

Shopping

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I SAW IT FIRST

OF HUMAN BONDAGE

Body harness a controversial new fashion accessory. M4



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The Human Harness

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Actually, Sienna Miller saw it first.

The British actress was brilliant wearing a black harness over an un-tucked white Oxford in a recent U.S. celebrity magazine.

Then a few weeks ago, there it was in Toronto at Americo on Queen St. W. This one was hand-crafted from brown leather. It looked like something John Paul Gaultier might make for Hermès but at a more modest price. I couldn't resist strapping it on.

Who knew such a little bit of leather could be so transforming? Over my own crisp, un-tucked

white shirt, the leather shoulder straps seemed a modern take on suspenders. I felt like an old-time newsman, ballsy and ready to bark out orders. Wrap it up!

The next morning, after I topped off my work outfit with the Americo harness, my husband giggled and wondered if it might be misinterpreted as a dominatrix thing. I thanked him for his input and wore it to the office anyway.

Brows furrowed. Eyes bugged. Heads turned.

Like good journalists, they asked uncomfortable questions:

"What is that?"

"Are you into bondage today?"

"Why are you wearing a baby carrier?"

After three hours of politely an-

swering questions I took it off. I had work to do.

I wouldn't say the fashion experiment was a total flop. Some got it. Some didn't.

I guess that's the deal with life in the first lane.