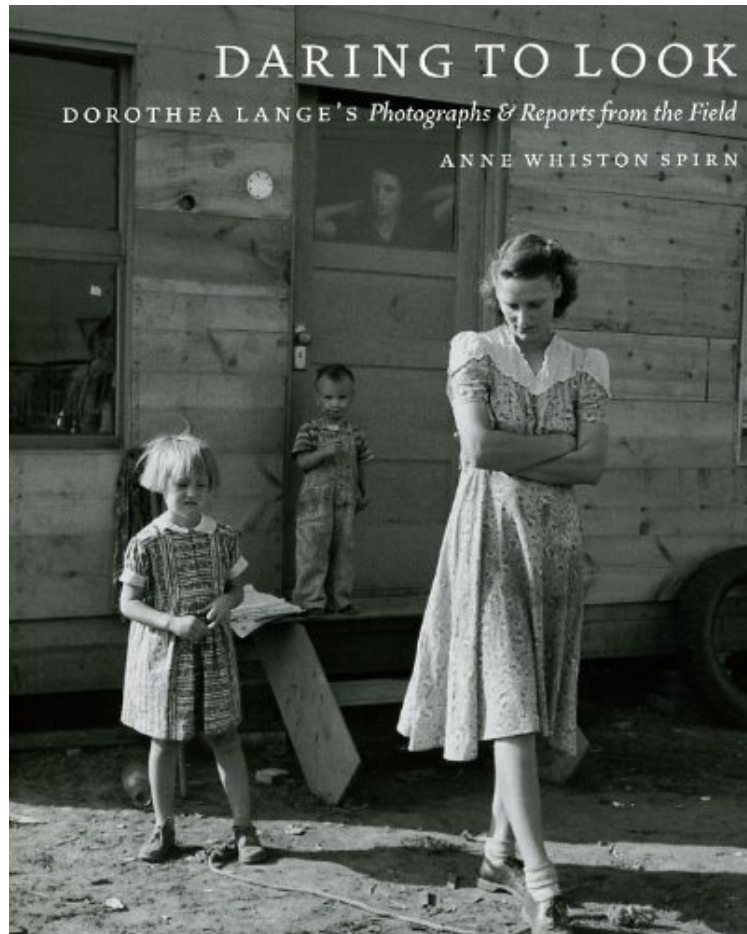


[Ebook free] Daring to Look: Dorothea Lange's Photographs and Reports from the Field

## Daring to Look: Dorothea Lange's Photographs and Reports from the Field

Anne Whiston Spirn

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**Anne Whiston Spirn : Daring to Look: Dorothea Lange's Photographs and Reports from the Field** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Daring to Look: Dorothea Lange's Photographs and Reports from the Field:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Worth the purchase. By GRTSDCAI learned of this book by accident. I was researching my family tree and discovered that Dorothea Lange had taken some pictures of my home state and in particular the county I was born in, even further discovering a link to my family. I was thrilled to receive this in the mail and have enjoyed it immensely. The photographs are marvelous and the story details captivating. Even if you don't have a particular link to to book itself as I do, it's still worth having in your home. 8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. The crushing effect of the depression in detail By John J. Falkenstine In an age where Cable news channels creative revisionist dream worlds of the past for those with child-like gullibility, this books brings home the truth like a hammer through a window. In the Thirties, the USA was very wealthy but in a great deal of pain as

well. Threadbare families wandered the highways, struggling to survive, the direct result of a mismanaged economy. While some partied, others worked for pennies, having lost everything, dressed in rags, and short of food and basic necessities. The quality of the images is stunning. Lange was not only a technically skilled photographer, she also had the people skills to set up the scenes and make the people in the images display their struggles by simply looking into her camera. For those who say that the depression was not all that bad, shove this book into their face and make them look at the images of worn people, skinny kids, and exhausted cars gasping their last combustion stroke. I don't think there's really a bad image anywhere in this heavy duty book. Print quality is excellent. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Dorothea Lange By The Scone Ranger If you are a first-time viewer of Lange's work, or a long-time admirer, this is an excellent work to own, and share with friends. In particular, there is a wealth of anecdotal information for many of her images re the circumstances under which a picture was captured. Lange had a gift for establishing rapport with people in very difficult / desperate circumstances. Poverty does not lend itself to "outsiders" peering into it as a gawker let alone with a camera to record the level of misery. That she was able to consistently obtain such images is a testimony to how passionately she plied her craft.

Daring to Look presents never-before-published photos and captions from Dorothea Langes fieldwork in California, the Pacific Northwest, and North Carolina during 1939. Langes images of squatter camps, benighted farmers, and stark landscapes are stunning, and her captions which range from simple explanations of settings to historical notes and biographical sketches add unexpected depth, bringing her subjects and their struggles unforgettably to life, often in their own words. When Lange was dismissed from the Farm Security Administration at the end of 1939, these photos and field notes were consigned to archives, where they languished, rarely seen. With Daring to Look, Anne Whiston Spirn not only returns them to the public eye, but sets them in the context of Langes pioneering life, work, and struggle for critical recognition firmly placing Lange in her rightful position at the forefront of American photography. A thoughtful and meticulously researched account of Langes career. . . . Spirn, a photographer herself, traces Langes path, visiting her locations and subjects in a fascinating series of then and now shots. Publishers Weekly Dorothea Lange has long been regarded as one of the most brilliant photographic witnesses we have ever had to the peoples and landscapes of America, but until now no one has fully appreciated the richness with which she wove images together with words to convey her insights about this nation. We are lucky indeed that Anne Whiston Spirn, herself a gifted photographer and writer, has now recovered Langes field notes and woven them into a rich tapestry of texts and images to help us reflect anew on Langes extraordinary body of work. William Cronon, author of Natures Metropolis

From Publishers Weekly In this thoughtful and meticulously researched account of Lange's career, Spirn focuses on the photographer's largely unpublished 1939 portfolio and champions it as a masterful mix of the visual and the verbal. Lange's stark photographs and accompanying field reports testify to her desire to show real Depression-era Americans displaced and downtrodden, but carrying on nevertheless as honestly as possible; they are published as a whole in the second section of Spirn's book. These photographs include Lange's much vaunted portrait of sharecroppers hunched in tobacco fields and mothers with their hungry children as well as some of her lesser known landscape photography. The reverential Spirn, a photographer herself, traces Lange's path, visiting her locations and subjects in a fascinating series of then and now shots, an homage to Lange, who Spirn compellingly argues deserves to take her place as one of the most important American artists of the Twentieth Century. (May) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. As a lifelong friend of Dorothea Lange, I was absolutely astounded and thoroughly pleased with Daring to Look. Anne Whiston Spirn has hit the nail on the head: she knows the secret of understanding good photography--and of understanding Dorothea Lange's life as well. An astonishing book.