

## *Review of INNER LIGHT*

If a true artist lives for his art, and might even be willing to die for it, then photographer Brian Killigrew is the living embodiment of the true artist. Since his youth, Killigrew has lived for his passion—and, on one occasion, even came within inches of dying for it.

The captivating story of his devoted quest to realize and immortalize his artistic vision is told—in compelling words and in stunning black-and-white images—within the 222 pages of his elegant photographic collection, *Inner Light*. This exquisitely printed, high-quality hardcover volume compiles decades of Killigrew's finest work. It reveals a confident and complete command of the craft and the art of photography, both behind the camera and in the darkroom.

There is breathtaking diversity of subject matter in this dazzling collection. You will find echoes of Ansel Adams in Killigrew's spectacular images of Yosemite's wonders. From the American Southwest he frames haunting landscapes, intimate interiors of a Western ranch house, quirky items captured within a folk-art museum, nostalgia-inducing scenes of ancient locomotives, poignant portraits of grizzled railroad workers. On an adventurous, unexpectedly dangerous excursion to Iceland, he captures otherworldly scenes of barren beauty: the land's craggy vistas, its steaming volcanoes, its frozen lakes.

Nothing escapes his artist's eye. Whether Killigrew's subject is a simple rock, the folds of a curtain, or a collection of pots hanging on a wall, he unveils the surreal, abstract patterns hiding in everyday objects; exposes the beauty lurking in the mundane; and imposes a sense of meaning and order onto seemingly chaotic and petty things that escape our notice. And that is the invaluable contribution of great visual artists like Brian Killigrew: they teach us to see anew the world around us—to notice and to appreciate its endless, awe-inspiring wonders.

*Inner Light* is a treasure store of visual splendors. This exquisite volume of master photographer Brian Killigrew's lifework belongs in the fine-arts section of every library, on the coffee table of every elegant home, and in the reference collection of every photographer, aspiring or professional.

—Robert Bidinotto

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