**Rave reviews and personal responses to *Textiles: The Whole Story***

"A bravura scholarly performance unlike any other I've known." *Stanley Abercrombie*, *review in* *Interior Design*

“As I read your analysis and synthesis I thought, ‘Well, yes, of course’ and ‘Ah! That's why....’ Thank you so much for putting your passion for textiles into words, adding pictures, and sharing the result in this grand book!” *--Nann Blaine Hillyard*

This book is a most wonderful exploration of all things textile. It is written with the utmost scholarship and soul. There are over 300 photos and you can tell everyone was chosen and placed with care. The history, geography, science, are fascinating, the ideas inspiring and thought provoking. But this book is beautiful and fun! If you are a quilter, weaver, embroiderer etc., if you love cloth you will get so much enjoyment from dipping into this comprehensive text anywhere. I even read the preface! (I never read the preface). "Scholarly" often connotes dry, but this book is written beautifully with clear love and respect for the subject matter. I have gotten great enjoyment from this book and want to share it with everyone--it's that kind of book! --*A. Wright*

[This] is the best book I've ever read on the subject… Part scholarly book, part coffee table book, part textbook, this highly illustrated work is a non-chronological social and cultural history of textiles from their origins through contemporary times. Defining textiles in the broadest possible way--including rope, string, basketry, even fiber optic cable!, Beverly Gordon discusses their making and manufacture; fabric metaphors in language; how their uses have helped human beings survive; how they appear in every significant life event from birth to death around the world, imparting to each event social, spiritual, and cultural meaning; their connection with money, trade, status, and control; the "messages" they impart; and the spiritual and healing significance of making, wearing, and giving away cloth. This material could have been dry as dust, but the author's self-described "conviction and excitement about the meaning and power of textiles" are contagious, her writing is clear and un-academic, and her apparently encyclopedic knowledge of world cultures and how textiles are used in them provides a truly global perspective on a part of our daily life that we generally take completely for granted. *--Laura M. Gottlieb*

Thanks you so much for your wonderful book. [It] has helped me to gain a deeper understanding of my own work and why I do it. *Linda Friedman Schmidt*