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Appalachia USA

Photographer Builder Levy has beat a path from his home in Brooklyn, New York, to the hills of Appalachia for the past 45 years. Camera in hand, he has explored the rural areas, mines, and mining communities and has captured some compelling images. Appalachia USA, his latest book, is a retrospective of his work in this region over the past four-and-a-half decades.

Beautifully shot in black and white, printed on high-quality paper, and tastefully arranged, these photographs tell a story of struggle, laughter, labor, and loss. The emphasis here is on coal — the mines, the miners, the coal towns, and the environmental price we

pay. There is a strong presence of African Americans as well as several heartwarming images of children. It is overall a gritty assessment of life in the shadows of coal, though an honest and respectful portrayal.

Published in 2014 by David R. Godine, Publisher, this 125-page, large-format, hardbound edition includes 69 images.

APPALACHIA USA
PHOTOGRAPHS BY Builder Levy

Each photograph is identified and captioned by the photographer. There is an introduction by renowned West Virginia author Denise Giardina as well as a cover comment by West Virginia country music singer Kathy Mattea. *Appalachia USA* sells for \$40, plus shipping, and is available from the publisher at www.godine.com; phone 1-800-344-4771.

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