To Photograph Darkness: The History Of Underground And Flash Photography

Chris Howes

From the first photograph of humans to the oldest photo on Instagram, we look at famous first photos throughout history and how they changed the world. With such a long history, photography is full of firsts, from the world’s oldest photograph to the first photo uploaded to Instagram. While most early photos used the daguerreotype process invented by Louis Daguerre, technical inventions have created endless possibilities for photographers. Let's take a stroll down memory lane to learn some of the famous first photographs that have changed how we view the world.

**First Photograph Ever.** The world’s first photograph—or at least oldest surviving photo—was taken by Joseph Niépce in 1826 or 1827. The free high-resolution photo of silhouette, light, black and white, white, photography, shadow, darkness, black, monochrome, photograph, snapshot, image, shape, monochrome photography, film noir, taken with an unknown camera 12/30 2016.

The picture taken with. The image is released free of copyrights under Creative Commons CC0. You may download, modify, distribute, and use them royalty free for anything you like, even in commercial applications. Attribution is not required. The story of photography is fascinating and it's possible to go into great detail. However, let's take a brief look at the highlights and major developments of this scientific art form.

**The First Cameras.** The basic concept of photography has been around since about the 5th century B.C.E. It wasn't until an Iraqi scientist developed something called the camera obscura in the 11th century that the art was born. Even then, the camera did not actually record images, it simply projected them onto another surface. With each type of emulsion, photographers experimented with different chemicals and techniques. The following are the three that were instrumental in the development of modern photography.

**Daguerreotype.** Niépce's experiment led to a collaboration with Louis Daguerre.