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Coco Chanel: The Illustrated World Of A Fashion Icon



Synopsis

"In order to be irreplaceable, one must always be different" - Coco Chanel Fashion is ever-changing, influenced by the key designers that capture a moment in history; and Coco Chanel is arguably the most significant influence on women's fashion in the twentieth century. *Coco Chanel: The Illustrated World of a Fashion Icon* is a compilation of Megan Hess' stunning illustrations of the 100 most quintessential moments through Chanel's history, from Coco's incredible life, to the impact of Karl Lagerfeld and the incredible items that have become fashion icons - the little black dress, the luxurious bags and accessories, glamorous jewellery and of course the renowned Chanel No 5 perfume. Interspersed with historical anecdotes and famous quotes from Coco herself, Karl Lagerfeld and other key fashion icons of the era, this book is an elegant and immersive introduction to the moments that shaped Coco and the iconic Chanel brand - and how fashion, in turn, shaped their lives.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I was drawn to this book in my local bookstore for several reasons. First, it is a beautiful looking book. It is a hardbound book with no dust jacket to fiddle with - loved that! I also was drawn to gorgeous the cover artwork, and the silver-edged pages. Aesthetically, this book was right up my alley! I adore the subject matter- fashion is one of my passions, and Chanel is one of my favorites- both for her designs, and for the mystique surrounding her life story. I was very impressed with the organization of this book, and with Megan Hess' artwork. "So why only 3 stars?" you might ask. Well,

a couple of things about the book really bothered me. First, the illustrations of the time period prior to Karl Lagerfeld's tenure with the design house (even those illustrations that show scenes as far back as 1908) show figures wearing and carrying accessories with the "CC" logo (which was created, I believe, during Lagerfeld's tenure). Secondly, all of the classic flap handbags illustrated in the book (and there are loads) show the "CC" logo. None of the illustrations include flap bags with the original Mademoiselle lock, as Chanel designed it in 1955. This first incarnation of the iconic bag has significant importance to the brand's history, and to leave it out seems either a major oversight, or an unfortunate artistic choice. Of less importance, but bothersome to me nonetheless, the author mentions that Chanel's favorite shade of lipstick "Rouge de Chanel" can still be purchased today. After scouring the internet, as well as the Chanel website, I can't find this anywhere.

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