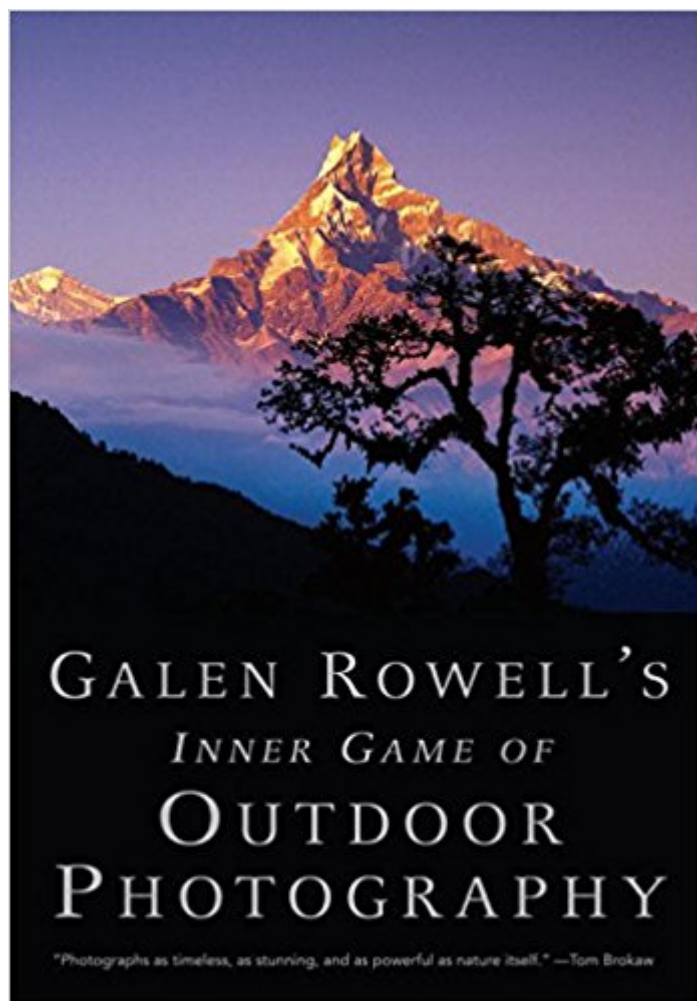


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# Galen Rowell's Inner Game Of Outdoor Photography



## Synopsis

“Photographs as timeless, as stunning, and as powerful as nature itself.”  
Tom Brokaw In this renowned guide to capturing the outdoor world on film, Galen Rowell, the master of nature and adventure photography, reveals the art, craft, and philosophy behind his world-famous images. Now available in paperback for the first time, this groundbreaking work remains both an inspired manual to taking better pictures and an inspiring journey of discovery into the creative process. In more than 140 color photographs and 66 essays, Rowell shows how he transformed the world around him into vivid, memorable works of art. Both the artist and his unique talent come alive in these pages, a tribute to the ways in which his photographs, philosophy, and vision immeasurably enrich those who view his work. 140 color photographs

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“[Galen Rowell] was the real thing. . . . His skillful writings were a rare combination of engaging behind-the-scenes narrative and actionable photographic instruction. Everyone wants to explore in his shoes and see through his lens.” - Steve D. Werner, publisher, Outdoor Photographer

Galen Rowell, internationally renowned photographer and mountaineer, is the author of such

acclaimed books as *My Tibet* (with His Holiness the Dalai Lama) and *Mountains of the Middle Kingdom*. His work regularly appears in *Life*, *National Geographic*, *Outside*, and *Sports Illustrated*.

The advanced photographer is searching for something in a photography book different from the novice's search. The advanced photographer understands exposure, focus perspective and the fundamentals and can tie them together to create a sharp, properly exposed image. What he or she wants to know is how to form a vision of the world that he sees and translate it into what Galen Rowell call's a visionary image. "*Galen Rowell's Inner Game of Outdoor Photography*" is not a how-to book. There is no progressive review of the fundamentals. Instead it is a collection of Rowell's essays that have appeared in *Outdoor Photographer* magazine over the years, revised for the book and placed in a sort of order that ties subjects and ideas together, rather than in the random fashion that they appeared in the magazine. The book is divided into four parts. The first discusses photographic visualization; the second a few advanced techniques that the photographer can use; the third Rowell's own travels and the way he transformed his visions into photos; and the last, a collection of miscellaneous thoughts related to photography ranging from digital manipulation to what's really wrong in the Galapagos. It may be that we cannot be taught how to make the leap from snapshot to visionary image. But perhaps the teacher can open up those recesses in our own mind where our creativity lurks. I know that after reading these essays and thinking about them, I've found my own approach to photography has changed for the better. Even though the book swept me away, I have to confess to one complaint. At the top of each essay is a reference to relevant photographs contained elsewhere in the book. Several photos are referenced by more than one article. In their original magazine format, the photos conveniently appeared at the start of the essay. Here you will have to keep flipping back and forth. There probably is no economical way to provide these links, but it does break up the continuity a bit. Although I'm pretty closely aligned with Rowell's political philosophy, which creeps in throughout the essays, especially in the final section, there's still enough appropriately provocative material here from which a photographer with a different philosophy can benefit. Although you may feel driven to devour this volume as quickly as possible once you get a hint of its goals, I think you will keep it on hand, to occasionally dip into an essay or two to stir up your own photographic creativity.

Lovely imagery. It's amazing that he shot everything with a 35mm. But he was a climber and it would be too much weight to haul a 4X5 up a mountain. His imagery really is excellent. I can understand his energy level as I suffer from the same affliction or maybe it is just determination to

get that image. He certainly was an optimist and a very determined photographer. His books really reflect that thinking and being. For me it really is about his images though as they are artful, majestic, calming and introspective. There is solace in them, which is something that this "modern society" sadly lacks and way underrates. The silly thing of it is that it does not cost anything. So even in this bad economy it costs you little, except sweat. Others talk about his quirk of running to get a shot. I don't think there is a landscape photographer who has not done that or at least waddled very quickly and even for a mile or two or more. Then at other times it is like Still Hunting deer, where walking faster than a quarter of a mile and hour is way too fast. And you are all eyeballs, analyzing, probing, seeing.

Fantastic and inspiring images. I am in awe of what Galen produced with 35mm equipment. The small articles I believe were originally written as columns for Outdoor Photography and are organized into loose sections for this book. Many of these are just interesting (to me at least), but many of these were truly inspiring and eye opening. I learned a lot from this book and will be looking at it more for years to come.

A great loss of Galen Rowell to the visual world is still felt. His words and ideas are alive and well in past articles that have now been put together in this new classic for photographers of his generation and the new ones coming. It is not a technique book it about the things that take experience, and understanding to put soul into a picture. Making a picture a visual conversation starting point<sup>1</sup>

Fantastic book for the serious photographer. The world is a better place for his photographs, and his writings are insightful even to someone who doesn't do this for a living. His thought processes, patience, observations and preparations are incredible.

I would have given it 5 stars if it had more pictures. I have enjoyed the book, the insights Galen gives are thought provoking. I wish the pictures were bigger and part of the descriptive pages - you have to refer to the pictures located elsewhere in the book while reading the commentary. I usually grab this while having lunch and read a few sections, easy read, not a novel or How To book, just a great read by a photographer I wished I had been able to meet.

Beautiful read, and very impactful to my photography. Just what I was looking for - a bit of a mystical guide to composition and capturing images in general.

As an amateur photographer and outdoor enthusiast I really enjoyed Galen Rowell's book of essays on various aspects of outdoor photography. It really opened my eyes to new shooting ideas and has helped me to tell better stories with my pictures. He covers all aspects of outdoor photography and adventure which should help any aspiring outdoor photographer. His environmental concerns give much food for thought even 10 years after his untimely death.

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