CLASSIC BOOK REVIEW

Scent-Sational Searches

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THE READING GLASS
CRITIC'S REVIEW
Taking readers on a sensuous journey through the world of fragrances, Deborah Worley’s *Scent-Sational Searches* is a comprehensive guide in choosing the best perfumes for different personality or blood types.

Choosing a perfume can be a tricky and expensive endeavor. Too often, you might purchase a fragrance that smells great at the store, then find it doesn’t hold up quite as well in an uncontrolled environment. This common experience is what eventually led author Deborah Worley to take a deeper look at the intricacies of how an individual’s body chemistry, specifically their blood type, can affect how a fragrance lasts or lingers on the skin.

In her years of experience helping people select fragrances, she eventually developed a brief survey that helped identify which scents work best for particular blood types. It’s her belief that her “fragranista” system can assist people in buying the right perfumes that would not only please their olfactory senses, but would also express their personalities in the most effective and captivating ways. After all, wearing perfume isn’t only about smelling good. It’s also about projecting a certain image to others in specific situations, whether these are black-tie gatherings or a casual party in a club.

The author includes a thorough explanation of her theories and provides a practical guide that can help readers understand and apply her “fragranista” chart when choosing perfumes. She is careful to note that the science behind her system hasn’t been fully substantiated, but she does name resources that readers can use for further research.

The book’s true strength, however, lies in the detailed information the author provides about the various types of fragrances available on the market. With her clean yet evocative prose, she describes the history of perfumes and paints vivid portraits of the different fragrance families. It’s fascinating to read about the differences between floral and fruity perfumes, for instance, and then learn how these are also connected as subgroups under the chypre category of perfumes. It’s certainly a revelation to discover how both science and art are combined in the creation of a perfume as various ingredients are mixed together in order to craft unforgettable bouquets for one’s sense of smell.

There’s also a great chapter on the author’s favorite perfumers. Featuring short biographies of icons such as Coco Chanel and Estee Lauder, readers can gain a better appreciation for how perfumes have become such an integral part of the fashion industry.

Informative and entertaining, Deborah Worley’s *Scent-Sational Searches* is a lively piece of work that offers a unique perspective on people’s relationship with perfumes.