The cloth business spread the alphabet and arithmetic, propelled chemical research, and taught people to think in binary code. Assiduously researched and deftly narrated, it paved the crossroads of the ancient world. Textiles funded the Renaissance and the Mughal Empire; they gave us banks and bookkeeping, Michelangelo's David and the Taj Mahal.

The story of humanity is the story of textiles -- as old as civilization itself. Since the first thread was spun, the need for textiles was so urgent as to have shaped the course of human history. The Fabric of Civilization: How Textiles Made the World from Prehistory to the 21st Century traces the development of textiles to tell the story of humanity. This is a universal history, a story that spans the entire span of human civilization. The book shows how textiles have been a driving force of innovation and progress and have made human society possible and desirable. It tells the story of the full spectrum of human creativity and ingenuity, from the earliest textiles to the latest innovations in materials science.

The book takes readers on a journey through the history of textiles, from the earliest grains of linen to the most advanced fabrics of today. It explores the materials and technologies that have enabled textiles to improve in efficiency, comfort, and beauty. The Fabric of Civilization: How Textiles Made the World from Prehistory to the 21st Century is a historical narrative of textiles, a cultural history of the world, and a celebration of human ingenuity and creativity. It is a book that will inspire and inform readers of all ages, from students to scholars, from historians to enthusiasts of textiles and fiber art.

The book covers the development of textiles in a variety of cultures and regions, from the earliest civilizations of the Nile Valley and the Indus River to the modern textile industry in China, India, and Japan. It explores the history of textiles in the Western world, from the Middle Ages to the present day. It also examines the role of textiles in the global economy, from the early days of trade and commerce to the modern era of globalization.

The Fabric of Civilization: How Textiles Made the World from Prehistory to the 21st Century is a testament to the power of textiles to shape the world. It is a book that will inspire readers to consider the role of textiles in their own lives and to appreciate the contributions of textiles to human progress.

The Fabric of Civilization: How Textiles Made the World from Prehistory to the 21st Century is an enthralling and educational guide. It is a book that will inspire and inform readers of all ages, from students to scholars, from historians to enthusiasts of textiles and fiber art.