

“My dream was realized in  
the making of this book.  
There is no greater joy than  
wide-eyed wandering.”

Alec Soth's *Sleeping by the Mississippi* quickly established itself as a classic photobook after the first edition was published in 2004. In addition to having copies of all the published editions, the library has an unpublished mock-up with original inkjet prints. The published versions, however, significantly change the presentation of the images by adopting a single-image-per-spread layout (thereby reducing the number of images) and by using a larger, horizontal orientation. The baseline color of the inkjets reveals shifts through the published versions. These and various other changes from the mock-up through the latest edition invite analysis about how different presentation choices influence how a viewer experiences the images.

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Alec Soth, b. 1969  
*Sleeping by the Mississippi* [sic]  
Mock-up, 2003  
Color inkjet prints  
Signed edition of 30, gift of Charles Wehrenberg

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Alec Soth, b. 1969  
*Sleeping by the Mississippi*  
Göttingen: Steidl, 2004

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Alec Soth, b. 1969  
*Sleeping by the Mississippi*  
Göttingen: Steidl, 2008

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Alec Soth, b. 1969  
*Gathered Leaves*  
London: MACK, 2015  
Boxed set of 29 postcards and four miniature books,  
including *Sleeping by the Mississippi*

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Alec Soth, b. 1969  
*Sleeping by the Mississippi*  
London: MACK, 2017  
With two additional photographs and poster