

Silent Footfalls: 2008 in Pictures

For those who see and do not forget...

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A (Rather) Brief Introduction

Looking back over many thousands of photos from the past year as I prepare this book, it's more than a little amusing to remember that when I got my first digital camera in early 2005, it spent the first two months of its life decorating my desk as a paperweight. It was only once I'd left for a semester abroad in Paris that my reticence vanished and I began to put the gadget to serious use. Fortunately (or perhaps unfortunately) four months in 'old Europe' was more than enough to awaken me to the joys of digital photography. Since then, my camera and gear have changed substantially, but not the fun that comes with using it.

The basic paradox of digital photography is that while the 'film' is now essentially free and unlimited, processing can be as time-consuming as ever, and with the ease of taking huge numbers of photos comes the problem of what to do with them all once they've been downloaded to the computer. On that issue I confess that, short of extending the day to 32 hours, I have yet to find a good solution, and the ordeal of sorting through hundreds upon hundreds of photos for this book has made the issue more salient than ever. I would hesitate to call these the best 80 photos of the year, or even the most interesting, but for me, they capture a nice range of events and circumstances, and when you're starting from a pool of twenty thousand images, that's probably about as much as one can ask for.

At any rate, I can say that the whole process, from taking the pictures in the first place to finally seeing them printed has been a blast, and in spite of spending entirely too much time on the computer as a result, it has pushed me to get out of the house and go all sorts of places, which is hardly an undesirable outcome. I make no promises for next year, but if legs and luck hold up, I certainly plan to have many more photos to sort through in December 2009, and some of them may even be good.

And now without further ado: **Silent Footfalls**.

Dara Hazeghi, 29 December 2008, Hartsdale, NY.

Cover: **Cloud Formation**. 31 August 2008. Lassen National Park, CA. Looking south from Lassen Peak as the sky above Brokeoff Mountain and Helen Lake fills with clouds.

Title page: **Afterglow**. 19 January 2008. Marin Headlands Park, CA. The aftereffects of a January sunset over the Pacific Ocean from a vantage point just above the Point Bonita Lighthouse.



Into the Flames. 8 January 2008. New York City, NY. A yacht passes in front of the Statue of Liberty south of Manhattan backlit by the setting sun.



Bluffs. 11 January 2008. Half Moon Bay, CA.
Deep blue ocean swells stretch north from the
bluffs above Redondo Beach toward Pillar Point.

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Frosted Over. 14 January
2008. Yosemite National Park,
CA. Mirror Lake and the head of
Tenaya Canyon remain peaceful
beneath a soft coating of snow.





Barefoot. 17 January 2008. San Gregorio State Beach, CA. Taking advantage of the low tide, three people walk toward the bluffs near Tunitas Creek.

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Model Purple. 3 February 2008. New York City, NY. Models pose for a photoshoot for an advertising campaign (theme: purple clothing) at Brooklyn's Fulton Ferry Park.

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Feint. 8 February 2008. New York City, NY.
Midway through the third quarter as NYU's
Women's Basketball team faces Case Western
Reserve at the Coles Athletic Center in Manhattan.

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Wine Menu. 28 February
2008. New York City, NY. A
selection of fine wines from a
restaurant just off of 4th St. near
Washington Square.



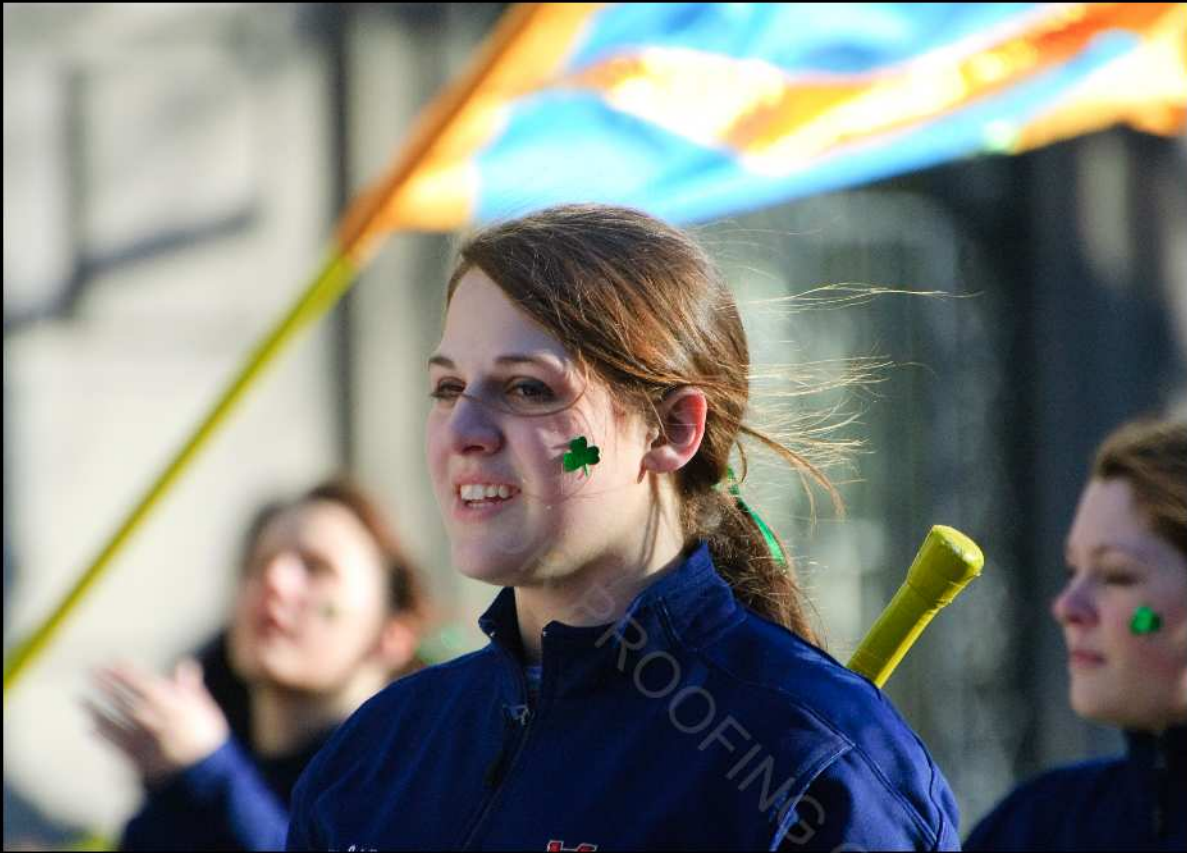


Crystal Clear. 29 February, 2008. New York City, NY. Central Park reservoir and 5th Ave. apartments on a bitterly cold February day.

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Afternoon Light. 16 March
2008. New York City, NY.
Clouds over Battery Park part
just before sunset to light up the
park and the few folks out on the
promenade.





Shamrocks All Around. 17 March 2008. New York City, NY. Flag twirlers near the end of New York's gigantic annual St. Patrick's Day Parade.

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Taxicab Yellow. 20 March 2008. New York City, NY. One of many 'Water Taxi' boats passing the Manhattan and Brooklyn bridges heading south toward Staten Island.



Under a Cloud. 20 March 2008. New York City, NY. Clouds gather above the East River while Brooklyn remains largely sunlit.

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Bustling. 22 March 2008. New York City, NY. Throngs of people make their way along 7th Ave. toward Times Square amidst glitzy signs and skyscrapers in all directions.



Tour Downhill. 29 March 2008. New York City, NY. A big red tour bus proceeds toward the Fulton Ferry Landing in Brooklyn, directly across the river from Manhattan.

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Rockscape. 3 April 2008. New York City, NY. A beach of imported rocks sits in the middle of Brooklyn's Fulton Ferry Park between the Manhattan and Brooklyn bridges.

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The Fallen. 5 April 2008.
New York City, NY. At the southern tip of Battery Park, the World War II memorial gives way to a busy Hudson River promenade.

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Narcissus. 5 April 2008. New York City, NY.
Near the end of the Robert Wagner
Park/Esplanade sit just one of the city's many
floral contributions to welcoming the arrival of
spring.



Perfect Pond. 16 April 2008. New York City, NY. Central Park's Boat Pond, sans the usual model boats, aglow with spring colors.

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Oasis. 17 April 2008. New York City, NY. Hundreds of New Yorkers enjoy a bit of green and peace in Central Park screened of from busy Midtown only by trees and a little distance.





By the Pond. 25 April 2008. New York City, NY.
Taking in the scene around the Boat Pond on a
breezy afternoon.

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Nightlife. 26 April 2008. New York City, NY.
The Brooklyn Bridge and Manhattan light up a cool April night.



By the Reservoir. 30 April 2008. New York City, NY. The very popular jogging path on the eastern edge of the Central Park Reservoir with a few blossoming cherry trees adding the scent of spring to the air.

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Tiptoe Through the Tulips. 1 May 2008. New York City, NY. Mass planting of tulips colors an otherwise under-construction Washington Square.

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In Bloom. 24 May 2008. Hartsdale, NY.
Grandparents' home with well-manicured lawn
and small front garden on a warm afternoon.

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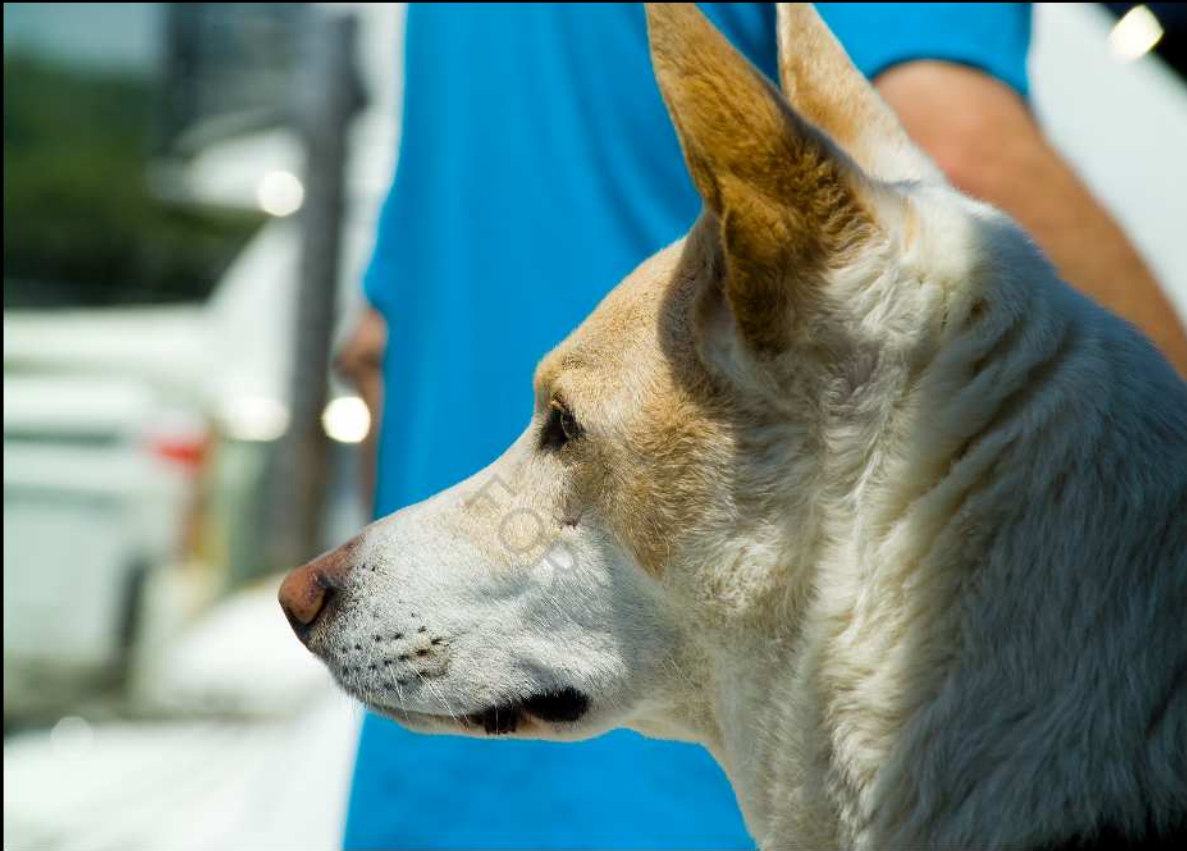


Marina. 25 May 2008. Tarrytown, NY. A goodly number of boats occupy the little Tarrytown harbor on the west side of the Hudson River just north of the Tappan Zee Bridge.



Northbound. 25 May 2008. Irvington, NY. A train on the Metro North Railroad's Hudson River line heads toward Albany.

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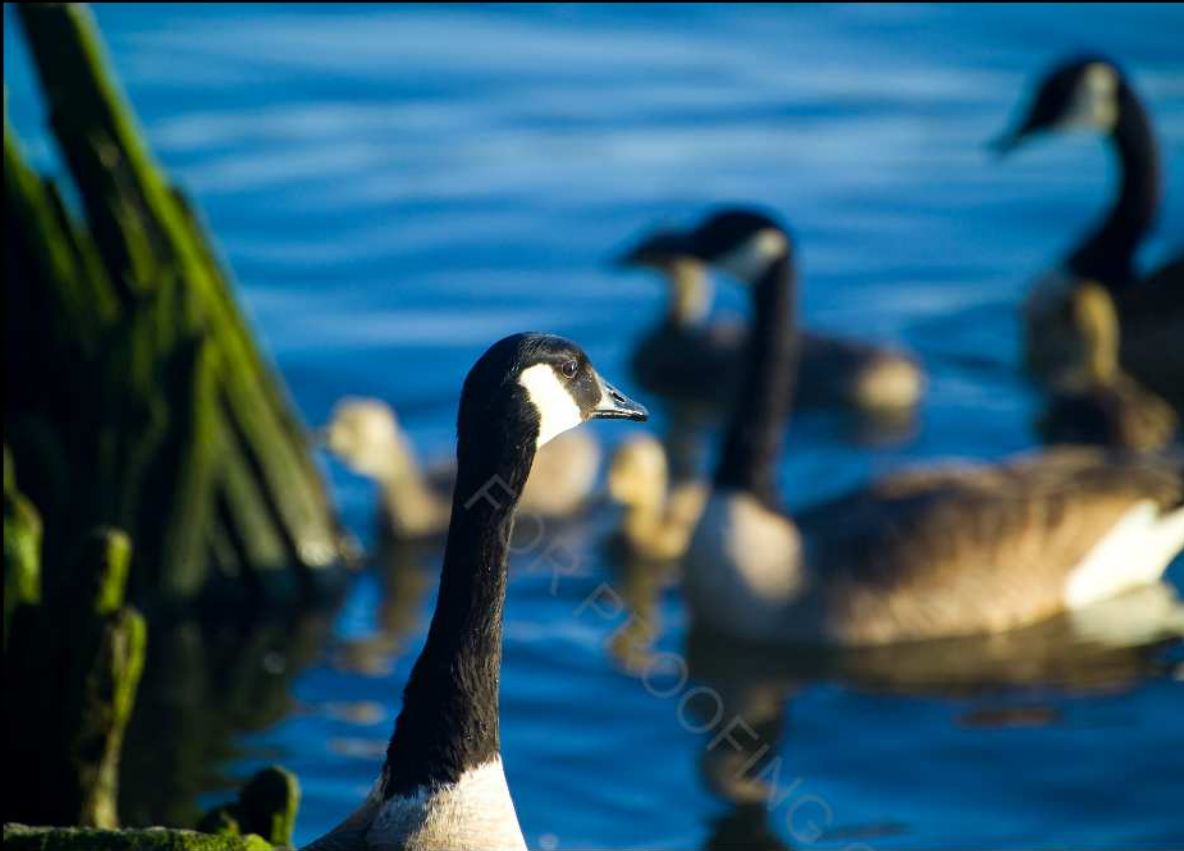
Wolf. 26 May 2008. Croton-on-the-Hudson, NY.
A large dog, a small boat and a fine day at the
Croton Point harbor.

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Family Walk. 28 May 2008. Tarrytown, NY. A family takes a walk at Pierson Park partially blocking a view of the bridge and distant New York City.

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Sticking Out. 28 May 2008. Tarrytown, NY.
Small flock of geese, including a gosling,
swimming in the Hudson at Pierson Park.



Hudson Grey. 5 June 2008. Tarrytown, NY.
Sun breaks through the clouds to light up an
otherwise very grey Hudson River at the end of
Pierson Park's walkway.

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Orange Standouts. 8 June 2008. Half Moon Bay, CA. Several flowers from a brightly-arranged flower planter along Half Moon Bay's Main Street.

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Coast North. 9 June 2008. Montara, CA.
Pacifica, Daly City and bits of San Francisco and
Marin County from the top of Montara Mountain
(elev. 1898 ft.).

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Pink and Blue Marvel. 10 June 2008. Half Moon Bay, CA. A bounty of purple flowers beside the Coastal Trail in Miramar, with miles of beach and cliffs beyond.

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Cool Wave. 17 June 2008. El Granada, CA. A surfer rides the end of a wave on a crisp day at Surfer's Beach just south of Princeton Harbor.

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In Preparation. 21 June 2008. Yosemite National Park, CA. People prepare for practice with crampons and ice-axes on the nearby Dana Glacier.





Almost Anemone. 24 June 2008. Half Moon Bay, CA. A purple iceplant with an uncanny resemblance of an opening sea anemone positioned next to a driveway.

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Graduate. 27 June 2008. Los Altos, CA. One of Foothill College's new graduates speaks to the assembled students and parents at the Asian Pacific-American Network reception.

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Happy 4th. 4 July 2008. Santa Monica, CA. A participant at Santa Monica's annual Independence Day parade carrying the flag on behalf of country and commerce.

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Garden Circle. 5 July 2008. Los Angeles, CA.
The Central Garden and buildings of the J. Paul
Getty Museum on a scorching day in the hills
above Los Angeles.



Boats and Boats. 6 July 2008. Monterey, CA.
The Monterey Bay harbor with its collection of
small multicolored craft directly below and the
larger ones out across the cloudy bay.

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Imperfect Reflection. 12 July 2008. Sausalito, CA. Sausalito Harbor and its boats beneath a nearly set sun.



Golden Hour. 20 July 2008. Stanford, CA. The 'Dish loop' path, beloved of joggers and visitors alike, with various campus buildings including Hoover Tower in the background.

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Purple and Green. 26 July 2008. Sierra National Forest, CA. Just one of many wildflowers in bloom along the route of the 'Trans-Sierra Dayhike' from Clover Meadow to Devil's Postpile.



Rebirth. 26 July 2008. Sierra National Forest, CA. A region of forest in the process of recovery from a recent fire above the north fork of the San Joaquin River near Devil's Postpile National Monument.

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Golden Quad. 14 August 2008. Stanford, CA. The center of the old Stanford University campus complete with Spanish-style arcades, palm trees, and Hoover Tower in the back.





Wide Horizons. 23 August 2008. Kings Canyon National Park, CA. Looking north and east at the peaks of the Great Western Divide from a ridge not far below the summit of Mt. Brewer (elev. 13577 ft.).

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Double-Image. 24 August 2008. Kings Canyon National Park, CA. East Lake serves as a mirror for the surrounding mountains including Mt. Brewer on a crisp summer morning.



Beachside Fun. 27 August 2008. Half Moon Bay, CA. Afternoon fun along the coast from Francis State Beach all the way north.

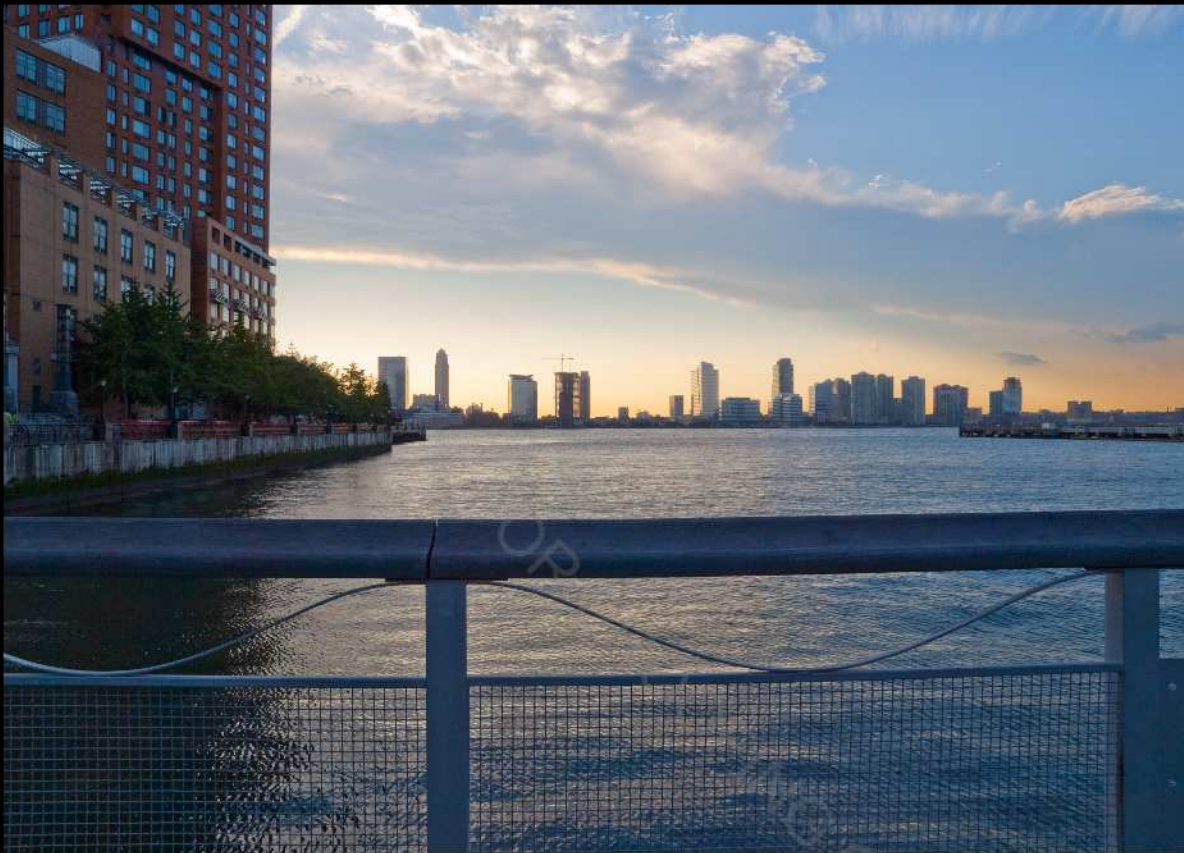
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Ritz After the Sun. 27 August 2008. Half Moon Bay, CA. A high tide blocks the route to the recently-constructed Ritz-Carlton Hotel on the bluffs south of the town.



Meadow Yellow. 31 August 2008. Lassen National Park. A yellow-green meadow surrounds Cold Boiling Lake providing ample space for tired hikers to rest.



Dreamy Horizons. 3 September 2008. New York City, NY. Hoboken and the rest of the New Jersey skyline appearing serene on a partly cloudy afternoon not long before sunset.

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Turtle Green. 10 September 2008. New York City, NY. Central Park's Turtle Pond and Great Lawn turned green by a combination of algae and determined gardening.



Still Summer. 15 September 2008. New York City, NY. Summer persists as crowds of people in T-shirts make their way past Union Square beneath a few small white clouds.



150 Years. 24 September 2008. New York City, NY. The Macy's on the corner of West 34th St. and Broadway in Manhattan is as busy as ever as it boasts its 150th anniversary.



Soft White. 4 October 2008. Hartsdale, NY.
Daisies flowering in early autumn.

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Hudson Valley Overlook. 12 October 2008.
Hudson Highland Park, NY. Sights of early
Autumn and the Hudson River from a perch in the
hills in southern Dutchess County.



Fall Reflections. 14 October 2008. Rockefeller State Park, NY. A breeze touches Swan Lake at the Rockefellers' former estate in northern Westchester County.

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Intermission. 19 October 2008. Purchase, NY.
The post-intermission set from an excellent
Purchase College production of the highly amusing
Stephen Adly Guirgis play, 'The Last Days of Judas
Iscariot.'

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Modest Transport. 2 November 2008. New York City, NY. A carriage passes down 5th Ave. not far from Rockefeller Center.



Toward the Finish. 2 November 2008. New York City, NY. Runners pass through Central Park behind the Metropolitan Museum of Art as they compete in the 41st annual New York City Marathon.

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Painted Skies. 2 November 2008. New York City, NY. A horizon including the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island and Governor's Island seen from Battery Park shortly after sunset.



Victory! 4 November 2008. Hartsdale, NY.
Watching the live victory speech of Barack Obama
on the night of his election as the 44th president of
the United States of America.

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Hudson's Valley. 9 November 2008. Bear Mountain Park, NY. A wide expanse of late fall scenery including the Hudson River and Bear Mountain Bridge seen looking north from part-way up Bear Mountain.

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Storage for the Winter. 11 November 2008.
Iona Island, NY. A convenient niche in a small
park just south of Bear Mountain on a narrow strip
of land between the Hudson River and route 9D.

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Many Crossings. 19 November 2008.
Anthony's Nose, NY. A train passes by Bear
Mountain and below the Bear Mountain Bridge on
its way toward Albany along the west bank of the
Hudson River.



November Burn. 22 November 2008. Henry Coe State Park, CA. Golden hills and distant plumes of smoke from a controlled burn, seen while descending Mt. Sizer (elev. 3216 ft.).

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Morning Fog. 23 November 2008. Montara, CA. Low-lying morning fog blankets the coastline between Montara and the sea.

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Theater. 28 November 2008. Pasadena, CA. A traditional Japanese theater in the heart of the Huntington Botanical Gardens' Japanese/Chinese area.

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Landlubbers and Shorebirds. 30 November 2008. Santa Barbara, CA. Dozens of pelicans and gulls resting at the edge of the ocean just north of Santa Barbara's main pier.



Green Patch. 1 December 2008. San Francisco, CA. A typically cloudy day for downtown San Francisco, its financial district and Telegraph Hill in the foreground.

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Crossing 34th St. 4 December 2008. New York City, NY. A woman waits to cross 34th St. near Greeley Park as Manhattan's evening commute roars by.

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Industrial Daybreak. 14
December 2008. Cambridge,
MA. Smokestacks belching
steam on the north bank of the
Charles River in the gray of false
dawn.

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Over the Charles. 14 December, 2008.
Cambridge, MA. Harvard University student
housing seen from across the Charles River and lit
by a cool winter sun.



Post-Sunset. 18 December 2008. New York City, NY. From Brooklyn's Fulton Landing, southern Manhattan remains alight from the remnants of a sunset.



Red Snow. 21 December 2008. Dobbs Ferry, NY. A sinking sun gives the fresh snow along the Hudson River an unusual tint.

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Cheers! 31 December 2008.
Ardsley, NY. Marking the end of
2008 at a little restaurant in
suburban New York.

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