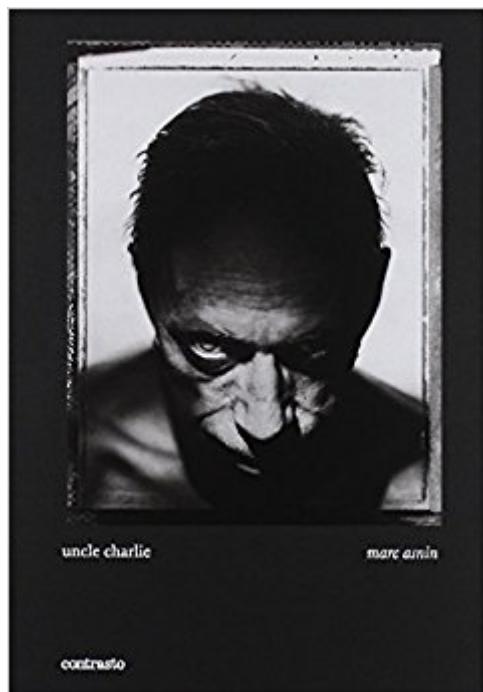


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# Uncle Charlie



## Synopsis

Uncle Charlie was my favorite uncle. He's my godfather. My grandfather was a grade-A hood, hustling, pimping women, abusive. My mother got out, but Uncle Charlie never did. My mother made sure I had an education. I went to art school. In 1981, I started realizing that my uncle was an interesting person to take pictures of, and it became my family album. Charlie is fifty-one years old now and his life is a mess. He blames his kids, he blames his ex-wife, he blames my mother; he thinks he is the ultimate victim. I know enough about his life to know how he got there, but emotionally I can't cut him any slack. I know it's because he had an abusive childhood, but that doesn't give you the right to fuck up your kids. Still, you know, I feel for him. He'll always be my Uncle Charlie. Marc Asnin has been photographing his Uncle Charlie for eleven years. Charlie and his five children (Charles, Joe, Brian, Mary, and Jamie) lived together in Bushwick, Brooklyn. This is the story of his tattos, his guns, his unemployment, his illness, his poverty, and his drug problems. Marc Asnin is based in New York City and has been photographing for twenty years. He developed a curiosity for photography as a child growing up in Brooklyn, inspired by his father, an advertising photographer. Marc's resume is extensive. His various awards include the W. Eugene Smith Grant, the Mother Jones Documentary Award, and the Alicia Patterson Fellowship. He has also taught at institutions such as the International Center of Photography and the School of Visual Arts.

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## Customer Reviews

MARC ASNIN: Marc Asnin is based in New York City and has been photographing for twenty years.

He developed a curiosity for photography as a child growing up in Brooklyn, inspired by his father, an advertising photographer. Marc's resume is extensive. His work has appeared in The New York Times Magazine, New York Magazine, Men's Health, The New Yorker, Fortune, Newsweek and Reader's Digest. His various awards include the W. Eugene Smith Grant, the Mother Jones Documentary Award and the Alicia Patterson Fellowship. He has also taught at institutions such as the International Center of Photography and the School of Visual Arts.

Cover and back cover are affixed to fabric binding with glue. Back covered came off. Not major but worth mentioning. Overall print and content quality is stellar. Love it.

This is one amazing book. Just get it it. The more I look at it the more I like it. I feel like I know Uncle Charlie. The storytelling/Photo journalism, is really amazing. Great work.I can see this book in years from now being one of the best documented books on one subject.I recommend it. The quality is nice as well.

photo books I have experienced in a very long time. It is a beautiful object and the photographs are a sustained essay in black and white. Something rarely seen now.

I am really happy to have bought this beautiful book. Great photographer, great pictures, great piece of art. You can also read the story of this project which is very touching.

As a photographer, I have long admired people who turn personal life experiences into a body of work that will move others to pause and FEEL, in a world that sometimes moves so fast we forget to do so. Marc Asnin's 'Uncle Charlie' is such a book. Personal, deep, confronting, at times shocking and all the while sweet/bittersweet and poignant. A sensitive testimony to the complexity of family ties, of right and wrong, of strength and frailty, this book at times moved me to tears, repulsed me, filled me with respect and inspired me. Both visual and literary, Uncle Charlie is a deeply personal and beautifully documented story and one that I am glad to have grace my bookshelf with many other photographic works that have stood the test of time.Kerry Payne

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