

[afterhours

out of africa

A Rift Valley Home Companion

JET-SETTING PLAYBOY'S LIFE BECOMES AN OPEN BOOK

Photographer Peter Beard is one of those men other men want to be. His story, in case you're not familiar: Born in 1938. Attended Yale. Published several books on man's mistreatment of Africa. Photographed beautiful women, naked or nearly so, in exotic locations for fashion magazines. Discovered Iman on the streets of Nairobi. Stole Cheryl Tiegs from her husband. Hung out with Andy Warhol and Mick Jagger at Studio 54. Watched countless sunsets over the Kenyan plains. Nearly died when an elephant gored and sat on him in 1996. Beard documented his life in giant collage- and doodle-filled diaries; this month Taschen publishes large chunks of them in a 576-page volume that will run you \$2,500—or \$6,500 for the deluxe version, which comes with an original gelatin silver print. Damn, this guy is good.

