Quilts In Everyday Life, 1855-1955: A 100-Year Photographic History

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Synopsis

The history of quilts, their makers, and usage is an important part of our country’s heritage presented here in full detail through 330 vintage photographs. Books on quilt history have, to date, included only a few photos of quilts. This in-depth collection, most of which has never been seen before, date from 1855 to 1955. Each vivid image provides commentary on quilting specifics, photography, costume, and American cultural history, especially toward the end of the 19th and early 20th centuries. Photographic formats and a glossary of quilting terms are included to aid the reader in dating their own vintage photographs. This book is a wonderful resource for all quilters, historians, and photographers.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I was especially interested in the historical aspects of the vintage photographs of quilts and the people pictured with them. Janet Finley looked closely at the history of photographs, quilts and clothing the people are wearing. It is a peek at 325 images of everyday life from 1855 to 1955. It is a fabulous book for historians, museums with textile, fashion and photographic collections, quilters, quilt stores and quilting groups. This is a totally unique look at the world of quilts.

A delightful book chock full of history and stories and quilts. What a treasure of stories about ordinary people and how they lived in the last 150 years. So many little nuggets of information about people places and things. I thoroughly enjoyed reading every page and marveled about how precious one tiny picture was back in the day. Each image told a story about a family in the early
years of Photography, such a contrast to how easy taking picture is today. Pat M.

This is a gorgeous book for anyone who loves quilts and history. I didn't find the post mortem photos grim at all - they were lovely and sad and clearly showed the significance of quilts to these families. I do have one suggestion to make - get better editing. Nearly every lie and lay was used incorrectly, for example. Despite that, I'd buy the book again in a heartbeat.

I can't put this book down. It is amazing. One of the best books on quilt history as well as so many other aspects of everyday life in the mid 1800’s to 1900’s. The author obviously did her homework on this one. This book should be in every quilters as well as historians library.

If you love history and quilts, you will love this book. Ms. Finley has collected 1000 photographs from 1855-1955 featuring people with a quilt. I learned a lot about photographic formats, traveling photographers, and post mortem images. Ms. Finley keeps the text lively with provenance, when available, and descriptions of the quilt and the fashions of the day. The photographs are fascinating and mirror everyday life in the US during this 100 year period.

It is really a beautiful book. I am very impressed. Included is so much history, not only about quilting and photography, but so much more. I have very much enjoyed reading it. I am savoring the book page by page. I have to decide which photo is my favorite. You can tell the author did an incredible amount of work on it. . . I can't even imagine where you'd start on a book like this. I like how nicely it is printed, too. . . the thick, glossy pages are great. A wonderful purchase for anyone who is into quilting, sewing, crafting, photography, America’s history, and women and their place in history, etc.

Janet put a tremendous amount of work into researching this book. It is a wonderful book to read and I learned a lot about photography and women’s history. An excellent book for anyone’s library! Many of the photographs are quite fun to study, especially the ones with quilted costumes.

This book exceeded my expectations. I bought extra copies for gifts. It contains important documentation spanning 100 years regarding quilts, social norms, and period dress. It even delves into the photography techniques used in the pictures. Each individual photo is an important story masterfully told by the author. The bibliography alone is a wealth of resources and demonstrates how carefully the book was researched.
Quilts in Everyday Life, 1855-1955: A 100-Year Photographic History
Happy Quilts!: 10 Fun, Kid-Themed Quilts and Coordinating Soft Toys
The Winding Ways Quilt: An Elm Creek Quilts Novel (The Elm Creek Quilts Book 12)
Birds of the Mediterranean: A Photographic Guide (Photographic Guides (Yale University Press))
Ira Aldridge: Performing Shakespeare in Europe, 1852-1855 (Rochester Studies in African History and the Diaspora)
The Writer's Guide to Everyday Life from Prohibition Through World War II (Writer's Guides to Everyday Life)
The Composition of Everyday Life, Concise (The Composition of Everyday Life Series)
Arctic Hell-Ship: The Voyage of HMS Enterprise 1850-1855
The Scottish Pioneers of Upper Canada, 1784-1855: Glengarry and Beyond
Leaves of Grass: The Original 1855 Edition (Dover Thrift Editions)
Leaves of Grass (Wisehouse Classics - Authentic Reproduction of the 1855 First Edition)
Leaves of Grass: The First (1855) Edition (Penguin Classics)
King Hussein and the Challenge of Arab Radicalism: Jordan, 1955-1967 (Studies in Middle Eastern History)
Preserving History: Patchwork Patterns Inspired by Antique Quilts
Georgia Quilts: Piecing Together a History (Wormsloe Foundation Publication Ser.)
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