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It's a bird... It's a plane...

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It's my son, in character. I really think that all of my constant shoots of him in costume is going to turn him into a cosplayer fanatic when he gets older...

This is another old shoot, but since I'm switching things over to my new site, it's a new post again. Plus I like giving viewers a behind the scenes look at how a shot was made.

Ever gone somewhere, and you see something you would love to incorporate into a shoot but didn't have the time, or didn't have your gear with you? And then what pops in your head is, "when will I be back?"

We have close friends in North Carolina we visit a few times a year. Every time we go, the girls go shopping. Every time. There's a shopping center around there (I forget where), that has these old red telephone booths. They aren't in service. They are more for decoration. I loved them! Vibrant reds and vintage look. It so reminded me of the old Superman comics. I always carry my camera with me (although I don't carry my lighting gear unless I specifically planned a shoot that required it). However, with all of the shopping, we just didn't have time.

I made time.

I specifically requested (pleaded rather) to my wife that we take a little time either before, or after our visit, to go back to that shopping center so I could get my shot. My wife agreed. She's great. Patient. Accommodating. Puts up with my randomness. We planned to head back to the telephone booth after our visit, which was on a Sunday.

Luckily on a Sunday the shopping center was quiet. None of the stores were really open, and very few people walking around. It was around noon, so I did have the harsh sunlight to deal with.

Here's my behind the scenes shot.



I'm sure all photographers, at one time or another, has made some sort of DIY contraption to help them out. I have an old carbon fiber monopod sitting in a closet. I bought a 3/8" to 5/8" stud adapter to give the monopod a light stand mount. Add a flash mount, your favorite off-camera lighting and modifier, and you have a very portable setup. In this case, my lighting was a Flashpoint Streaklight 360 strobe with a Phottix 33" double folding umbrella.

I got low for this shot. Low as in laying on the ground low. Cigarette butts, chewing gum, and ants. Lots of ants. They didn't bother me much though. I think they were more interested in the cigarette butts. Addicts.

Here is the final shot. I love how my son can get into character (after coaxing, pleading, and ultimately negotiating candy for his services).



