KARL LAGERFELD





To my wonderful parents. Thank you for your unwavering support. - Filippo Beretta

© Prestel Verlag, Munich · London · New York, 2025

A member of Penguin Random House Verlagsgruppe GmbH

Neumarkter Strasse 28 · 81673 Munich

produktsicherheit@penguinrandomhouse.de

(The above information is mandatory information according to GPSR and should be used for all queries relating to the safety of our books)

Original title: *Karl Lagerfeld* © BesideBooks s.r.l. 2024

The book was developed and edited by Balthazar Pagani.

Library of Congress Control Number is available; a CIP catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

The publisher expressly reserves the right to exploit the copyrighted content of this work for the purposes of text and data mining in accordance with Section 44b of the German Copyright Act (UrhG), based on the European Digital Single Market Directive. Any unauthorized use is an infringement of copyright and is hereby prohibited.

Editorial direction: Claudia Schönecker Project management: Veronika Brandt

Translation: Katherine Cofer Proofreading: Werner Kügler

Design: Bebung

Typesetting: Christine Schnappinger Production management: Luisa Klose

Printing and binding: Alföldi Nyomda Zrt., Debrecen



Penguin Random House Verlagsgruppe FSC® N001967

Printed in Hungary

ISBN 978-3-7913-9347-6

www.prestel.com

This is a fictional graphic novel. It is based on the life of Karl Lagerfeld. However, numerous actual events and people involved have been altered and supplemented or reconstructed in such a way that fact and fiction form an inseparable artistic unit. All trademarks, individual & company names, brand names, registered names, quotations, celebrity names, logos, dialogues and catchphrases used or cited in this work are the property of their respective owners. The Publisher does not assume and hereby disclaims any liability to any party for any loss, damage or disruption caused by errors or omissions, whether such errors or omissions result from negligence, accident, or any other cause.

There was no collaboration with Karl Lagerfeld or any other entity or person, in particular there is no licence agreement whatsoever. The use of the name is therefore exclusively for descriptive and not for brand-identifying reasons.







Text by

MICHELE BOTTON

Illustrations by

FILIPPO BERETTA

Edited by

BALTHAZAR PAGANI

PRESTEL

MUNICH · LONDON · NEW YORK



CONTENTS

NEW YORK OF THE PROPERTY OF TH



(







PARIS

Paris in the 1950s: young Karl prepares his debut.

CHAPTER 2, page 26

ADOLESCENCE

Youth in Hamburg: a boy with an extraordinary personality seeks his own path.

CHAPTER 3, page 34

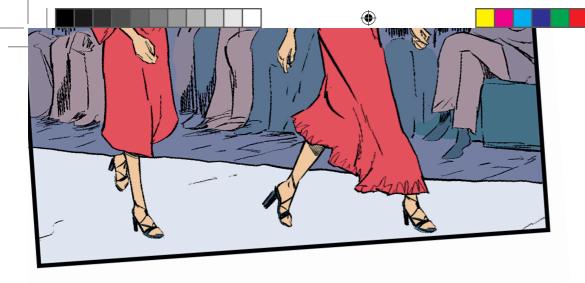
CHLOÉ

At Chloé, Karl finds his path to success, which is not long in coming.

CHAPTER 4, page 44

CHILDHOOD

The childhood of a genius, between family, war, and the struggles of feeling out of place.



CHAPTER 5, page 52

FENDI

From Paris to Rome: Karl's future is Fendi.

CHAPTER 6, page 68

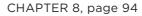
LOVE

Beyond work, Karl makes room for love.

CHAPTER 7, page 76

CHANEL

Yet another leap to the top: It's time for Chanel!



CHOUPETTE

A diva on four legs conquers Karl's heart.

CHAPTER 9, page 102

OLYMPIAN HEIGHTS

Success is here: The versatile Karl and his extraordinary runway shows.

CHAPTER 10, page 116

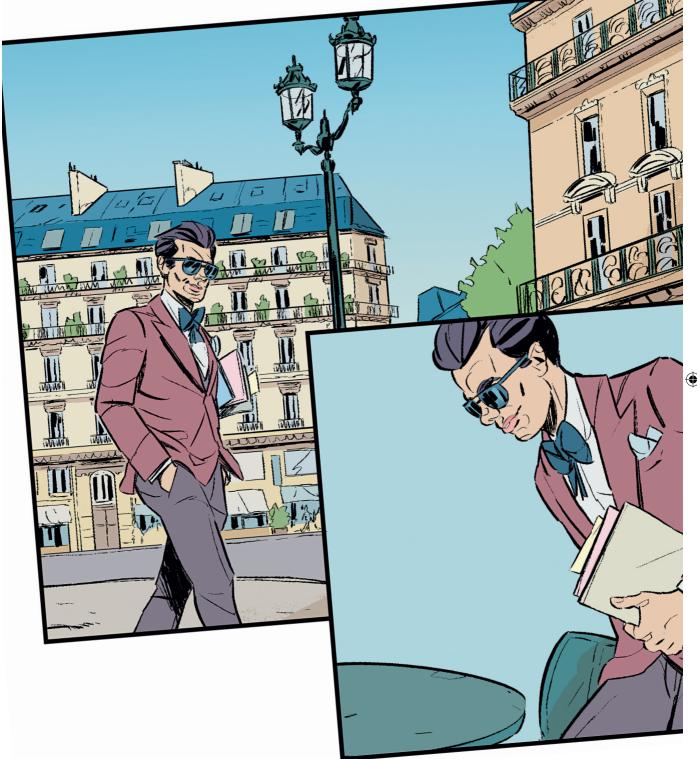
FAREWELL

The end of a man's journey; the immortality of a myth.







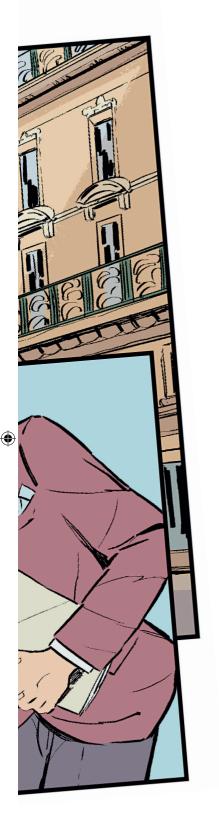












KARL LAGERFELD

Yes, you know him, you've seen him everywhere: on the catwalks of his incomparable fashion shows, on the television screen, on the covers of glossy magazines. Karl Lagerfeld, an icon of fashion and a pioneer of contemporary aesthetics.

RENOWNED FOR HIS CREATIVE GENIUS AND HIS IMPECCABLE TASTE, KARL LAGERFELD HAS MADE AN INDELIBLE MARK IN THE FABRIC OF WORLD FASHION.

Born in 1933 in Hamburg, he proved himself as one of the most influential designers and visionaries of his time. His career, which he launched as a young apprentice at well-known Parisian fashion houses, rapidly gained momentum, taking him to leadership roles at the most prestigious maisons de couture, such as Chloé, Fendi and Chanel.