



Why'd They Wear That?: Fashion as the Mirror of History

By Sarah Albee



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Move over Project Runway. Get ready to chuckle your way through centuries of fashion dos and don'ts! In this humorous and approachable narrative, kids will learn about outrageous, politically-perilous, funky, disgusting, regrettable, and life-threatening creations people have worn throughout the course of human history, all the way up to the present day. From spats and togas to hoop skirts and hair shirts, why people wore what they did is an illuminating way to look at the social, economic, political, and moral climates throughout history.



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Editorial Review

Review

"Opening with a foreword by style guru Tim Gunn, this lavishly illustrated book presents history as a long and winding runway of fashion. In its brightly adorned pages, readers can gaze and gawk at the strange outfits humans have dreamed up since "casting off their smelly bear-skins" 10,000 years ago." – *The Washington Post*

"...this is truly an ageless piece of work that does everything a book should do. This book educates, elucidates, and entertains and should be deemed required reading for anyone who is interested in fashion on any level." – *New York Journal of Books*

"What a good idea for a book. And what a clever way to do it. As the subtitle says, this hefty, extensively illustrated book uses fashion to discuss the ways and whys people dress and how it reflects what's happening in their civilization." – *Booklist*

"Now see, the reason I like National Geographic Kids is that they're reliable. Take *Why'd They Wear That?*, for example. You know what you're getting here, even if you don't know the details. Mind you, the details are where all the good stuff is." – *School Library Journal*

"Full of period images that show off every bustle, frill, and rivet, this wide-ranging guide to clothing throughout time will fascinate history and fashion buffs alike." – *Publisher's Weekly*

"A fascinating read for fashion and history aficionados." – *The Horn Book*

About the Author

SARAH ALBEE is the author of more than 100 children's books. She has had three of her books appear on the *New York Times* children's bestseller list. She currently has an upper-middle-grade, nonfiction book published in May, 2010 about the history of toilets and sanitation entitled *Poop Happened! A History of the World from the Bottom Up*, and a follow-up title under contract due out in 2013 about how insects have affected human history. She blogs daily on a variety of science and social history topics geared toward middle-grade readers (sarahalbeebooks.com/blog). She spent nine years as an editor at Children's Television Workshop, working primarily for Sesame Street and attending both the Bologna and Frankfurt Book Fairs.

TIM GUNN (FORWARD) is a renowned fashion consultant, television personality, actor, and author. He has served as the chair of fashion design at Parsons New School for Design as well as chief creative officer at Liz Claiborne. He is well-known as the chief mentor to designers on the hit reality television series *Project Runway* and the headliner of spinoff shows *Tim Gunn's Guide to Style* and *Under the Gunn*. He is also the author of *A Guide to Quality, Taste and Style* as well as *Tim Gunn's Fashion Bible: The Fascinating History of Everything in Your Closet*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jose Carr:

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Charlene Martinez:

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to do! A lot of people spent their leisure time with their family, or their friends. Usually they accomplishing activity like watching television, likely to beach, or picnic in the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your personal free time/ holiday? Can be reading a book can be option to fill your free of charge time/ holiday. The first thing you ask may be what kinds of e-book that you should read. If you want to consider look for book, may be the publication untitled Why'd They Wear That?: Fashion as the Mirror of History can be great book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

Geraldine Moreno:

In this time globalization it is important to someone to find information. The information will make you to definitely understand the condition of the world. The fitness of the world makes the information simpler to share. You can find a lot of sources to get information example: internet, magazine, book, and soon. You will see that now, a lot of publisher that print many kinds of book. The particular book that recommended to you is Why'd They Wear That?: Fashion as the Mirror of History this guide consist a lot of the information in the condition of this world now. This book was represented how do the world has grown up. The vocabulary styles that writer use for explain it is easy to understand. The writer made some analysis when he makes this book. This is why this book suitable all of you.

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