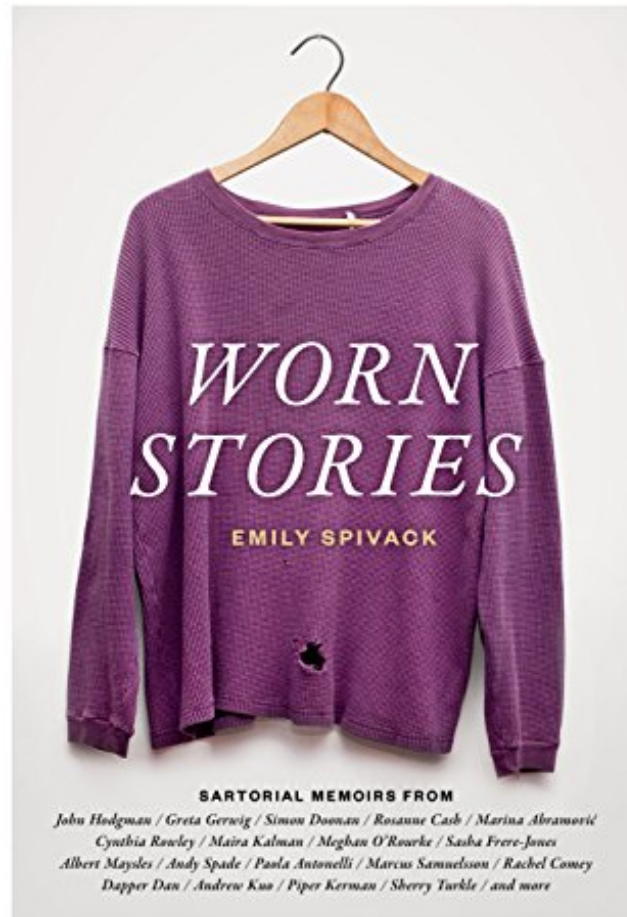



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Worn Stories

Emily Spivack

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Emily Spivack : Worn Stories before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Worn Stories:

15 of 16 people found the following review helpful. "I cannot separate myself from my clothes."By Amelia GremelspacherIn this intriguing collection of short memoirs, Spivack interviews a number of people both famous and not. She has asked for a piece of clothing that evokes a piece of time for the owner. The resulting entries ensnare the mind with the everyday magic of an item. I do,however, suspect it is also her interpretation of the story in precise and elegant prose that further enhances these little worlds.I am captured by the uncanny spread of clothing and stories. Some are totemic such as first Converse sneakers, but others are prosaic such as a pencil skirt that stood for adulthood for its owner. Perhaps even more telling than the clothing we buy are those clothes we save through the years. I especially love the fact that some of these items are not lovely and will never be candidates for clothing lust or envy. This book is a lovely little peek into the role of our much maligned "stuff" that follows our travels by design or habit.1

of 1 people found the following review helpful. Quirky but good reading!By CustomerI accidentally hit the one touch order button on , and was going to cancel, but after I read the synopsis I decided this book might just be a keeper. I'm so glad I did. Some of the stories are funny, some are full of wisdom, and some will break your heart, but I enjoyed every single one. It's amazing how ordinary items of clothing can invoke so many memories and instantly transport us to another place and time. For me, the only thing that might have made it better, would have been a small thumbnail photo of each owner (or better yet, a picture of them wearing their item). I loved it!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Garments as glimpses into people's livesBy Sarah WebbI enjoyed it greatly. Glimpses into the lives of people through a garment with personal meaning to them. It had a few too many statements from people in the clothing industry, but I enjoyed it so much overall, I still give it five stars. I chose it as a book for our book club, and in addition to discussing it, we all brought a garment and told about it to the group. Oral history, people's stories in a nicely focussed way to get into each person's daily life, not the overall arc of a life.

Everyone has a memoir in miniature in at least one piece of clothing. In *Worn Stories*, Emily Spivack has collected over sixty of these clothing-inspired narratives from cultural figures and talented storytellers. First-person accounts range from the everyday to the extraordinary, such as artist Marina Abramovic on the boots she wore to walk the Great Wall of China; musician Rosanne Cash on the purple shirt that belonged to her father; and fashion designer Cynthia Rowley on the Girl Scout sash that informed her business acumen. Other contributors include Greta Gerwig, Heidi Julavits, John Hodgman, Brandi Chastain, Marcus Samuelsson, Piper Kerman, Maira Kalman, Sasha Frere-Jones, Simon Doonan, Albert Maysles, Susan Orlean, Andy Spade, Paola Antonelli, David Carr, Andrew Kuo, and more. By turns funny, tragic, poignant, and celebratory, *Worn Stories* offers a revealing look at the clothes that protect us, serve as a uniform, assert our identity, or bring back the past; clothes that are encoded with the stories of our lives.

.com An Best Book of the Month, August 2014: If a picture is worth a thousand words, what's the worth of photos of old clothing? In the gorgeously packaged *Worn Stories*, Emily Spivack has paired short essays with beautifully sparse photos of their subject: old sweaters, shoes, jackets, and other sentimental apparel. But even more fun than the eccentric clothing is the diverse cast of creatives she's assembled, from musicians (Roseanne Cash) to critics (Sasha Frere-Jones) to actors (Greta Gerwig) to comedians (John Hodgman) to artists who do a multitude of things (Maira Kalman). The tales are often steeped in nostalgia--a funny anecdote with a tinge of longing--but the sum of these anecdotes is something bigger, more universal. Old clothes have a particular smell, often not the same, but familiar to someone. --Kevin Nguyen "A fascinating, poignant book." - Minneapolis Star Tribune"*Worn Stories* is absolutely remarkable in its entirety - a true labor of love that weaves this common thread of intensely personal, courageously vulnerable sartorial memories into a colorful tapestry of the human experience." - Brain Pickings"The one-page mini-memoirs, accompanied by a photograph of the piece of clothing, are intensely personal and yet universal. Initially I skipped around in *Worn Stories* until I realized I didn't want to miss a single story and read it straight through." - Boston Globe"Intimate and sweet.... A fashion book for everyone who feels that so far they have been left out of the fun." - Publishers Weekly"Full of emotion and honesty, and a handy antidote to 'fast fashion.'.. Dip in and out whenever the cynicism of today's consumer culture seems overwhelming." -NYTimes.com"A plain button-down shirt, a green sweater, a pair of legwarmers, all are suddenly seen in a new, more poignant light." - Globe and MailAbout the AuthorEmily Spivack is a Brooklyn-based artist, writer, and editor who created the Smithsonian's blog *Threaded* and collects stories for the Internet found-art project *Sentimental Value*. Her work has been featured in the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, and the Washington Post.