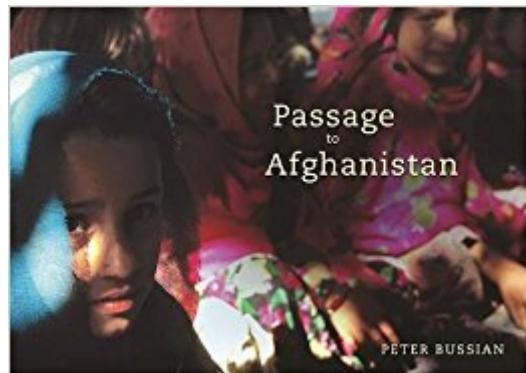


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# Passage To Afghanistan



## Synopsis

In 2001, the Taliban approved Peter Bussianâ™s request to photograph Afghanistan, asking him to show the world the true Afghanistan,â • and for the past fifteen years, heâ™s followed through on his promise to do so. In total, Bussian has spent nearly four years on the ground in Afghanistan, traveling there as both a photojournalist and with aid organizations such as the United Nations. In this entrancing volume, Bussian presents more than 130 photographs of what he calls "the land that time forgot." His captivating images feature everything from jaw-dropping landscapes—jagged mountains, desolate deserts, broad planes, and lush valleys—to its passionate people—Kabul street vendors and donkey cart drivers, devout Muslims, and displaced refugees. A fascinating introduction gives perspective on the special allure of the land—a place whose mystery was described by great poets, such as Rumi and Kipling, and that today is grounded in the fierce independence of its people whose physical and mental toughness survives, even thrives, despite forty years of uninterrupted wars, and great famines. Side-by-side with the photographs are enlightening captions to give context to the remarkable images. As a compilation, this is one of the most significant visual volumes of our time. While the world is at war with terrorism, Afghanistan, for many, represents the start of it all: where the United Statesâ™ "War on Terror" began. To understand what we are up against and what follows Western intervention, here, at last, is a visual gateway: a portal to a significant but little-understood land.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Peter Bussian is a photographer, filmmaker, and media consultant who has spent much of his career documenting refugees and international development issues. His clients have included media such as the New York Times, Paris Match, and the Oprah Winfrey Show, as well as organizations like the United Nations, the United States Agency for International Development, and the Department for International Development overseen by the United Kingdom. Bussian first went to Afghanistan in 2001, and has returned many times over the past fifteen years to photograph, film, and otherwise record Afghan life. He lives in New York City.

Peter Bussian's beautiful, evocative photographs answer the question that people have asked on my home visits during 14 years of working in Afghanistan: Why do you keep returning to a country that is so difficult and dangerous to work in? It's the people! How can you not help people who continuously face and overcome adversity caused by war, natural disasters and poverty? Peter shows us Afghans who get up every morning to work at difficult jobs to feed their families, travel many miles to get health care for their sick and help rebuild schools so that their children can be educated. His photos of the terrible conditions Afghans have faced and the gains they are making in rebuilding their country explain why international humanitarian workers (and former Peace Corps Volunteers who worked in Afghanistan long ago) have returned there for multiple assignments.

--Suzanne M. Griffin, Author of *Lessons of Love in Afghanistan*

Absolutely beautiful photographs, capturing the beauty of a people and land that has sadly been so decimated by war.

I really love this book. So often we have a very limited view or idea about a country like Afghanistan and its people. This book fills in the blanks, shows the faces of people, the beauty of the land and hope that we all long for. I love Peter's perspective that he shares in the book. I hope you will purchase this book and support this photographer that has invested so much.

The photos are startling, human, beautiful and haunting at the same time. Bussian's brave work gives us a real feeling for what's going on in Afghanistan that takes us behind "enemy lines". Very impressive and bold work.

Stunning pictures. A glimpse into this culture like no other.

The author has travelled extensively in Afghanistan over 15 years going back to the time of the Taliban and is a very talented photojournalist. The images he has chosen for this book portray the struggles and hopes of ordinary Afghans, the stunning beauty of the landscape and the displacement and ruination of the wars, which, sadly, have not yet ended. I recommend this book as a constructive memory for the many folk who have worked or served in Afghanistan, or as an evocative introduction to an exotic, and tragic yet hopeful, corner of our planet.

This is truly inspiring, it is a visual gift that is so important for our time. It captures the real Afghanistan, and tells a story that is quite different from what we would perhaps believe to be true. It is a place with real beauty and inspiring people— a beautiful book.

Captivating photos that give a glimpse into the culture, landscape and life of the people of Afghanistan. Some of the photos absolutely take your breath away.

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