

## Step 21

Now set this latest layer to Overlay and you should have something looking like this!



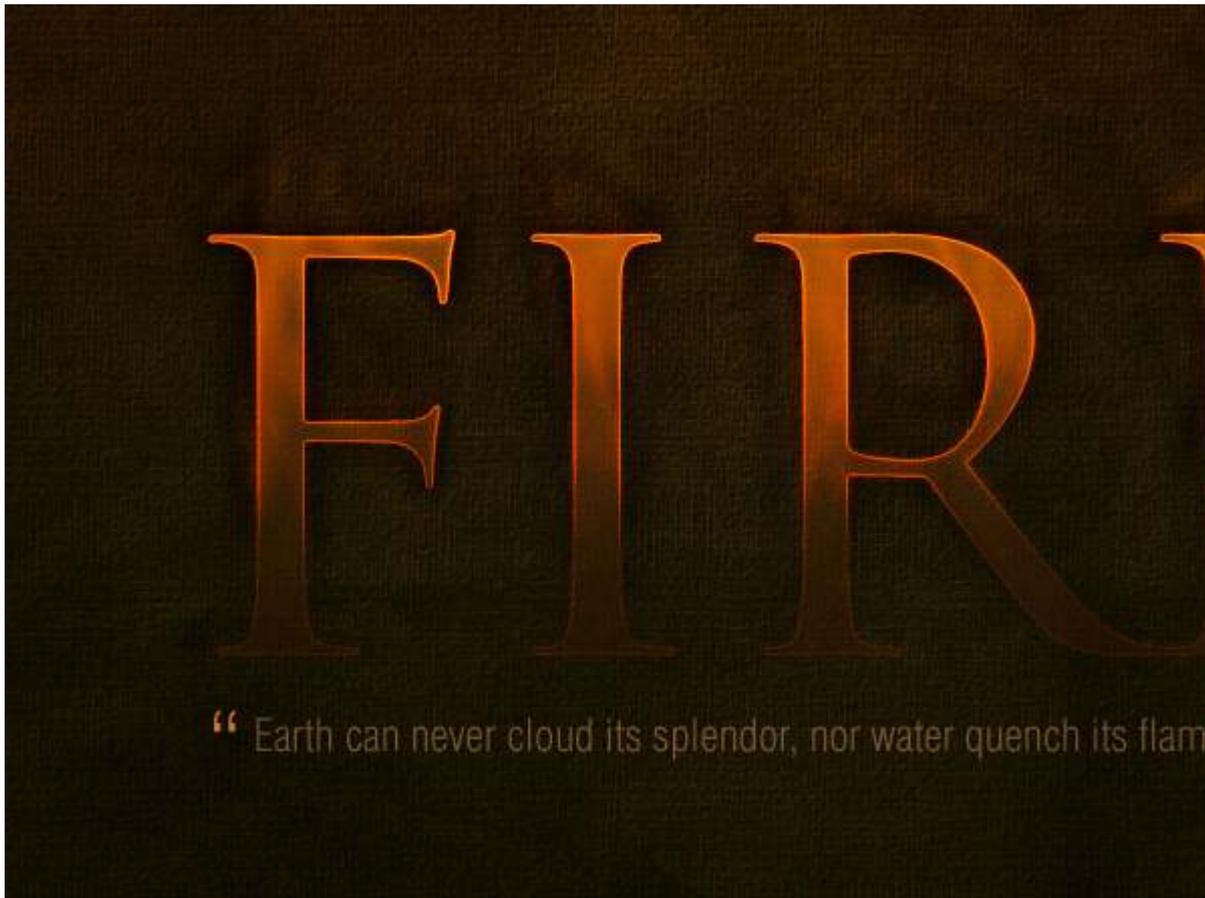
## Step 22

Now we've pretty much finished our text. I went through and duplicated some of the glow layers to make it look even more fiery. Feel free to experiment with getting a real red-hot glow look by doing so.



## Step 23

Next, in keeping with the last wallpaper, I've gone and added a quote underneath my main text. This provides a nice embellishment to the page. Try to use colors that fit in with the background and text layer so it doesn't stand out too much, because we really want this to be a secondary element to the main text. I've used Swiss Light Condensed as my font and laid it out just like in the previous Grass Text tutorial.



## Part 3—The Flames

Finally, with all our preparation done, it's time to add the actual flames! For this, we need some images of fire set against a plain black background. A good photo is hard to find, and try as I did, I couldn't find a really great free photo. So in the end I used this photo from Fotolia which you can purchase using the link below. There was also an OK photo from Flickr which I've also linked to and which I ended up using later for the "E". So you might want to grab that too.

[Acheron](#)—Fotolia.com

[Peasap](#)—Flickr.com

Now the technique for copying the flames over is actually really simple. I actually only learned this technique recently when reading one of [Nik Ainley](#)'s tutorials for [DigitalArts](#) magazine called [Create Amazing Photomontages](#) where he did it with water.

What you need to do is:

1. Open up the flame image in Photoshop
2. Go to the Channels tab and find the channel with the highest contrast, which for images of fire should be the Red Channel, and click on it
3. This will make your image appear black and white, and because we're on the highest contrast layer, it will seem really bright white. Now Ctrl-click this channel and it will select all the pixels in that channel.
4. Click back to the RGB channel and copy the selected pixels
5. You can now paste the flames into your main canvas!

This is actually a really, really useful technique for copying something translucent like fire off a flat background. And as you'll see by visiting Nik's tutorial, it's also great for copying water!

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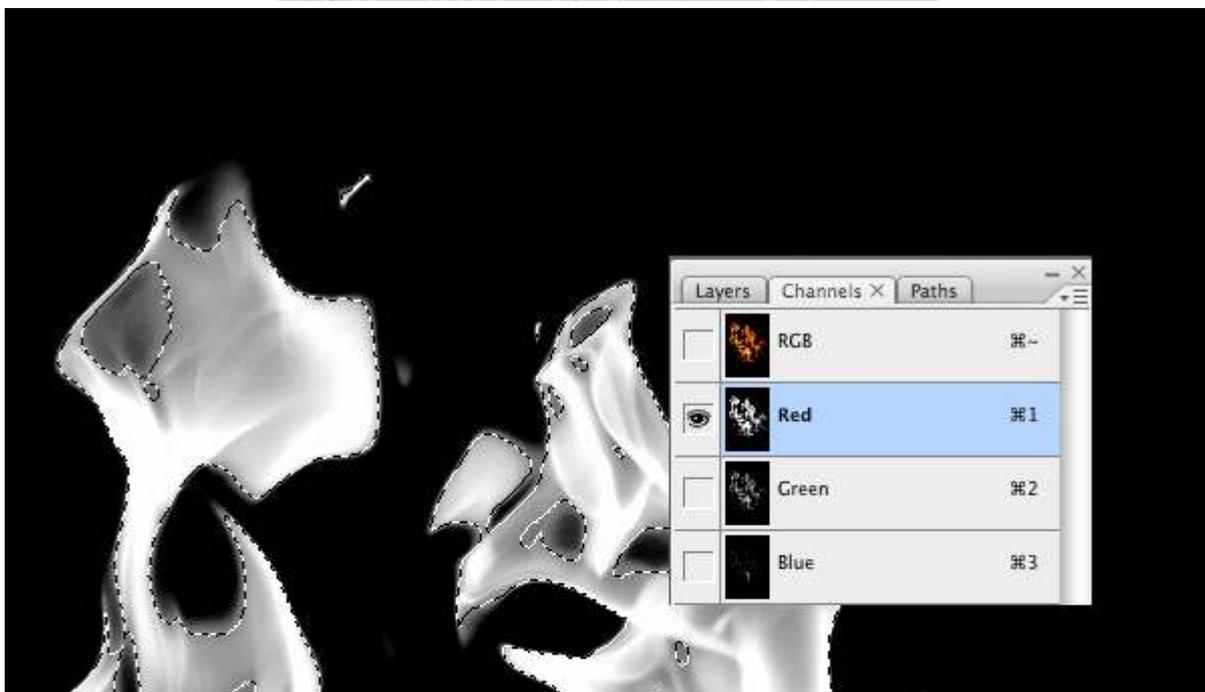
KEYWORDS  
 fire flame frost heat

COUNTRY  
[france](#)

URL  
<http://www.fotolia.com/id/23995>

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<b>S</b>	<a href="#">S Standard</a>	2 credits (\$ 2.00)	566 x 849 (0.5 MP), 7.9" x 11.8" @72 dpi	
<b>M</b>	<a href="#">M Standard</a>	3 credits (\$ 3.00)	1125 x 1688 (1.9 MP), 3.8" x 5.6" @300 dpi	
<b>L</b>	<a href="#">L Standard</a>	4 credits (\$ 4.00)	1571 x 2356 (3.7 MP), 5.2" x 7.9" @300 dpi	
<b>XL</b>	<a href="#">XL Standard</a>	5 credits (\$ 5.00)	2336 x 3504 (8.2 MP), 7.8" x 11.7" @300 dpi	





## Step 25

OK, so here we've pasted the flames on to our main canvas. (For clarity I've also temporarily switched off the text layers). As you can see, we've got the fire without the black background and it's partially transparent, which means it'll look super on top of our text.

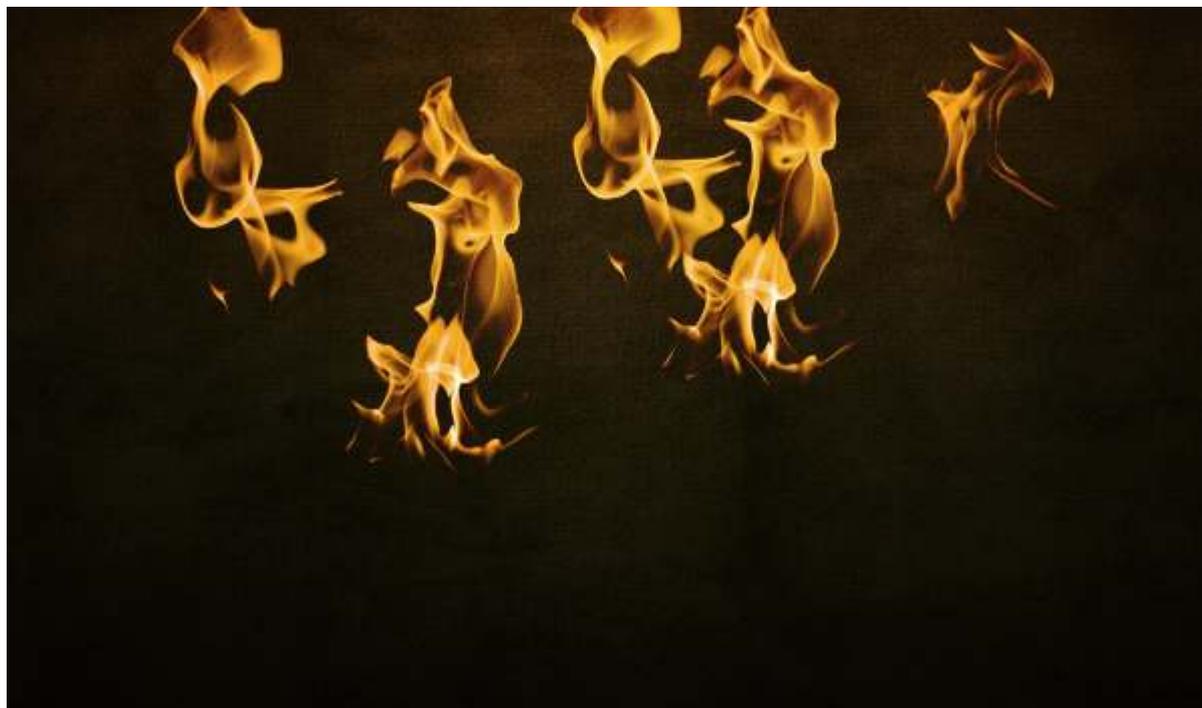


## Step 26

Now the next thing to do is to cut up our one bit of fire into a few pieces. Just duplicate the layer and switch off one as a backup first. Then using the Pen Tool, cut up the fire so you work with the contours of the flame so it looks natural. Here you can see I've produced four pieces of flame from the one image. You can also try flipping bits around to make them seem more random.

Set the layers to Screen mode so that any remaining black parts are totally gone, and it's even more transparent.





## Step 27

Now because my text is just four letters, I need four separate pieces of fire. For the fourth one (on top of the *E*) I actually grabbed that Flickr photo and repeated the same process as earlier to create another flame. Also the fire on the letter *I* has been squashed a little as well to make it look more random.



## Step 28

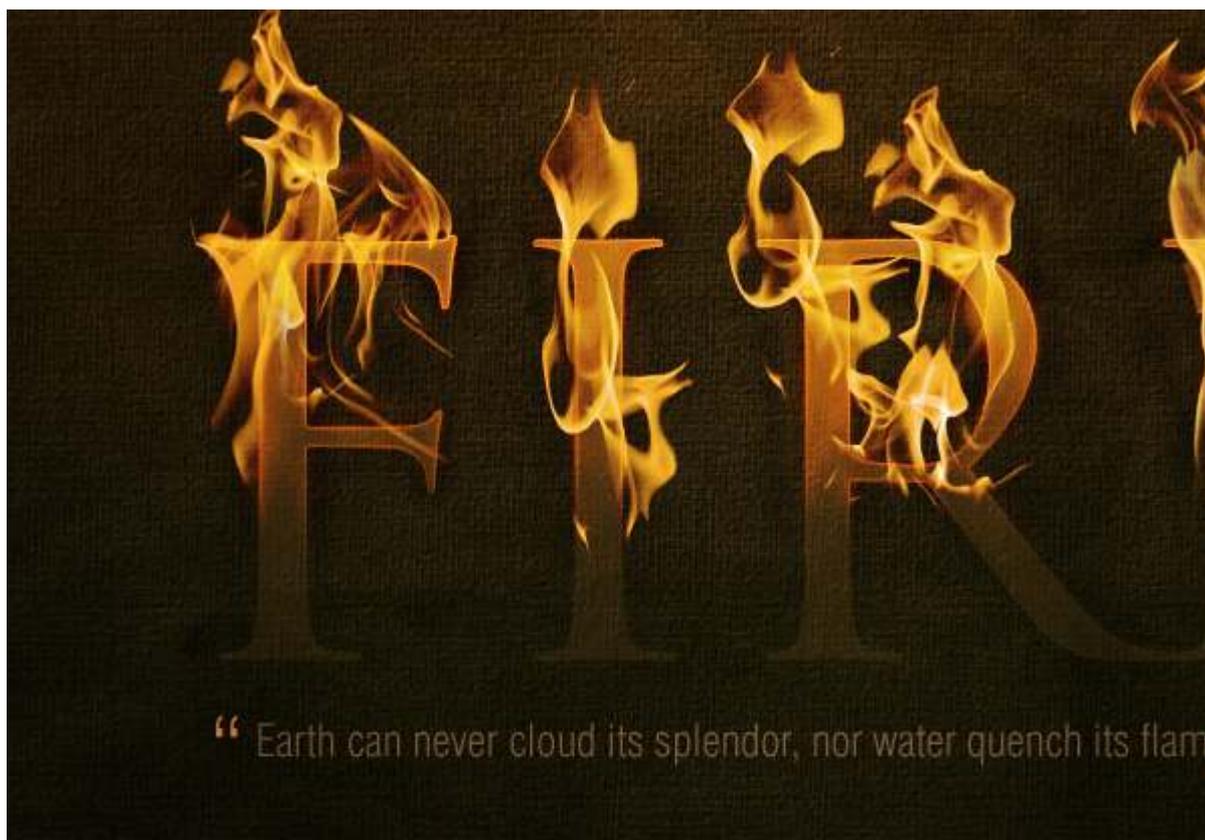
Applying the fire is really as easy as moving the flames over the text. You want to try to match the flames to the shape of the letters so it looks like they are dancing off the letters.

names to the shape of the letter so it looks like they are dancing off the letters.



## Step 29

OK here I've placed all four bits of flame over the top. It's not bad, but you can see that the I and the R have the same flame and also all the flames aren't very tall.



## Step 30

So here I've gone through each flame and using the Transform Tool stretched them vertically. Also I used a bit of judicious erasing to make the flame on the *I* look a little more unique.



## Step 31

Now to make them look even more lit up, duplicate each flame layer, run a Filters > Blur > Gaussian Blur with a Radius of 3px and set the layer to 15% Opacity so it provides a bit of glow around the edges of the flames.





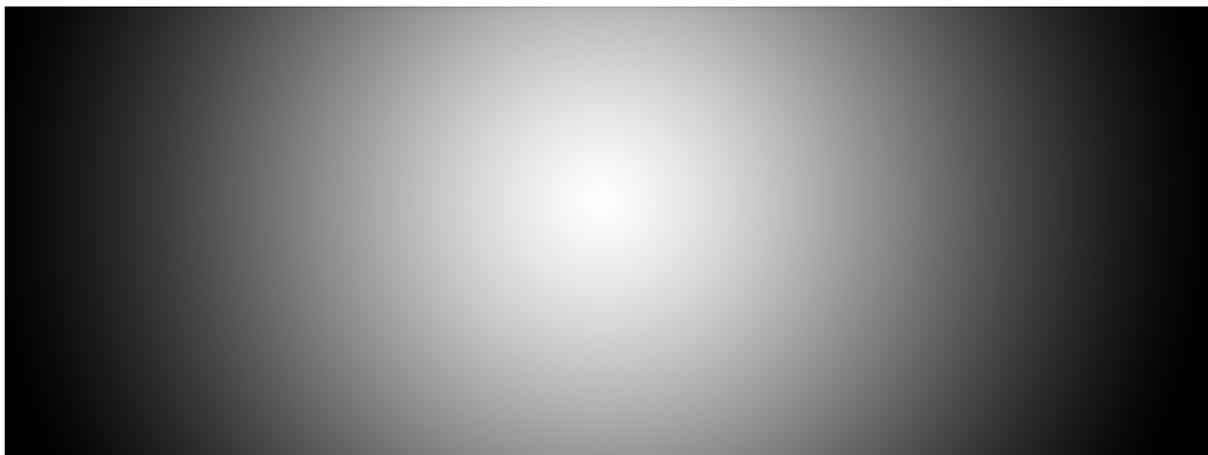
## Step 32

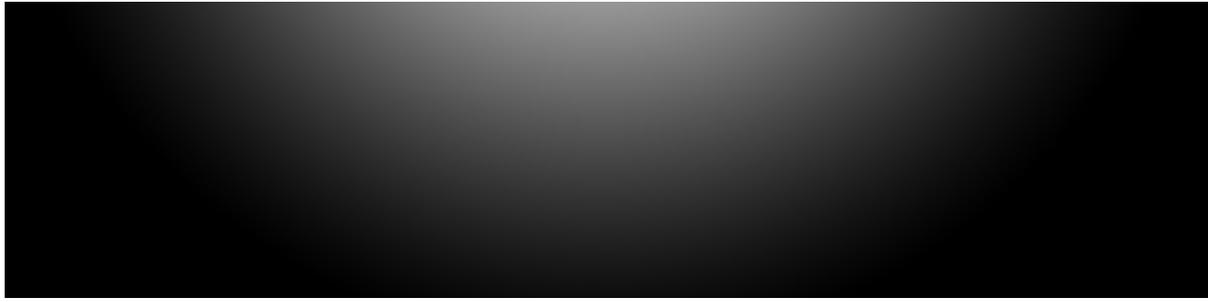
So we're pretty much there! This is how the composition looks.



## Step 33

Finally we'll add a last highlight. So create a new layer above all the others and draw in a white to black radial gradient as shown. Set this layer to Overlay and 40% Opacity.





## Finished!

And there we have it, a text on fire effect! In the next tutorial in the series, we'll be producing the Air image, however it'll be in two weeks, not one—as I'm taking a few days off work!

If you're interested in creating flames from scratch in Photoshop, you might also like to check out [this classic tutorial](#) that coincidentally uses the exact same typeface! It's a Photoshop 6 tutorial, and I can still remember reading it like a half decade ago, but it's still very relevant, even if the screenshots feature a super retro Mac interface.

