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THIS IS YOUR **LIFE.**
DO WHAT YOU LOVE, AND DO IT OFTEN.
IF YOU DON'T LIKE SOMETHING, CHANGE IT.
IF YOU DON'T LIKE YOUR JOB, QUIT.
IF YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH TIME, STOP WATCHING TV.
IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR THE LOVE OF YOUR LIFE, STOP.
THEY WILL BE WAITING FOR YOU WHEN YOU START DOING THINGS YOU LOVE.
STOP OVER ANALYZING. ALL EMOTIONS ARE BEAUTIFUL.
WHEN YOU EAT, APPRECIATE LIFE IS SIMPLE. EVERY LAST BITE.
OPEN YOUR MIND, ARMS, AND HEART TO NEW THINGS AND PEOPLE, WE ARE UNITED IN OUR DIFFERENCES.
ASK THE NEXT PERSON YOU SEE WHAT THEIR PASSION IS, AND SHARE YOUR INSPIRING DREAM WITH THEM.
TRAVEL OFTEN. GETTING LOST WILL HELP YOU FIND YOURSELF.
SOME OPPORTUNITIES ONLY COME ONCE, SEIZE THEM.
LIFE IS ABOUT THE PEOPLE YOU MEET, AND THE THINGS YOU CREATE WITH THEM.
SO GO OUT AND START CREATING.
LIFE IS **LIVE YOUR DREAM**
AND SHARE **SHORT. YOUR PASSION.**



HOW TO FIND YOUR PURPOSE AND DO WHAT YOU LOVE



30 MAY, 2012

A Girl and Her Room: Portraits of Teenage Girls' Inner Worlds Through Their Bedroom Interiors

by [Marla Popova](#)

"I was discovering a person on the cusp on becoming an adult, but desperately holding on to the child she barely outgrew, a person on the edge between two worlds."

We've already seen the striking spectrum of [where children sleep](#) around the world and how a child's bedroom both [reflects and reinforces society's gender norms](#). In ***A Girl and Her Room***, photographer [Rania Matar](#) takes this direction of curiosity a step further and explores the inner lives of teenage girls through the interiors of their bedrooms. From upperclass mansions to displaced person camps to college dorm rooms, and just about every bedroom variety in between, Matar's tender yet powerful portraits capture the private spaces of these wildly diverse young souls — punk rockers, peace activist, valedictorians, teen moms, refugees, dog-lovers, cat-lovers.



Matar, herself the mother of a teenage daughter, focuses on the two worlds most familiar and formative to her own teenage years and young adulthood — America and the Middle East. She [reflects](#) on the project's process:

I was discovering a person on the cusp on becoming an adult, but desperately holding on to the child she barely outgrew, a person on the edge between two worlds, trying to come to terms with this transitional time in her life and adjust to the person she is turning into. Posters of rock stars, political leaders or top models were displayed above a bed covered with stuffed animals; mirrors were an important part of the room, a reflection of the girls' image to the world; personal objects, photos, clothes everywhere, chaotic jumbles of pink and black make-up and just stuff, seemed to give a sense of security and warmth to the room like a womb within the outside world.



Andrea, Beirut, Lebanon 2010

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10 Tips on Writing from David Ogilvy



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John Steinbeck on Falling in Love: A 1958 Letter



Emma S, Cambridge, MA 2009

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Jess, Jamaica Plain, MA 2010

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Shannon 21, Boston MA, 2010

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Amal, Shatila Palestinian Refugee Camp, Beirut, Lebanon 2010

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Ellice, Jamaica Plain, MA 2010

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Zahra, Beirut, Lebanon 2010

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Dima, Beirut, Lebanon 2010

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Ai, Boston, MA 2009

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Shifa'a, Jerusalem, West Bank 2009

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Georgina, Roxbury, MA 2010

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Tori, Exeter, NH 2010

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Hollie, Harrisville, RI 2010

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Ariel, Winchester, MA 2009

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Sarah 17, Shatila Palestinian Refugee Camp Beirut, 2010

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Both visually stunning and culturally captivating, ***A Girl and Her Room*** offers a rare vista into one piece of what it means to grow up as a girl and to metamorphose into a woman, with all her obsessions, convictions, and fascinations, prompting us to find the parallels and universals amidst the differences and contrasts.



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