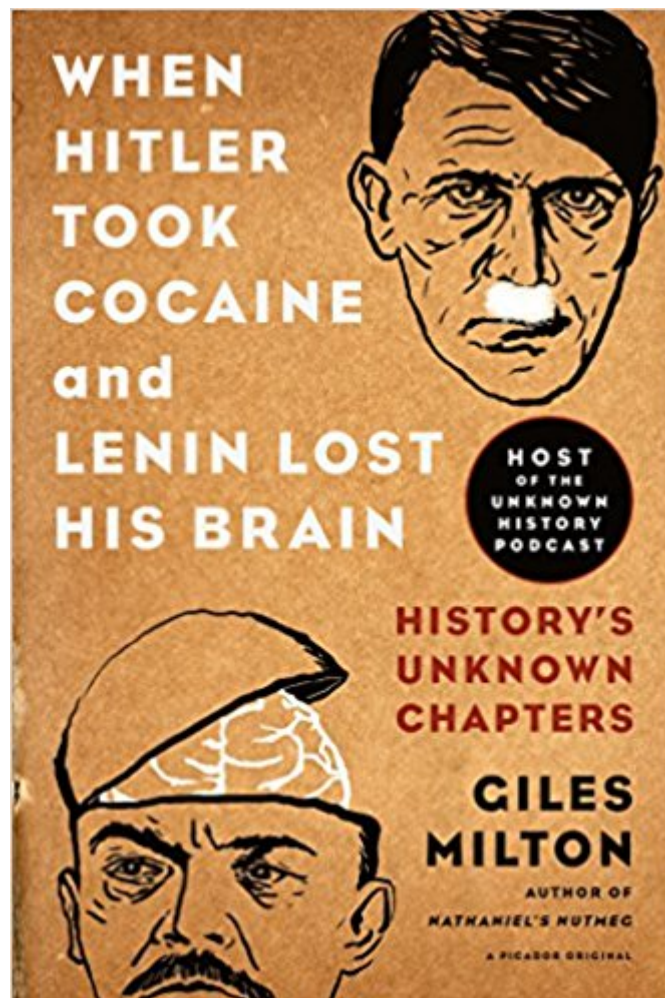


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# When Hitler Took Cocaine And Lenin Lost His Brain: History's Unknown Chapters



## Synopsis

Obscure and addictive true tales from history told by one of our most entertaining historians, Giles Milton. The first installment in Giles Milton's outrageously entertaining series, *History's Unknown Chapters*: colorful and accessible, intelligent and illuminating, Milton shows his customary historical flair as he delves into the little-known stories from the past. There's the cook aboard the Titanic, who pickled himself with whiskey and survived in the icy seas where most everyone else died. There's the man who survived the atomic bomb in both Hiroshima and Nagasaki. And there's many, many more. Covering everything from adventure, war, murder and slavery to espionage, including the stories of the female Robinson Crusoe, Hitler's final hours, Japan's deadly balloon bomb and the emperor of the United States, these tales deserve to be told.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"If you get a kick out of odd historical trivia like that, you'll devour *When Hitler Took Cocaine and Lenin Lost His Brain*, the first installment in Giles Milton's new *History's Unknown Chapters* series. Packed with 50 stories your social studies teacher probably skipped, the book sports a wandering eye and witty voice that make for diverting winter reading. *The Washington Post* "A list of insurance claims taken out on pets drowned with the Titanic. A legend detailing the various forms of Chinese castrati. A detailed description by the oh-so-fittingly named Sir Hamon Estrange of a dodo a mere quarter century before the bird's extinction. These moments are the winking epigraphs of grinning Death, gleaned from Giles Milton's

history of the bizarre, the obfuscated and the macabre. And what a history it is!"

— Paste Magazine "50 brief but detailed stories, from the hilarious to the absurd."

— The Minneapolis Star Tribune "Fans of history, trivia, and Milton's previous works will delight in this collection of lesser-known historical stories."

— Library Journal (starred review) "Stranger than fiction? Possibly, but life always seems to create more bizarre people and unforeseen happenings than most writers will ever imagine."

— CounterPunch "[An] easily digestible mix of humor, trivia, and solid research.

Dozens of seemingly too-good-to-be-true tales

There are plenty of fabulously dramatic adventures here

Milton's entertaining collection is sure to leave readers waiting for the next volume in the series."

— Publishers Weekly

"Milton has assembled an easily digestible compendium of historical oddities about the famous and infamous."

— Kirkus Reviews

Giles Milton is a writer and journalist. He has contributed articles to most of the British national newspapers as well as many foreign publications, and specializes in the history of travel and exploration. In the course of his researches, he has traveled extensively in Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, and the Americas. He has written several books of nonfiction, including the bestselling *Nathaniel's Nutmeg*, and has been translated into fifteen languages worldwide. He is the author of the novel *Edward Trencom's Nose*.

This is a light reading from history's lost facts and forgotten stories, from late 19th century until mid 20th century. Perfect for laid back weekend read. It consists of 50 short true stories with pretty wide range of topics from forced-cannibalism, to adventurer who bought his wife at a white-slave auction, the black people who became an attraction at their zoos, the kamikaze pilot who lived to tell his story, notorious jail breaks, bizarre murder trials, to the richest men in the world, and of course to what happened with Lenin's brain and how Hitler's erratic behaviour was caused by the 80-plus drugs he consumed daily. The author, Giles Milton, is a bestseller author of narrative non-fiction books, which immediately shows since the very 1st paragraph. The true stories read like a gripping novel. I'm already purchasing the sequel of this book as we speak.

I pretty much read this in one sitting and was dismayed to get to the last page and I immediately checked to see if there was another one. It told me incredible things I never knew, about important historical events and characters; to a history junkie with a taste for a good story this is the purest smack

Gave this as a gift but read it myself first. A fun, excellent read. Like going down an internet wormhole, but in convenient book form.

A collection of vignettes about moments in history you probably never knew. Most are 4 pages in length and are as easy to read as they are entertaining.

ok

What a wonderful book. It was a quick pick-up since the chapters are only a couple of pages long each. Definitely something to look at if you are interested in some unique untold, or under told, stories.

Funny, interesting And True!!

Really fun book with some weird and awesome factual stories. Each subject is a small chapter & easy to read. There's also a reference guide at the end, in case you'd like to do more research on a story.

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