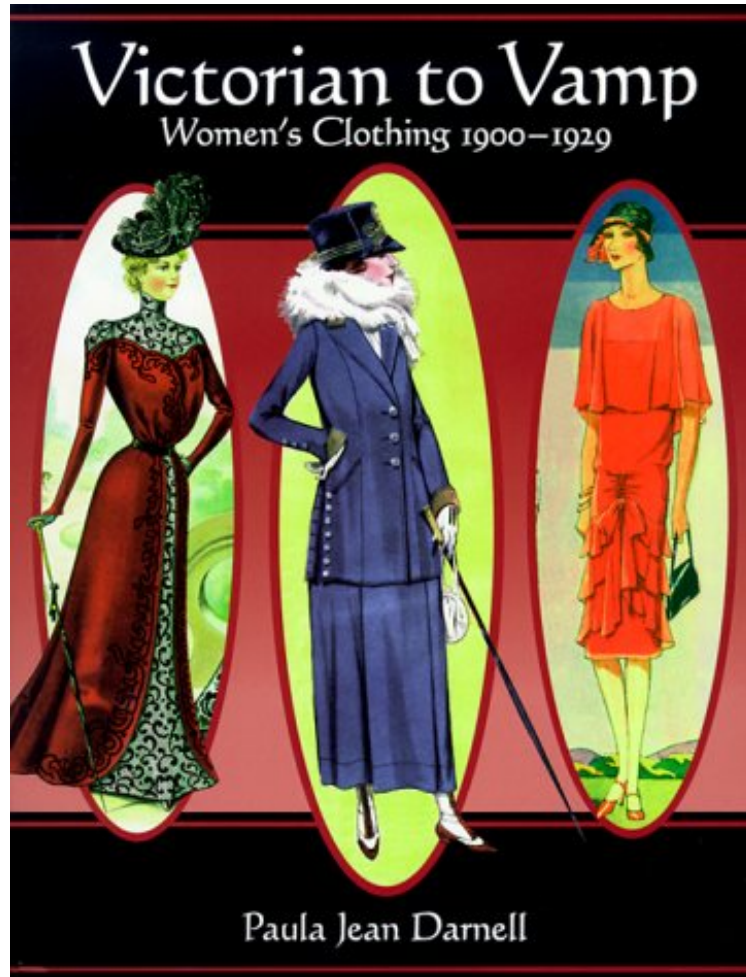


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Victorian to Vamp: Women's Clothing 1900-1929

Paula Jean Darnell

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Paula Jean Darnell : Victorian to Vamp: Women's Clothing 1900-1929 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Victorian to Vamp: Women's Clothing 1900-1929:

10 of 13 people found the following review helpful. a "don't buy"By S. E. SimmonsI had read several encouraging reviews and decided to purchase this book; and unfortunately, I feel that I wasted my money.On the plus side, while the author says nothing new, she does a good job of going over social and fashion trends of the time; I will give her credit for a decent job of writing and research.But for me, as for other vintage fashion enthusiasts, any book on historical garments must include lots, and I mean lots, of great illustrations, whether photographs or reprints from contemporary periodicals and catalogs. This is where "Victorian to Vamp" falls disappointingly short.The reprints are of indifferent quality, a couple of them quite crude (the author couldn't get her hands on a better picture of Amelia Jenks Bloomer? Come on!). And for a book of this type, why oh why couldn't the editors have sprung for a couple of prints in color?If the author would care to reissue this with the help of a better photo/print researcher, I might be

tempted to revise my opinion. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Great Book Concerning Victorian and Modern Fashion! By Pseudonym I particularly enjoyed the illustrations of the period fashions, as the line drawings and photographs of the clothing are indicative of the appearance of the Victorian and early modern attire worn by the women of the day. The book is especially well organized, and I appreciate the informative content regarding the various fashions of the period. The book provides a splendid overview of the time, highlighting the most important and outstanding elements of the period's fashion design. It is an aesthetically pleasing and well-written book that is highly recommended for anyone who wants to learn about the bridge between the fashions of the 1800s and modern times. A five-star book for sure! 14 of 19 people found the following review helpful. Feeble By Dr. Amanda As a fan of these three eras in fashion, I had high hopes for this book, but the front cover is the best thing about it. The most grievous problem with this book is that, focussing as it does on such a limited time span, it should go into depth about that time span. It does not. The descriptions of fashions of the eras are too generalized and don't indicate how and when changes within the eras took place; since fashion was changing pretty rapidly by the end of the 19th century, and certainly by the beginning of the 20th, I expected much more attention to chronology and gradual changes. The illustrations are also scanty and often of poor quality; some look as though they were made by tracing the outline of another illustration. I could have forgiven the shortcomings of the text had this book provided lots of illustrations, which is the main reason I suspect many of us buy books on fashion history. This book has a great premise, but it is very unhelpful.

Victorian to Vamp: Women's Clothing 1900-1929 covers styles from the turn of the century until the Great Depression. A predominant ideal silhouette marked each of these three decades from the S-shaped Gibson Bend in Edwardian times to the long, slender, upright lines of dresses in the Teens and finally to the boyish flat-chested look of flappers' short chemises in the Twenties. Learn about: clothing styles of three decades, how women accessorized their wardrobes, the influence that women's participation in sports had on their dress, why some women advocated dress reform, how designers Paul Poiret and Coco Chanel affected women's fashions. The book is illustrated entirely with period drawings and photographs of the time.

...great reference...you're sure to find this book a fascinating read. -- Country Victorian, Sept. 2000 In a little over 100 pages, Paula Jean Darnell presents a lively account of a crucial period of fashion history. -- Victorian Decorating Lifestyle Magazine, Sept. 2000 Step into another world as Victorian to Vamp shows you women's clothing at the turn of the last century. -- Butterick Home Catalog, Spring 2001 From the Publisher As we enter the new century, it is intriguing to look back on American culture as it was a hundred years ago and compare it with our society today. Certainly one of the most striking changes is in the status of women, and one of the most outwardly noticeable differences is in women's attire. Victorian to Vamp: Women's Clothing 1900-1929 explores what women were wearing at the turn of the century and how their dress had changed radically by the end of the Roaring Twenties. This book concentrates on fashionable styles during the first thirty years of the Twentieth Century. The author, Paula Jean Darnell, describes and identifies a distinctive ideal silhouette for each decade. Illustrations help the reader visualize how women's clothing and accessories looked during these three decades. Victorian to Vamp is also the story of the evolution of women's clothing, as women themselves, tired of having restrictions placed on their lives and their dress, changed from prim Victorians to flamboyant flappers. We think women of the Twenty-First Century will enjoy this look backward into fashion history. From the Author What did women wear 100 years ago? Why had styles completely changed by the Roaring 20s? How did the repressed Victorian change into the irrepressible vamp? The answers to these questions are revealed in my book Victorian to Vamp: Women's Clothing 1900-1929, which explores the evolving dress styles of women that reflected a slow change in their lifestyles as well. During this time the oppressive Victorian morality of the Nineteenth Century was disappearing, and by the 1920s a new freedom for women came about in their clothing. The modern short skirts and loose chemise dresses that slipped on so easily symbolized a change in the role of women. No longer bound in tight, boned corsets or hampered by long ground-sweeping skirts as they had been in Victorian times, women at last could work or play with ease. I hope my readers will enjoy this glimpse into costume history!