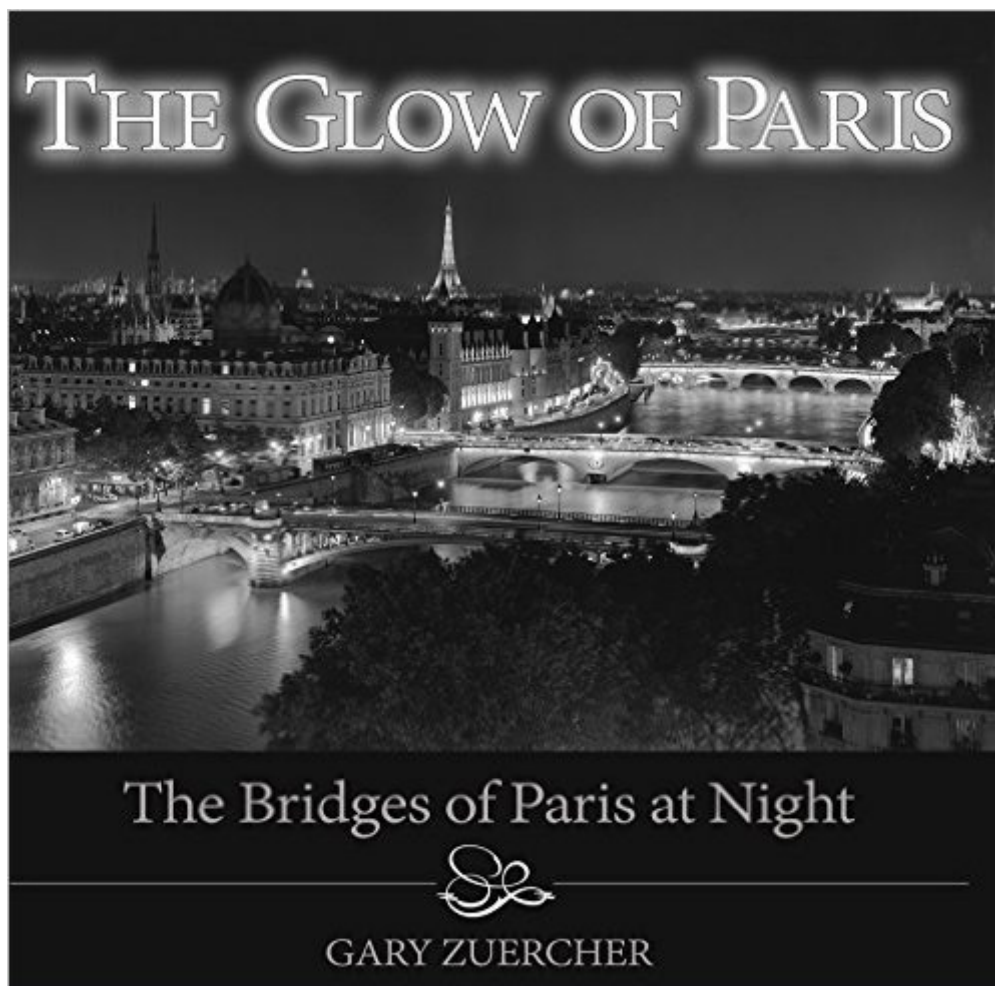


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# The Glow Of Paris: The Bridges Of Paris At Night



## Synopsis

Paris at night. Already we're expecting something special. And that's exactly what Gary Zuercher gives us in this gorgeous collection of photographs. Over a period of five years, he took his cameras out into the Parisian night to capture stunningly evocative images of the bridges that span the Seine. Using his artistic eye and sophisticated photographic technique, he created these glorious black-and-white photographs, rich with detail and possessing a clear, luminous, quality. This collection is unique, and remarkable. No one else has ever photographed all the bridges that cross the Seine in Paris in this way. We don't see crowds of people, or heavy traffic. Nothing obscures the beauty and strength of the structures, the romance and symbolism of the bridges. Shooting in black and white allows the details to shine: the architectural elements, artwork, nearby buildings, trees on the riverbanks, and starry lamps casting paths of light across the water.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Having spent more than forty years in the design of roads and bridges, as well as being an avid amateur photographer, I was especially interested in author and photographer Gary Zuercher's coffee table book on the bridges of Paris. Whereas in the US, a bridge that was built a hundred years ago is considered historic, some of the Seine River bridges - or their predecessors - date back more than two millennia. The book is much more than just a collection of photographs, however. The role that the 35 bridges have played in Paris's history and culture is described vividly and lovingly in the accompanying text. It's hard for me to choose a favorite bridge, but several of them

did stand out for me: One of my favorites, the Passerelle de Beauvoir, is actually the newest bridge. Opened in 2006, the bridge features a unique design with the central span consisting of one convex arc interlacing with one concave arc. It's a beautiful contemporary bridge that's for pedestrians only. One bridge, the Pont Saint-Louis, doesn't connect the two banks of the river. Instead it connects two islands, the Île de la Cité and the Île Saint-Louis. The Pont Louis-Philippe bridge has a squatter living in a small space under the bridge. The French call this arrangement a "tolerated squat." The Pont de l'Archevêché has a very unusual problem: Built in 1828, French couples write their names on padlocks that they then lock onto the bridge's handrail before throwing the keys in the river as a symbol of their undying love. The thousands of locks periodically cause the handrails to collapse under the weight and have to be replaced, at which point the locks are thrown away and the process begins anew. Another bridge, the Pont des Artes, also suffers from lock overload.

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