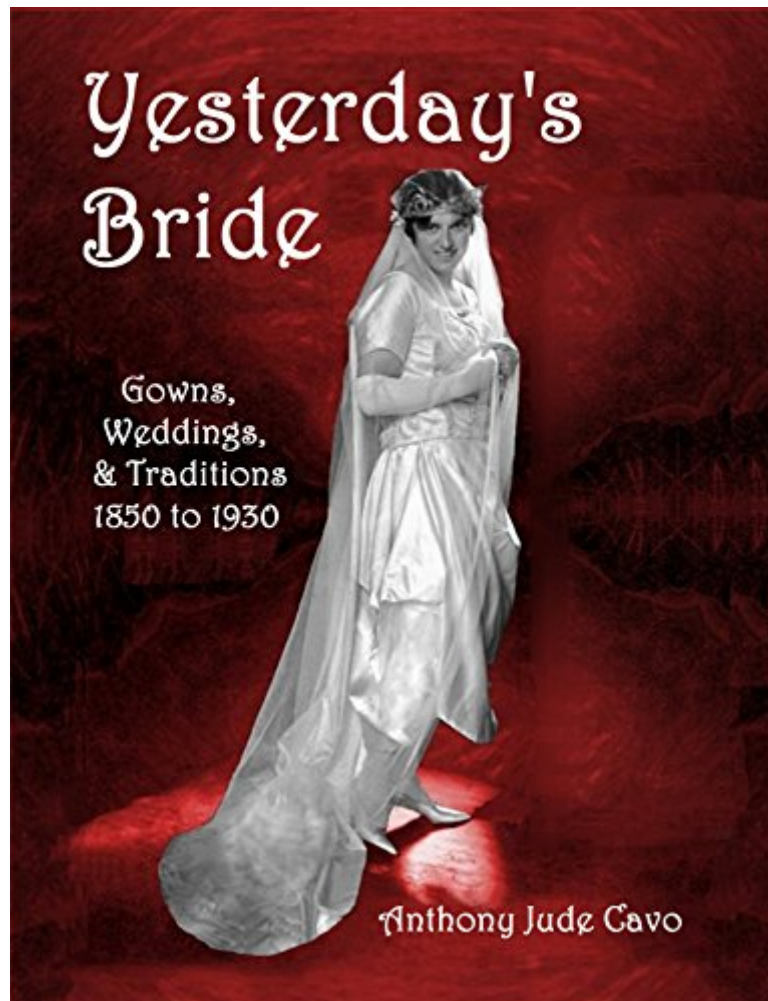


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# Yesterday's Bride: Gowns, Weddings, & Traditions 1850 To 1930 (Yesterday's World)



## Synopsis

Yesterday's Bride is the ultimate wedding theme book for any bride who is planning a wedding, choosing or designing her gown, selecting flowers with special meanings, writing her own vows, and deciding on which wedding practices, customs, and traditions she may wish to include in her ceremony and reception; this book has it all. The 80 full-page photographs in Yesterday's Bride will give you a glimpse of bridal gowns from 1858 through the 1930's. Each photo is accompanied by detailed descriptions of the vintage wedding gowns worn by the bride as well as descriptions of bridesmaid's dresses including the wide variety of veils and trains from which to choose. Along with each photograph you will also find a discussion of wedding traditions, practices, and superstitions with their origins from the Pre-Dynastic Egyptian Period (3500 – 3050 BC), through the ancient Greeks and Romans, up to some relatively modern practices. You will discover the reasons and roots of Western wedding traditions from elaborate veils to the seemingly unimportant boutonniere on the groom's lapel. You will understand how social mores, economy, and even war have influenced fashion in general and bridal fashion specifically. Many of the traditions in Yesterday's Bride may be new to you and you may wish to include them when planning a ceremony and celebration that will be as unique for your guests as it will be for you. Flowers, which are so essential in the planning of a wedding, should not be chosen arbitrarily or by color and beauty alone. Each flower has special meanings, which are discussed in detail throughout the book. In addition to flowers there are many beautiful green or flowering herbs and even leaves with symbolism appropriate for a couple beginning a new life together. What flower indicates fidelity, passion, beauty or everlasting love? What leaf symbolizes wealth or victory? What herb denotes remembrance, luck, or desire? Why not select flowers with meanings that are personally important or those that import a bright future? Incorporating these flowers, ferns, herbs, and leaves in your bouquets and center pieces will add a special meaning to your important day. Yesterday's Bride will supply you with wedding flower ideas and wedding photograph ideas. In Yesterday's Bride landmarks in the battle for the enfranchisement of women are correlated with photographs of brides during the corresponding time in history. It is interesting to note the parallels in the evolution of the women's suffrage movement and the style of clothing worn by women: from the binding, often deadly corsets of the oppressive 19th Century to the sheer, nude look of the liberating 1920s when women had their first taste of national political inclusion. It could be said that women's fashion recapitulates equality, or the contrary. From bride by capture to bride by choice Yesterday's Bride traces the history of the wedding and its traditions throughout recorded time. The photos, text and quotes by the famous about brides, wives, and weddings will prove to be a valued source of

reference for the bride-to-be in planning her wedding, writing her ceremony, selecting flowers, or choosing, even designing, her own gown.

## **Book Information**

File Size: 6355 KB

Print Length: 172 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publisher: Anthony Jude Cavo; 1 edition (June 26, 2015)

Publication Date: June 26, 2015

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00XFOB1OC

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #682,958 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #26

inÂ Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Weddings > Gown #148 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Weddings #408 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Arts & Photography > Graphic Design > Commercial > Fashion Design

## **Customer Reviews**

I have spent this year, and will continue to spend the rest of the year, running from wedding to wedding since this seemed to be the year for the nuptials of the late 20-somethings and early 30-somethings. Now, being a bit of a costuming fiend and having a theatrical bent, my friends subsequently tend to share my love of the dramatic and constantly messaged me over the course of the planning stages of their weddings to ask me about this tradition or that tradition or historical accuracy. Now, while I love costuming and historical traditions, my historical and theatrical inclinations have a more morbid cast than weddings usually imply and so I felt out of my depth. Very much out of my depth. And when I don't know the answers, I like to find them out. So I went on a hunt, lots of unhelpful websites, lots of un-cited or mis-cited resources, and with all that out there, I decided to go the tried-and-true method: books. I went through a few of them, some of them were okay, but then I stumbled upon this one and WHOA. Just whoa. This book is chock full of everything

I was looking for. Period clothing? Check. With pictures? Check. Traditions? Check. Superstitions? Check. Little known facts? Check. Things I would never have even thought about in terms of the dress, little details and accessories, flowers and crowns, nylons, bustles, gloves, not only get discussed but described in brilliant detail. I was blown away, which is hard to do to me. This is something akin to a lifetime of research boiled down into something both incredibly useful and fascinating. I decided, rather than answer the questions of my friends, that this book would make the most fantastic bridal shower gift. Sure enough, every time I gave one out, my friends got back to me, just as amazed and impressed with this book as I. It's been an overall crowd-pleaser and I'm not surprised at all. This is an amazing resource.

Traditions that have long been forgotten come alive in the pages of this book. The photos that Anthony was so lucky to find, then be able to create the story behind each of them is a treasure. You will not be disappointed only sad to see that we all have lost the true meaning of being a bride. Thank you....

What a beautiful and unique book ! I loved the correlation between bridal dresses and the political climate that influenced their style. The meaning of flowers selected for bridal bouquets along with the reasons behind wedding traditions was particularly interesting. I wish I had this book when I was planning my wedding. I am going to give a copy to a friend's daughter who just got engaged, a very creative and informative gift for every bride to be.....Patricia A. Kari

This is a very well researched and informative book that includes wonderful antique photographs. I love how he turned what could have been another pedestrian bridal book into something special, by incorporating tradition origins, historical context and social mores of the time. The author's passion for his subject shines through. An excellent gift for any bride to be.

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