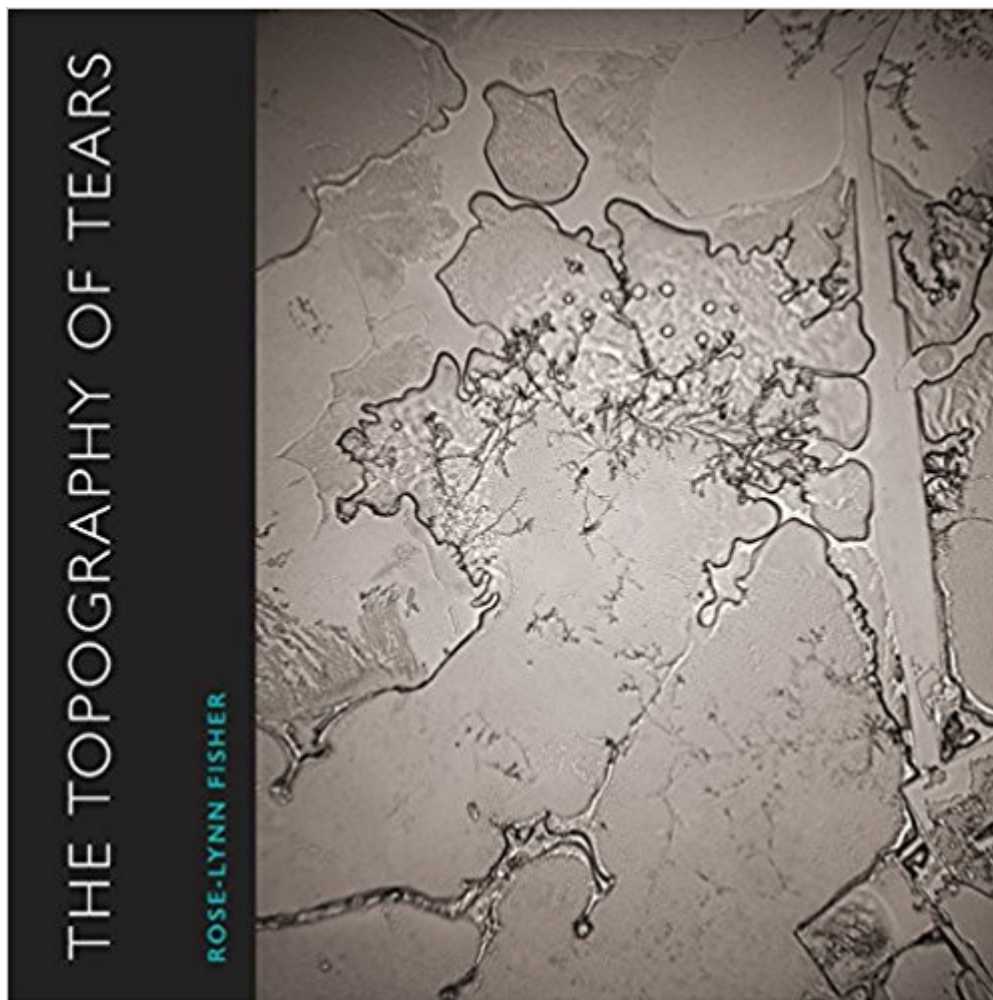


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The Topography Of Tears



Synopsis

"Looking at [Fisher's] photographs feels like staring out a plane window at the passing landscape below." —Studio 360
A moving depiction of the micro and macro aspects of our emotional lives, and a beautiful means of integrating the often separate realms of science and art. —Refinery29
Does a tear shed while chopping onions look different from a tear of happiness? In this powerful collection of images, an award-winning photographer trains her optical microscope and camera on her own tears and those of men, women, and children, released in moments of grief, pain, gratitude, and joy, and captured upon glass slides. These duotone photographs reveal the beauty of recurring patterns in nature and present evocative, crystalline imagery for contemplation. Underscored by poetic captions, they translate the mysterious act of crying into an atlas mapping the structure and magnificence of our interior lives.
Rose-Lynn Fisher is an artist and author of the International Photography Award-winning studies *Bee* and *The Topography of Tears*. Her photographs are exhibited in galleries, festivals, and museums across the world and have been featured by the Dr. Oz Show, NPR, Smithsonian, Harper's, New Yorker, Time, Wired, Reader's Digest, Discover, Brain Pickings, and elsewhere. She received her BFA from Otis Art Institute and lives in Los Angeles.

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Customer Reviews

Advance Praise for *The Topography of Tears*: Looking at [Fisher's] photographs feels like staring out a plane window at the passing landscape below. —[Studio](#)

360°; A moving depiction of the micro and macro aspects of our emotional lives, and a beautiful means of integrating the often separate realms of science and art.

Refinery29; An extraordinary take on an otherwise mundane human response.

Medical Daily; Beautiful.

Good Men Project; Reveals the existence of a multitude of territories inside of us.

Palais de Tokyo curator Rebecca Lamarche-Vadel; Stunning photographs transport us to a previously unseen world. . . . [They] also invoke within us a new set of emotions as individual as each of its viewers. What a pleasure.

William H. Frey II, PhD, founder and senior research director of HealthPartners Neurosciences and coauthor of *Crying: The Mystery of Tears* (from the foreword) Advance Praise for *The Topography of Tears* “Looking at [Fisher’s] photographs feels like staring out a plane window at the passing landscape below.

Studio 360 “A moving depiction of the micro and macro aspects of our emotional lives, and a beautiful means of integrating the often separate realms of science and art.

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This is a gorgeous book with remarkable images of human tears seen through a microscope. Some have crystallized into snowflake-like abstractions, some look like aerial photographs, and all of them are evocative. Paired with Fisher’s poetic titles, the works are far more than meets the eye.

The Topography of Tears gives us entry into a secret and ineffable world we inhabit but never actually see. Fisher's brilliant images and the poetry of her titles capture the nuances of human feeling in subtle, fascinating ways. I find myself going back and back to these images and words that "map" the experiences of the heart in such great variety. A wonderful book indeed.

How can I describe the beauty and delicacy of this world ! Thank you for opening another gate to know ourselves as human beings...

A beautiful first step into the exploration of tears.

Beautiful book with such a subtle message

Not what I expected

A beautiful exploration of a fascinating expression of human experience.

Rose-Lynn Fisher's *The Topography of Tears* is one of the strangest, oddly beautiful coffee table books I've seen in a while. The concept is simple: it is "a study of tears photographed through an optical microscope." The simple, black-and-white extreme close-ups of tears are reminiscent of satellite landscape photos, microscopic photos of leaves or rocks, or ice crystals on a window pane. Like snow, I guess you can conclude no two tear drops look alike. She gives commentary or captions to some of the tears, like "Tears for those who yearn for liberation," or "Mom happy tears," or "Catharsis." But I'm not sure there is any correlation between the look of tears and the kinds of emotions they evoke. The pictures are oddly captivating, in an abstract art sort of way, but I'm not sure what inspiration or insight one might draw from them. Maybe all Fisher is going for is to portray in an original way the universally shared experience of emotional tears. Mission accomplished. Grab a hanky. Thanks to Edelweiss and the publisher for the complimentary electronic review copy!

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