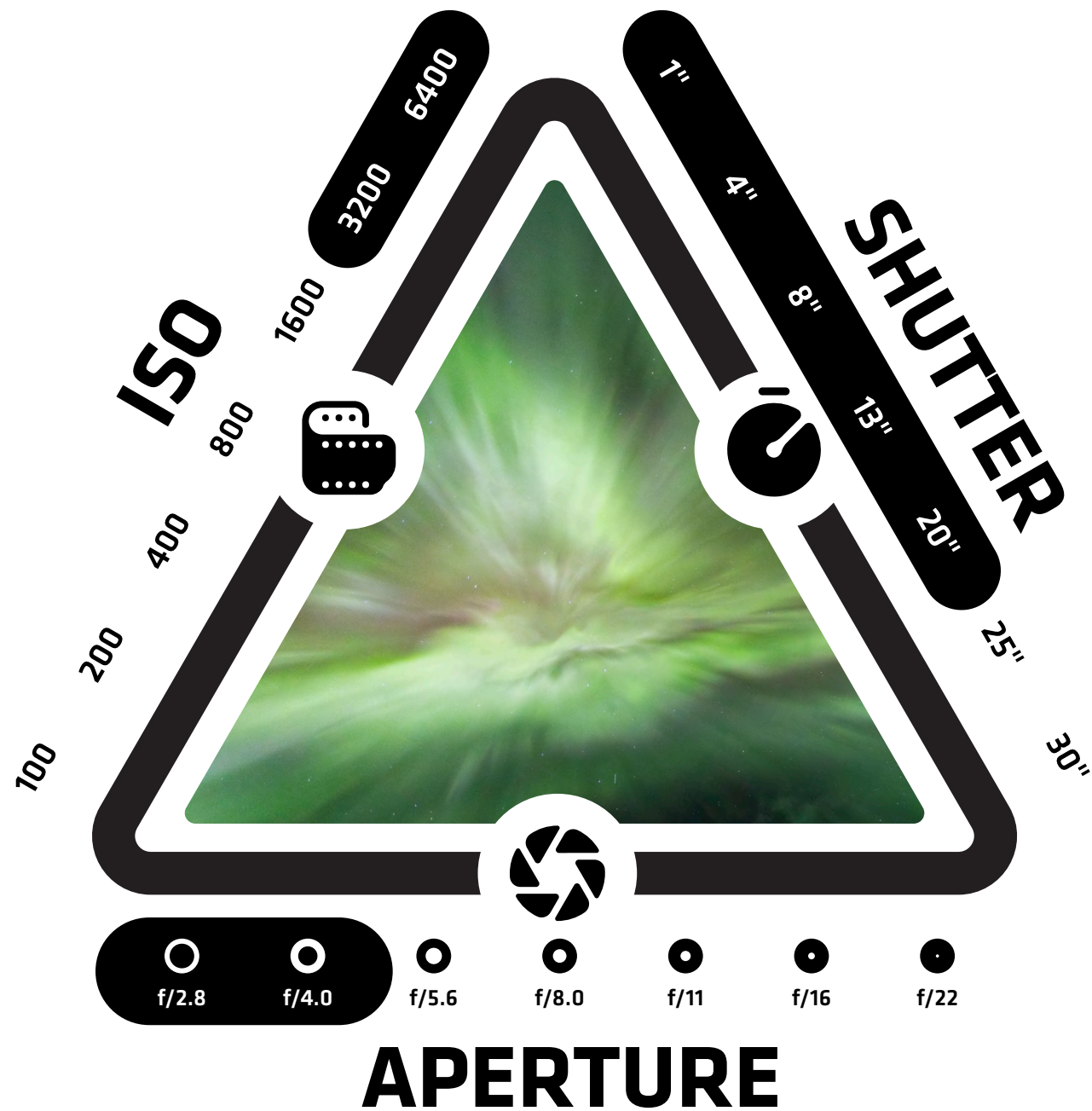
The Starting Recipe

# Test Shot

Review & Adjust

- **Focus:** Zoom in. Is it still sharp?
- **Exposure:** Check histogram. Adjust ISO up/down.
- **Motion:** How's the aurora texture? Adjust Shutter (and compensate with ISO).







# What's the Call?

Let's apply the pyramid to real-world scenarios



Let's Play





# Scenario 1: Fast, Bright Aurora

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**The Scene:** A massive, bright aurora just exploded. It's moving fast.

**Your Setting:** 15s, f/1.8, ISO 3200.

**The Problem:** Your 15s shot is a blurry, overexposed mess.



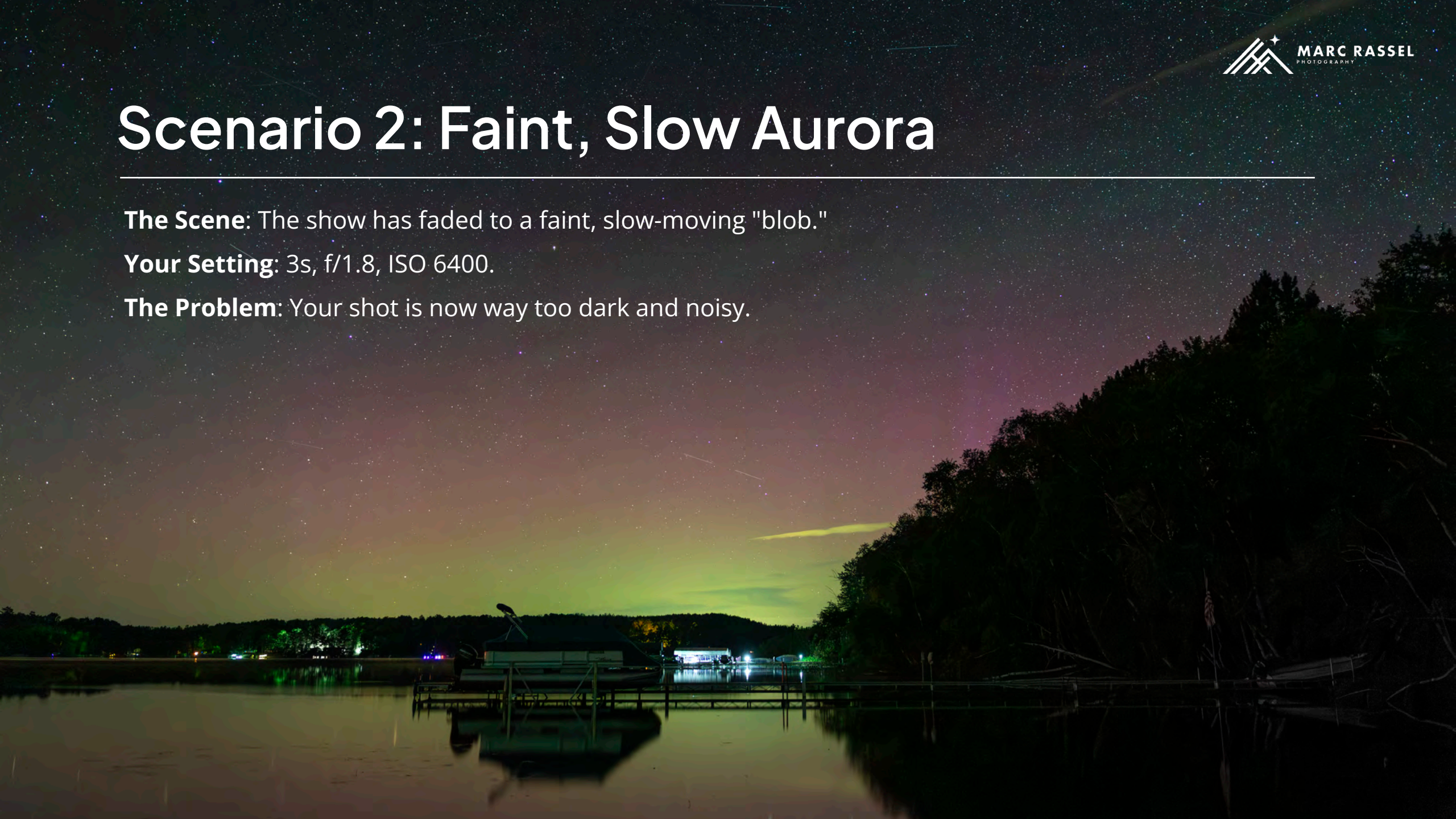
# Scenario 2: Faint, Slow Aurora

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**The Scene:** The show has faded to a faint, slow-moving "blob."

**Your Setting:** 3s, f/1.8, ISO 6400.

**The Problem:** Your shot is now way too dark and noisy.





# Composition

It's Not Just a Sky Photo



Show Me





Composition

# Include a Strong Foreground

The #1 Rule: Find a Foreground that Adds Interest

- A foreground gives context, scale, and makes the photo yours.
- **Look for:** Mountains, trees, cabins, people, reflections.

Next →













## Composition

# Additional Tips on Composition

## What Other Tricks Can I Use?

- **Rule of Thirds:** It still applies!
- **Reflections:** Look for water. It doubles the light!
- **Human Element:** A person (standing still!) adds scale and story.
- **Leading Lines:** Literal or implied lines can lead your eye in to the image.
- **Light Painting:** Subtly light your foreground IF ALLOWED.

Next →

































# Timelapse

An Introduction to Capturing Motion



Let's Go















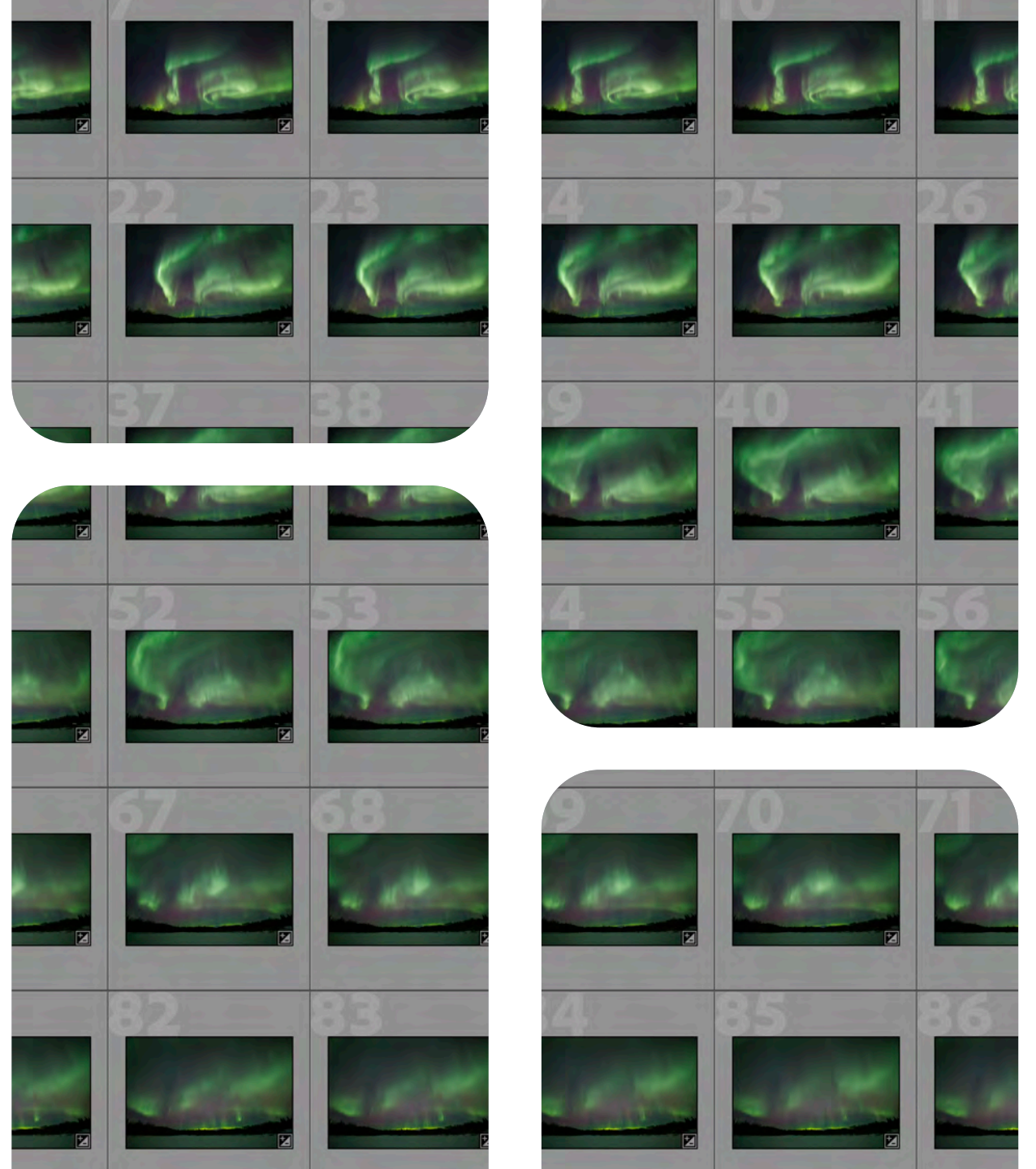


## Timelapse

# What is a Timelapse?

- A sequence of still photos (RAWs) played back quickly.
- **240 Photos = 10-second video** (at 24 frames-per-second).
- This is **one of the best ways** to show the aurora's movement over time.
- **The Goal:** Capture 300+ *consistent* photos.

Next →



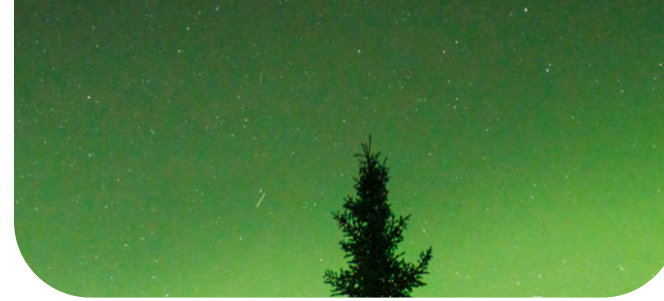


Timelapse

# Consistency is King

- **Flicker is the #1 enemy.** It's caused by inconsistent settings.
- **Rule #1:** Use FULL Manual Mode. (Manual M, Manual Focus, Manual ISO).
- **Rule #2:** Set Manual White Balance.
  - If you use "Auto WB," the camera will change the color in every shot!
  - Set it to Kelvin (K) mode. Start at 4500K.

Next →





Timelapse

# The Intervalometer

Not necessary, but...it's necessary

- This is the tool that **takes photos automatically**.
- It might be built into your camera ("Interval Timer Shooting") or an external remote.
- **Key Setting:** The "Interval"
  - The interval is the time from the start of one shot to the start of the next.



Timelapse

# How to Set Your Intervalometer

- **Rule:** Interval = Shutter Speed + Buffer
- **The "Buffer"** (2-5 seconds) gives your camera time to write the file.
- **Example:**
  - Shutter Speed: 10 seconds
  - Buffer: 2 seconds
  - Set Your Interval to: 12 seconds
- **How many shots?** (e.g., "Unlimited" or 300).
- **Nikon shooters beware** of 30s!





Lunch Time!

# See you at 1:30

We'll dive deep in to editing this afternoon



Continue



# Post-Processing

Tell, Show, Do



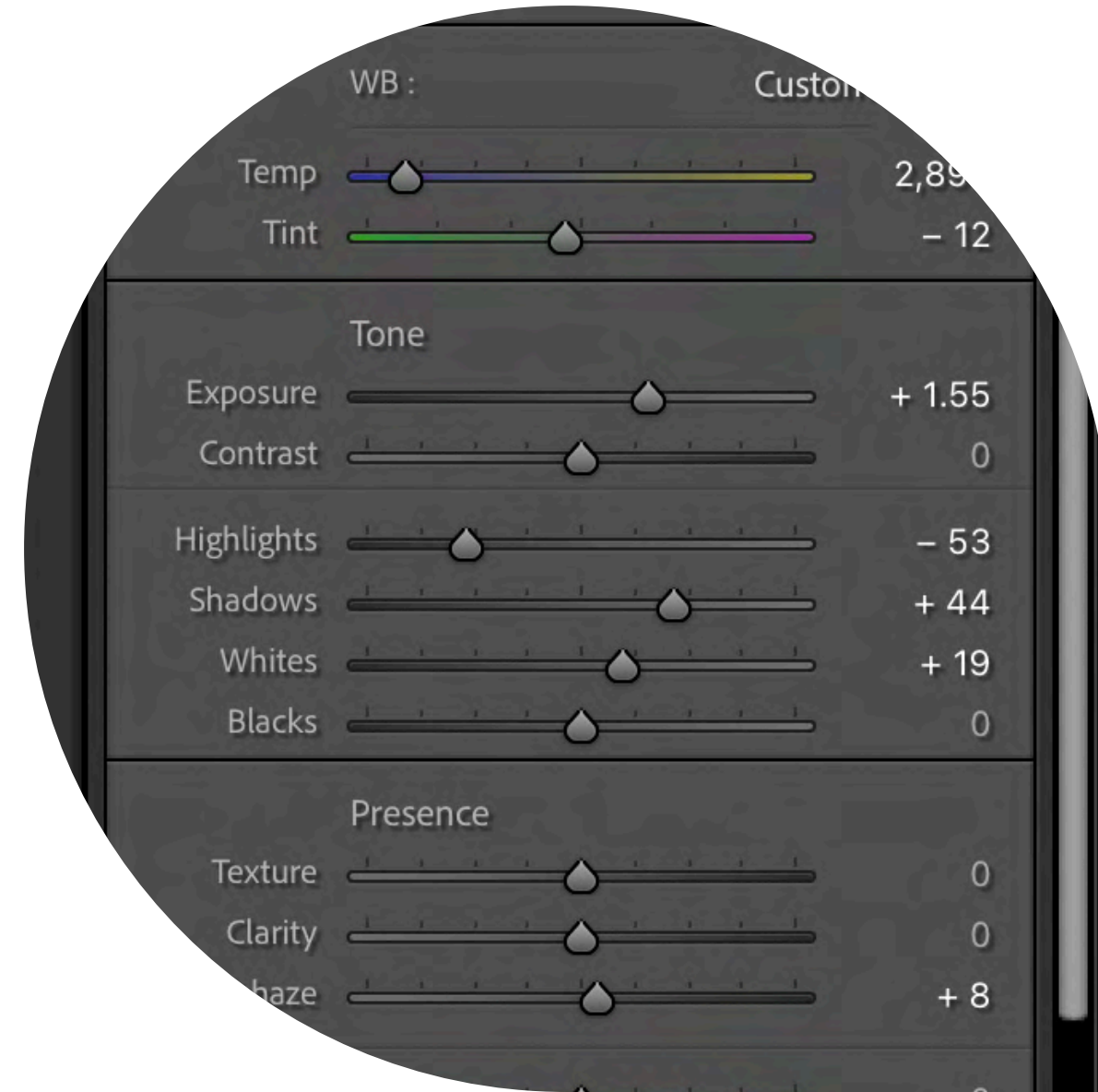
Let's Go



## Post-Processing

# 90% of the work is in Lightroom Classic

- **The Goal:** To enhance what you saw, not create a fantasy.
  - *"We tell the truth through lies."*
- **LIVE DEMO:** *Editing Aurora\_Sample\_01.DNG*
- **Steps:**
  - Lens Corrections
  - Basic Panel (WB, Highlights/Shadows)
  - Presence (Dehaze) & Detail (Noise)
  - The ALT/OPT + Masking trick for sharpening.
  - Local Adjustments (Select Sky, Brush, Masks).





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All Synced Photographs	0
Quick Collection +	0
Previous Import	0

► Publish Services +

1100

Culling Scores 

	Culling scores
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Quick Develop

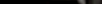
Keywording 

Keyword List

Keyword List

Comments 

COMMENTS



Post-Processing

# Your Turn! (Guided Practice)

Everyone open *Aurora\_Sample\_01.DNG*

- **Your Mission (15 Mins):** Make it beautiful!
- **Challenge:**
  - Use Dehaze gently.
  - Use the Alt/Opt + Masking slider for sharpening.
  - Use Select Sky to edit the sky and foreground separately.
  - Ambassadors and I will be roaming to help.





Timelapse Pre-Processing

# The "Flicker" Problem

The Problem: Caused by tiny exposure / aperture / lighting changes.

- **The Solution:** LRTimelapse (LRT) + Lightroom (LR).
- **Core Concept:** "We don't edit all 500 photos. We edit 3-4 'Keyframes' and let the software build the transitions."
- **Workflow:** LRT → LR → LRT → LRT / LR













## Timelapse Pre-Processing

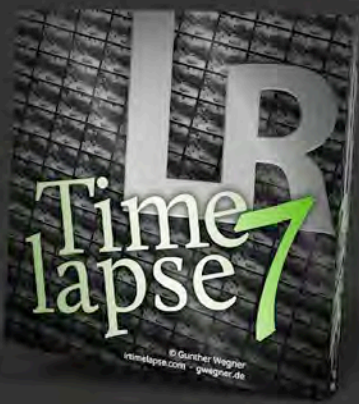
# The LRT Workflow

## LIVE DEMO with Timelapse\_Sequence\_Demo

- In LRT: Load sequence files
- In LRT: Mark keyframes based on preview / data → LR
- In LR: Edit keyframes (NO local edits)
- In LR: Metadata → Save Metadata to Files → LRT
- In LRT: Auto-Transition → STOP







LR  
Time  
lapse7

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lrmotaps.com - wegner.de

Keyframes WizardHoly Grail Wizard...SaveEdit Keyframes

Auto TransitionVisual PreviewsVisual DeflickerExport & Render (Lightroom)Export & Render (internal)

FilterReload

Preview Visual Interval Aperture Shutter-speed ISO Holy Grail Deflicker

Filename Width Height Date/tim original

Users

\_gsdata\_

marcrassel

Applications

Applications (Parallels)

aurora-audit

aurora-infra

Creative Cloud Files marc@alignmultimedia.com CB8F422E6 1

Creative Cloud Files marc@plumcompanies.com 0af24e438f55603a86575e23acb79

Creative Cloud Files marc@plumcompanies.com 0d377719ae8dda217e2d1b9a441f

Desktop

Documents

Downloads

Dropbox

Google Drive

iCloud Drive (Archive)

iCloud Drive (Archive) - 1

Library

Movies

Music

Pictures

Public

White Balance

As shotCustomPreset

Tone

Exposure0.00

Contrast0

Highlights0

Shadows0

Whites0

Blacks0

Presence

Texture0

Clarity0

Dehaze0

Vibrance0

Saturation0

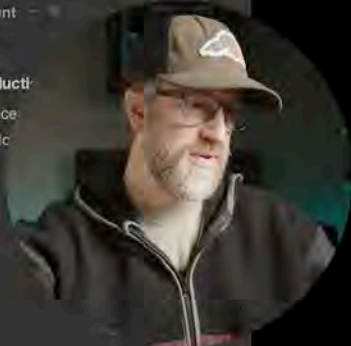
Sharpening

Amount

Noise Reduction

Luminance

Color

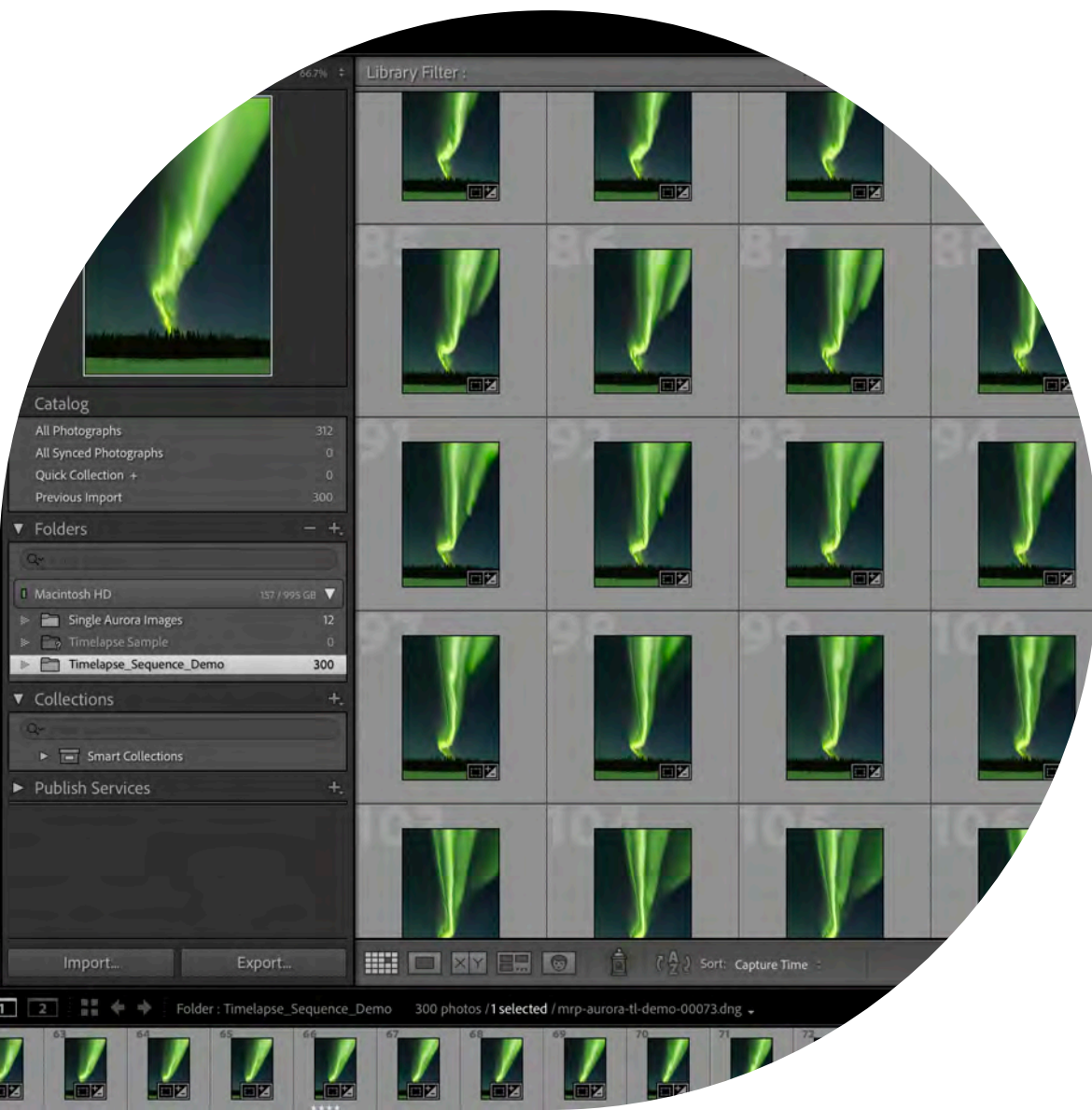


## Timelapse Pre-Processing

# Your Turn (Guided Practice)

Everyone navigate to the  
“Timelapse\_Sequence\_Demo” folder in LRTimelapse

- **Your Mission (15 Mins):** Get your keyframes auto-transitioned.
- **Challenge:**
  - Set your keyframes and read them in Lightroom.
  - Edit only the keyframes.
  - Save Metadata
  - Go to LRT and run Auto-Transition.





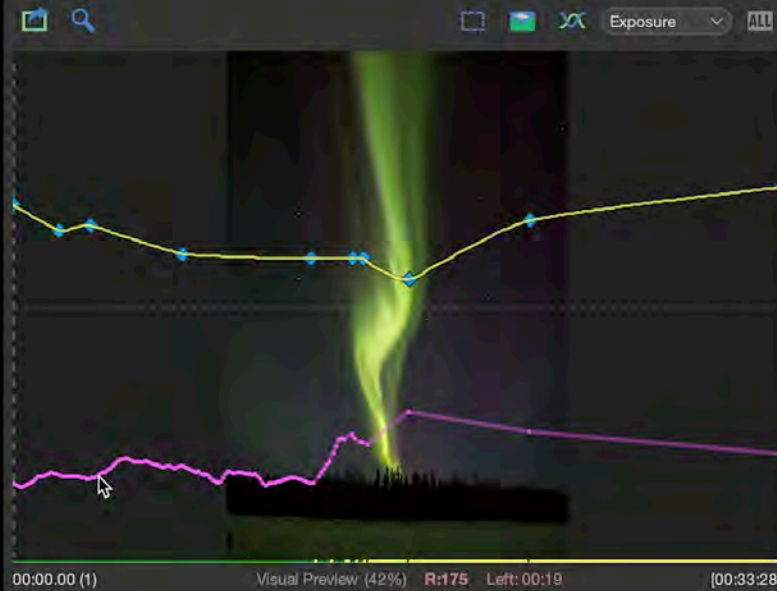
## Timelapse Processing and Rendering

# Deflicker & Render

## LIVE DEMO in LR Timelapse

- In LRT: (...Auto-Transition) → Visual Previews → LR
- In LR: Metadata → Select All → Read Metadata
- In LR: Denoise → Select All → Sync ONLY Denoise
- In LR (Pro) or LRT (Free): Render Video





- Library
- Movies
- Music
- Pictures
- Public
- Sites
- SynologyDrive
- Virtual Machines.localized
- root
- Shared
- Volumes
  - Macintosh HD
  - X10 Pro
    - \_U-NET MODEL TRAINING
    - AURORA SUMMIT FILES FOR VIDEOS
      - Advanced Timelapse
      - Bootcamp
        - \_images-and-videos
        - \_Participant List
        - Handouts
        - Lightroom

## LRTimelapse Pro 7.4.2

Keyframes Wizard

Holy Grail Wizard...

Save

LrC

Edit Keyframes

Auto Transition

Visual Previews

Visual Deflicker

Export &amp; Render (Lightroom)

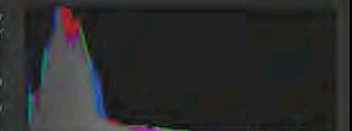
OR

Export &amp; Render (internal)

Filter

Reload

	Preview Lum	Visual Lum	Interval	Aperture	Shutter-speed	ISO	Holy Grail	Deflicker	Filename	Width	Height	Date/orig	
264	0.072	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00264.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
265	0.072	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00265.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
266	0.071	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00266.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
267	0.070	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00267.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
268	0.070	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00268.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
269	0.069	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00269.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
270	0.069	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00270.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
271	0.068	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00271.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
272	0.068	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00272.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
273	0.068	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00273.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
274	0.068	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00274.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
275	0.068	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00275.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
276	0.068	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00276.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
277	0.068	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00277.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
278	0.068	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00278.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
279	0.069	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00279.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
280	0.069	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00280.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
281	0.069	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00281.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
282	0.068	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00282.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
283	0.068	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00283.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
284	0.068	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00284.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
285	0.069	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00285.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
286	0.069	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00286.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
287	0.069	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00287.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
288	0.069	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00288.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
289	0.069	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00289.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
290	0.070	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00290.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
291	0.070	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00291.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
292	0.070	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00292.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
293	0.070	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00293.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
294	0.070	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00294.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
295	0.073	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00295.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
296	0.085	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00296.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
297	0.071	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00297.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
298	0.069	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00298.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
299	0.069	...	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00299.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	
300	0.071	0.214	2.0	1.8	↑	2000	0.000	0.000	mrp-aurora-tl-demo-00300.dng	8192	5464	2025-03-17	



## White Balance

As shot Custom Preset

Temp. - 4795

Tint - 0

## Tone

Exposure - 2.00

Contrast - 0

Highlights - -66

Shadows - 41

Whites - 0

Blacks - 0

## Presence

Texture - 0

Clarity - 0

Dehaze - 0

Vibrance - 0

Saturation - 0

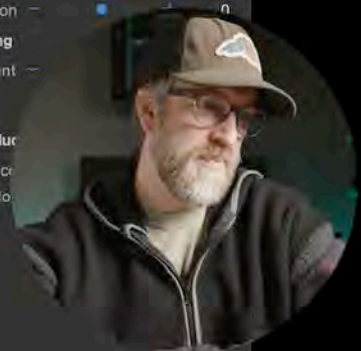
## Sharpening

Amount -

## Noise Reduc

Luminance

Color





## Timelapse Processing and Rendering

# Your Turn (Render Your Video!)

## Go back to your LRT sequence

- **Your Mission (20 Mins):** Create your final video.
- **Challenge:**
  - Run Visual Deflicker.
  - Open the Render dialog.
  - Export your short 1080p, 24fps video.
- **This is the final "win!"** Hold up your hand when your video is done!



## Timelapse Processing and Rendering

# Other Rendering Options

### Can't I just use...

- **Lightroom?**
  - **Con:** No direct functionality; requires export of sequence to stitch in video editor.
  - **Con:** Slideshow method requires “tricking” the software by condensing it to a specific timeframe.
- **Photoshop (Image Sequence)?**
  - **Con:** Steep learning curve with limited features. No "auto-transition" deflicker.
- **Conclusion:** LRTimelapse is the purpose-built tool.
- **Final Polish:** (Optional) Edit your final MP4 clip.





# Camera Olympics

Everyone, get your cameras out!



Let's Go





Camera Olympics

# Activity: The "Camera Olympics"

It's time to build that muscle memory under pressure!

- The rules are simple:
  - Follow my instructions
  - Be fast and accurate
  - There are no points or formal judging
  - I am the judge and jury (Don't worry, nothing unfair can come of that...)

Let's Play →





Camera Olympics

# Event 1: Pitch Black Focus

"Everyone, mess up your focus ring. You have 60 seconds to use Live View, zoom in on the stars on the next screen, and get it perfectly sharp. Go!"

Let's Play →









Camera Olympics

## Event 2: Sudden Burst Change

Reset to your 'Starting Recipe' (15s, f/2.8, 3200) and get ready for the aurora to change on the next slide.

Let's Play →







Camera Olympics

## Event 3: Timelapse Ready

You have 30 seconds to find your intervalometer and set it for a 4-second exposure with a 2-second buffer. What's the interval? Go!

Let's Play →

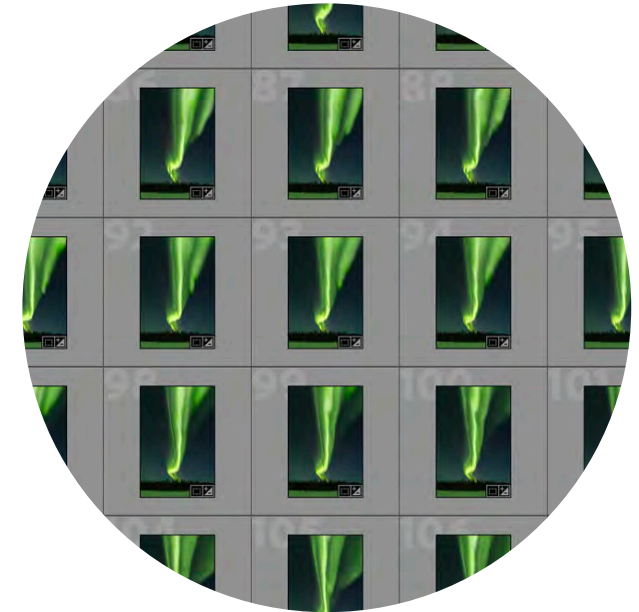
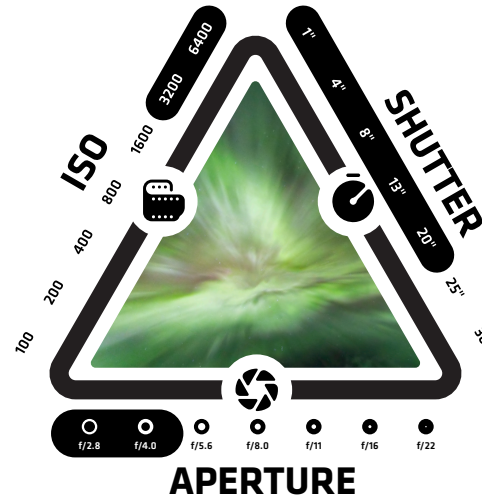




Wrapping Up

# The "Big 3" Takeaways

- **Stability & Focus:** A sharp, stable shot is 90% of the battle.
- **The Pyramid:** Aperture widest, Shutter for motion, ISO for brightness.
- **Timelapse = Consistency:** Use Manual WB and LRTimelapse.



Globe

Windy

Cams

Auroral Oval & Globe



# One Final Note

A shameless plug...

Substorm Probability

Summary (max across horizon)

Now: 58%

refresh in 44s

15 min:

58%

No alert

30 min:

64%

No alert

60 min:

58%

No alert

Rolling window

100  
75  
50  
25  
%

03:00 PM 03:30 PM 04:00 PM 04:30 P

Range 2h

Try it Out

Live Space Weather

Kp Index: 1.0 Quiet

↑ 20m

IMF Bz: -1.4 nT South

↓ 20m

IMF Bt: 6.8 nT Moderate

↓ 20m

Coupling (E\_KL): 2.27

↑ 20m

SW Speed: 551 km/s

↑ 20m

SW Density: 1.9 p/cc Low

↑ 20m

SW Travel Time: 45 min

Hemispheric Power: 39

↓ 10m

Bz Sustained South: 29

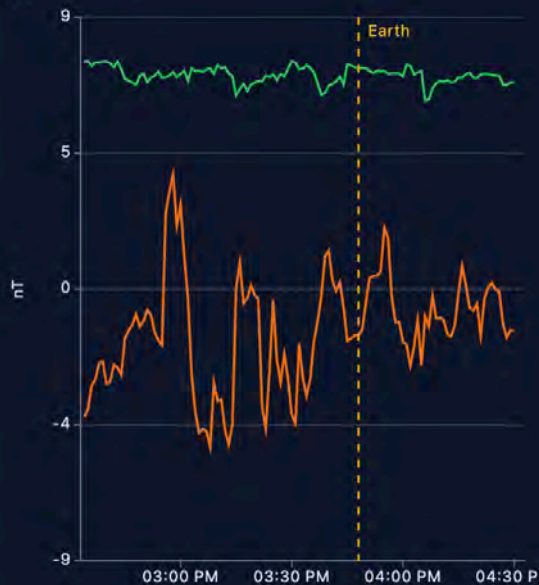
↑ 10m

GW Low

min Sustained

IMF Bt / Bz

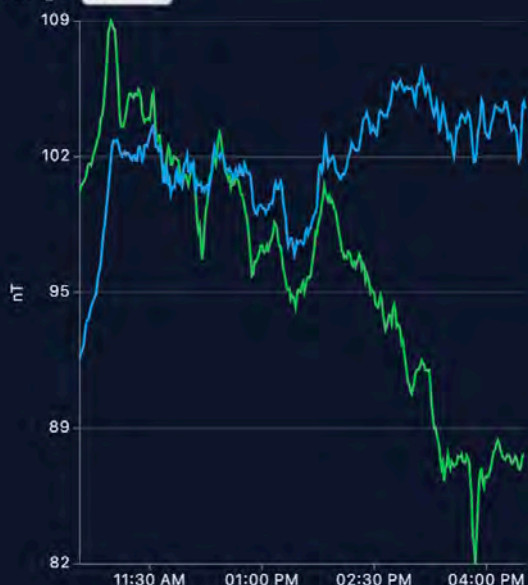
2h



Bt (green), Bz (orange)

GOES Magnetometer (Hp)

Range 6h



East (green), West (blue)

Solar Wind Speed

2h



Solar Wind Density

2h





# Final Q&A

What's on your mind?



Let's Discuss



# Thank you!

(Next: Camera brand breakout groups)

Let's keep in touch



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