Using speedlights and the ambient to create interesting portraits
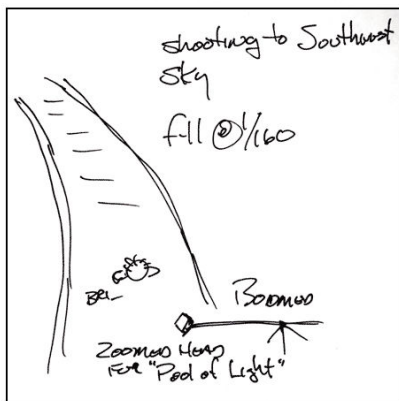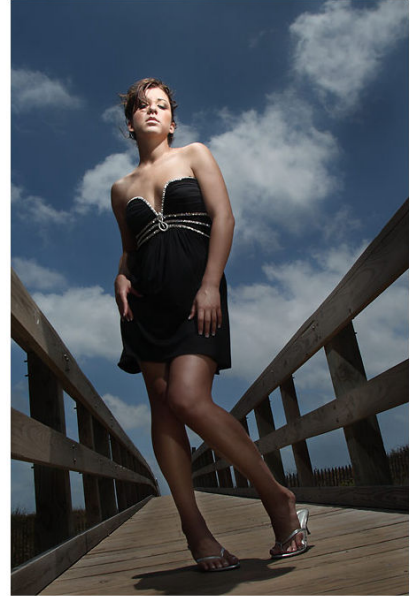
Lighting Essentials: a place for photographers   www.lighting-essentials.com

Canon
21-35MM L
at 21MM

Find the ambient light and set it first. Then add your flash.

Shooting to Southwest
Sky
Fill @ 1/160

Bgl

Boomed

Zoomed Head
For "Pool of Light"

I wanted the ambient
light and the background
to be dark and mysterious. Knowing that f-11
@ 1/160 would do that, I simply added a strobe at
a distance that would give me that exposure. Adding
the zoom into the mix gave that pool of light effect
that I wanted.

F-10 @ 1/100 at ISO 100

Canon 80-200L
at 200MM

SUN is f-10 @ 1/100

At 6.5ft.
Set to 1/4 Power

Long Lens

Briana jumping in Halifax started with an exposure
reading of the light coming across the sidewalk. F-10
@ 1/100 is enough to freeze almost all of her (feet
and legs are moving too fast to freeze totally).
But, notice the darkness on the face. Since it is totally
in the shadow, there will be no loss of sharpness when
the flash fires at an extremely fast duration.