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Sleeping Beauties: Newborns In Dreamland



Synopsis

Look for Tracy and Kelly on The Today Show, April 8th, 2010 in the eight o'clock hour. PEOPLE Magazine is reviewing Sleeping Beauties in their April 16th issue, on sale April 8th and 9th. Tracy Raver and Kelley Ryden's photographs of babies at rest, nestled in soft surroundings, are pure magic. After airing on the Today Show in September 2009, the photographer's portraits of sleeping babies caused a national sensation - people cannot get enough of these slumbering babes! In Sleeping Beauties: Newborns in Dreamland, their lens has captured newborns as they inhabit that magical place - a world where past and future dreams come together in an ethereal realm. In most instances, the babies portrayed are brand new and on their way home for the very first time. It is in this state of newness, of transition from their warm cocoon of the past nine months to their journey of a new life, that they capture the newborns as they slumber, dream, and awaken to their new surroundings.

Book Information

Hardcover: 128 pages

Publisher: Sellers Publishing; First Edition edition (March 5, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1416205772

ISBN-13: 978-1416205777

Product Dimensions: 11.8 x 0.8 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 43 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

Sleeping Beauties: Newborns in Dreamland - The new coffee table book Sleeping Beauties:

Newborns in Dreamland is a treasure trove of sweetness and light. Twin photographers Tracy Raver and Kelley Ryden provide an up close look at infants in their first days. Some are wrapped in cocoons, curled on blankets, draped from hammocks - all wearing not more than their birthday suits.

The photos evoke Anne Geddes (an inspiration for the women) with their lighting and focus on expression, but use fewer props. They gradually narrowed their focus to babies under two weeks

old. Why? The challenge they both say. As they get older, they are harder to keep in that sleepy state. Capturing the images means keeping the studio at a toasty 90 degrees, keeping the babies sleepy and full, and spending three to four hours at a time for six or seven set-ups. The two rules in the studio: No crying and no waking up. Some of the images are composites, holding the babies in position and then taking a shot without them. The results look natural. All are carefully posed, but the variety is evident. Some are shots with twins. Some with that half-drowsy smile at some secret dream, and other with lips pursed as if pondering deep, philosophical theories. Both are mothers: Raver has a 10-month-old and Ryden has a 5-year-old and a 3-year-old. With their first book released last month (Sellers Publishing, \$29.95) and an appearance on the Today show on April 8, they are already working on their second book project. For expecting mothers hoping to get their own newborn shots from Raver and Ryden, they have to act quickly. The studio is already booked through August. There is such a short window for capturing newborns. We love that age, said Raver. And capturing that for parents is truly rewarding. --Austin American-Statesman-By Tara A. Trower, Wednesday, March 31, 2010

While literally thousands of photographers attempt to make a career of photographing babies, only a small percentage have the combined talent and skills needed to style, light, and capture just the right moment. Tracy Raver and Kelley Ryden are clearly two creative photographers who have not only mastered natural light photography but also the difficult task of photographing newborns. Although each image is carefully styled, the babies look very relaxed and natural. The simple, tasteful design of the book draws you into the loveliness of each and every one. The quotes are poignant and not at all overused. As a professional photographer and designer, I was truly inspired and will admire the images again and again for their purity, creativity, and beauty.

I knew this was going to be beautiful, but it even EXCEEDED my expectations! These babies are all so very beautiful. They are truly Sleeping Beauties. Also, there are little sayings written by famous people. I am so happy I got this. I plan on buying every year, now!

This is a lovely coffee table book, filled with photos of adorable babies along with various quotes from notables concerning the beauty and innocence of babies. Of course the poses are contrived, most portraits are. Each page will have you saying "aaaaahhh, that's my favorite" until you turn the page and amend your statement to "no, this one is my favorite". It is the perfect gift for the new mom or mother-to-be. I've purchased three copies and am now back for more. For \$20, you can't go

wrong with this gift.

This book is absolutely beautiful. I'm a photographer and pregnant with my first child. I ordered the book for inspiration and ideas for photographing my own baby. I was hoping there would be some info regarding techniques the photographers use but there really isn't much. Hopefully they'll do a book talking more about the best techniques for getting these kinds of images of newborns. Regardless I love the book - it's larger than I thought it would be. It's a lovely coffee table book filled with beautiful, inspiring images.

Great book! Saw an interview on Today with the photographers and it looked great. My daughter-in-law is expecting a baby soon, and I KNEW the book is what I wanted to give my son and daughter-in-law as a baby gift. Other grandma gifts will come after little grandson arrives. Really lovely pix with heart warming quotes on the facing page. Some made me cry. If you are a mother or father, this is a must have!

This helps me keep my life and my three girls straight. I just love babies and am super happy to see a super cute one every time I open my planner to add something to my crazy schedule. Love it!

I collect lifelike Babydolls and I love photography. I have Anne Geddes and her work, I admire Anne Geddes and I purchased a lot of her books and items, including her baby fashions. Anne Geddes will always be Number 1, but I have to say " Sleeping Beauties" is a very good book.

Beautiful book, glad to have it.

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