

Writer's Block

 digitalscraper.com/blog/qt-writers-block/

Jen
White

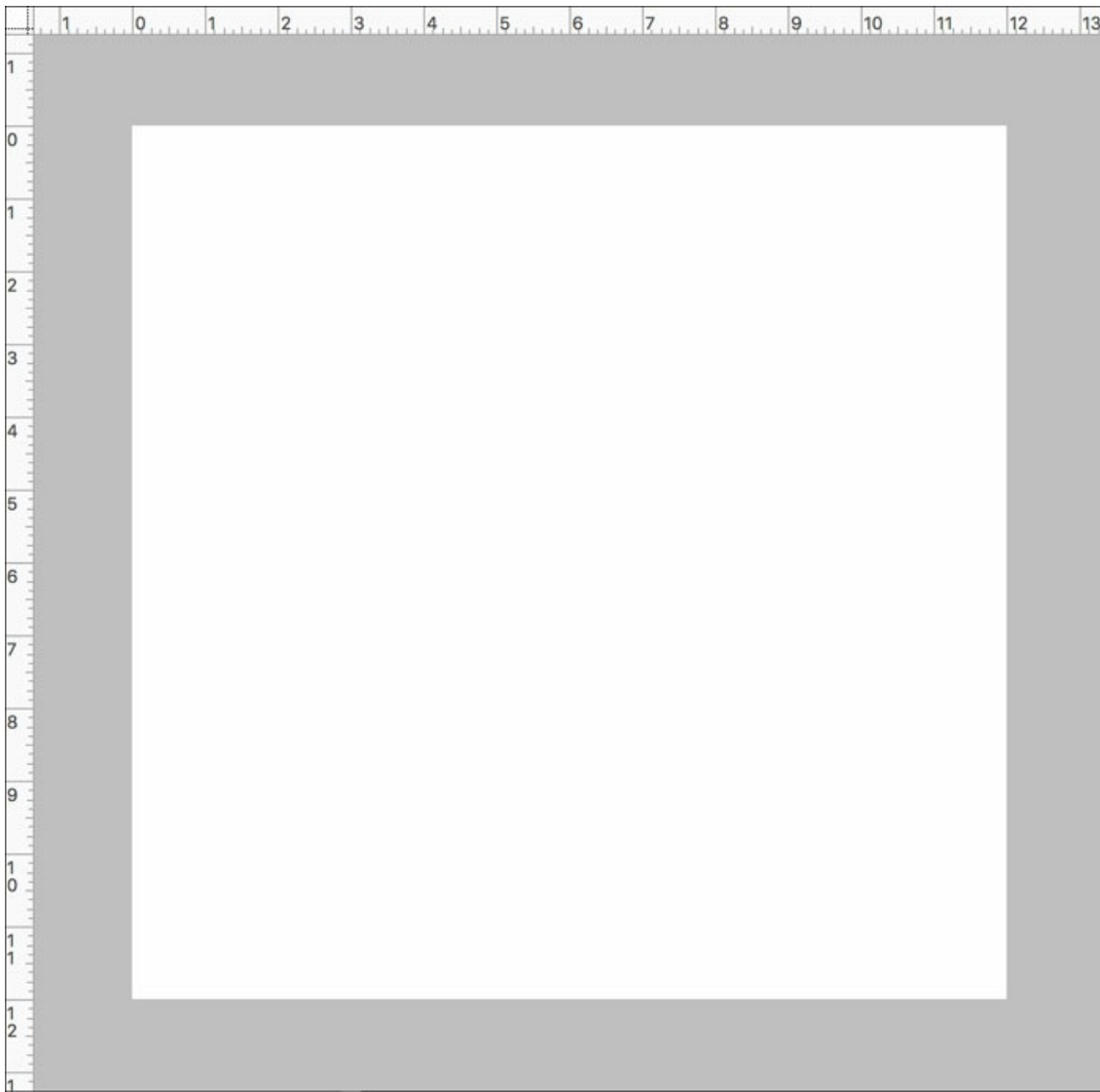


Adorn your cards, photos and background papers with a stylish and grungy block of text that's been expertly masked away with a Terry brush.

Step One: Prepare a Document

- Create a new 12 x 12 inch document (File > New > Blank File) at 300 ppi with a white background. (PS: Choose File > New.)
- Press the letter D to reset the Color Chips to the default of black over white.
- In the Menu Bar, choose View > Rulers to turn on the rulers.
- Press Ctrl – (Mac: Cmd -) to zoom out.

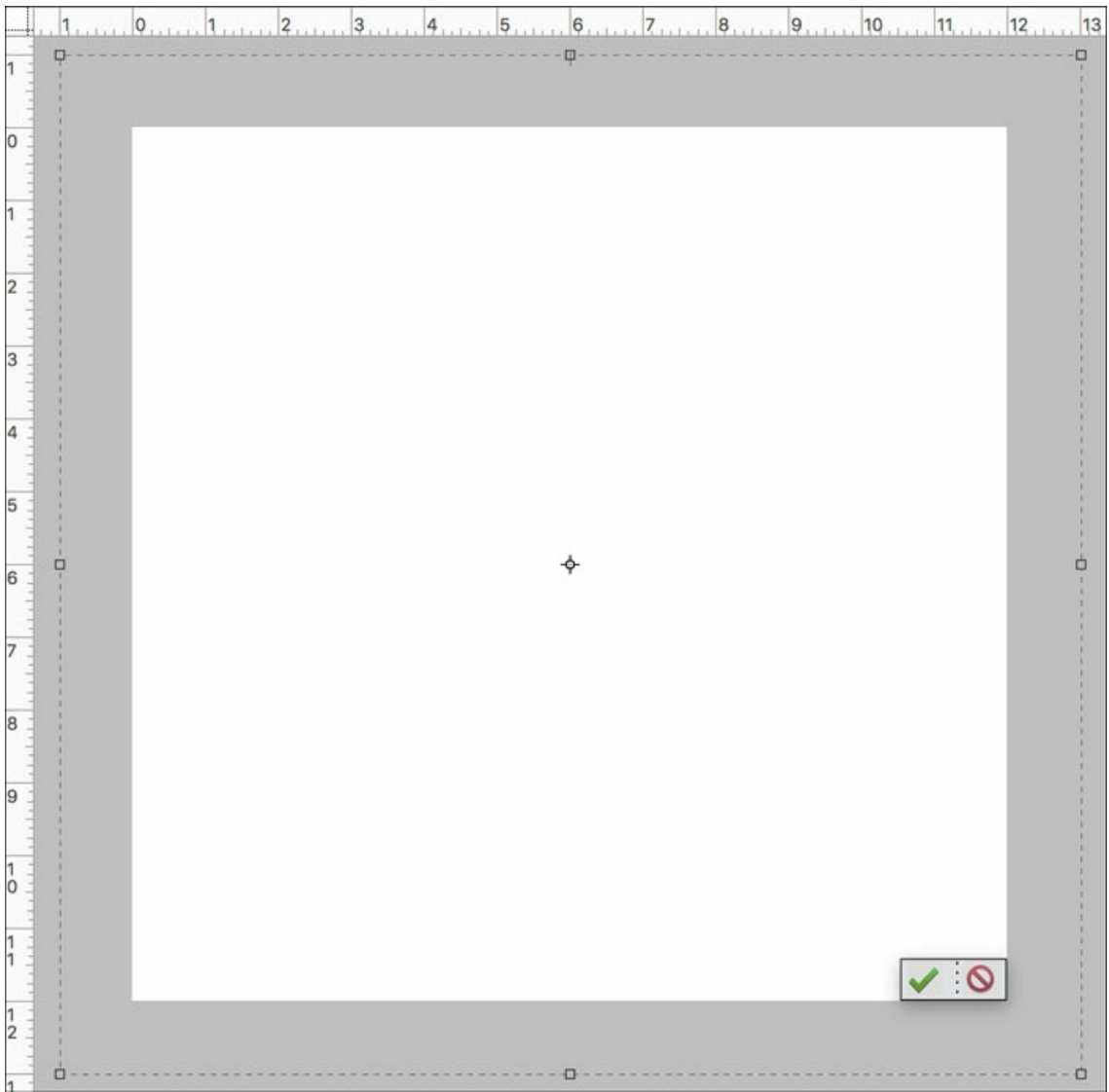
You need to be able to see more than an inch of space around the edge of the document.



Step Two: Create a Text Box

- Get the Horizontal Type tool.
- In the Tool Options, open the Font Picker and choose a font. I'm using Oh Wonder.
- Set the Size to 10 pt, the Leading to Auto, and the Alignment to Center. The Color Chip should be black. (PS: In the Character panel, set the Leading to Auto.)
- On the document, click and drag a text box that is 1 inch larger than boundaries of the paper.
- Click the checkmark to commit.

Now go find some text to fill the text box.



Step Three: Paste In Some Text

Good news, you do not have to come up with a boatload of words to fill your text box. You can just copy and paste some from the web.

- First, ask yourself, “Do I care what the type says?”

If not, then generate some [Lorem Ipsum dummy type](#).

1000

☐ paragraphs

☒ words

☐ bytes

☐ lists

☒ Start with 'Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet...'

Generate Lorem Ipsum

If yes, maybe copy words from nursery rhymes, [classic American literature](#), or the Bible.

Alice In Wonderland

by Lewis Carroll

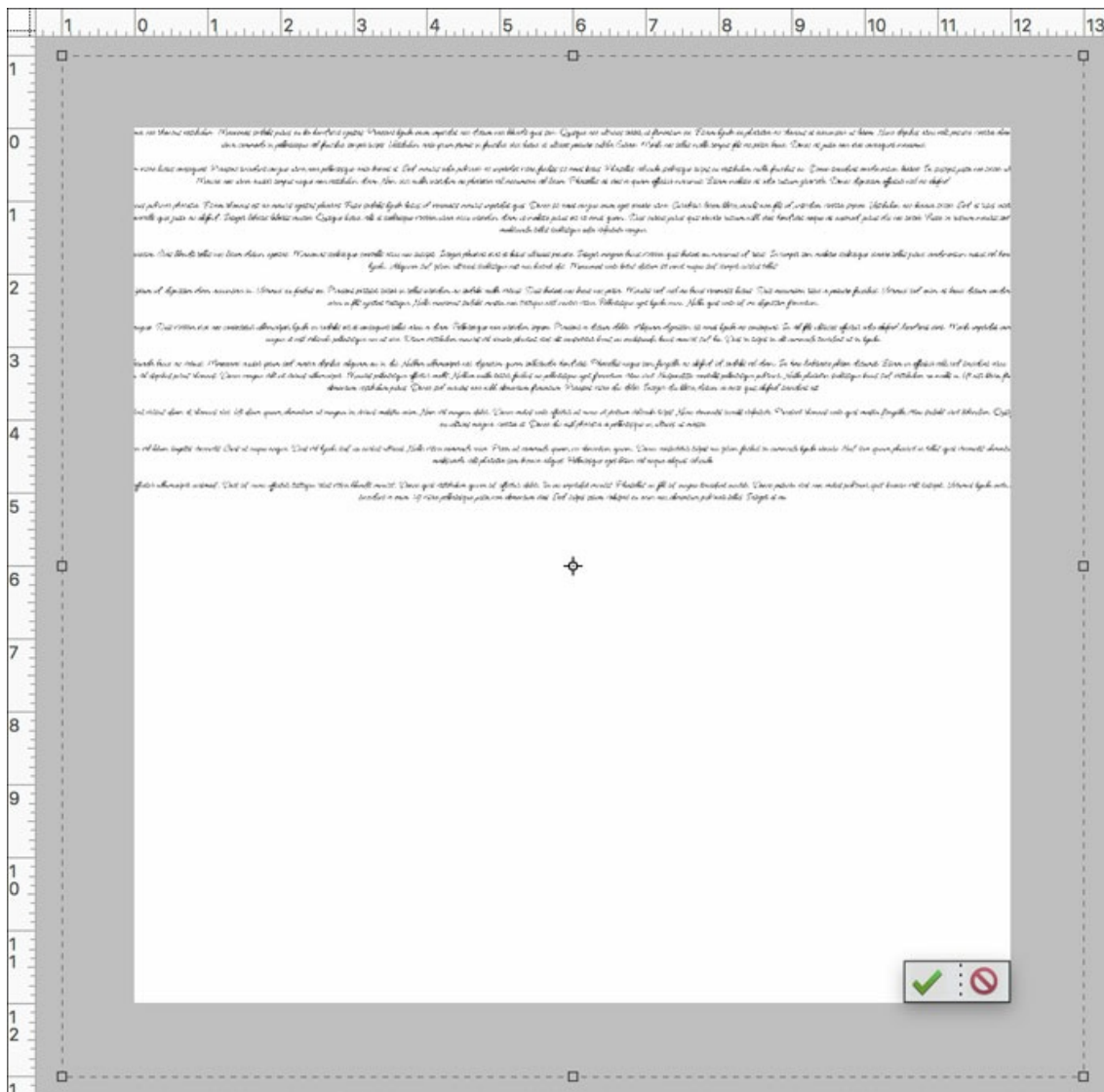
Chapter 1

[Next Chapter](#)

Down the Rabbit-Hole

Alice was beginning to get very tired of sitting by her sister on the bank, and of having nothing to do: once or twice she had peeped into the book her sister was reading, but it had no pictures or conversations in it, 'and what is the use of a book,' thought Alice 'without pictures or conversation?'

- Click and drag over a block of text to highlight it.
- Press Ctrl C (Mac: Cmd C) to copy the text to your computer's clipboard.
- In the Layers panel, double click on the thumbnail of the type layer to activate the text box.
- Press Ctrl V (Mac: Cmd V) to paste the copied text.



Most likely the text you copied will be in paragraphs. You can keep it like that, but I want my text box to be solid of words.

- Click at the end of each paragraph and remove the extra spaces that create the paragraphs.



Much better, but now it needs more text. You can either go find more on the web, or you can simply repeat what you’ve already pasted in. I’ll just repeat what I have.

- In the Layers panel, double click on the thumbnail of the type layer to activate the text box.

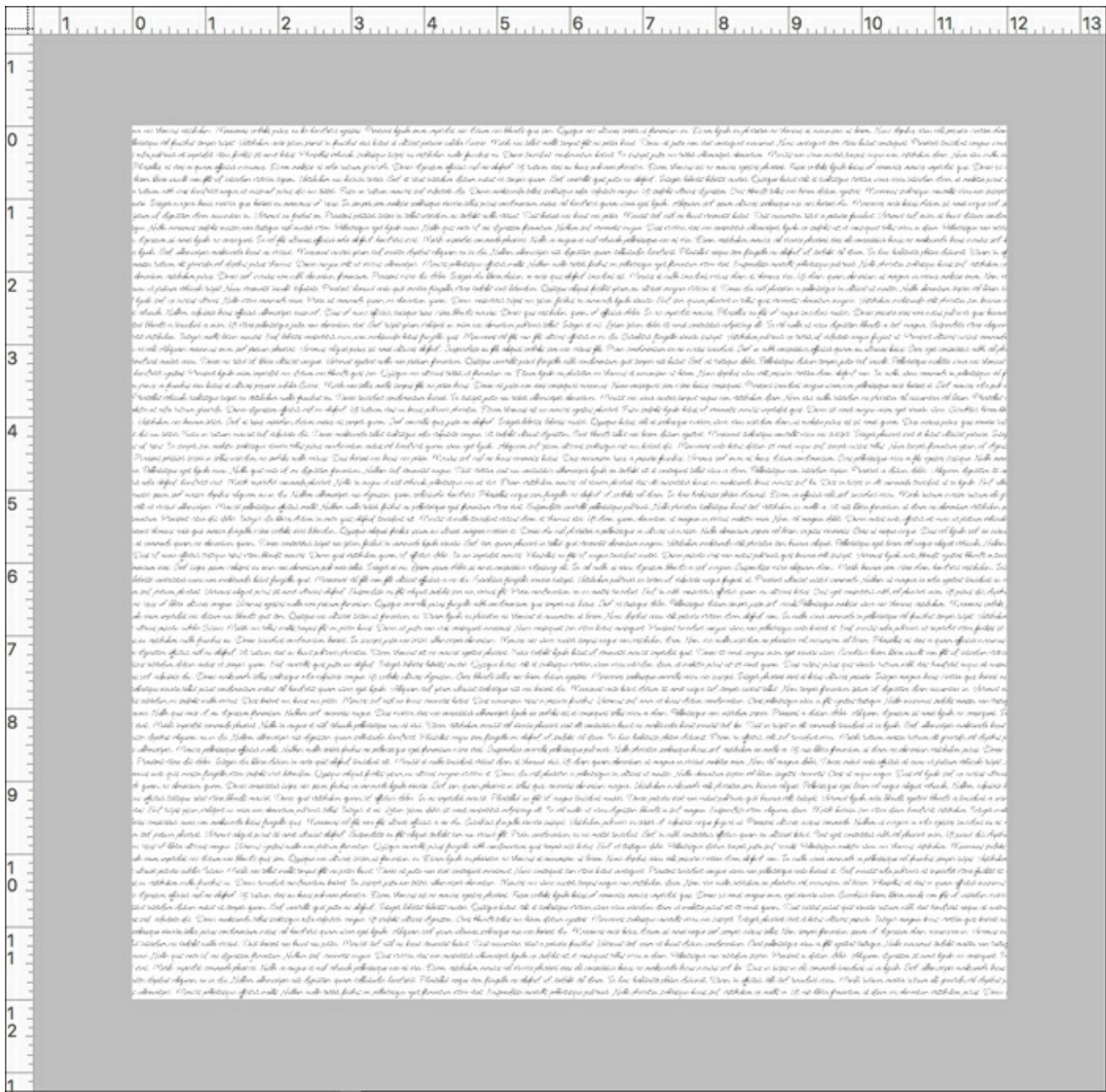
The text in the text box should now be highlighted. If it’s not, double click on the thumbnail again.



- Press Ctrl C (Mac: Cmd C) to copy the highlighted text.
- On the document, click once to place your cursor at the end of the last word.
- Press Ctrl V (Mac: Cmd V) to paste the copied text.

You will likely need to remove a few more paragraph returns from the text.

- Continue pasting in the copied text until the document is full of works.
- Click the checkmark to commit.

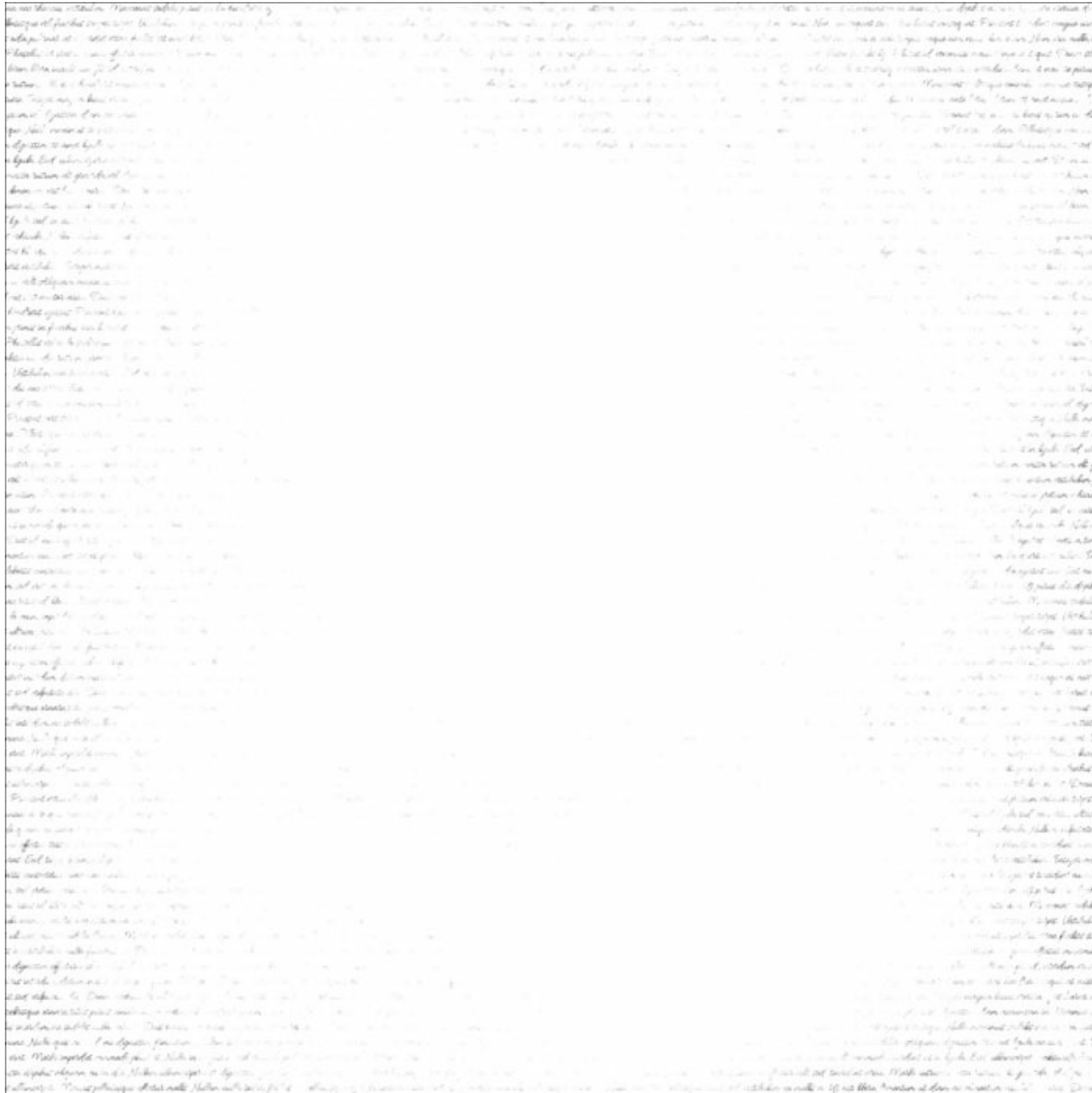


Step Four: Mask Away Type

If you are unfamiliar with layer masks and how they work, watch Layer Mask Basics.

- Get the Brush tool.
- In the Tool Options, open the Brush Picker, open the Brush Menu, and choose Faux Finish Brushes. (PS: Click OK to the dialog box.) Click to choose a Rolled Rag – Terry brush.
- If you don't see the Rolled Rag – Terry brush, open the Brush Picker options and choose Large List. (PS: Open the Brush Menu again and choose Large List.)
- Set the Mode to Normal and the Opacity to 100%. (PS: Also set the Flow to 100%.)
- Hovering your brush over the text, press the Right Bracket key to increase the size of the brush to around 3 inches wide (900 px).
- In the Layers panel, click on the Add Layer Mask icon.
- If black is not the Foreground Color Chip, press the letter X.
- On the document, click and drag in the center to mask away the words.

- Make single clicks around the outer edge of the document to grunge up what's left.



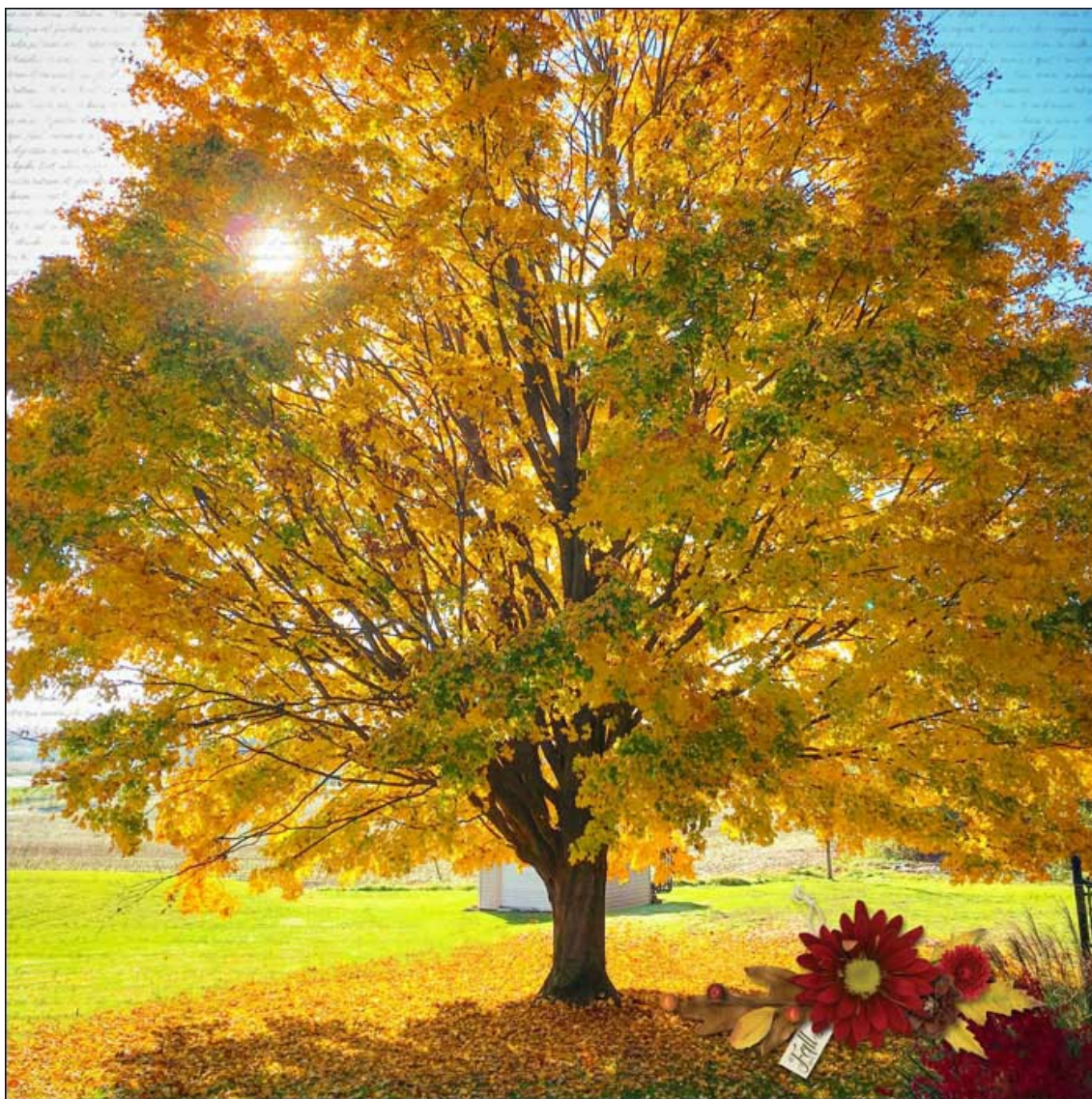
Step Five: Save the Document

- (optional) Save the document (File > Save) as a PSD file with a unique name for later editing.
- In the Layers panel, click on the Visibility icon of the Background layer to hide it.
- Save the document (File > Save As) a PNG file with a unique name to create an overlay.
- Close the working document without saving.

Here's how this overlay looks on a paper from Everyday Stories by Syndee Rodgers-Nuckles. I lowered the opacity of the overlay layer to 60%.



Here's how my overlay looks like on a photo of the maple tree in my backyard. I really like how the type overlays the blown out areas created by the sun. I liked it so much, I turned it into a scrapbook page.



Credits

Page: Fall 2016 by Jen White

Photo: Jen White

Qwik Tutorial: Writer's Block by Jen White

Kits: Fall Snaps by Laura Louie, Rosehill Cottage by Cindy Rohrbough

Font: Myriad Pro



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