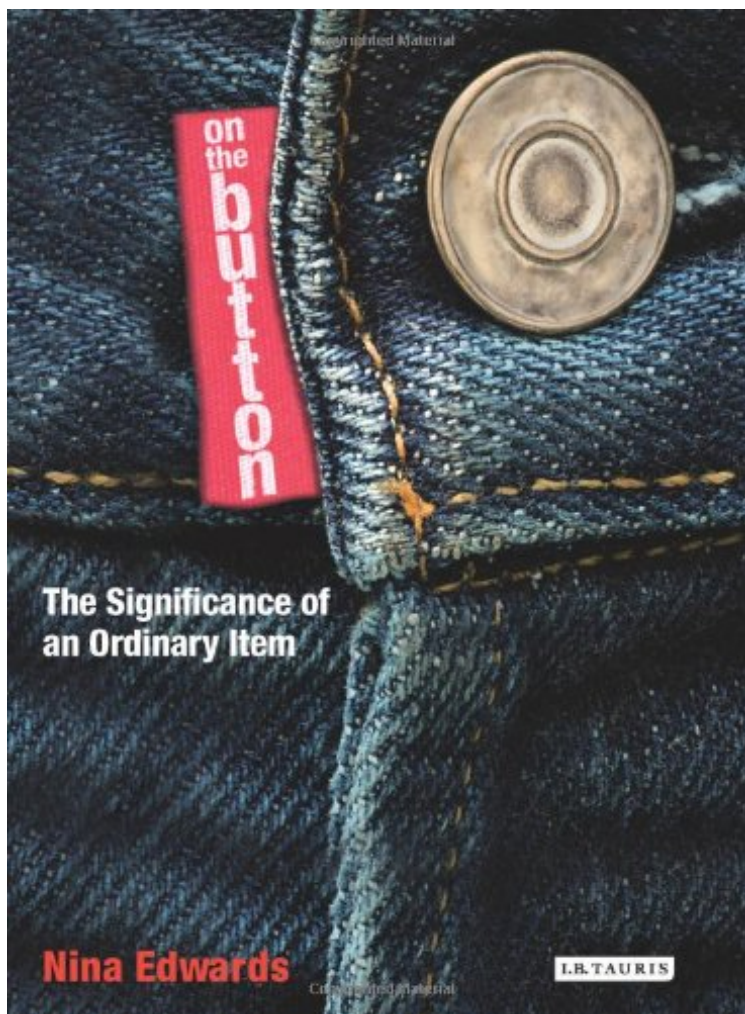


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## **On The Button: The Significance of an Ordinary Item**

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What do you use every day that is small and large, worthless and beyond price? It's easily found in the gutter, yet you may never be able to replace it. You are always losing it, but it faithfully protects you; sexy and uptight, it is knitted in to your affections or it may give you nightmares. It has led to conflict, fostered and repressed political and religious change, and epitomizes the great aesthetic movements. It's Eurocentric, and is found all over the world.

""Nina Edwards knows everything you might want to know about buttons, and much more that you have never imagined. Her book is a tour de force, and full of interesting stories."" - Alison Lurie, novelist and author of *The Language of Clothes* ""The author sums it up best herself in the end. 'This book...has turned into somewhat of a maze....' It is a maze of delightful exploration and discovery. Not a button's collector's handbook, to be sure but an engaging, in-depth account of the button's connection to the many facets of our lives."" - New Hampshire State Button Society