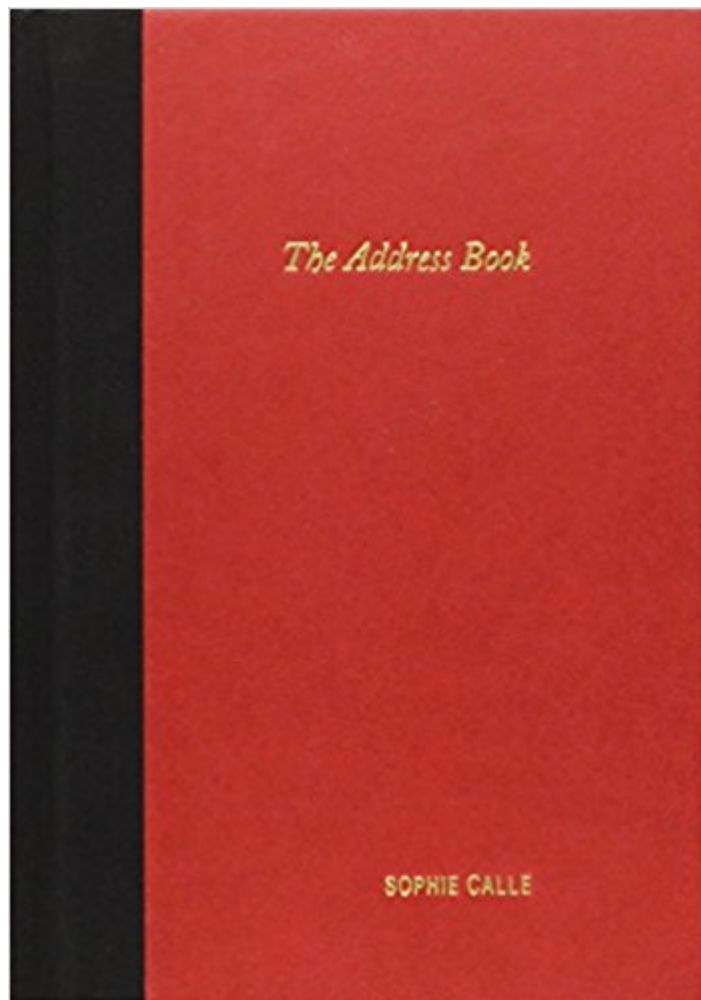


The book was found

# Sophie Calle: The Address Book



## Synopsis

The Address Book, a key and controversial work in Sophie Calle's oeuvre, lies at the epicenter of many layers of reality and fiction. Having found a lost address book on the street in Paris, Calle copied the pages before returning it anonymously to its owner. She then embarked on a search to come to know this stranger by contacting listed individuals--in essence, following him through the map of his acquaintances. Originally published as a serial in the newspaper *Libération* over the course of one month, her incisive written accounts with friends, family and colleagues, juxtaposed with photographs, yield vivid subjective impressions of the address book's owner, Pierre D., while also suggesting ever more complicated stories as information is parsed and withheld by the people she encounters. Collaged through a multitude of details--from the banal to the luminous, this fragile and strangely intimate portrait of Pierre D. is a prism through which to see the desire for, and the elusivity of, knowledge. Upon learning of this work and its publication in the newspaper, Pierre D. expressed his anger, and Calle agreed not to republish the work until after his death. Until then, The Address Book had only been described in English--as the work of the character Maria Turner, whom Paul Auster based on Calle in his novel *Leviathan*; and in *Double Game*, Calle's monograph which converses with Auster's novel. This is the first trade publication in English of The Address Book (Gemini G.E.L. in Los Angeles released a suite of lithographs modeled on the original tabloid pages from *Libération* in an edition of 24). The book has the physical weight and feel of an actual address book with a new design of text and images which allow the story to unfold and be savored by the reader.

## Book Information

Diary: 104 pages

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Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 5.5 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 14 customer reviews

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## Customer Reviews

A remarkably poignant and tender portrait of a man she would never meet. (Mary Kaye Schilling T Magazine) The Address Book is never about one thing. On the one hand it is a simple character study and straightforward conceptual art project (task-based with a priori scheme, black-and-white documentation, and text). On the other, it's an unsettling confessional story with deeply erotic subject matter. It unnerves readers by striking a balance between submission and control, winding them through a maze of seduction and pursuit only to leave them deprived of fulfillment. (Lauren O'Neill-Butler LA Review of Books) Given the ease with which we can access the lives of strangers in 2012, Calle's snooping might register as a quaint trespass from another era, an analog and ultimately harmless kind of proto-Facebooking. But her old-school sleuthing is daring, more so than it was in her earlier projects, such as Suite venitienne, in which Calle followed strangers, and La Filature, for which she hired a detective to tail her. The Address Book's adventure is riskier and more unpredictable. (Heidi Julavits Bookforum)

This was a lovely-looking book with an intriguing concept, but it left me wanting. I didn't think it felt finished, and there were avenues Calle could have explored. Also, the publication of this book is quite controversial.

This is the book one wishes one had written oneself. Sophie Calle thought of it first; the mark of a true Artist ! In the format of an actual address book, with black and white photographs. A gem.

An iconic book about the communication before www. A french great artist in a emblematic edition (small and beautiful) remind us with a poetic way, first, how the communication between people became more difficult and, second, how easy is to "touch" unknown people if you just love them as a human.

An outwardly simple concept which reveals much more depth as it goes on. It somehow effortlessly peels away at the social construction around how we view ourselves and how others view us.

The idea of the book is very interesting but it is not that well executed. More depth would have been excellent. It was certainly weak.

This book is an intriguing compilation of a gossip column from a few years back. I'm just wondering

if she really 'found' the address book or stole it - this woman is intense barely-not-a stalker.

so quirky, just like her photographs

I love this book and the amazing history. I like so much. I would like recommended this book, It's wonderful

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