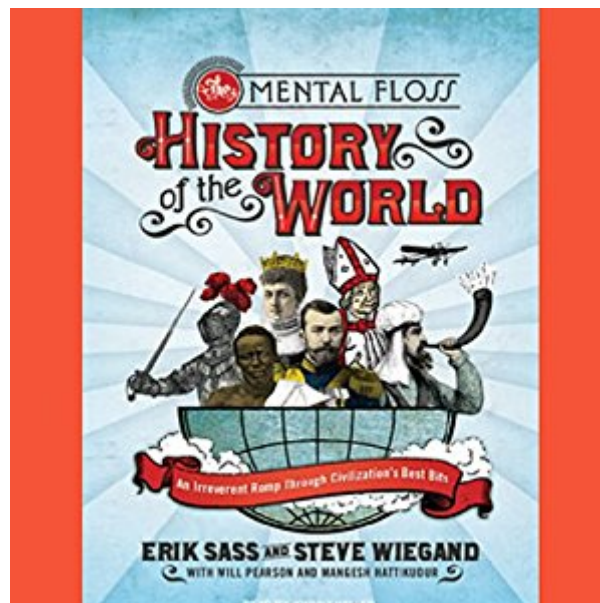




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The Mental Floss History Of The World: An Irreverent Romp Through Civilization's Best Bits



Synopsis

About 60,000 years ago, the first Homo sapiens were just beginning their move across the grasslands and up the ladder of civilization. Everything since then, as they say, is history. Just in case you were sleeping in class that day, the geniuses at mental_floss magazine have put together a hilarious (and historically accurate) primer on everything you need to know-and that means the good stuff. Twelve core chapters of world history tackle everything from civilization's baby steps in the Fertile Crescent to the Not-Really-That-Dark-Unless-You-Lived-in-Europe Ages to A World United by Terror and TV. From the Golden Haemorrhoids of the Philistines (punishment from above) to the likely namesake of the cartoon elephant Babar (a Mongol prince) to the most pressing language translation issues facing the menus of today ("carp" vs. "crap"), all of history's most interesting bits have finally been handpicked and roasted to perfection. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Once again, the guys from Mental Floss do not disappoint. I've been a history nut for most my life, and it was refreshing to re-read known history with a bit of a mental-floss twist. This book makes world history fun, while being completely accurate. It's easy to read, and you'll immediately feel a little smarter. Well done, Mental Floss!

I love history a lot and bought this book then the one on American history. Sass taps into subjects that are little known. Also, it is easy reading without being too simple. Strongly recommend.

Good book.

This book provides a good overview of world history. If you find yourself feeling that your knowledge of world history from school is insufficient, this book would be a good one to use to help bolster your background in world history. I would recommend reading *World History for Dummies* and/or Gombrich's "A Little History of the World" before reading this book. *Mental Floss History* does not really have any prerequisites, but this book does not contain a single map, so I think that it would be very helpful to have a little background in geography or history before reading it. It is definitely worth reading, and is not only a compilation of gossipy asides. It is primarily a good history of the world, and the (sometimes gossipy) asides do provide some nice material for cocktail party conversations. Definitely worth reading, and definitely will help to bolster your background in world history in about as entertaining a way as you are likely to find.

THIS is a great book for recapping the history of the world's great and not so great civilizations. The entertaining short sections make it the ideal book to read on the bus or keep in the bathroom. Although it is not scholarly, it is informative and entertaining.

These were bought for donation to our local library (Oldham County). Last year I had donated to the Carrolton (Carol County library) and they appreciated them a lot- The librarian told me that high school kind enjoy them and she believes, learn a lot from them. Recently I saw "Mental Floss" magazine in our local Oldham library, thanke the librarian, told her ti was my son's magazine, and asked if she would mind my donating the 2 history books. She was delighted, so I did.

Fun books.

I really enjoyed reading this book! It took longer than I expected because it is dense with information. I felt that the writers of the book were generally witty, sarcastic (in a good way), and entertaining. I actually learned a great deal from reading this book. If you read the whole thing from cover to cover, you definitely see the trends and commonalities throughout the civilization of man. This isn't really the type of book you can skip around in too much, even though there are fun facts and side stories in margins etc. I think you will get more out of by reading it from beginning to end. I would of given this book 5 stars, but some information that I considered important was left out. However, they did a pretty good job summing up all of history in one book!

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