Above  Boy in a New York shirt photographed at the Maligala/Almoustapha Konaté Library. The young people of Timbuktu are proud of their city's heritage while also being attuned to the wider world.

Opposite  Hamma, local guide and soccer star, has assisted the authors and photographer of this book since he was nine years old.
OPPOSITE An elderly inhabitant of Timbuktu. Life expectancy in Mali today is around fifty years.

ABOVE Three nomadic elders at an encampment near Timbuktu.