



American Photobooth

Nakki Goranin, David Haberstich (Foreword by)

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A fascinating history of an American institution that includes an extraordinary collection of photobooth images.

"That a perceptive, dedicated, and sensitive artist like Nakki Goranin has rescued from oblivion so many amazing self-portraits created by amateurs confronting themselves in the fleeting privacy of humble photobooths is yet another miracle for which we can be grateful."--from the foreword by David Haberstich. Generally relegated to the realm of kitsch, the history and cultural importance of the photobooth has long been overlooked. Here, Nakki Goranin documents the invention, technological evolution, and commercial history of the photobooth with extensive illustrations culled from twenty-five years of collecting. Complementing this history is a powerful collection of heartbreak, funny, and absolutely beautiful photobooth images. These often solitary figures--seeking freedom, confession, a thrill--are evocative of a lost time and place. Haberstich writes, "For anyone who assumes that photobooth pictures are perfunctory, utilitarian records at best, the range of emotions and moods portrayed by the subjects of [this] collection is a revelation." Over 200 color and black-and-white photographs.

American Photobooth Details

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Author : Nakki Goranin , David Haberstich (Foreword by)

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From Reader Review American Photobooth for online ebook

Joel Wiebner says

This book is more than just a collection of great photobooth images. The author took the history of this phenomenon and wove it into a story with a wonderful list of characters.

Holly says

Photobooths! are one of my favorite subjects...but I wasn't so keen on the the layout. pretty average approach. nice historical references.

David Bales says

A book that traces the beginnings of the automatic, coin-operated photobooth, which started in the early days of the twentieth century and became a national mania by the 1920s. The "photomaton" was a popular machine used by millions to print out cheap, high-quality photographs on vacations or visits to amusement parks. Edward Hanna of Utica started his own company in the early 1950s and cleaned up.

Bee says

I've been lamenting to friends for years now about how sad I am that photobooths are a lost art. I've always loved them and I still drag whomever I'm with into them on the rare occasions I find one. This was a lovely book to skim through.

My favorite photo is on page 93.

Marginalia2 says

Not only is the history fascinating and illuminating, but the photos are so intriguing Nakki tells of the long lines at the 42nd Street booth and the soldiers and sailors who took their photos before leaving for the front (WWII). It makes me wonder about those photos—who came back, how did they come back?

Liza says

Nakki Goranin had a show of American Photobooth at my gallery, Pine Street Art Works. This is a fascinating and beautiful book

Laura says

If you got a bit weepy at the end of Love Actually, this book is for you.

Kevin Bender says

great book about some fascinating stories and technologies. with lots of photos!

Patricia says

I started to read the essay about the evolution of the photobooth and got distracted and didn't finish it. But most people will get this book for the photobooth pictures, which were striking.

Lindsay says

Just beautiful.

monica says

I am reading this book, I have read this book and I will keep reading and admiring the stories it tells.
