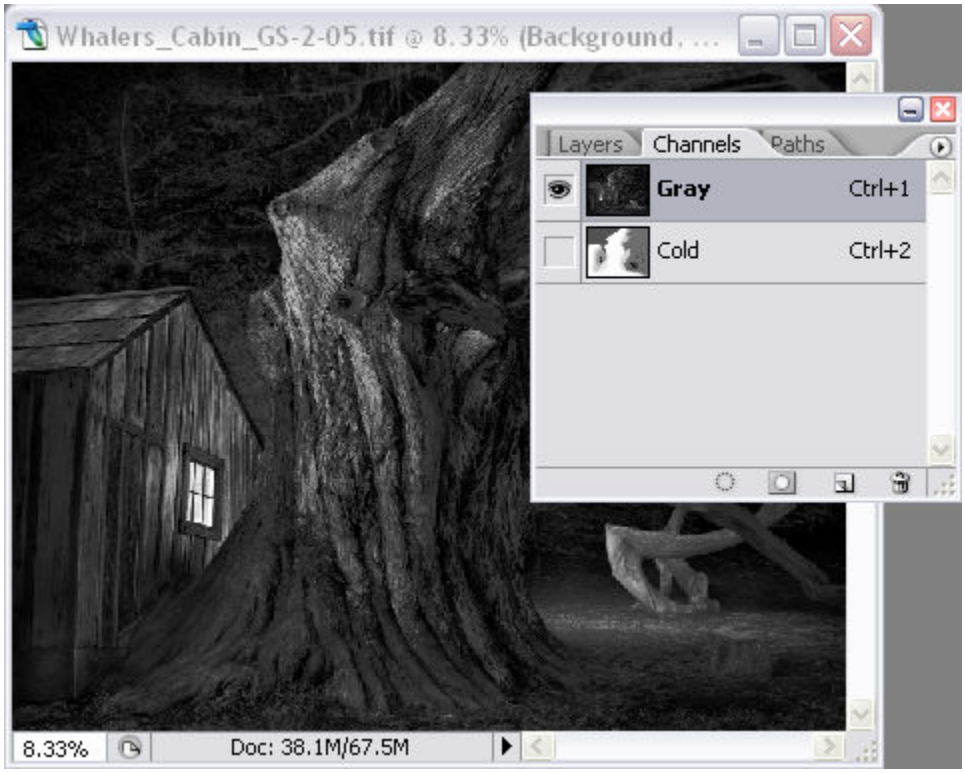
Sample Split Tone
220, UT-3D
Whalers' Cabin

This is a description of making a split tone print on an Epson 220 with UT-3D inks. One of my favorite old shots is the Whalers' Cabin at Pt. Lobos, south of Carmel, CA.

I have the image saved as a grayscale file. I also have saved a selection that separates the areas I want to print with different tones.

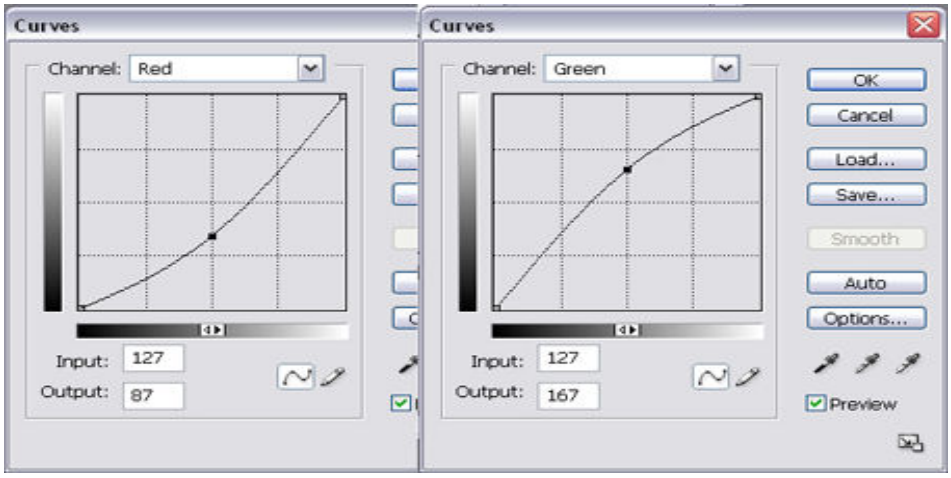


How I visualize this scene is that it's night, with warm light in the cabin and coming from behind the cabin, where I imagine they might have been boiling the whale fat over a fire. The top of the cabin and the tree are, however, lighted by relatively cool moonlight.

My goal is to print these different areas with subtle tonal differences. I don't want to attract attention to the difference in tones. The B&W image, not a technique, should be the focus of interest.

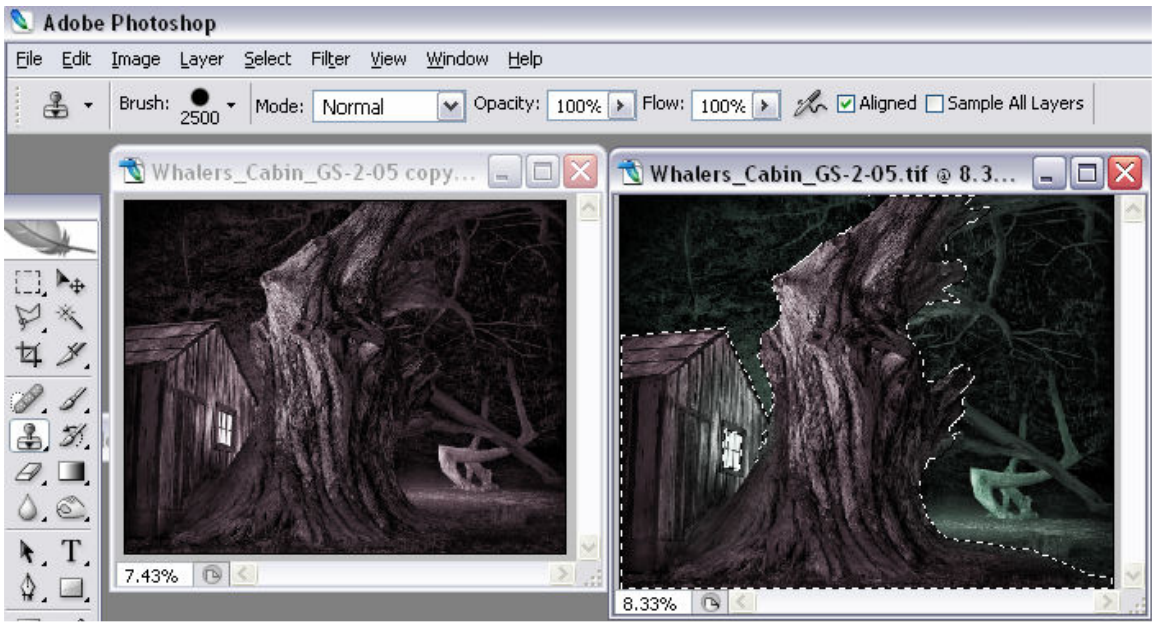
The UT-3D inkset prints very well on EEM with no curves or ICCs. For EEM I set the Epson driver to media type "Matte paper – Heavyweight," the Color Controls are set to 0, and the Gamma is set to 2.2.

Very simply curves can make the tonal changes I want. For the warm area I just moved the Red curve down 40 at the center (putting in more warm carbon ink) and make an off-setting move of the Green curve (cool, M-position toner) to keep the overall ramp largely unchanged. See the screen-shot of the curves, below.



For the cool area, I'll move the Green curve down 20 and Red up 20.

I make a duplicate copy of the RGB version of the image, set the clone tool to transfer information from the image at the left to the one on the right, apply the cool curve to the one on the left and the warm curve to the one on the right. I load the selection on the right and then clone over the cool-toned image from the left. For this, I have the clone tool set to its maximum size, 100% opacity and 100% hardness, and sweep the entire image only once. (Some would use layers here.) (Note that the curves produce false monitor colors.)



This is a scan of the final image.

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