

Nothing Left Behind

Anders Overgaard

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Burning Man, festival beyond words in Nevada's Black Rock Desert, attracts 70,000 utopians for a weeklong experiment in barter, selfless giving, artistic self-expression, and unchecked revelry. But don't get the wrong idea. The event also has its own ethos—these temporary citizens of Black Rock City adhere to ten main principles: Radical Inclusion, Gifting, Decommodification, Radical Self-reliance, Radical Self-expression, Communal Effort, Civic Responsibility, Leaving No Trace, Participation, and Immediacy.

Past attendees use words like “changed me forever,” “I’ll never be the same,” and the occasional “damn, that was fun, though I don’t remember much.”

Internationally acclaimed photographer Anders Overgaard was sent on assignment to cover the 2013 event, and this extraordinary book of photos came as a result. From intimate profiles of celebration to burning structures to innovative artworks, he captured “this roaring monster” in all its mesmerizing complexity.

MATT SUTHERLAND (September/October 2017)

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