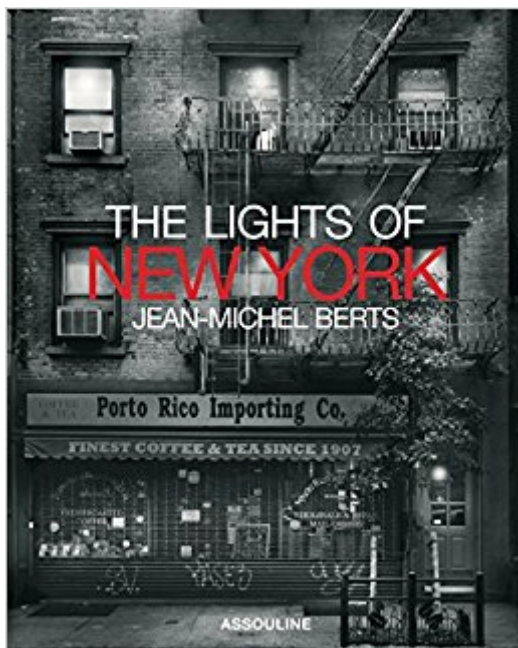


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# The Light Of New York (City Lights)



## Synopsis

At dawn, the streets of New York resonate with a life of its own: muted, subdued, and mysterious. Award-winning photographer Jean-Michel Berts captures the city that never sleeps in moments of dream-like serenity. The city's greatest landmarks and views are captured here like never before, as buildings, bridges, completely deserted streets, trees, and empty flights of stairs take on a poetic, ethereal quality. Much more than a hymn, this photographic gem is a moving homage to the world's greatest city, seen as a virtuoso sculptor's masterpiece. Each print is given ample breathing space in a GIFTS-volume whose opulent trim size befits the spectacular quality of the shots.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Despite a promising scientific career, Jean-Michel Berts chose a different path - to become a photographer. With his first Rolleiflex camera, he became sensitive to the effects of light. Since the eighties, thanks to Daniel Podva, he has worked as a still life photographer for several well-known cosmetics and perfume brands. Then he decided to work on his own. After a successful beginning, Jean Michel decided to devote himself to still life photography.

Great coffee table book. It's interesting to view New York in a different LIGHT! Amazing city. Amazing photos. great read!

all black and white photos of new york landmarks....exquisitely done...the lighting is absolutely masterful...i would love to talk to this photographer and "see" how he "sees"...

Stunning photography of the best city ever!!! Great coffee table book or gift for the NYC fan in your life. Buy it!!

This is a collection of moody black and white photographs taken at dawn with a large-format pinhole camera. There are no people or moving cars but lots of rays of light from the rising sun and brooding clouds. The effect is fantastic. Sometimes the photos look like they were executed in charcoal. The details are mostly very crisp even though the palette is dark. The major landmarks are all present. Two of Mlle Liberty, 3 or 4 of the Empire State Building, a wonderful shot of the Flatiron Building, etc. (Only 1 of the Chrysler Building, however, and not one of Berts's best.) There are some nice shots of Central Park. He likes the Brooklyn Bridge--and he's good at making large objects like bridges and the Empire State Building look massive. The use of black and white and dawn's early light defamiliarizes the postcard icons and restores them to their original majesty. There are also some nice shots of Little Italy and lesser known buildings, too. This is a great book. If you like it you should check out "Light of Paris" by the same photographer. I can't resist offering up one more recommendation, this time for a book that's almost the opposite of The Light of New York in its approach but which is still a wonderful and fun look at the Big Apple: "Manhattan Lightscape". Its colors are magnificent.

I simply love NY and I'm also a photographer and to see the images on this book I was overwhelmed. Great, Great images.

This book is just beautiful, some of the best black and white photos of NYC that I have ever seen. A must have for the coffee table. And at \$10.00 a great bargain as well.

This was the item I put down as my Secret Santa gift at work several years ago. To my delight, one of the better paid employees drew my name and purchased this book for me (it was about \$35-\$40 at the time). I DID ignore the \$20 maximum Secret Santa wish list. I WANTED this book! This has to be one of the most beautiful black and white photography books I have ever laid eyes on. AND that the images are of New York City... this cannot be beat. Don't contemplate this purchase, just buy the book!

Jean-Michel Berts seems to have developed an interesting photo format with his city books. Istanbul, London, Paris, Tokyo, Venice and this New York title have been captured at daybreak when the light creates a look not repeated at other times. Another interesting thing about the photos is the absence of any New Yorkers, this must have been particularly tricky with spread photo of Times Square (traffic free, too). The sixty photos admittedly do take in many well-known places and buildings but rarely have they been captured in the early morning light. I liked the sequence of shots as the pages are turned, a well framed building like the New York County Courthouse is followed by the Unisphere in Corona Park then a long shot of the Empire State followed by the view from Top of the Rock and back to the ground with a lovely shot of the Flatiron Building. Even the very familiar Manhattan skyline panoramas have a special look in the morning mist. The books production is first class especially the wonderful silky feel paper, perfect for the 175 screen. The book's large size make the spreads over twenty inches wide and frequently there are single page shots facing a black page which adds to the look of photo. Berts photos are another plus for the city.

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