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Reid, Madison and Allison Schaller. "9 of This Winter's Best Art Books." *Vanity Fair*, February 18, 2022.

## VANITY FAIR

Photographer monographs rooted in American identity, surveys of contemporary art, collections of rarely seen postcard collages, and more.

This winter has given us countless reasons to stay inside, and here are nine more. Fresh off the presses, our picks range from a tome about an art collection built to make you rethink the everyday to a voyeuristic peek into the contents of hotel rooms and the artist's thoughts alike. This season's most vibrant art books will bring color and life to the last weeks of winter.

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"A Pound of Pictures" by Alec Soth (January 2022)

For his tenth monograph, *A Pound of Pictures*, Alec Soth took another voyage through America between 2018 and 2021. His classic portraits of strangers or other artists and landscapes from coast to coast are peppered with wildflowers, metallic orbs, birds, windows, and mirrors. Soth has also included winks and nods to the process of photography itself: people taking selfies at Niagara falls, piles of other people's pictures acquired at flea markets, and even Nan Goldin's bed (above which hangs two framed photographs by Peter Hujar). As analog and digital, vernacular and fine art fold into one another, his constellation of images and journal-like captions circle back to his career-long inquiries—What is photography and what can it say? What is its meaning in our lives?—to show us the poem of an ever-evolving artist's mind.