## The Corset

A Cultural History

Valerie Steele

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## The Corset: A Cultural History



The corset is probably the most controversial garment in the history of fashion. The publication concludes with insightful analyses of such latest developments as the reconception of the corset as symbolic of rebellion and female sexual empowerment, the revival of the corset in modern high fashion, and its own transformation from something of underwear to outerwear. Why did females continue to don steel and whalebone corsets for four hundred years? Valerie Steele, among the world's most respected fashion historians, explores the cultural history of the corset, demolishing myths concerning this notorious garment and revealing brand-new information and perspectives on its changing significance over the centuries. This lavishly illustrated book offers fascinating and frequently unexpected answers to these queries. And why did they finally end? health and convenience, Steele contends that females's encounters of corsetry varied significantly and cannot be completely comprehended within these narrow frames. In the twentieth hundred years the garment itself fell out of style but, Steele points out, it is becoming internalized as females replace the boned corset with diet, exercise, and cosmetic surgery. Whereas many historians possess framed the annals of the corset in terms of oppression vs. Drawing on considerable research in textual, visible, and materials resources, the author disproves the beliefs that the corset was dangerously unhealthy and was designed mainly for the oppression of women. Women persisted in putting on corsets?despite powerful male authorities trying to dissuade them?because corsetry got positive connotations of public status, self-discipline, youth, and beauty. liberation and style vs. Although thought to be an essential component of fashionable outfit from the Renaissance in to the twentieth hundred years, the corset was also often condemned as an instrument of torture and the cause of ill health.



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A very interesting book This is a remarkably interesting book. As anyone who has begun waist training I came across the medical information specifically pertinent. Very interesting photos. Everything I idea it would be This coffee table style books is fabulous! Great photos that accompany a very interesting history. I came across it informational and well worth the buy. Just as the title says That is a book about the annals of the corset. I give it 2 thumbs up!. So, it began to browse like --totally made up dates-- in 1820, they made this adjustment to the corset. It really is a fascinating look at not only the annals of the corset itself but also the annals of the individuals who wore them. the corset This book was beautifully put together and intensely informative about the beginnings of the corset. Great book in the annals of the corset.! A great background of the corset, for men and women.!! I suppose it may be a coffee desk book if you bought it, but I don't keep such things. After that in 1850, they made this adjustment to the corset. Except individuals were stating the same items. Valerie Steele, Yale PhD and chief curator of the Museum at the Fashion Institute of Technology in NY, brings meticulous study to the table in her step-by-step examination of the corset's development as an article of gown and her debunking of the many healthrelated myths that clung to its laces, providing excellent footnoting and a thorough bibliography. However her academic bent is a lot more than apparent in her prose, which tends to be extremely dry even though discussing the most interesting of cultural and sexual mores - actually the intriguing recommendation that the "hard body" so emphasized by today's society's focus on physical fitness is a stand-in for the corset of days gone by is presented in this anemic fashion that you may be excused for lacking how inflammatory a comment it truly is. If you're interested in corsetry, understanding where it originated from and how it has advanced through the centuries is nearly paramount in discovering what styles you prefer best! I didn't expect there to be, but if you hoped it would, you'll be disappointed. The Corset: A Cultural History Excellent to see all of the beautiful pictures great bookI recommended to my close friends to buy it alsoThanks The intricacies of corsetry. I came across some of it just slightly repetitive because it seems every 20-50 years the corset and it's makers would try to reinvent itself, but it would be a similar (minor changes) and everyone had the exact same concerns. Excelent This is actually the best book on corsets I have ever read. Society said "this", doctors stated "this" women who wore them stated "this". Great book! Society said "this", doctors said "this" ladies who wore them said "this". Fabulously researched, but just a little dry The Corset, a remarkable look at among history's most culturallycharged costume artifacts, both benefits and suffers from the most obvious erudition of its author.. A must read for anyone thinking about the annals of costume. I would recommend this as a library have a look at read (I did so this). Five Stars Love Four Stars good Worth having if you help to make or enjoy sporting corsets! It is all well crafted and seems to be a very reliable source for info. Also, absolutely nothing about making a corset is at this interesting history book. Great book on the history of the corset.



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