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## Perfumes: The Guide (Hardcover)

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**From Viking Adult : Perfumes: The Guide (Hardcover)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Perfumes: The Guide (Hardcover):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Hilariously funnyBy Elena M.Hilariously funny. The authors review a large number of commercial perfumes, arranged by alphabetical order by perfume's title. A review might include the major scents, how they combine (or do not), and authors' memories of certain perfume-related events. In the back of the book, there are a couple of top 10 lists of perfumes.Let me just give you an example of how funny they can be:"Very Sexy for Her (Victoria's Secret), sour metallic. I have been racking my brain, trying to understand how one of the most unpleasant fragrances ever made was developed and brought to market. It consists of a loud metallic note (which you can replicate at home by chewing a piece of aluminum foil) plus the sourest woody amber ever and a whiff of stale pizza.""Aquawoman (Rochas), watery floral. As near nonexistence as it is possible to be while still remaining technically a fragrance"."cK IN2U (Calvin Klein), 7Up amber. IM IN UR BOTTLE BORIN UR GF."Overall, entertaining read. Would not necessarily recommend it for anyone trying to make perfume, it's not a how-to book.Also, take it with a grain of salt - perfume preferences vary person by person and each perfume reacts differently with the wearer's body chemistry. And I am not just making that up because two of my most favorite scents got one-star reviews :)Another limitation of this book - a lot of perfumes discussed here I have never heard of/ can't get a hold of/ are long time out of production. The authors review them for the purposes of having a more complete perfume "map", and not as a shopping guide.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Who expected a perfume book to make you laugh out loud?By TeaBookLoverPicked it up from the library but I want to buy this one too! Why? It's a

great reference for knowing the perfumes itself, and the 'noses' of the business, as they say. But the best part for me is the humor--wasn't expecting that! If they don't like a perfume, they won't just tell you, no, it will be some dry, witty and probably insulting answer as to why. This will give you a very long list of perfumes to sample! 8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Thank You By Roudnitska Luca Turin has been writing perfume reviews since he was a young boy forty years ago, smelling the great fragrances when they were still great. He's written reviews for various sources over the last twenty years, most of them in French. His articles for Folio Magazine are indispensable. It was actually many of the great perfumers themselves who wanted more of his reviews because they revealed insight that never existed. If you want to know more about Luca Turin and the perfume industry you should read an excellent and fun to read book by Chandler Burr called *The Emperor of Scent*. A few quotes applied to Luca Turin: "A prelude to being able to explain the world metaphorically--the most immediate, compelling, and powerful form of comprehension--is the ability to grasp the world and its complexity metaphorically." "He can nail any odor descriptively in a few words. He's generally not only exactly spot on, he gets incredible torque from the most recherché nouns." He "not only does not use the clichéd, uninteresting "categories" of perfume ingredients, he uses very few adjectives. Rather, he conveys the perfumes through imagery (where nouns do the work) and perceptive analogy. This is critical work that functions almost purely on the conceptual level." Aristotle said the greatest thing by far is to be a master of metaphor. It is the one thing that cannot be learned from others; it is also a sign of genius, since a good metaphor implies an eye for resemblance. Few writers in any genre have mastered metaphor like Luca Turin, and it's something that still blows my mind, regardless of whether or not I agree with every one of his perceptions of a perfume. The same goes for Tania Sanchez who is also perfume critic nonpareil. Turin and Sanchez illuminate the reader with a subjective experience in fragrance, rather than herding cats in an attempt to identify every note in a perfume house's fantasy pyramid (usually with extremely diminishing returns). What does it feel like? When it comes to wearing a fragrance, people are aiming for a subjective projection of their internal feeling each day, or a match to the weather, whatever. Turin and Sanchez concentrate on interesting deployments of key notes, or structural innovations, or landmarks of one kind or another, AND the subjective experience of wearing a fragrance. I own most of the great perfume books, many of which are out of print or cost hundreds of dollars now, and I find *Perfumes: The Guide* to be the most informative, provocative, and entertaining perfume book ever written. And it isn't just the reviews, the introduction is by far the best general discussion of fragrances I've ever seen. Whether or not you agree with every review is irrelevant. A good critic is always going to teach you something, and closing yourself off to that kind of learning because you're upset about something they say is a sad loss. I mean if you haven't learned something from nearly every single page of this book then you haven't read it, or are for whatever reason not able to discern it. Some critical acclaim for the soft cover edition called *Perfumes: The A-Z Guide*, which adds another 450 reviews and several more top ten lists: "Their work is, quite simply, ravishly entertaining, and it passes the high test that their praise even more compelling than their criticism.... Its blend of technical knowledge and evocative writing is exemplary in the strictest sense: people who write about smell and taste in any context should use it as an example." "Far more addictive than it has any right to be." "They make it so entertaining, you don't even have to like perfume to enjoy reading about it." "Nothing less than an essential possession. Most books that are called life-changing don't make the least little difference to anybody whatsoever. In its field, this one deserves the name." Luca Turin and Tania Sanchez, Thank You for this outstanding book.

Hardcover Book