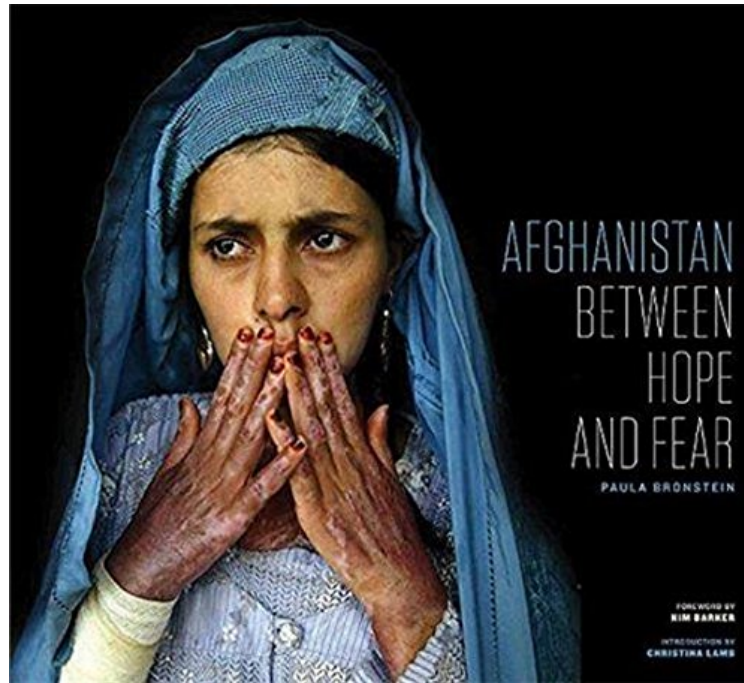


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## Afghanistan: Between Hope and Fear

*Paula Bronstein*

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**Paula Bronstein : Afghanistan: Between Hope and Fear** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Afghanistan: Between Hope and Fear:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Extraordinary images that faithfully portray the beauty and horror of this land and its recent events.By NealThis is just an extraordinary book. Ms. Bronstein spent nearly 15 years in the country and the images reflect her sensitivity and understanding of the issues. But more important, she has an incredible eye for what makes a great image...the color, the composition, the sequencing.... Even the pictures of the results of the awful violence still pop, which add context to the social commentary implicit in the image. This is not the first book on Afghanistan's beauty and horrors, but it is one of the top two or maybe three of all the photo books covering the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy JZSDramatic, often shattering photographs of Afghanistan.

Winner, International Photography Award, 1st Place, Professional: Book, Documentary, 2016The Afghan people are standing at a crucial crossroads in history. Can their fragile democratic institutions survive the drawdown of US military support? Will Afghan women and girls be stripped of their modest gains in freedom and opportunity as the West loses interest in their plight? While the media have largely moved on from these stories, Paula Bronstein remains passionately committed to bearing witness to the lives of the Afghan people. In this powerful photo essay, she goes beyond war coverage to reveal the full complexity of daily life in what may be the world's most reported on yet least known country.Afghanistan: Between Hope and Fear presents a photographic portrait of this war-torn country's people across more than a decade. With empathy born of the challenges of being an American female photojournalist working

in a conservative Islamic country, Bronstein gives voice to those Afghans, particularly women and children, rendered silent during the violent Taliban regime. She documents everything from the grave trials facing the countryhuman rights abuses against women, poverty and the aftermath of war, and heroin addiction, among themto the stirrings of new hope, including elections, girls' education, and work and recreation. Fellow award-winning journalist Christina Lamb describes the gains that Afghan women have made since the overthrow of the Taliban, as well as the daunting obstacles they still face. An eloquent portrait of everyday life, *Afghanistan: Between Hope and Fear* is the most complete visual narrative history of the country currently in print.

"A collection of photographs that whiplash from beautiful to horrific, a visual compendium of what has happened on the ground during Americas longest war . . . the book is a must-see for anyone with any interest in Afghanistan, the plight of women internationally or photography." (Kim Barker New York Times Lens Blog 2016-08-15)"Bronstein's collection of photos is impressive . . .It is a feast of imagery that could not have been served at a better moment in history, the protracted conflict having dulled Afghanistan to American sensibilities . . .[She] remains committed to portraying those who might otherwise be forgotten in a seemingly endless conflict. In doing so, her images evoke emotions that are like Afghanistan itself, caught in that space between hope and fear." (CNN 2016-05-31)"Paula Bronsteins photographs convey the impression that she is fond of, and touched by, the people she decided to photograph. . . . This book is not only remarkable but truly impressive and extraordinary. Paula Bronstein makes one understand because she makes one feel. She created a deeply moving testimony of life." (F-Stop 2016-08-21)"The most powerful portrait of Afghanistan I've come across these are images that you will never forget." (South China Morning Post 2016-10-05)"Bronstein has put together one of the richest portraits there is of modern Afghanistan complicated, conflicted, and contradictory, but always compelling. Just try to put down this book without looking at every image, without feeling each person in your gut, in your heart. Its impossible." (Kim Barker, from the foreword)"I am impressed with Bronsteins sheer determination, grit, sensitivity to her subjects on an intimate level, and ability to give insight into lives we would never know exist. The fact that an American female photojournalist has been embraced in Afghan culture is remarkable. Her images portray the gamut of emotion an unvarnished reality of urgency, despair, compassion, understanding, and hope." (Rene C. Byer, Pulitzer Prizewinning photojournalist and coauthor of *Living on a Dollar a Day: The Lives and Faces of the Worlds Poor*) "Bronstein has put together one of the richest portraits there is of modern Afghanistan complicated, conflicted, and contradictory, but always compelling. Just try to put down this book without looking at every image, without feeling each person in your gut, in your heart. Its impossible." (Kim Barker, from the foreword)"I am impressed with Bronsteins sheer determination, grit, sensitivity to her subjects on an intimate level, and ability to give insight into lives we would never know exist. The fact that an American female photojournalist has been embraced in Afghan culture is remarkable. Her images portray the gamut of emotion an unvarnished reality of urgency, despair, compassion, understanding, and hope." (Rene C. Byer, Pulitzer Prizewinning photojournalist and coauthor of *Living on a Dollar a Day: The Lives and Faces of the Worlds Poor*)About the AuthorPaula Bronstein is one of Americas most distinguished female photojournalists and one of the few women internationally who cover war and conflict. Her many honors include the Faber Award of the Overseas Press Club, the National Press Photographers Association Photographer of the Year award, and multiple wins of Pictures of the Year International (POY-I). She was also a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and the Leica Oskar Barnack Award. *Afghanistan: Between Hope and Fear* is her first book, and it has already been a finalist for three major photography book awards: the CDS/ Honickman First Book Prize in Photography, the European Publishers Award for Photography, and the FotoEvidence Book Award. Former South Asia bureau chief for the Chicago Tribune and now a reporter for the New York Times, Kim Barker is the author of *The Taliban Shuffle: Strange Days in Afghanistan and Pakistan*, which i was adapted into the film *Whiskey Tango Foxtrot*, starring Tina Fey. Currently a foreign-affairs correspondent for the (London) Sunday Times, Christina Lamb has been named Foreign Correspondent of the Year five times; she has also been awarded the Prix Bayeux, Europe's most prestigious prize for war correspondents, and the British OBE. A best-selling author who has been traveling to Afghanistan since 1987, her most recent book is *Farewell Kabul: From Afghanistan to a More Dangerous World*.