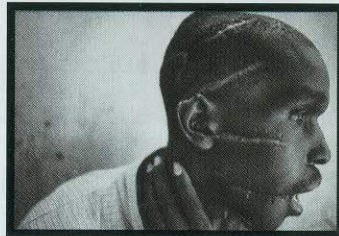


CONTENTS

TO WITNESS

4 As long ago as the Civil War, the photographs of Mathew Brady and his agents brought faraway readers the tidings of events ... eventually. Then technology gave us lighter, nimbler cameras and faster publication. Suddenly, pictures were *news*.



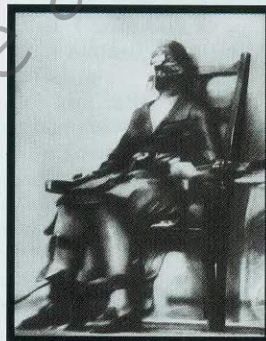
TO DOCUMENT

24 Photographs are time capsules: a big world has been fit into a small space where it is preserved, unchanging. Then time passes, and we find this lost world beguiles us; looking at an old picture of Theodore Roosevelt exhorting a crowd, you find your eyes wandering to the ladies' hats.



TO CAPTURE

42 Slicing time into ever finer cross-sections, photographs allow us to record—and confront—events that occur too quickly for our eyes to grasp, from an execution in the electric chair to a President's murder.



TO CELEBRATE

62 Pictures that celebrate life? In our cynical age, it seems that this once cherished function of photographs has been permanently annexed by admen. But not all tears are born of sorrow—and since TIME prefers Capa to Capra, our selection features photographs that show people surprised by joy, rather than those that try to induce that state in the viewer.



TO **ADVOCATE**

80 The image loves to argue. In offering their differing accounts of the news, words reason, while images plead. Committed photographers have made their silent medium speak for the voiceless, from child workers to Dust Bowl Okies to AIDS patients.



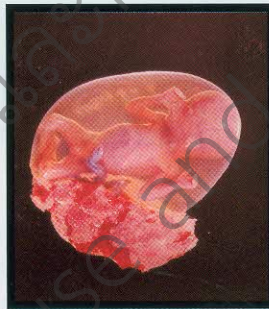
TO **RISK**

98 Combat photography earned its stripes in the tumultuous 1930s and flourished in the epic battles of World War II. Later the cold war, Vietnam and a host of brush fires offered historic stages for these reporters-with-cameras—even as a new breed, the storm chasers, dared to record nature's fury.



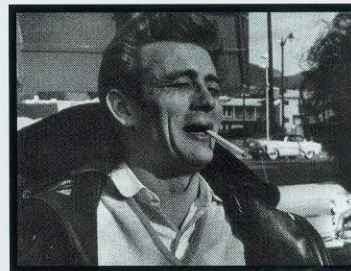
TO **EXPLORE**

116 To scientists, cameras are machines for learning, and the range of visible light is only one of many ways to experience nature. Here are pictures that opened doors, eyes and minds.



TO **REVEAL**

134 TIME's two founders believed that history is driven by individuals. And we believe that, even in a world that has become ever more visually managed, gifted photographers can still uncover character traits that elude the eye.



TO **CHEER**

152 Here's a puzzle: Why do so few lasting sports photographs show Great Moments in Sports? Passing by the record breakers, the buzzer beaters and the sudden-death overtimes, the photo shopper in search of enduring athletic images may end up browsing in the adjacent aisles of politics, propaganda and the cold war.

