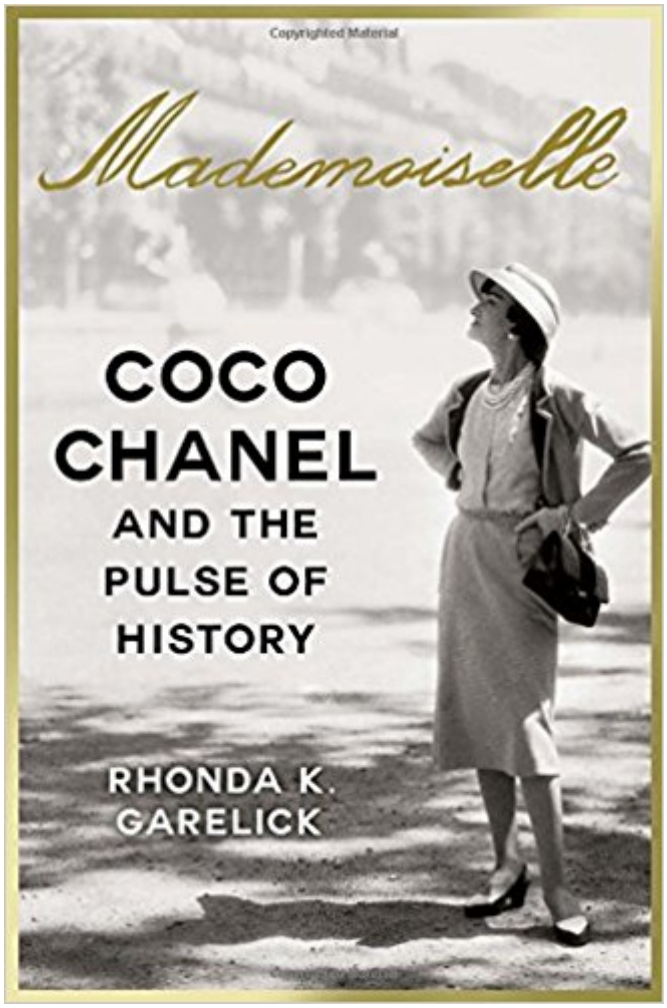
Ebook Directory
the best source of ebook

The book was found

Mademoiselle: Coco Chanel And The Pulse Of History



PDF
Adobe
DOWNLOAD EBOOK

Synopsis

NATIONAL BESTSELLERCertain lives are at once so exceptional, and yet so in step with their historical moments, that they illuminate cultural forces far beyond the scope of a single person. Such is the case with Coco Chanel, whose life offers one of the most fascinating tales of the twentieth centuryÃ¢â ¬â •throwing into dramatic relief an era of war, fashion, ardent nationalism, and earth-shaking changeÃ¢â ¬â •here brilliantly treated, for the first time, with wide-ranging and incisive historical scrutiny. Ã Â Coco Chanel transformed forever the way women dressed. Her influence remains so pervasive that to this day we can see her afterimage a dozen times while just walking down a single street: in all the little black dresses, flat shoes, costume jewelry, cardigan sweaters, and tortoiseshell eyeglasses on women of every age and background. A bottle of Chanel No. 5 perfume is sold every three seconds. Arguably, no other individual has had a deeper impact on the visual aesthetic of the world. But how did a poor orphan become a global icon of both luxury and everyday style? How did she develop such vast, undying influence? And what does our ongoing love of all things Chanel tell us about ourselves? These are the mysteries that Rhonda K. Garelick unravels in Mademoiselle. Ã Â Raised in rural poverty and orphaned early, the young Chanel supported herself as best she could. Then, as an uneducated nineteen-year-old cafÃƒÂ© singer, she attracted the attention of a wealthy and powerful admirer and parlayed his support into her own hat design business. For the rest of ChanelÃ¢â ¬â„¢s life, the professional, personal, and political were interwoven; her lovers included diplomat Boy Capel; composer Igor Stravinsky; Romanov heir Grand Duke Dmitri; Hugh Grosvenor, the Duke of Westminster; poet Pierre Reverdy; a Nazi officer; and several women as well. For all that, she was profoundly alone, her romantic life relentlessly plagued by abandonment and tragedy. Ã Â ChanelÃ¢â ¬â„¢s ambitions and accomplishments were unparalleled. Her hat shop evolved into a clothing empire. She became a noted theatrical and film costume designer, collaborating with the likes of Pablo Picasso, Jean Cocteau, and Luchino Visconti. The genius of Coco Chanel, Garelick shows, lay in the way she absorbed the zeitgeist, reflecting it back to the world in her designs and in what Garelick calls Ã¢â ¬Å“wearable personalityÃ¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •the irresistible and contagious style infused with both world history and ChanelÃ¢â ¬â„¢s nearly unbelievable life saga. By age forty, Chanel had become a multimillionaire and a household name, and her Chanel Corporation is still the highest-earning privately owned luxury goods manufacturer in the world. Ã Â In Mademoiselle, Garelick delivers the most probing, well-researched, and insightful biography to date on this seemingly familiar but endlessly surprising figureÃ¢â ¬â •a work that is truly both a heady intellectual study and a literary page-turner.Praise for Mademoiselle Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“A detailed, wry and nuanced portrait of a

complicated woman that leaves the reader in a state of utterly satisfying confusionÃ¢â ¬â •blissfully mesmerized and confounded by the reality of the human spirit.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •The Washington PostÃ Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Writing an exhaustive biography of Chanel is a challenge comparable to racing a four-horse chariot. . . . This makes the assured confidence with which Garelick tells her story all the more remarkable.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •The New York Review of BooksÃ¢â ¬Å“Broadly focused and beautifully written.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •The Wall Street Journal

Book Information

Hardcover: 608 pages

Publisher: Random House (September 30, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1400069521

ISBN-13: 978-1400069521

Product Dimensions: 6.4 x 1.4 x 9.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 99 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #53,833 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #18 inÃ Â Books > Arts & Photography > Fashion > Designers #23 inÃ Â Books > Arts & Photography > Fashion > History #54 inÃ Â Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Arts & Literature > Artists, Architects & Photographers

Customer Reviews

Ã¢â ¬Å“A detailed, wry and nuanced portrait of a complicated woman that leaves the reader in a state of utterly satisfying confusionÃ¢â ¬â •blissfully mesmerized and confounded by the reality of the human spirit.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •The Washington PostÃ Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Writing an exhaustive biography of Chanel is a challenge comparable to racing a four-horse chariot. . . . This makes the assured confidence with which [Rhonda K.] Garelick tells her story all the more remarkable.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •The New York Review of BooksÃ Â Ã¢â ¬Å“This monumental biography . . . anchors ChanelÃ¢â ¬â„¢s remarkable story within larger cultural, social, and political forces.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Library JournalÃ Â (starred review)Ã¢â ¬Å“Broadly focused and beautifully written.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •The Wall Street Journal Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Garelick can convincingly, and engagingly, illuminate a succession of parallels between fashion and politics.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •The New York Times Book Review Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“A true coup de grÃƒÂ¢ce . . . a vital entry in the extensive library of Chanel scholarship.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Yale Alumni Magazine Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“This is the definitive biography of Chanel. It is also the life of one of the most successful world conquerors

who has ever imposed her will on a vast subject population. It is gripping, astute, and elegantly written. And if it leaves you leery of ever wearing a Chanel jacket, or carrying a Chanel bag, you will understand where the desire for it came from.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Judith Thurman, author of the National Book AwardÃ¢â ¬â œwinning Isak Dinesen: The Life of a Storyteller Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“In this magisterial, affecting portrait, Rhonda K. Garelick traces ChanelÃ¢â ¬â„¢s history as a woman and as a designer and in doing so illuminates the troubling contradictions of twentieth-century Europe. Her book is a masterwork of original research and psychological nuance, remarkable in combining insight into her subject with insight into modernity entire. ItÃ¢â ¬â„¢s a Jamesian portrait of the curious mix of sadness and sadism that loneliness can hatch. It is also a deeply moving exploration of a damaged, unhappy genius striving vainly for an elusive wholeness, and, by sheer force of will and vision, remaking the worldÃ¢â ¬â„¢s notion of elegance in her own image.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Andrew Solomon, author of the National Book AwardÃ¢â ¬â œwinning The Noonday Demon Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“A stylish book about style, based on meticulous research and a deep understanding of French culture. Rhonda Garelick tells this extraordinary story with just the right blend of sympathy and judgment, in an utterly readable account.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Peter Brooks, author of Reading for the Plot and Henry James Goes to ParisÃ¢â ¬Å“Garelick expertly illuminates the forces that created one of the worldÃ¢â ¬â„¢s most iconic brands. Mademoiselle is a fascinating account of the grit as well as the glamour behind the rise of Coco Chanel.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Amanda Foreman, author of Georgiana and A World on FireÃ¢â ¬Å“Garelick explores the world of Coco Chanel in intimateÃ¢â ¬â •and intricateÃ¢â ¬â •detail, revealing the life and times of the woman she astutely describes as Ã¢â ¬Ëœunderstanding how the right labels can govern desire.Ã¢â ¬â„¢ This is a must-have book for followers of fashion and social history devotees alike.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Lindy Woodhead, author of War Paint and Shopping, Seduction & Mr. Selfridge Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Definitive . . . Cultural biographer Garelick . . . offers a fine psychological portrait of the poor orphaned girl [who] succeeded smashingly on her own terms.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Kirkus Reviews Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Delivers a probing, well-researched and insightful biography of this familiar but endlessly surprising figure.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Publishers Weekly

Rhonda K. Garelick writes on fashion, performance, art, and cultural politics. Her books include Rising Star: Dandyism, Gender, and Performance in the Fin de SiÃƒÂ¨cle, Electric Salome: Loie FullerÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Performance of Modernism, and, as co-editor, Fabulous Harlequin: ORLAN and the Patchwork Self. Her work has also appeared in The New York Times, New York Newsday,

International Herald Tribune, and The Sydney Morning Herald, as well as in numerous journals and museum catalogs in the United States and Europe. She is a Guggenheim fellow and has also received awards from the Getty Research Institute, the Dedalus Foundation, the American Association of University Women, the Whiting Foundation, and the American Council of Learned Societies. Garelick received her B.A. and Ph.D. in comparative literature and French from Yale University.

Extremely well researched and minutely detailed in seemingly every aspect of Chanel's life. I began to find it tedious by only one-third finished, even though I have read many lengthier biographies. My loss of interest is not as much the fault of the author's as my previous ignorance of Chanel's extreme Nazi leanings that completely disenchanted me from learning more about her and will forever keep me from purchasing or using her empire's products.

I thought I knew this story; as they say, 'I saw the movie...' But I didn't know the half of it. Reading on, I found myself staying up later and later, dying to know what Coco would do next. I was particularly struck by Garelick's meticulous research -- her apt contextualizing of historical events and convincing use of new information about Gabrielle Chanel's friends, to show how they affected the haute-couture designer's constantly-evolving, increasingly mercurial persona. The last third of the book makes for disturbing reading. We watch Chanel as her dynamic charisma becomes manic grandiosity and she slips into sadistic madness without, apparently, losing her innate creative genius. She may not have been lovable (though many loved her) but Coco Chanel is an utterly unforgettable character -- the perfect heroine for a vampire movie. Without revealing any of the book's dramatic surprises, let me particularly recommend the passage where she spends several hours alone with the corpse of her ambivalently-loved friend Misia Natanson-Edwards-Sert. One thought -- I read the book on my paper-white Kindle, which cannot do justice to its many illustrations. The images are important to understanding the character, who in her own way was a visual artist. If you can, buy the physical book.

The writer wrote this book as more of an expose than an autobiography. She also spent as much space (more if you add them together) on her lovers as she wrote about Chanel. Sometimes I wondered who's life I was reading about. The book ended at around 64% and started epilogue, biography etc.

If one hasn't read every other book written on Chanel, this is the one. Forget the rest. This one really explains her with the inclusion of her activities during WWII. She was a woman who lived by her wits, street smart, and whatever was propitious at the moment. Other books have covered the influence of the men in her life on her designs, but this give an in depth view of why she was worldly sophisticated and so naive about the people she emulated.

.I would give this book a 3 star rating. I expected Coco to be a subject for a interesting biography, I was let down by finding that she had succumbed to another love affair, always to a married man. I think this book should be entitled " The Affairs of Coco Chanel". Then the readers would know what to expect.

Definitely, one of the most comprehensive biographies of Coco Chanel since (as you will quickly learn reading this book) Coco lied a lot about her childhood and upbringing. This biography was written after both German and French records were released to the public. However, GarelickÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s failed to explore beyond the limitation that her subject imposed on her. Coco is such an elusive subject due to her multitude of lies and exaggerations and Garelick was barely able to successfully capture the life of Coco let alone expand into her surrounding environment.

great read. She was quite the character to have done what she did in the fashion industry. What a time it was. Made me think a lot about the time period....the history. Loved it

Coco Chanel was a very interesting character but I felt the book was way too long and I would skim parts just to get through. I did learn a lot about her fashion career and perfume industry as well as her role in WWII, but I lost interest when she reinvented her life to fit the audience. I think it was worth reading but I would not reread it.

Download to continue reading...

Mademoiselle: Coco Chanel and the Pulse of History EMP: Electromagnetic Pulse. Protect Your Family and Survive Long After the EMP (Prepping, Survival, Homesteading, Preparedness, EMP, Electromagnetic pulse) Coco Chanel: The Legend and the Life Coco Chanel: Pearls, Perfume, and the Little Black Dress Coco Chanel: The Illustrated World of a Fashion Icon Sleeping with the Enemy: Coco Chanel's Secret War Library of Luminaries: Coco Chanel: An Illustrated Biography Coco Chanel (Little People, Big Dreams) Coco Chanel (Famous Fashion Designers) World History,

Ancient History, Asian History, United States History, European History, Russian History, Indian History, African History. (world history) Coco: Miguel and the Grand Harmony Study of Pose: 1,000 Poses by Coco Rocha The Art of Coco Different Like Coco The Veiled Pulse of Time: Life Cycles and Destiny (Spirituality and Social Renewal) Pulse of the Jungle: Ayahuasca, Adventures, and Social Enterprise in the The Art of Pulse Diagnosis: A Step-by-Step Exploration of Method, Directionality, Organ Energetics, Complement Channel Pulses, Textures, and Images Experimental Pulse NMR: A Nuts and Bolts Approach Design of Pulse Oximeters (Series in Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering) Li Shi-Zhen’s Pulse Studies - An Illustrated Guide

Contact Us

DMCA

Privacy

FAQ & Help