

## PHSC Advanced Photography

### Streams of Light 2 (Easier)

As with anything in Photoshop, there are many ways to achieve the same end. Making rays of light is no exception. There are many ways to make these. This is the easiest and most effective way that I have found to do this.

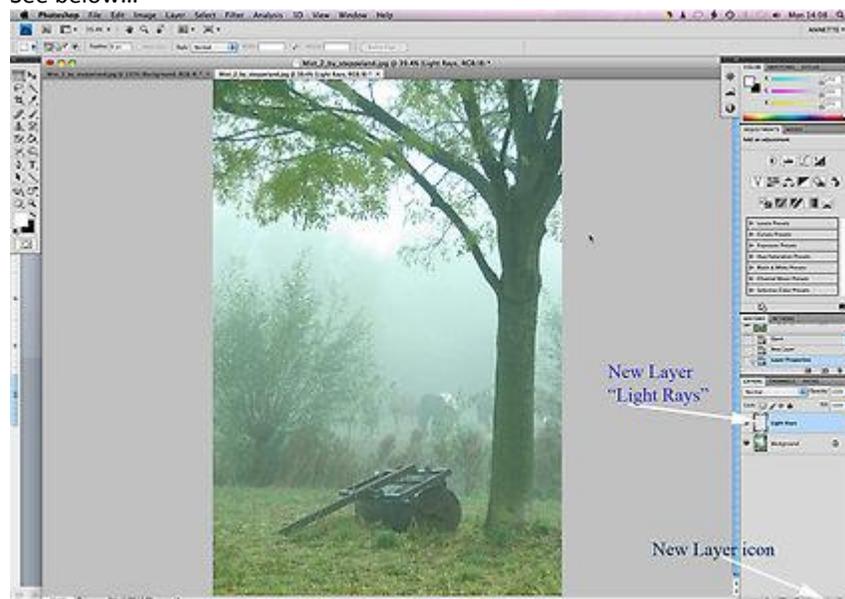
Essentially it is only four main steps to achieve this result...



#### Step 1

Open the image and immediately create a new layer by clicking on the new layer icon at the bottom of your layers palette. Name this layer 'Light Rays'

See below...



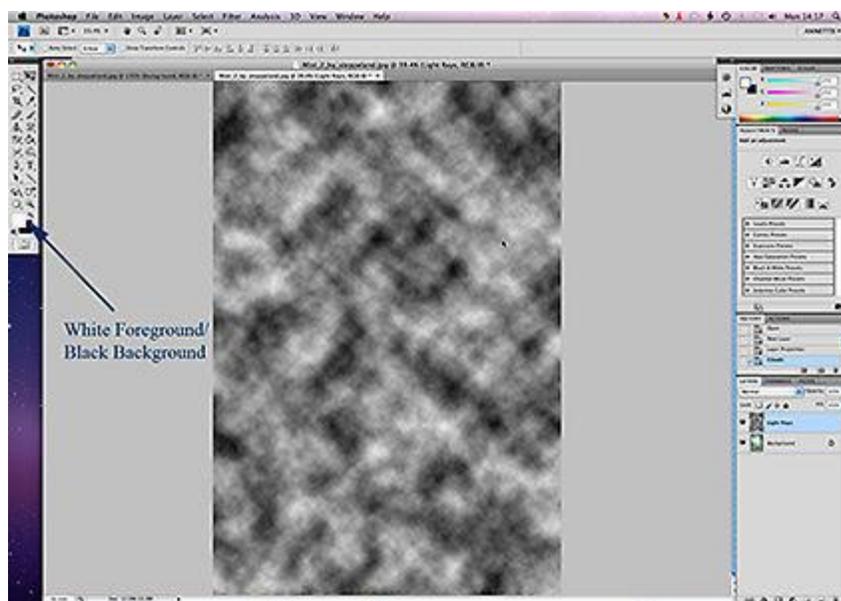
#### Step 2

Set colour palette to the default White foreground, Black background

Go to the menu bar and select Filter/Render /Clouds and hit 'Enter'.

Your layer should now look like this...

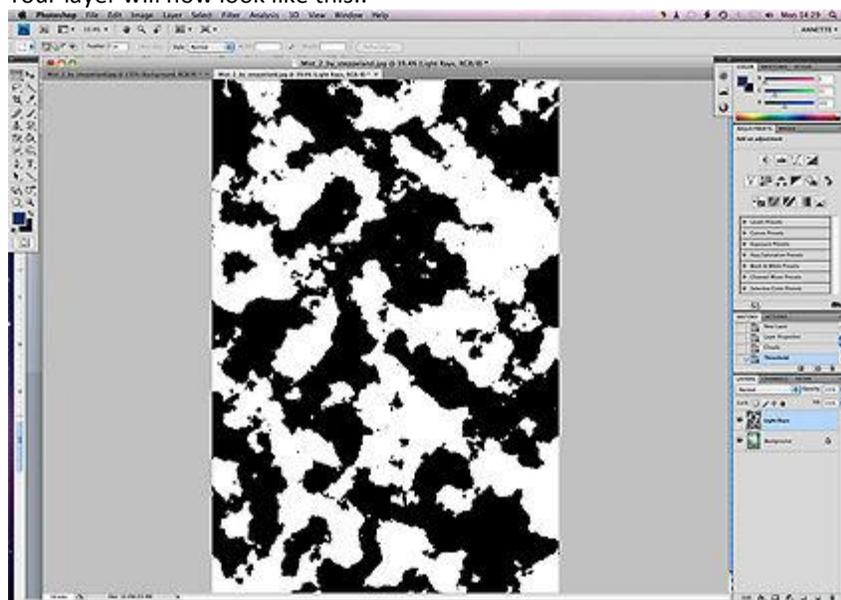
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### Step 3

Go to your menu bar and select Image/Adjustment/Threshold and hit the 'OK' button in the little box that comes up.

Your layer will now look like this..



### Step 4

Go to

Filter/Blur/Radial Blur

When the box pops up, set

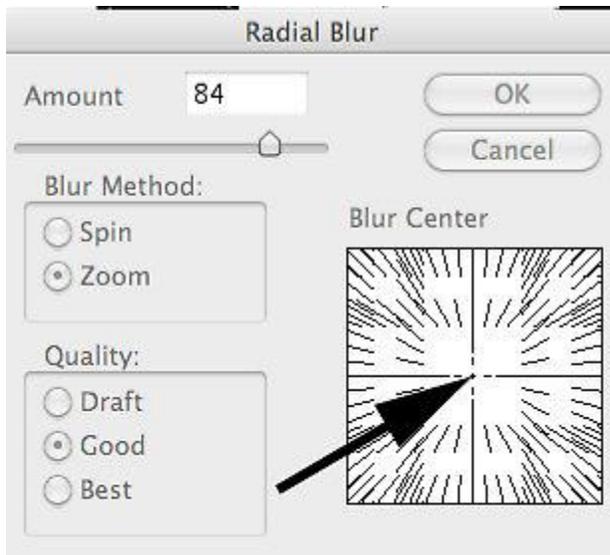
Amount = 84

Blur Method = Zoom

Quality = Good

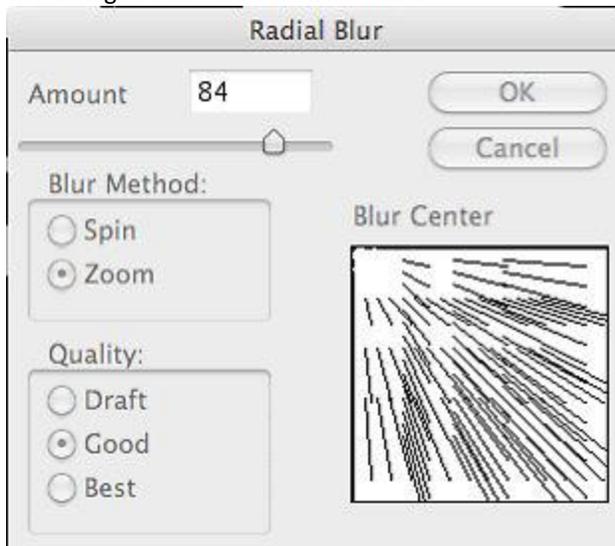
The arrow here shows you where the zoom will radiate from.

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You need to place the blur centre over your light source ie the sun or the moon, or where the strongest light is in the sky. In this image, we need to have the Blur Centre it in the top left hand corner. So, with your mouse, slide the zoom centre to the top left of the square box.

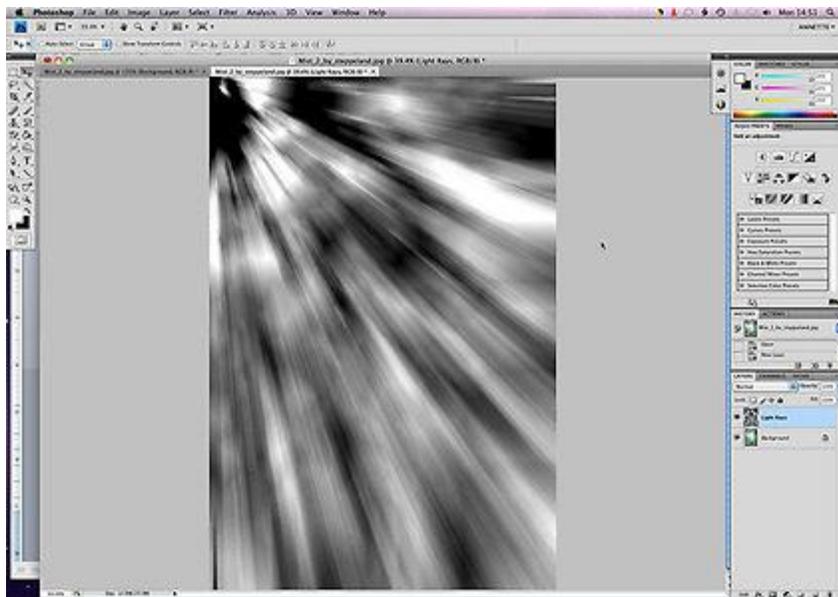
The dialogue box should look like this...



Hit the OK button.

Your image will now look like this.

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**You are nearly there now!**

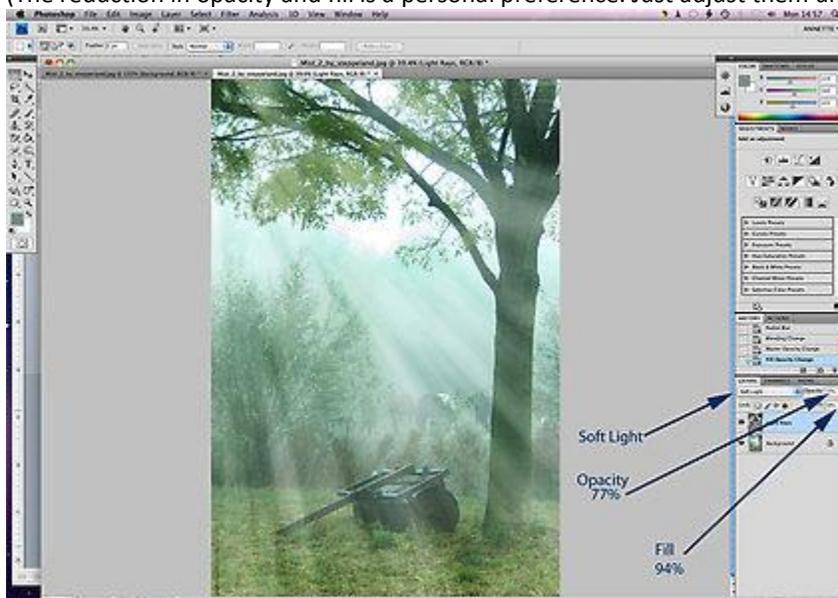
### Step 5

Now set the blending mode of this layer to **Soft Light** (See image below)

Reduce the opacity to 77%

Reduce the Fill to 94%

(The reduction in opacity and fill is a personal preference. Just adjust them until you are happy with the effect.)



### Step 6

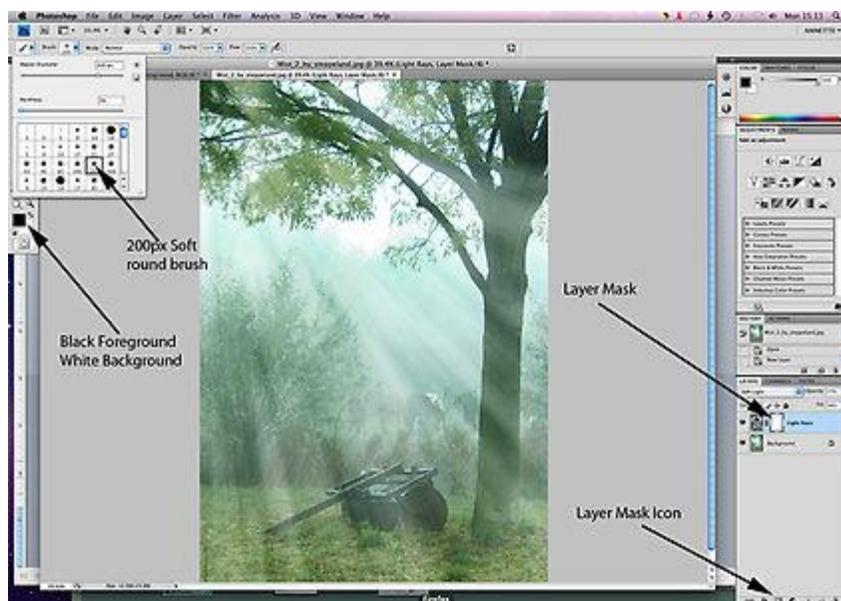
Now add a layer mask to this layer by clicking on the layer mask icon at the bottom of your layers palette. (See image below)

Now set your foreground colour to Black.

Set the background colour to White.

Select a soft round brush 200px.

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With the layer mask selected, paint over the areas you want to hide with the black brush.

Here I have painted out the rays over the tree trunk, to give the impression that the light is falling behind it. I also painted out the front foreground to set the rays further back in the image.

If you go too far, change the foreground colour to White and that will bring the rays back.

