

IS SEEING BELIEVING?

Do Pictures Lie?



## It has a long tradition



- **1862 US Civil War**

The inability of the early photograph to record a moving object led to the practice of recreating scenes of battle, such as in the work of both Mathew Brady and Alexander Gardner. They admittedly reconfigured scenes that took place during the American Civil War (1861–1865) in order to intensify the visual and emotional effects of battle.[1] Alexander Gardner and Matthew Brady rearranged bodies of dead soldiers during the Civil War in order to create a clear picture of the atrocities associated with battle.

- Source: [Wired Magazine](#)

# It has been used for political reasons in other countries

Original:



Altered:



- 1940s
- The Soviet Union's busy airbrushing department strikes again in these photos, in which a commissar of water transport disappears but Joseph Stalin remains. The commissar had been shot to death. The "commissar of water transport" was also known as the infamous devil Yezhov, NKVD chief during the great terror.
- Also, this is a rare example of a double faked photo; the original is a fake too, the water in the unfinished canal was airbrushed in.
- Source: [Wired Magazine](#)

**Original:**



**Altered:**



Some are altered to  
“improve” the news

**May 1970**

For decades after the Kent State shootings in 1970, several magazines unknowingly ran a sloppily manipulated version of the famous Pulitzer Prize-winning photo by John Filo. See if you can figure out what's missing from the manipulated photo compared to the original.

Source: [Wired Magazine](#)



The cover of TV Guide in **August 1989** displayed this picture of daytime talk-show host Oprah Winfrey. This picture was created by splicing the head of Winfrey onto the body of actress Ann-Margret, taken from a 1979 publicity shot. The composite was created without permission of Winfrey or Ann-Margret, and was detected by Ann-Margret's fashion designer, who recognized the dress.

Source: [c/net](https://www.cnet.com)



This **July 1992** cover of Texas Monthly shows then Gov. Ann Richards astride a Harley-Davidson Motorcycle. This picture was created by splicing the head of Richards onto the body of a model. The editors explained that their credit page disclosed this fact by noting in the credits page "Cover Photograph by Jim Myers ... Stock photograph (head shot) By Kevin Vandivier/Texastock." After the motorcycle cover appeared, Richards said that since the model had such a nice body, she could hardly complain.

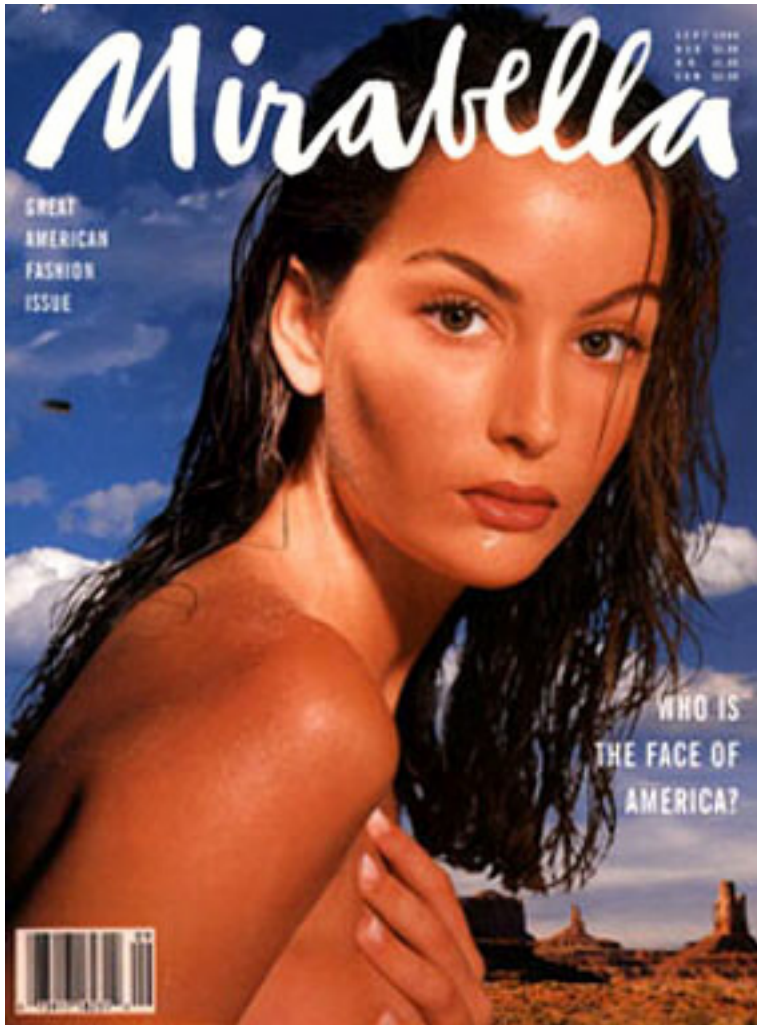
Source: [c/net](http://c/net)

It is now affecting our criminal justice system



This digitally altered photograph of O.J. Simpson appeared on the **June 1994** cover of Time magazine shortly after Simpson's arrest on murder charges. This photograph was manipulated from the original mug shot. A copy of the mug shot also appeared, unaltered, on the cover of Newsweek. Time magazine was subsequently accused of manipulating the photograph to make Simpson appear "darker" and "menacing."

Source: [c/net](http://c/net)



## Some are created by computers

The **September 1994** issue of Mirabella featured a beautiful cover model with a caption that read "Who is the Face of America?"

It turned out that the "face of America" appearing on the cover was not one model, but a composite picture that was created by combining six pictures of six different women.

Source: [Media Awareness Network](#)



# Some are total fakes!



## January 2002

The Sun reports Nelly Furtado is furious with FHM over the mag using a doctored photo of her on the cover of their latest issue.

Nelly told the Sun, "I did not pose for FHM. They put me on the cover without my permission." A source later revealed, "She was asked to do a shoot but she said no."

Nelly says FHM doctored the photos, cropping her T-shirt to make it look like she was wearing a skimpy top that showed off her midriff.

She's not a men's magazine kind of girl."

Source: [The Sun UK](http://www.sun.co.uk)



In 2002, Denise Richards complained after producers enhanced her butt on the "Undercover Brother" posters, insisting the posterior on the poster was not hers.

However, she eventually warmed to the new rear in the tight white cat suit.

"It's a digitally enhanced behind, but I'm getting so many compliments that I've started saying 'Yeah, that's my behind,'" the actress laughed at the time.

Source: [Access Hollywood](https://www.accesshollywood.com)

## Some are altered to “improve” their look



### February 2003

The editor of a UK men's magazine admitted its cover photograph of actress Kate Winslet was airbrushed to improve the image.

Winslet – famous for defending the appearance of fuller-figured women – has hit headlines in recent years not only for her acting, but also for the fluctuations in her weight.

Source: [BBC World](http://www.bbc.com/world)



## LA Times Photo Ethics Case Study



Pictured here is a digital composite of a British soldier in Basra, gesturing to Iraqi civilians urging them to seek cover, that appeared in **April 2003** on the front page of the Los Angeles Times shortly after the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq.



Brian Walski, a staff photographer for the Los Angeles Times and a 30-year veteran of the news business, was fired after his editors discovered that he had combined two of his photographs to "improve" the composition.

Source: [Poynter.org](http://Poynter.org)



Some lie just a little bit.



### October 2003

People magazine acknowledged it altered an image of Courteney Cox and David Arquette on its cover, moving them closer together in order to make room for headlines.

The photo was also changed to extend the shrubs behind the pair in order to “improve readability of the text,” the magazine said in a statement. “In retrospect, we would probably reconsider these changes.”

The changes were first reported in Photo District News, a magazine for professional photographers.

Source:

[Media Literacy Clearinghouse](https://www.medialiteracyclearinghouse.org/)



**Fonda Speaks To Vietnam Veterans At Anti-War Rally**



Actress And Anti-War Activist Jane Fonda Speaks To A Crowd Of American Veterans As Activist and former Vietnam Vet John Kerry (LEFT) listens and prepares to speak next concerning the war in Vietnam. (AP Photo)

## It is now affecting our elections

This digital composite of Sen. John Kerry and Jane Fonda sharing a stage at an antiwar rally emerged during the **2004** presidential primaries while Kerry campaigned for the Democratic nomination.

The picture of Kerry was captured by photographer Ken Light as Kerry was preparing to give a speech at the Register for Peace Rally held in Mineola, N.Y., in June 1971. The picture of Jane Fonda was captured by Owen Franken as Fonda spoke at a political rally in Miami Beach, Fla., in August 1972.

Source: [SF Chronicle](#)

# It is now affecting our elections



During the **2004** election campaign, this widely circulated photo of President George W. Bush holding a children's book upside down (top) was doctored shortly after he appeared at the George Sanchez Charter School in Houston in 2002.

The book, *America: A Patriotic Primer* by Lynne Cheney, was never held upside down during the visit, as shown in the original AP photo (bottom).



Source: [Wired Magazine](#)



**March 2005**

There's a good reason Martha Stewart looks slightly different here. The body belongs to a model. And Newsweek is not the only offender in this area. Texas Monthly once used a model's body with the head of one-time Gov. Ann Richards.

Source: [c/net](http://c/net)





The photo on the right isn't exactly what it appears to be it was manipulated beyond straightforward cropping of edges or lightening shaded areas.

This image of Katie Couric, originally released by CBS, it was slimmed down for reuse. The left photo is the official first photo. The doctored photo on the right appeared in the **Sept. 2006** issue of *Watch* magazine, which is owned by CBS, according to [Mediabistro.com](http://mediabistro.com), which first reported on the alteration. Source: [c/net News](http://c/net News)



In 2007 Warner Bros. Pictures was under fire for electronically enhancing a promotional photo of Emma Watson, according to reports.

In an ad promoting the latest "Potter" film for IMAX 3D theaters, the 17-year-old Watson, who plays the 15-year-old Hermione Granger, appears to have had her bust enlarged, according to a report in The Daily Mail.

According to The Mail, Warner Bros. released the following statement after "Potter" fans were in an uproar:

"This is not an official poster. Unfortunately this image was accidentally posted on the IMAX website. The mistake was promptly rectified and the image taken down," the statement said.

Source: [Access Hollywood](#)





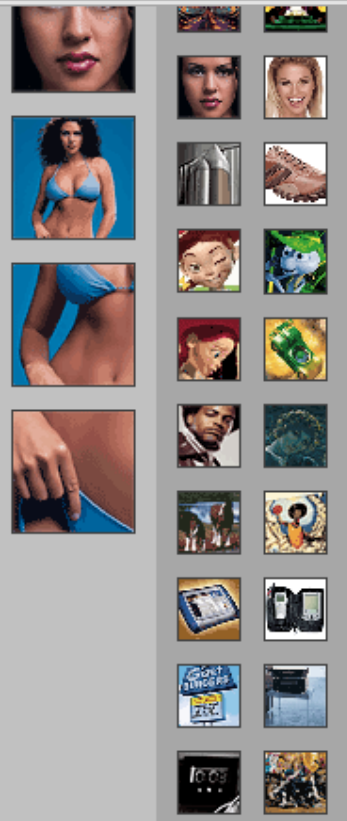
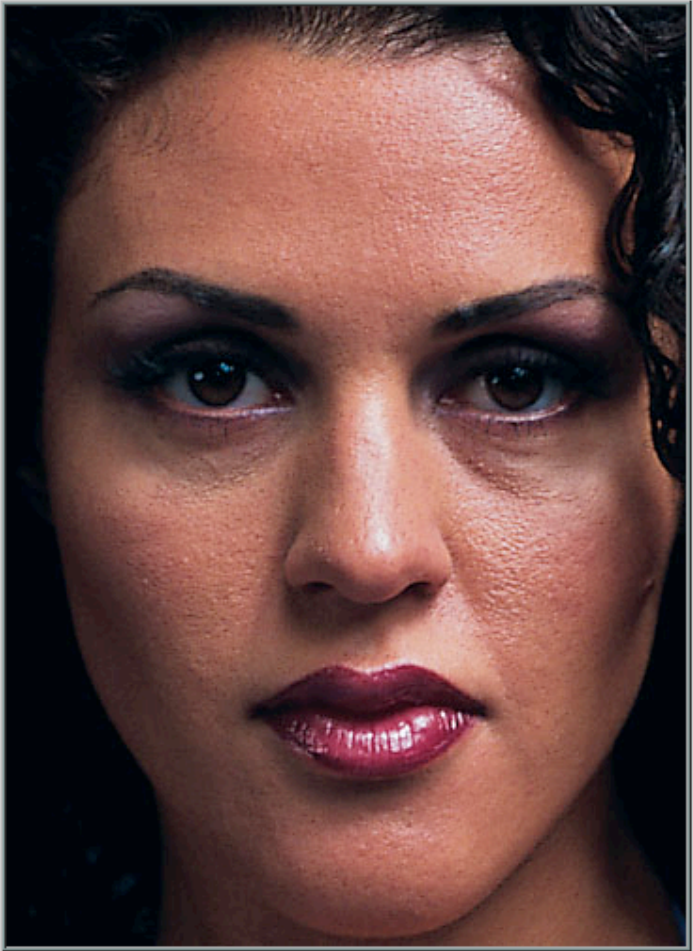
## July 2008

A misleading photo of four Iranian missiles being launched at once during the test, instead of the correct three, made its way to the front pages of the Los Angeles Times, The Financial Times, the Chicago Tribune and other newspapers, as well as BBC News, MSNBC, Yahoo! News, and NYTimes.com, according to a New York Times blog.

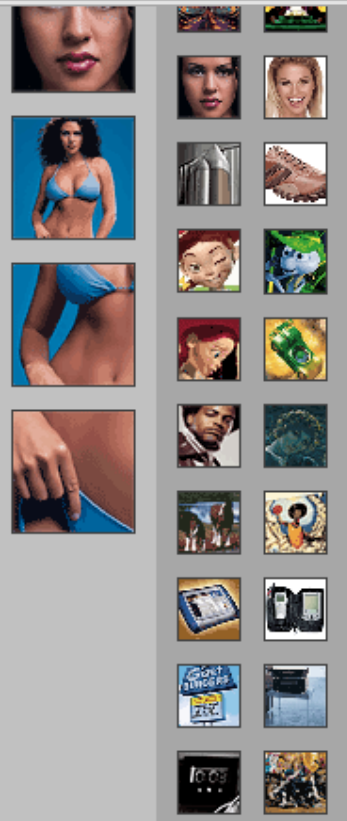
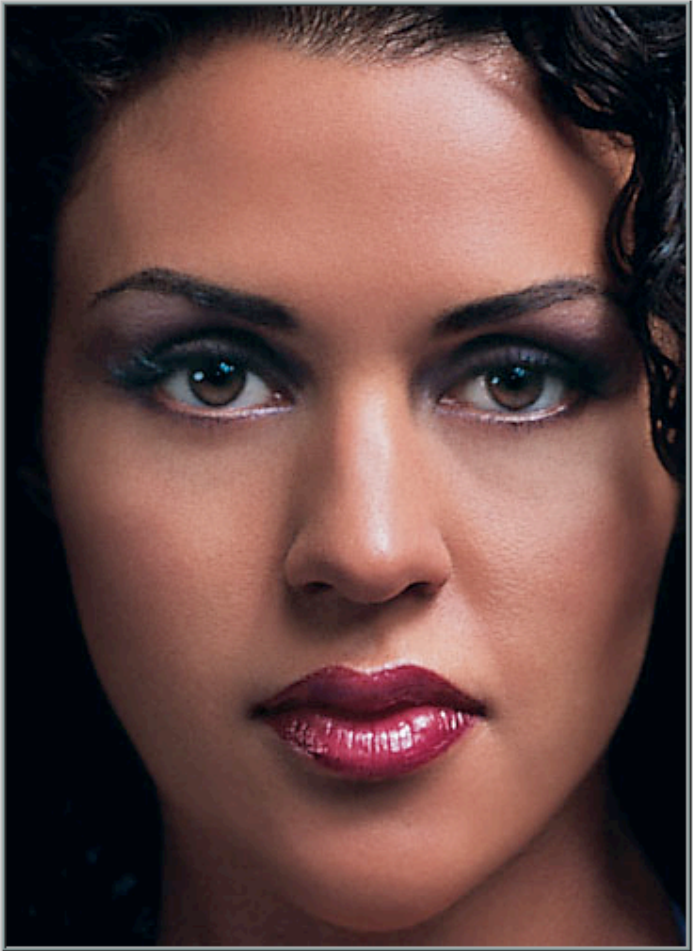
AP Executive Editor Kathleen Carroll referred E&P's requests for further information to spokesman Paul Colford. He said only that AP obtained its image from the same Sepah News site as other news outlets.

Colford cited the AP caption with the image it transmitted that stated: "In this image made available Thursday July 10, 2008, from Sepah News website owned by Iran's Revolutionary Guards, showing Iran's Shahab-3 missiles being launched from an undisclosed location on Wednesday July 9, 2008, which officials have said have a range of 1,250 miles and is armed with a 1-ton conventional warhead...." It was labeled "AP Photo/Sepah News."

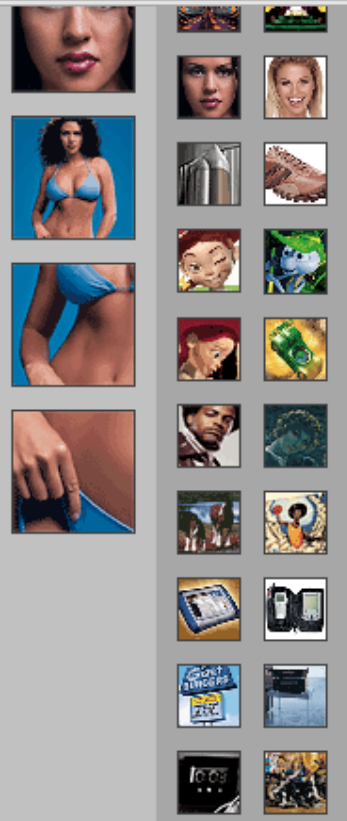
Source: [Editor & Publisher](#)

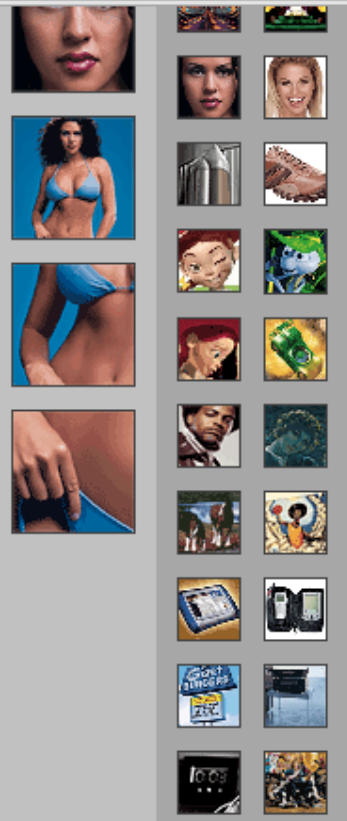
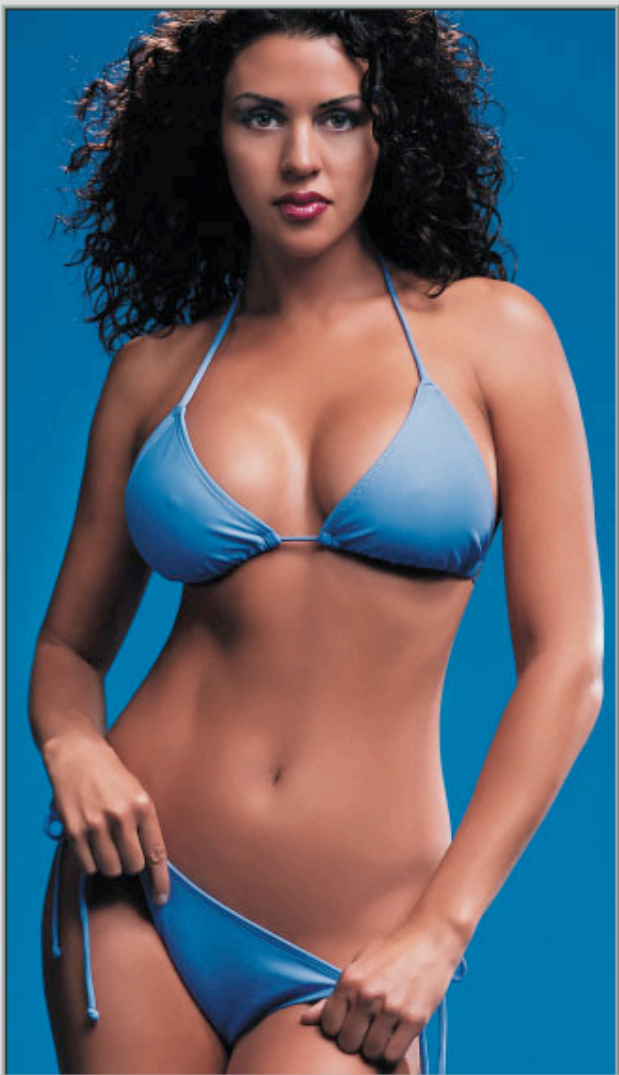


I know, it doesn't seem natural to take out every curve, to airbrush out every blemish, but what the Art Director wants, the Art Director will get. This shows an extreme example of how far an image can be taken. I was asked to retouch almost every aspect of this image, except for the lips.



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<http://www.touchofglamour.com/Glamour%20Retouching%205.htm>

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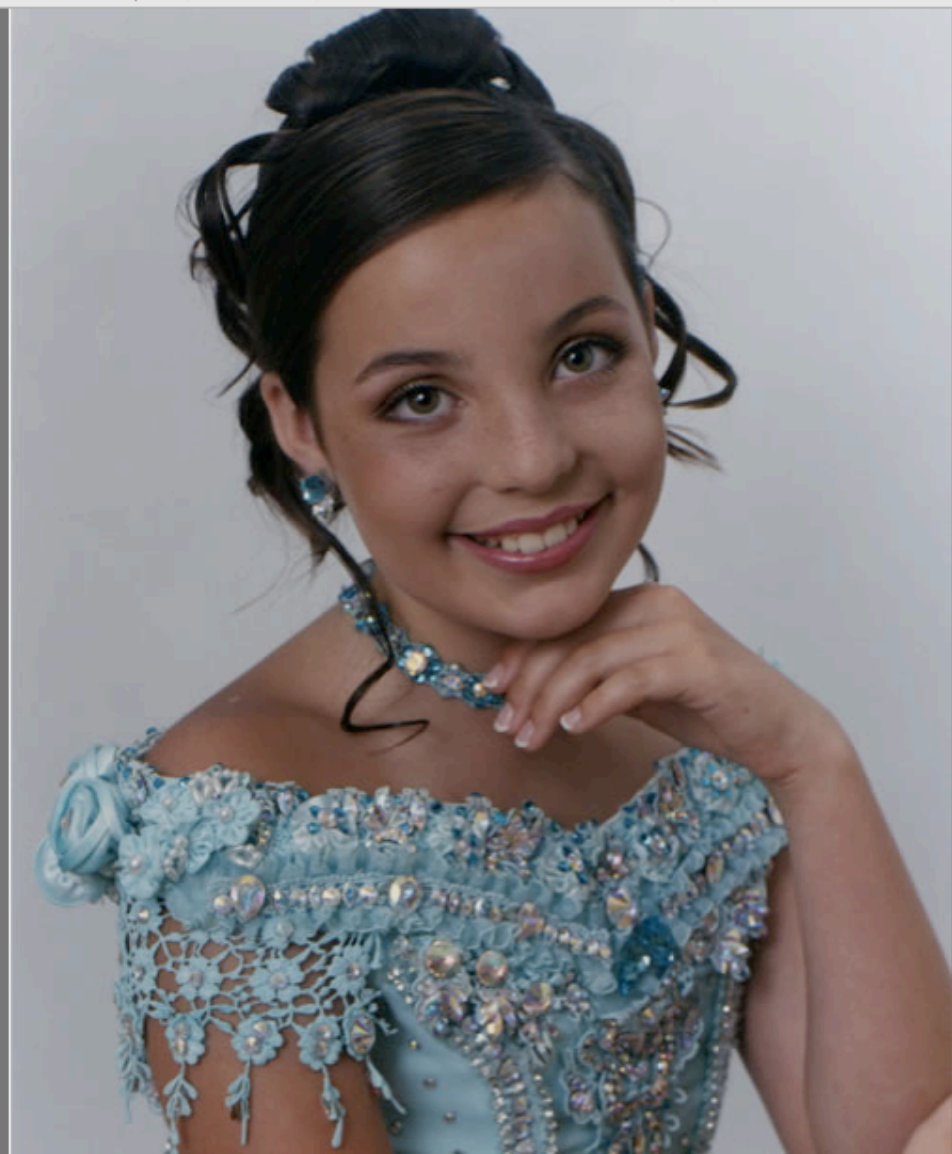
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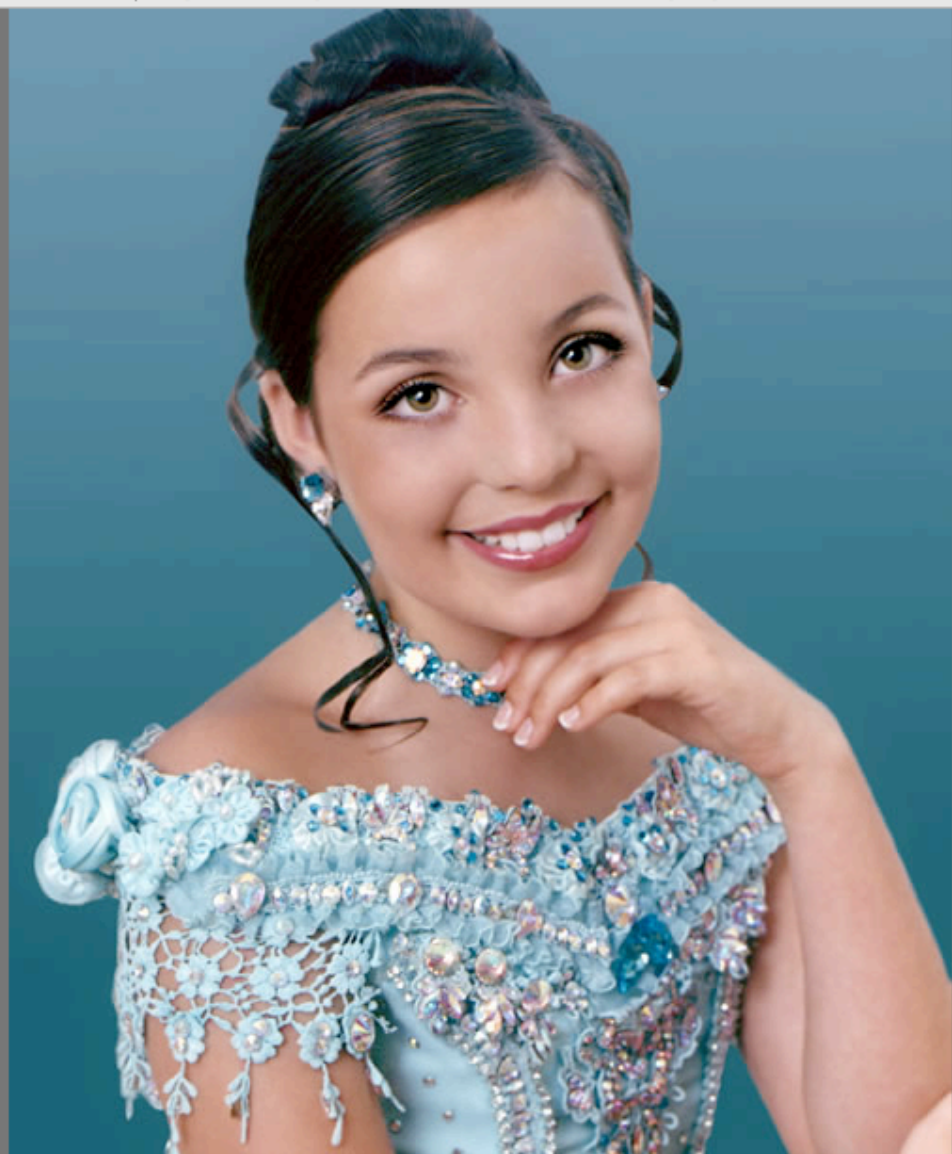
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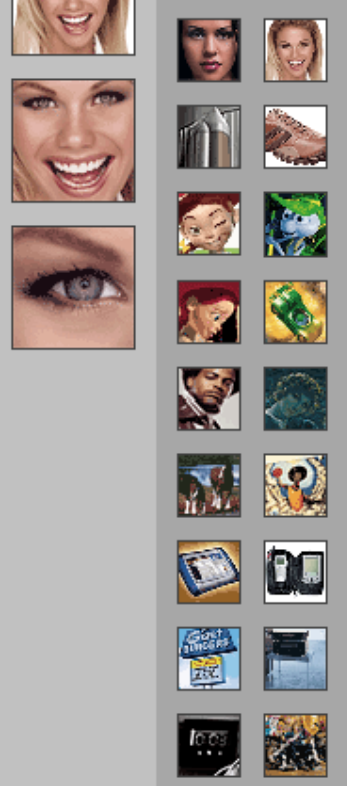


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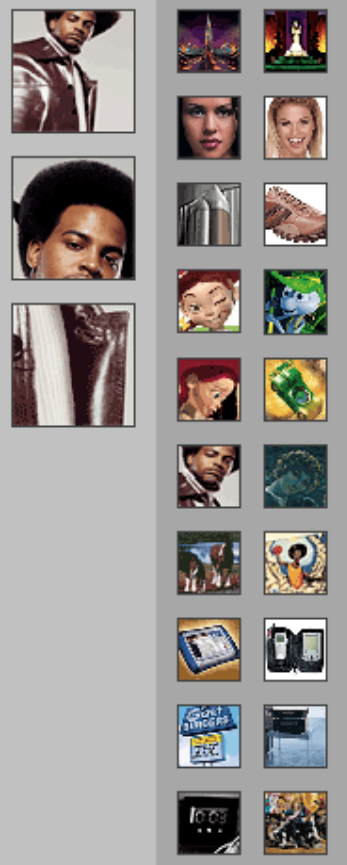




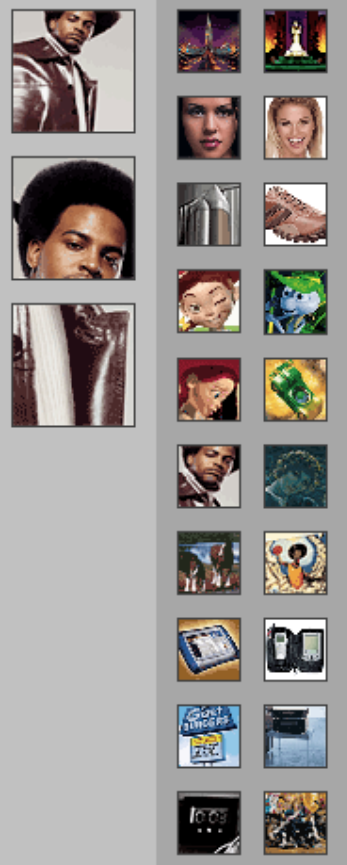


On this image I was asked to make her look younger, take out the wrinkles and pores, remove the sneer, put some color back into her face... I also created a more natural look by bringing the hair down which was unusually high, probably due to the photographer using a long lens. This shows another extreme example of how far an image can be taken.

Roll mouse over image



Roll mouse over image





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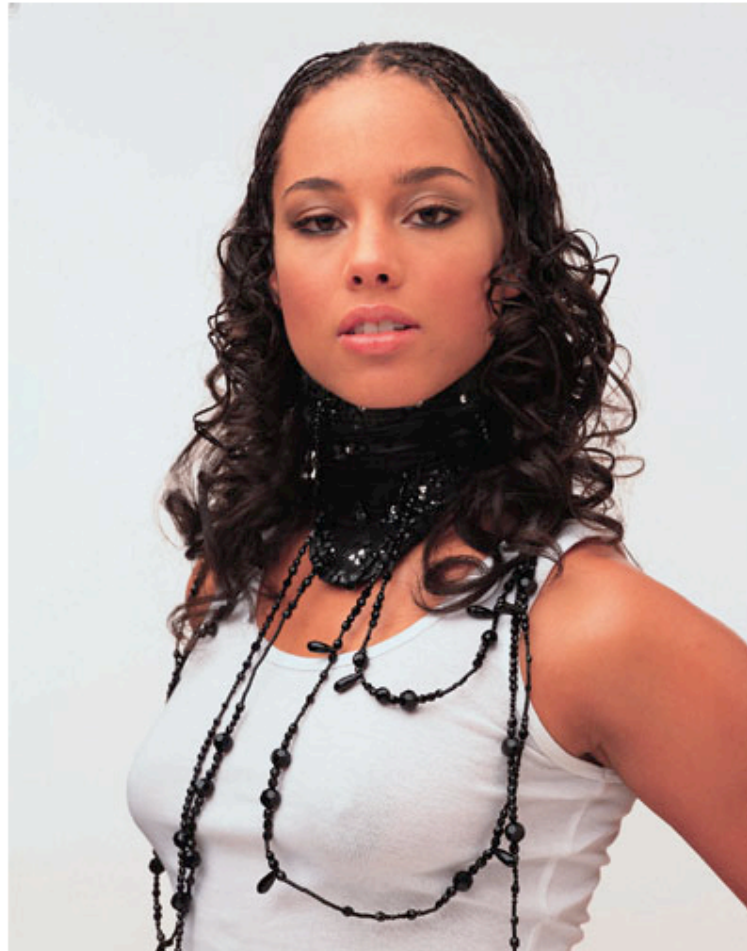
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**Willie-Less**  
Willie Nelson, Leo...  
New \$9.99!



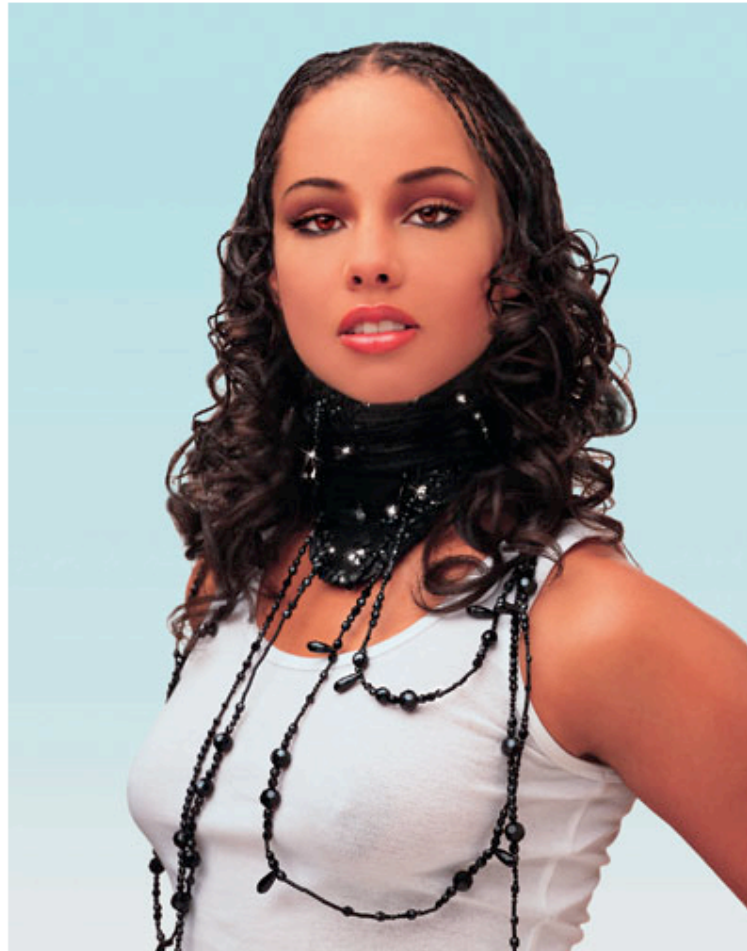
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