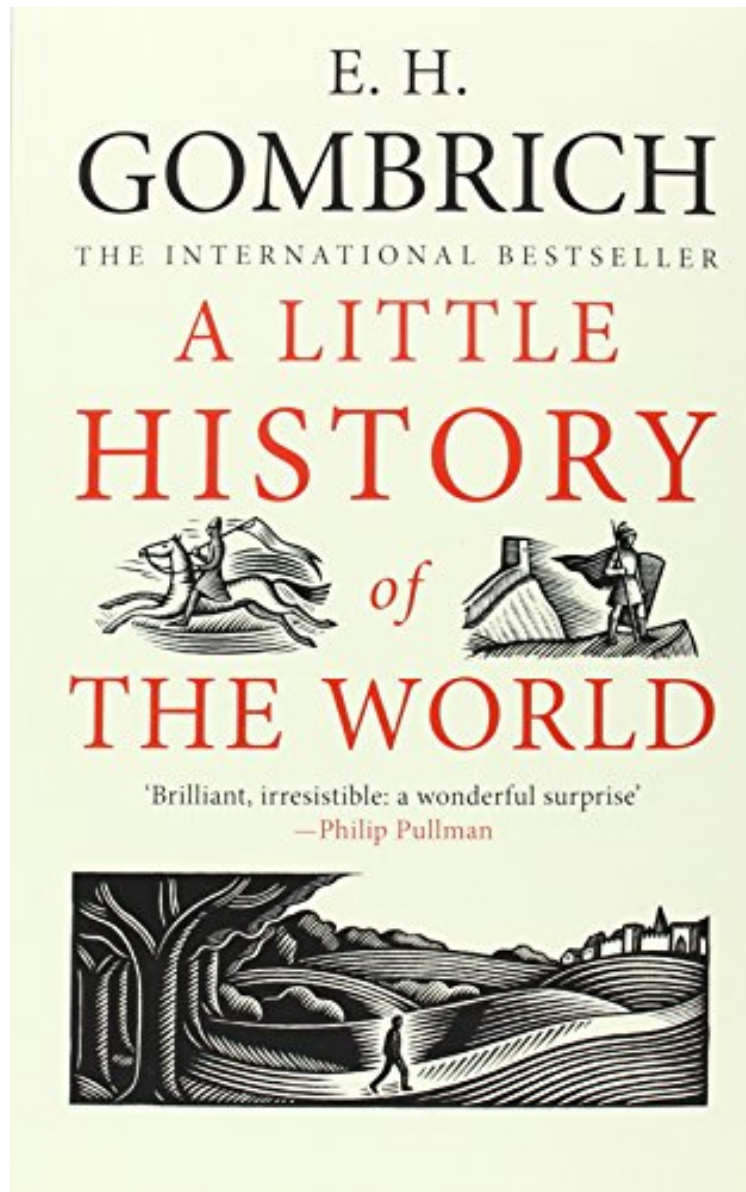


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A Little History of the World (Little Histories)

E. H. Gombrich

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E. H. Gombrich : A Little History of the World (Little Histories) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Little History of the World (Little Histories):

38 of 38 people found the following review helpful. ClassicBy MommyTeaching4This is exactly what it says it is...a LITTLE history of the world....the size of the book alone should be an indicator of that. As a historian, a history

teacher and a homeschool mom, I love this book when paired with more in depth material. I have read many negative reviews (go to the 1 stars for this especially) and have found almost to a T that they are all commenting on the fact that religion is brought into the telling. Religion is a part of history. It was everywhere until very recently and until this day and age, it has always been the color of stories and history books. The way that history is written and interpreted, the objectives that are brought into history - and they ALWAYS are - is called zeitgeist, or the spirit of the age. In a nutshell, this is a lovely book meant for children. It is meant to appeal to their sense of wonder. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Great Easy Read By George Lee The illustrations are beautifully made. The length of each chapter and its tone of communicating the information make it easy for a casual readers to swallow. However, for those who are interested in my detailed analyses of historical events and figures, this book will be too brief and board to provide in-depth information. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A most excellent book By Rowan This is exactly what I had expected and hoped. A most excellent book. I was pleased to see it offered at such a good price. I would like to have it on my shelves in hard cover, for now I'm glad to have access to it on my Kindle. Easy to read and understand. An excellent addition to any library.

E. H. Gombrich's bestselling history of the world for young readers tells the story of mankind from the Stone Age to the atomic bomb, focusing not on small detail but on the sweep of human experience, the extent of human achievement, and the depth of its frailty. The product of a generous and humane sensibility, this timeless account makes intelligible the full span of human history. In forty concise chapters, Gombrich tells the story of man from the stone age to the atomic bomb. In between emerges a colorful picture of wars and conquests, grand works of art, and the spread and limitations of science. This is a text dominated not by dates and facts, but by the sweep of mankind's experience across the centuries, a guide to humanity's achievements and an acute witness to its frailties.

From Publishers Weekly Starred . This is an unusual work for Yale: a children's history originally published 70 years ago. But it is a work one can quickly come to love. Gombrich, later known as an art historian, wrote this primer in 1935, when he was a young man in Vienna (it was soon banned by the Nazis as too "pacifist"). Rewritten (and updated) in English mainly by Gombrich himself (who died in 2001, age 92, while working on it), the book is still aimed at children, as the language makes clear: "Then, slowly the clouds parted to reveal the starry night of the Middle Ages." But while he addresses his readers directly at times, Gombrich never talks down to them. Using vivid imagery, storytelling and sly humor, he brings history to life in a way that adults as well as children can appreciate. The book displays a breadth of knowledge, as Gombrich begins with prehistoric man and ends with the close of WWII. In the final, newly added chapter, Gombrich's tone sadly darkens as he relates the rise of Hitler and his own escape from the Holocaust. Children, he writes, "must learn from history how easy it is for human beings to be transformed into inhuman beings" and ends on a note of cautious optimism about humanity's future. (Oct. 13) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist This is the first English translation of a book written in 1935 in German and translated into 18 languages. Thirty years later, a second German edition was published with a new final chapter. In 40 brief chapters, Gombrich relates the history of humankind from the Stone Age through World War II. In between are historic accounts of such topics as cave people and their inventions (including speech), ancient life along the Nile and in Mesopotamia and Greece, the growth of religion, the Dark Ages, the age of chivalry, the New World, and the Thirty Years' War. Much of this history is told through concise sketches of such figures as Confucius, Alexander the Great, Hannibal, Jesus Christ, Charlemagne, Leonardo da Vinci, Napoleon, and Columbus. Gombrich was asked to write a history geared to younger readers, so the book is filled with innumerable dates and facts, yet it is one to be read by adults. With 41 black-and-white woodcut illustrations and nine maps, it is a timeless and engaging narrative of the human race. George Cohen Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved "A remarkable book, written in an amiable, conversational style, effortlessly explaining, without condescension, difficult matters like the achievements of Charlemagne, the monetary system of medieval Europe and the ideas of the Enlightenment. . . . This resurrected history deserves reading for all its delights." Edward Rothstein, New York Times