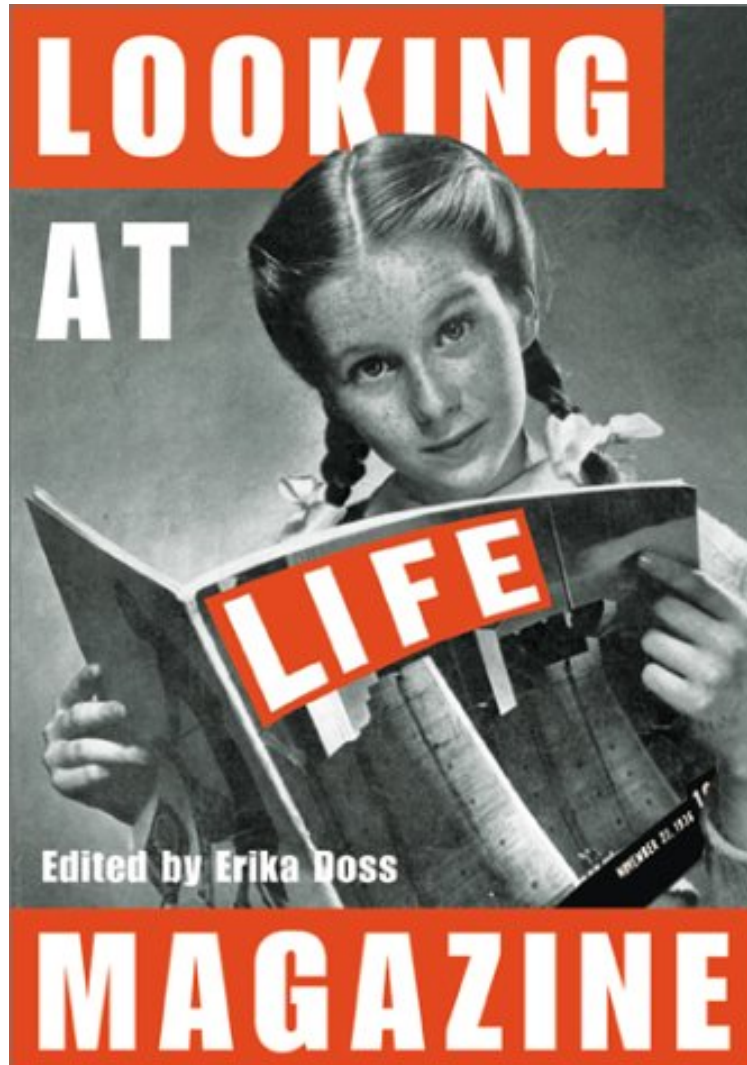


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Looking at LIFE Magazine

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6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. An absorbing, cross-cultural slice of American historyBy Midwest Book ReviewLooking At Life Magazine is capably edited by Erika Doss (professor of art history and director of the American studies program at the University of Colorado, Boulder). It is an absorbing, cross-cultural slice of American history, filled with black-and-white photographs drawn from the pages of Life magazine and textually narrated in direct yet flavorful prose. More than just a broad overview, Looking At Life Magazine is also an historical record of the crucial landmark events that impacted upon and changed American culture and society throughout its history.

Looking At Life Magazine is an enthusiastically recommended contribution to 20th Century American Studies reference collections and reading lists, as well as being a highly enjoyable and recommended book for the non-specialist general reader wanting to look back upon one of the most important and popular American magazines of its day.

Looking at LIFE Magazine focuses on how the magazine, in its editorial and especially its pictorial style, played a leading role in shaping American national identity from the Great depression through the Vietnam War. The thirteen contributors discuss how and why Life became so popular, what political and social views it reflected and projected, how the editors tried to create an image of a unified and classless nation, and why that vision and the magazine itself ultimately failed. In essays ranging from Life's coverage of civil rights, sexuality, and the atomic bomb to its treatment of religion, masculinity, and the counterculture, the contributors explore Life's style and public response, demonstrating the magazine's important place in American cultural History.