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Nan Goldin: The Ballad of Sexual Dependency

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First published in 1986, Nan Goldin's *The Ballad of Sexual Dependency* is a visual diary chronicling the struggles for intimacy and understanding among the friends and lovers whom Goldin describes as her *tribe*. These photographs described a lifestyle that was visceral, charged and seething with a raw appetite for living, and the book soon became the swan song for an era that reached its peak in the early 1980s. Twenty-five years later, Goldin's lush color photography and candid style still demand that the viewer encounter their profound intensity head-on. As she writes: *Real memory, which these pictures trigger, is an invocation of the color, smell, sound and physical presence, the density and flavor of life*. Through an accurate and detailed record of Goldin's life, *The Ballad of Sexual Dependency* records a personal odyssey as well as a more universal understanding of the different languages men and women speak. The book's influence on photography and other aesthetic realms has continued to grow, making it a classic of contemporary photography. This anniversary edition features all-new image separations produced using state-of-the-art technologies and specially prepared reproduction files, which offer a lush, immersive experience of this touchstone monograph.

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Editorial Review

Review

Ballad of Sexual Dependency is at once a diary and a soap opera, an unerring portrait of a particular East Village bohemia and a sexual taxonomy for the '80s. –The Village Voice

Nan Goldin's Ballad of Sexual Dependency is a beggar's opera of recent times. Here were real thieves and unexpected heroes, and a sense that some things in life might still be worth a brawl. –Artforum

What Robert Frank's The Americans was to the 1950s, Nan Goldin's The Ballad of Sexual Dependency is to the 1980s Goldin has created an artistic masterwork that tells us not only about the attitudes of her generation, but also about the times in which we live. –Andy Grundberg, The New York Times

Seen through her lens, the characters in her drama seem to become fully and inevitably themselves, with their personalities and physical appearance integrally linked. –The New York Times

In part a love poem to the bohemian life style of young people in New York City, it is also a melancholy meditation on the joys and terrors of romantic relationships, both straight and gay. –The New York Times

It is no exaggeration to describe Nan Goldin's monumental slide show, The Ballad of Sexual Dependency, as one of the most important photographic works of recent years. –The New York Times

About the Author

Nan Goldin began photographing at the age of fifteen. She received a BFA from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, in 1977. In 1978 she moved to New York, where she continued to document her “extended family.” These photographs, along with those taken in London, Berlin, and Provincetown, Massachusetts, became the subject of her slide shows and first book, *The Ballad of Sexual Dependency* (1986). Goldin’s other books include *The Other Side* (1993), *Ten Years After* (1997), and *The Beautiful Smile* (2008). In 1985 her work was included in the Whitney Museum of American Art’s biennial. A decade later, in 1996, a major retrospective of her work opened at the Whitney, and toured to museums throughout Europe. That same year a documentary about her life and work, *I’ll Be Your Mirror*, made in collaboration with Edmund Coulthard, was awarded a Teddy Award for Best Essay at the Berlin Film Festival. In 2001 a second retrospective of her work, *Le Feu Follet*, was held at the Centre Pompidou, Paris, and toured internationally as *The Devil’s Playground*. In 2006, Goldin was awarded the *Commandeur des Arts et des Lettres* by the French government. And, in 2007, she received the Hasselblad Award in Photography. Goldin’s most recent slide show, *Scopophilia*, was commissioned by the Louvre and shown there in 2010. Goldin lives in Berlin, Paris, and New York.

Users Review

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Reading a book can be one of a lot of activity that everyone in the world enjoys. Do you like reading book and so. There are a lot of reasons why people like it. First reading a guide will give you a lot of new details. When you read a reserve you will get new information due to the fact book is one of a number of ways to share the information or perhaps their idea. Second, examining a book will make an individual more imaginative. When you reading through a book especially fiction book the author will bring one to imagine the story how the personas do it anything. Third, you are able to share your knowledge to other people. When you read this Nan Goldin: *The Ballad of Sexual Dependency*, you can tells your family, friends along

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Kathleen Blackwood:

Reading can called head hangout, why? Because when you are reading a book mainly book entitled Nan Goldin: The Ballad of Sexual Dependency your head will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in every single aspect that maybe unfamiliar for but surely can be your mind friends. Imaging every word written in a book then become one form conclusion and explanation in which maybe you never get ahead of. The Nan Goldin: The Ballad of Sexual Dependency giving you yet another experience more than blown away your thoughts but also giving you useful data for your better life in this era. So now let us teach you the relaxing pattern the following is your body and mind will likely be pleased when you are finished reading through it, like winning a sport. Do you want to try this extraordinary shelling out spare time activity?

Gwendolyn Mullins:

The book untitled Nan Goldin: The Ballad of Sexual Dependency contain a lot of information on the item. The writer explains the girl idea with easy way. The language is very easy to understand all the people, so do not necessarily worry, you can easy to read that. The book was compiled by famous author. The author will take you in the new age of literary works. You can easily read this book because you can continue reading your smart phone, or program, so you can read the book in anywhere and anytime. If you want to buy the e-book, you can open up their official web-site and order it. Have a nice go through.

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