

MIDJOURNEY

LIGHTING EXPERIMENTS

This study delves into lighting and how it affects the Midjourney AI image generator.

**Testing 41 different lighting styles on 4 different subjects.
(Portrait, still life, landscapes and architecture)**

The goal is to explore how these diverse lighting styles influence the AI-generated imagery and to examine the accuracy of Midjourney's interpretations.

I hope the findings will enrich our understanding of the effect of lighting on AI-generated visual art, offering valuable insights for future AI developments.

As well as inspire you to experiment with and explore different styles of lighting in your images

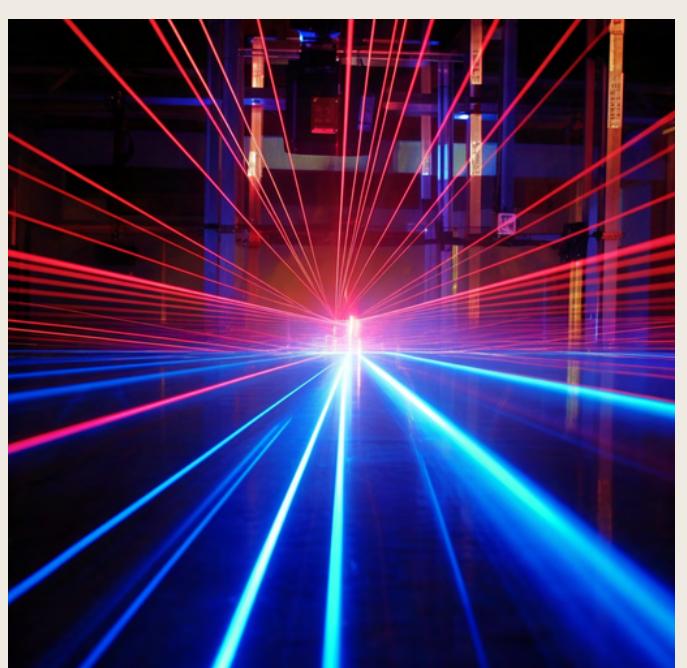
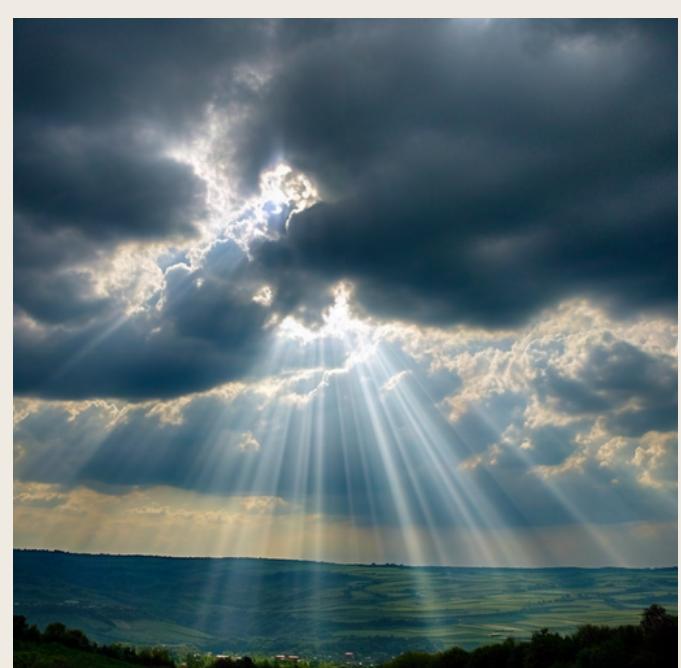


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LIGHTING EXPERIMENTS

GOLDEN HOUR

This is a soft, warm, dimensional light occurring just after sunrise or before sunset. It's best for outdoor photography and provides a beautiful, warm glow that can make any subject look better.



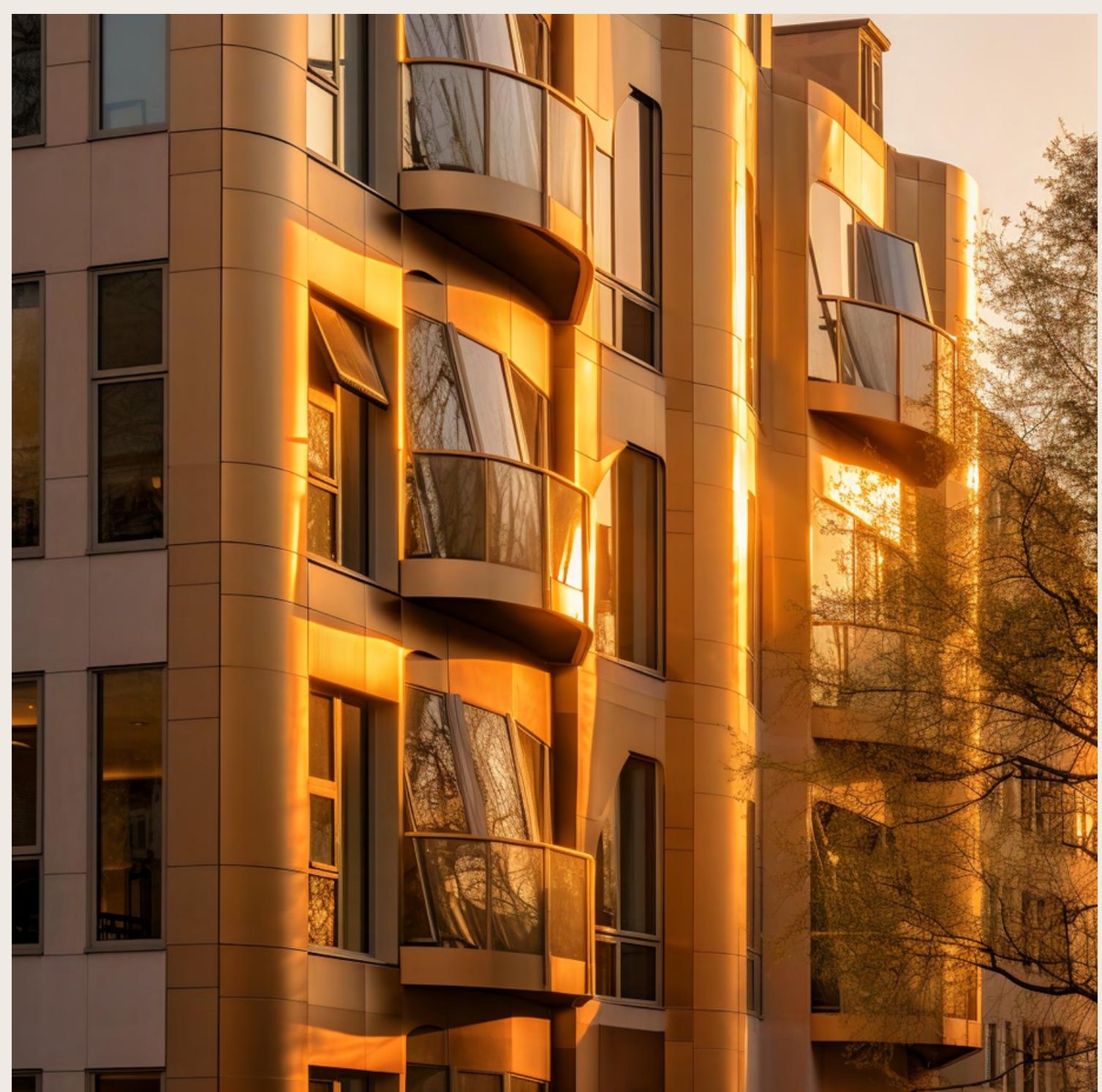
**portrait of a woman, Golden Hour,
photo --v 5.1**



**fruit bowl on a table, Golden Hour,
photo --v 5.1**



**landscape, Golden Hour, photo
--v 5.1**



**architecture, Golden Hour, photo
--v 5.1**

BLUE HOUR

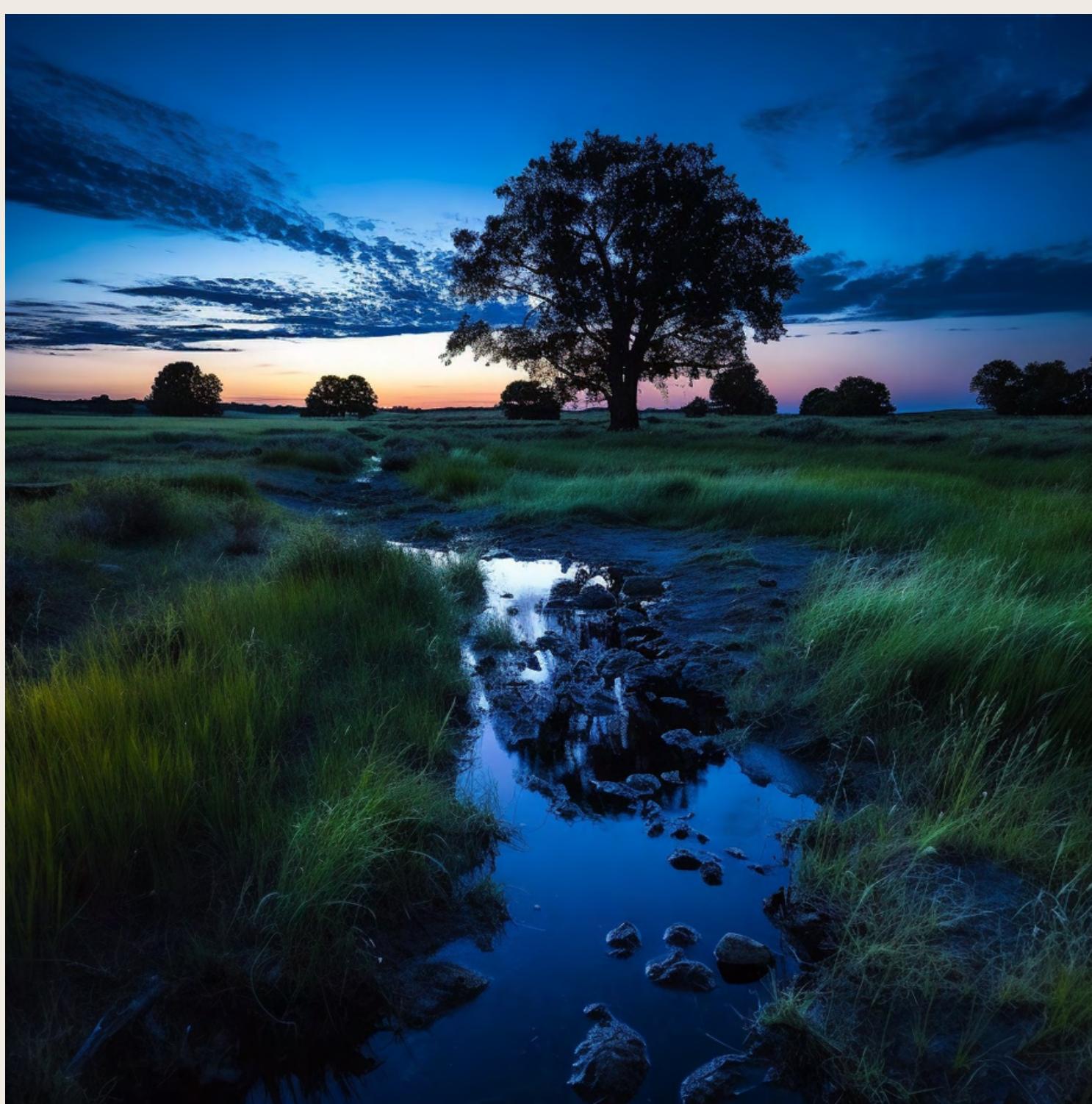
This style refers to the darker, moody tones experienced just before sunrise or just after sunset. It's ideal for creating a tranquil or melancholic atmosphere in landscape and cityscape photography.



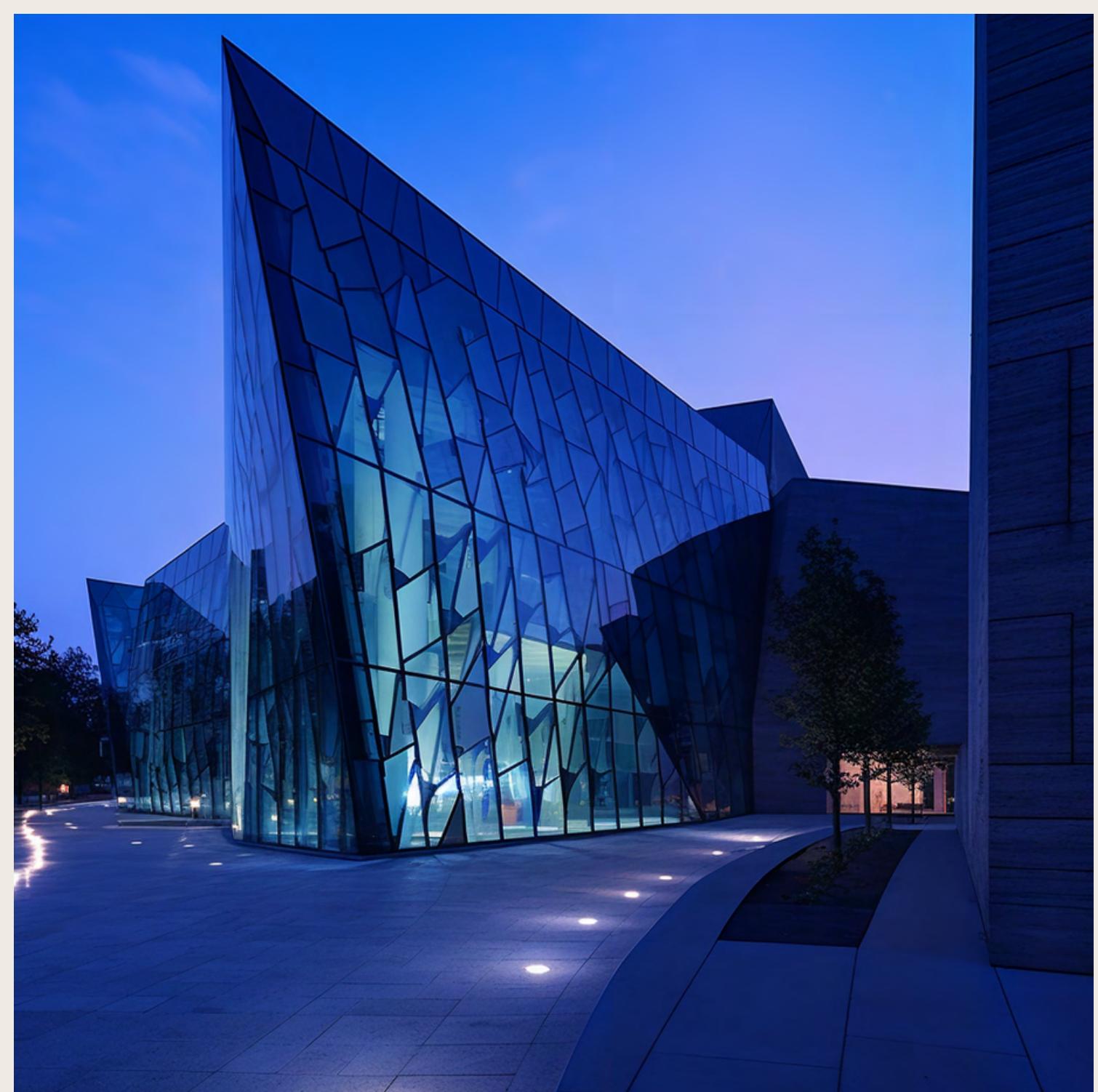
portrait of a woman, Blue Hour,
photo --v 5.1



flower, Blue Hour, photo
--v 5.1



landscape, Blue Hour, photo
--v 5.1



architecture, Blue Hour, photo
--v 5.1

CINEMATIC LIGHTING

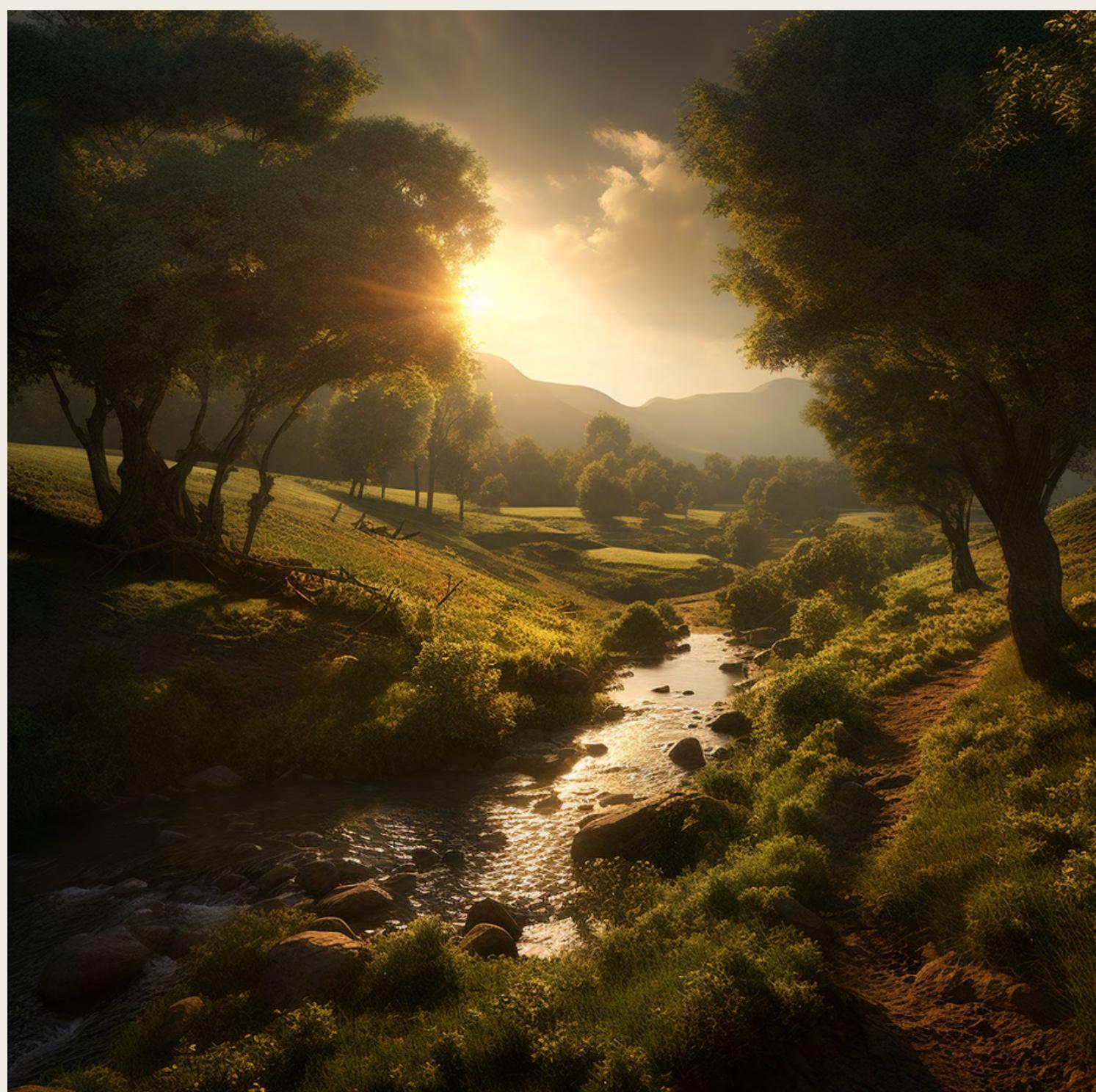
This involves a more dramatic use of light and shadow to mimic a movie scene. It's usually used in portrait photography and filmmaking to create a narrative or evoke emotion.



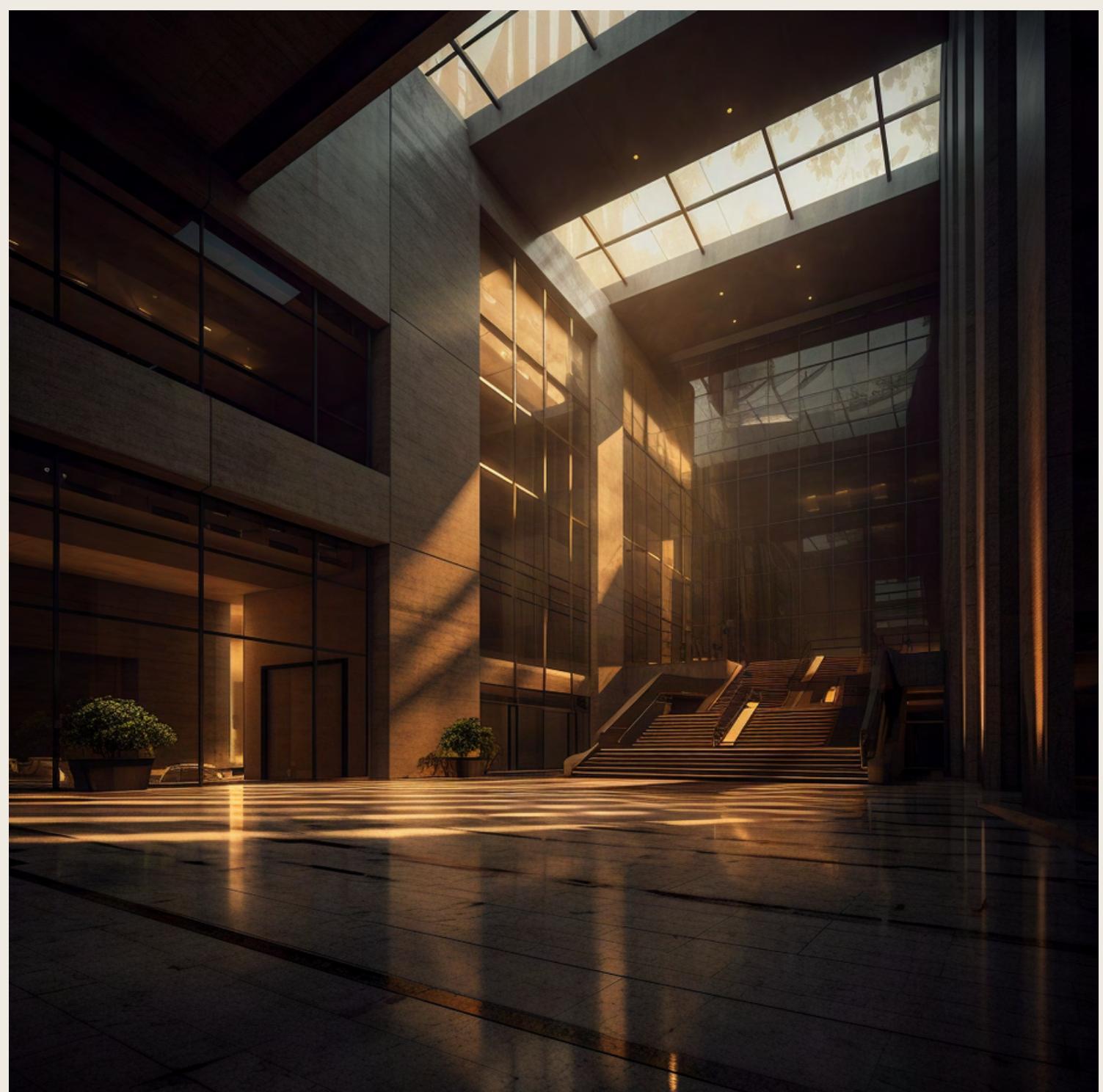
portrait of a woman, cinematic lighting,
photo --v 5.1



fruit bowl on a table, cinematic lighting,
photo --v 5.1



landscape, cinematic lighting, photo
--v 5.1



architecture, cinematic lighting, photo
--v 5.1

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LIGHTING EXPERIMENTS

STADIUM LIGHTS

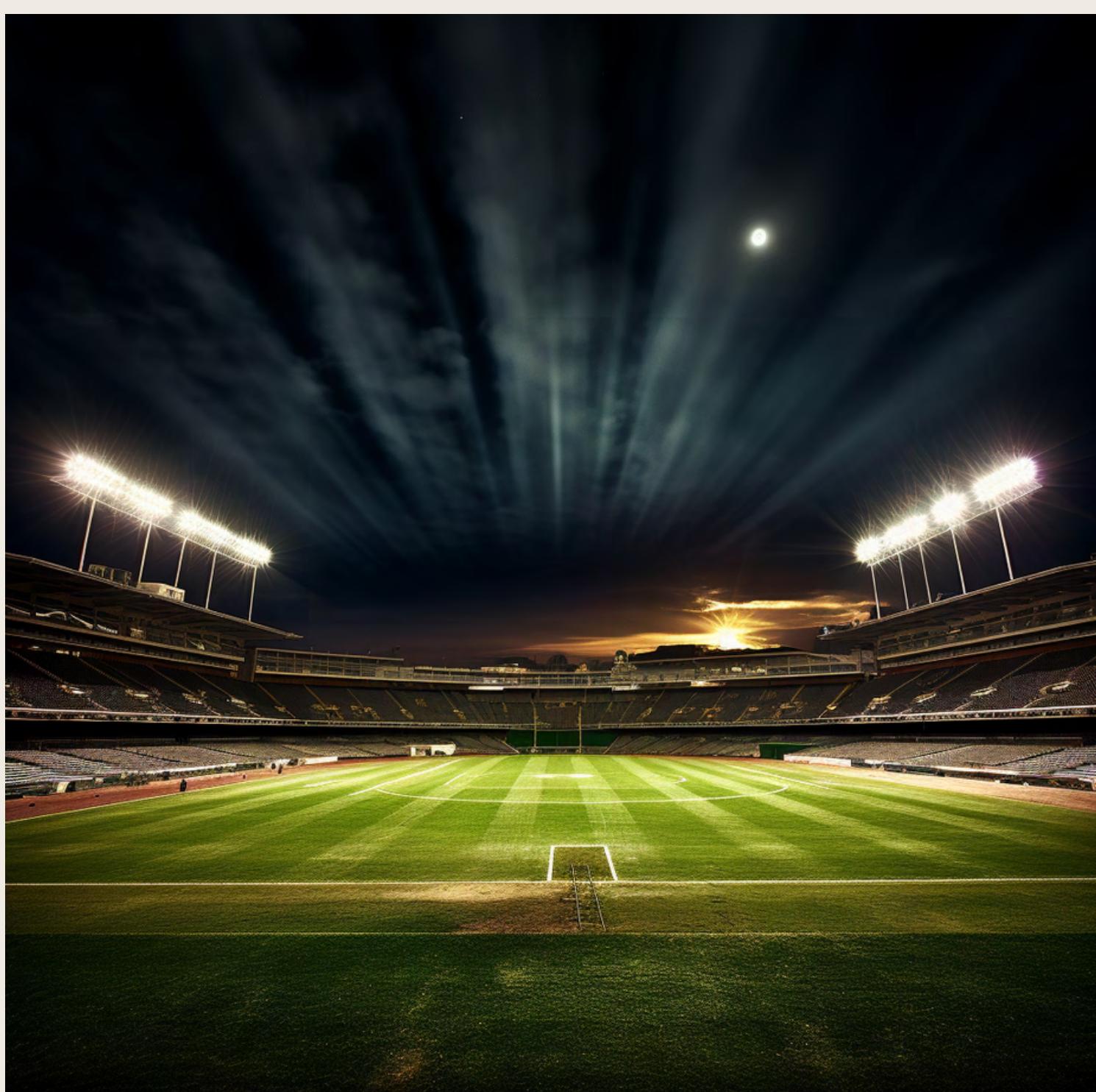
This bright, uniform lighting is used to illuminate large areas like sports arenas. It's best for sports photography where capturing fast actions is essential.



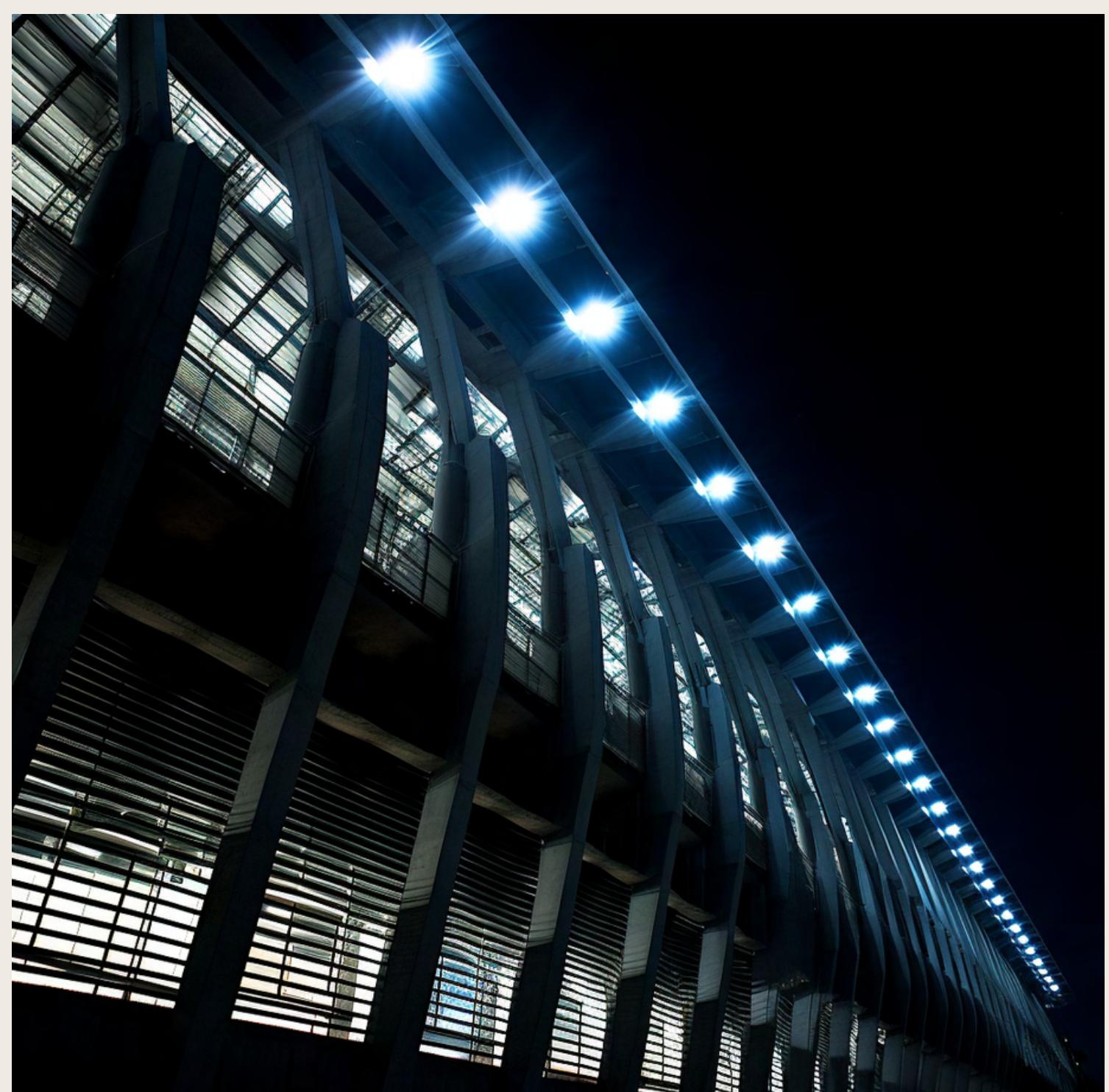
portrait of a woman, stadium lights,
photo --v 5.1



soccer ball, stadium lights, photo
--v 5.1



landscape, stadium lights, photo
--v 5.1



architecture, stadium lights, photo
--v 5.1

LIT BY CANDLE LIGHT

This style gives a warm, intimate, and potentially eerie feel to a scene. It's ideal for romantic, historical, or horror settings.



portrait of a woman, lit by candle light,
photo --v 5.1



bowl of fruit, lit by candle light, photo
--v 5.1



landscape, lit by candle light, photo
--v 5.1



architecture, lit by candle light, photo
--v 5.1

BIOLUMINESCENT LIGHTING

This occurs in deep sea environments, where marine creatures emit light. It's primarily used for underwater photography, offering an ethereal, otherworldly vibe.



underwater portrait of a woman,
Bioluminescent Lighting, photo --v 5.1



coral, Bioluminescent Lighting, photo
--v 5.1



underwater landscape, Bioluminescent
Lighting, photo --v 5.1



underwater architecture, Bioluminescent
Lighting, photo --v 5.1

HIGH KEY LIGHTING

This style involves bright, evenly distributed light with minimal shadows. It's ideal for happy, upbeat scenes, as well as product or fashion photography.

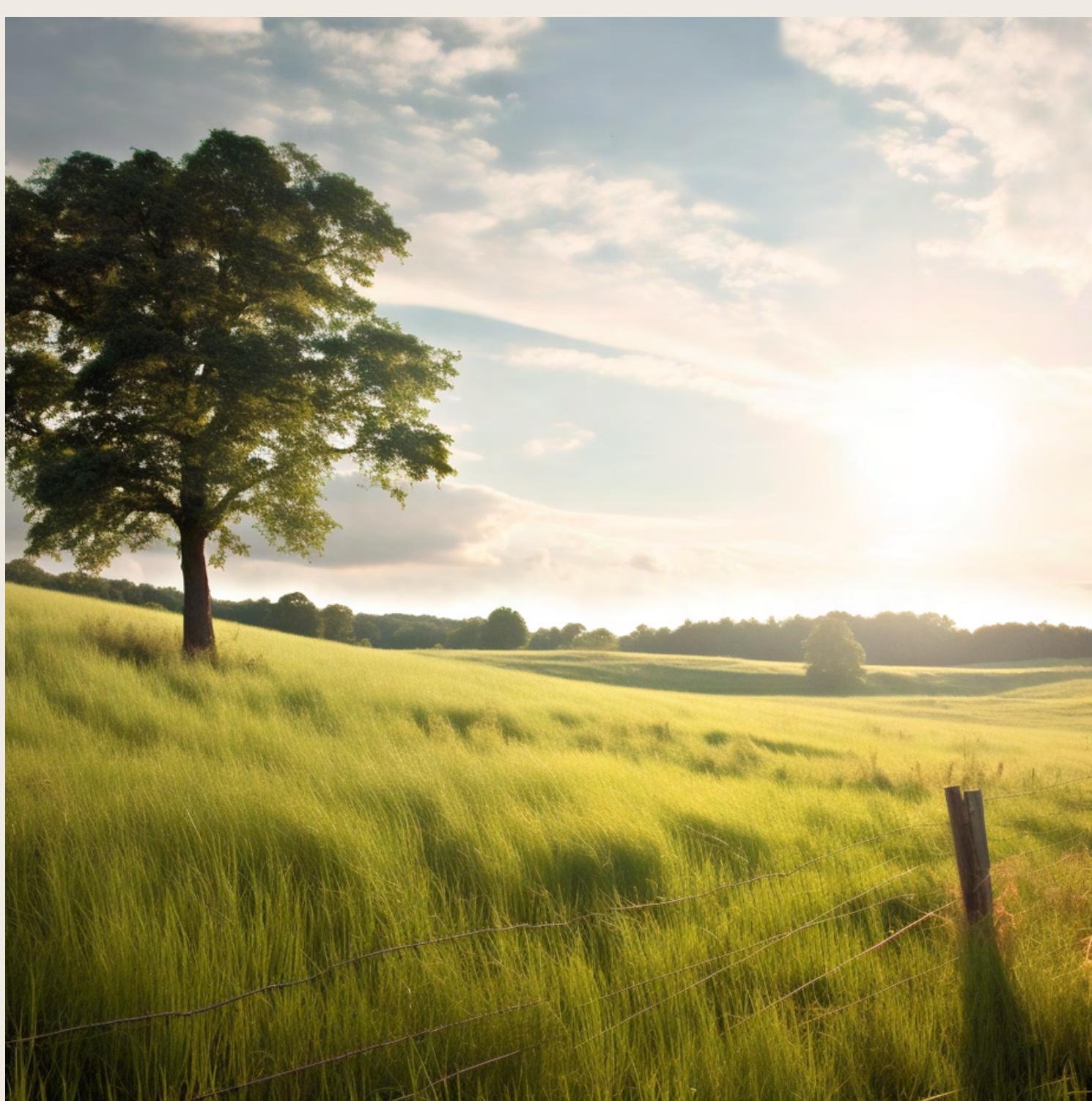
****Prompt High Key lighting may produce black and white results, add "--no black and white" for color image generation**



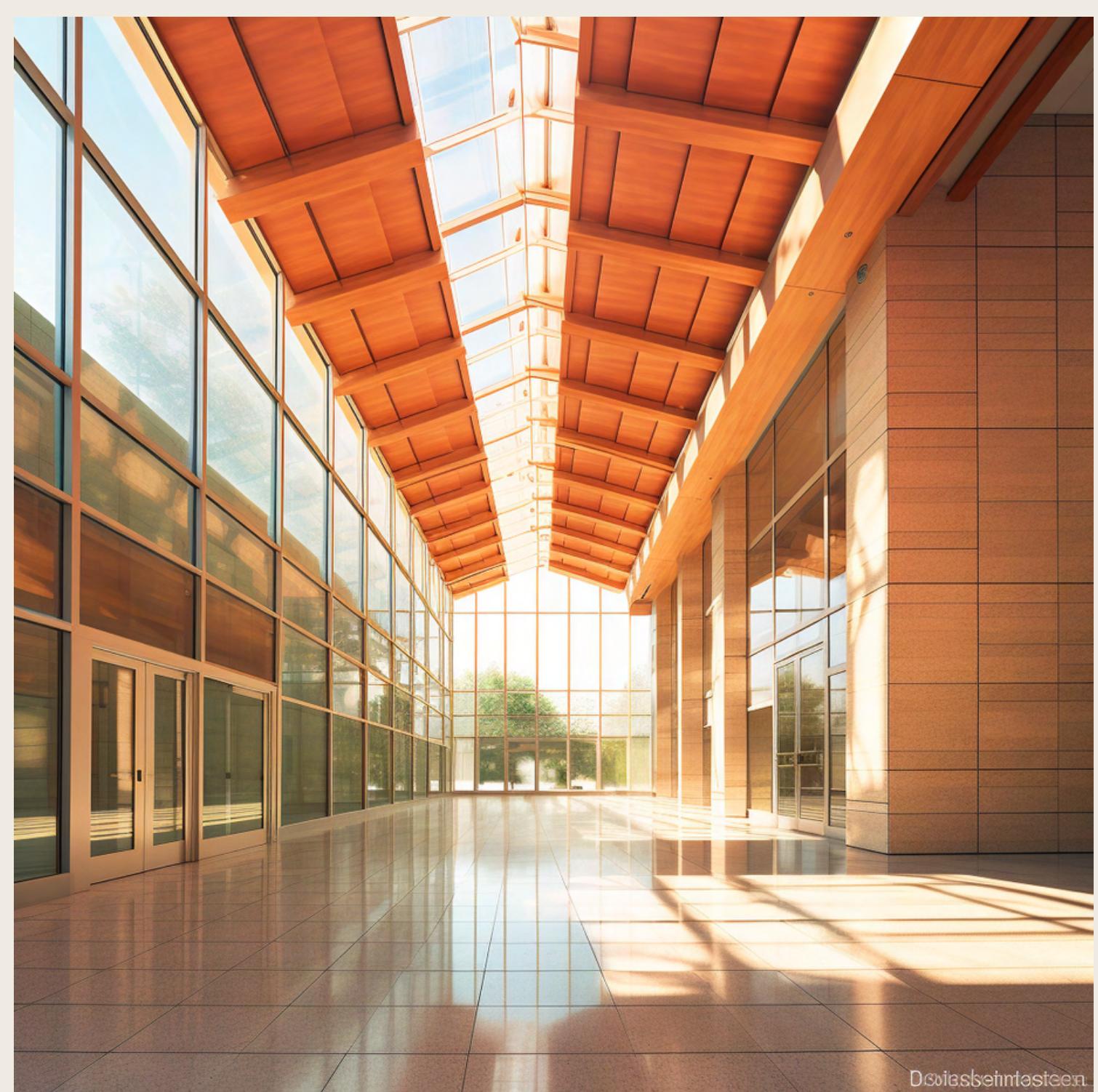
**portrait of a woman, High Key Lighting,
photo --no black and white --v 5.1**



**bowl of fruit, high key Lighting, photo
--v 5.1**



**landscape, high key Lighting, photo
--no black and white --v 5.1**



**architecture, high key Lighting, photo
--no black and white --v 5.1**

LOW KEY LIGHTING

This method uses a lot of shadow to create dramatic, moody images, focusing on form and detail. It's best for noir, dramatic portraits, or cinematic scenes.

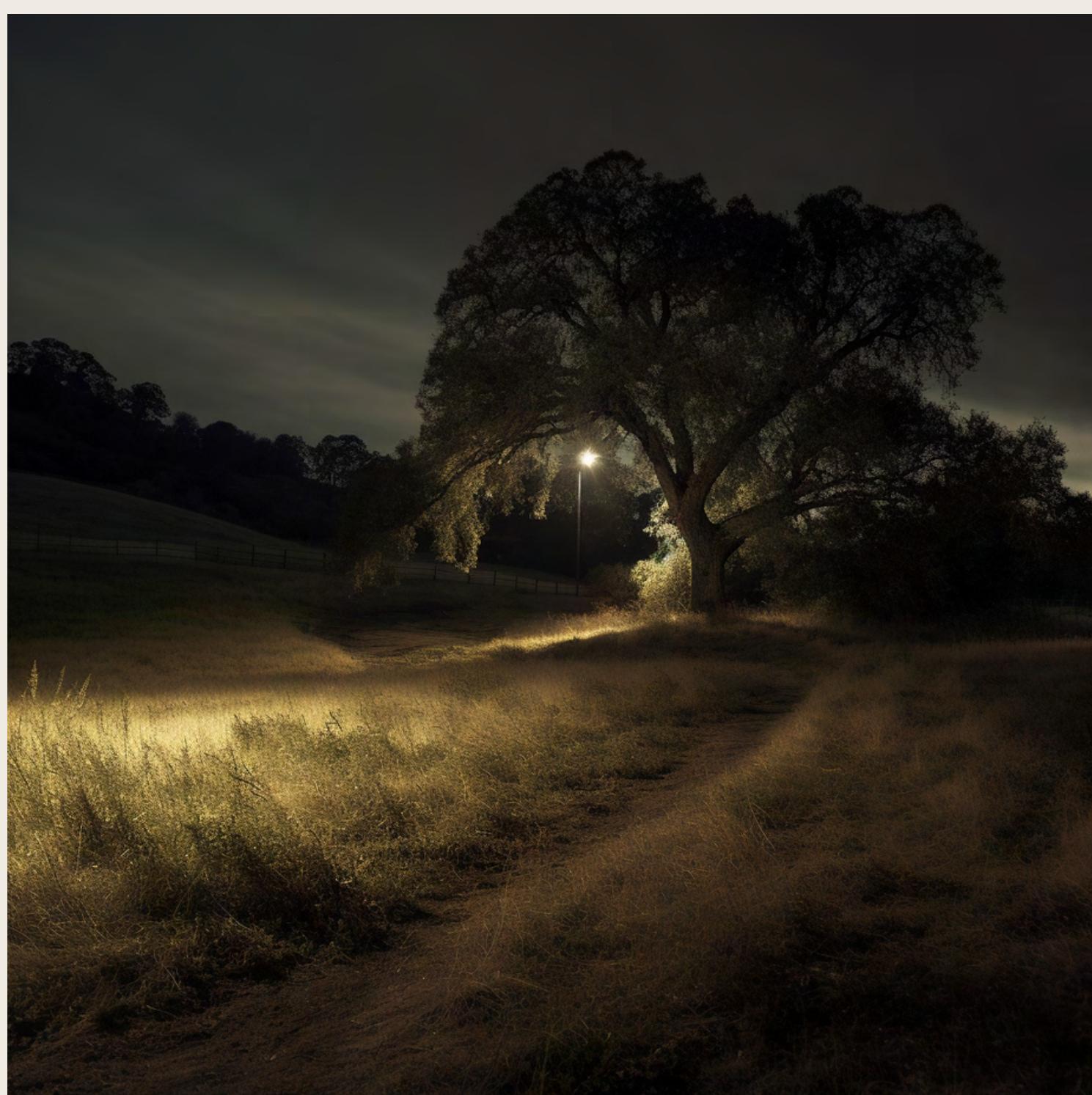
****Prompt Low Key lighting may produce black and white results, add "--no black and white" for color image generation**



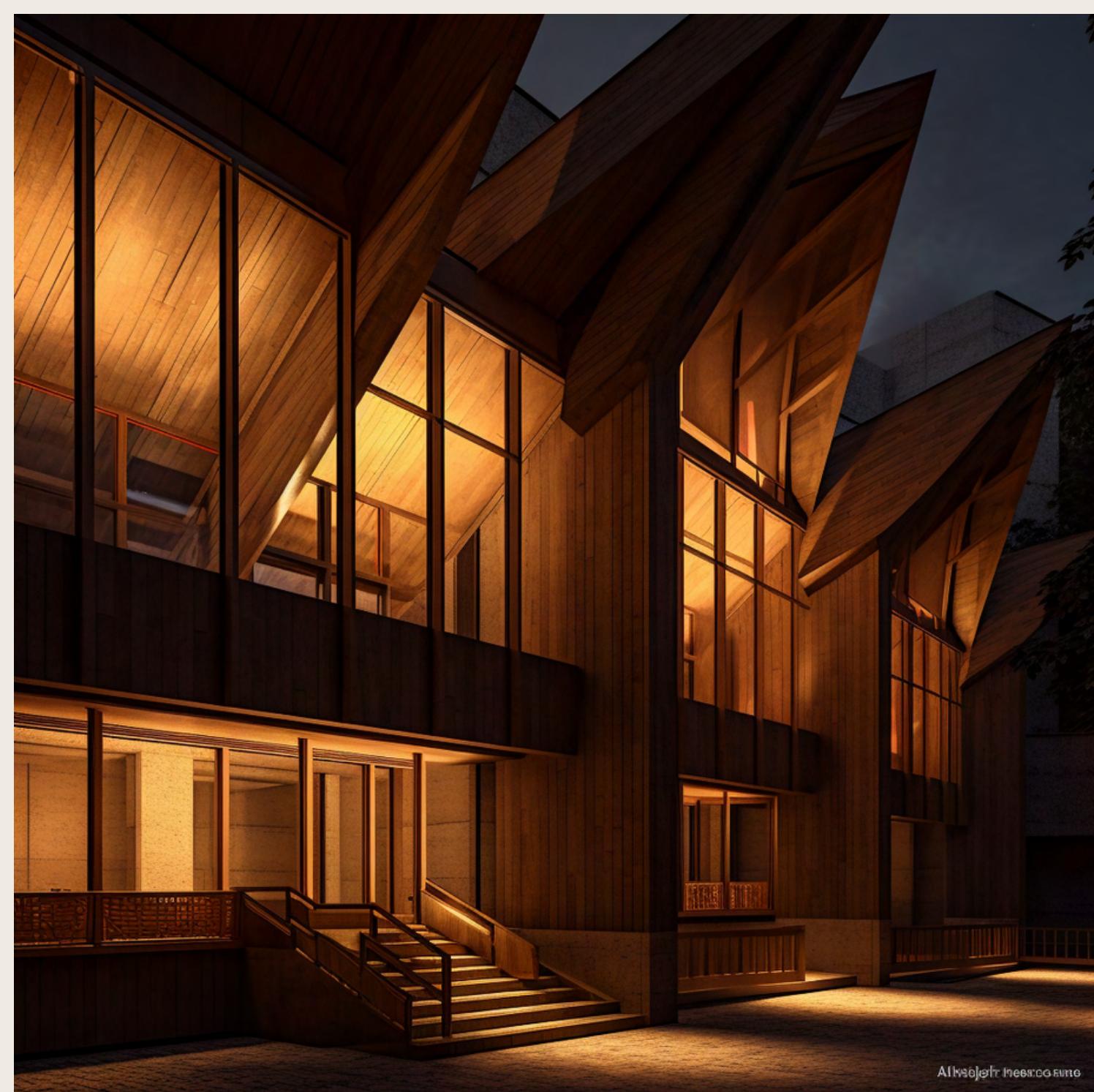
**portrait of a woman, Low Key Lighting,
photo --v 5.1**



**bowl of fruit, low key Lighting, photo
--v 5.1**



**landscape, low key Lighting, photo
--v 5.1**



**architecture, low key Lighting, photo
--no black and white --v 5.1**

REMBRANDT LIGHTING

Named after the famous painter, this technique produces a small, triangular light on the subject's cheek. It's best for portraits, providing a dramatic and artistic feel.



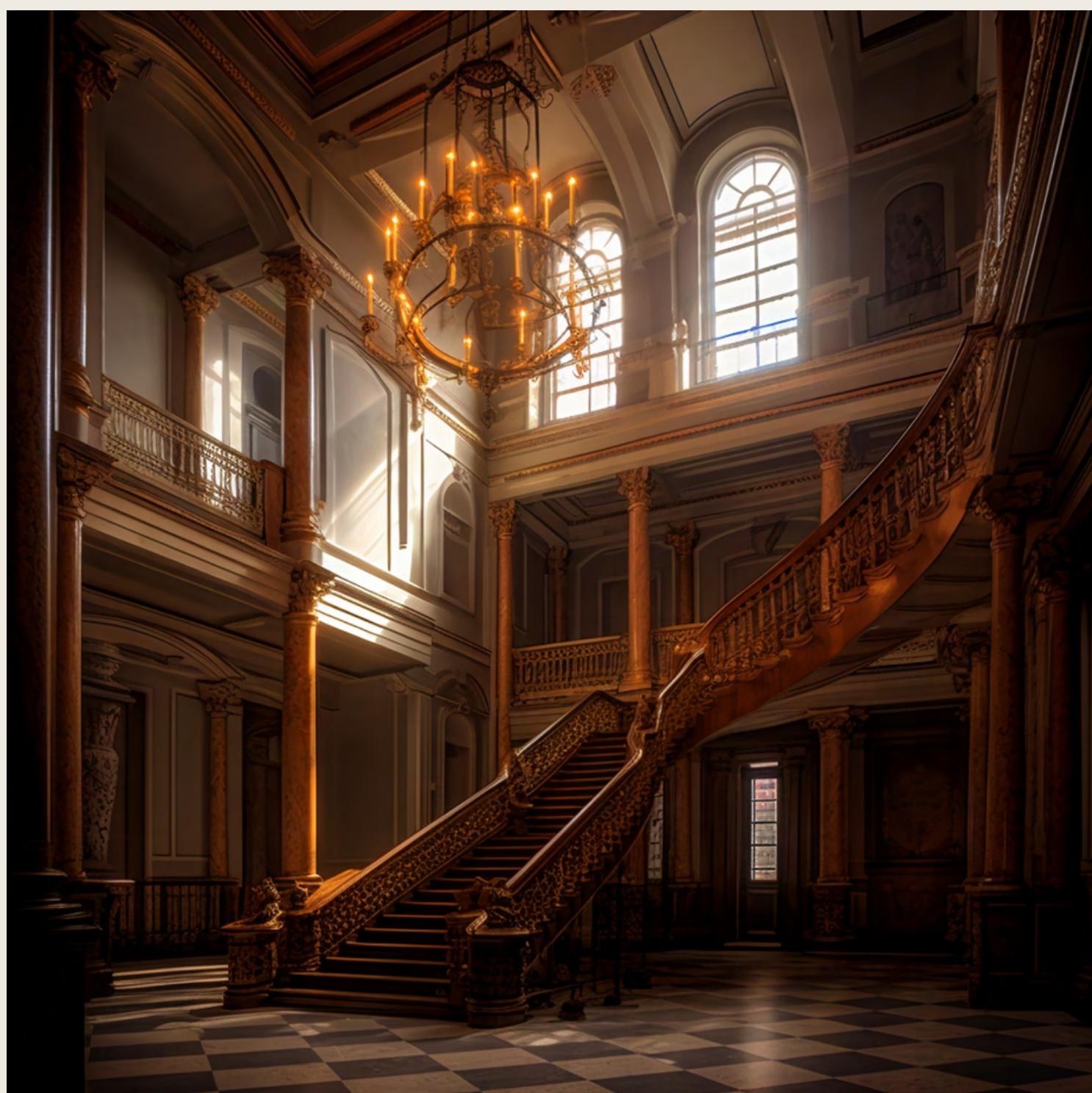
portrait of a woman, Rembrandt Lighting,
photo --v 5.1



bowl of fruit, Rembrandt Lighting, photo
--v 5.1



landscape, Rembrandt Lighting, photo
--v 5.1



architecture, Rembrandt Lighting, photo
--v 5.1

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SPLIT LIGHTING

In this setup, half of the subject's face is lit while the other half is in shadow. It's used in dramatic portraiture and character studies.



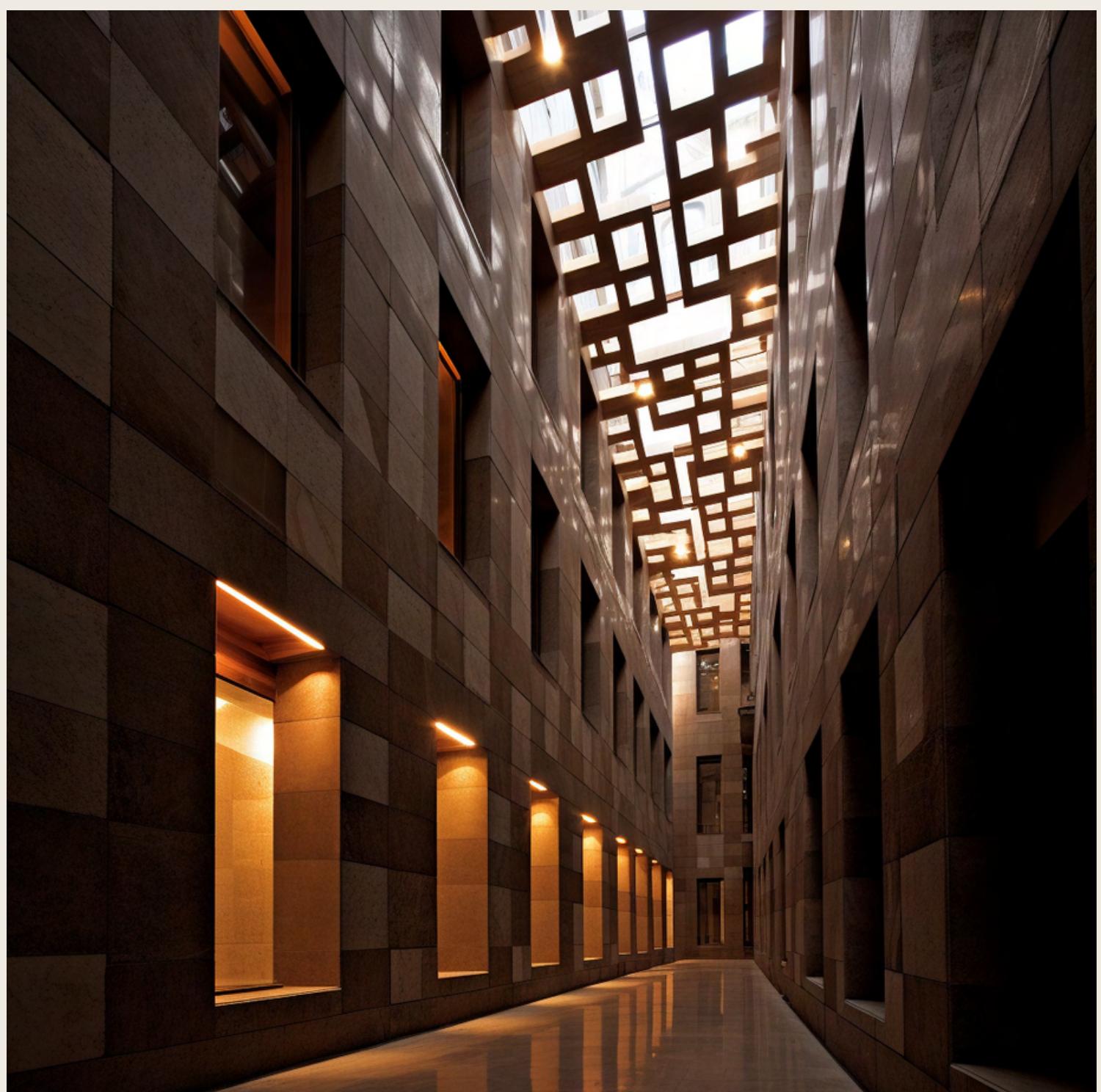
portrait of a woman, Split Lighting,
photo --v 5.1



bowl of fruit, Split Lighting, photo
--v 5.1



landscape, Split Lighting, photo
--v 5.1



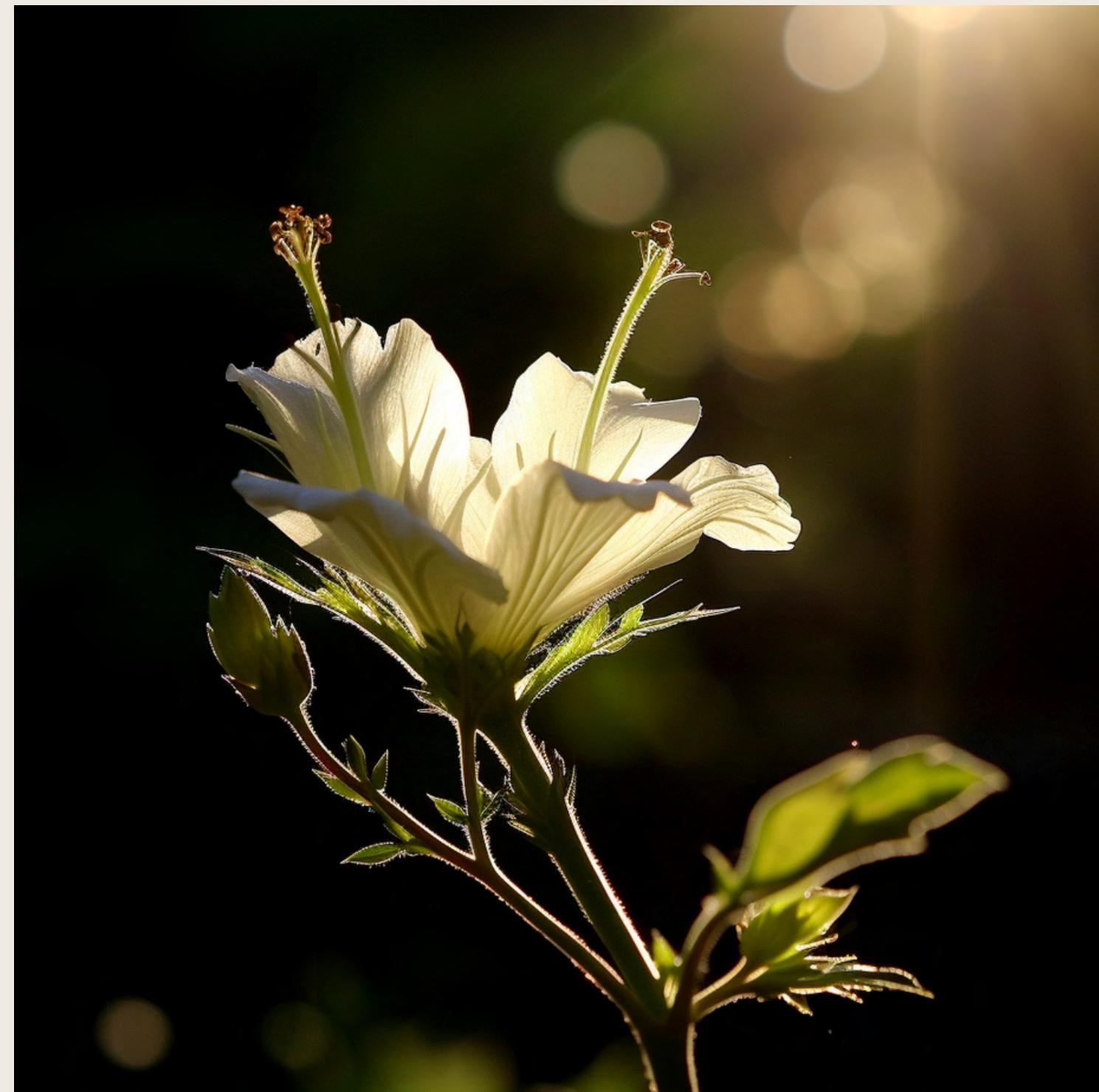
architecture, Split Lighting, photo
--v 5.1

BACKLIGHTING

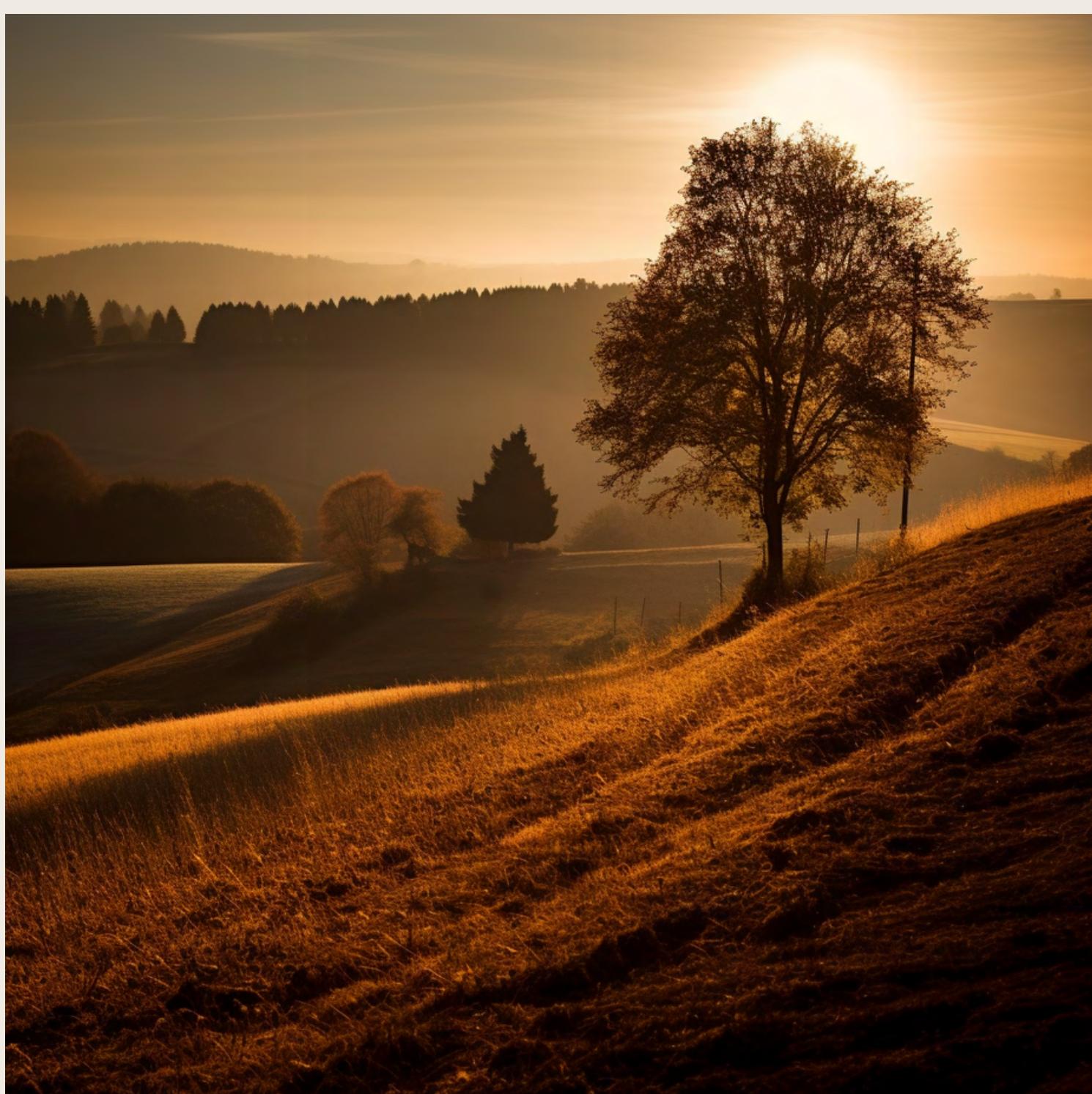
This is when the light source is behind the subject, creating a silhouette effect or a halo-like glow. It's good for capturing subject outlines or creating dreamy outdoor scenes.



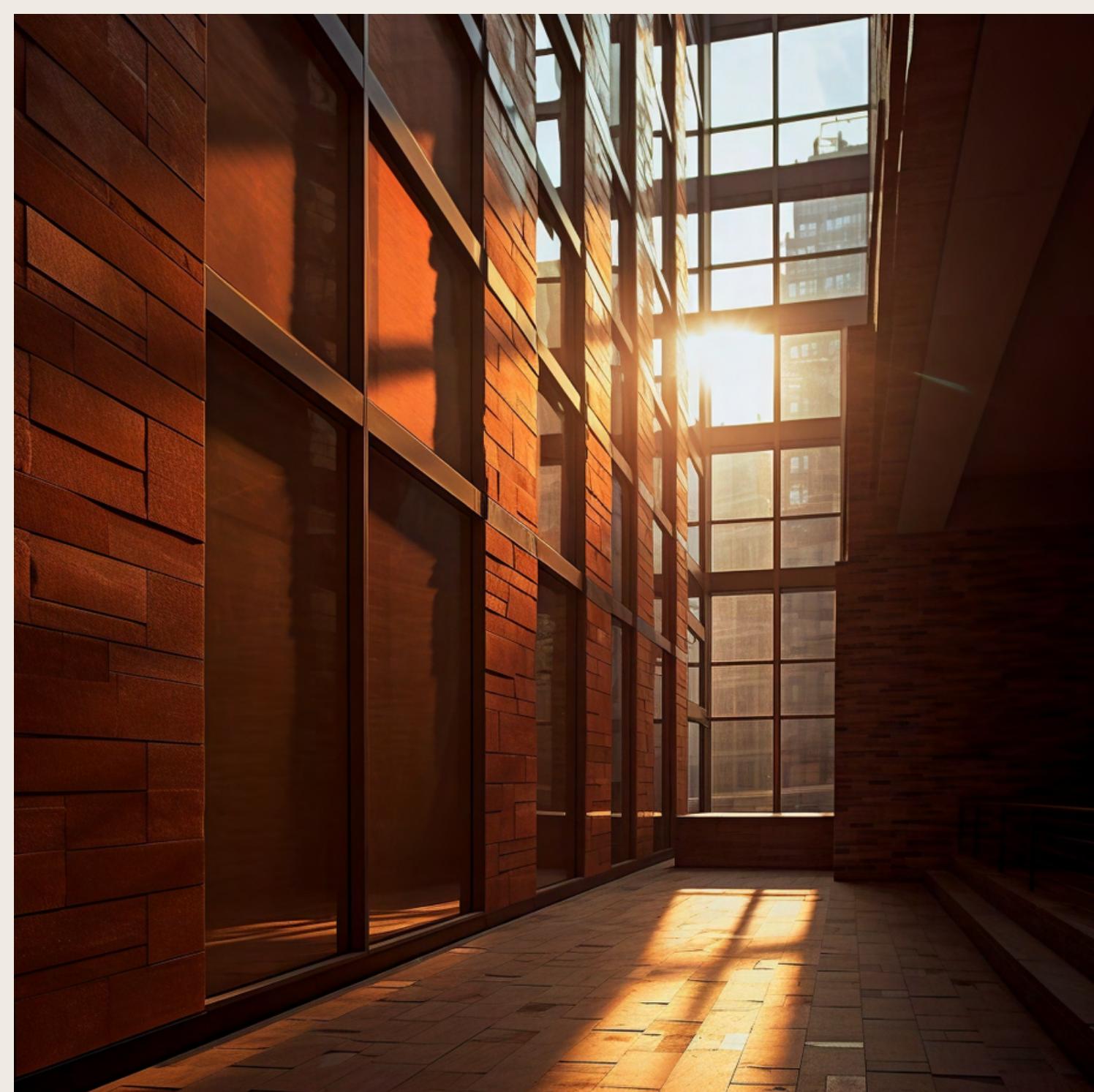
outdoor portrait of a woman,
Back lighting, photo --v 5.1



flower, Back lighting, photo
--v 5.1



landscape, Backlighting , photo
--v 5.1



architecture, Backlighting , photo
--v 5.1

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LIGHTING EXPERIMENTS

WINDOW LIGHT

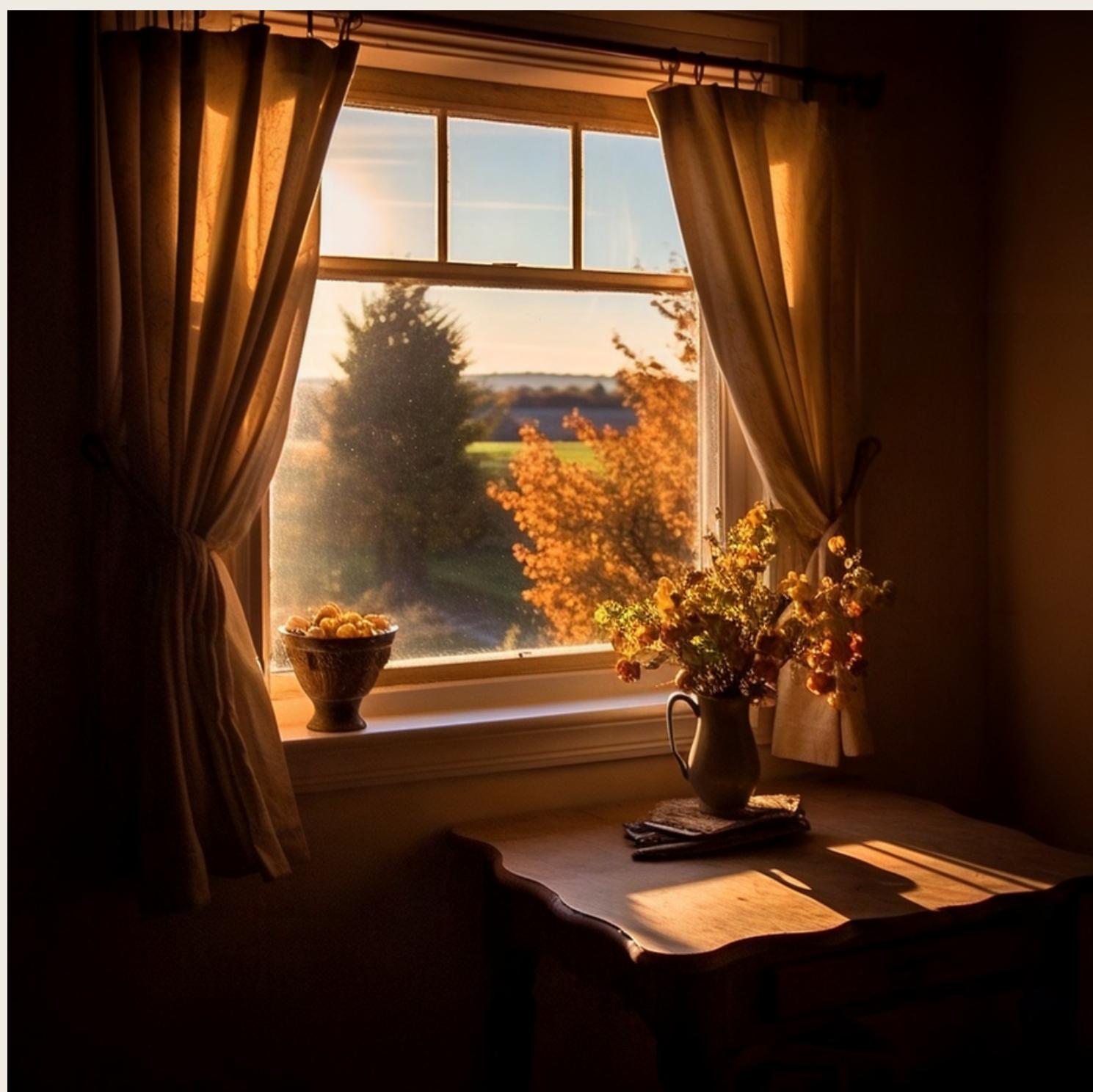
Natural light coming through a window can create a soft, flattering effect. It's versatile and ideal for portraiture, still lifes, and indoor scenes.



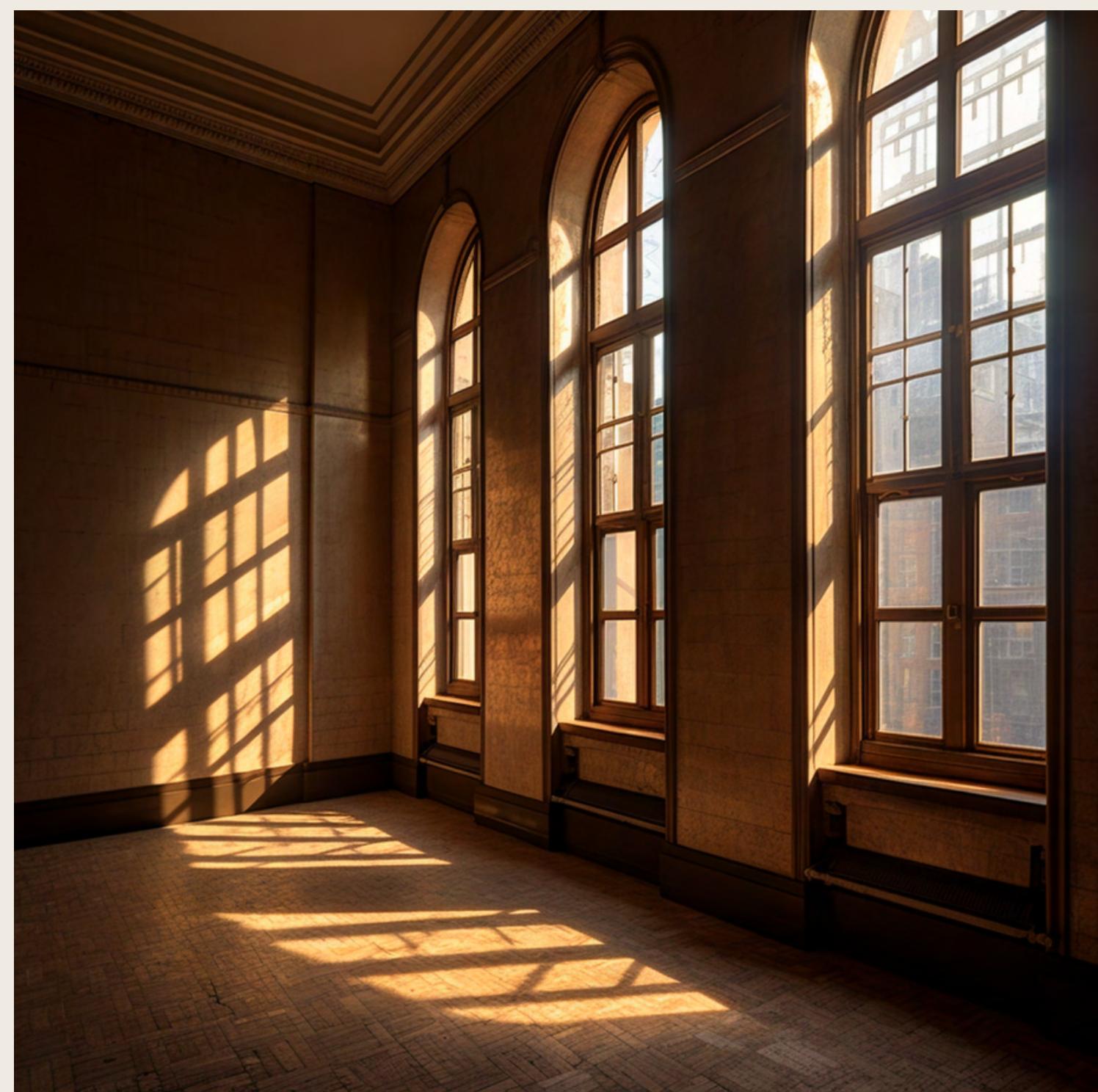
portrait of a woman, Window Light,
photo --v 5.1



fruit bowl, Window Light, photo
--v 5.1



landscape, Window Light , photo
--v 5.1



architecture, Window Light, photo
--v 5.1

LIT BY MOONLIGHT

This low, diffused light can create a moody, ethereal, or romantic atmosphere. It's used for nighttime landscape and outdoor photography.



portrait of a woman, lit by Moonlight,
photo --v 5.1



flower, lit by Moonlight, photo
--v 5.1



landscape, lit by Moonlight, photo
--v 5.1



architecture, lit by Moonlight, photo
--v 5.1

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LIGHTING EXPERIMENTS

LIT BY AURORA BOREALIS (NORTHERN LIGHTS)

This natural light display in Earth's polar regions creates beautiful, colorful waves of light in the sky. It's great for creating stunning night landscape photography.



portrait of a woman, lit by Aurora Borealis, photo --v 5.1



flower, lit by Aurora Borealis, photo --v 5.1



landscape, lit by Aurora Borealis, photo --v 5.1



architecture, lit by Aurora Borealis, photo --v 5.1

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LIGHTING EXPERIMENTS

LIT BY STREET LIGHT

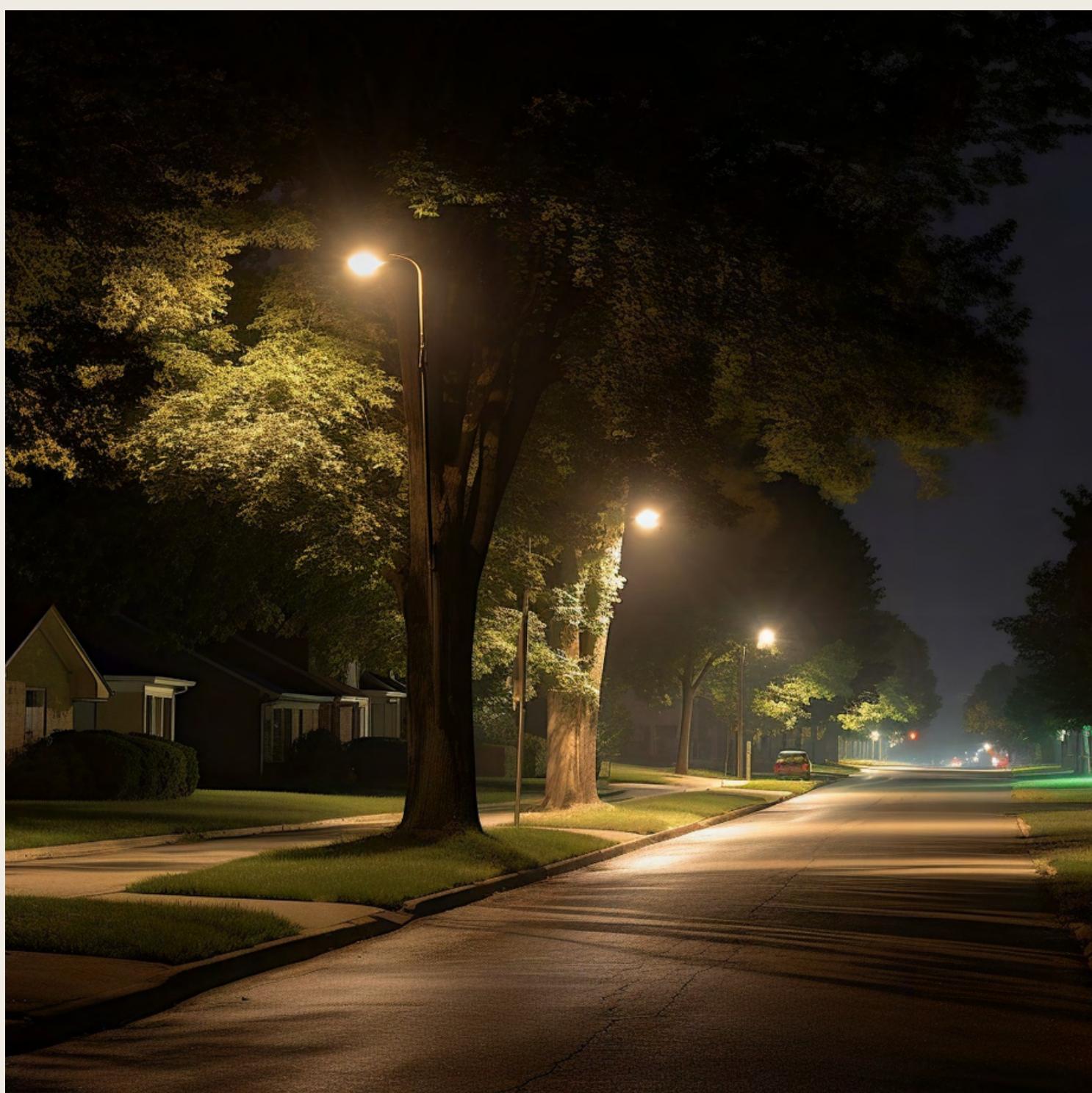
Artificial city light can create atmospheric urban scenes or portraits with a gritty, real feel.



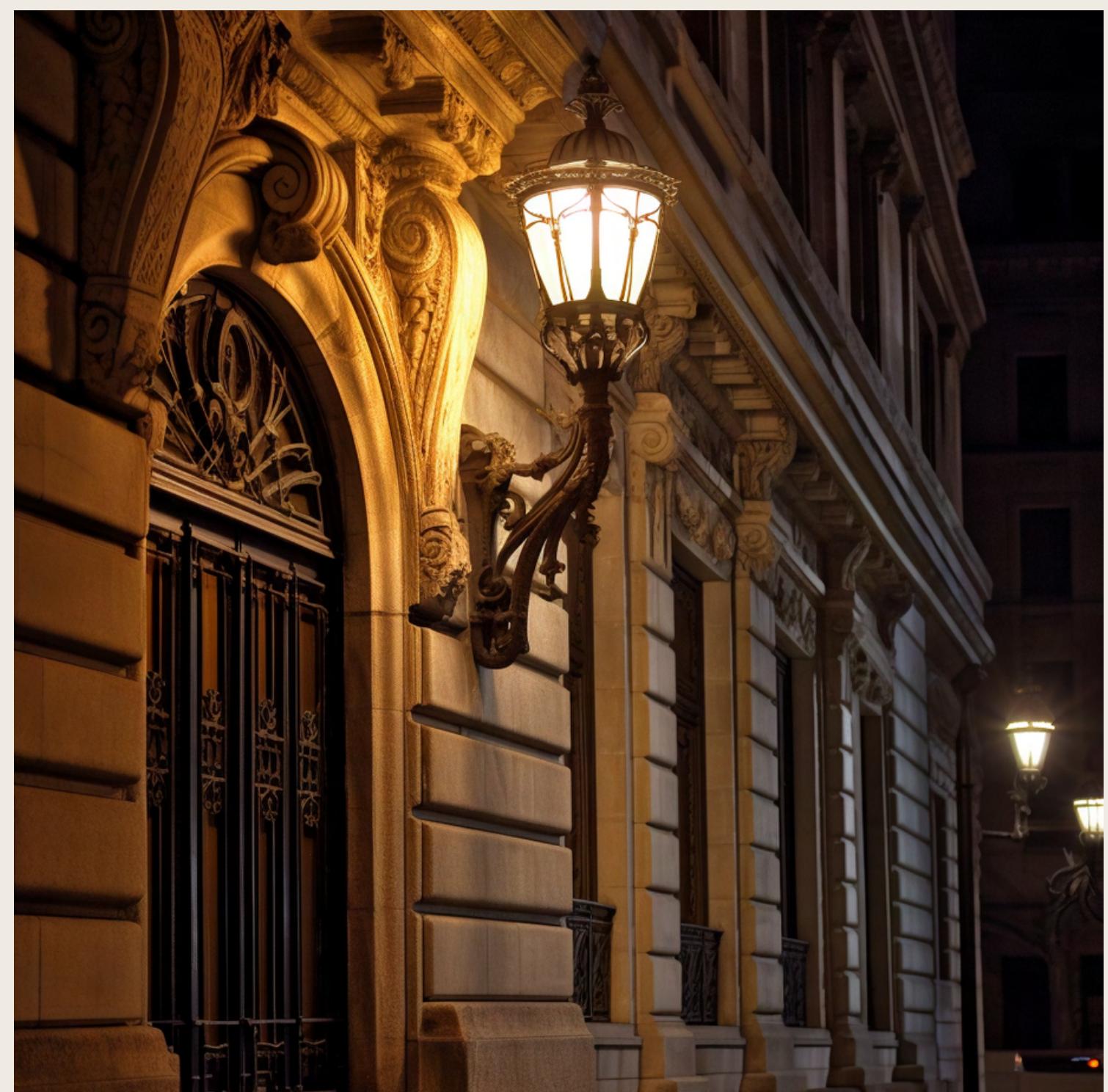
portrait of a woman, lit by Street Light, photo --v 5.1



flower, lit by Street Light, photo --v 5.1



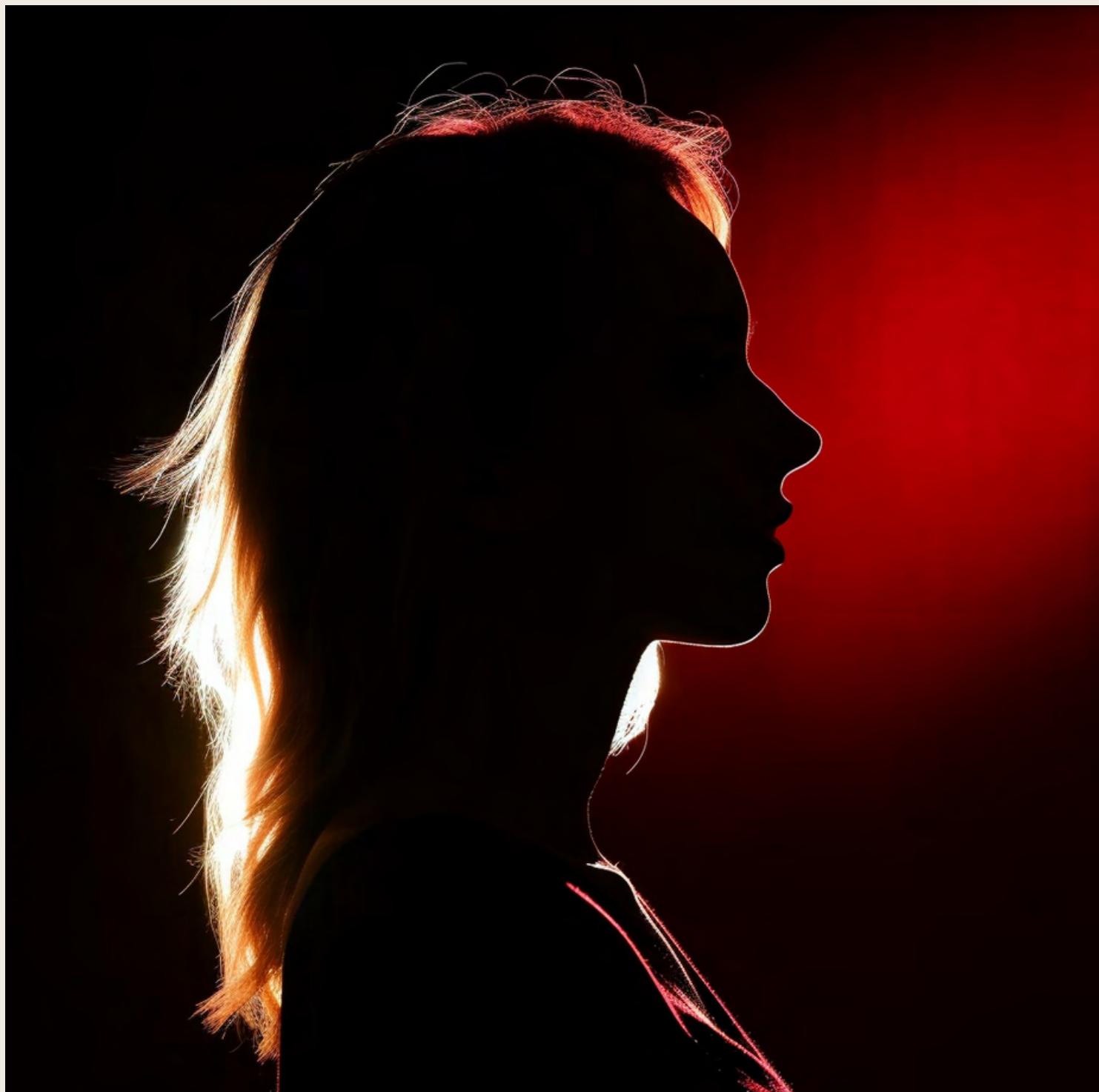
landscape, lit by Street Light, photo --v 5.1



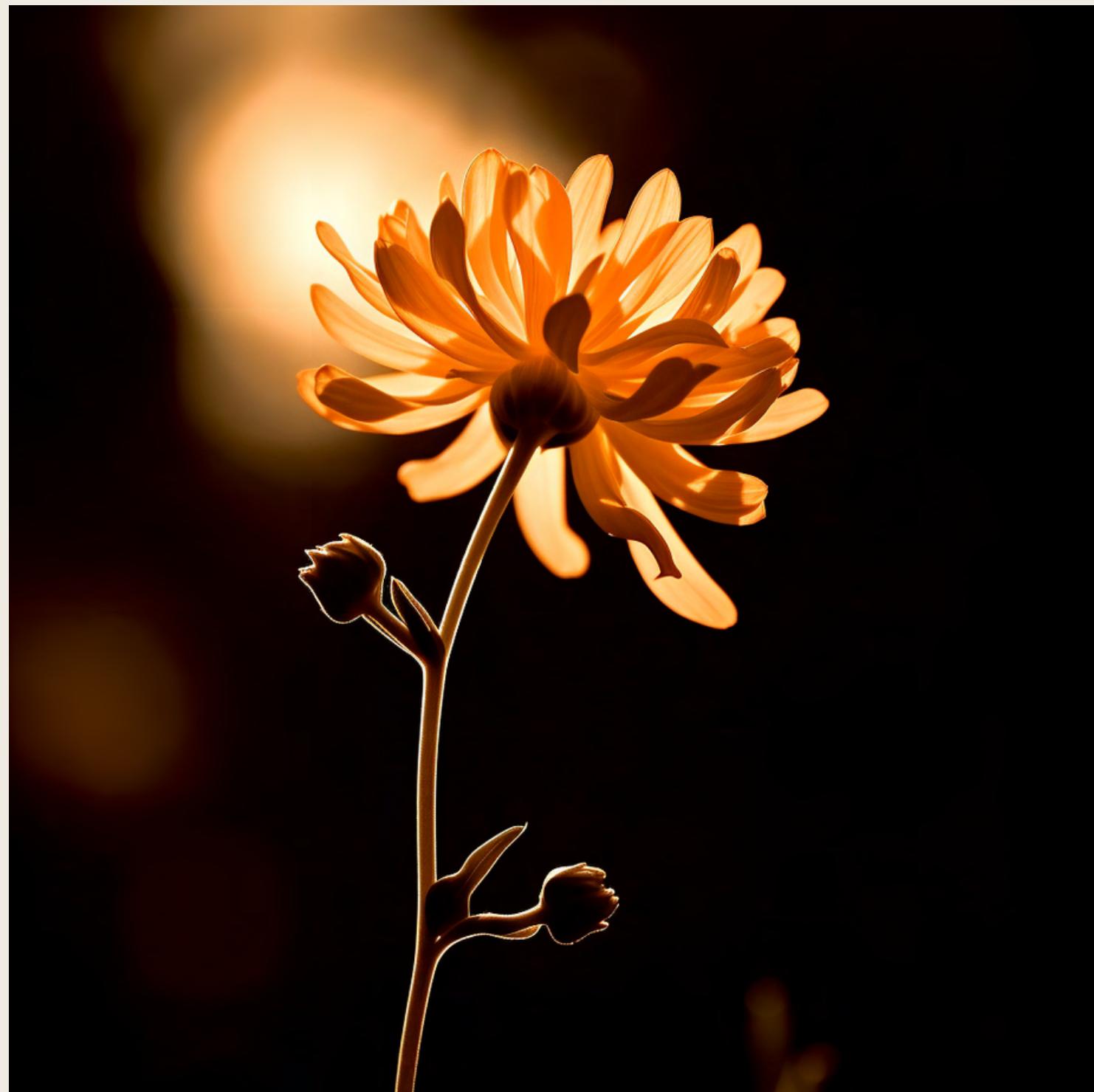
architecture, lit by Street Light, photo --v 5.1

SILHOUETTE LIGHTING

This involves backlighting the subject against a brighter background, reducing the subject to a black outline. It's used to create dramatic scenes or to focus on form and shape.



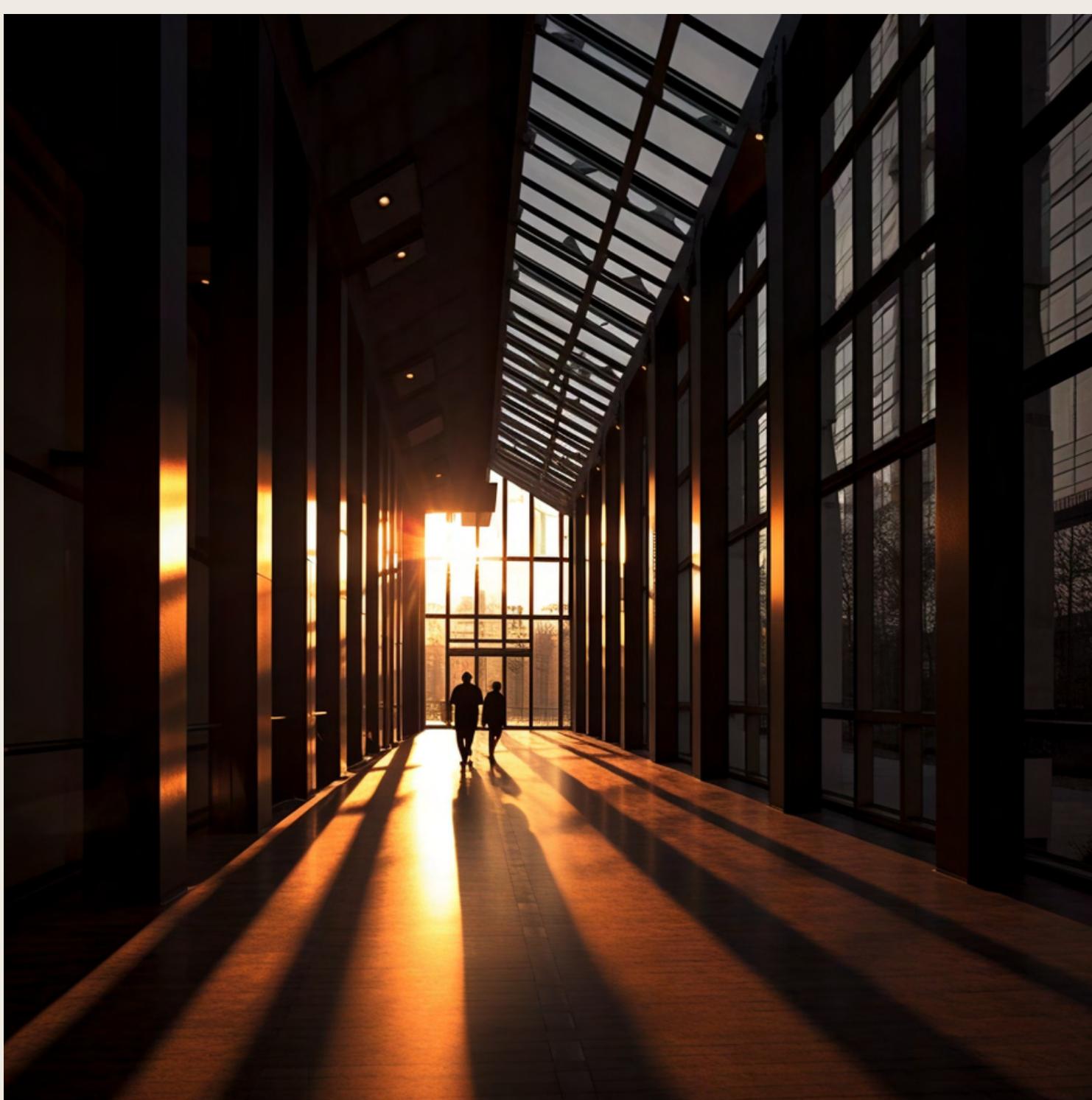
portrait of a woman, Silhouette Lighting,
photo --v 5.1



flower, Silhouette Lighting, photo
--v 5.1



landscape, Silhouette Lighting, photo
--v 5.1



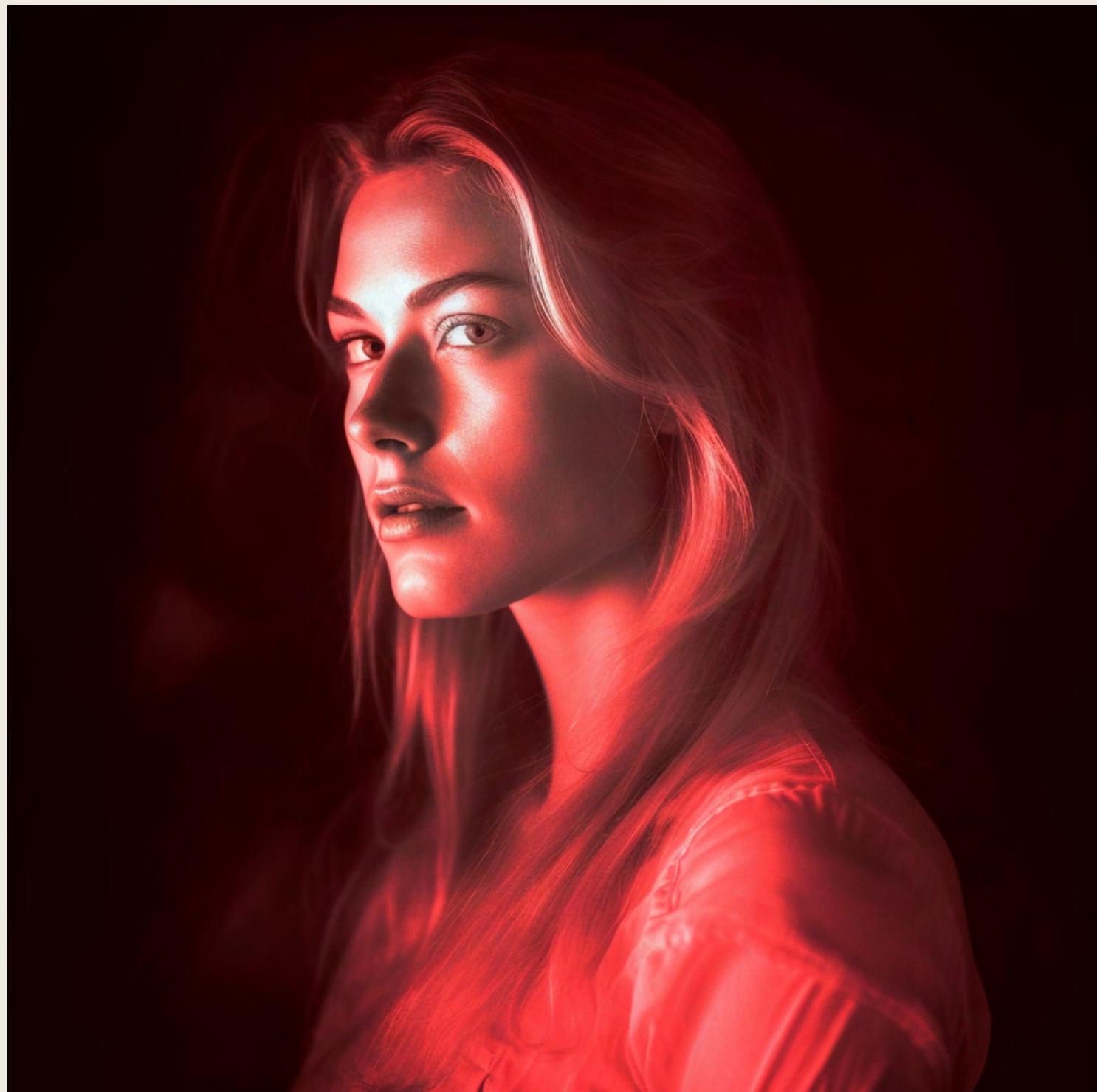
architecture, Silhouette Lighting,
photo --v 5.1

MIDJOURNEY

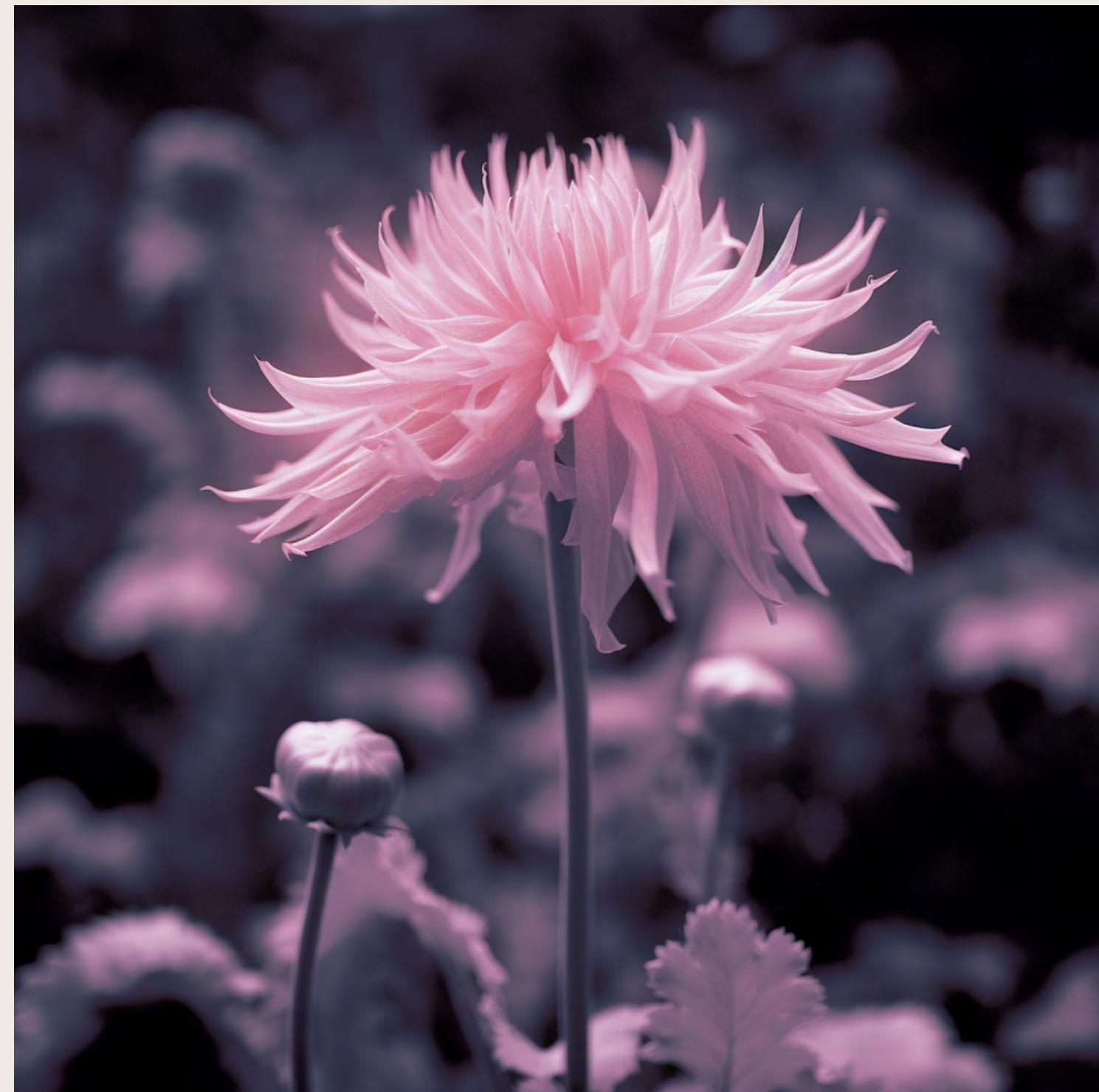
LIGHTING EXPERIMENTS

INFRARED LIGHT

This involves capturing light beyond the visible spectrum. It's used for unique, surreal landscape or artistic photography.



portrait of a woman, infrared light,
photo --v 5.1



flower, infrared light, photo
--v 5.1



landscape, infrared light, photo
--v 5.1



architecture, infrared light,
photo --v 5.1

GLOW STICK LIGHTING

Glow sticks provide vibrant, neon-like light, ideal for concert photography, light painting, and creating energetic, festive atmospheres.



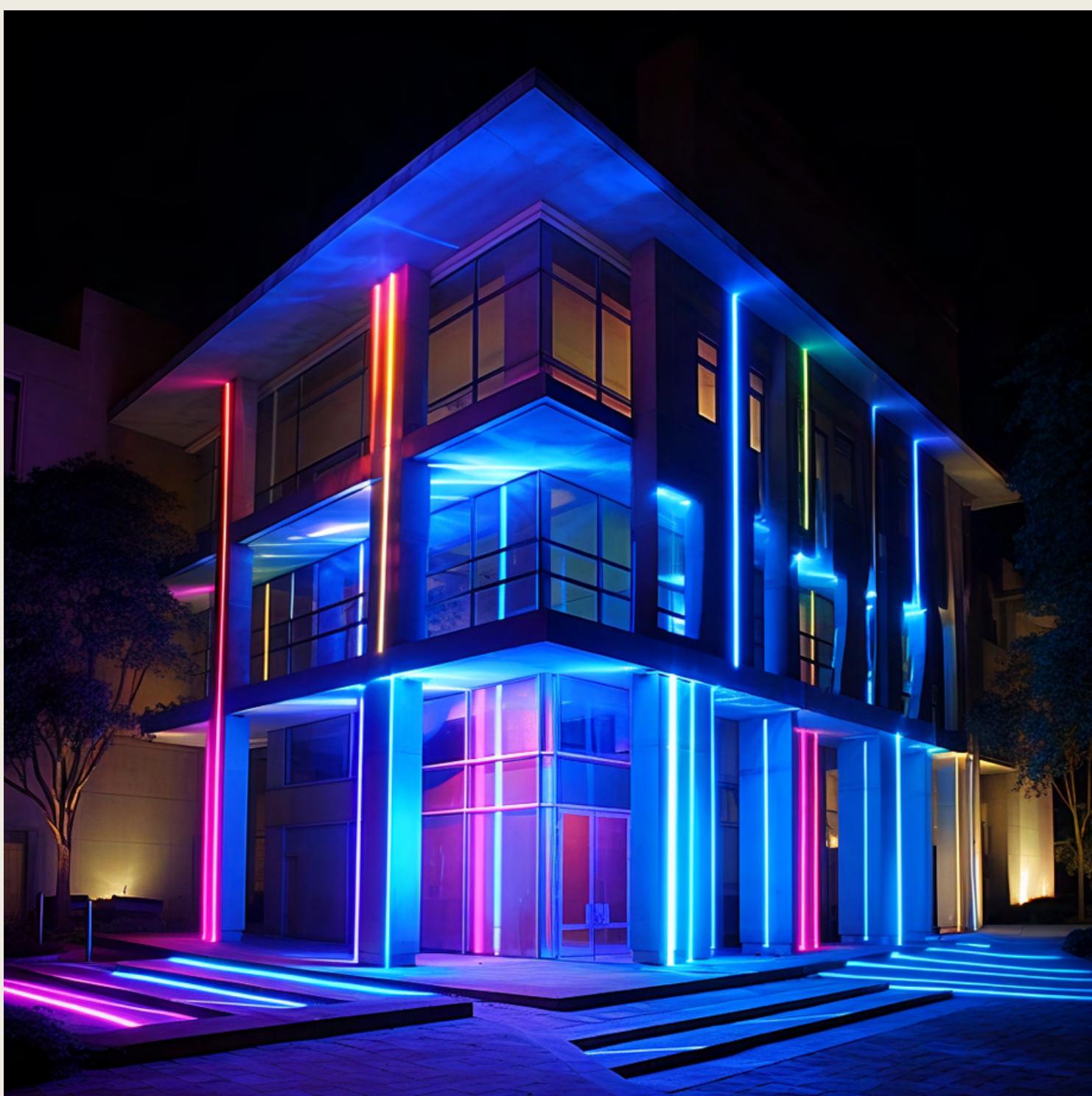
portrait of a woman, Glow stick Lighting,
photo --v 5.1



fruit bowl, Glow stick Lighting,
photo --v 5.1



landscape, Glow stick Lighting,
photo --v 5.1



architecture, Glow stick Lighting,
photo --v 5.1

CREPUSCULAR RAYS (GOD RAYS)

These sunbeam streams create dramatic, ethereal landscapes, perfect for adding depth and an inspirational mood to photography.



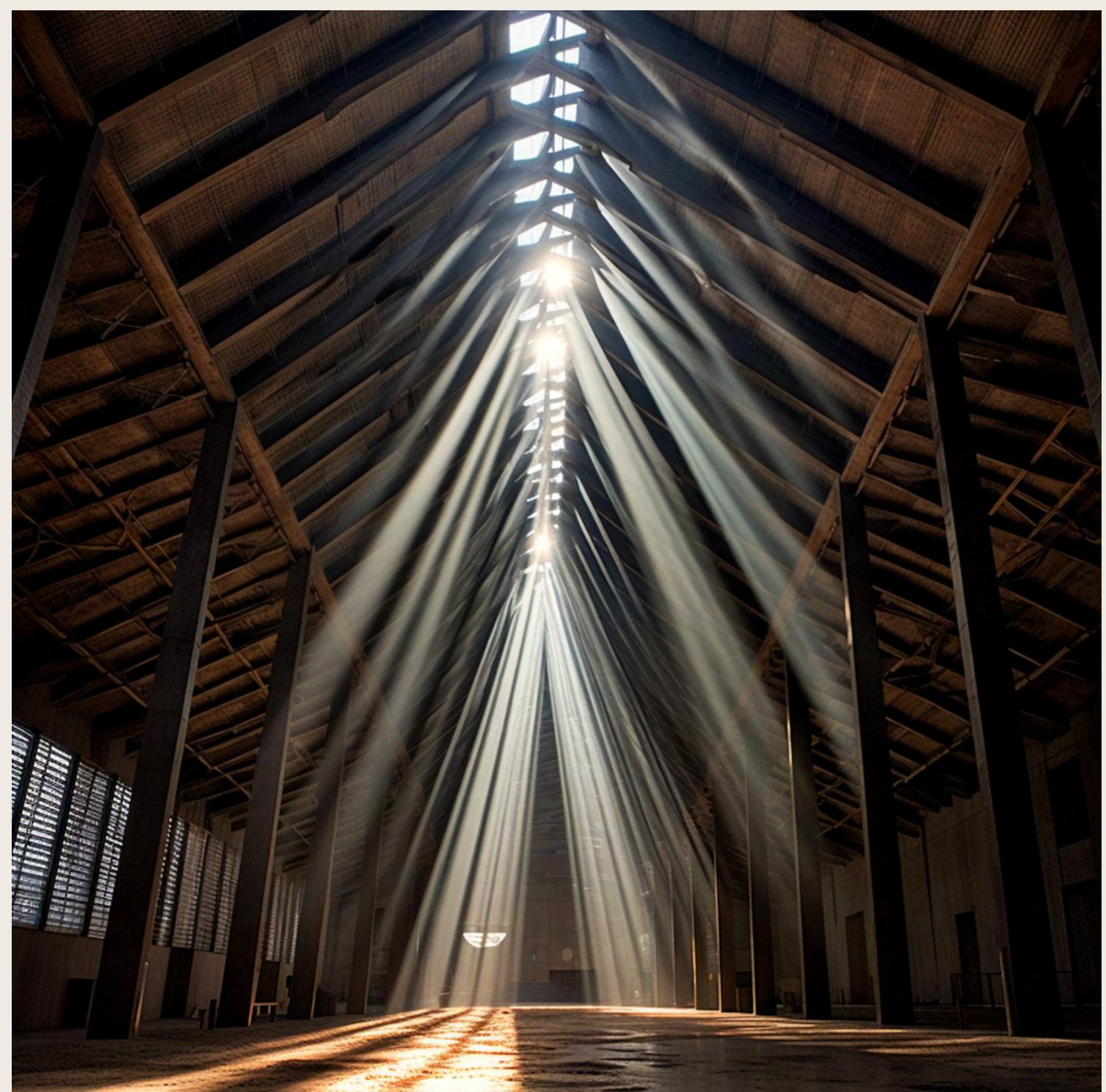
portrait of a woman, Crepuscular Rays,
photo --v 5.1



flower, Crepuscular Rays,
photo --v 5.1



landscape, Crepuscular Rays,
photo --v 5.1



architecture, Crepuscular Rays,
photo --v 5.1

NEON LIGHT

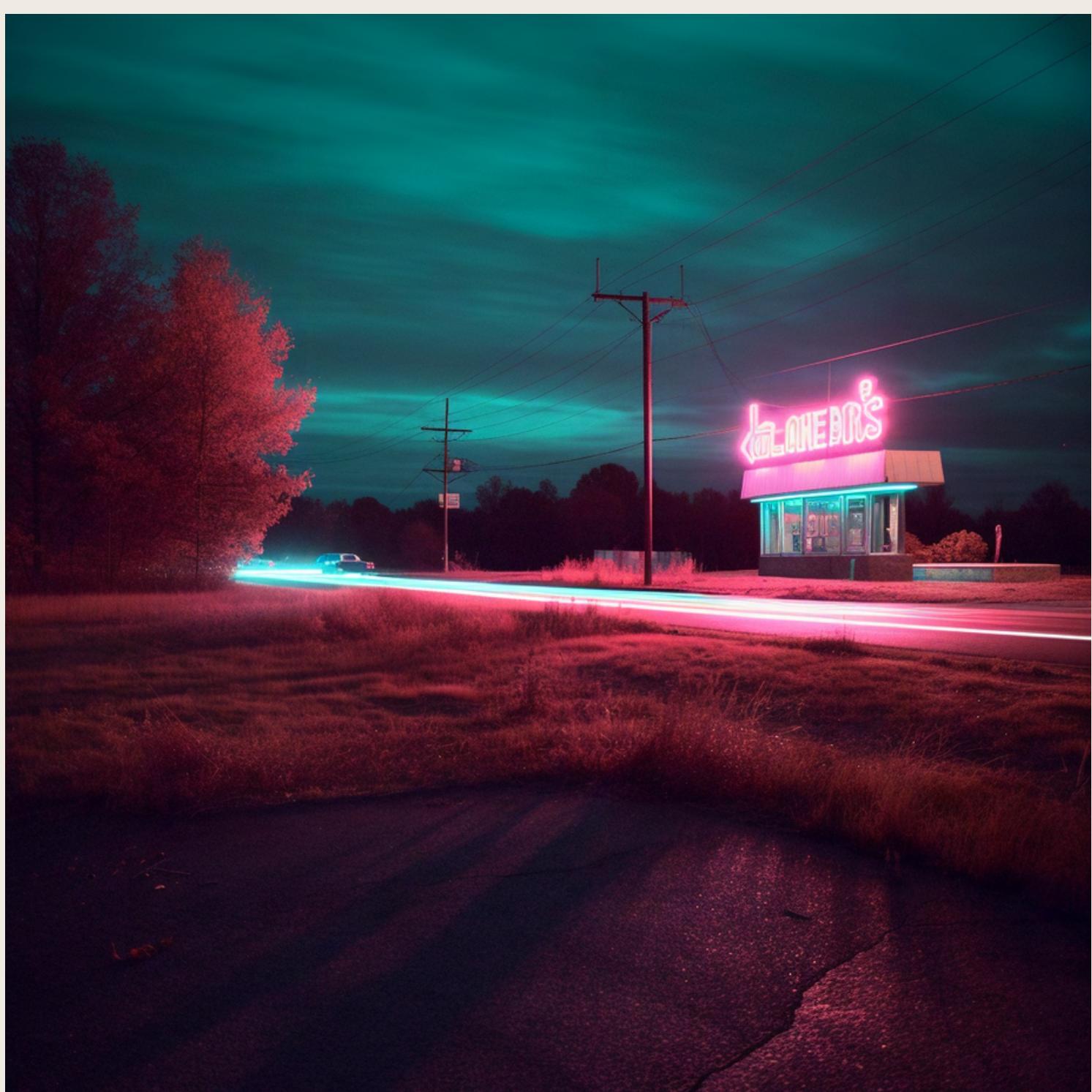
Bright and colorful, neon lights create a vibrant, lively atmosphere, ideal for urban and nightlife photography, often adding an edgy, contemporary feel to images.



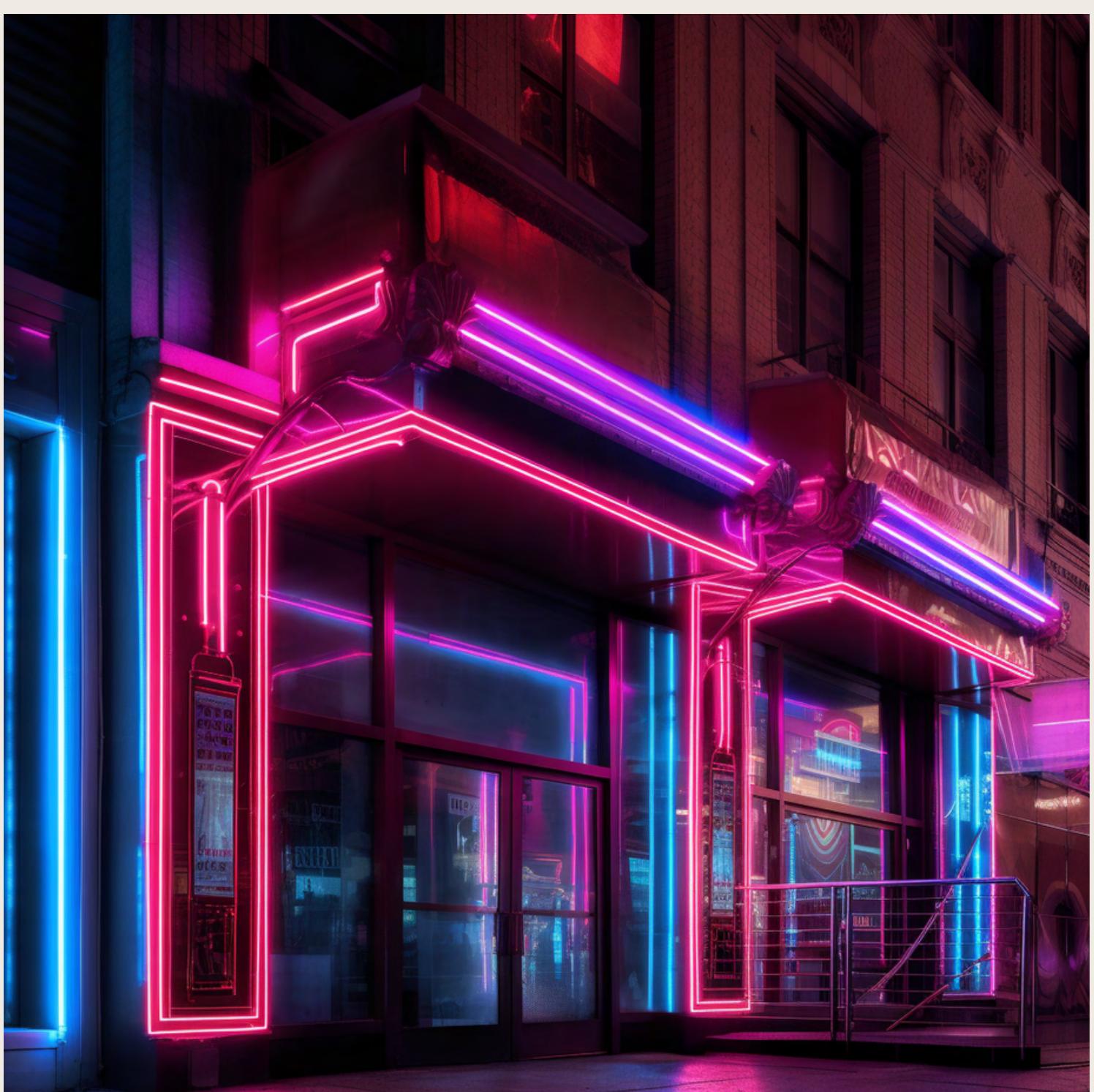
portrait of a woman, neon light,
photo --v 5.1



flower, neon light,
photo --v 5.1



landscape, neon light,
photo --v 5.1



architecture, neon light,
photo --v 5.1

NATURAL LIGHT

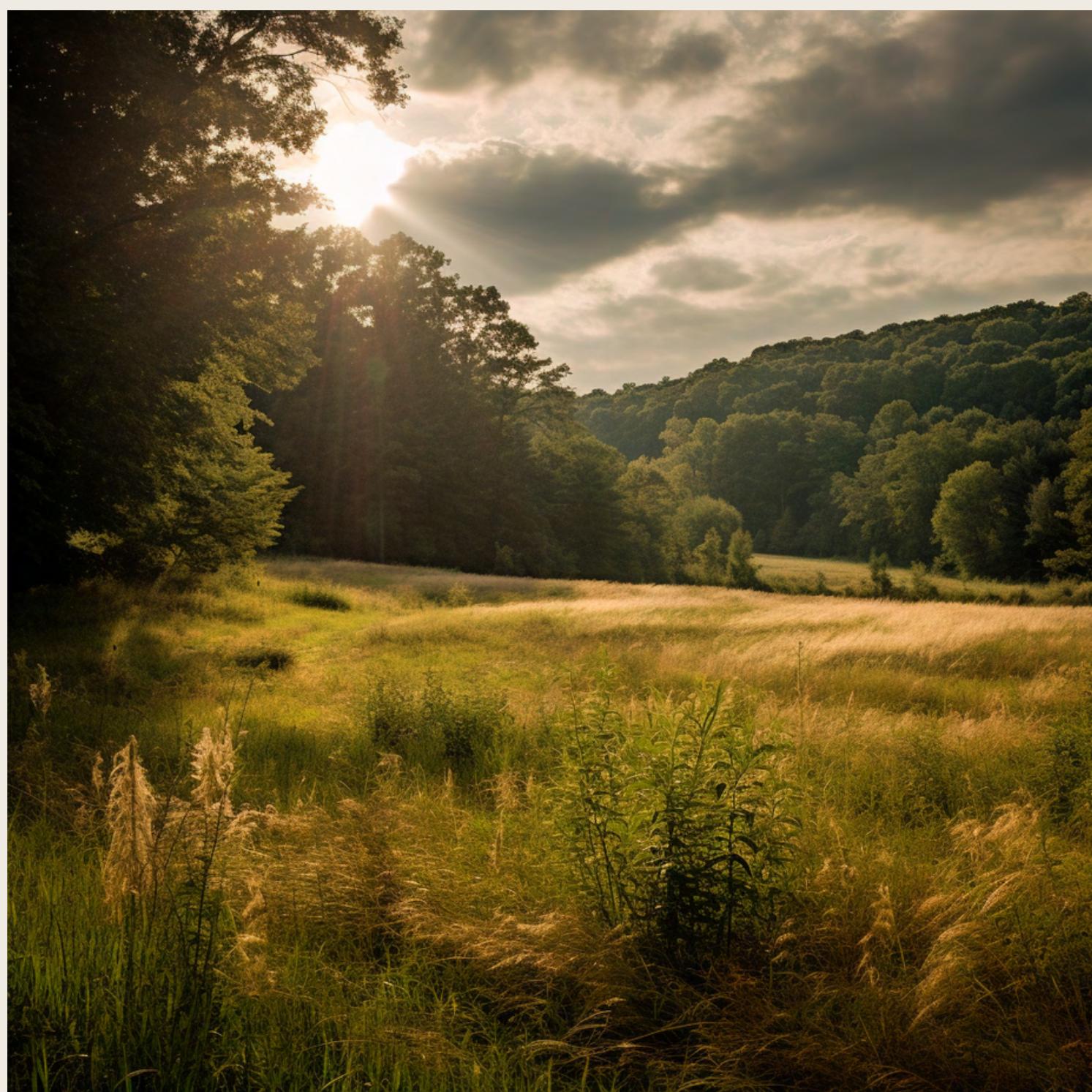
This is light from the sun, used in all forms of photography. Depending on the time of day and conditions, it can create a variety of moods.



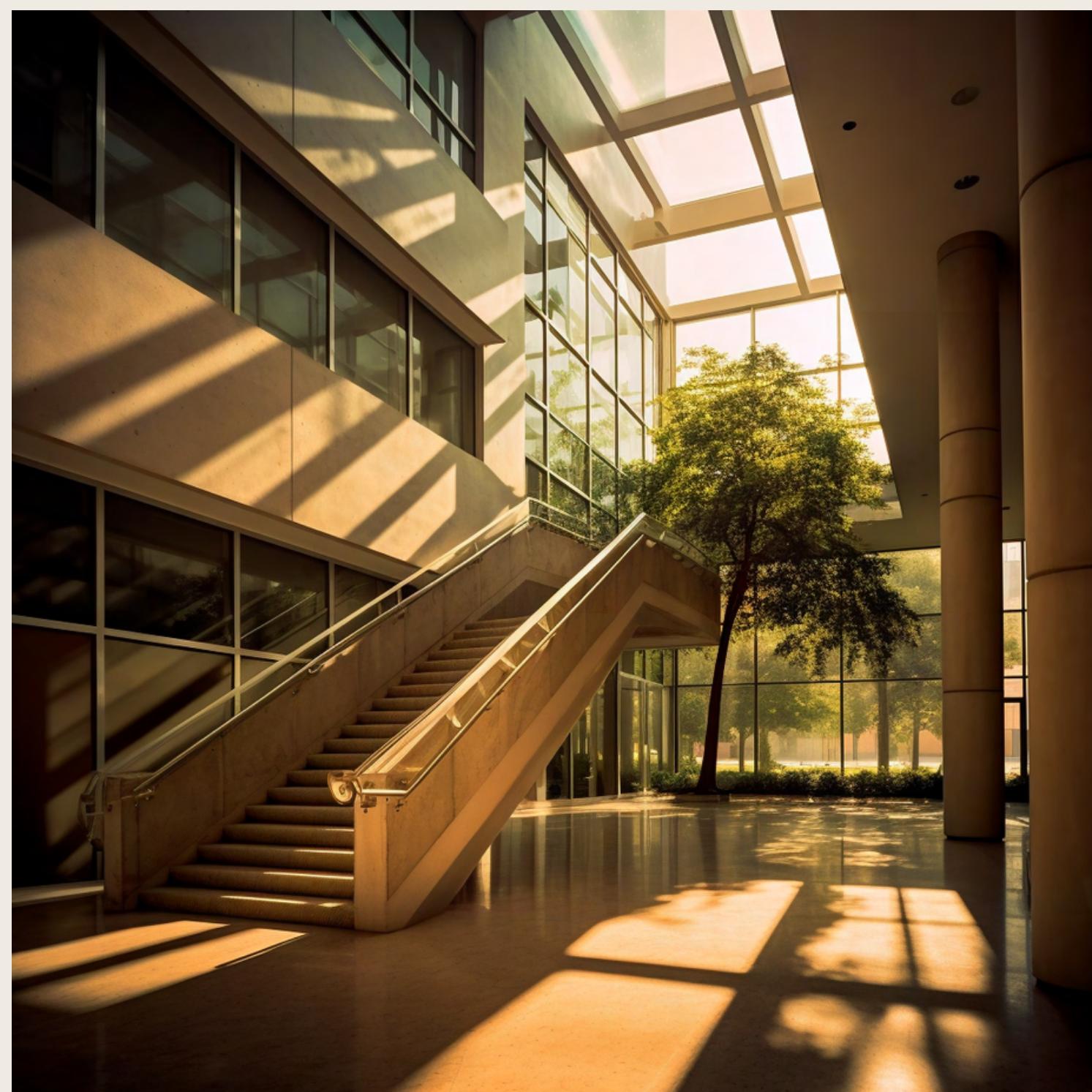
**portrait of a woman, Natural Lighting,
photo --v 5.1**



**flower, Natural Lighting,
photo --v 5.1**



**landscape, Natural Lighting,
photo --v 5.1**



**architecture, Natural Lighting,
photo --v 5.1**

DIRECT SUNLIGHT

This is the harshest type of natural light, causing strong contrasts and sharp shadows. It's best used for highlighting textures or creating dramatic effects.



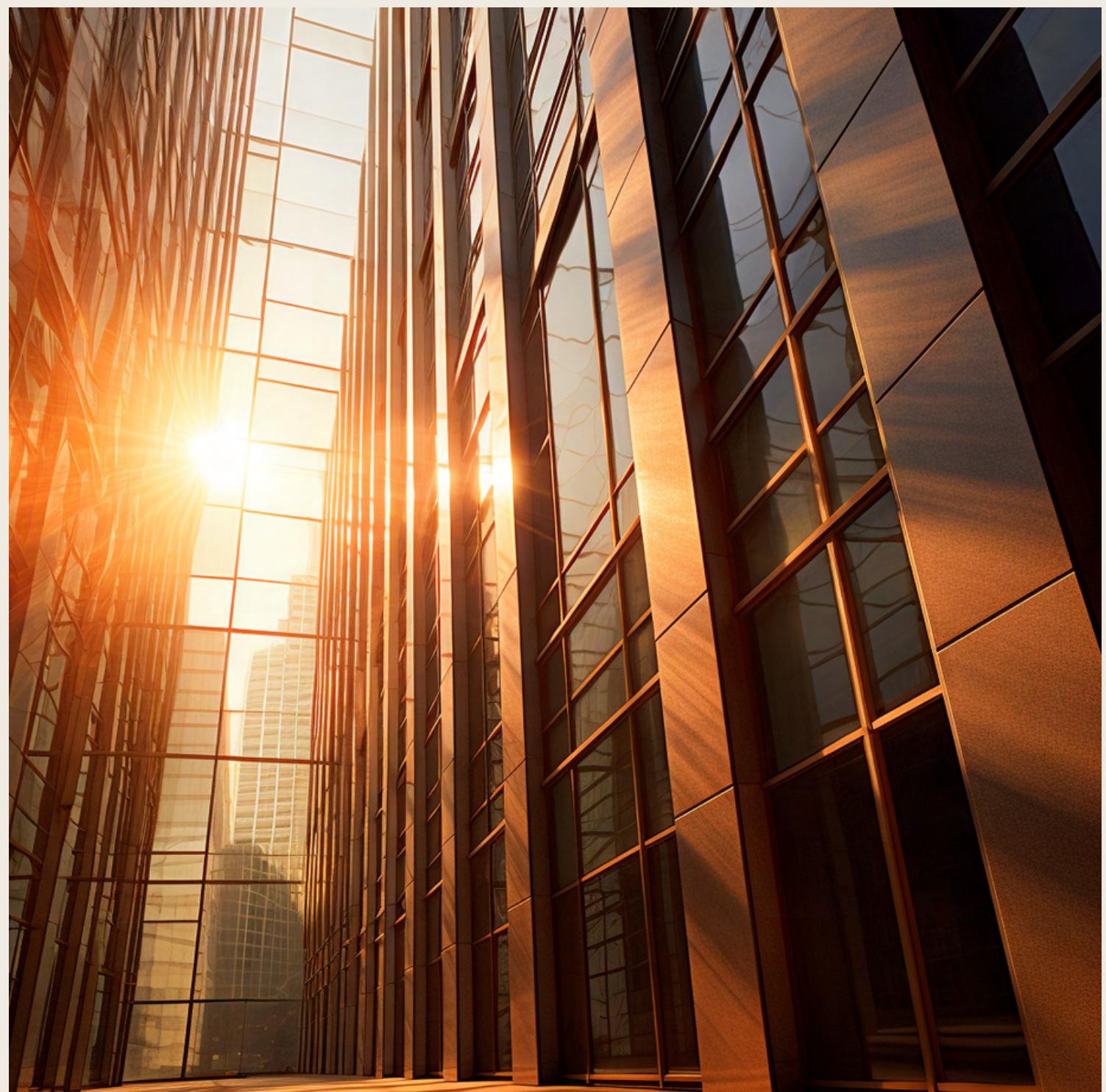
portrait of a woman, Direct Sunlight,
photo --v 5.1



flower, Direct Sunlight,
photo --v 5.1



landscape, Direct Sunlight,
photo --v 5.1



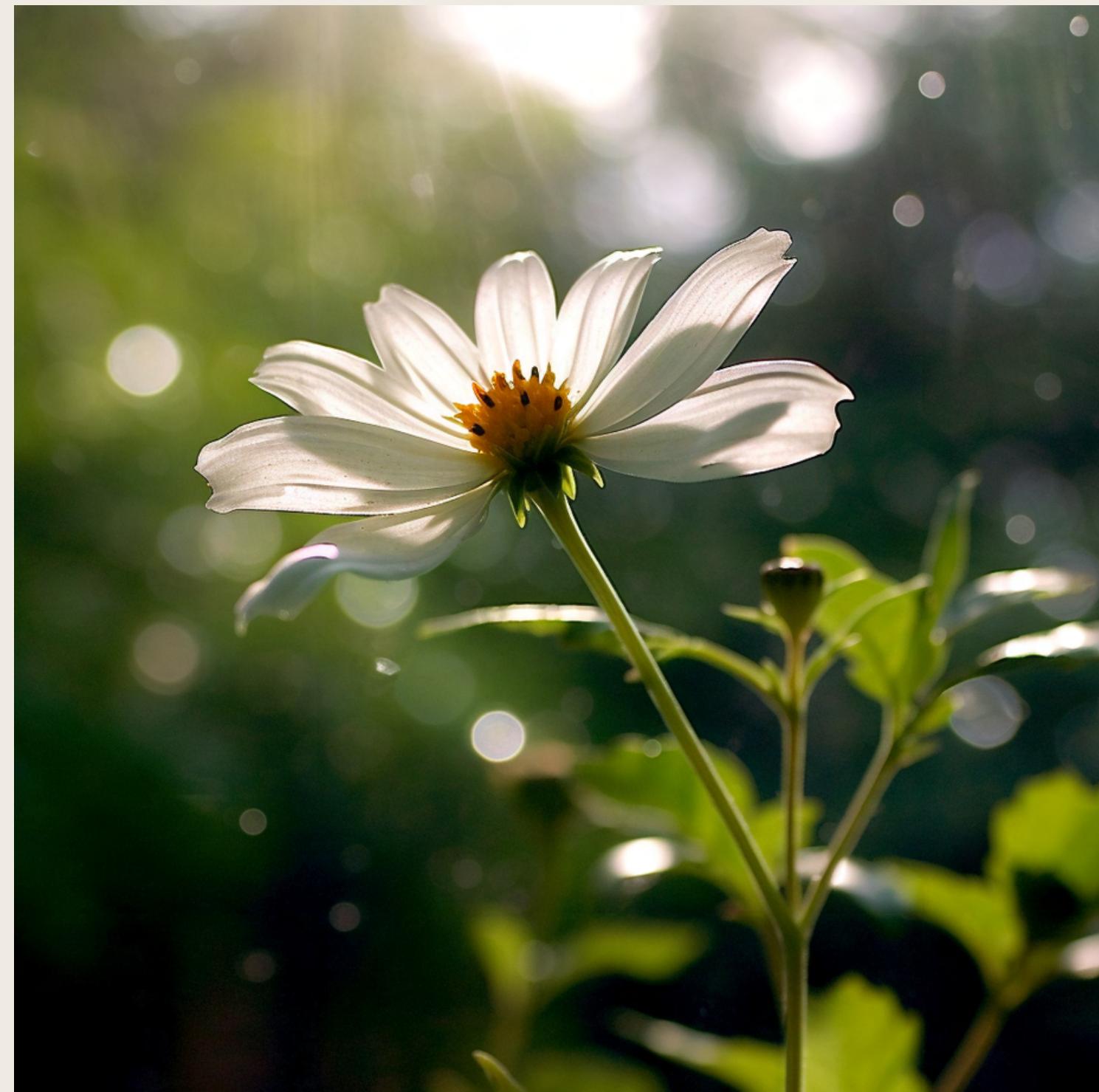
architecture, Direct Sunlight,
photo --v 5.1

OVERCAST DIFFUSED SUNLIGHT

This is a softer version of direct sunlight due to overcast skies, creating gentle, diffused light. It's great for nature, landscape, and portrait photography as it provides a flattering, even light.



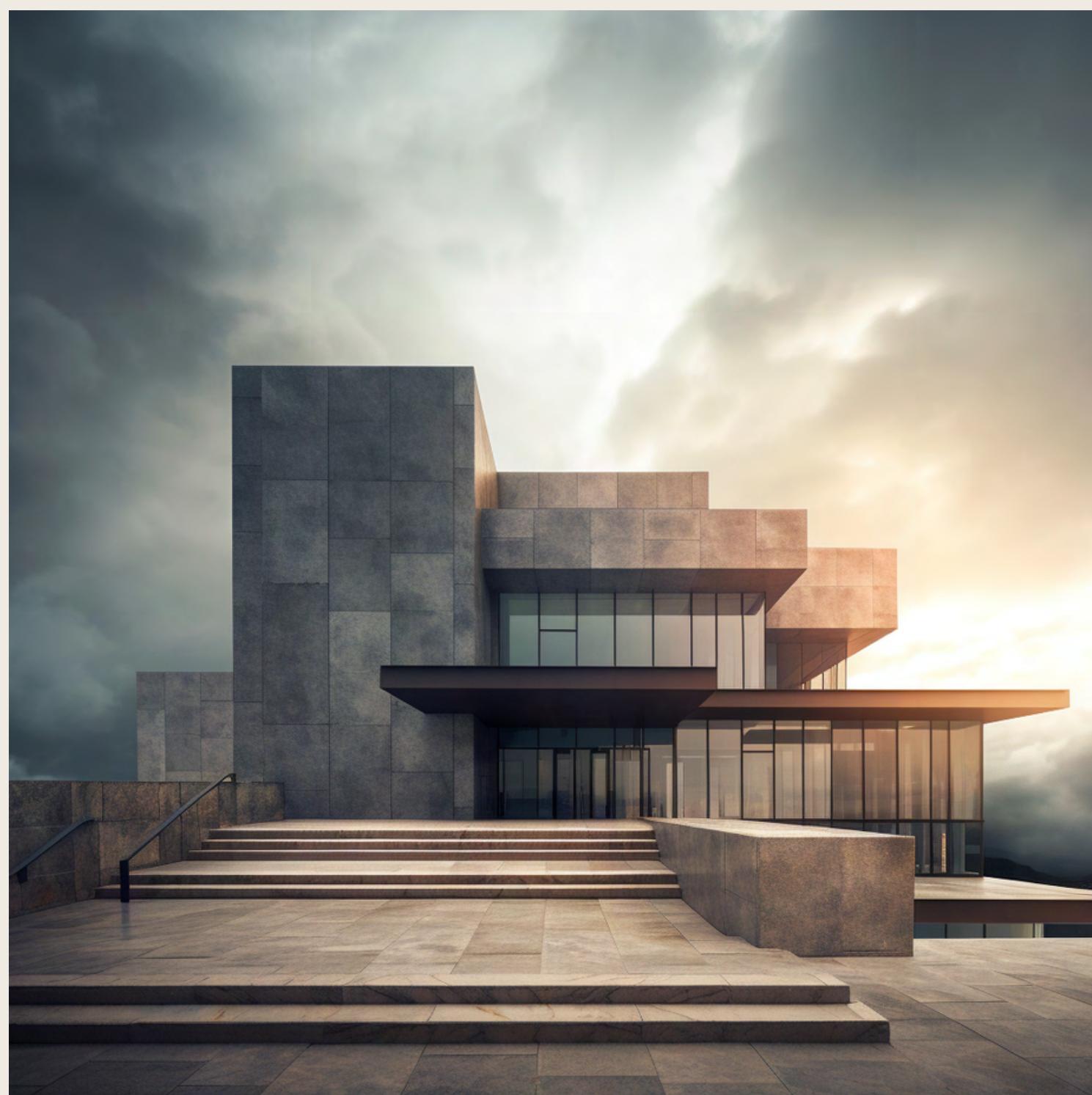
outdoor portrait of a woman, Overcast Diffused Sunlight, photo --v 5.1



flower, Overcast Diffused Sunlight, photo --v 5.1



landscape, Overcast Diffused Sunlight, photo --v 5.1



architecture, Overcast Diffused Sunlight, *color* photo --v 5.1

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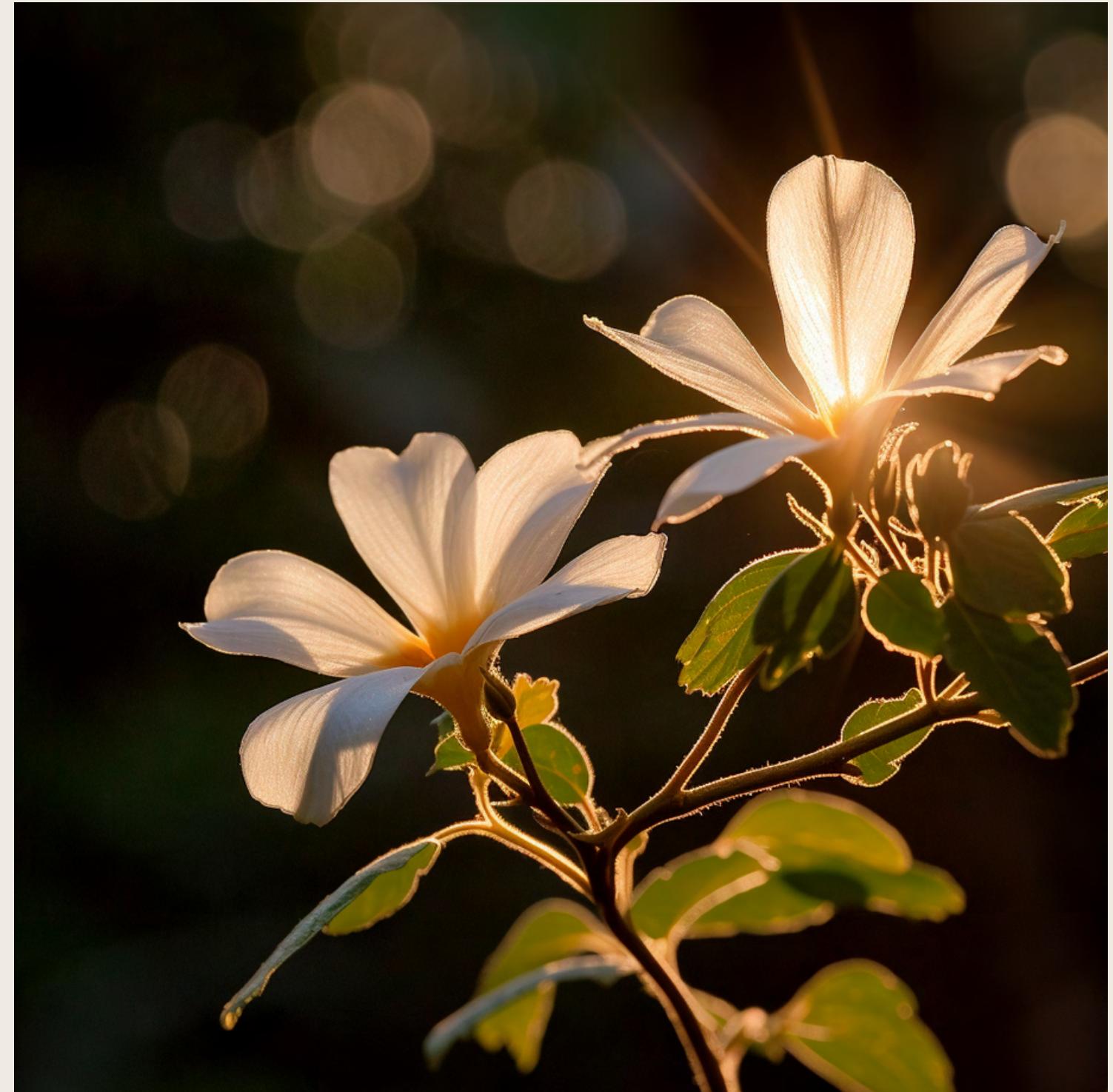
LIGHTING EXPERIMENTS

WANING LIGHT

Ideal for creating moody, serene, or melancholic scenes in landscape or outdoor portraiture.



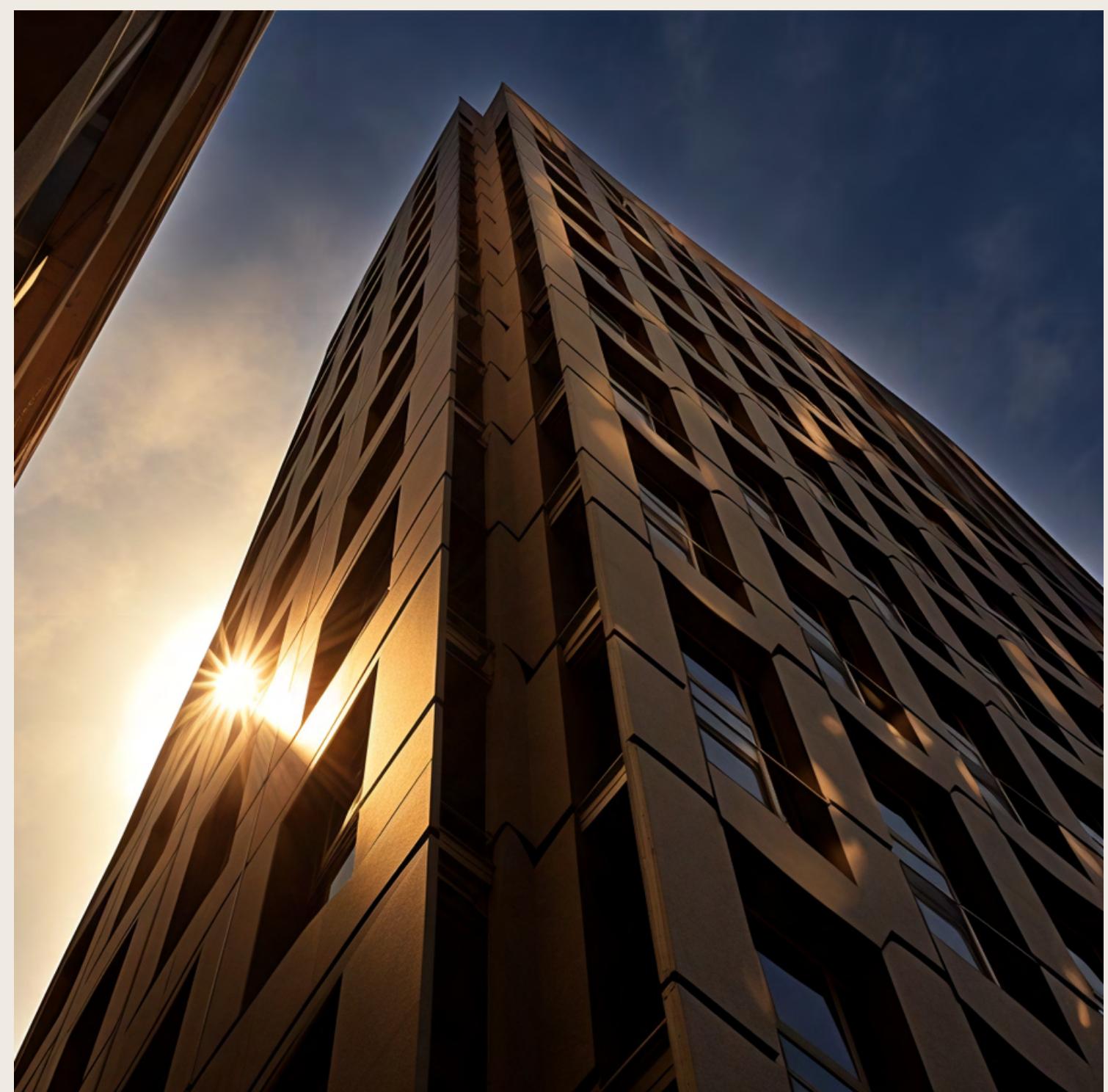
outdoor portrait of a woman,
Waning Light, photo --v 5.1



flower, Waning Light,
photo --v 5.1



landscape, Waning Light,
photo --v 5.1



architecture, Waning Light, photo
--v 5.1

ELECTROLUMINESCENT WIRE

Useful for night photography, light painting, or to create futuristic, vibrant scenes.



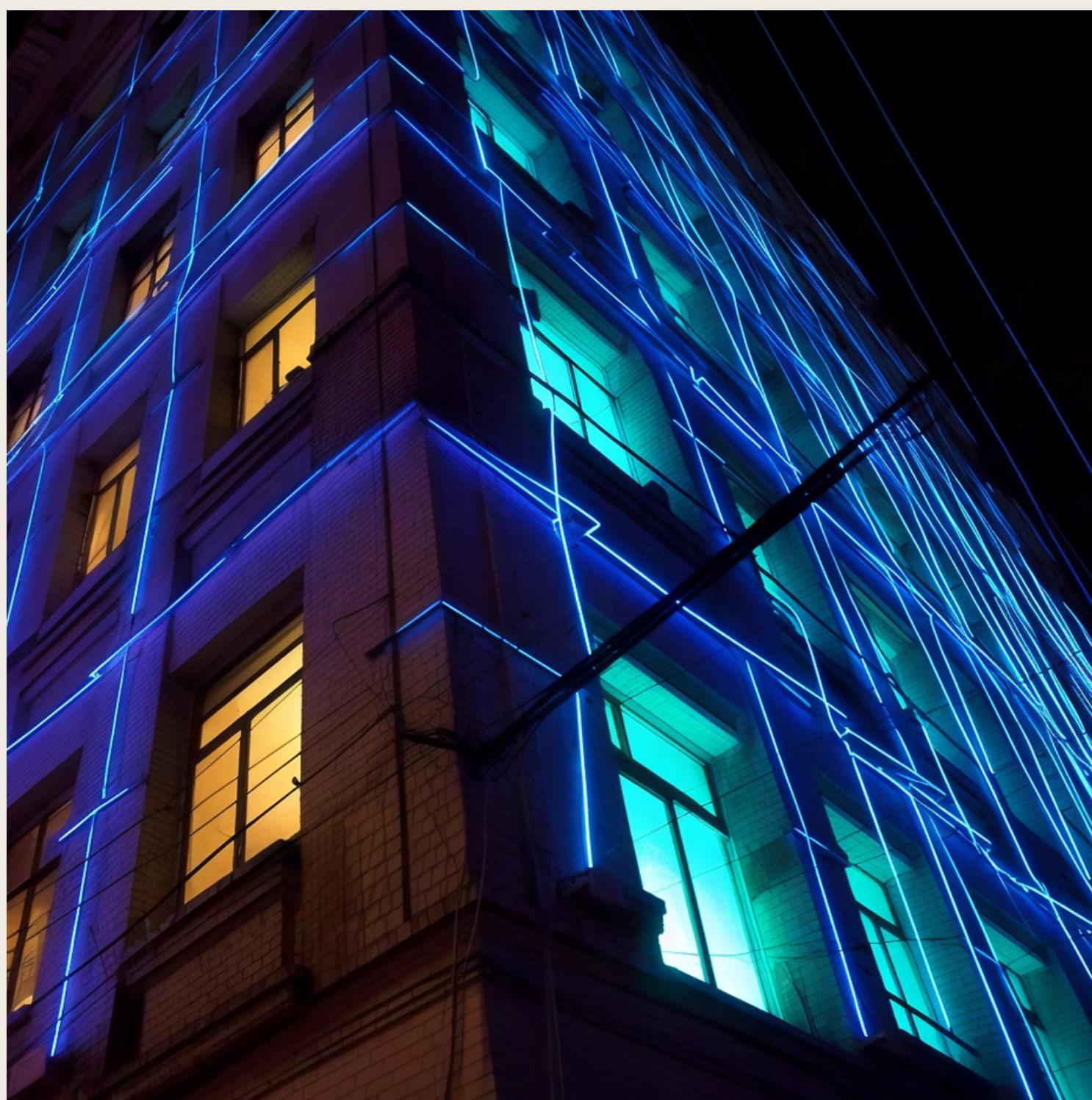
portrait of a woman,
Electroluminescent Wire, photo --v 5.1



flower, Electroluminescent Wire,
photo --v 5.1



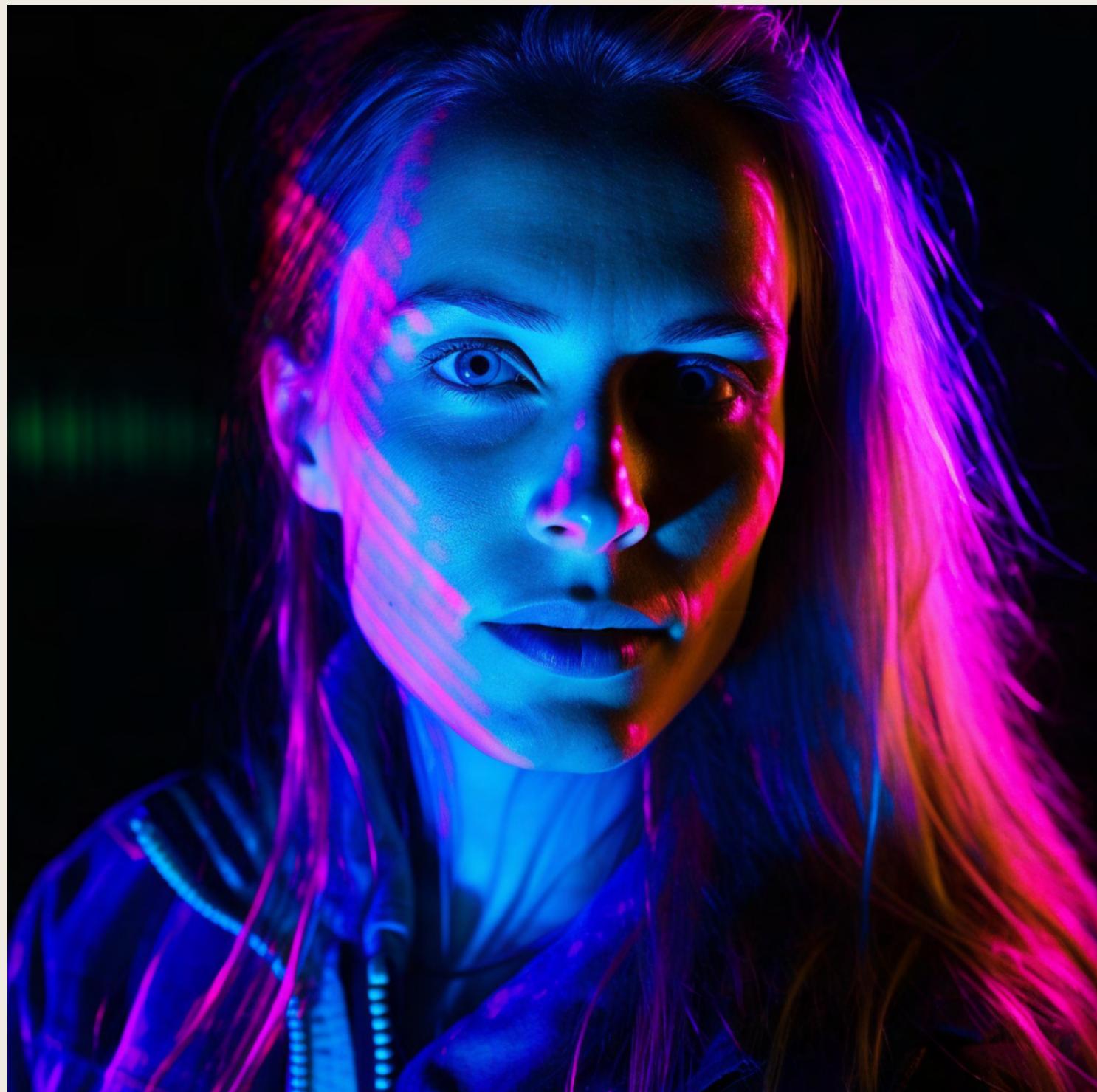
landscape, Electroluminescent Wire,
photo --v 5.1



architecture, Electroluminescent Wire,
photo --v 5.1

BLACKLIGHT

Suitable for artistic, surreal scenes, or to highlight fluorescent elements in subjects, often in concert or party environments.



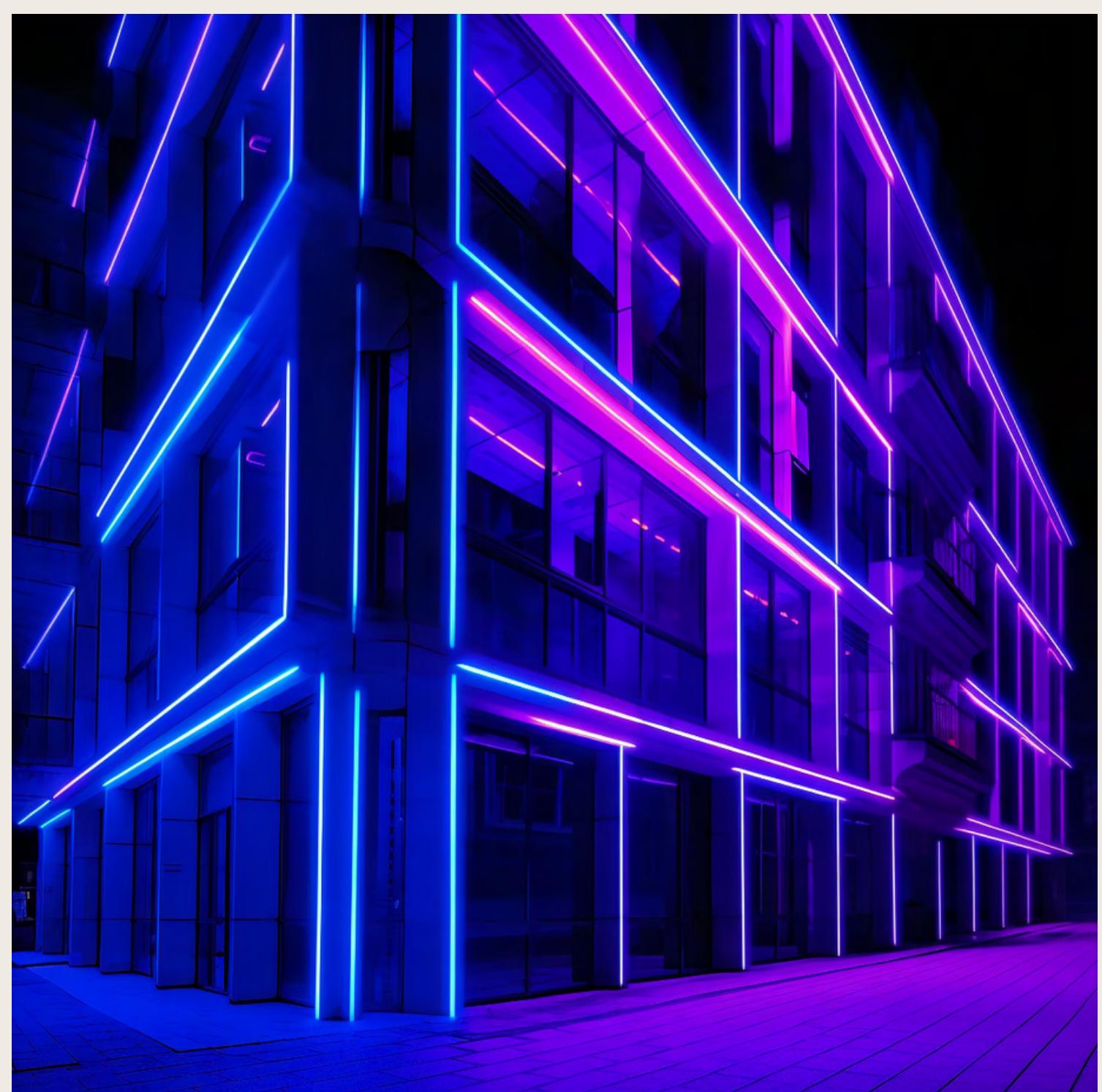
**portrait of a woman, Blacklight,
photo --v 5.1**



**flower, Blacklight, photo
--v 5.1**



**landscape, Blacklight, photo
--v 5.1**



**architecture, Blacklight, photo
--v 5.1**

GLOWING RADIOACTIVITY

Ideal for creating unique, other-worldly or sci-fi effects in creative and conceptual photography.



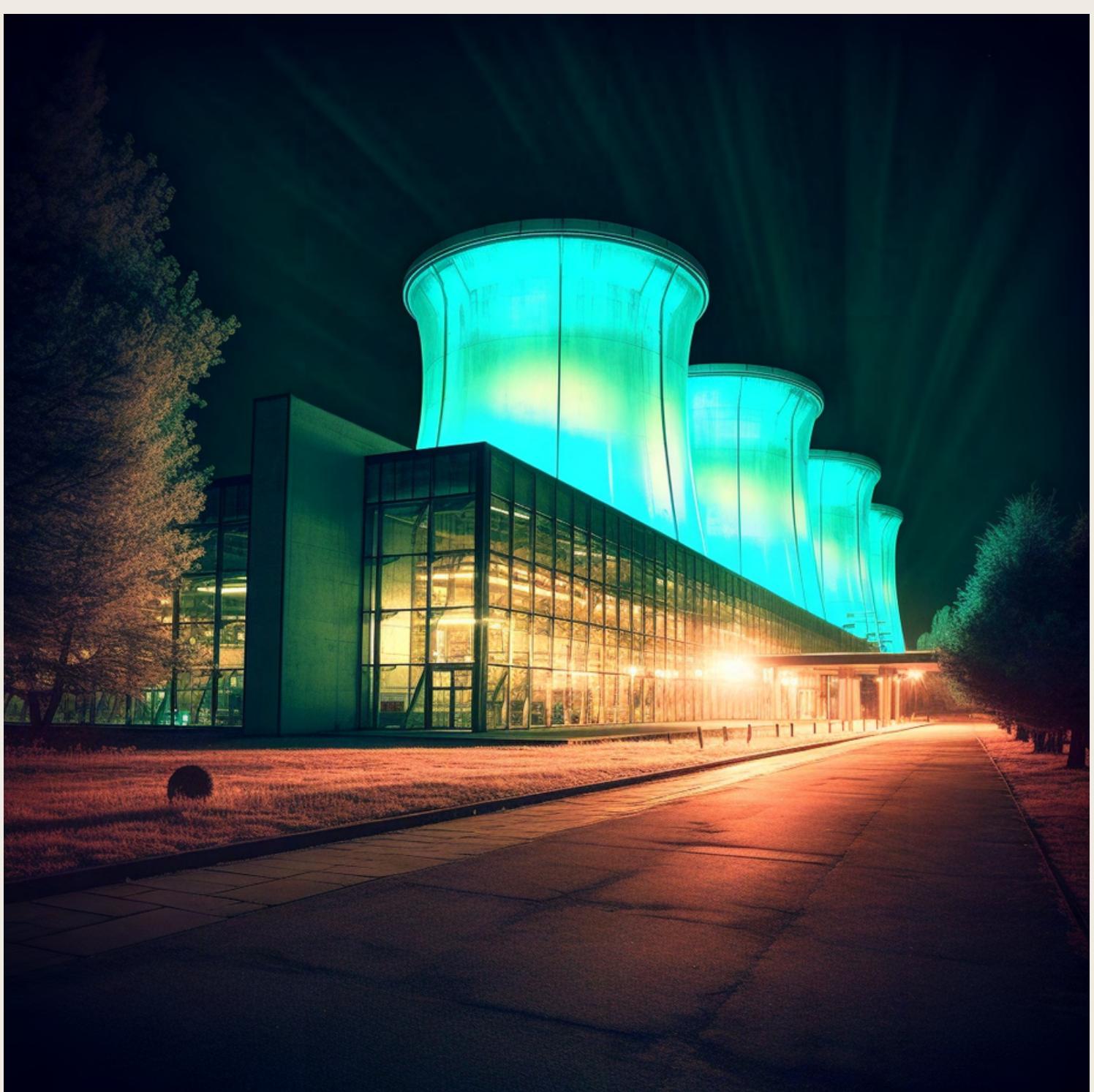
portrait of a woman,
Glowing Radioactivity, photo --v 5.1



flower, Glowing Radioactivity, photo
--v 5.1



landscape, Glowing Radioactivity,
photo --v 5.1



architecture, Glowing Radioactivity,
photo --v 5.1

ETHEREAL LIGHT

Best used in fantasy-themed scenes or dreamy landscapes for a heavenly, magical effect.



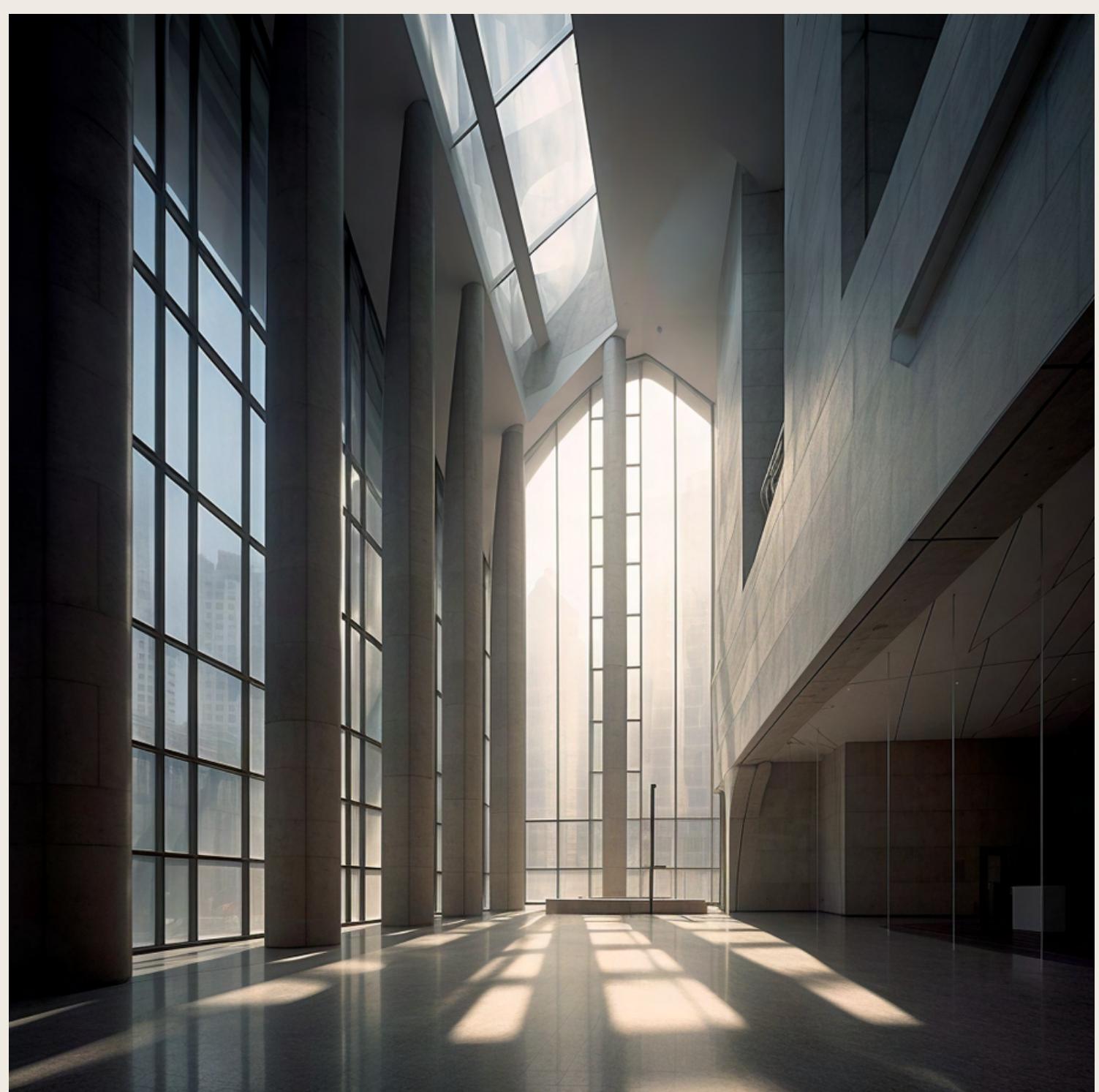
**portrait of a woman, Ethereal Light,
photo --v 5.1**



**flower, Ethereal Light, photo
--v 5.1**



**landscape, Ethereal Light, photo
--v 5.1**



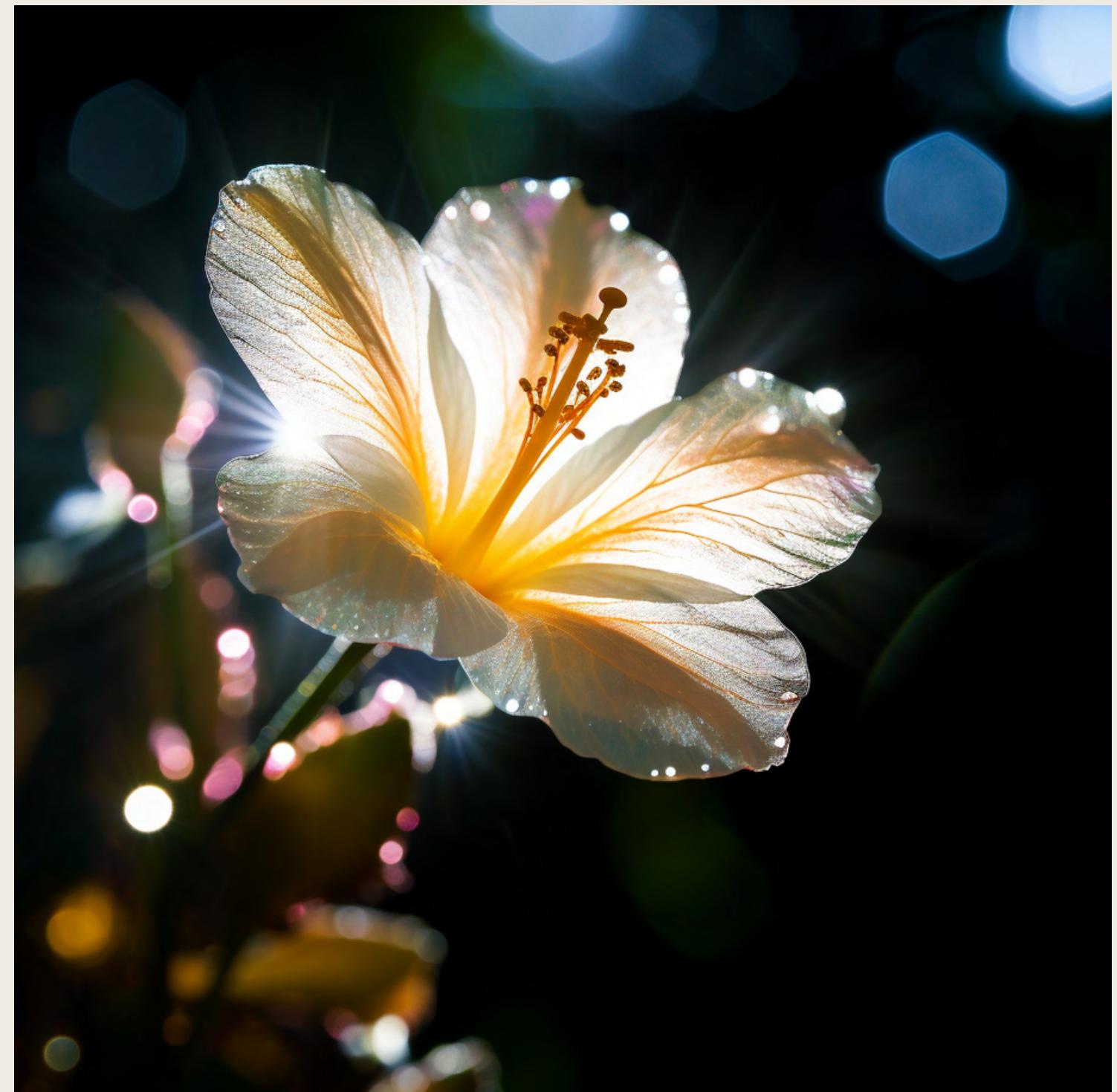
**architecture, Ethereal Light, photo
--v 5.1**

BLINDING LIGHT

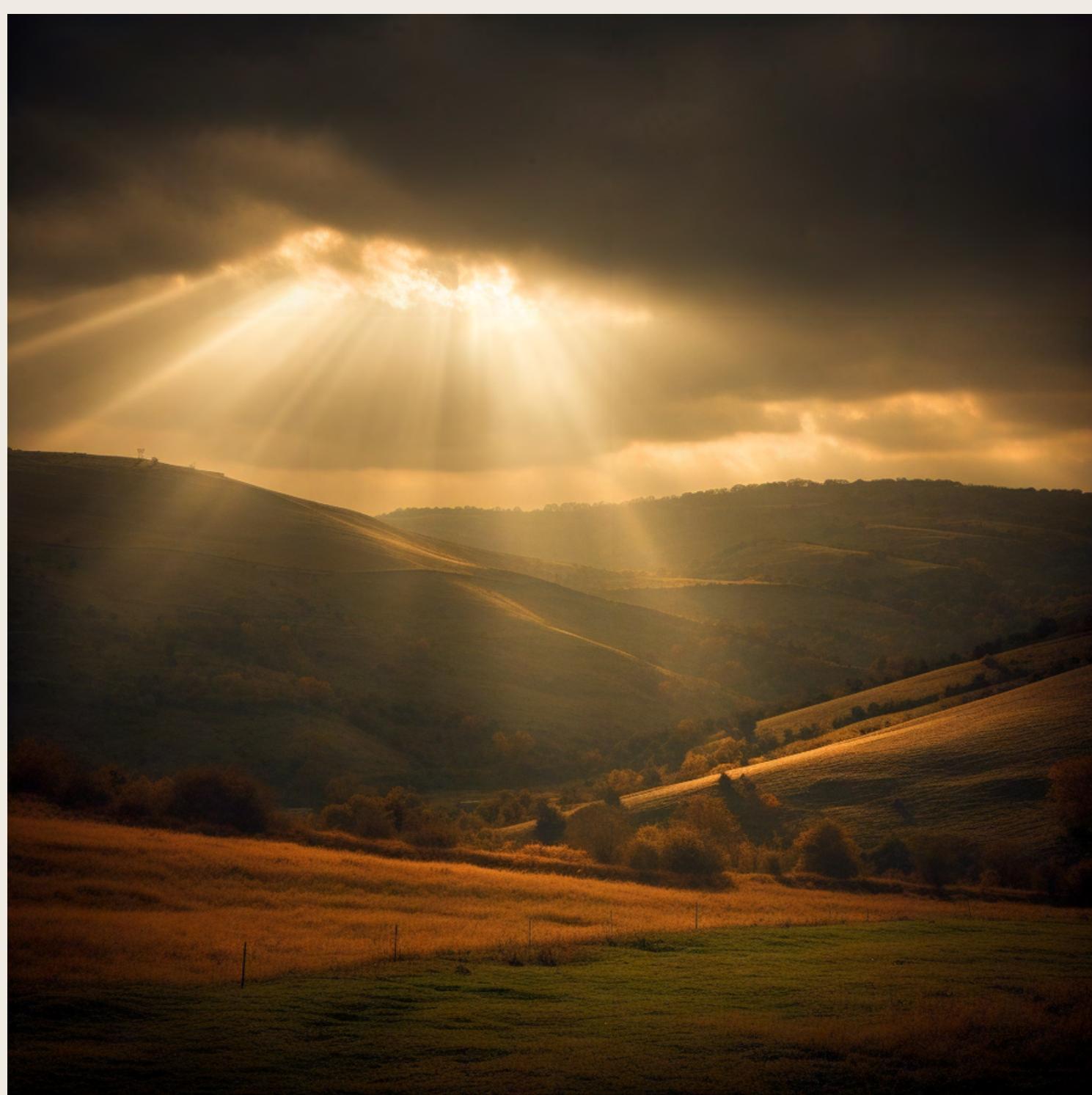
Effective for creating high contrast, dramatic scenes or to emphasize brightness or heat in a scene.



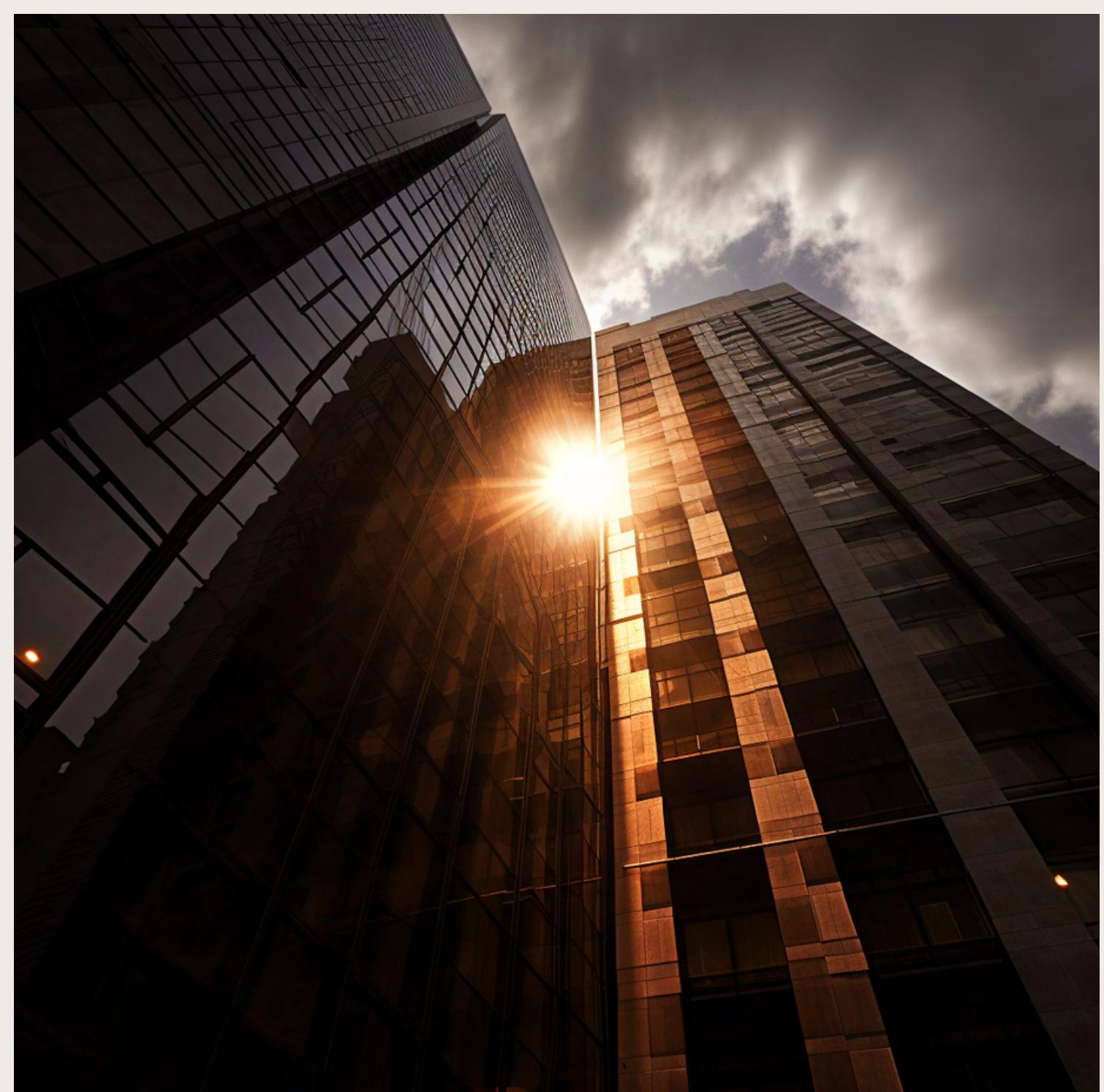
**portrait of a woman, Blinding Light,
photo --v 5.1**



**flower, Blinding Light, photo
--v 5.1**



**landscape, Blinding Light, photo
--v 5.1**



**architecture, Blinding Light, photo
--v 5.1**

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Ideal for festive scenes, creating a warm, joyful atmosphere in indoor or outdoor settings.



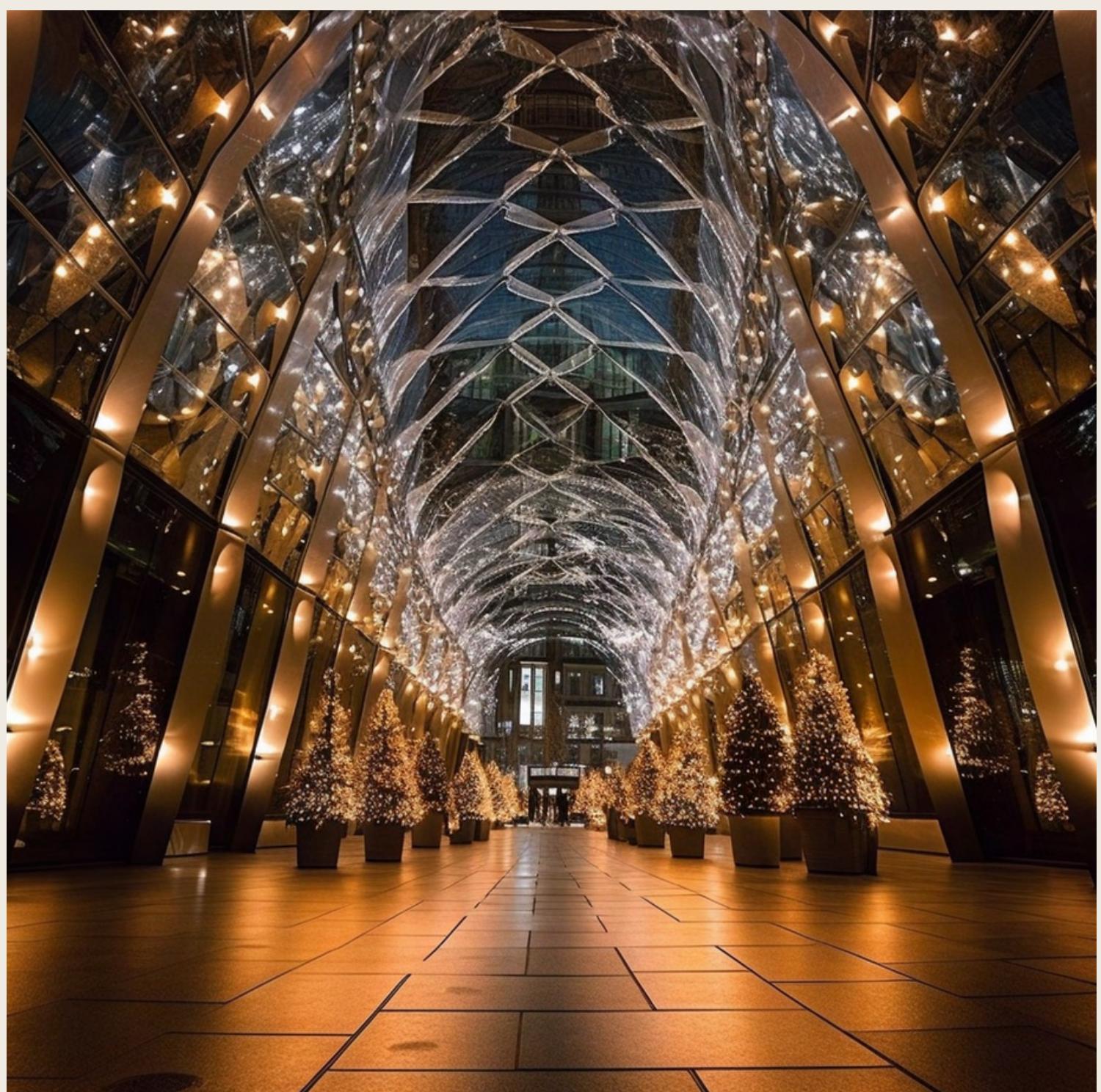
**portrait of a woman, Christmas Lights,
photo --v 5.1**



**flower, Christmas Lights, photo
--v 5.1**



**landscape, Christmas Lights, photo
--v 5.1**



**architecture, Christmas Lights, photo
--v 5.1**

ELECTRIC ARC

Ideal for industrial photography or to create intense, energetic scenes.



portrait of a woman, Electric Arc,
photo --v 5.1



flower, Electric Arc, photo
--v 5.1



landscape, Electric Arc, photo
--v 5.1



architecture, Electric Arc, photo
--v 5.1

STUDIO LIGHT

Used in a controlled way for a variety of genres, from portraiture to product photography, depending on the desired effect.



portrait of a woman, Studio Light,
photo --v 5.1



fruit bowl, Studio Light, photo
--v 5.1



landscape, Studio Light, photo
--v 5.1



architecture, Studio Light, photo
--v 5.1

HARD LIGHTING

This direct, intense light source is used for dramatic effect in portraits or to emphasize texture in still life photography.



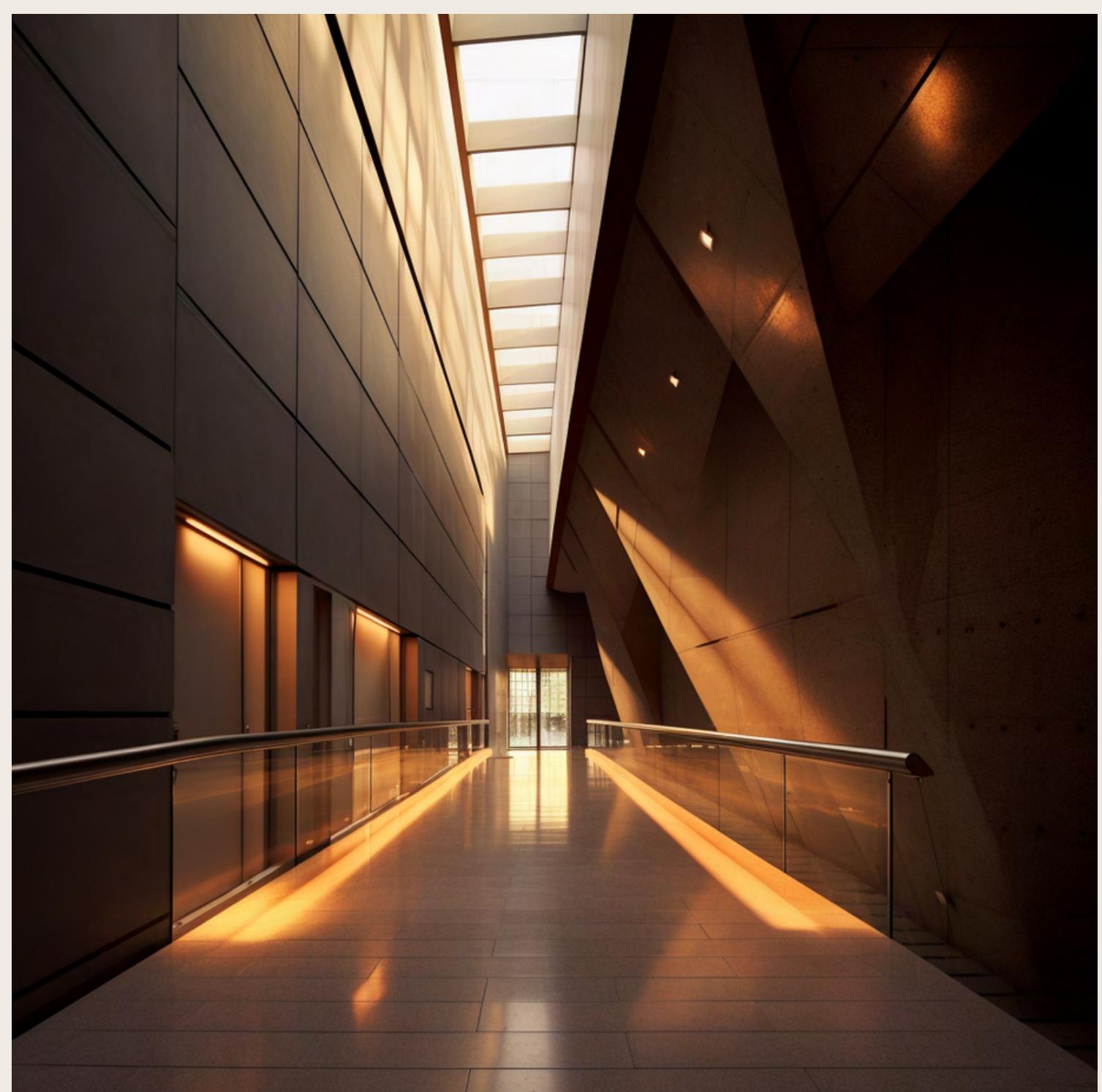
portrait of a woman, Hard Lighting,
photo --v 5.1



fruit bowl, Hard Lighting, photo
--v 5.1



landscape, Hard Lighting, photo
--v 5.1



architecture, Hard Lighting, photo
--v 5.1

MIDJOURNEY

LIGHTING EXPERIMENTS

SOFT LIGHTING

This gentle, diffused light reduces shadows and contrast, making it ideal for flattering portraiture, beauty shots, and still life photography.



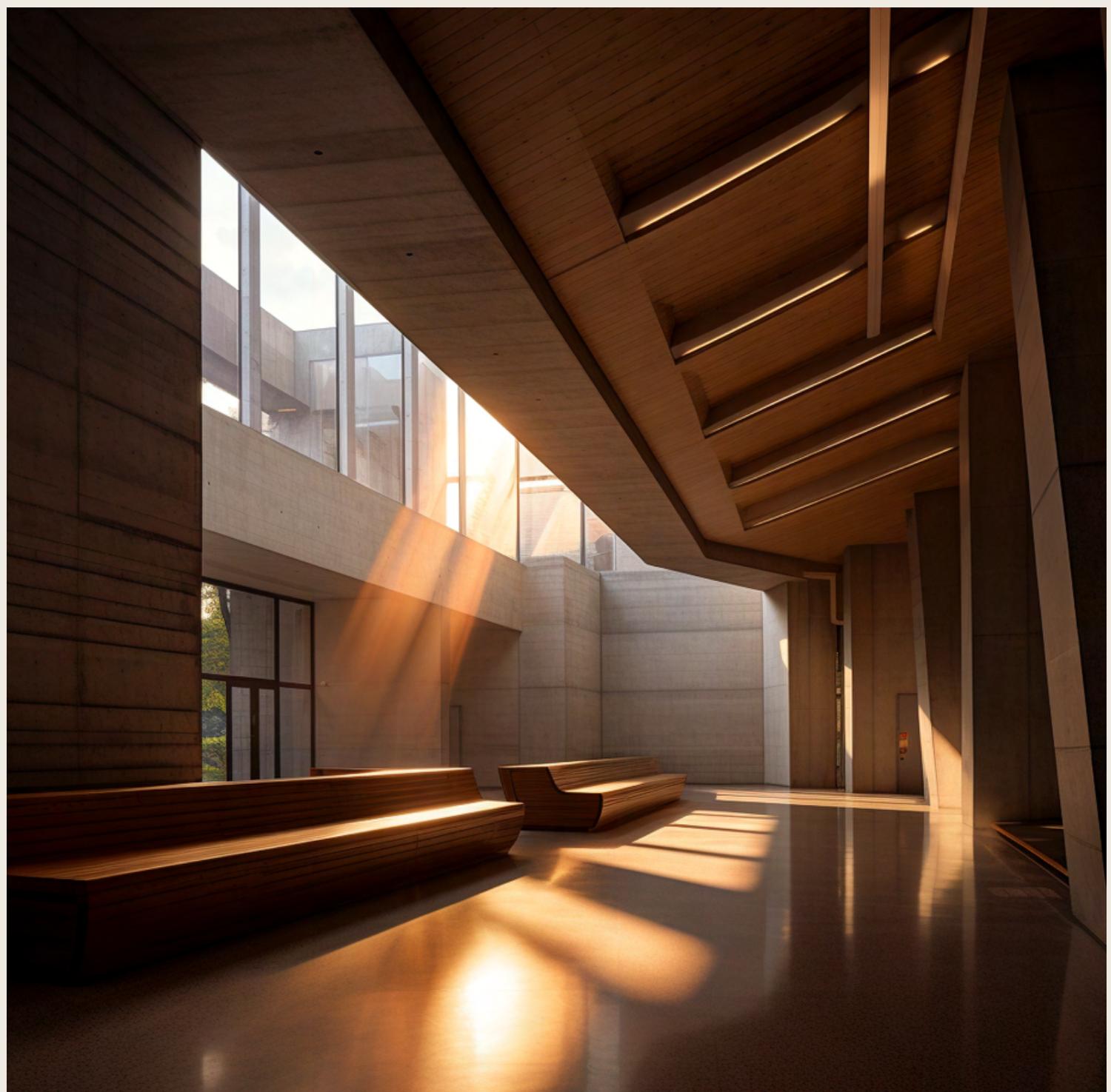
portrait of a woman, Soft Lighting,
photo --v 5.1



fruit bowl, Soft Lighting, photo
--v 5.1



landscape, Soft Lighting, photo
--v 5.1



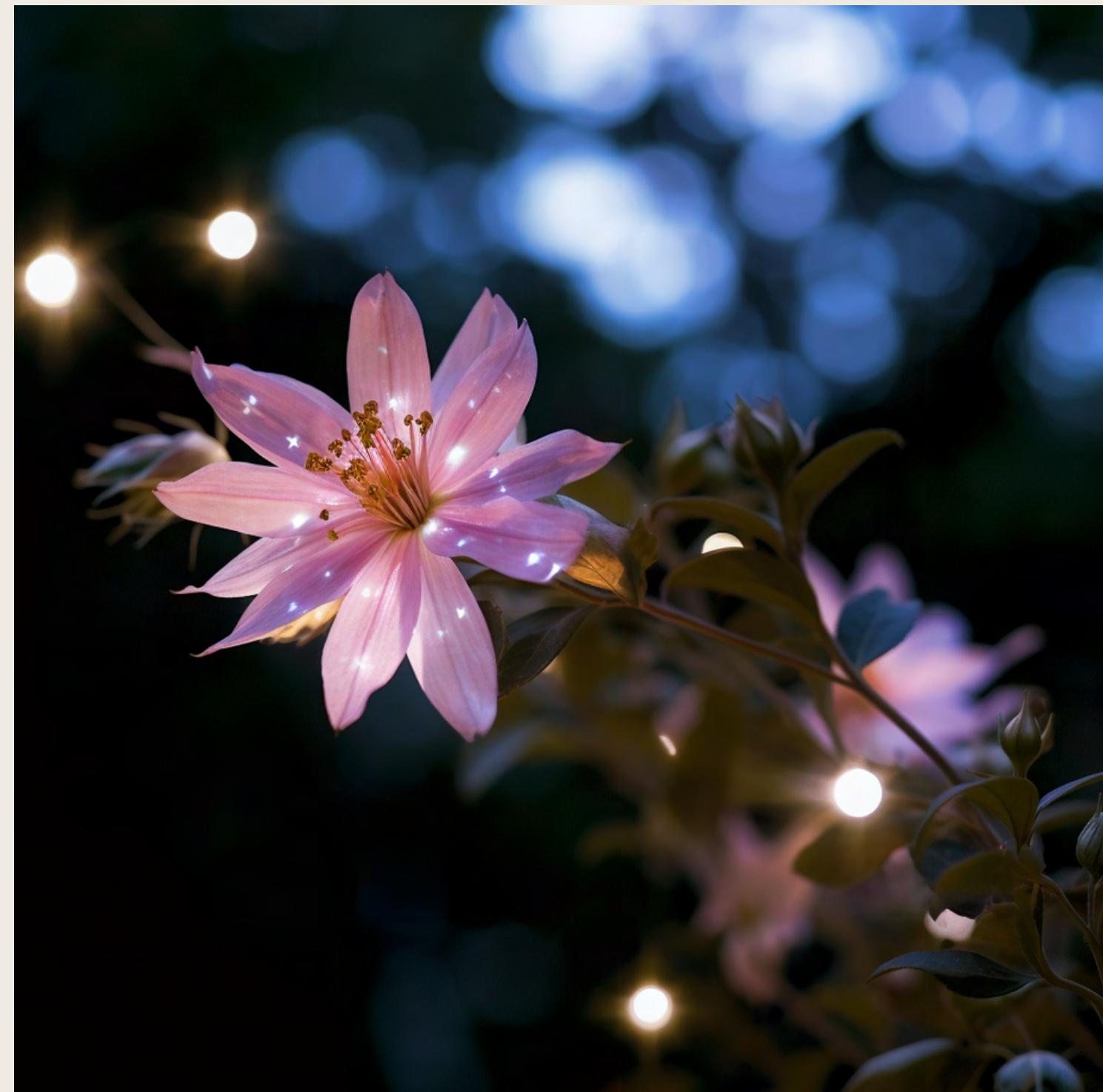
architecture, Soft Lighting, photo
--v 5.1

LIGHT POLLUTION

This can be used to create atmospheric night urban landscapes, often revealing a commentary on urban development.



**portrait of a woman, Light Pollution,
photo --v 5.1**



**flower, Light Pollution, photo
--v 5.1**



**landscape, Light Pollution, photo
--v 5.1**



**architecture, Light Pollution, photo
--v 5.1**

MIDJOURNEY

LIGHTING EXPERIMENTS

LIGHTSPEED

Ideal for creating dynamic, motion-related scenes or to depict a sense of speed or time travel in conceptual photography.



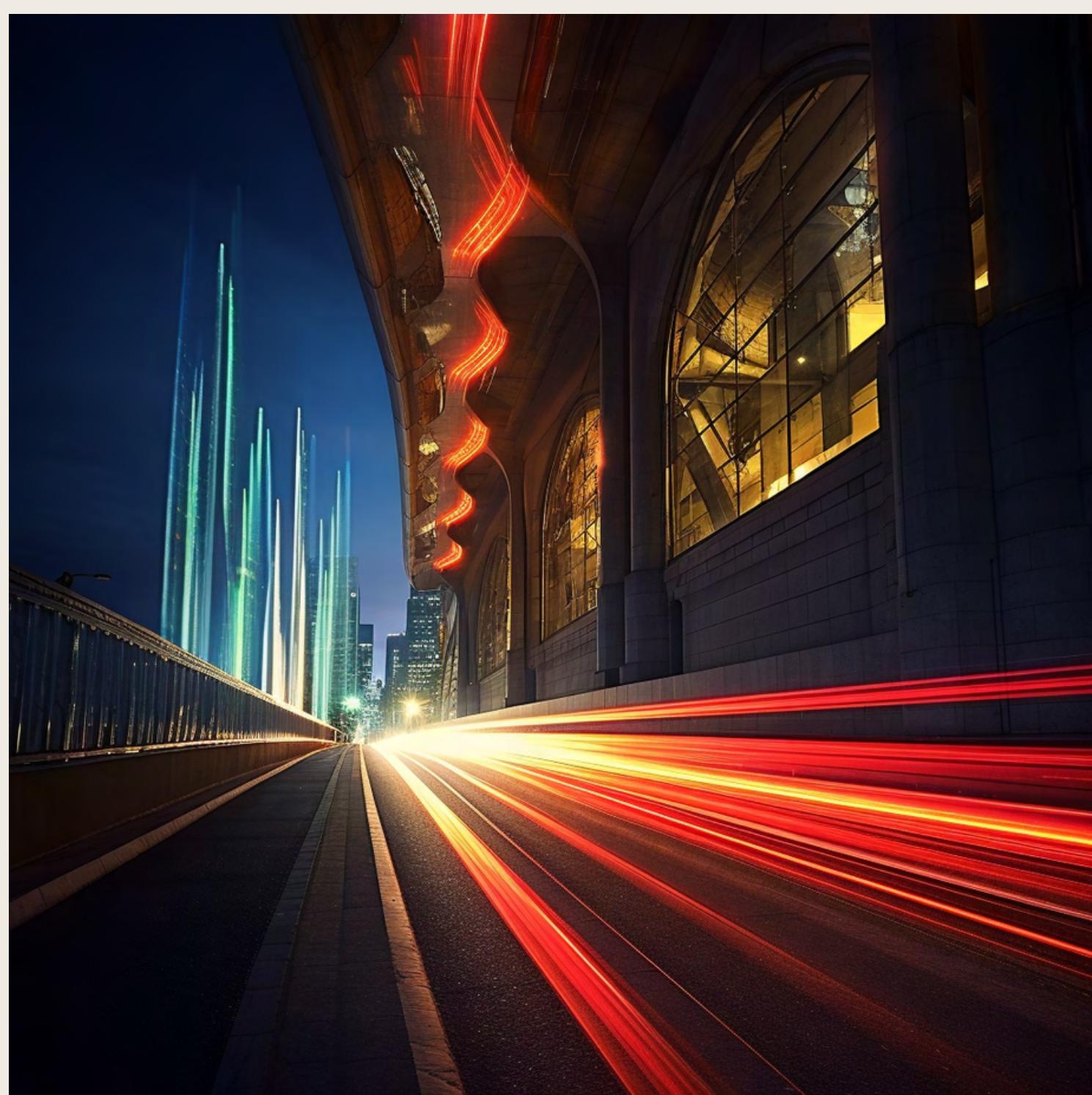
portrait of a woman, Lightspeed,
photo --v 5.1



flower, Lightspeed, photo
--v 5.1



landscape, Lightspeed, photo
--v 5.1



architecture, Lightspeed, photo
--v 5.1

MIDJOURNEY

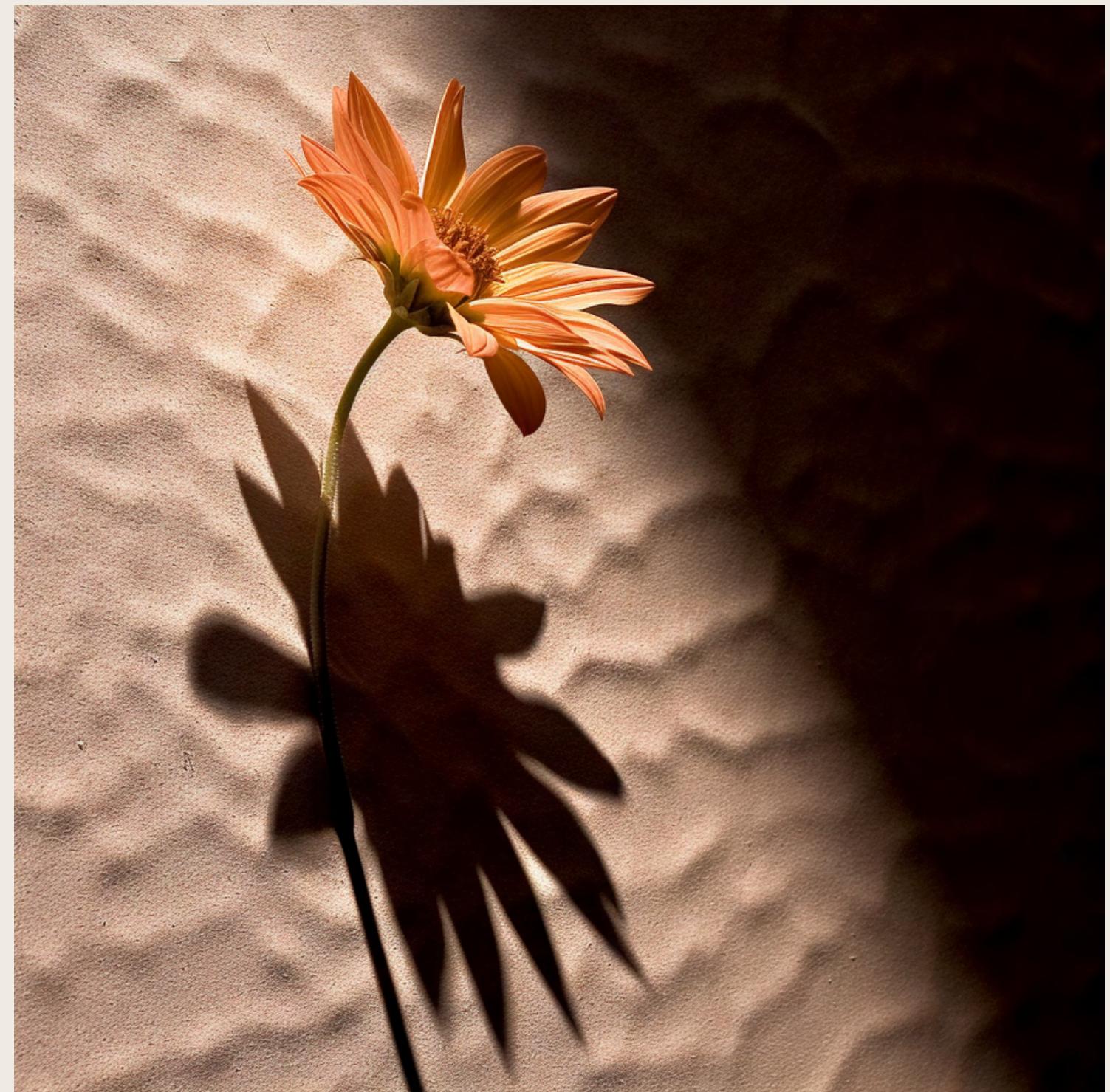
LIGHTING EXPERIMENTS

SHADOW

Shadows are used to create depth, mystery, or drama, applicable in various genres from portraiture to still life.



**portrait of a woman, Shadow,
color photo --v 5.1**



**flower, Shadow, photo
--v 5.1**



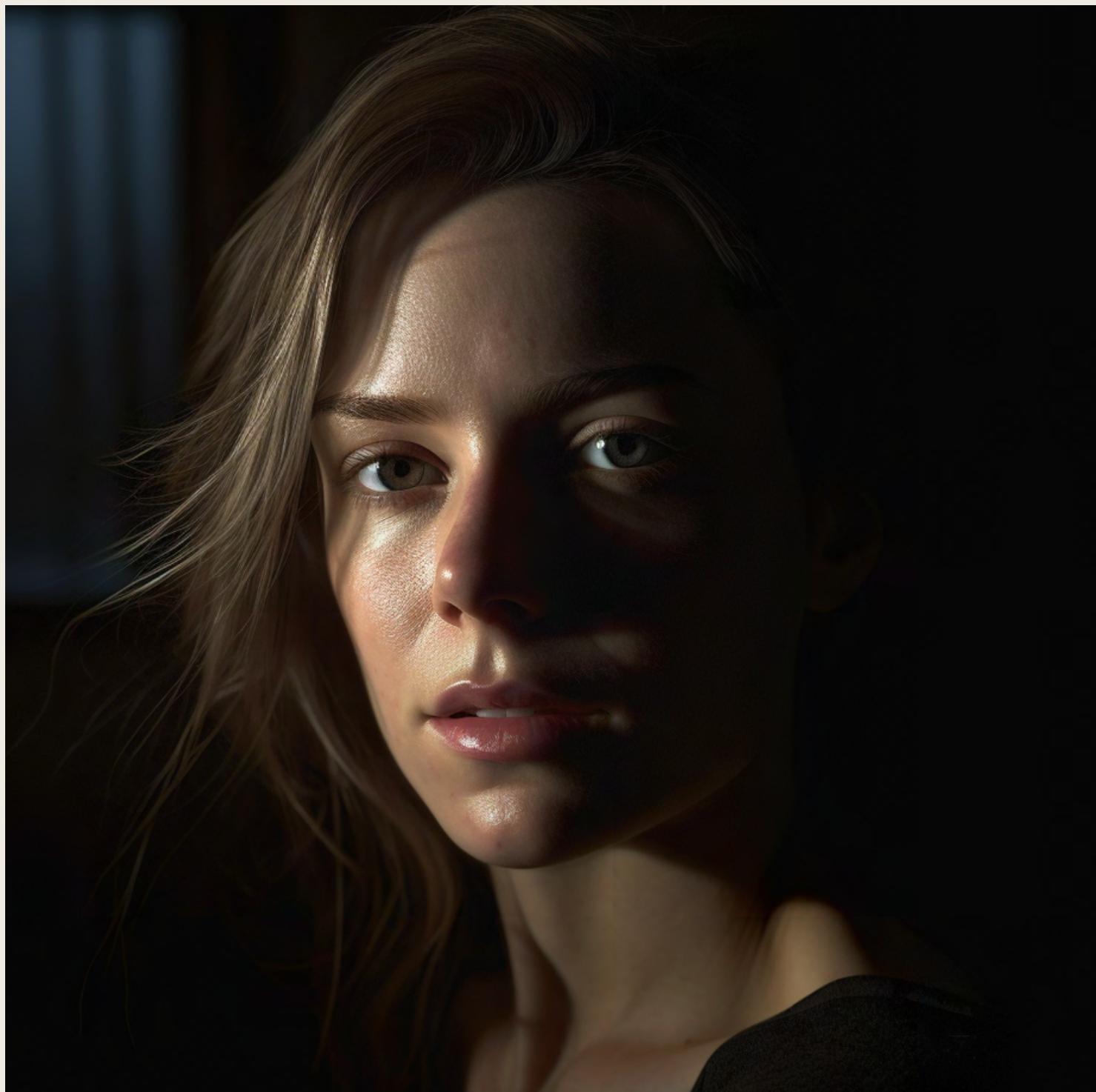
**landscape, Shadow, photo
--v 5.1**



**architecture, Shadow, photo
--v 5.1**

VOLUMETRIC LIGHTING

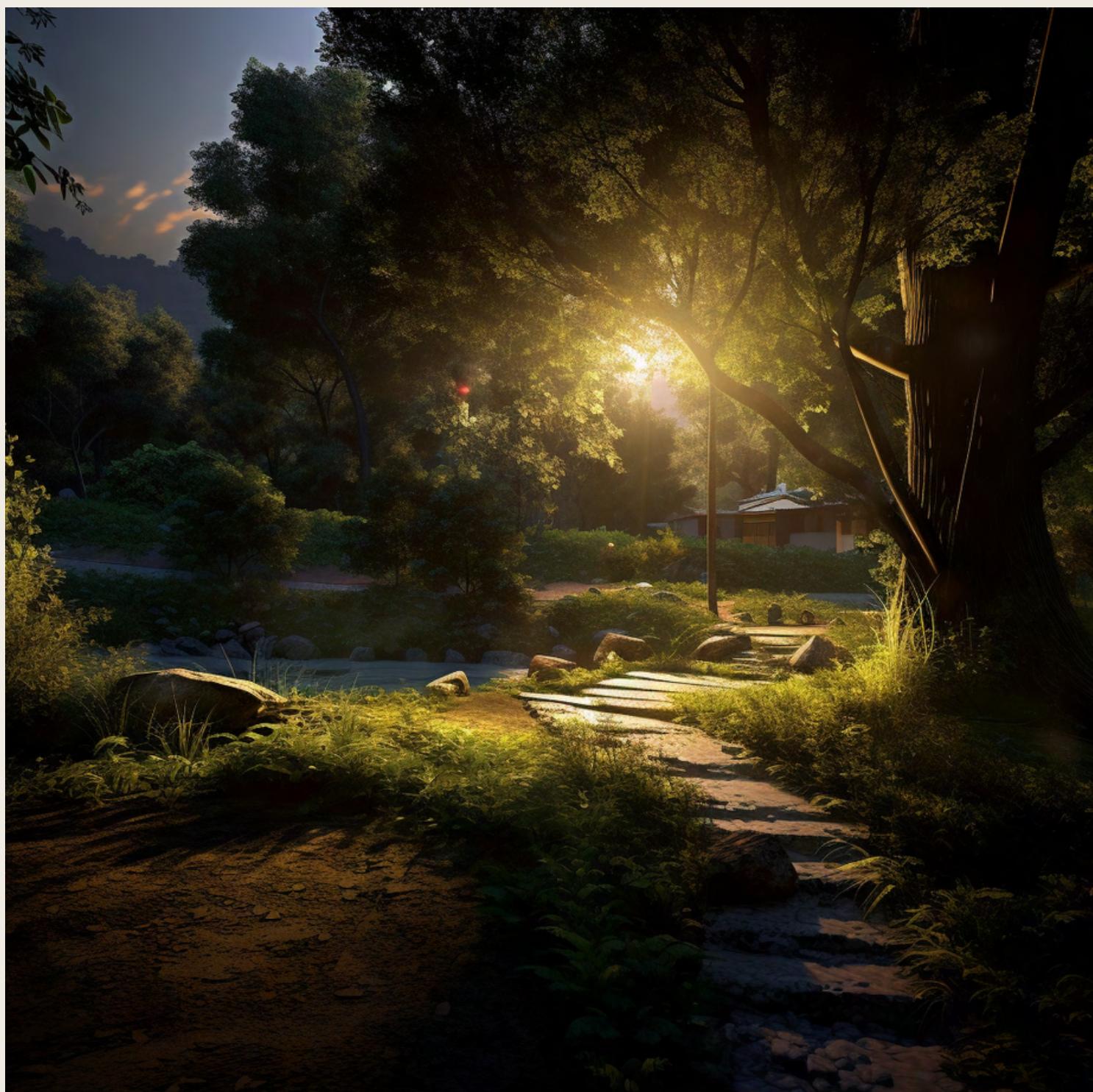
Used in 3D rendered scenes or conceptual photography to emphasize depth, atmosphere, and the three-dimensionality of a scene.



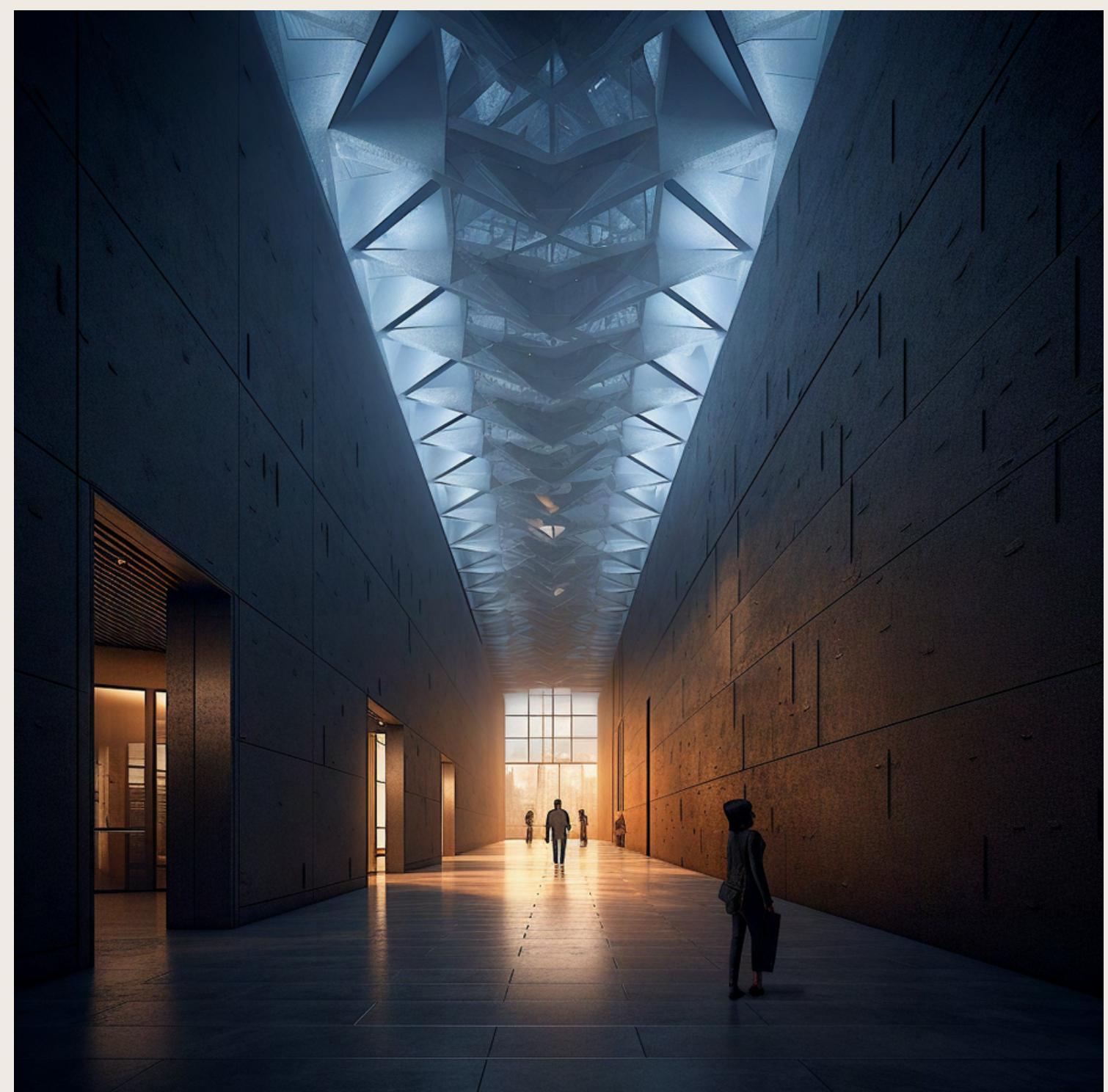
**portrait of a woman,
Volumetric Lighting, photo --v 5.1**



**flower, Volumetric Lighting, photo
--v 5.1**



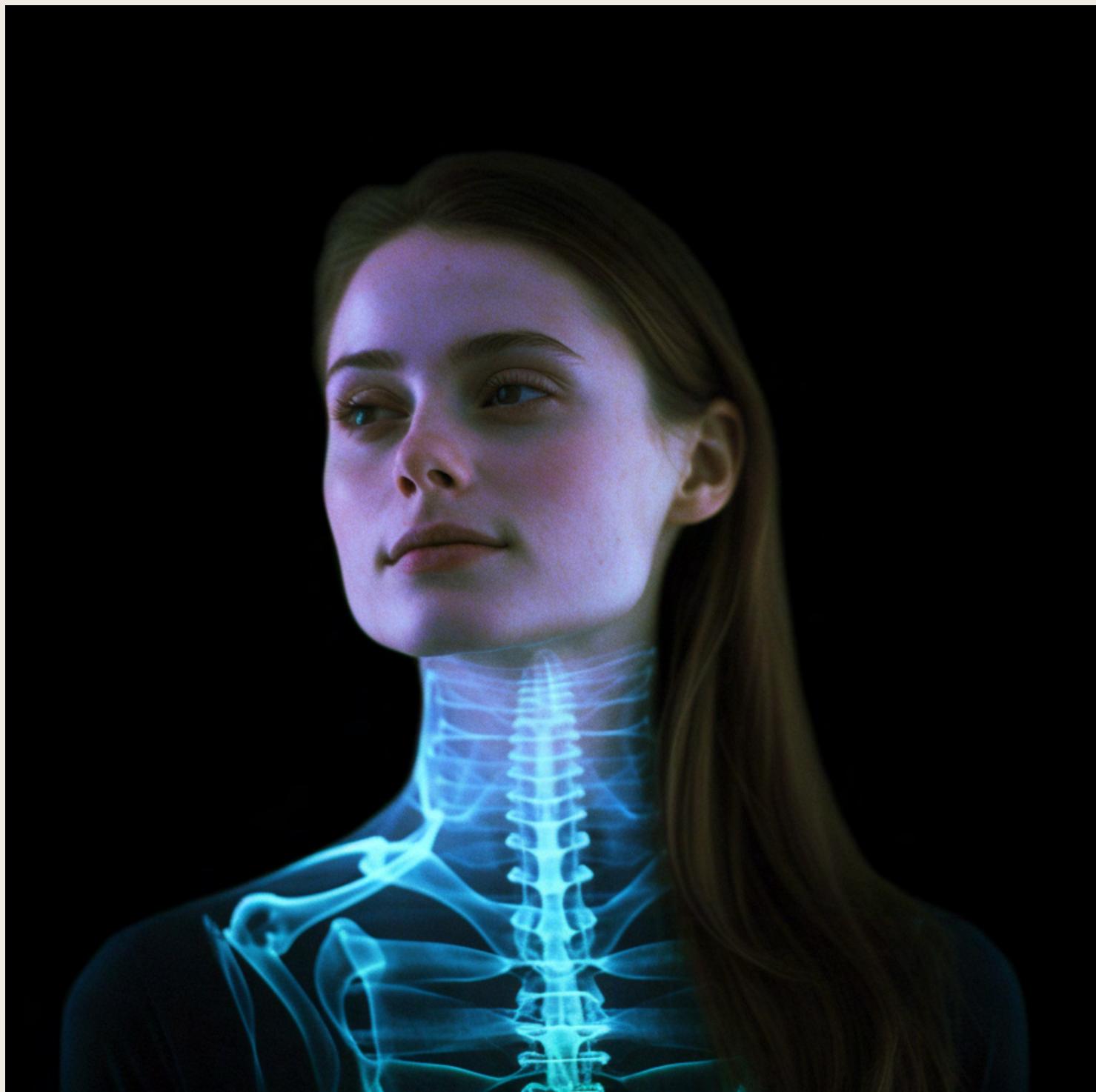
**landscape, Volumetric Lighting, photo
--v 5.1**



**architecture, Volumetric Lighting, photo
--v 5.1**

X RAY LIGHT

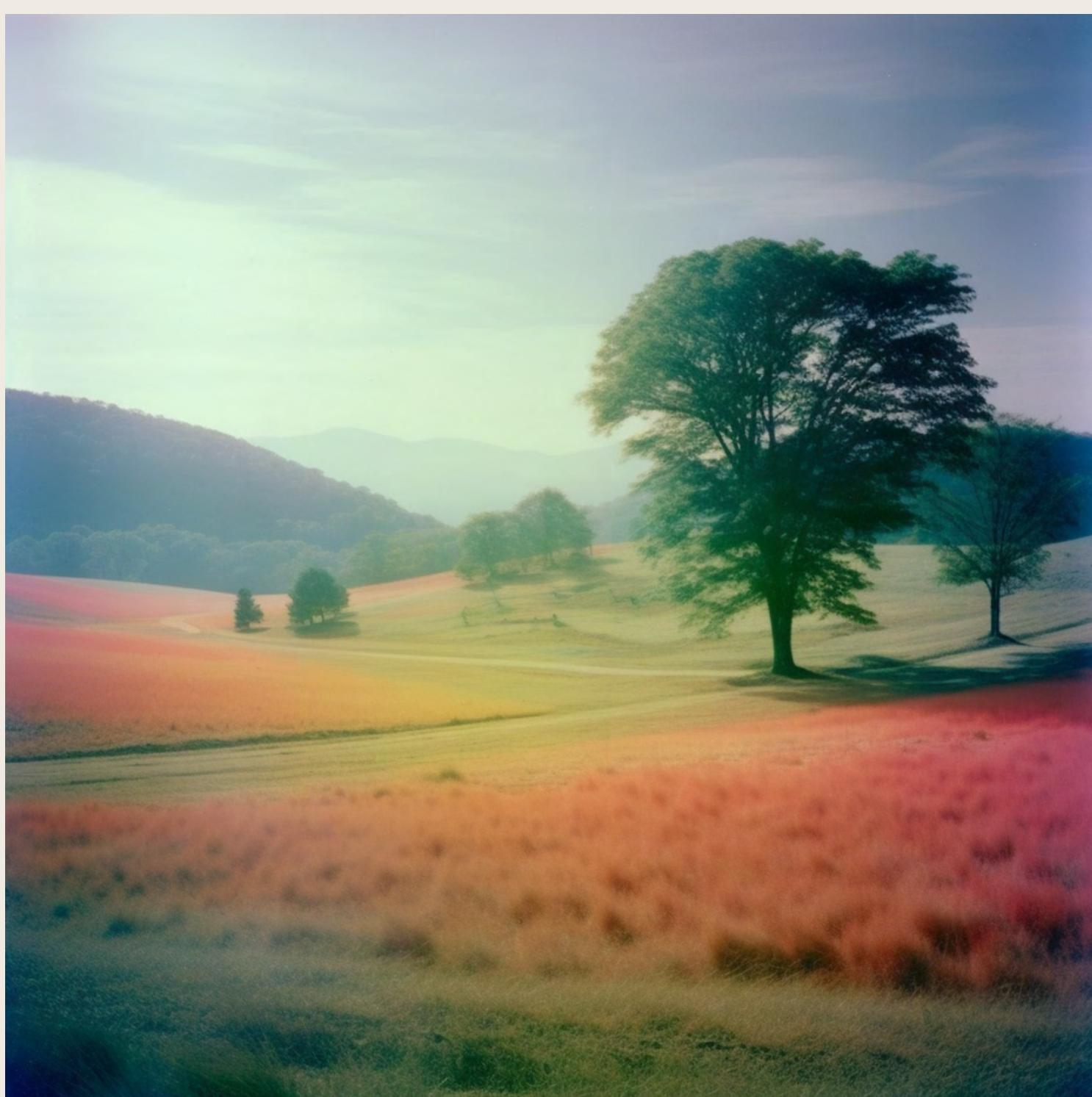
Ideal for creating surreal, abstract, or sci-fi effects in creative or medical-themed photography.



portrait of a woman,
X Ray Light, *color* photo --v 5.1



flower, X Ray Light, *color*
photo --v 5.1



landscape, X Ray Light, *color*
photo --v 5.1



architecture, X Ray Light, photo
--v 5.1

DEKATRON LIGHT

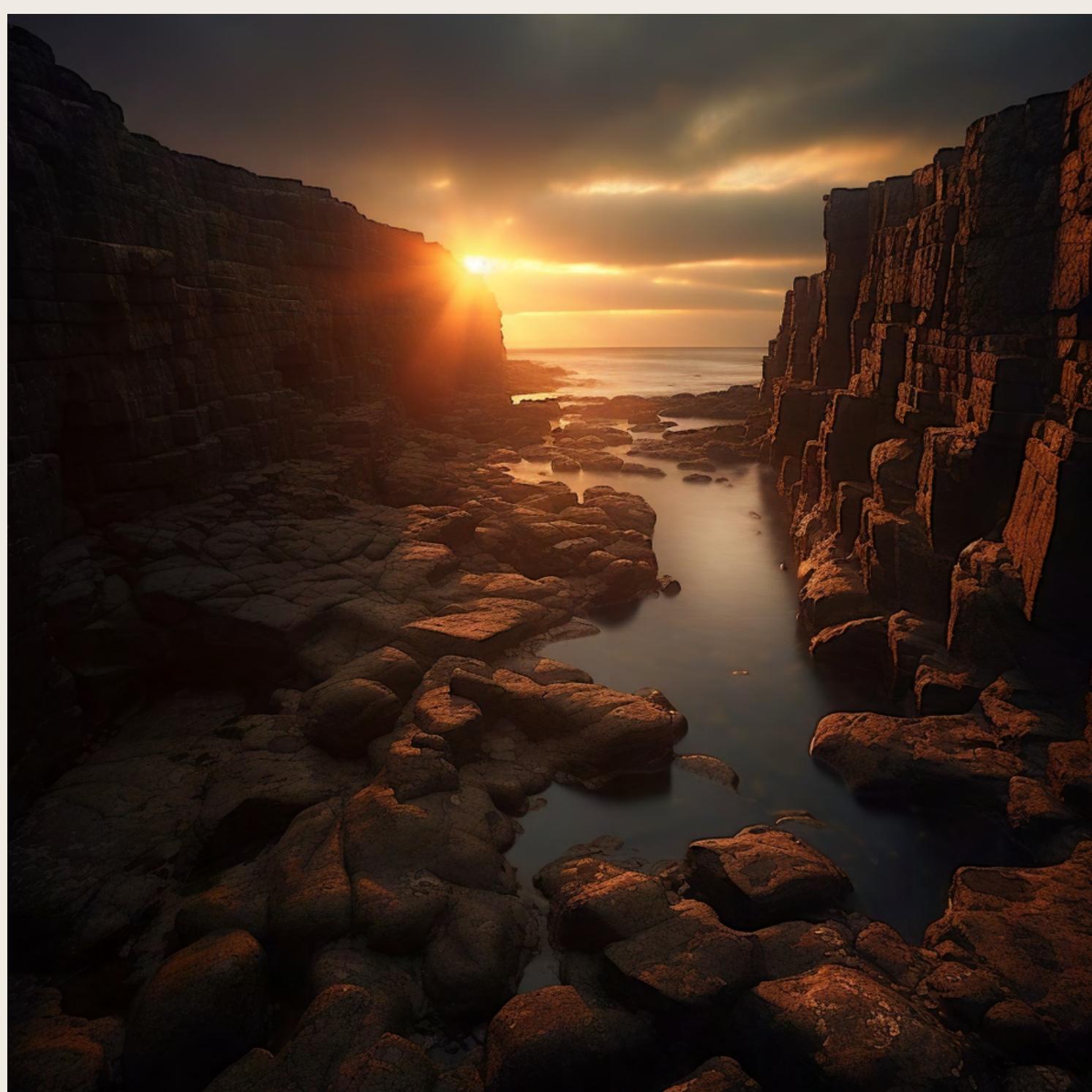
Used to create vintage, technological or steampunk themes in conceptual photography.



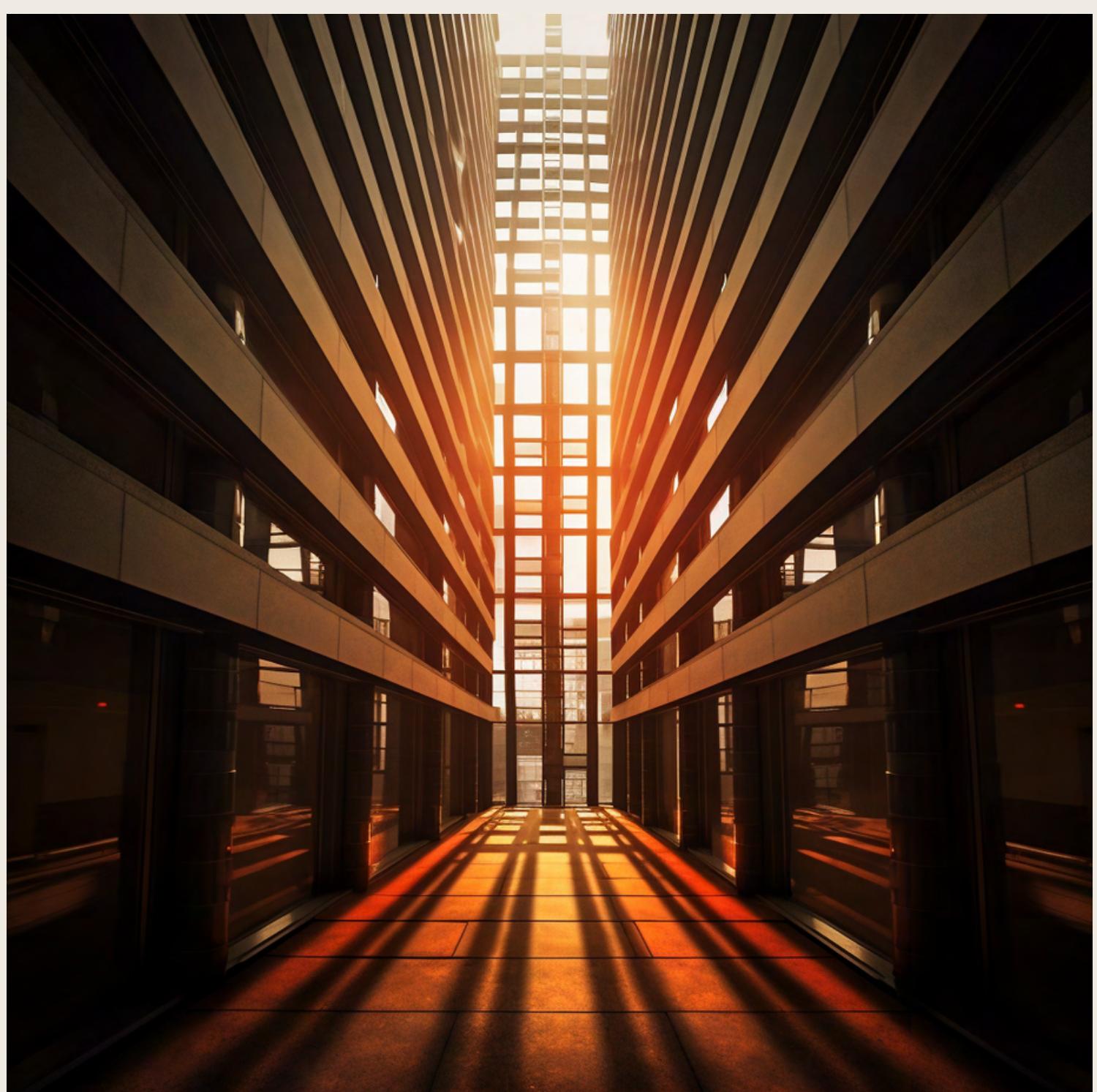
portrait of a woman,
Dekatron Light, photo --v 5.1



flower, Dekatron Light, photo
--v 5.1



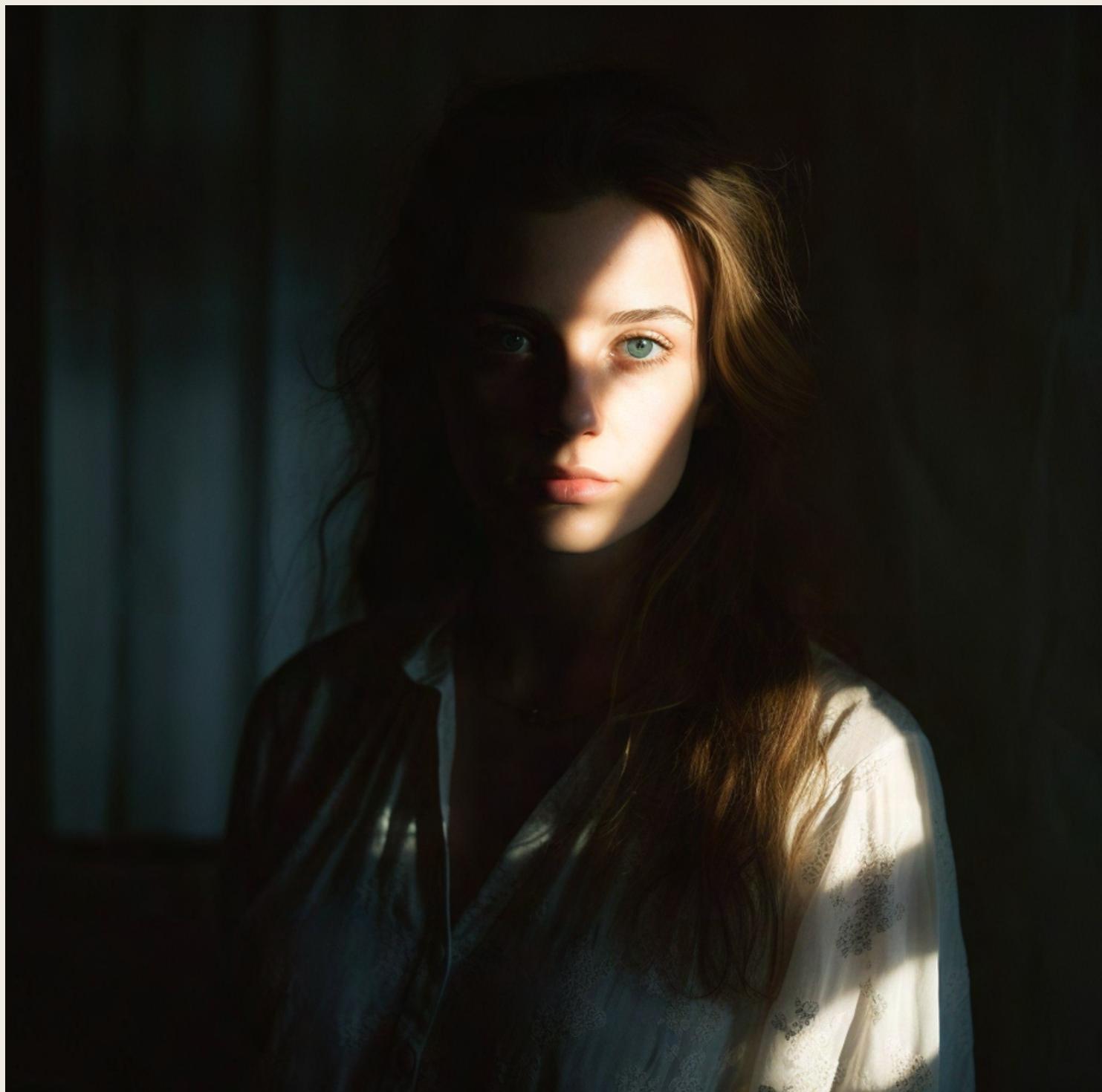
landscape, Dekatron Light, photo
--v 5.1



architecture, Dekatron Light, photo
--v 5.1

EERIE LIGHT

Ideal for creating suspenseful, spooky, or mysterious moods in horror-themed or supernatural scenes, often used to enhance tension in narrative photography or film.



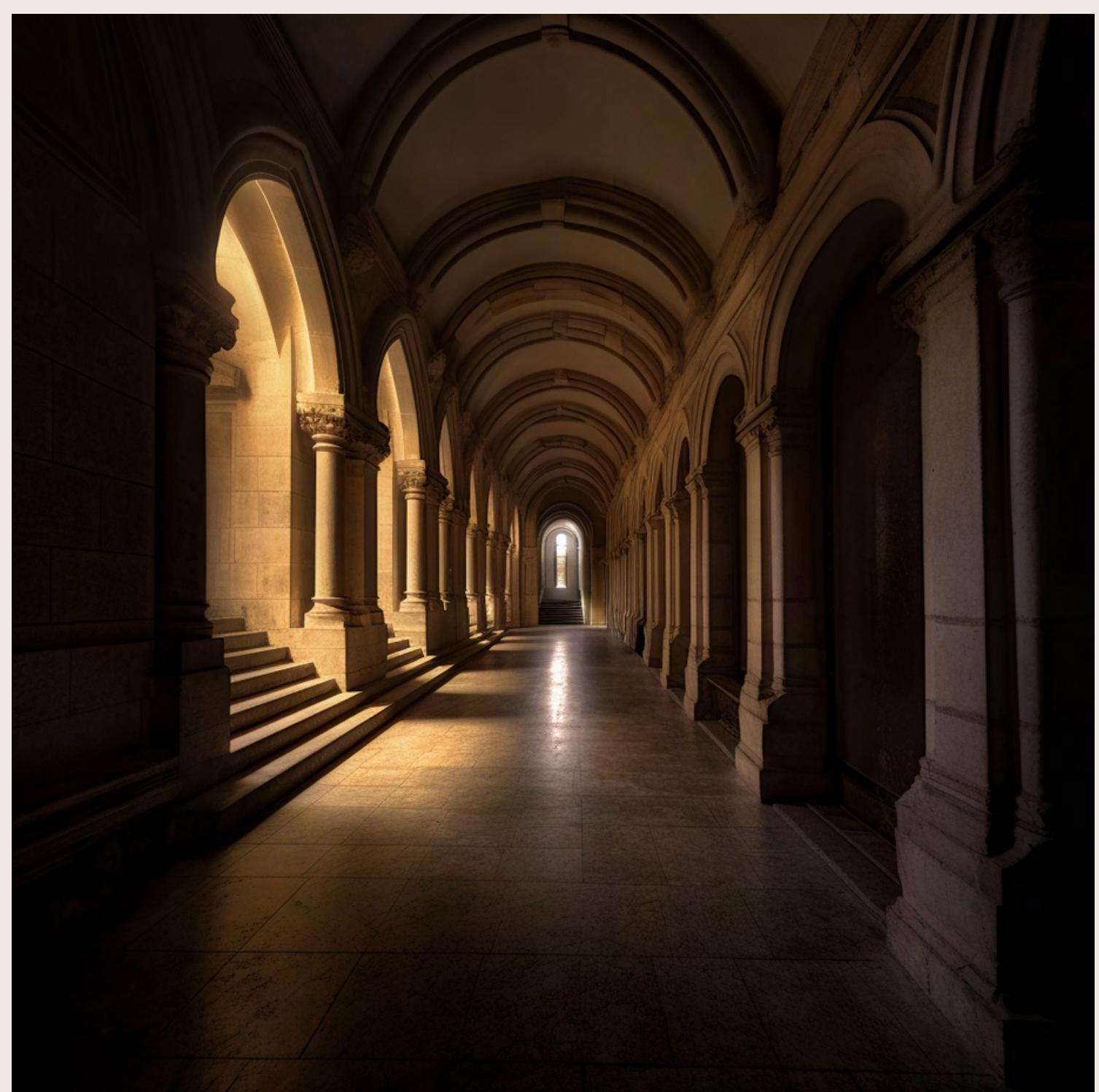
portrait of a woman,
Eerie Light, photo --v 5.1



flower, Eerie Light, photo
--v 5.1



landscape, Eerie Light, photo
--v 5.1



architecture, Eerie Light, photo
--v 5.1