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Coco Chanel: An Intimate Life

Lisa Chaney

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Lisa Chaney : Coco Chanel: An Intimate Life before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Coco Chanel: An Intimate Life*:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Beautifully Written, A Compelling Read! By Christina C. I absolutely devoured this book. What an amazing life Chanel led, and quite a trailblazer she was. And in the hands of an excellent biographer such as Ms. Chaney, the book was utterly compelling to read from beginning to end. Chaney really captures the despair of the early years as well as the headiness of the expansive years. I would have liked to have learned more about the business end of Chanel's life and of her growing empire rather than the social trivialities,

however, it is clear that Chanel had quite a lot going on in her love affairs, social life as well as business and fitting it in 400 pages is quite a feat in and of itself. An inspiring and engrossing book!!2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Excellent reading!By Diane NicholsI have been interested in the life story of Chanel for some time.Such a dark cloud hung over this woman it's surprising she maintainedher creativity.No holds barred pertaining to social stigmas, wealth and poverty.I'm finding it so detail oriented that it puts one in the era with a clear understanding of the struggles due to the customs and beliefs of that time.If you have an interest this is some what of a historical documentation.I'm glad to have found it.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Chanel helped create the idea of womanhood for the modern worldBy C. KovachThis is an In -depth biography of Gabrielle Chanel with a more candid view of her than previous books about her. It does a good job of conveying the social and political norms of Chanel's times. Chanel was a fascinating yet tortured woman who helped shape the idea of womanhood in our modern era. She influenced much more than just fashion. She had the courage and instinct to risk the accepted norms of her time. She gave woman the freedom to dress and act without the restrictions of the stilted past.

The controversial story of Chanel, the twentieth century's foremost fashion iconRevolutionizing women's dress, Gabrielle "Coco" Chanel was the twentieth century's most influential designer. Her extraordinary and unconventional journeyfrom abject poverty to a new kind of glamourhelped forge the idea of modern woman.Unearthing an astonishing life, this remarkable biography shows how, more than any previous designer, Chanel became synonymous with a rebellious and progressive style. Her numerous liaisons, whose poignant and tragic details have eluded all previous biographers, were the very stuff of legend. Witty and mesmerizing, she became muse, patron, or mistress to the century's most celebrated artists, including Picasso, Dal, and Stravinsky.Drawing on newly discovered love letters and other records, Chaney's controversial book reveals the truth about Chanel's drug habits, her lesbian affairs, and her German lover during World War II.While uniquely highlighting the designer's far-reaching influence on the modern arts, Chaney's fascinating biography paints a more nuanced picture of Coco Chanel than any so far. Movingly, it explores the origins, the creative power, and the secret suffering of this exceptional and often misunderstood woman.

The most thoroughly fleshed out of the new books about Chanel. . . Ms. Chaney takes care to give detailed context all the way along, but not so much that she pulls us off the path. One appreciates her elegant tutorials. The Wall Street JournalStuffed with just-so details as it sketches the arc of a remarkable life. Harper's MagazineRelying on newly released love letters, private diaries, and reminiscences . . .and using Chanels own words wherever possible, Chaney reveals the woman behind the icon. . . Most important here is Chaney's insight into Chanels role in creating the modern, independent woman. Library Journal"Chaney's engagement with her subject is evident throughout, and her exhaustive research into Chanels lifeespecially its darker, more enigmatic cornersand the cultural history she so profoundly impacted make the book as fascinating as it is informative." Kirkus sDeeply researched, Chaney's enthralling biography unearths previously unavailable sources to reveal the elementally conflicted yet unequivocally gifted woman whose name will always be synonymous with sophistication and originality. BooklistAbout the AuthorLisa Chaney has taught at Oxford, covered cultural history for British TV and radio, and written for The Guardian and The Independent, among other publications. The author of two previous biographies,Elizabeth DavidandHide-and-Seek With Angels: A Life of J.M. Barrie, she lives in York, England.