Austin Appleton

ATLS 5151

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12/11

Shimmer

My intention with this picture happened spontaneously while I was walking around my house during thanksgiving break. I noticed the reflection of sunlight in my pool and thought the visualization was pretty. I spent a good amount of time simply observing before I took the shot. When I began my observations, I thought potentially the surface of the water would look the best, but I realized the best shot came from the refraction of light on the pool floor. There are multiple levels in my pool, so the effect changes with every angled surface.

I took a very close up picture to the water, also close enough that my camera would touch the surface of the water. My house is in California, but I imagine anyone with a pool or a small pond could take a picture of the water's motion using the sunlight at a direct angle. It was about 11:30 when I took the shot, and I was facing south east. The wind speed at the time was calm, maybe around 10 miles per hour, making the water dance just slightly.

The sunshine in California around 11:30 in early December is bright but the proximity to the sea makes it less intense. At altitude, the sun feels much sharper. Though, since there is little to no seasonal change in my area this picture could be taken at any time of the year. I used my iphone 12 pro to capture the shot. The field of view is 120 degrees for an iphone, but the range that I took the picture of the field of view is significantly more narrow. The refraction in the pool is about 1 to 3 feet in depth, separated by a wall of stone. The zig zagging of the refraction is caused by the multiple depths.