

Everything in Lightroom is a funny color, but the original photos look perfect in other programs, and the exported photos don't look like they do in Lightroom either. What could be wrong?

Strange colored previews that don't match the exported photos in color managed programs are usually caused by a corrupted monitor profile. Lightroom uses the profile differently to other programs (perceptual rendering rather than relative colorimetric), so corruption in that part of the profile shows up in Lightroom even though it appears correct in other programs. It often happens with the canned profiles that come with many monitors.

The easiest way to tell that Lightroom's displaying incorrectly is to check the Histogram on a grayscale photo. It should be neutral but corrupted profiles can create some weird color casts which also show on the Histogram. (Obviously you can't see the cast in the greyscale copies of this book, but you know what a color cast looks like.)

Ideally you should recalibrate your monitor using a hardware calibration device. If you don't have such a tool, put it on your shopping list, and in the meantime, remove the corrupted monitor profile to confirm that is the problem.

