THE FIRST TEN SECONDS



Considering two cloths in daylight. An illustrated scene.

When I stayed with my friend in Pimlico, he would arrange the dinner or the concert. I remember going to the Ritz with him. One of the luxuries of his company was that he knew what happened when we walked through the door.

What I would want from a morning on Savile Row is that same small kindness. Perhaps you have wanted a navy suit for years. Perhaps it is a pair of black shoes. You can be quite sure of your taste and still hesitate outside the shop.

I'd start with one door, one question and a table booked for lunch. The first two are on the following pages. The table is yours to linger over.

Desmond

Desmond Andrew McPartland

SIT DOWN IN THE SUIT



Look at the shoulder line before deciding about the sleeve. Illustrated scene.

Start with the jacket fastened as you would wear it. Look at the collar in the mirror, then turn sideways. Does the collar sit close to your shirt? Does the cloth pull across the button? Ask to try the next size so you can feel the difference.

Unfasten it and sit. Reach forward as though picking up your theatre programme. Put your phone in the pocket where you usually keep it. Decide which jacket you would happily wear through dinner and a second act.

"Could you pin one trouser leg while I'm wearing my own shoes? I'd like to see where the hem will fall."