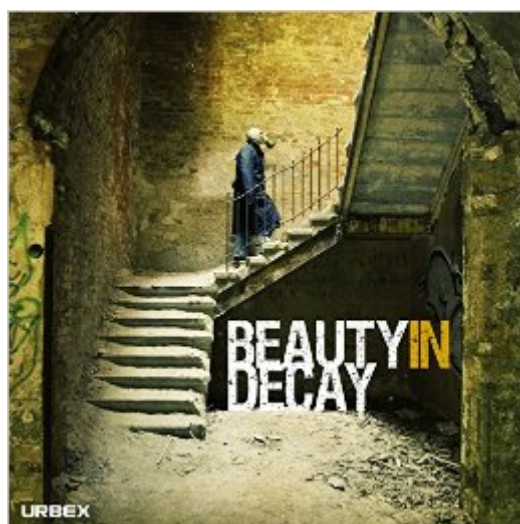


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# Beauty In Decay. Urbex



## Synopsis

"Take nothing but photographs, leave nothing but footprints." This is the unspoken rule of urban explorers, who sometimes risk their safety, police records, and even their lives to explore abandoned buildings, sewers and storm drains, transit tunnels, utility tunnels, high-security areas of inhabited buildings, and even catacombs such as those in Paris, Rome, Odessa and Naples. Although these urban explorers usually work solo or in small teams, they collectively put forth a ground cry against a modern culture that embraces the new, polished, uniform, and mundane. Urban explorers find the beauty layers of graffiti by years worth of writers, multi-hued peeling paint, antique objects, someone's initials left in the dust on a broken stained glass window and physical manifestations of memory that abandoned, impermanent urban spaces can hold. *Beauty in Decay* features the best in full-color, panoramic photographs from urban exploration or Urbex around the world. Overgrown industrial complexes, disused lunatic asylums, abandoned palaces and forgotten monasteries are showcased, and paired with clear-sighted, poetic text.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

As an urban explorer myself, I have to say that I was absolutely blown away by this book. There are close to 200 pages of amazing photographs from around the world of decaying and abandoned buildings of all sorts. The large majority of these pictures are done in HDR (High Dynamic Range), which has a stigma of itself as being overdone and almost hurtful to the eyes. This is because most

people who try to do it are not doing it correctly. RomanyWG and his friends do it correctly, and it shows. Big time. Each picture in this book is suitable for framing on its own and as a collective it represents not only what each photographer who enjoys strives to accomplish, but it shows what the goal of our efforts are. We want to preserve our experiences while traveling to these places as close to what our eyes see when there. If that means digitally manipulating these images in a way that may be more than a straight from the camera shot, then so be it. These explorers represent extreme talent and dedication to the hobby and this book is proof of that. If you enjoy urban exploring (urbex) or just photography in general, get this book. You will love it. I bet everyone that sees it on your coffee table will not be able to put it down.

I've never posted a review, but this book blew me away. I'm a model photographer and images shot in decaying warehouses & similar locations always have an appeal that enhances a fashion or nude model. Visiting the Walker Art Center bookshop I came across this book, and the images are museum worthy, every single one. Simply exquisite, painterly representations of magnificent, abandoned interiors, beautifully lit. I really don't especially care about architectural photography, but these images are superb, unique and I must own it.

This book is a masterpiece, not only in terms of the numerous incredible photographs contained, but also the compilation and the accompanying text is thoughtful and insightful. A pleasure to read and to browse. Not just a book for the coffee table, but a book you will pick up and read again and again. Awesome, inspiring and artistic photography from the most amazing and forbidden locations!!  
Bravo, RomanyWG!

Has some really cool photos and I also like the quotes in it from urban explorers. It's not completely full of photos, so be aware that there is a bit of text, and also many of the photos have the contrast upped and are otherwise touched up in post-production, so they're not completely natural straight out of the camera but it gives them an even grittier look. A cool book, overall, showcasing a variety of interesting places that most people will never otherwise see, as well as giving a sense of the art of UE photography. The cover also has a nice solid matte feel, for those of you who care about that!

The photographs are mindblowing but the excessive use of High Dynamic Range software on most of them is really annoying. These pictures are meant to represent reality and that's the last impression I get by looking at them. The fascination with these places is that they are from the past

but they are here and are real. The pictures in this book don't give that impression, they look more like snapshots from a modern quest computer game.

The photography in this book, along with the commentary is nothing short of amazing. This is the perfect book for anyone who even has the slightest interest in urban exploration or abandonment photography.

This is a wonderful collection of photos with text. I purchased for a nephew and he was very impressed with the quality of photos and the book as well as the accompanying text.

Thick pages of surreal pictures of once-grand buildings! Unique architecture, amazing staircases, haunting hallways, plants invading the inner rooms & halls!

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