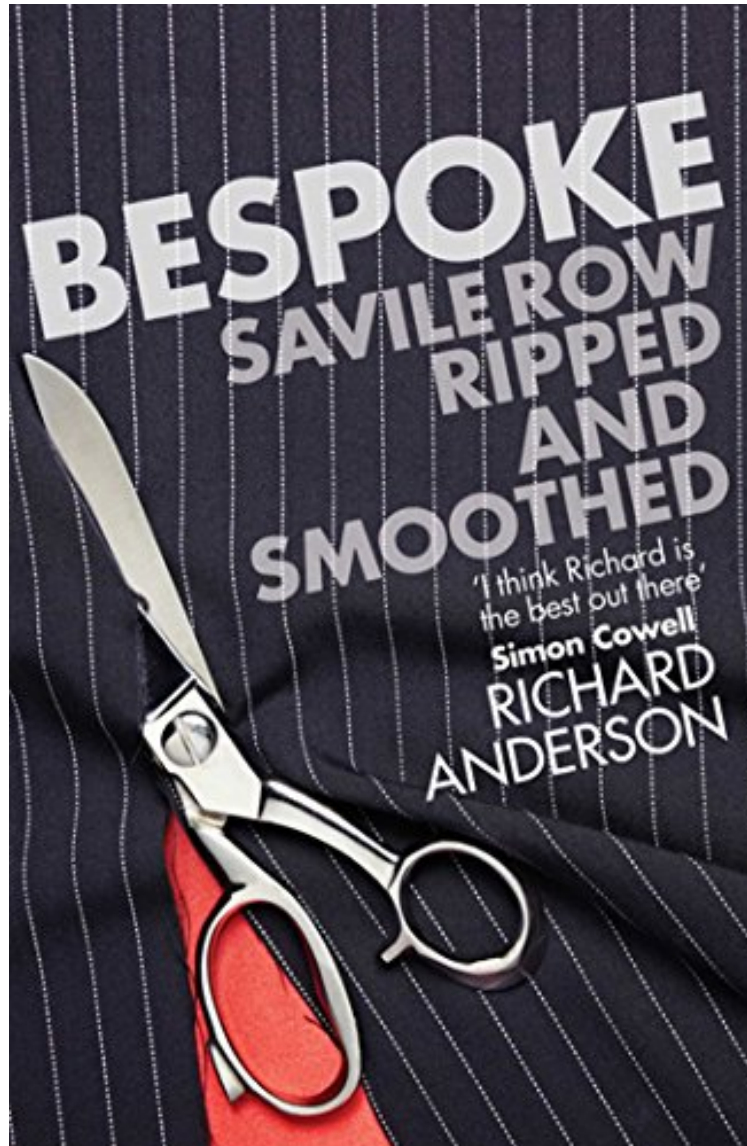


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Bespoke: Savile Row Ripped and Smoothed

Richard Anderson

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Richard Anderson : Bespoke: Savile Row Ripped and Smoothed before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bespoke: Savile Row Ripped and Smoothed:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Very interesting...By V. AminThe reason I enjoyed this book is because, for reasons unbeknownst to me, I've developed a recent fascination with Savile Row. I suppose that's because of their ultimate dedication to the art and technique of creating bespoke clothing. Furthermore, I've begun to distinguish quality in the materials and construction of the clothes I wear myself. What this means is, for the first time

in my life, I'm actually insane enough to like a book on clothing. Frankly, that's an important part of this review. If I had never heard of Savile Row, or cared about what goes into making a truly bespoke suit, or wondered about where cashmere comes from, or what super-130's wool actually is, it's possible this read would have been only mildly interesting, if not strange. That would be no flaw of Richard Anderson, who has written a wonderful and witty (though sometimes verbose) account of his years on the Row; it would just be an unfortunate consequence of reading about a very alien and exclusive world. That being said, this is the stuff Sean Connery wore in the first Bond films. They are (arguably) some of the finest suits anyone could buy, made by people who account for every "deformity," personality trait, and strange request a customer could have. You also get the sense that the author is more relatable than most of the other cutters and tailors on Savile Row. If none of this sounds interesting to you, I wouldn't bother with this book at all. Nothing wrong with that. But if this seems even remotely intriguing, and you don't mind delving in the adventures of charming and stuffy British people, go for it! 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Enjoyable read By Customer I currently go to school for fashion design. This book is a fascinating read on the history and life of Savile Row. There are a few humorous moments. However there is not a whole lot of tension, and the book just kinda ends. Not much of a climax or rise. Even Richard Anderson has a very inspirational life. It goes to show that no matter what decisions as younglings, we can make something pretty amazing happen. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting inside view By M. Skinner Fascinating window into men's tailoring. As a sewer, I enjoyed learning the technical side of the craft. I enjoyed reading about his personal success story.

In 1982 for the princely sum of 2,000 a year the seventeen-year-old Richard Anderson became an apprentice at Huntsmans, the most venerable of Savile Row tailors. Nineteen years later he opened his own eponymous business on the world-famous 'Golden Mile', where he hand-cuts exquisite suits for a global clientele. In *Bespoke* he does for the world of tailoring what Kitchen Confidential did for the world of haute cuisine. With him we learn the consummate craftsmanship and perfectionism that goes into a hand-made suit and the years of sweat and graft it takes to learn it. Training in the art of making trousers and coats that could cost as much as 10,000 was a gruelling game, but Richard persisted to become the youngest head cutter in Huntsman's 150-year-old history. We meet the extraordinary cast of characters who peopled Huntsmans from the boardroom to the backroom -- the debonair Colin Hammick, the grumpy eccentric Brian Hall and Dick Lakey, the heroically overworked 'leg man'. Not to mention the no less colourful clients, who ranged from politicians and peers of the realm to music icons and Hollywood movie stars. Frequently funny and told with great candour, *Bespoke* is a fascinating glimpse behind the scenes on Savile Row. You'll never look at a suit in the same light again.