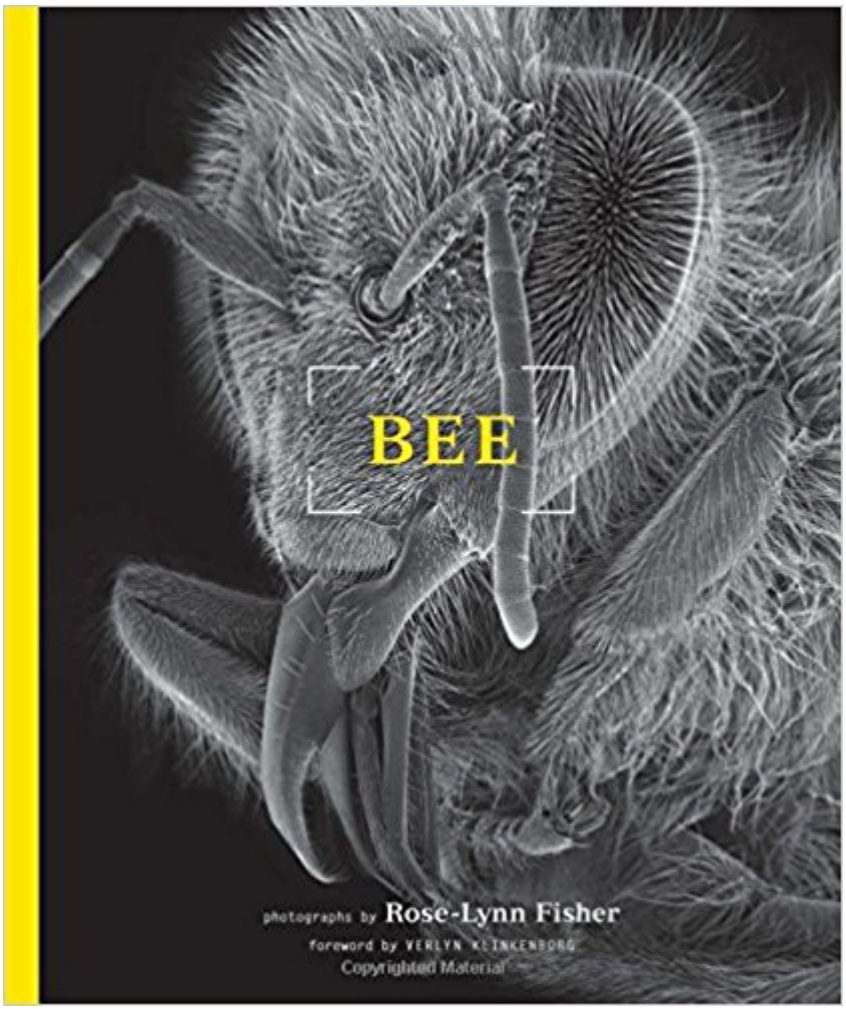
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Bee



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Synopsis

Of the ten million or so different species of insects on our planet, none is more fascinating than the honeybee. Magnified hundreds to thousands of times with a high resolution scanning electron microscope, honeybees become architectural masterpieces an elegant fusion of form and function. Now available in paperback, Bee presents sixty astonishing photographs of honeybee anatomy in magnifications ranging from 10x to 5000x. Rendered in stunning detail, these photographs uncover the strange beauty of the honeybee's pattern, form, and structure. Comprising 6,900 hexagonal lenses, their eyes resemble the structure of a honeycomb. The bee's six-legged exoskeleton is fuzzy with hairs that build up a static charge as it flies in order to electrically attract pollen. Wings clasp together with tiny hooks, and a double-edged stinger resembles a serrated hypodermic needle. These visual discoveries, made otherworldly through photographer Rose-Lynn Fisher's lens, expand the boundaries of our thinking about the natural world and stimulate our imaginations.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"As Verlyn Klinkenborg writes in his introduction to Fisher's book, Bee, 'there's nothing general about a honeybee'-and her photographs bear that out." -- LightBox, Time magazineThe images in Bee are the kind of machine-made line work Durer himself would've envied, infusing tiny creatures and surfaces with the depth, insight and majesty they deserve. -- Discover.comFrom photographer Rose-Lynn Fisher comes BEE - an incredibly artful, thoughtful exploration of the beautiful complexity of bees and the larger natural patterns it bespeaks. Fisher blends the immaculate

scientific precision of electron microscope imaging with the aesthetic sensibility of art photography to produce 128 pages of breathtaking revelation that expands the boundaries of how we think about these remarkable creatures and nature at large. BEE is without a doubt one of the most visually stunning, conceptually ambitious photography books of the year. - Brainpickings.org"Princeton Architectural Press has done it again, producing a book that is as beautiful and tactile as it is thought-provoking and educational." -- Make magazine"BEE is another kind of book altogether- a work of art celebrating science, or science celebrated in art." -- American Bee Journal

Rose-Lynn Fisher is an artist working in photography and mixed-media. She has a bachelor of fine arts from Otis College of Art and Design.

Fabulous book. Wish I too knew how to use a scanning electron microscope to view the world with. This book reminds me of Frances Bourely’s "Hidden Beauty: Microworlds Revealed". Bourely is another great microscopist with an artist’s eye. Fisher features only one animal, presented in greater detail than Bourely does any of her subjects. A great book for all school libraries to keep in their biology section. I found Fisher’s images inspiring for my artwork featuring pollinators. The structures of a bee’s body are so complex and beautiful in their own way. Thank you, Rose-Lynn, for opening my eyes to the bees in a new way. Wish I had had this book 6 months ago when I started my paintings which will be seen in a public garden after Earth Day of this year. Grateful to have discovered it at all.

I will write the dissenting opinion! :)First, the book isn’t a book of "photographs." It’s a book of images from an electron microscope. The images are very crisp and very high resolution, but colorless and bland. Whereas a photograph might make a bee "come alive" on the pages, these images make the bee seem cold and abstract, like an object rather than the complex pheromone machine it is. The images are also not particularly magnified, many being just 40x or a couple hundred. Frankly it takes much more skill to properly light and capture microscope images at these powers. I think the highest magnification was 2000x, and the are only a few at those power.It gets worse though. The book is not arranged to tell a story, or illustrate anything, not even skill with an electron microscope. The images often do not clearly show the part the text describes (it’s in darkness for example). The sections are just jumbles of bee parts. The text does absolutely nothing to explain the intricate images that appear. The book appears to be someone messing with a microscope and simply selected the best quality images for publication, only because they were the

best shots they captured.Worse still, the book is clearly put together by someone who knows little or nothing about beekeeping and honey bees, I suspect one of the "save the bee" sheeple who got a bee hive in their yard as soon as they learned it was the cool thing for hipster enviros to do. This is not a claim I make to malign the work. I offer this WRONG statement quoted directly:"...including the small percentage of workers who retain the ability to lay eggs - a necessary backup in case the queen begins to fail in her duties." (p. 11)How a GLARING error like this ever made it into print is past all understanding. Workers can not, ever, under no circumstances lay a fertilized egg that would either 1) take the place of the queen's laying or 2) develop into anything other than surplus drones (male bees, which are haploid).This is not the only example of incorrect data in the book, but it's the clearest example.OTOH, the images are really neato. If you have a companion text, such as Understanding Bee Anatomy (Stell), you can really find some interesting structures largely ignored in the text of BEE. I say buy the book if you like pretty pictures or if you're willing to put in a little work to figure the images out. There really is a lot to see on a bee. There's plenty to see in BEE, but you will have to go looking for answers someplace else, because BEE is written by a hack.

I gave this book as a gift to several friends and kept one for myself. Gift recipients were mesmerized by the intricate photos and compelling close-up views of the bees. A wonderful gift for any nature lover, bee keeper,gardener or scientific photographer.Each recipient was inspired by the photos to speak of his/her fascination with bees. A unique gift, each image lovingly photographed by Ms. Fisher. A relevant, timely topic about the natural world (threats to the bee population). A bee is not just a buzzing insect to be swatted away, its body is an extraordinary feat of natural engineering and beauty.

Bees have been much in the news in the last few years-- the africanization of honey bees; the widespread collapse of hives, and so forth. This set of extraordinary photographs reminds of the bee as itself, not in relation to humanity, but in relation to the sheer, unimaginable beauty of life in all its forms. Beautiful, inspiring, and thought provoking.

I absolutely love the photos. They are detailed and beautiful. I thought that there would be more information and verbal description of bees but that was very minimal. I would classify this as more of a picture/coffee table book. I do like it though. If you want to know what a bee looks like up close, this is your book.

It has great electron micrograph pictures but it was not what I expected in the book which was microscope type pictures that I hoped to use in speaking with kids and bee groups about honeybee anatomy. It was not clear in the description that the pictures would be sometimes difficult to relate to what we see with our eyes under regular magnification or with no magnification at all. The detail was very fine however.

I love my honeybees, and this book really demonstrates the intricate parts that make them so capable of doing their jobs efficiently and with beauty. Each part is sectioned by an overall shot, then closer and closer as the magnification gets higher and more detailed on specific parts, from the antennae joints to the hamuli on the wings. It is a fascinating book, and I would recommend it to anyone with a bee fascination or appreciation of good photography!

The most beautiful book about bee photography, you will never see anything like that, highly recommended

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