

DEEP DIVE INTO BLENDING
MODES FOR COMPOSITING
& COLOR CORRECTION

BLEND IF SLIDERS

LISA**CARNEY**



WE ARE GOING TO LOOK AT :

COMPOSITING
MASKING EFFECTS TEXTURES
COLOR
WITH

BLEND IF SLIDERS

LISA CARNEY

Finisher/Photographer/Designer/Retoucher/Educator




LISACARNEY.COM



OWNER / FINISHING STATION
lisa@lisacarney.com

7:01 5G



1

Lisa Carney


1,219 1,422 65

Work


About

Moodboards


Appreciation




Paris in the Dark




CBS - Good Sam Poster





water studies, Croatia





Embracing the Dark

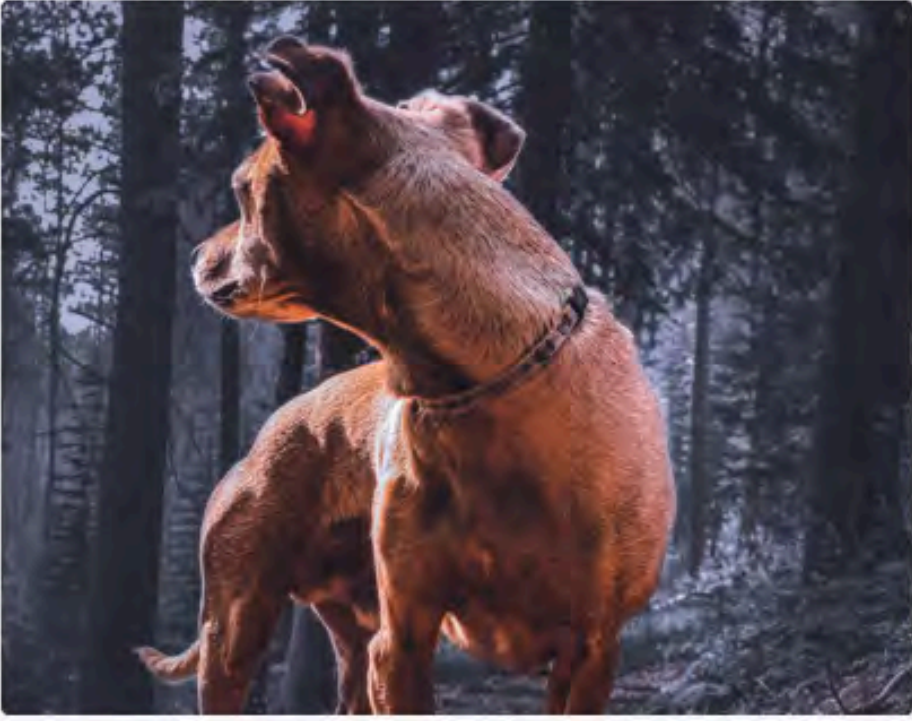












Bēhance





Instagram



finishing_station

Edit profile



745 posts

4,657 followers

950 following

Lisa Carney/Finishing Station

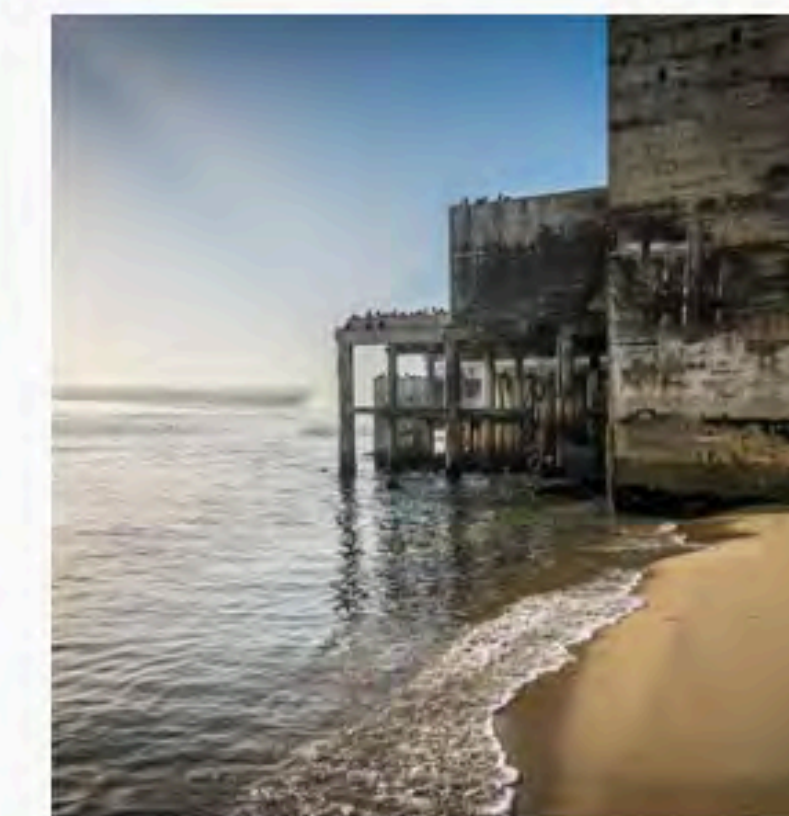
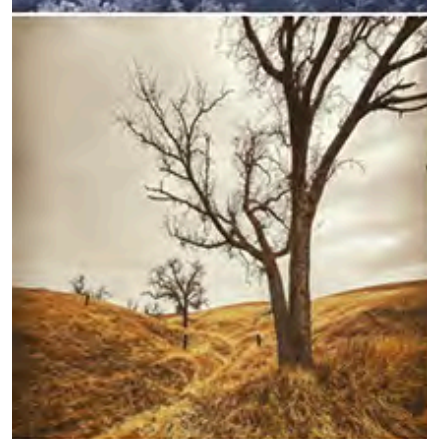
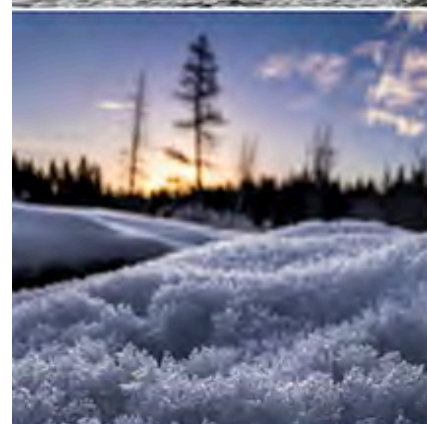
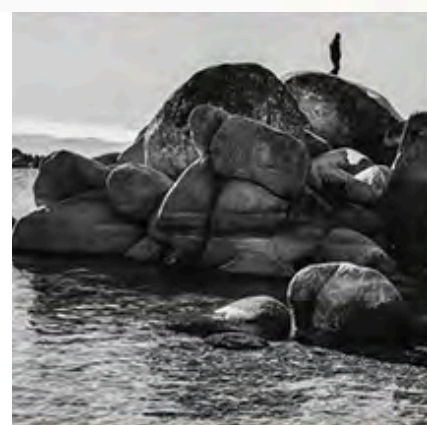
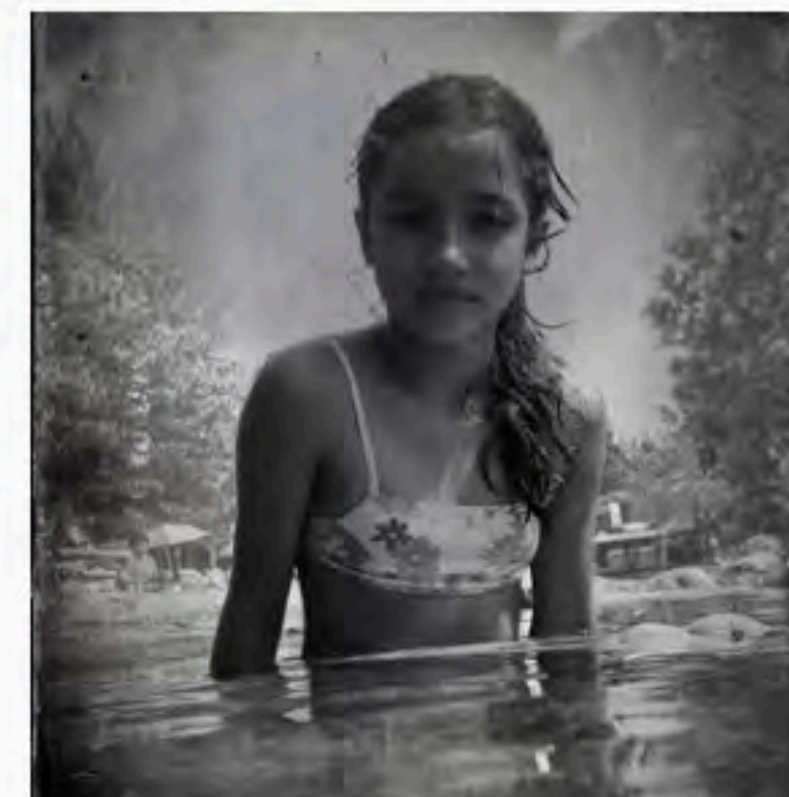
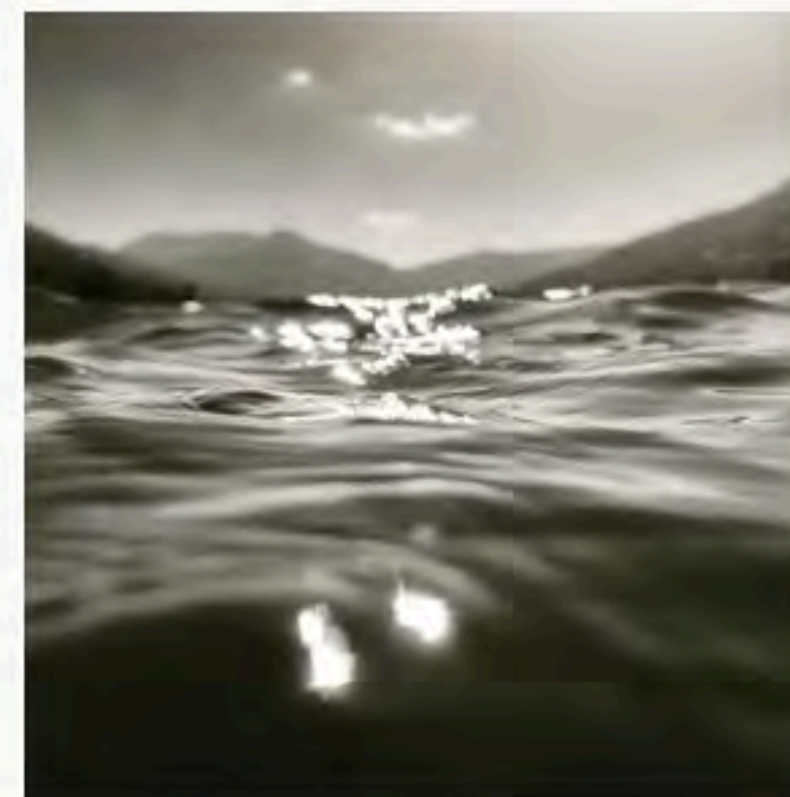
Art

Photographer - Retoucher

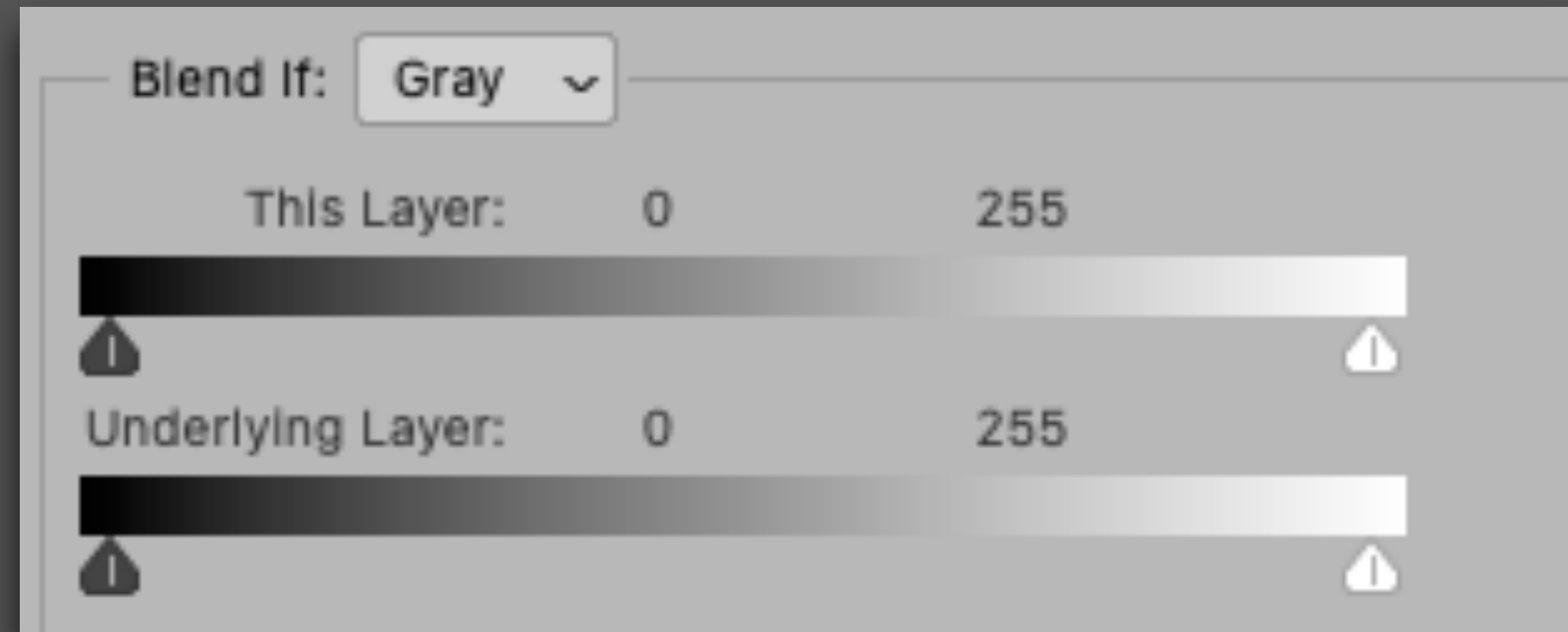
<https://lisacarneyphotography.com>

link: <https://lisacarney.com/>

lisacarney.com



DEFINITIONS:



BLEND IF SLIDERS

Blend If is one of the most useful tools in Photoshop, but one that not many people know about.

Blend If can be used to:
add color and exposure effects to only the highlights,
midtones, or shadows of any image.

Precision MASKING

Create sophisticated COLOR GRADING

ADDING TEXTURE to specific tones in Frequency Separation.

BLEND IF SLIDERS

Blend If is one of the most useful tools in Photoshop, but one that not many people know about.

Blend If can be used to:
add color and exposure effects to only the highlights, midtones, or shadows of any image.

Precision MASKING

Create sophisticated COLOR GRADING

ADDING TEXTURE to specific tones in Frequency Separation.

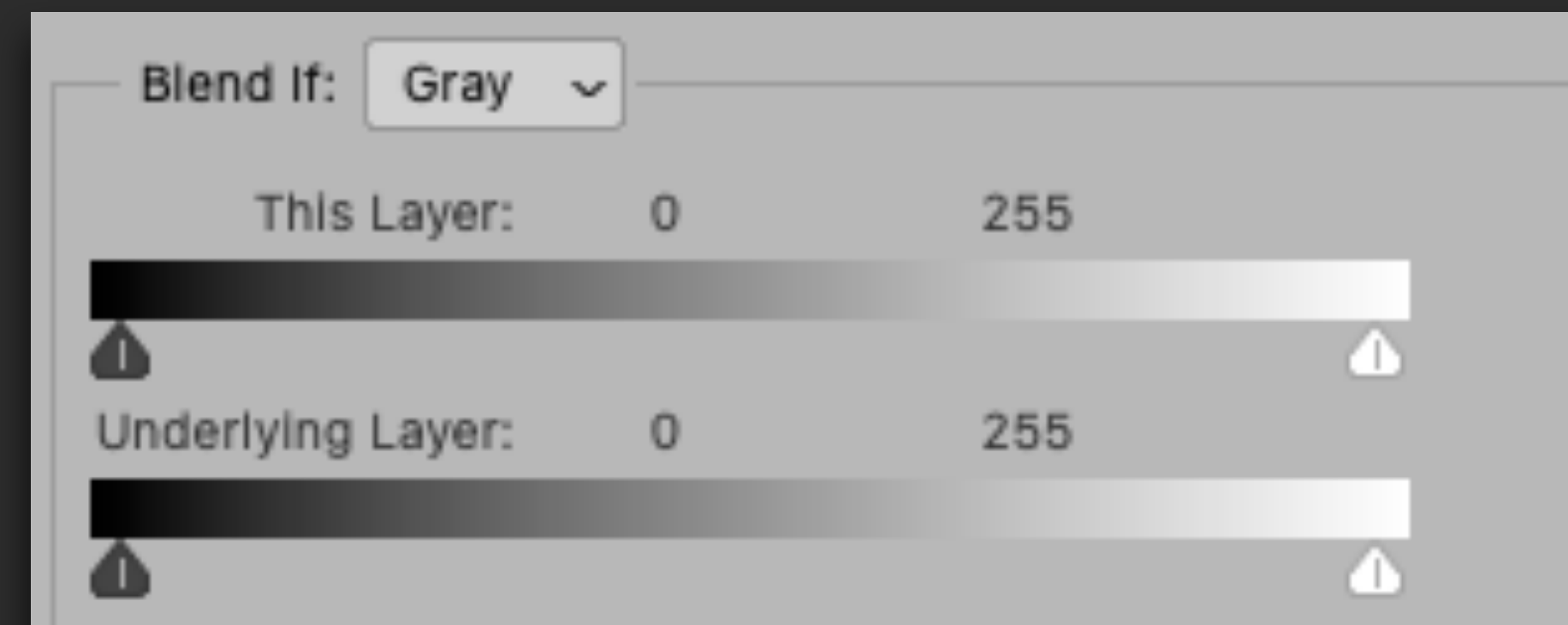
MASKING

SPECIAL EFFECTS

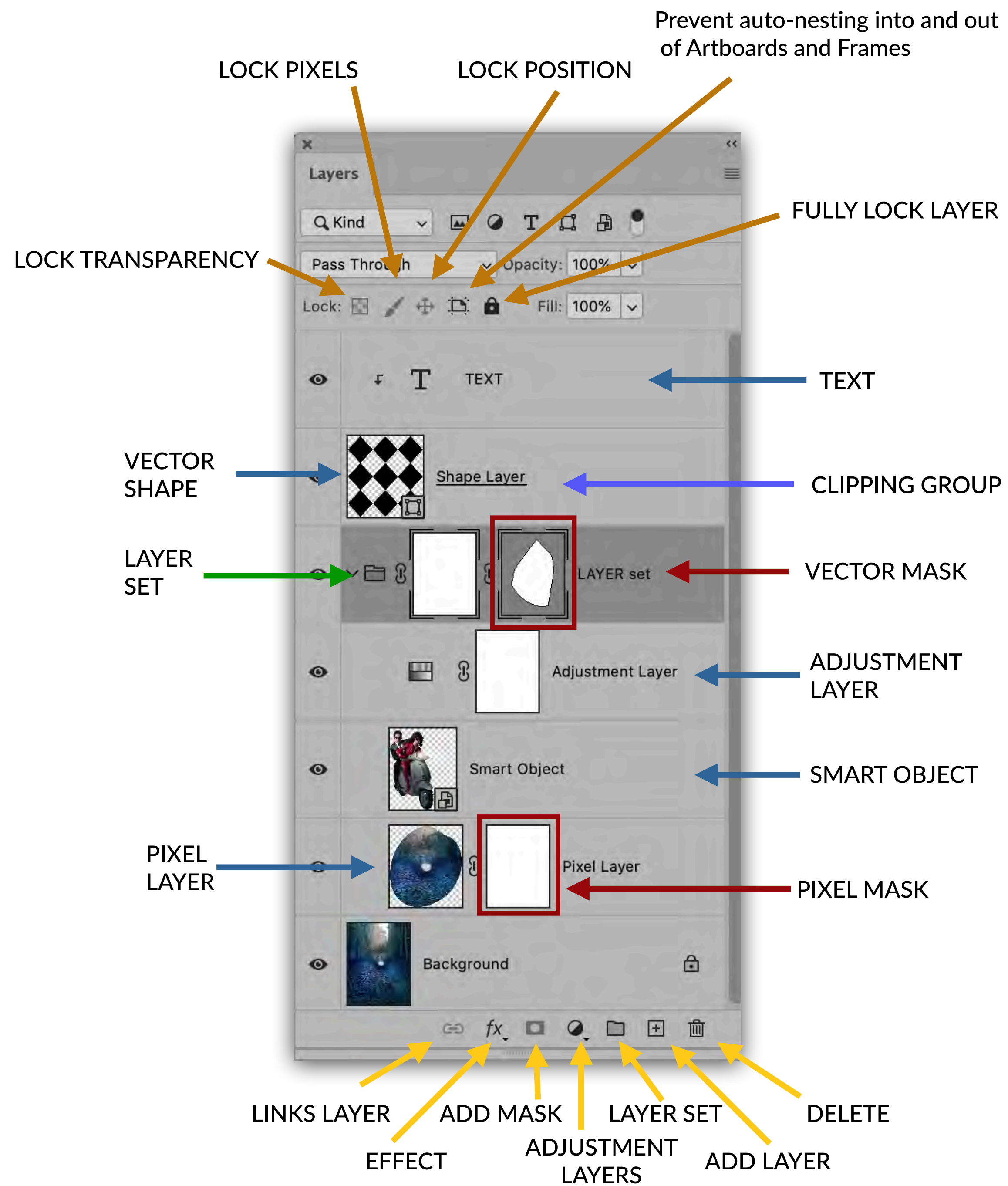
SKIN COLOR

COLOR GRADING

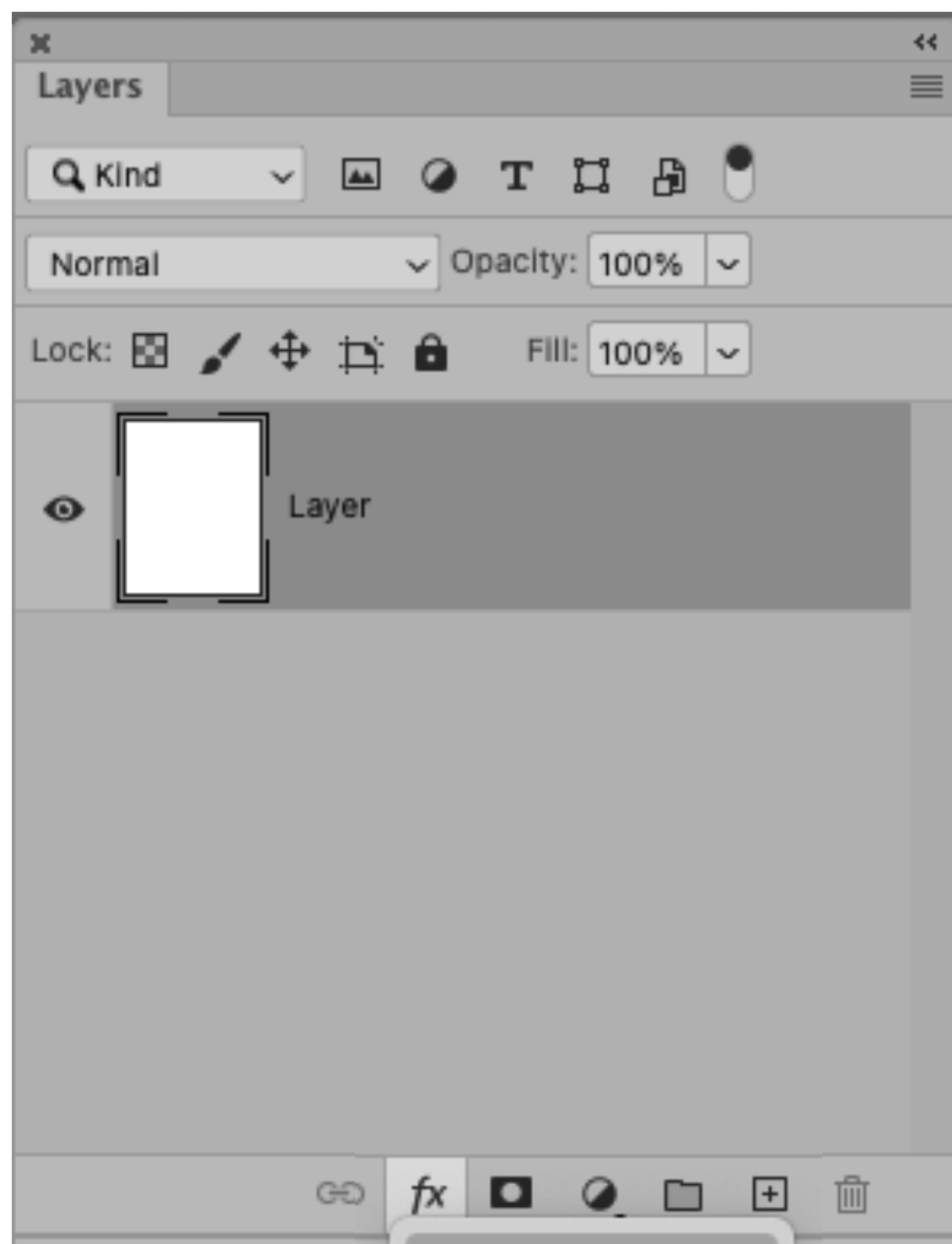
FS MODIFICATIONS



LAYER PALETTE



LAYER STYLE



Blending Options...

Bevel & Emboss...

Stroke...

Inner Shadow...

Inner Glow...

Satin...

Color Overlay...

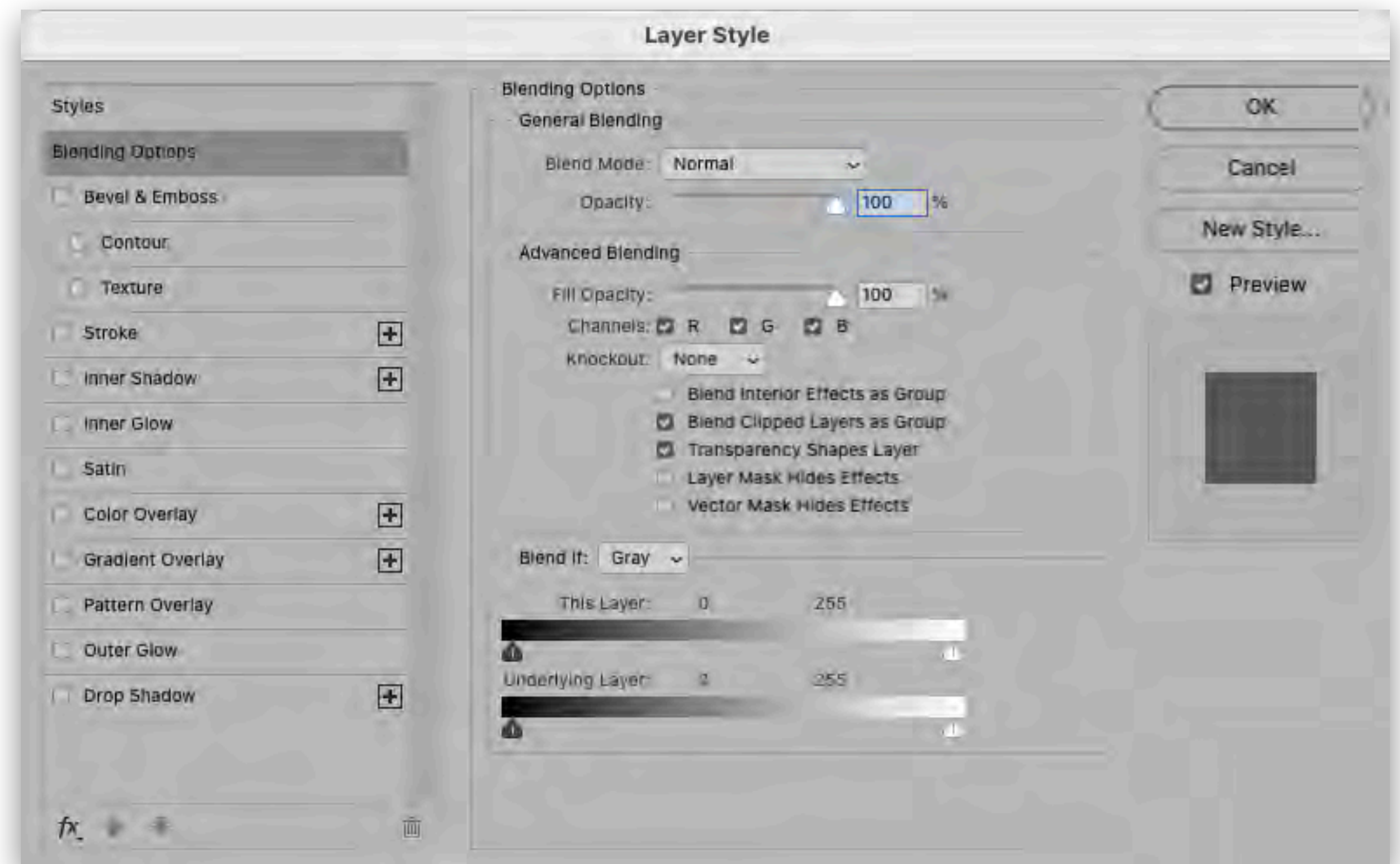
Gradient Overlay...

Pattern Overlay...

Outer Glow...

Drop Shadow...

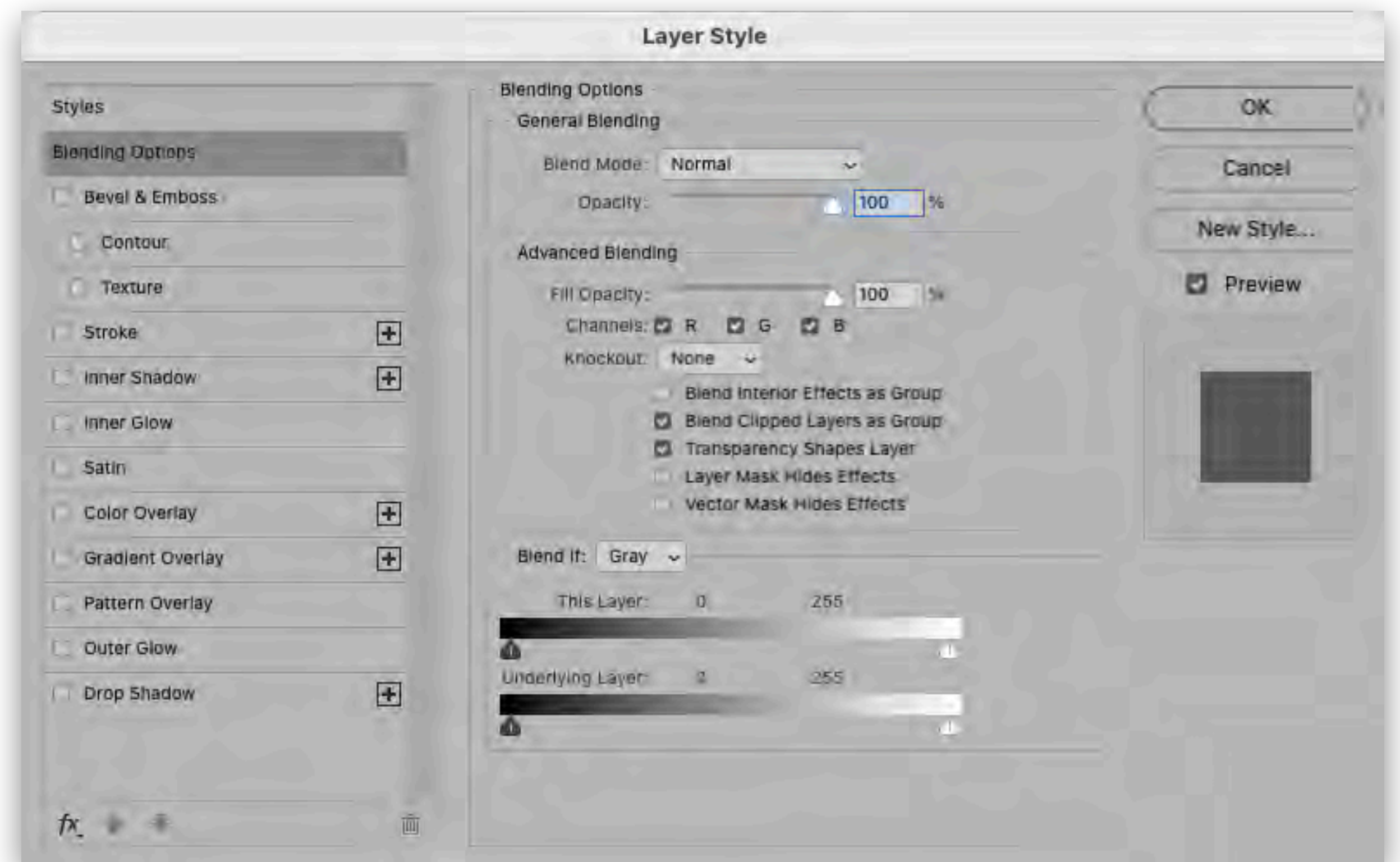
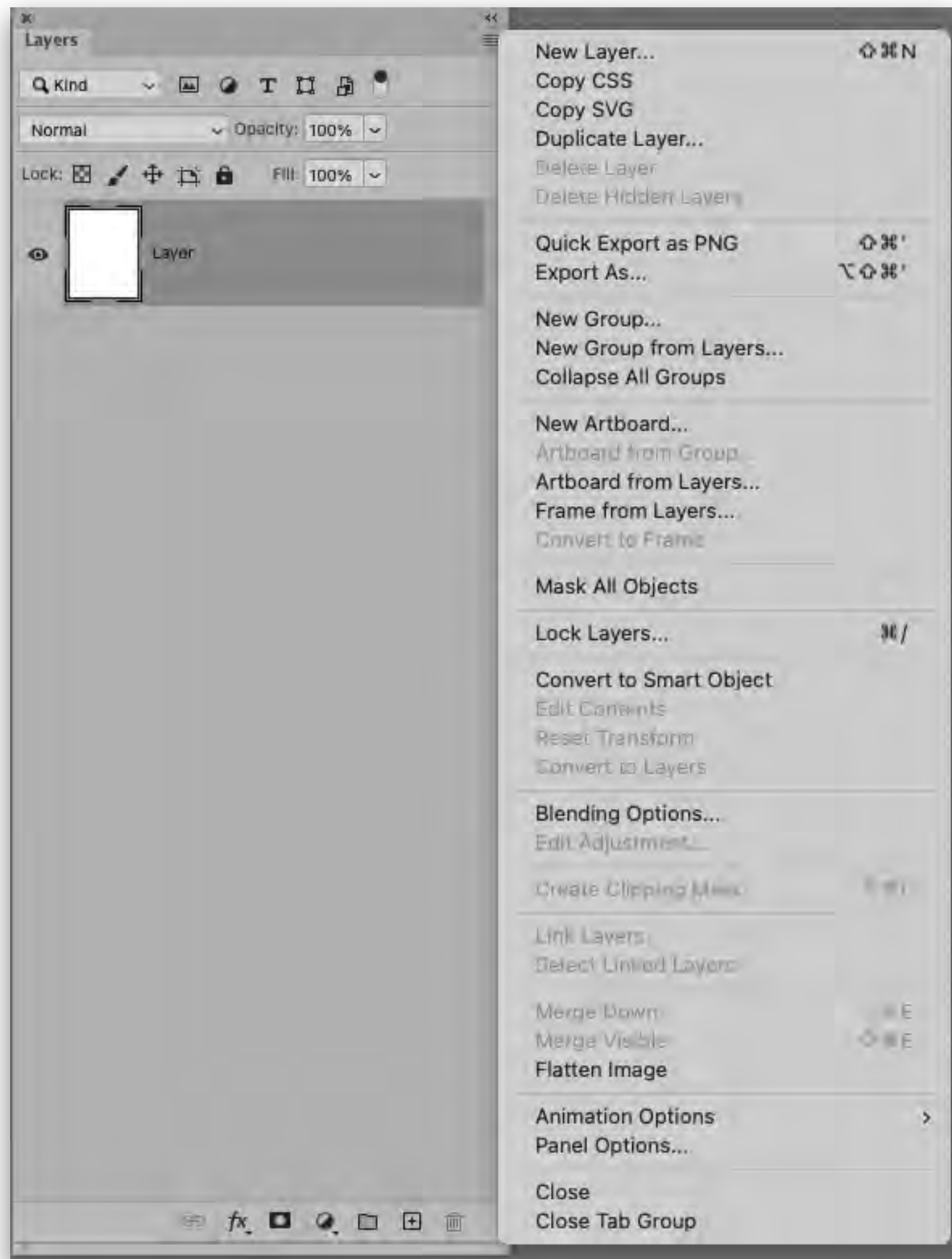
BLENDING OPTIONS



Photoshop provides a variety of effects—such as shadows, glows, and bevels—that change the appearance of a layer's contents in a non-destructive way. Layer effects are linked to the layer contents. When you move or edit the contents of the layer, the same effects are applied to the modified contents.

For example, if you apply a drop shadow to a text layer and then add new text, the shadow is added automatically to the new text.

A layer style is one or more effects applied to a layer or layer group. You can apply one of the preset styles provided with Photoshop or create a custom style using the Layer Style dialog box.





HOW DOES IT WORK

Specify a tonal range for blending layers

The sliders in the Blending Options dialog box control which pixels from the active layer and the underlying visible layers appear in the final image. For example, you can drop dark pixels out of the active layer or force bright pixels from the underlying layers to show through. You can also define a range of partially blended pixels to produce a smooth transition between blended and unblended areas.

- 1 Double-click a layer thumbnail, choose Layer > Layer Style > Blending Options, or choose Add A Layer Style > Blending Options from the Layers panel menu.

Note:

To view blending options for a text layer, choose Layer > Layer Style > Blending Options, or choose Blending Options from the Add A Layer Style button at the bottom of the Layers panel menu.

- 2 In the Advanced Blending area of the Layer Style dialog box, choose an option from the Blend If pop-up menu.
 - Choose Gray to specify a blending range for all channels.
 - Select an individual color channel (for example, red, green, or blue in an RGB image) to specify blending in that channel.
- 3 Use the This Layer and Underlying Layer sliders to set the brightness range of the blended pixels—measured on a scale from 0 (black) to 255 (white). Drag the white slider to set the high value of the range. Drag the black slider to set the low value of the range.

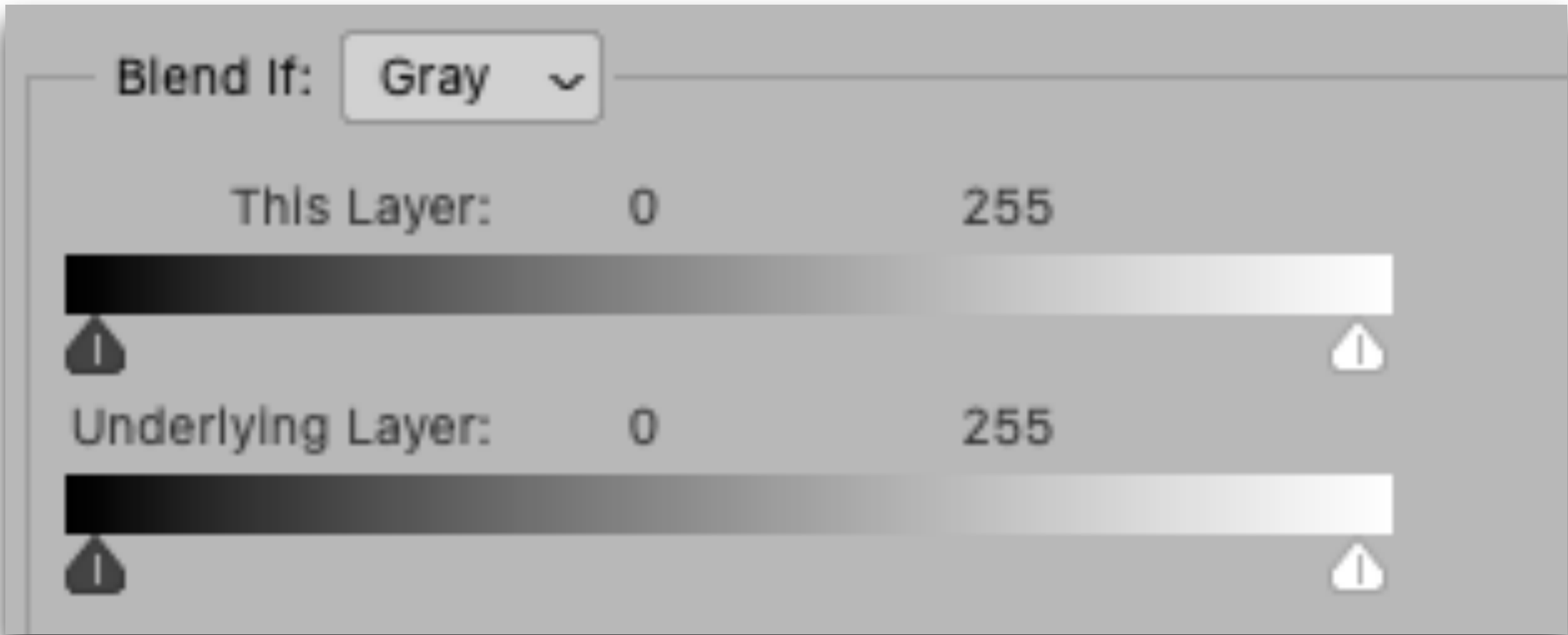
Note:

To define a range of partially blended pixels, hold down Alt (Windows) or Option (Mac OS), and drag one half of a slider triangle. The two values that appear above the divided slider indicate the partial blending range.

Keep the following guidelines in mind when specifying blending ranges:

- Use the This Layer sliders to specify the range of pixels on the active layer that will blend, and therefore appear, in the final image. For example, if you drag the white slider to 235, pixels with brightness values higher than 235 will remain unblended and will be excluded from the final image.
- Use the Underlying Layer sliders to specify the range of pixels in the underlying visible layers that will blend in the final image. Blended pixels are combined with pixels in the active layer to produce composite pixels, whereas unblended pixels show through overlying areas of the active layer. For example, if you drag the black slider to 19, pixels with brightness values lower than 19 will remain unblended and will show through the active layer in the final image.

BLEND IF SLIDERS



Layer Style

Styles

Blending Options

☐ Bevel & Emboss

☐ Contour

☐ Texture

☐ Stroke +

☐ Inner Shadow +

☐ Inner Glow

☐ Satin

☐ Color Overlay +

☐ Gradient Overlay +

☐ Pattern Overlay

☐ Outer Glow

☐ Drop Shadow +

Blending Options

General Blending

Blend Mode: Normal

Opacity: 100 %

Advanced Blending

Fill Opacity: 100 %

Channels: ☒ R ☒ G ☒ B

Knockout: None

- ☐ Blend Interior Effects as Group
- ☒ Blend Clipped Layers as Group
- ☒ Transparency Shapes Layer
- ☐ Layer Mask Hides Effects
- ☐ Vector Mask Hides Effects

Blend If: Gray

☒ Gray

Red

Green

Blue

This Layer:



255

Underlying Layer:



255

OK

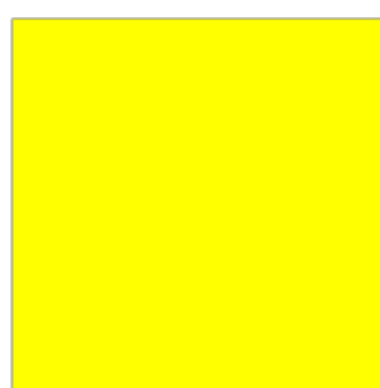
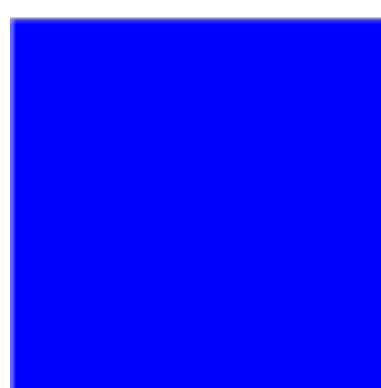
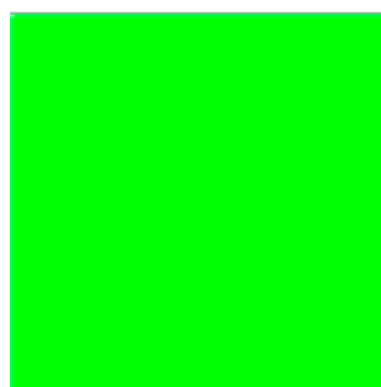
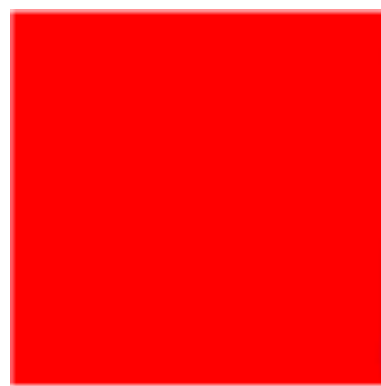
Cancel

New Style...

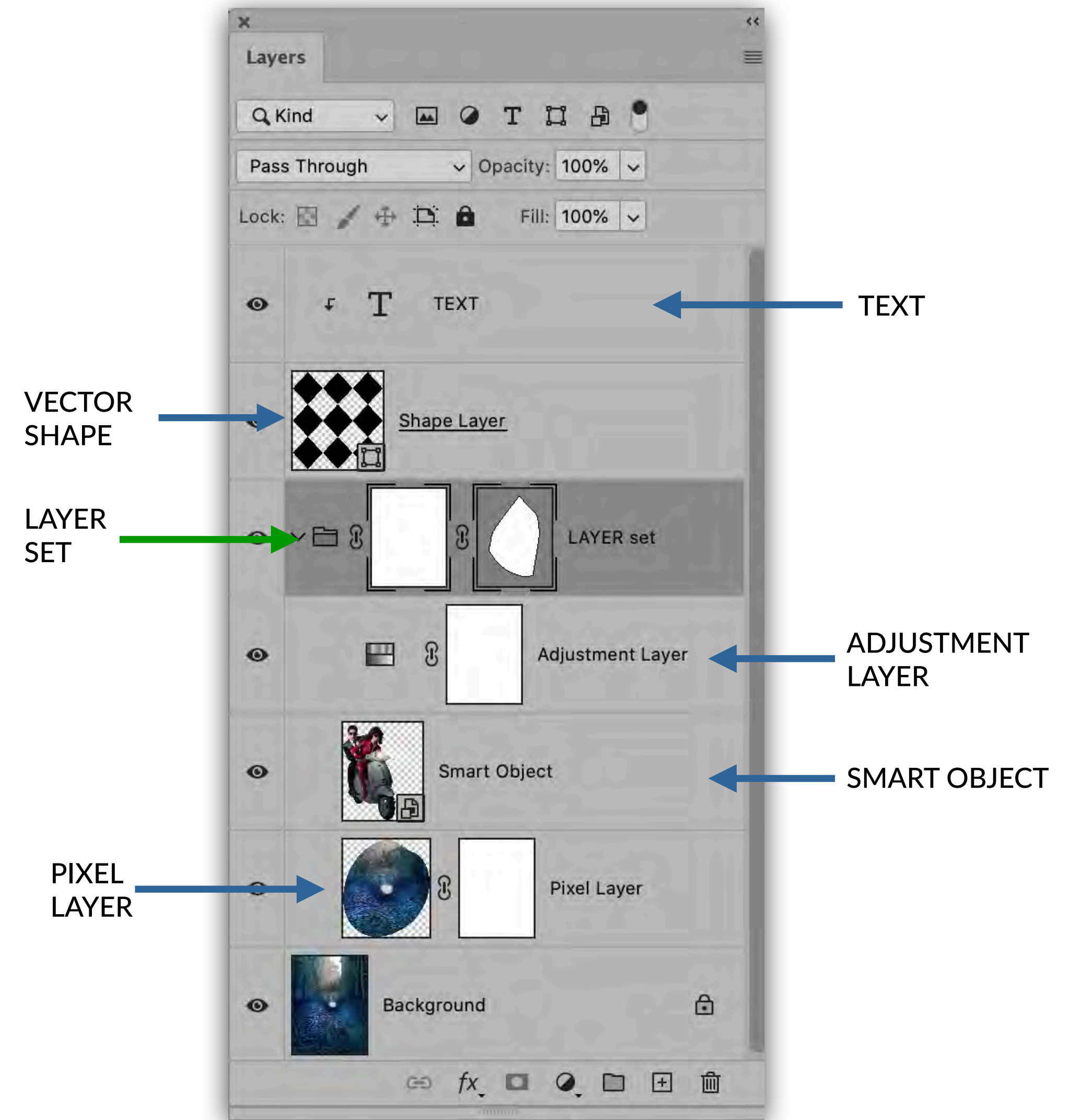
☒ Preview



fx



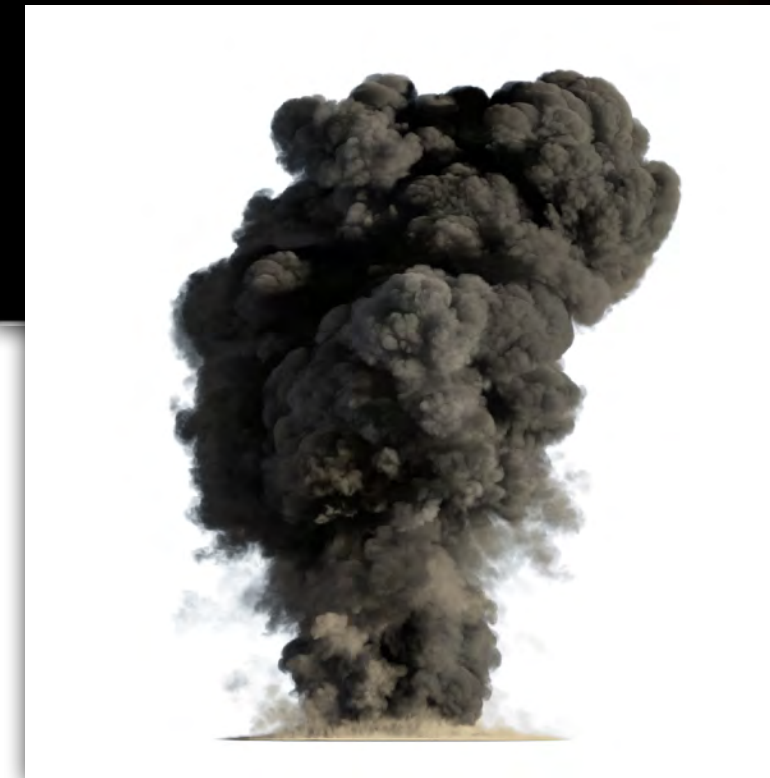
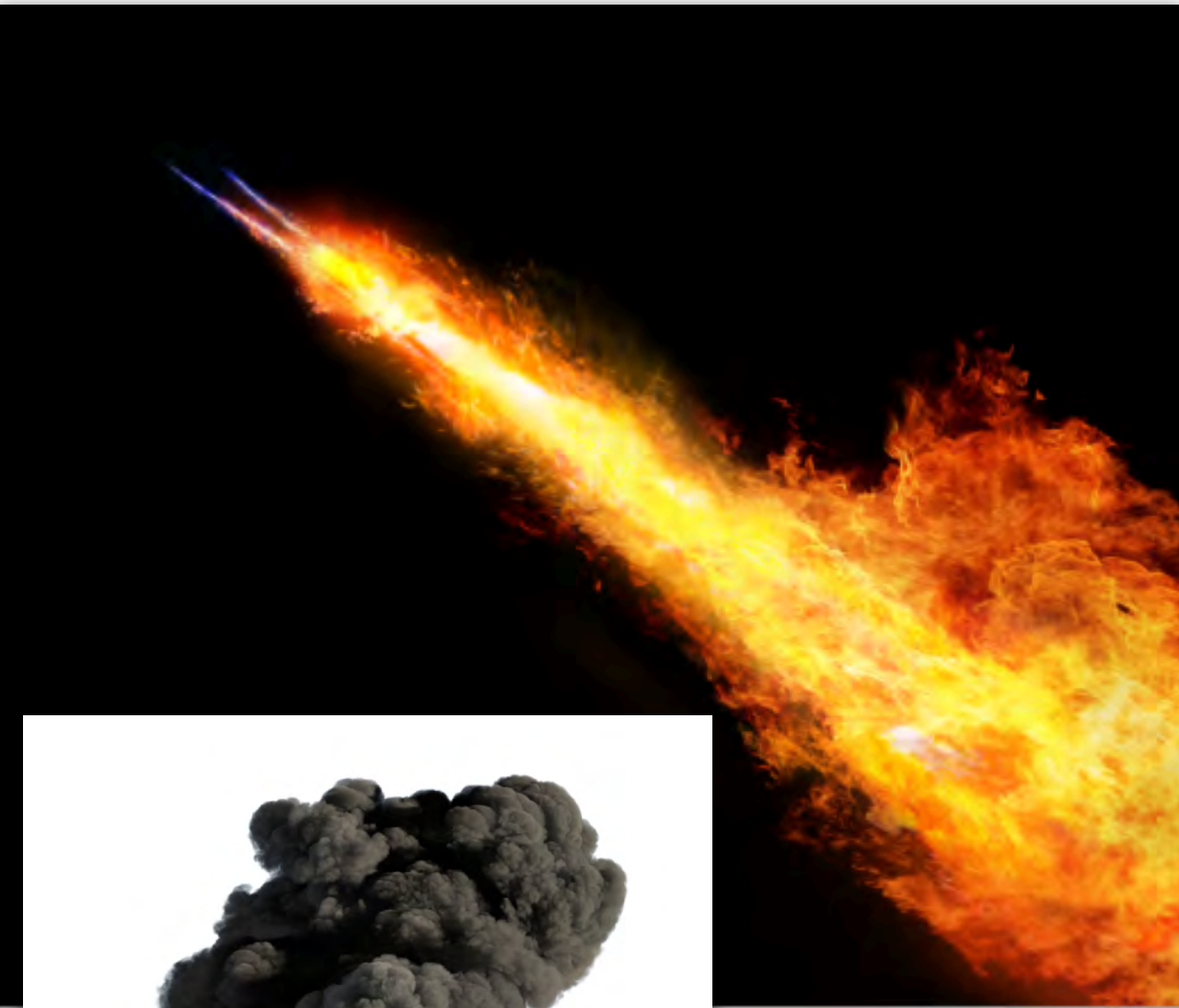
WHAT CAN YOU USE BLEND IF SLIDERS ON?





MASKING

MASKING



FIRE



ORIGINAL



Blending Options...

Edit Adjustment...

Copy CSS

Copy SVG

Duplicate Layer...

Delete Layer

Group from Layers...

Quick Export as PNG

Export As...

Artboard from Layers...

Frame from Layers...

Convert to Frame

Convert to Smart Object

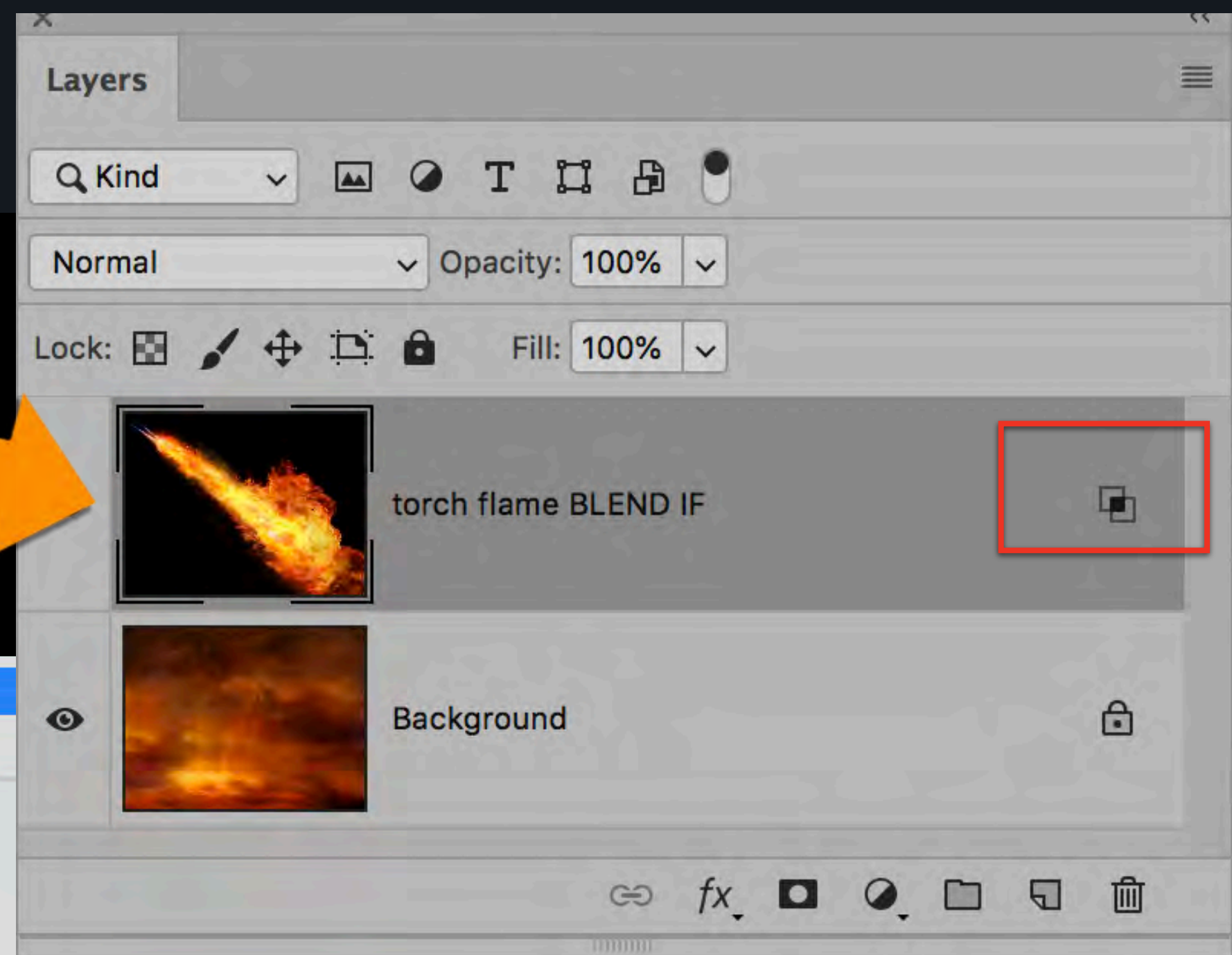
Rasterize Layer

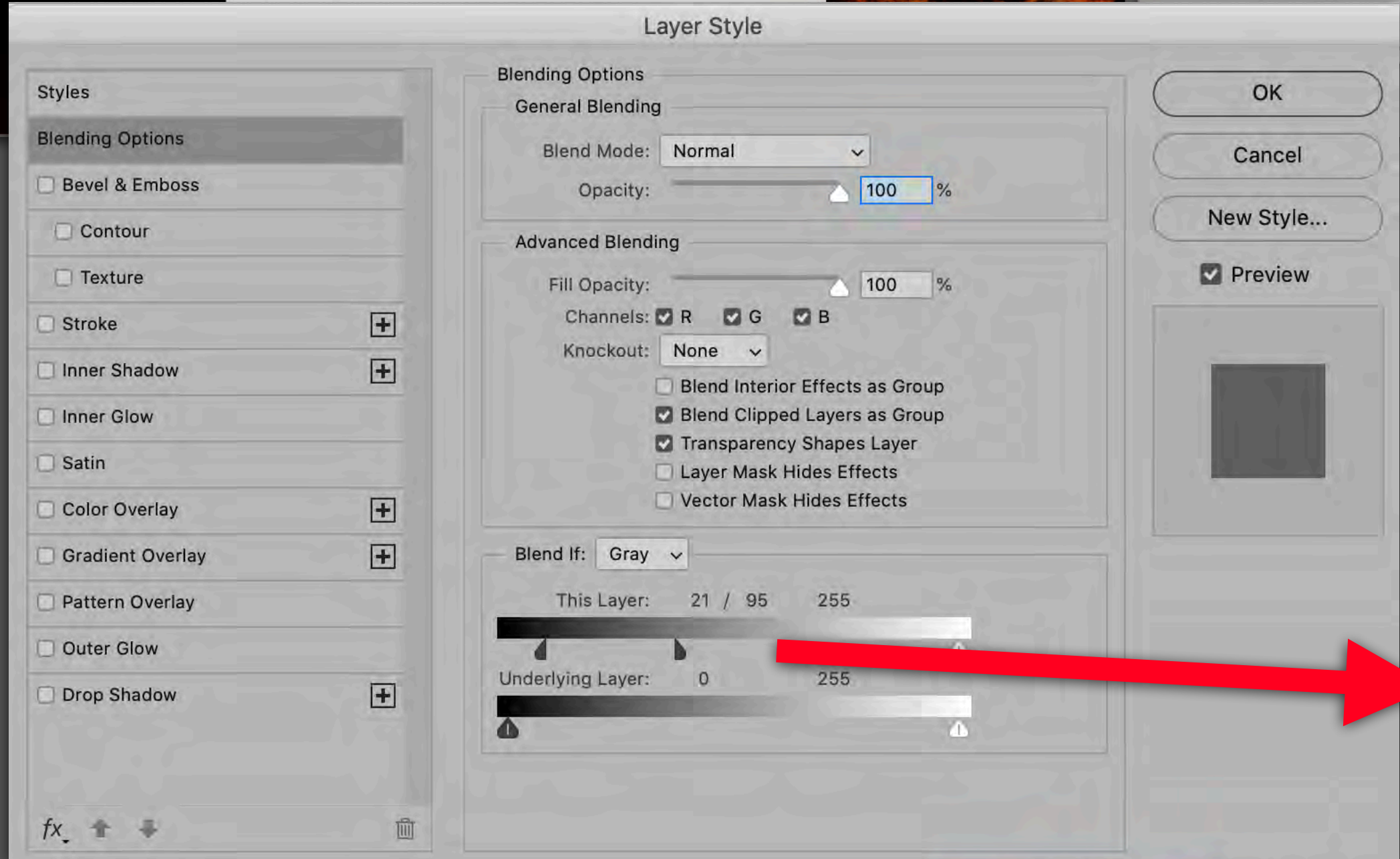
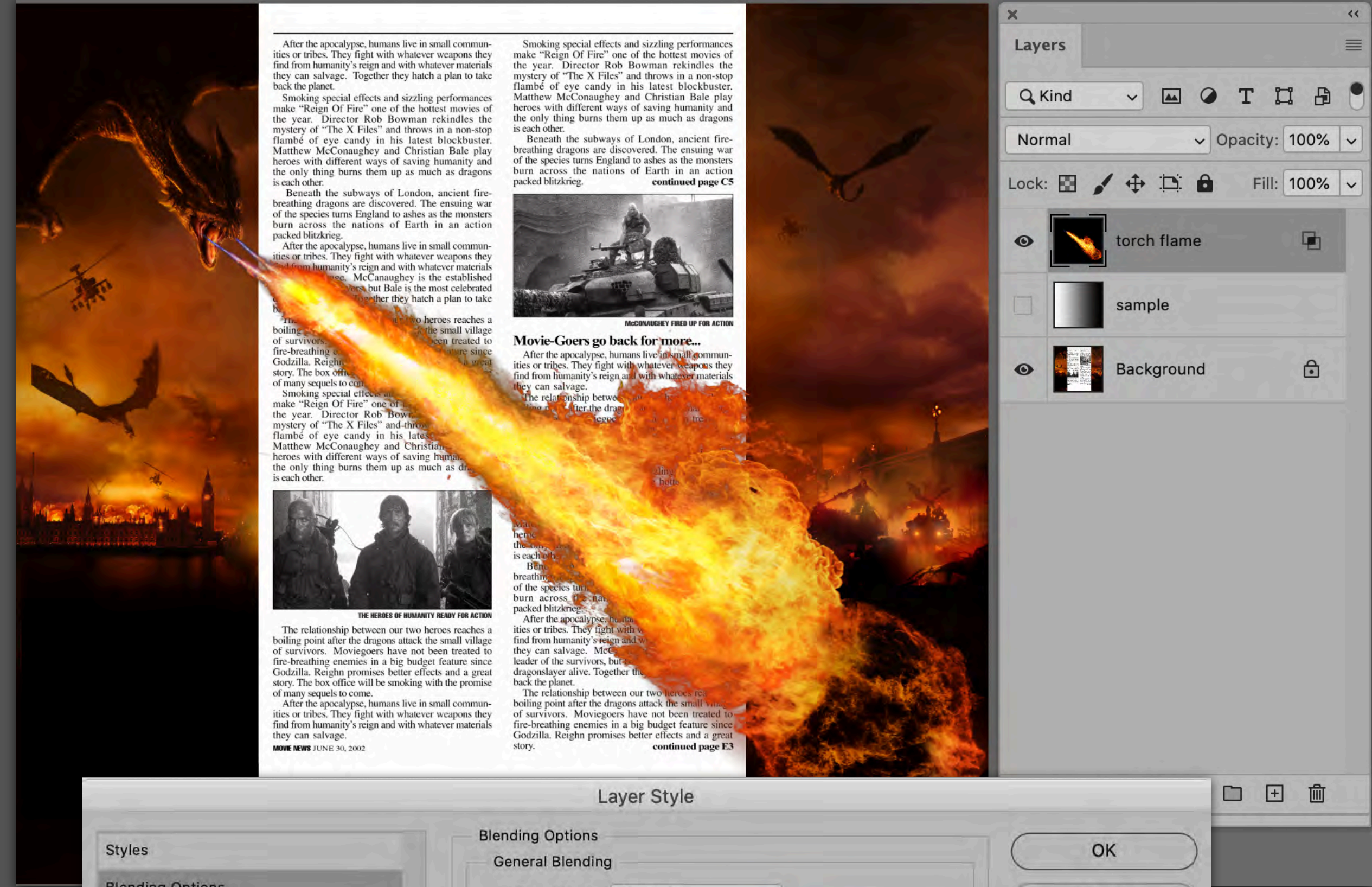
Rasterize Layer Style

Disable Layer Mask

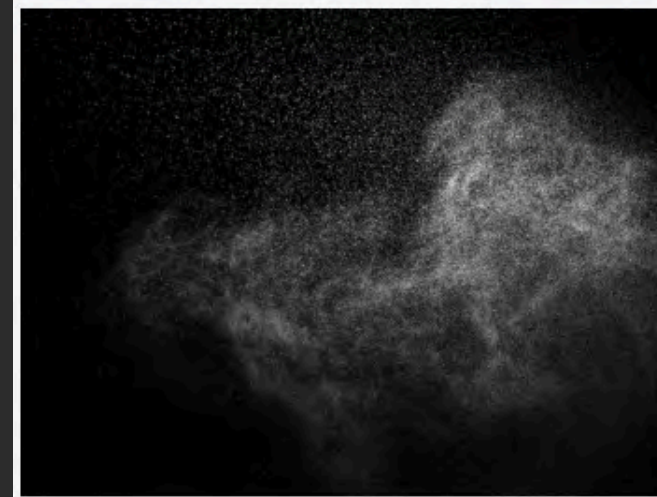
Enable Vector Mask

Create Clipping Mask



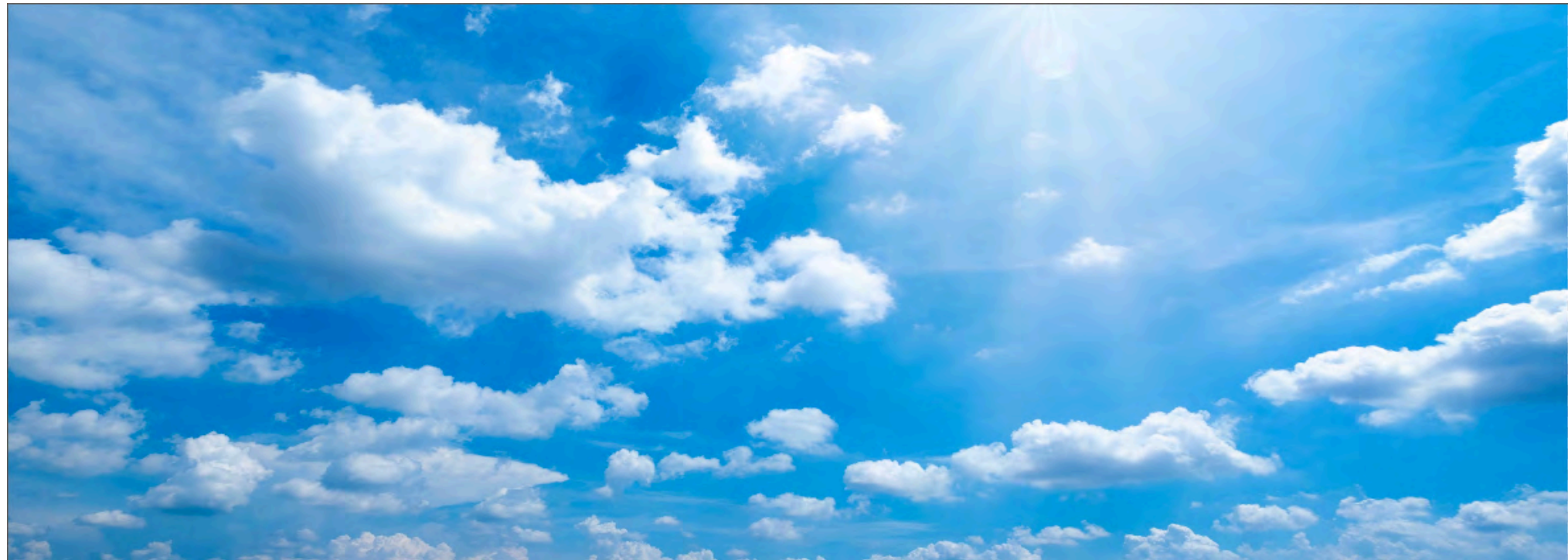


MASKING OUT BLACK

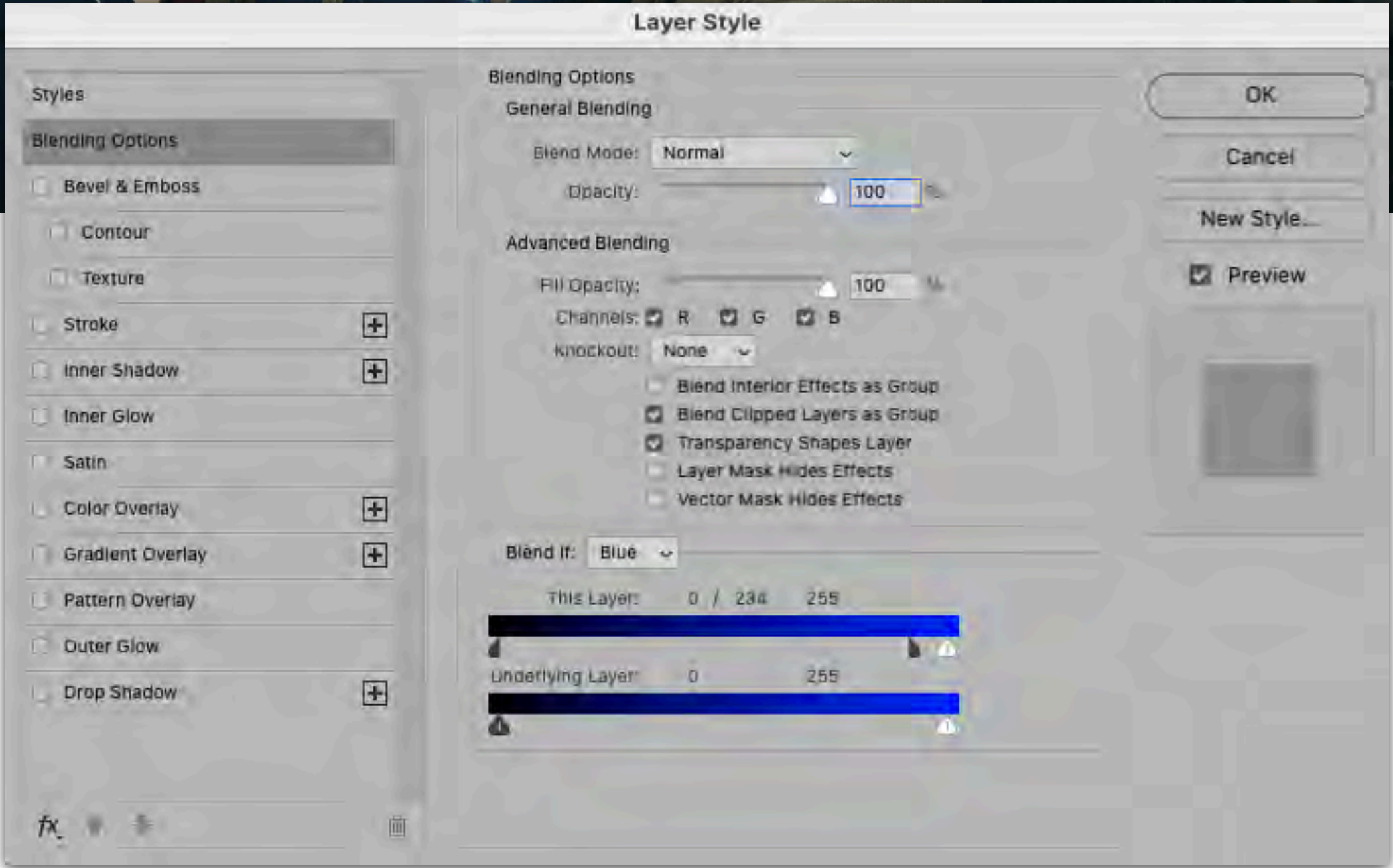


MASKING TRY ON DIFFERENT IMAGES

CLOUDS



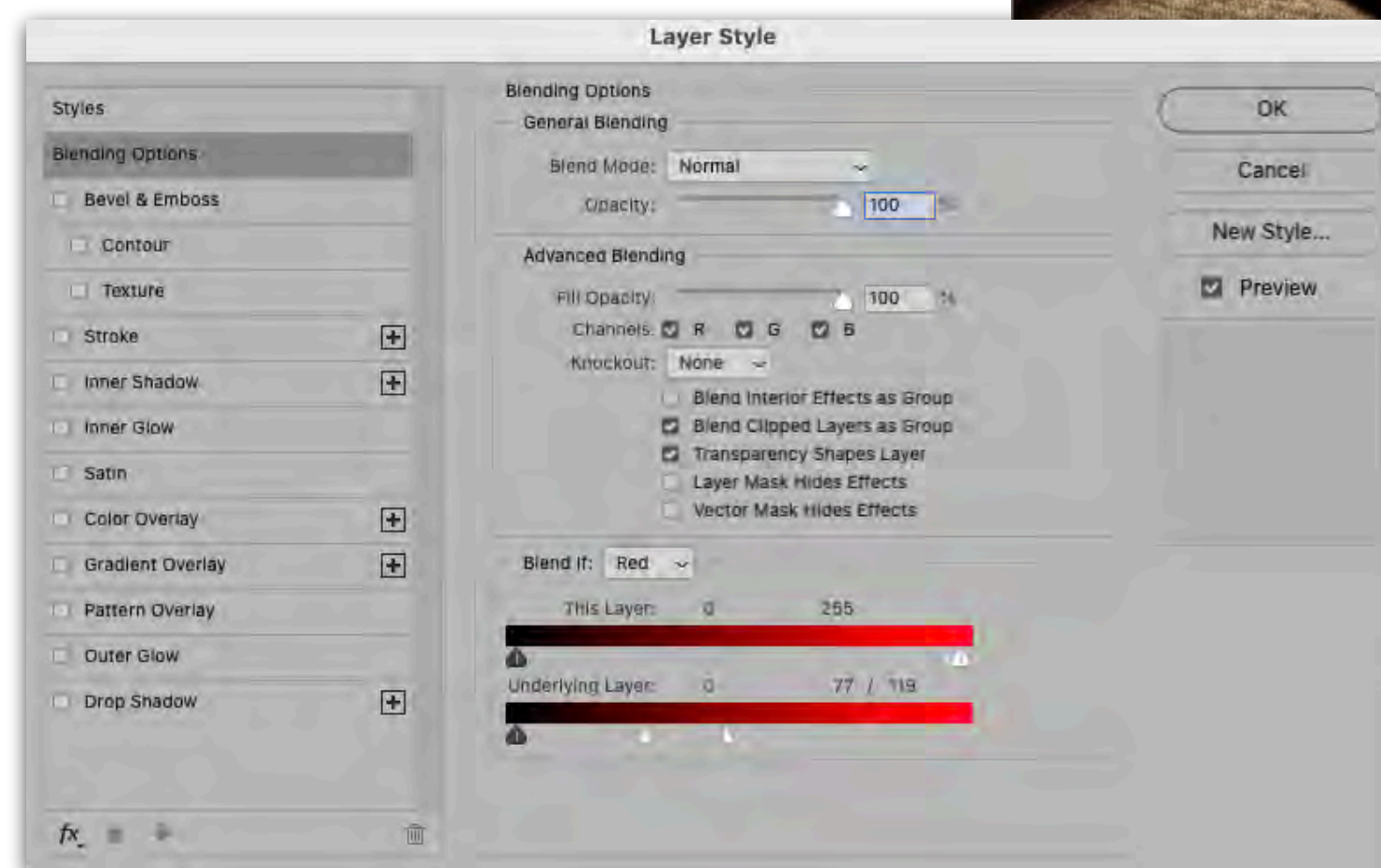
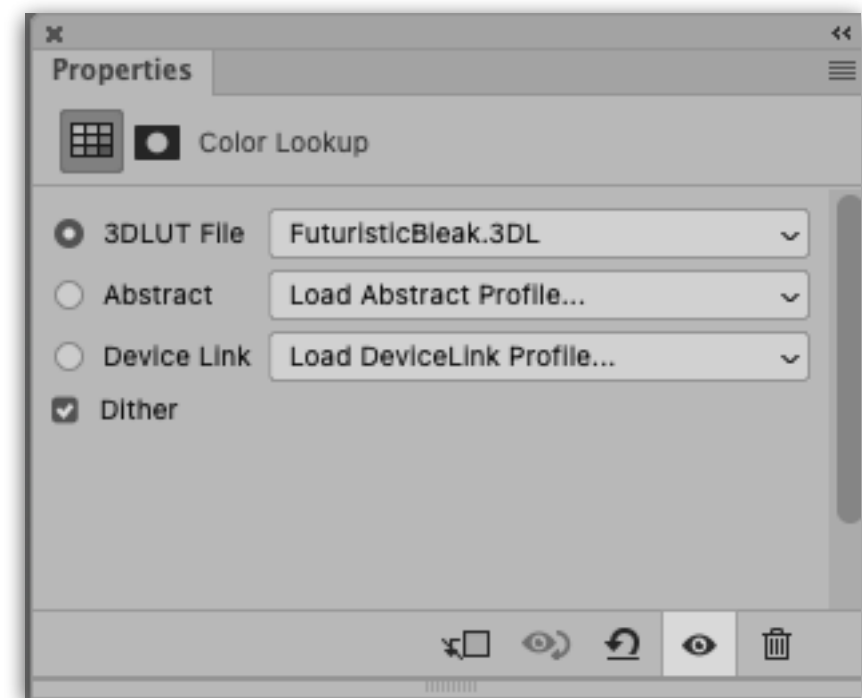
MASK OUT BLUES



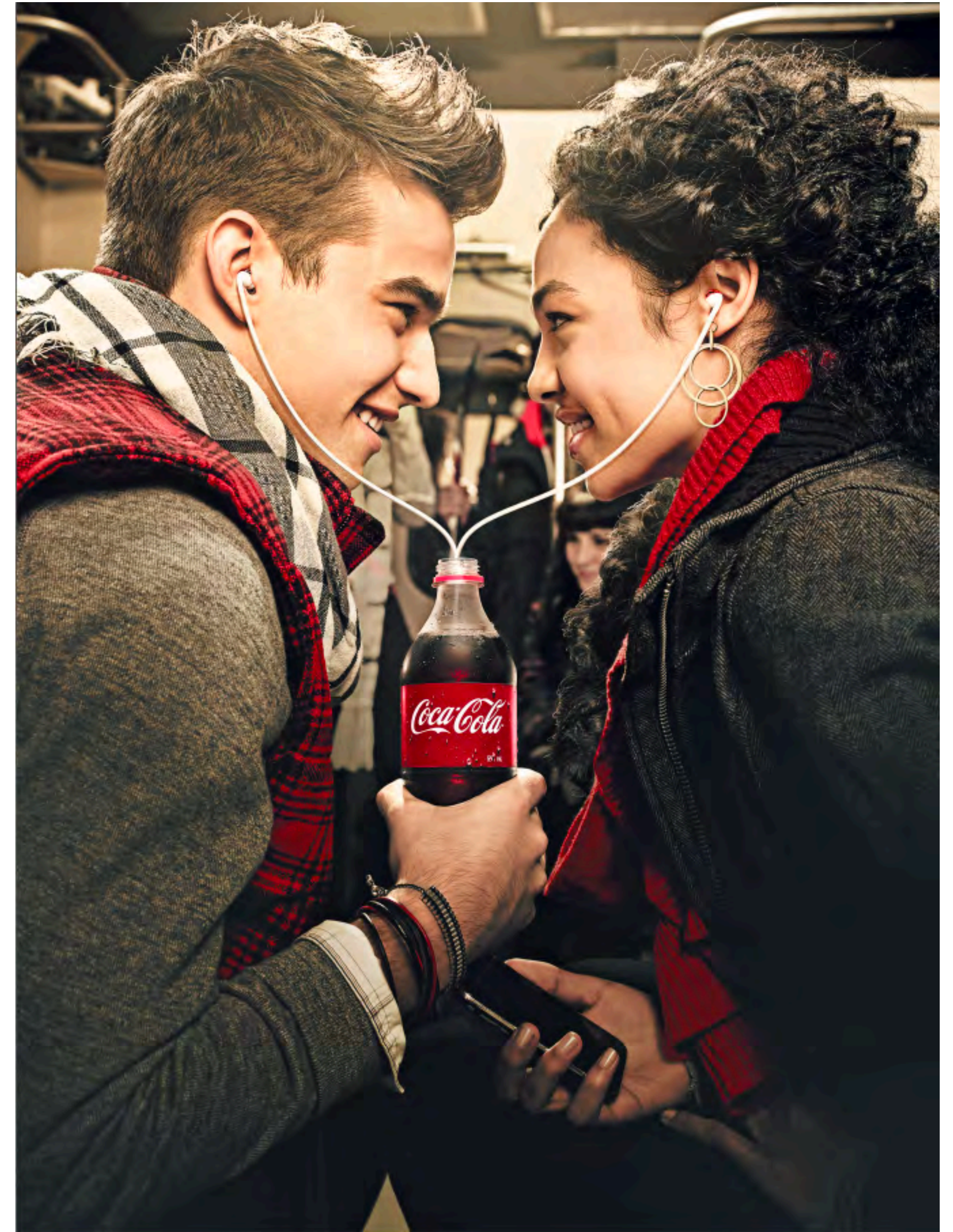
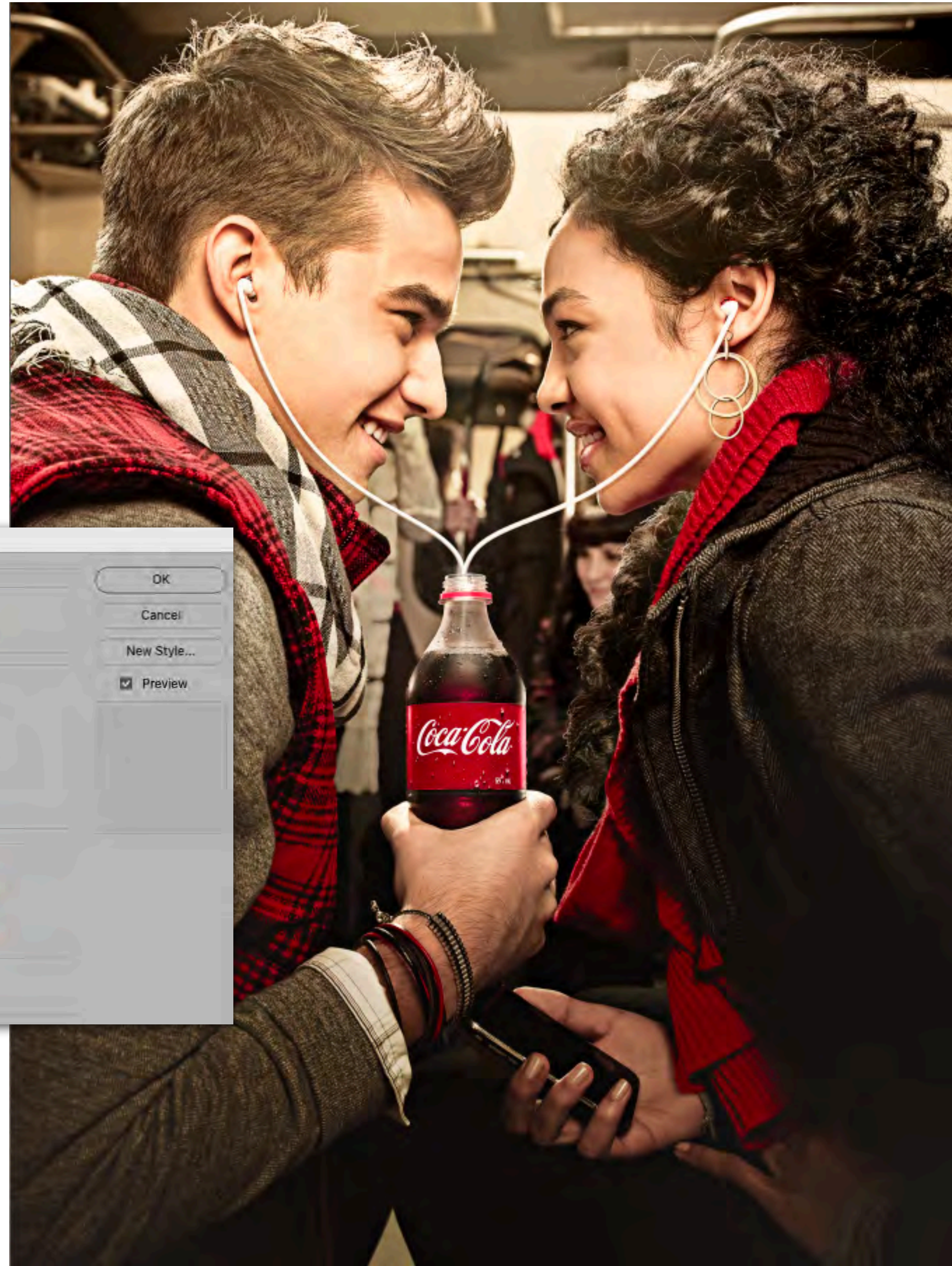


COLOR EFFECTS
COLOR GRADING

COLOR EFFECTS

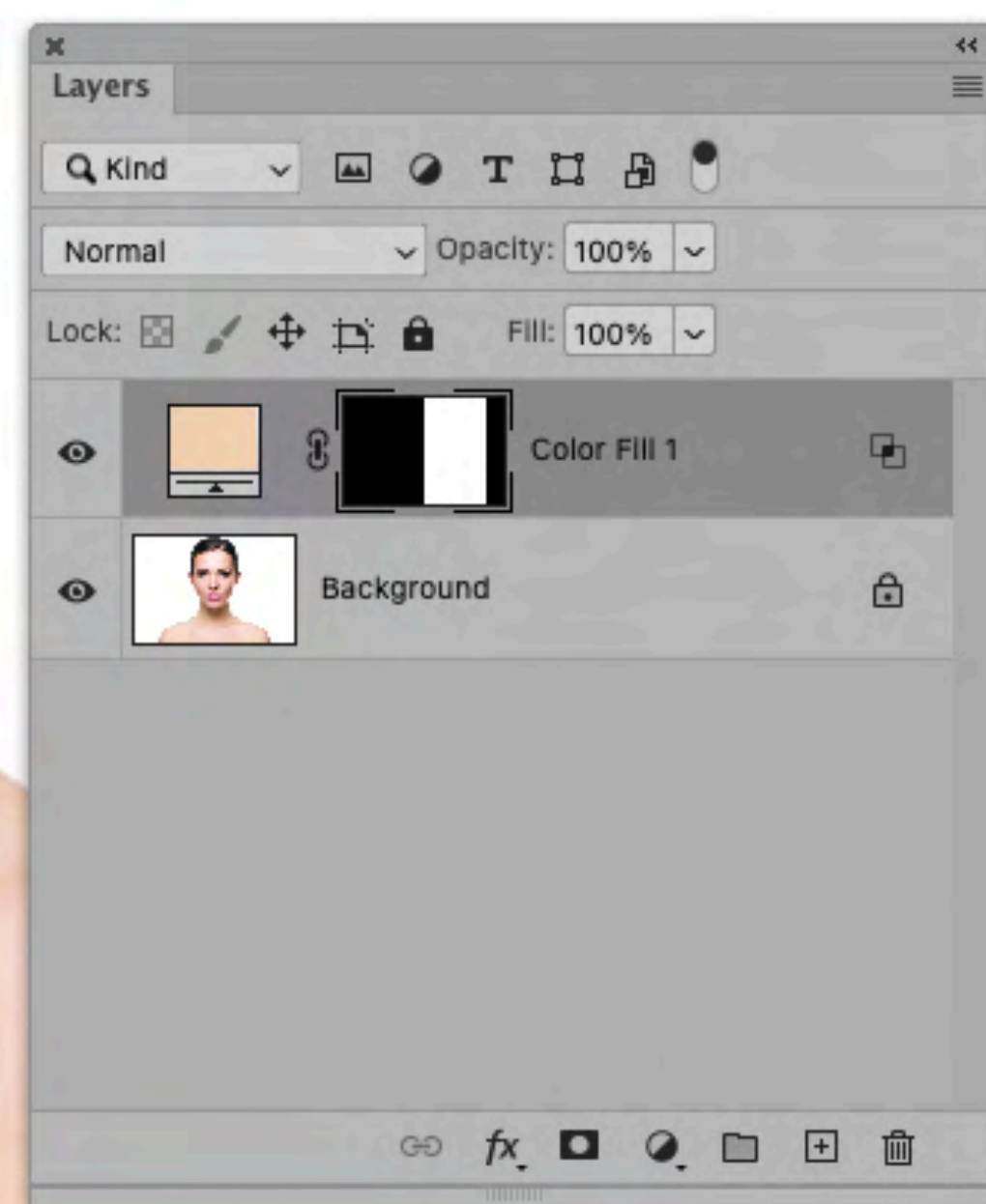
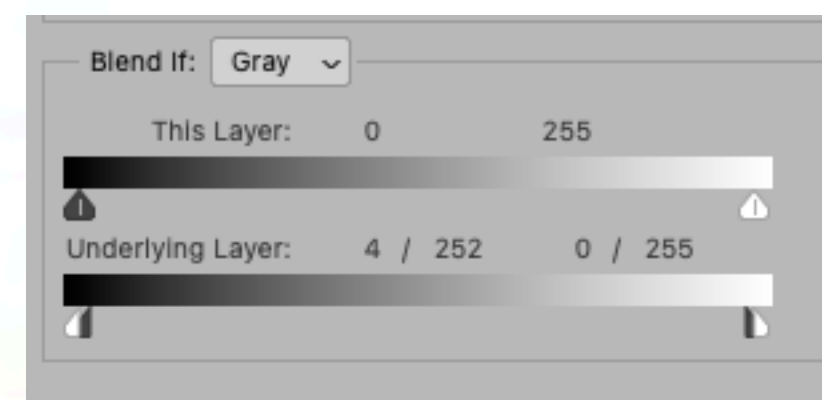


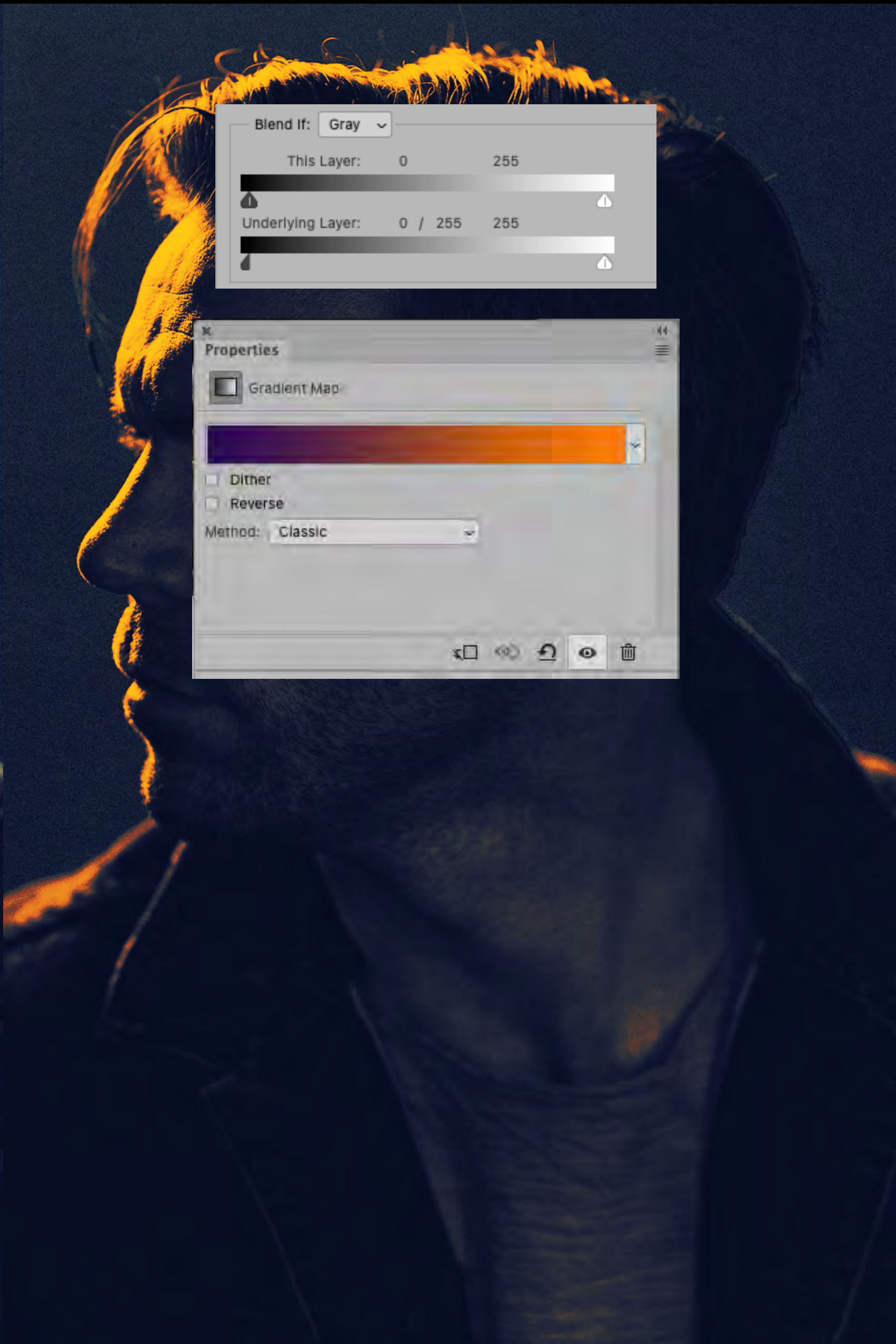
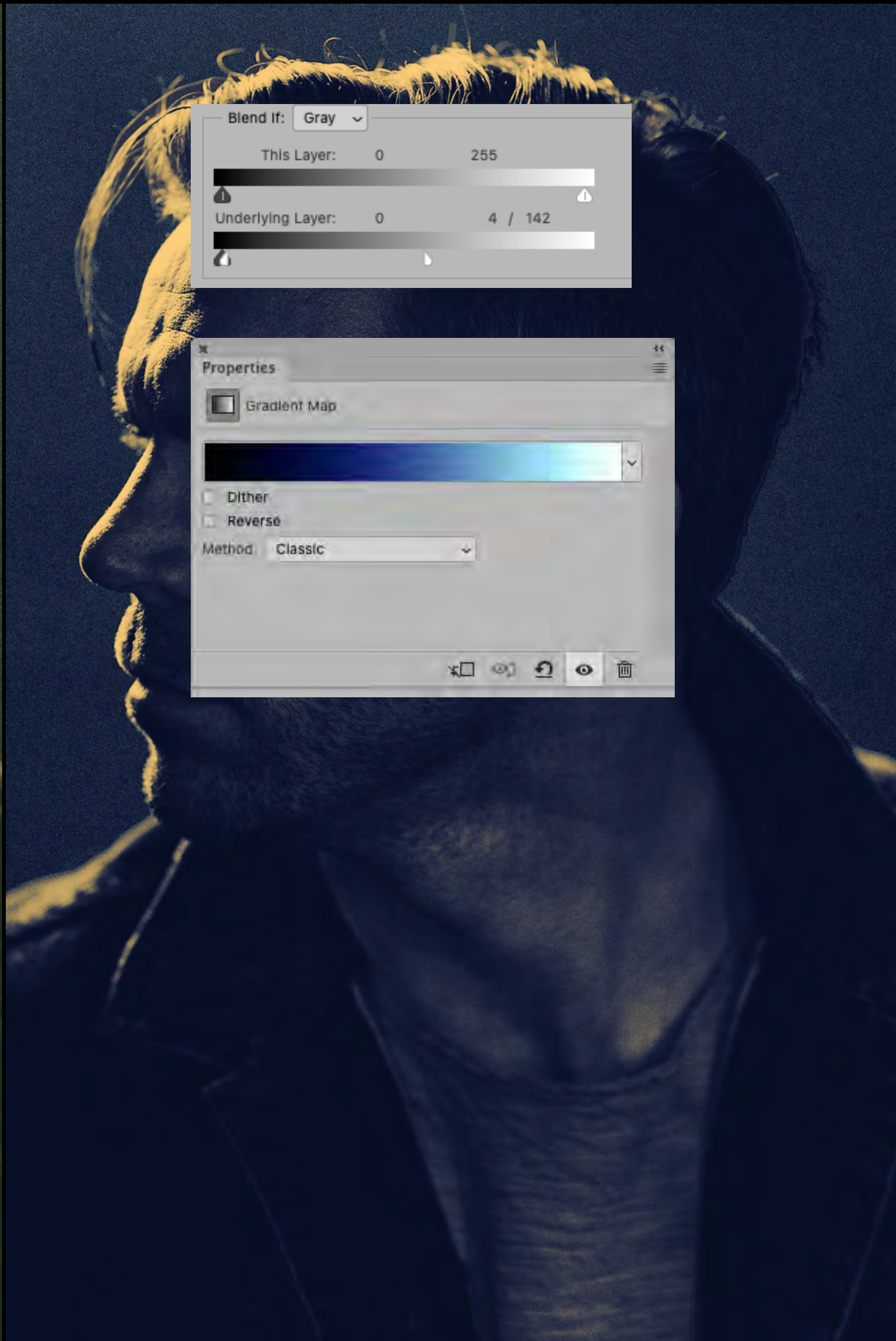
MASK OUT REDS



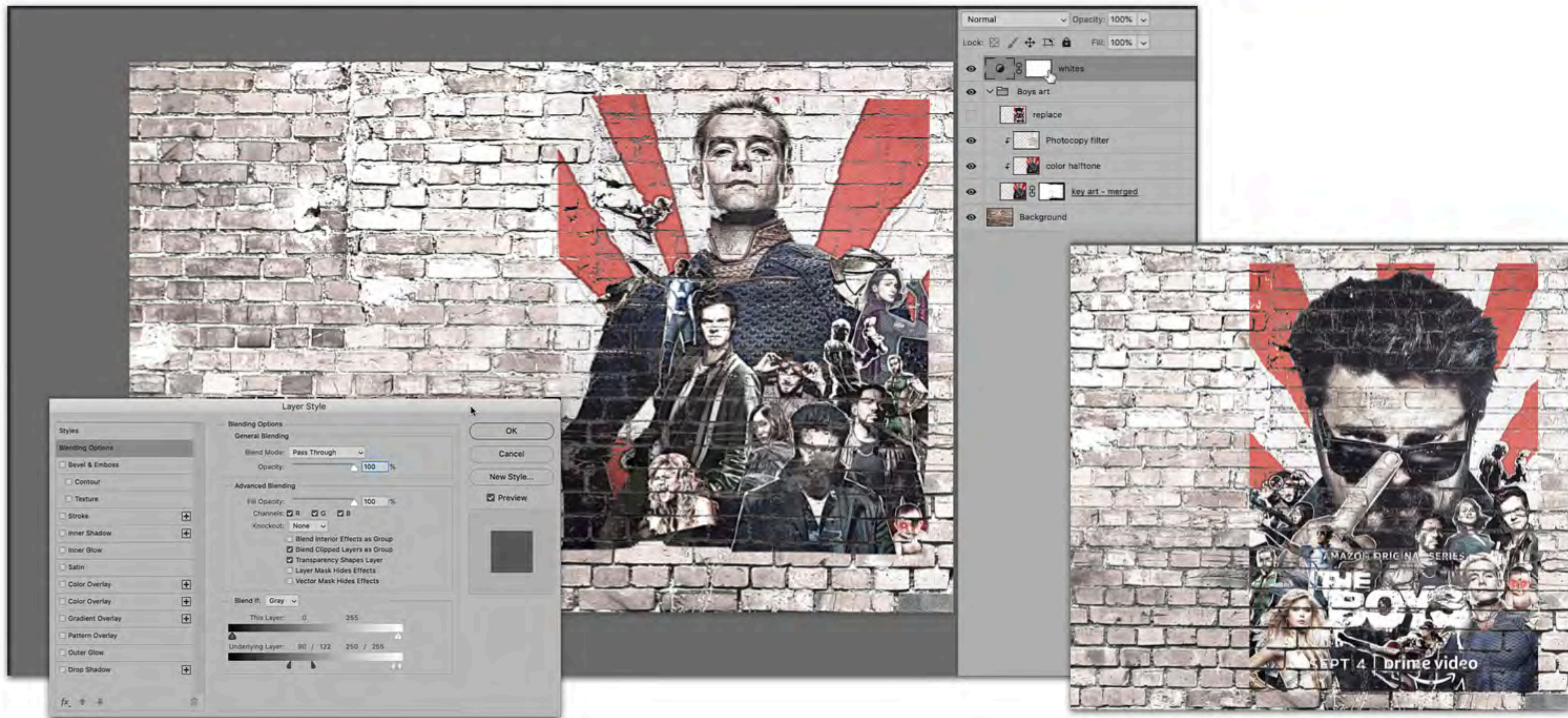


COLOR EFFECTS SKIN

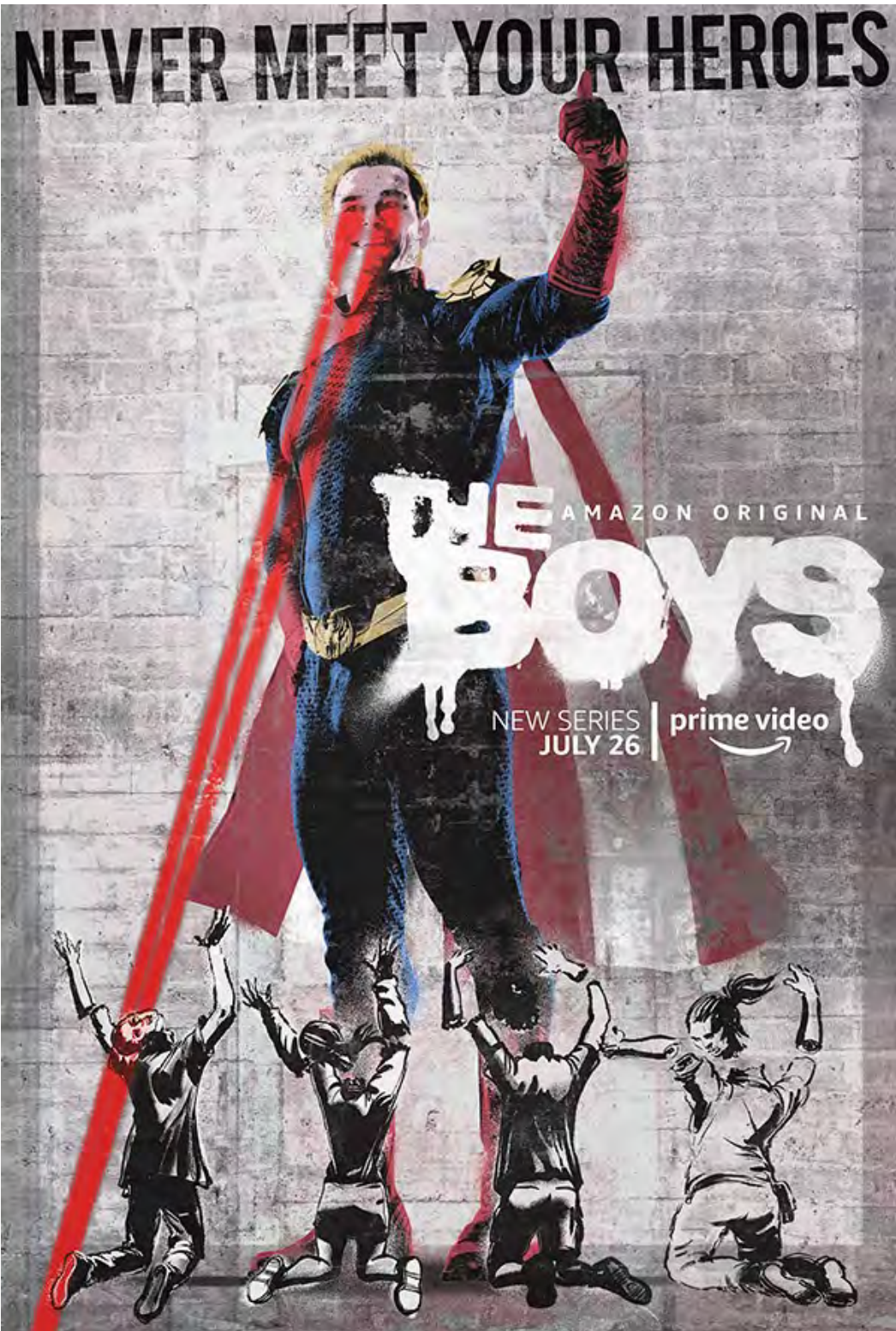




BLEND IF FOR QUICK EFFECTS



SPECIAL EFFECTS



BLEND MODES



SETTINGS



Layers

Kind ▾

Normal ▾ Opacity: 100% ▾

Work: Fill: 100% ▾

> splats

white BLENDING sliderS

a-train

Background

fx

Blend If: Gray ▾

This Layer: 0 255

Underlying Layer: 128 / 228 224

Blend If: Gray ▾

This Layer: 0 255

Underlying Layer: 102 / 224 122 / 234

Blend If: Gray ▾

This Layer: 0 187 / 233

Underlying Layer: 120 / 164 196 / 246



TEXTURE EFFECTS SKIN

► QUICK VIEW: Basic Recipe

FREQUENCY SEPARATION- BASIC

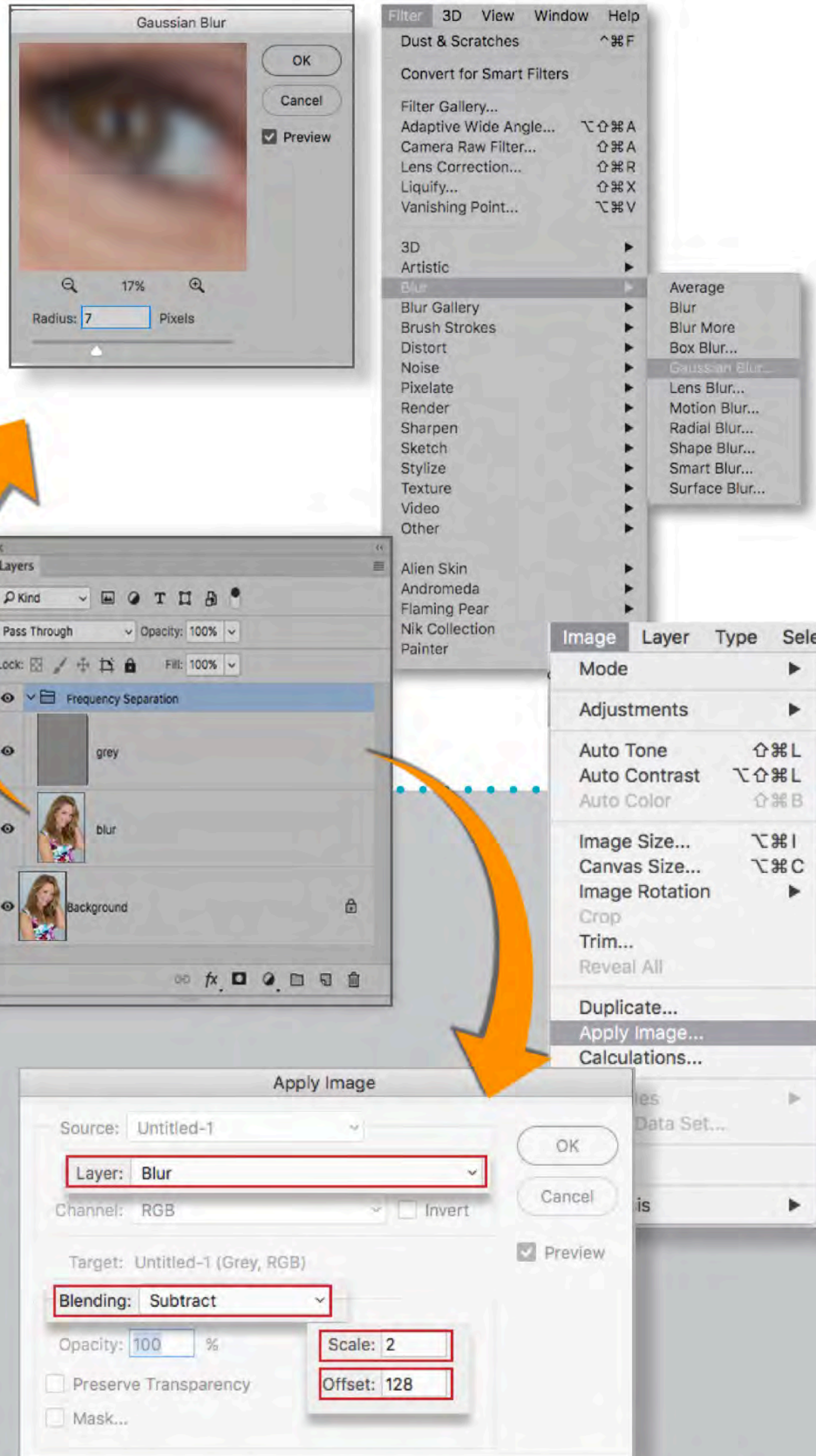
[HTTPS://WWW.LISACARNEY.COM/BASIC-FREQUENCY-SEP](https://www.lisacarney.com/basic-frequency-sep)

Step 1:

1

BLUR LAYER Low Frequency

- Duplicate the Background Layer and rename it "Blur"
- (With Blur layer selected) Menu Bar > Filter > Blur > Gaussian Blur
- The amount of blur will depend on the image size:
- Larger file size = Higher Blur Radius
- The blur should obscure fine details but overall shapes should remain recognizable.



Step 2

2

GREY LAYER High Frequency

- Duplicate the Background Layer again and rename it "Grey" (Grey layer should be above Blur layer)
- (With Grey layer selected) Menu Bar > Image > Apply Image
- **Layer** field should be set to the Blur layer
- **Blending** field should be set to Subtract
- **Scale** Field should be set to 2
- **Offset** field should be set to 128
- **THESE SETTINGS WILL ALWAYS BE THE SAME FOR EVERY 8 BIT IMAGE**

Tip: Because the frequency separation recipe never changes, it is useful to create a Photoshop action that will automatically create your layers and apply the correct values for you. This can be a big time saver. **BUT** we recommend that you do it by hand enough times in the beginning so that you fully understand the process before you start relying on an action.

ADDING SKIN TEXTURE WITH PATTERNS

1. LOADING PATTERNS

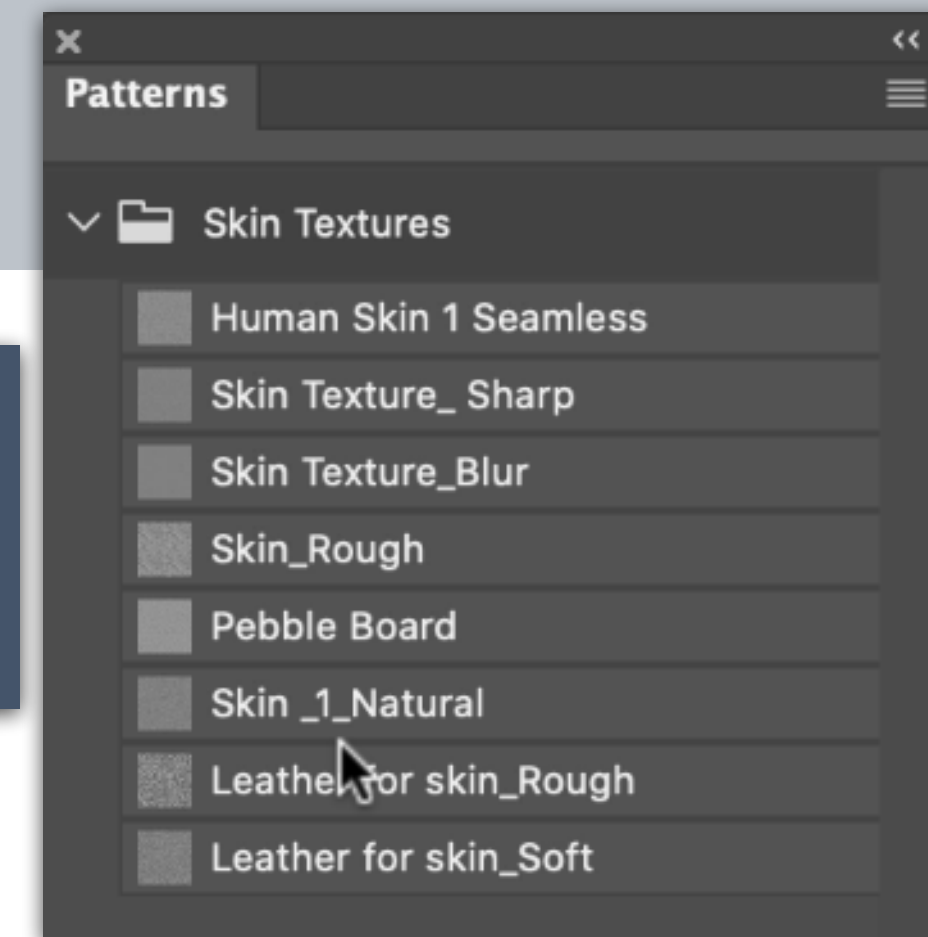
2. In **Photoshop** open the **Patterns** Panel (Window > **Patterns**)
3. Open the fly-out menu and choose **Import Patterns...** from the list.
4. Locate your . pat file on your hard drive.
5. Click Open to **install**.



ADDING TEXTURE USING BLEND IF SLIDERS

Control intensity of NEW skin texture by
EITHER changing:

OPACITY
LAYER BLEND MODE
MASK

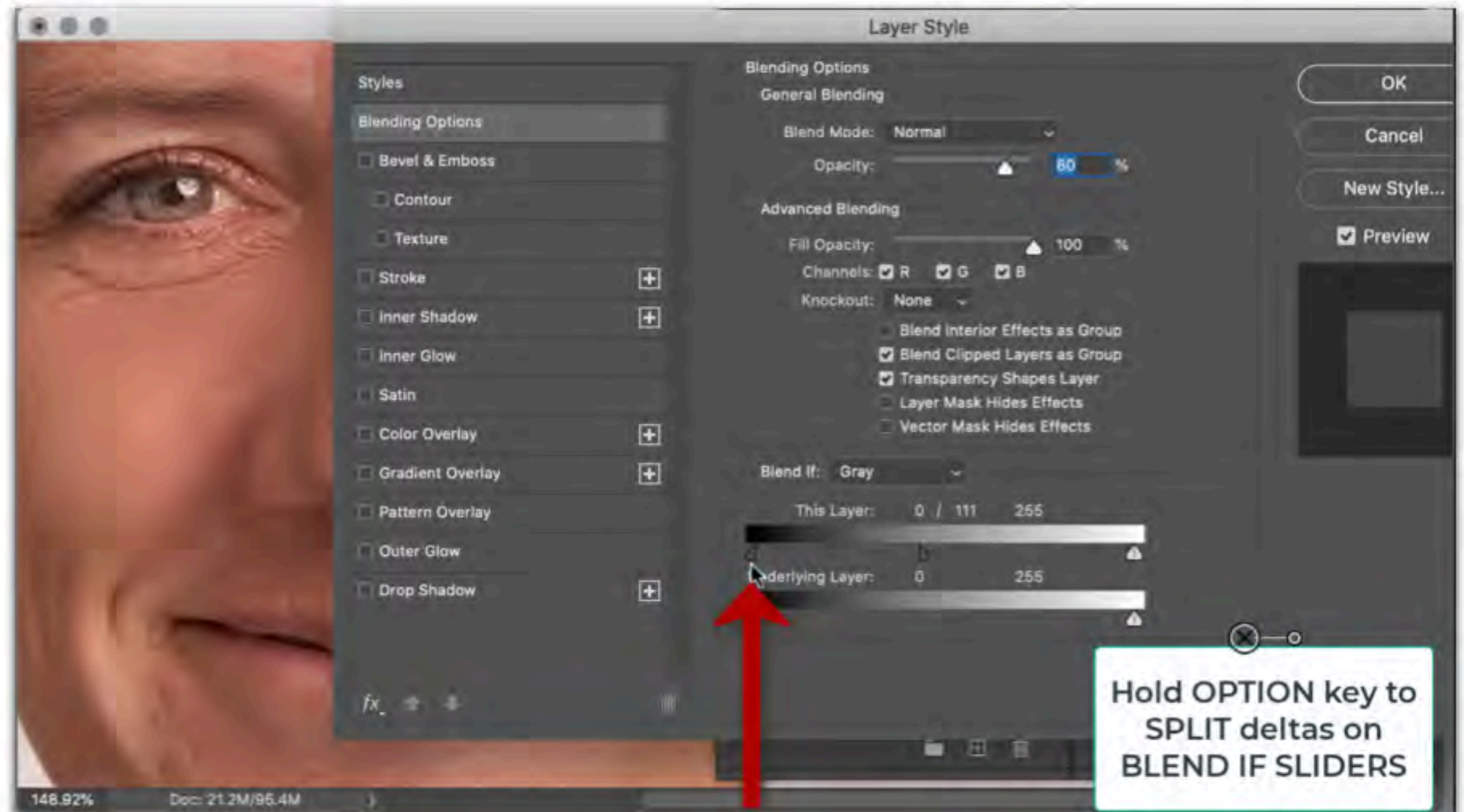


BLEND IF SLIDERS

Great way of MASKING
without having to paint

Allows you to add texture
only to highlights

Takes a little practice,
but worth it.



ADDING TEXTURE USING BLEND IF SLIDERS

BLEND IF SLIDERS ON LAYER SET





EMAIL ME WITH QUESTIONS
LISA@LISACARNEY.COM