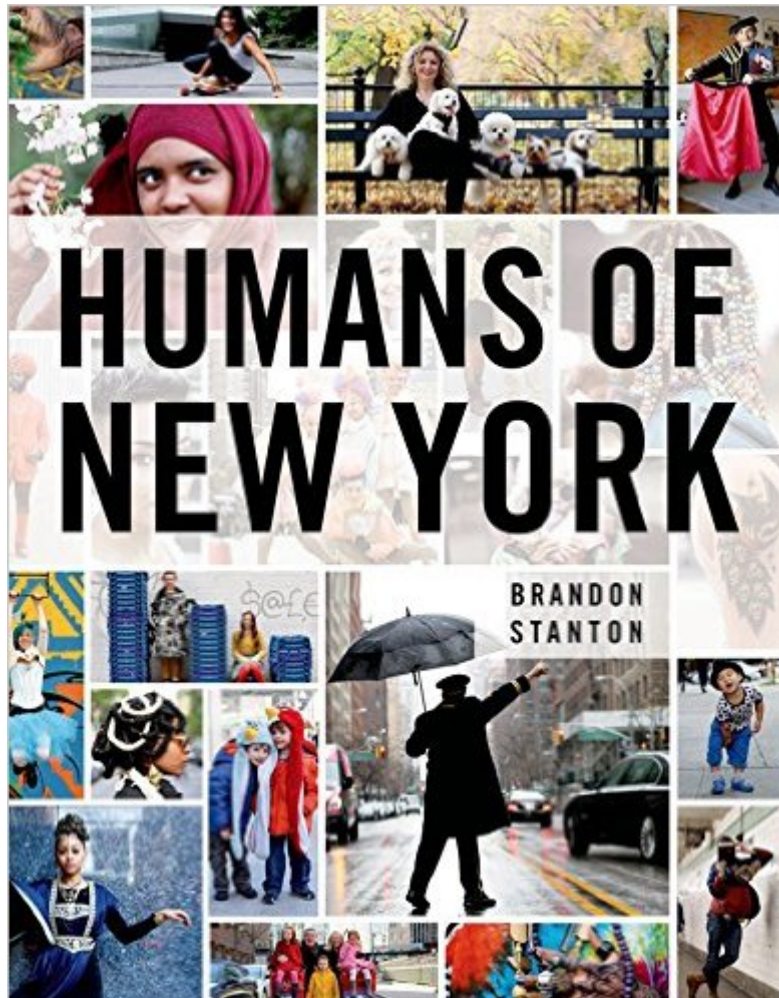


The book was found

# Humans Of New York



## Synopsis

Based on the blog with more than four million loyal fans, a beautiful, heartfelt, funny, and inspiring collection of photographs and stories capturing the spirit of a city. Now an instant #1 New York Times bestseller, *Humans of New York* began in the summer of 2010, when photographer Brandon Stanton set out to create a photographic census of New York City. Armed with his camera, he began crisscrossing the city, covering thousands of miles on foot, all in an attempt to capture New Yorkers and their stories. The result of these efforts was a vibrant blog he called "Humans of New York," in which his photos were featured alongside quotes and anecdotes. The blog has steadily grown, now boasting millions of devoted followers. *Humans of New York* is the book inspired by the blog. With four hundred color photos, including exclusive portraits and all-new stories, *Humans of New York* is a stunning collection of images that showcases the outsized personalities of New York. Surprising and moving, printed in a beautiful full-color, hardbound edition, *Humans of New York* is a celebration of individuality and a tribute to the spirit of the city. With 400 full-color photos and a distinctive vellum jacket

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (3,795 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

While Brandon's first release was an excellent book of photography, it lacked many of the stories behind the individuals. I came to find HONY on facebook and feel the story behind the photo is half the experience. With his newest release, it all comes together to give you the full HONY package

that most people have come to know and love. This book is a bargain for all the passion and work that Brandon puts into this project. If you are deciding on whether or not to buy the book, consider the following, which Brandon posted on the HONY facebook page: "I want to take a quick opportunity to remind everyone that HONY is advertisement free and almost entirely financed by book sales. (The only exception being income from a handful of speeches I give every year.) Proceeds from books have been used to pay for trips to twenty different countries over the past year alone. Even when working with large organizations like the United Nations or UNHCR, I'm always very careful to cover all costs and reimburse any expenses. I do this so that the content on HONY can remain entirely independent, self-directed, and transparent. By purchasing a book, you can help HONY continue to grow in a way that remains focused on telling people's stories--- and nothing else. Thanks to everyone for your continued support." "Connect with real people. Get out of your box and learn about people different from you. Get to know their story. Support the project. Buy the book!

I hate to break the 5-star roll, but the honest truth is that the blog is better. I was super excited to have a curated set of Brandon's absolute best photos and quotes, but most do not include anecdotes and just say "Seen in \_\_\_\_\_". As a native New Yorker, I would also add that several neighborhoods were labeled incorrectly: a hot dog shop in Gowanus was wrongly labeled as Red Hook; a corner in Gramercy was labeled "Lower Midtown" (a term Brandon or his editor invented-- it is used neither on maps nor colloquially). Furthermore, there are too many similar photos; there is a limit to how many times I can be captivated by women with half-shaven heads. He's also included a lot of low-quality photos that don't tell a story and are trying too hard to be aesthetic: a plain woman in a red coat against a red and white background for instance. These seem like earlier amateur works. They would be interesting to see on the blog as evidence of how the project has matured, but in a book where each page is precious real estate, these photos lack depth and feel like filler. In the blog, oftentimes the quotes speak louder than the photos, and that is why I follow HONY. So I can meet the people of my city through his interviews. The stories humanize the subjects; they allow us to go beyond the surface of skin and cloth. But as I said, most of the photos in the book do not have those accompanying quotes. I find myself moved by a much, much larger percentage of photos on the blog than in this book. But I commend Brandon for making his book dream come true. I think the next edition will be better. Stick to the format of the blog! Photos and anecdotes and no filler! :)

This book. THIS BOOK. I've purchased all three Humans of New York books and have loved them all, but in Humans of New York - Stories, it all comes together. The photography is expressive, and the stories are equal parts soul-crushing and uplifting. The masterful way that Brandon interviews his subjects really shines through. I've followed Humans of New York for 4 years and am just in awe of it's revolutionary transformation and it's power to do good in this world. Even something went unspeakably wrong and against all odds the book was garbage (it isn't) you STILL should buy it, if for nothing more than to cast a vote of support for the JOY, LOVE, and EMPATHY that HONY provides. This is a voice of hope and kindness in a world that can occasionally strip you of both. In HONY there is no "Us vs. Them" - there's only WE and Brandon has shown us that together, WE can do anything.

Brandon's work is something really special. I've only been following his blog for a handful of months, and his photos and stories are incredible on their own, but that's not even the most surprisingly special part about this project. Read the comments on his Facebook and blog, the positive to negative ratio is unlike anything I've ever witnessed on the Internet, a place I thought only ever brought out the negative and judgmental side of people. People relate to these individuals in ways that each one of us, on our own, might never have imagined. This book, to me, represents more than just a fabulous addition to the "art world", it represents a movement of humanity and all of the positive qualities it possesses.

By far the best money I have spent on any book in the past few years. I recommend the Humans Of New York Stories to anyone and everyone. In fact, it will be the go to Christmas gift for my family this year. Elegant, original and pure, this book represents humanity at its most candid and lovable.

I'll begin by saying that I quite enjoy the blog itself; it is an idea that which on paper sounds merely okay but in actuality turned out to be a very refreshing and uplifting testament to the stories of humanity. It is a documentation of usual New York residents and their unusual pieces of personality and personal history. Brandon Stanton is competent as a photographer, but his technical skill isn't particularly noteworthy, he merely documents what he sees. It is his 15-second interviews that really rise above and breathe life into his several years of accumulated work. It is absolutely in these mini-interviews that accompanied every photo that his strength lies, and it really does make the HONY project exceptional. All this to say that I was excited about the publication, but when it arrived I felt almost cheated. The book itself is smaller in size than I expected for a photo-book (I believe

about 8-9 inches) and for the most part, the interviews and quotes from the subjects have been replaced by short little quips by the author (some of which were clever than others) or simply a notation of where the photo was taken. Gone was the inspiration, gone was the warmth and absolute humanness of each photo, and what you are left with is simply a photo-book whose photos are often nothing to write home about. I still love the blog, and I've flipped through the entire book, but it probably won't be one that I will open again and again.

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