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The Wedding Dress: 300 Years Of Bridal Fashions



Synopsis

From the romance of its evolution to the splendor of its design, the wedding dress is unlike any other garment, a talisman from a fantasy world, the manifestation of dreams coming true. This book draws on wedding garments in the V&A's renowned collection along with photographs, letters, memoirs, and newspaper accounts to explore the history of the white wedding dress and the traditions that have developed around it from 1700 to today, when designers from Vera Wang to Vivienne Westwood continue to challenge the aesthetic. Paintings, drawings, and wedding photos depict queens, princesses, celebrities, and everyday women—including Kate Middleton—in their gowns. The text considers the dress in the context of the commercialization of weddings that began in the Victorian era. The Wedding Dress is not only about costume, but also about the cultivation of the image of the bride.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Edwina Ehrman is a curator of textiles and fashion at the V&A and of the exhibition 'The Wedding Dress: 300 Years of Bridal Fashions'. She is co-author of The London Look: Fashion from Street to Catwalk and a contributor to The Englishness of English Dress.

It was quite a pleasure to find there the information not only about "haute" wedding fashion through centuries, but photos and stories about "ordinary" weddings. Of course, royal weddings and celebrities' ones are really nice to look at - but they don't give you the whole picture. And this book covers everything. Rare photos, rare info - it became one of the jewels of my library.

A high quality book with excellent photographs. The book is more than just a picture book of fashion changes of wedding dresses, it delves into another aspect of our historical adventure. Who would imagine that wedding dresses could tell you so much about historical life, customs and everyday views? An interesting waltz through aspects of political and daily life affecting the wedding dress and its function and how important it became as symbolism for both rich and poor.

I thoroughly enjoyed this book. It is well organized and well put together. I enjoyed how the book is broken up and the history behind the wedding dresses. They had some very old examples which I loved many the books stated were in a very fragile state. I enjoyed seeing the older dresses because this would be the only way I could see them. While I did love the older examples the author did pick out some of the more interesting new more modern examples as well. They went into how the shapes and hemlines to fabric choices changed depending on your station in life or just the fashion trends at the time. Some of the dresses they did know the owners so to hear about them was very interesting. There are several detailed pictures in the book which I enjoy because you can see the wonderful craftsmanship that went into producing a dress. To show you how times have changed from the late 1800's to the early 1900's there was a section in this book where they were speaking about a woman who because she was 35 (she felt too old to wear white and a tradition wedding dress) because to get married I. Your mid 30's now I don't think anyone really bats an eye, so this book gave some nice historical perspective. The book is British based as many of the examples come from the Victoria and Albert museum collection which doesn't deflect from the beauty of the dresses for me but for some it may be important. The pictures are clear there is a nice balance between the pictures and the written content, and the written content was very valuable to expanding the understanding about the images on each of the pages. If you can get a copy I would highly suggest you nab one :)

It's an excellent book. A lot of really great reading and the pictures are great coming from that time. It was delivered neat and on time. Very happy

gorgeous!

I have enjoyed this book very much. I love fashion and history. The book arrived quickly and is exactly as I expected. I would recommend this to anyone that shares the same interests.

Book is simply excellent! But it was damaged while on the way:(As it was considered as wedding present I felt dissapointed:(PLS be careful with packing.\

A quality put together book but for the cost it wasn't that great as far as dresses it showed. If I would have seen it before buying it, I probably wouldn't have.

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