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Synopsis

Of the ten million or so different species of insects on our planet, none is more fascinating than the honeybee. Magnified hundreds to thousands of times with a high resolution scanning electron microscope, honeybees become architectural masterpieces an elegant fusion of form and function. Now available in paperback, Bee presents sixty astonishing photographs of honeybee anatomy in magnifications ranging from 10x to 5000x. Rendered in stunning detail, these photographs uncover the strange beauty of the honeybee's pattern, form, and structure. Comprising 6,900 hexagonal lenses, their eyes resemble the structure of a honeycomb. The bee's six-legged exoskeleton is fuzzy with hairs that build up a static charge as it flies in order to electrically attract pollen. Wings clasp together with tiny hooks, and a double-edged stinger resembles a serrated hypodermic needle. These visual discoveries, made otherworldly through photographer Rose-Lynn Fisher's lens, expand the boundaries of our thinking about the natural world and stimulate our imaginations.

Book Information

Paperback: 128 pages Publisher: Princeton Architectural Press (March 28, 2012) Language: English ISBN-10: 1616890762 ISBN-13: 978-1616890766 Product Dimensions: 7.8 x 0.4 x 9.2 inches Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (26 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #234,862 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #38 in Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Individual Photographers > Artists' Books #91 in Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Biology > Entomology #123 in Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Animals > Insects & Spiders

Customer Reviews

I will write the dissenting opinion! :)First, the book isn't a book of "photographs." It's a book of images from an electron microscope. The images are very crisp and very high resolution, but colorless and bland. Whereas a photograph might make a bee "come alive" on the pages, these images make the bee seem cold and abstract, like an object rather than the complex pheromone machine it is. The images are also not particularly magnified, many being just 40x or a couple hundred. Frankly it takes much more skill to properly light and capture microscope images at these

powers. I think the highest magnification was 2000x, and the are only a few at those power. It gets worse though. The book is not arranged to tell a story, or illustrate anything, not even skill with an electron microscope. The images often do not clearly show the part the text describes (it's in darkness for example). The sections are just jumbles of bee parts. The text does absolutely nothing to explain the intricate images that appear. The book appears to be someone messing with a microscope and simply selected the best quality images for publication, only because they were the best shots they captured. Worse still, the book is clearly put together by someone who knows little or nothing about beekeeping and honey bees, I suspect one of the "save the bee" sheeple who got a bee hive in their yard as soon as they learned it was the cool thing for hipster enviros to do. This is not a claim I make to malign the work. I offer this WRONG statement quoted directly:"...including the small percentage of workers who retain the ability to lay eggs - a necessary backup in case the queen begins to fail in her duties." (p.

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