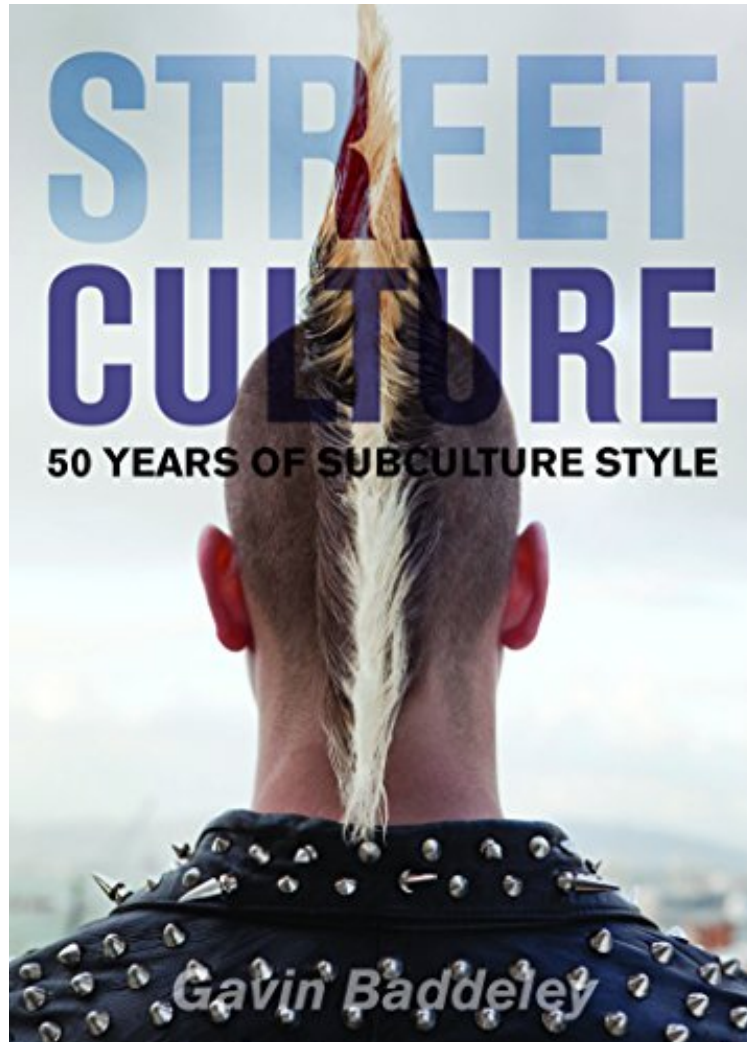


(Download pdf ebook) Street Culture: 50 Years of Subculture Style

Street Culture: 50 Years of Subculture Style

Gavin Baddeley

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Gavin Baddeley : Street Culture: 50 Years of Subculture Style before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Street Culture: 50 Years of Subculture Style:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. a book like this, which ties them all together and puts ...By DH32This book is everything that it is advertised to be. Seasoned journalist Gavin Baddeley provides a thorough, witty and ambitious look into the history of counterculture, from the 1950s to the dawn of the 21st century. Some of the subcultures discussed are hippie, biker, mod, punk, goth, metal, hardcore and emo, to name a few. Although there seems to be plenty of available literature on any one of these particular subcultures, a book like this, which ties them all together and puts them in wider historical perspective, was begging to be written!Each subculture is given its own chapter, outlining its history and exploring some basic tenets. Yet there are a few themes and observations that run

throughout the book, and this is one of the things that makes the book interesting. For instance, countercultures tend to be demonized by the mainstream or conservative media. In the process of this demonization the counterculture in question begins to lose a degree of its original ethos as it attracts more converts who are mainly attracted to the controversy created by the bad press. A related observation is how certain aspects of counterculture can be coopted (and commodified) by the mainstream. Perhaps most interesting is the historical change in the way that different countercultures have interacted with each other. Throughout the book Baddeley recounts how different subcultures borrowed from, and were influenced by each other, and also at times had intense rivalries with one another. More recently, the lines dividing these different subcultures have blurred. With modern technology, individuals are exposed to a myriad of different ideas and products, and many choose to combine trademarks of different subcultures rather than sticking to just one credo. Baddeley's central message is a celebration of counterculture as a sort of rebellion against mindless herd conformity. This is a message that resonates with me on a personal level. At the same time, Baddeley provides a frank and honest discussion of his topic rather than being a blind advocate for one subculture or another. This level of balance and honesty in his approach is commendable, and is a breath of fresh air. I have only a few minor qualms with this book: primarily, I would like to have seen certain topics be explored in much greater detail. For example, Baddeley spends little time discussing the demise of the hippie movement, which could be the topic of a book in itself. Also, I was hoping to learn more about the importance of the related vegan and straight edge movements within the hardcore music subculture (these remain important features of that subculture to this day). I also feel that the analysis was a bit heavy on the topics of aesthetics and music, and a bit light in other areas, like politics, religion, sexuality, transportation etc. For example, there are multiple chapters about punk subculture, but just one chapter on the biker subculture (which mainly revolves around the Hells Angels Motorcycle Club), and no chapter on the subculture of skateboarding, which I felt warranted inclusion in a book about counterculture. Having said that, counterculture is a broad topic, and I am sure the author was operating with a page limit and just could not cover everything. I highly recommend this book to anybody interested in the topic of counterculture!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Best book on punk and street culture! By lightningliz I was recommended this book by a friend because it relates to what I'm doing in the fashion field. This book is outstanding. I have only skimmed through it but it is so thorough, I plan to dedicate time to read it carefully. There's so much info packed in here. Excellent photos as well.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Laura Well-written, superb pictures.

An illustrated guide to over five decades of youth movements from sharp-suited mods and acid-dropping hippies to leather-clad metalheads and straight-edge hardcore punks *Street Culture* pieces together a vibrant history of countercultural rebellion. While the eye-catching attire and headline-grabbing antics of these subcultures are familiar to many, few outsiders understand the rhyme and reason that hold them together. Widely acclaimed for his work on the underbelly of contemporary culture, author Gavin Baddeley details the origins, ethos and aspirations of each group, offering valuable insight into what attracts the devotees who are willing to risk harassment and ridicule in order to stay true to themselves. *Street Culture* takes readers inside the minds behind the elaborate hairstyles, and looks beyond the controversy and lurid pop-culture mythology that surrounds each style tribe, celebrating this phenomenon as an expression of individualism that goes far beyond mere teen rebellion and vitally impacts upon the modern world.

About the Author Gavin Baddeley is a graduate of Cambridge University. As a journalist, he has written for a variety of publications on his specialized subjects of the occult, rock music and trash culture. As a lecturer he has conducted a summer school on the occult. He was also made an official British representative of the Church of Satan by its late founder, Anton LaVey. He is the author of *Lucifer Rising*, *Dissecting Marilyn Manson*, *Goth Chic: A Connoisseurs Guide to Dark Culture*, *Goth: Vamps and Dandies*, and *Vampire Lovers: Screens Seductive Creatures of the Night*.