

Book cover

- I chose Mr. Penumbra's 24 hour Bookstore. It is a story about technology, from 1600s books to a blending with computer technology today and a secret society that preserves information through time.
- My images are from Unsplash.com
- Since printing blocks and fonts play a large role in the book, I chose this image as the background. I used a blue/gray photofiler with 78% density, a vibrance filter and a grey/blue rectangle overlay layer with 95% opacity to get the hazy blue image.
- A large part of the book takes place in San Francisco, so I used the image of the Golden Gate bridge. I also liked it as a metaphor for the bridge between the times. I used a smart select to delete the background and create a layer mask and then used the refine edge tool to feather and smooth the edges to give it a dreamy quality.
- There is a book of secrets that is central to the plot of the book and represents the 'old' technology, so the image needed a book. This time I used smart select to paste the book onto a new layer and deleted the original image. I painstakingly erased as much of the background as I could with the block and brush erasers.
- I used the same technique to crop out the computer and light images, which represented the new technology. The lights are on a different layer than the computer which allowed me to warp and reposition coming out of the computer.
- I added a sans-serif text that complimented the feel of San Francisco and I added a 3d text effect to mimic neon for the 24 hour sign.
- Finally, I used a gradient map over the top of the image and auto adjusted the entire image to give it a more composed look. This required me to go back to the golden gate image and bump up the saturation so that the red in the bridge carried through and matched the 24 hour font and the lights.