



sparkling granite—will do anything to survive. She will even agree to collaborate with the Nazis in order to protect her darkest secrets. When she is covertly recruited by Germany to spy for the Reich, she becomes Agent F-7124, code name: Westminster. But why? And to what lengths will she go to keep her stormy past from haunting her future?

"An intriguing, well-rounded portrait of a fascinating woman whose many important contributions to art and fashion remain popular today." —Kirkus Reviews Award-winning author Susan Goldman Rubin introduces readers to the most well-known fashion designer in the world, Coco Chanel. Beginning with the difficult years Chanel spent in an orphanage, Goldman Rubin traces Coco's development as a designer and demonstrates how her determination to be independent helped her gain worldwide recognition. Coco Chanel focuses on the obstacles Chanel faced as a financially independent woman in an era when women were expected to marry; as well as her fierce competition with the Italian fashion designer Elsa Schiaparelli; and some of her most memorable firsts for the fashion industry, including the little black dress, the quilted purse with gold chain, and the perfume Chanel No. 5. The book includes a bibliography, a list of where to see her work, and an index. "Rubin's biography is clear-sighted about Chanel's faults while extolling her fashion genius. Her source notes and bibliography are meticulous, as is the book's design . . . This will attract young fashion mavens eager to learn about design history." —Booklist "Rubin expertly chronicles Chanel's life in this biography . . . Rubin captures the authenticity of Chanel alongside her psychological need to portray a luxurious lifestyle." —VOYA "A well-researched primer packed with details on a significant trailblazer." —School Library Journal "Well-designed biography of a fascinating woman." —School Library Connection "A succinct, balanced portrayal of controversial haute couturière Gabrielle 'Coco' Chanel." —Publishers Weekly Sleek. Chic. Notoriously guarded. Welcome to the secret world of Gabrielle Chanel. The story of Chanel begins with an abandoned child, as lost as a girl in a dark fairy tale. Unveiling remarkable new details about Gabrielle Chanel's early years in a convent orphanage and her flight into unconventional adulthood, Justine Picardie explores what lies beneath the glossy surface of a mythic fashion icon. Throwing new light on her passionate and turbulent relationships, this beautifully constructed portrait gives a fresh and penetrating look at how Coco Chanel made herself into her own most powerful creation. An authoritative account, based on personal observations and interviews with Chanel's last surviving friends, employees and relatives, it also unravels her coded language and symbols, and traces the influence of her formative years on her legendary style. Feared and revered by the rest of the fashion industry, Coco Chanel died in 1971 at the age of eighty-seven, but her legacy lives on. Drawing on unprecedented research, Justine Picardie brings her fascinating, enigmatic subject out of hiding and uncovers the consequences of what Chanel covered up, unpicking the seams between truth and myth in a story that reveals the true heart of fashion.

"The exhibition *The Woman Who Reads* has been presented in Venice at the Ca' Pesaro, International Gallery of Modern Art from September 17th, 2016 to January 8th, 2017"--Page 392.

*The Biography (A Complete Life from Beginning to the End)*  
*If The Spirit Moves You*

*Along Came Coco*  
*The homes and landscapes that shaped the designer*

*Library of Luminaries: Frida Kahlo*

Step into the world of one of history's most celebrated artists and feminist icons: Frida Kahlo. This beautifully illustrated biography is full of colorful details that illuminate the woman behind the artwork, including excerpts from Kahlo's personal letters and diaries on her childhood dreams of becoming a doctor, the accident that changed the course of her life, and her love affairs with famous artists. Featuring handwritten text alongside lovely illustrations, *Library of Luminaries: Frida Kahlo* provides a captivating window into the vibrant life, work, and creative vision of the beloved Mexican artist.

*Sleeping with the Enemy*  
*Coco Chanel Biography Book*  
*Coco Chanel and the Pulse of History*  
*The Intimate History of the World's Most Famous Perfume*  
*Life, Death, and Betrayal at the Hotel Ritz in Paris*  
*Little Book of Coco Chanel*