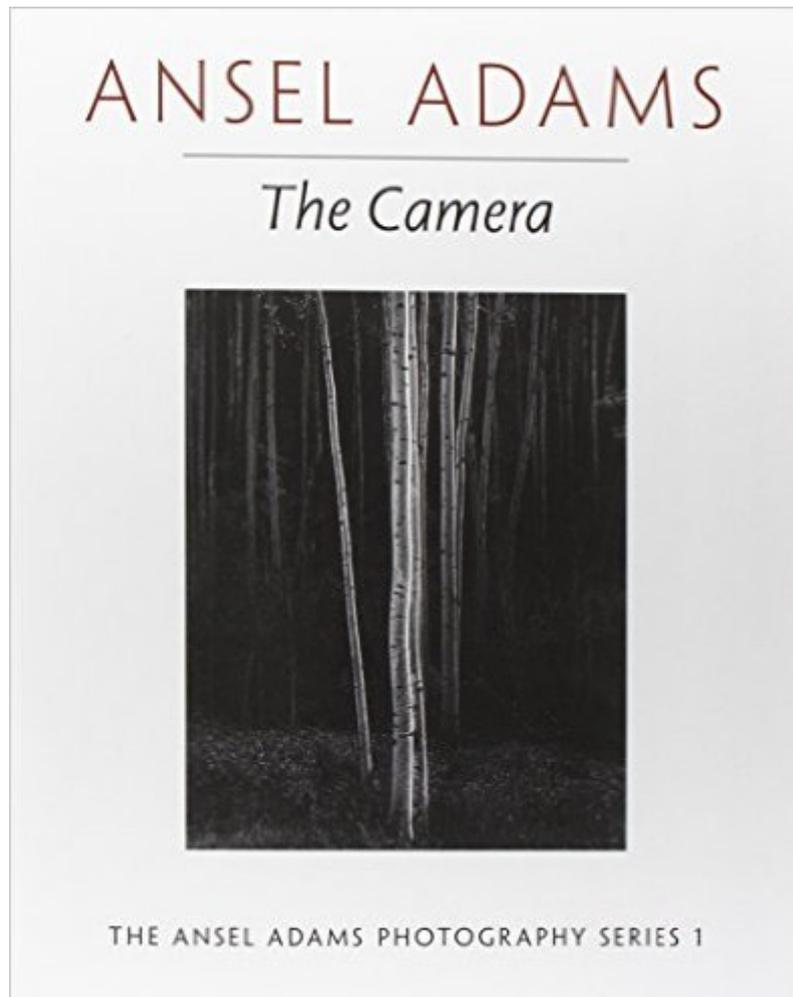


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# Ansel Adams: The Camera (The Ansel Adams Photography Series 1)



## Synopsis

This is an attractively priced photography classic made accessible to a wider, new audience. It covers everything from "seeing" the finished photo in advance, to lens choices. It is illustrated with many of Ansel Adams most famous images.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is a book which is filled with both photographs and descriptions of the technique to create photographs. I took a hard-cover copy on a week long trip to photograph parts of Ireland, and was very glad to carry the book with me and read it. Ansel did use a view camera for many of his most famous photos; I use medium and small format, myself. Even though Ansel used a view camera, with its associated movements, the book makes an effort to describe technique as it applies to small and medium format cameras. This effort reached its goal for me. I got a lot of enjoyment out of reading this book, and practical information, too. The basic, straight-forward clarity of the writing in this book would make it a good read for anyone with an interest in photographic technique, from rank beginner to seasoned pro. One technique I enhanced from this book was the use of a high camera position. Ansel took many of his photos from a tripod which was mounted on the roof of his station wagon. One of the benefits of such a location is the "semi-helicopter" look to the photos. The foliage is more interesting from this height, and the viewer can see more than he would be able to from ground level.

Einstein wrote a book for lay people to explain the theory of relativity. I've read it twice, and I still don't know what Albert's talking about. Ansel Adams wrote three books on photography, *The Camera*, *The Negative*, and *The Print*, for lay people to explain how to take good photographs. I've read 'em all, and at least I know what Ansel's talking about, even if I can't take photographs like his yet (gimme fifty years of practice). Whether you like Adams' style or not, in technique, he is to photography what Einstein is to physics: a single authoritative master whose work can be relied upon. Of the three books, *The Negative* is the most important; but if you are just getting started, *The Camera* is where to begin.

I thought that this book was very thorough. I learned many useful things, and I also learned many things that don't really apply to me but I found interesting none-the-less. Ansel Adams writes very precisely, and the book is packed with lots of very useful figures/photographs that help in understanding the text that is being read. The book might be a little boring for a casual picture taker. Also, I imagine that the book might be too basic for a professional who has been doing photography for a great number of years. But for a serious photographer getting started, it is an excellent book. And who better to read than the master Ansel Adams.

*The Camera*, book 1 of 3 in the Ansel Adams Photography Series, is well written with many illustrations of the subjects in each chapter. It also includes many of Ansel's own photos as examples. The chapters are written for the novice as well as for the journeyman who want to refresh one's memory on the basics. The latter chapters get more involved with technical information. Book 2 and 3, "The Negative" and "The Print" are equally well written with an introduction to Ansel's own Zone system. A must read for serious photographers or the novice interested in advanced techniques and/ or terminology. Ansel will go down in history not only as a great photographer but teacher and writer as well. I highly recommend this series to anyone interested in taking better pictures.

Good overview of how a camera and lens systems works. The book discusses all formats of cameras and various lenses and filters in good detail. Very good explanations of exposure depth of field focus and all other general topics are discussed. This is a great reference for anyone who wants to know the workings of a camera. The book also covers what each format of camera can do. It outlines techniques for achieving effects based on focal length, aperture and film speed. There is also a section of filters and what you can do for you. The book has a heavy bias towards black

and white but most techniques are transferable to color. There is not a lot about exposure control that is in the next book *The Negative*. This book will help with camera care maintenance and help you decide what kind of equipment you will need as you advance as a photographer. The descriptions are never brand names but types of cameras and lenses. This book is very fundamental and therefore timeless.

Recently bought a DSLR, and really needed something to help me improve my knowledge on photography. Since lots of pros online recommend it, I got this book. This book helped me understand the most important fundamentals of the camera. After reading other photography books, I learned a few things like smaller aperture causes a greater depth of field. All I got to do was set the aperture to the largest or smallest possible in my point-and-shoot aperture priority mode. It is because other books never taught me why apertures can affect the depth of field, and the explanations are largely insufficient for the reader to understand how to use the intermediate aperture settings (which ranges will become out of focus, for instance). It is not until this book that I got the "that's why it is like that" enlightenment. I would recommend this book to anyone who wants to understand photography. Some people may find the book too academic, and the pictures here are black and white. But I learned more from this book compared to those that have very nice colorful photos. Some don't even have captions with the aperture, shutter, ISO, etc. used. But even if they do, without adequate explanation on why they chose those particular settings (never mind understanding them), it is really difficult for novices like me to improve our photography skills. This book solves that problem for me.

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