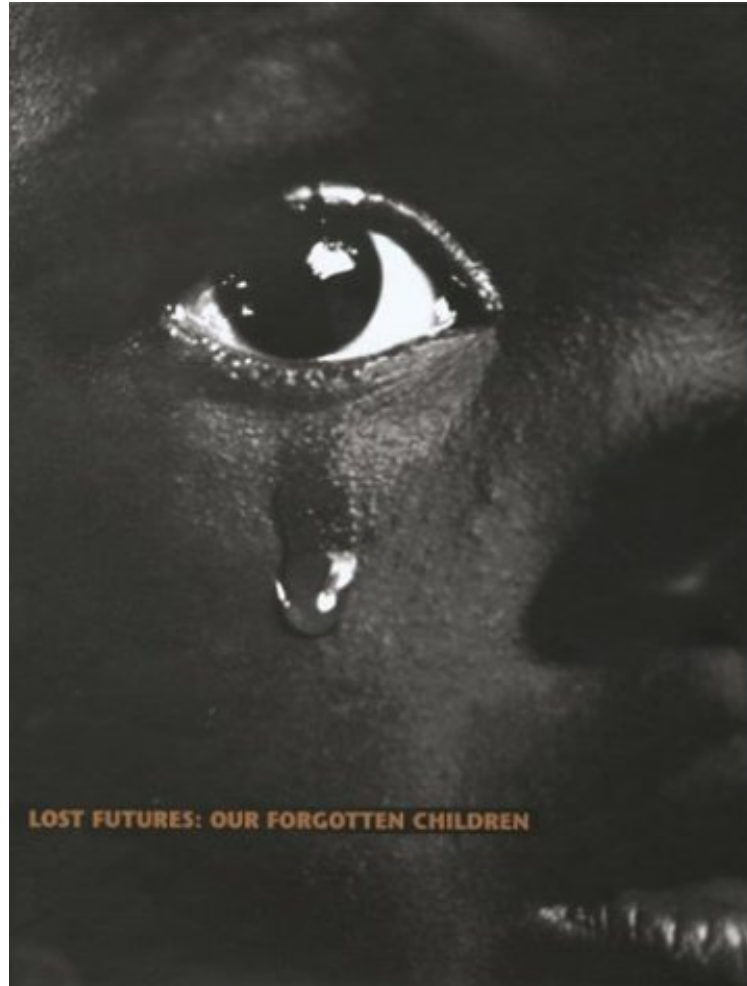


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Lost Futures: Our Forgotten Children

Stan Grossfeld

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Stan Grossfeld : Lost Futures: Our Forgotten Children before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lost Futures: Our Forgotten Children:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Heart-wrenching.By ShannynA great book. It's on my coffee table, and it gets looked at often, a reminder of the forgotten children that need to be helped around the world.0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Book OkayBy DonThe contents of the book was not what I expected. Great camera work but basically it was nothing but a picture album..4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Compelling call for action in photos/words to help kidsBy A CustomerThe tear falling from the eye of a starving Haitian infant on the cover of "LOST FUTURES: OUR FORGOTTEN CHILDREN," by photographer and writer Stan Grossfeld isn't the only one that will fall in this important, powerful and provocative new book. Most readers will also leave their tears somewhere in this book. But it should also prompt people to action. Grossfeld, in dramatic

photographs and text, is unrelenting in his determination to make people confront themselves and, in page after page, ask how the most innocent and helpless among us could be at best so neglected, and at worst, so horribly abused and maltreated. "Can it be our wealth means so much to us that we have lost sight of those who have nothing?" Muhammad Ali asks in his foreword. "The children in these pictures speak to us. They urge us to pray," says a message from Mother Teresa. For much of this decade Grossfeld, a photographer for The Boston Globe, traveled the United States and the world to document the treatment of children -- particularly the hopeless, lost and abandoned. Adults are few and far between in the book. Some of the few shown are the heroes, such as Richard Serino, head of Boston's Emergency Medical Services. Sometimes they are the mothers and fathers, struggling with the little they have -- often no more than a hug and empathetic tears -- to help their children. There are other adults: -- The soldiers in Northern Ireland seemingly in the midst of combat while a child plays nearby. -- The man smoking a cigarette as he gropes a 15-year-old prostitute in Bangkok -- a young girl who says she needs money for a new roof for her family home. -- The prisoners at Rikers Island in New York City who bury infants on Hart Island. The wood boxes -- piled seven deep, more than 1,000 a year -- contain the bodies of babies who were stillborn, or lived just a few days or hours, victims mostly of AIDS or drug addiction passed on from their mothers. Far too many children in the world, Grossfeld's book reveals, learn at too early an age that life is difficult. Mineirinho, a street child in Rio, knows it -- and finds his escape by inhaling glue. Like Veronica, an abandoned 16-year-old who lives in a sewer and only sees the police when they come to rape her, Mineirinho says the glue is recreation and escape. "If we want rain, we get rain. if we want a rainbow, we get a rainbow." "LOST FUTURES" isn't just a compilation of good work by a talented photographer and writer. It is a good work in progress. The last section, HOPE FOR THE FUTURE, lists resources and agencies working to end many of the conditions Grossfeld exposes. Also, all of Grossfeld's royalties are being donated to the U.S. Committee for UNICEF, ([...]) the United Nations Children's Fund. See the world, the children of the world, through Grossfeld's eyes. Readers will leave, at least, a tear. In his preface, Grossfeld implores: "Take a tour of the planet with me, and think about what you could do to make a difference. One thing I learned is this: Everyone can do something. The first step is home. ... "Take a tour of the planet with me and listen to these children. ... "Take a tour of the planet, and see what we do to children in the name of God. ... "Take a tour of the planet, and instead of thinking, 'There's nothing I can do,' ask, 'What can I do to change this.' ... "Take a tour of the planet, and know the boundless horrors to which innocent children are subjected. ... "Take a tour of the planet but instead of entering the Magic Kingdom in Orlando, Florida, stop and see the children of migrant workers living nearby. ... "Take a tour of the planet, and see how the spotlight of world attention shines brightly and passes into the shadow. ..."

From the children of famine in Africa to teen runaways in the streets of our own urban centers, children are suffering in all parts of the world. *Lost Futures: Our Forgotten Children* is a moving chronicle by photographer/writer Stan Grossfeld--a two-time Pulitzer-prize winner--who has traveled from Los Angeles to India, from Brazil to Thailand, documenting the precarious living conditions facing the children of the world's poor. As this book shows us, there is hope for these children--if we are willing to take action. Grossfeld has pursued a determined and clear-eyed inquiry into the tragic conditions with which these children struggle daily. An associate Editor at the Globe, Grossfeld photographs and writes with compassion and force. *Lost Futures* contains fifteen powerful photographic essays, each detailing the harsh realities of these young lives with a report that is brutal yet deeply affecting. Each essay delves into the everyday horrors faced by millions of children. From the often overlooked problems in our own backyards (child abuse, gang warfare, child prostitution, and hunger), to distressing global problems (famine in Africa and India, disease and poverty in Haiti, the AIDS crisis in Romania, child slavery, and the devastating effects of warfare), Grossfeld never lets us forget that the solutions are often simple when implemented. *Lost Futures* is more than a troubling investigation into the dehumanizing conditions endured daily by millions of children--*Lost Futures* is a cry for help and a call to action. Included is the section "Hope for the Future," a directory of organizations and resources engaged in the struggle to right the horrific wrongs Grossfeld has brought to our attention. In the heartfelt Foreword from Muhammad Ali and the ardent message from Mother Teresa we are reminded that we can make a difference. This important book is essential reading for anyone concerned with the future of today's children and for those interested in committed photojournalism.

.com Kindergartners with AIDS in Romania. Homeless children living in the tombs of Cairo and the sewers of Mexico City. Teenage prostitutes in Bangkok. Kids enslaved in Indian factories. Kids with guns on the mean streets of Northern Ireland. No question about it, the stark black and white images in Stan Grossfeld's book are gut wrenching--perhaps none more so than the child of the Gaza Strip holding her glass eye, its empty socket staring back at you. Yet this powerful and provocative book about the plight of millions of young people is as difficult to put down as it is to look at. At that, it could well set new standards in photojournalism. From Library Journal This collection of 120 black-and-white photographs by award-winning Boston Globe journalist and photographer Grossfeld documents appalling poverty, neglect, and exploitation suffered by children worldwide?including the United States. A chilling text accompanies the stark photographs, explaining their context, detailing the everyday lives of the subjects, and providing

statistics and commentary. Thus, we go from poverty, abuse, and exploitation in the United States, to famine victims in Africa, to the war-racked Middle East and Northern Ireland, to child workers in India and Asia, to street kids in Central and South America, and beyond. With a foreword by Muhammad Ali and a message from Mother Teresa, this book is essentially a call to action. The final chapter, "Hope for the Future," provides contact information for various organizations and urges us all to get involved. Highly recommended for public libraries and political/social science collections. ?Kate Kelly, Treadwell Lib., Massachusetts General Hosp., Boston Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist In this large-format book, Pulitzer Prize^-winning photojournalist Grossfeld presents exploited, injured, and troubled poor children, photographed during at least 16 years' worth of assignments throughout the world. Here are infants abused by their parents in Boston, adolescents living on their own in the sewers of Mexico City, teenage prostitutes in Thailand, elementary-school-age boys working as slave labor in brass and glass factories in India, and youngsters learning to aim rifles in Cuba. The pictures are often formally beautiful, but their content is nearly always morally ugly. The accompanying text, although it relates horror story after horror story, is mercifully devoid of political advocacy or policy mongering. Instead, Grossfeld appends a short (perhaps too short) directory of sizable organizations that work directly with the problems the rest of the book powerfully presents. Ray Olson