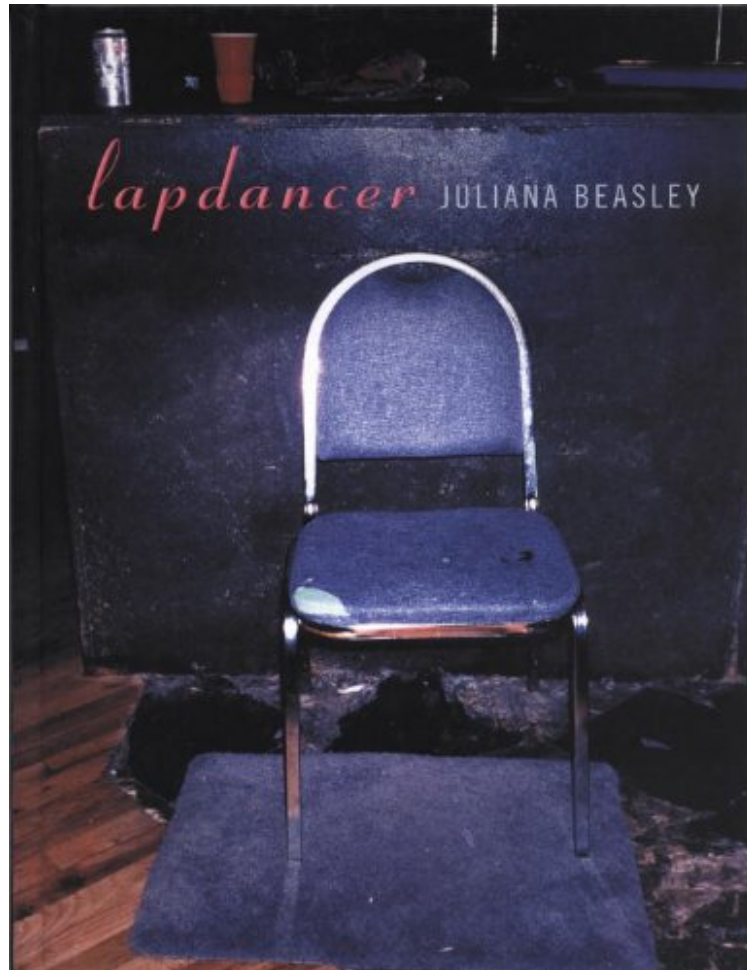


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3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Raw and realBy Kindle CustomerJuliana Beasley shows a real and sometimes shocking side of the strip club industry. The pictures are not of glamorous dancers, they are of real women who work in strip club, and their stories aren't always pretty. She is honest about what goes on in the lap dance rooms.As a dancer I can relate to what was written in this book. My experience has been different than the author's, but I recognize the stories she tells and I appreciate that she didn't sugar coat the truth of the matter. She was honest about her participation, and that is refreshing, and her photography is beautiful.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An Insightful, Artistic LookBy Kenneth JareckeJuliana Beasley brings her artistic and insightful eye to a subject matter that is not often seen from an insider's point of view. The result is a sometimes surprising, often revealing (both mentally and physically) and always a brutally honest portrait of a lap dancer's life. In this book,

Beasley, like many a great photographer before her, has managed to expose herself in a way that is much more revealing than a skimpy G-string. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Quality Plus By Barbara R. Guada This is a wonderful and daunting pictorial of Ms. Beasley's incredible eye.. she captures raw and makes it mysterious enough to want to see her next book.

Determined to supplement her meager income as a novice photographer, Juliana Beasley embarked on an eight-year odyssey as a professional nude dancer, specializing in lap dances, during which a woman dances above a seated customer, erotically brushing against his body. From New York to Reno, Beasley worked in over two dozen strip clubs, dancing for twenty dollars a song, experiencing the rewards and pitfalls of the profession: variable income, flexible schedules, emotional and physical exhaustion, sex industry camaraderie and an arrest for prostitution. Though she was a professional dancer, Beasley never forgot the purpose of her studies in documentary work. Along with negligees and stilettos, she regularly brought a camera to the clubs, and began recording testimonies from the managers, dancers, and patrons. The result is *Lapdancer*, an inside look at the world of professional nude dancing. Culled from thousands of photographs and hours of interviews, Beasley documents an oft-derided but rarely understood culture one tightly codified by rules and behavior, and peopled with characters from a David Lynch film. Through these pictures and interviews Beasley's sex industry *Virgil* guides us through the erotic dancer circuit, detailing its ruthless economic underpinnings and the intimate, anonymous currency between dancer and customer. Here, at what was once society's fringe, Beasley depicts mainstream culture's new evolving definitions of sexuality, gender politics, capitalism, therapy even love.

From Publishers Weekly During much of the 1990s, there was a hidden voyeur in the strip clubs of the East Coast tristate area: a stripper with a camera. A graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and an assistant to Annie Leibovitz, Beasley danced and stripped for \$20 a lap. While trying to save up money, and avoid exhaustion and arrest, she turned her camera on fellow dancers and the customers who paid for them. More than 150 of her full-color photographs are gathered here, none altered, capturing everything from hilariously subdued patrons to wryly mocking workers in various states of undress. Over nine years, Beasley's camera acquired a kind of nonchalance that avoids oversensationalizing the clubs. Men stare at dancers like deer in the headlights; dancers take smoke breaks while clad raffishly in (recently acquired?) men's underwear. Every sort of awkward, lurid position people get into in strip clubs is unblinkingly revealed in a brash layout of full-page photos, while occasional and commentary by dancers, patrons or Beasley herself are moving and honest. Beasley notes that many patrons were "pleased with the role reversal, with being objectified"-the kind of paradox that makes this book a luridly shrewd pleasure. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. About the Author Juliana Beasley, born in Philadelphia, graduated from the photography department of New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. After completing a photographic report on Albanian child laborers, in 1992 Beasley began an eight-year project on her life as a professional nude dancer that culminated in *Lapdancer*, her first book. Her work has also appeared in *The Village Voice*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *De l'Air*, and *German Max*. Beasley lives in New York City.