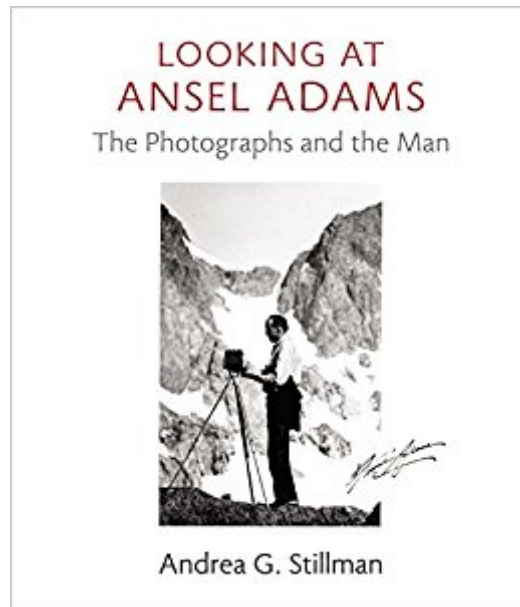




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# Looking At Ansel Adams: The Photographs And The Man



## Synopsis

LOOKING AT ANSEL ADAMS is a personal and penetrating study that explores Ansel's life as an artist by looking closely at the stories behind 20 of his most significant images. Immediately recognizable photographs like *Moonrise, Hernandez, New Mexico*, and *Mount McKinley and Wonder Lake* are turned on their axes and seen from a new angle, along with ancillary photographs, alternative versions, and letters and postcards that relate to these beloved icons. Less familiar but equally important photographs provide unexpected insight into Ansel's creative and personal life. For anyone with a love of the American wilderness and an interest in the life and work of the country's most revered landscape photographer and environmental advocate, LOOKING AT ANSEL ADAMS is an essential and deeply satisfying book.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 256 pages

Publisher: Little, Brown and Company; 1st Edition edition (September 25, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0316217808

ISBN-13: 978-0316217804

Product Dimensions: 9.5 x 1 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 35 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #545,080 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #306 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Nature & Wildlife > Landscapes](#) #948 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Individual Photographers](#) #954 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > History](#)

## Customer Reviews

Andrea G. Stillman worked with Ansel Adams in the 1970s and has edited several Ansel Adams books, including *Letters And Images*, *Our National Parks*, and *Ansel Adams In Color*. She lives in New York City.

One of the areas that I most enjoyed about this book on Adams was Stillman's use of several versions of the same iconic photograph to illustrate how Adams' vision evolved over time. I also liked the times when she showed several photos taken at the same time of the, more or less, same scene and how one version was clearly superior to the others. Stillman also did a wonderful job in a

fairly brief amount of text at showing many of the different sides of Adams' personality and his relationship with others. My only negative comment is with the copy of the book that I received from . It seems to be a bookstore remainder rather than a pristine copy. I sent the first copy I received back to for a replacement as the first one had several scratches on the back cover and had obviously been dropped. There was also a black ink blot on the top text block near the spine. The second copy came without the scratches or the damage from being dropped but did have the ink blot. I believe this was a mark by the original seller, or added by , to indicate a "used" copy. The price was discounted by about 60% so I'm not surprised that it was not an uncirculated copy, but could and should have indicated that on their site.

Thanks to Andrea Stillman for the energy to put this book together. I was fortunate to meet Ansel in 1964 at Yosemite and continued to keep in contact for 8 yrs. or so. I just had to have this book because of the personal nature in which Andrea presented it. I own numerous Adams books because he inspires me to continue looking. What a wonderful human being that man was. His works will live forever and inspire others to enjoy the process of looking thru the camera to isolate that special moment that so many of us seek. Thanks again to Andrea Stillman for the insight to see the importance of one man's everyday life for all to see.

I don't usually do reviews, but this morning I'm putting this book down at page 102 and giving it the highest rating and a review. The book is both part biography of Ansel Adams and part photographic technique and art. (Of course, both parts are inseparable and intertwined.) Admittedly, I like Ansel Adam's work. But I think this book would appeal to anyone who is interested in photographic technique and art. The photos are reproduced gorgeously, and there are a lot of them. The text is engaging. Added together in one book, one can see how an artist progresses and changes over the years - on both macro and micro levels. I'm so glad I bought this book. Thank you, Ms. Stillman.

This is not a technical book about F-stops and shutter speeds but rather a book about the man behind the camera. It tells the story of some of the best known photographs. It is easy to make the photographer into a bigger than life person but this book brings out the human nature of Ansel Adams and reminds everyone that he was human with emotions, flaws, desires, weaknesses and strengths. I enjoyed reading the book and glad the author told the stories.

Even as far back as college I enjoyed Ansel Adams photographs and even took a class in his Zone

Photography techniques. I only wish that I was able to meet the man in person but this book got me as close as I possibly will be. The writing makes you feel as if you are right there talking with him. The pictures are an added bonus that makes this book a must have for anyone who loves Ansel Adams work.

Nice addition to the Adams pile and background material. Some stories you haven't heard and some photos you haven't seen. Very interesting book, though it's got some blank spots where one story or chapter doesn't seem to flow into the next. Still, overall, a used bargain.

Stories and comments from behind the scenes about what Ansel thought about his photos by those close to him. Some of these stories are repeats we already know but others are new to us. A good mix of technical photography information along with just creative comments by Ansel and others who worked with him. A good read and something to re-read as a photographer.

This book is beautiful inside: Not only an excellent set of Adams' photographs well-reproduced, the book also looks at his life through the words and pictures of others. My copy, however, arrived with its white dust jacket defaced with soiled scuff marks, either from shipping or warehouse handling, taking away a bit of the joy of being holding this volume and one star from my rating.

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