

5.

PHOTOGRAPHING PEOPLE WHO ARE CLOSE TO YOU

“Photographing the people close to you, the people who will put up with you, is probably the most rewarding work you will do. It may never be published, but it is the work that you should care about most and embrace.”

—Annie Leibovitz

CHAPTER REVIEW

Annie advises young photographers to stay close to home at first. She believes that they will get the results they want faster than if they work with people they don't know. The photographs she took of her family when she was young are important to her. And she believes that the photographs she published in *A Photographer's Life* in 2006 are her best work. That book was created after her companion, Susan Sontag, and her father died and her children were born. It contained both personal and assignment work. The juxtaposition encompassed the complete spectrum of her life as a photographer.

LEARN MORE

- Look at *A Photographer's Life*, the collection of Annie's photographs from 1990 to 2005. Think about how you would incorporate photographs of your family and friends into the other work you make.

SUBCHAPTERS

- *A Photographer's Life*
- *As if the Camera Is Not There*

ASSIGNMENTS

- Annie recommends that aspiring photographers start at home with the people closest to them. Who do you consider the closest to you in life? Try photographing them. Before you develop or look at the photos from your shoot, take to your journal and reflect on and write about the aspects of the photoshoot that were easy and those that were challenging. What did you learn that you can apply to future photoshoots?
- When speaking about your personal photos, try to avoid bringing up the subjects' names or what their relationship is to you. Think about what the photographs communicate without the knowledge of who it is.

PHOTO INDEX

5. PHOTOGRAPHING YOUR FIRST SUBJECTS



Rachel Leibovitz
Waterbury, Connecticut, 1974



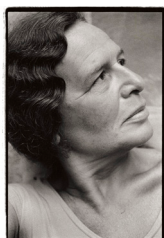
Marilyn Leibovitz
Dulles International Airport, Virginia, 1972



Samuel Leibovitz
Silver Spring, Maryland, 1972



Marilyn Leibovitz
Ellenville, New York, 1974



Marilyn and Samuel Leibovitz
Silver Spring, Maryland, 1977



Marilyn and Samuel Leibovitz
1976



Samuel and Marilyn Leibovitz
1974

PHOTO INDEX

5. PHOTOGRAPHING YOUR FIRST SUBJECTS



Marilyn Leibovitz
1976



Samuel Leibovitz
Silver Spring, Maryland, 1972



Susan Sontag
Wainscott, Long Island, New York,
1988



Susan Sontag
Mexico, 1989



Susan Sontag and Sarah Leibovitz
New York City, 2001



Annie Leibovitz
Venice, 1994



Annie's Family
Early 1970s



Philip and Samuel Leibovitz
Silver Spring, Maryland, 1988



Marilyn Leibovitz
Clifton Point, New York, 1997