



# Image & Analysis

The September 2024 Challenge Topic Was:

## "Interpret a Country Song"

### Brooks & Dunn...Anyone?

I think I can peg the age of anyone entering last month's f-64 Challenge by their choice of Country Music. I believe that the majority of your club members are over the age of fifty. I might also add that a few of your most "experienced" club members are significantly over age fifty.

There were many excellent submissions from both levels. I have chosen a couple of images from each level of competition that did not quite achieve award recognition and I offer suggestions that (hopefully) will help improve their visual impact.

In this past month's f-64 Challenge, you were to create an image that best represented a Country & Western song. You were also to include the title somewhere within the frame.

The first objective was to pick your song. From the title of your selection, you should have keyed in on your primary subject. That subject becomes the focal point of your image. Everything else within the frame should directly support your subject. It sounds simple however, the issue of capturing the image without including distractions becomes the real "Challenge."

*I thank the Coastal Virginia Photography Club for their patience and understanding over the delay and the shortness of last month's Analysis issue. I have been replacing and updating my computer system and publishing applications. It has taken me longer than I anticipated. Once again, thank you for your patience.*

### From the "Aspiring" Group



Image #9

Focus on the paper roses, the paper, and the scissors will increase the overall visual impact and support the title. Picking a type color from the subject and using it in the title supports the subject. The original font style was excellent but I think a darker color increases readability.



Paper Roses

## Also from the "Aspiring" Group

### From Static & Formal to Informal but Dynamic:

Lower the clouds and crop the excess sky from the picture. This visually raises the implied horizon line and brings it into the upper rule-of-thirds position. Cropping and removing a portion of the left side of the image will move the vanishing point of the road away from the center of the frame. This will change the static formal balance of the picture and increase visual impact by imparting dynamic



Image #7



Image #3

### Simplify

Too many good things often compete for our viewer's attention. Limit the number of strawberries and compose the scene to draw your viewer's eye to the wine glasses and bottle. This not only adds depth to your image but also completes the storytelling element of the challenge.

# From the "Experienced" Group



Image #103



## Backgrounds & Titles

When telling our visual story, we often include unnecessary visual information. For instance, in the "Strawberry Wine" image, Do we even need to include the grass surrounding the picnic cloth? If we are not careful, we introduce distractions that will compete for our viewer's attention.

Titles can also distract from your visual message. If a title is included, it should not compete with your subject. Remember, a title is there to support your visual.

Image #115

